EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

OF

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

8

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR

PUBLIC HEARING

Gothra Limestone Mine (ML No.: 47/2007 & ML Area: 624 Ha)

Expansion in Limestone Production Capacity from 3.2 to 6.75 Million TPA,

Top Soil:0.12 Million TPA, Waste: 21.0 Million TPA, ROM Reject: 0.358 Million TPA

(Total Excavation: 28.228 Million TPA) in addition to

Expansion of Existing Crusher from 1200 TPH to 1600 TPH (Primary)

by internal modification and 550 TPH (Secondary) along with Wobbler

At

Villages: Gothra, Choudhani, Devgaon & Kheswa Ki Dhani, Tehsil: Nawalgarh, District: Jhunjhunu, State: Rajasthan

PROJECT PROPONENT



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INTRODUCTION 1.1

Shree Cement Ltd. has proposed an Expansion in Existing granted Environment Clearance granted Limestone Production Capacity from 3.2 Million TPA to 6.75 Million TPA, Waste: 21.0 Million TPA, ROM Reject: 0.358 Million TPA, Top Soil: 0.12 Million TPA (Total Excavation: 28.228 Million TPA) and in addition to Expansion of Existing Crusher from 1200 TPH to 1600 TPH (Primary) by internal modification and 550 TPH (Secondary) along with Wobbler within Gothra Limestone Mine (ML No.: 47/2007 & ML Area: 624 ha) at Villages: Gothra, Choudhani, Devgaon & Kheswa Ki Dhani, Tehsil: Nawalgarh, District: Jhunjhunu, State: Rajasthan.

As per EIA Notification dated 14th September, 2006 as amended thereof, the project falls under Category "A" (>250 ha), Project or Activity 1 (a) (3) for Mining of Mineral & 2 (b) (3) for Mineral Beneficiation (Crusher with Wobbler).

JUSTIFICATION FOR THE PROJECT 1.2

- Shree Cement Limited had proposed an Integrated Cement Plant (Clinker: 2.0 Million TPA & Cement: 3.0 Million TPA) and Limestone Mine over an area of 624 ha with Limestone Production Capacity: 3.2 Million TPA. SCL obtained integrated EC for the same vide Letter No. J-11011/1173/2007-IA.II (I) dated 15.07.2009 whereas the validity of EC for Cement Plant was expired on 14.07.2019.
- > Hence, the fresh EC for Integrated Cement Plant with production capacity of Clinker: 2.0 Million TPA, Cement: 4.0 Million TPA, CPP: 25 MW, WHRS: 20 MW along with DG Sets of 2000 KVA (1000/500/250/125 KVA) located at Village: Gothra, Tehsil: Nawalgarh, District: Jhunjhunu (Rajasthan) was obtained from MoEF&CC Vide letter no. J-11011/1173/2007-IA.II(I), dated 03.02.2021.
- > Thereafter, an expansion in the existing EC granted capacity of Clinker: 2.0 to 4.5 Million TPA, Cement: 4.0 to 6.0 Million TPA, WHRS: 20 to 40 MW, DG Sets of 2000 KVA (1000/500/250/125 KVA) along with Railway Siding at Village: Gothra, Tehsil: Nawalgarh, District: Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan was obtained vide letter no. J-11011/1173/2007-IA.II(I), dated 13.10.2023.
- > To Meet the total limestone requirement of existing Integrated Cement Plant, SCL is proposing an expansion in Limestone Production Capacity: 3.2 to 6.75 Million TPA in Gothra Limestone Mine (ML No.: 47/2007 & ML Area: 624 ha) located at Villages: Gothra, Choudhani, Devgaon & Kheswa Ki Dhani, Tehsil: Nawalgarh, District: Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan.
- > The project helps the local economy directly as well as indirectly as the project contribute to the State as well as to National exchequer by way of various taxes & duties. With the additional development in and around the area, there will be increase in supporting facilities/infrastructure eventually leading to the further development of the area. It bridges the gap between demand & supply of cement to the consumers. The project boosts the overall growth of the region and in the State; the local economy flourishes due to increased income expenditure in the local market. Therefore, project is having great importance to the state and national economy.

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1.3 PROJECT DETAILS

Table - 1.1 Project Details

S. No.	Particular	Details		
A.	Nature of the Project	Opencast Mechanized Limestone Mine		
В.	Size of the Project			
1.	Mining Lease area	624 ha (Govt. Land: 14.18 Ha, Private Land: 607.32 Ha & Charagah Land: 2.5 Ha)		
2.	Proposal	Limestone: 3.20 Million TPA to 6.75 Million TPA Top Soil: 0.12 Million TPA Waste: 21.0 Million TPA ROM Reject: 0.358 Million TPA Total Excavation: 28.228 Million TPA Internal Modification in Existing Crusher: 1200 TPH to 1600 TPH (Primary) Proposed Crusher: 550 TPH (Secondary) along with Wobbler		
C.	Project Location			
1.	Villages	Gothra, Choud	hani, Devgaon & Kheswa H	Ki Dhani
2.	Tehsil	Nawalgarh		(1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1)
3.	District	Jhunjhunu		
4.	State	Rajasthan		
5.	Latitude & Longitude	Latitude: 24°47'15.01" to 27°48'43.12" N Longitude: 75°20'04.83" to 75°22'50.94" E Pillar wise Latitude & Longitude are as follows:		
		Pillar No.	Latitude	Longitude
		E	27°47′58.16" N	75° 22'50.94" E
		F	27°48'43.12" N	75° 22'31.71" E
		G	27° 47′53.41″ N	75° 20'04.83" E
		Н	27º 47'20.76" N	75° 20'18.81" E
		1	27º 47'20.69" N	75° 20'47.13" E
		J	27° 47′15.01" N	75°20'47.11" E
6.	Toposheet No.	Core Zone: G43D5 Buffer Zone: G43D1, G43D2, G43D5 & G43D6		
D.	Environmental Setting Details	(with approx. aerial distance & direction from the mining lease boundary)		
1.	Nearest Town/City	➤ Nawalgarh *	Town (~7.0 km in NW direc	tion)
		Sikar City (~	27 km in SW direction)	
2.	Nearby State Highway	> SH 258 (~1.0 km in SW direction)		
		> SH 8 (~8.5 Km in WNW direction)		
		> SH 37 (~9.0 Km in East direction)		
3.	Nearest Railway Station	Nawalgarh Railway Station (9.8 Km in NW direction)		
4.	Nearest Airport	Jaipur International Airport (116 km in SSE direction)		
5.	National Park, Wild Life Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserves, Wildlife corridors, Tiger/Elephant Reserves, Protected Forests, Reserved Forests etc. within 10 km	None within 10	km radius of mining bound	dary
	radius of the project site			

7.	Water body within 10 km radius of study area	Udaipur Lohagarh Ki Nadi (Seasonal) (~100 m in East direction)
3.	Seismic Zone	Zone II as per IS: 1893 (Part-I): 2002
D.	Cost Details	
1.	Total Project Cost	Rs. 512.72 Crores
2.	Cost for Environment Protection Measures	Capital Cost: Rs. 12.41 Crores Recurring Cost: Rs. 1.01 Crores/Annum

Source: Site Visit & Pre-Feasibility Report

MINING DETAILS 1.4

Table - 1.2 Mining Details

S. No.	Particular		Details
1.	Mining Method	Fully Mechanized Opencast Method	
2.	Production Capacity	Limestone: 6.75 Million TPA Total Excavation 28.288 Million TPA	
3.	Total Geological Resources	326 Million Tonnes	
4.	Total Mineable Reserves	179 Million Tonnes	
5.	Life of Mine	27 years	
6.	Overall Pit Slope	35°	
7.	Bench Height & Width	Max. Bench Height Soil: 3 m OB: 10 m Limestone: 12 m	Bench Width Soil: 6 m OB: 15 m Limestone: 12 to 50 m
8.	Elevation Range	409 - 427 m AMSL	
9.	General Ground Level	418m AMSL	
10.	Water Table	110m bgl	
11.	Present working depth	70 m bgl (348 m AMSL)	
12.	Ultimate working depth	368m bgl (50 m AMSL) (Avg. Ultimate Pit Depth: 150m bgl)	
13.	Number of Working days	350	
14.	Number of Working Shifts	3 Shifts	
15.	Stripping Ratio	1: 2.64 (Tonne: Tonne) Mining Plan with Progressive Mine Closure Plan	

Source: Derived from Approved Review of Mining Plan with Progressive Mine Closure Plan

DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT 1.5

Baseline study of the study area was conducted during Winter Season, Dec., 2023 to Feb., 2024.

Ambient Air Quality

The concentrations of PM10 and PM2.5 for all the 12 AAQM stations were found between 46.1 to 82.7 $\mu g/m^3$ and 24.4 to 46.2 $\mu g/m^3$ respectively. The concentrations of SO2 and NO2 were found to be in range from 5.6 to 15.5 $\mu g/m^3$ and 9.1 to 27.3 $\mu g/m^3$ respectively. CO concentration was found to be in range of BDL to 0.82 mg/m³.

AAQ parameters in the study area have been found well within prescribed norms; Maximum values of SO2, NO2 is found at Nawalgarh. The maximum values of PM2.5 and PM10 found at mine

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site. Minimum vales of PM2.5, PM10 and NO2 were found in Village Gujron ki Dhani and SO2 were found in village Minon Ki Dhani as there is no major source of air pollution.

Noise Quality Levels

Ambient noise levels were measured at 10 locations in and around the mine site plant site. Noise level varied from 51.1 to 60.2 Leq dB (A) during day time and from 40.5 to 44.8 Leq dB (A) during night time.

The minimum noise level observed at day time is 51.1 at Nehron Ki Dhani and at night time is 40.5 at Pujari ki dhani. The highest value of noise level was found during day time & during night time due to operational activities is 60.2 and 44.8 at Mine Site.

From the above study and discussions, it can be concluded that noise levels in the study area are well within the prescribed limits as prescribed by the CPCB.

Surface Water Quality

Only one surface water body i.e. Udaipur Lohargarh Nadi found within 10 km area and located at sample was to be collected from Udaipur Lohargarh Nadi but there was no water present during the study period.

Ground Water Quality

The ground water analysis for all the 9 sampling stations shows that pH varied from 7.68 to 8.02, total hardness varies from 161.7 to 263.8 mg/l & total dissolved solids varies from 401.0 mg/l to 633.0 mg/l. SO4 varies from 28.6 to 39.2 mg/l, Ca from 27.23 to 78.87 mg/l, Mg varies from 16.30 to 31.0 mg/l.

Thus, can be conclude from the baseline sampling results for groundwater that all the samples, were observed to be within the permissible limits and complies to the drinking water standard (IS: 10500-2012).

Soil Quality

Samples collected from identified soil locations indicate pH value ranging from 7.26 to 8.03. The soil texture is Sandy clay loam and Sandy loam. Organic Matter ranges from 0.57% to 0.77% in the soil samples.

All the essential nutrients were observed to be present in a higher amount than the other micronutrient and macro nutrient such as Available Nitrogen as (N) (125.18 to 237.54 kg/ha), Available Phosphorous (P) (18.83 to 33.23 kg/ha), Magnesium (Mg) (292.26 to 451.10 mg/kg), Calcium (Ca) (1942.77 to 2875.76 mg/kg), Chloride (Cl) (95.65 to 215.65 mg/kg), Zinc (Zn) (18.35 to 29.60 mg/kg) and Manganese (Mn) (209.15 to 339.82 mg/kg).

These results indicate that the soil quality within the study area is of a good quality and contains sufficient macronutrients which are vital for healthy plant life.

1.6 ANTICIPATED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Ambient Air Environment

The key air emissions from the mining activities (drilling, blasting, loading, haulage, unloading & transportation) are Particulate Matter, Oxides of Nitrogen (NO2) and Sulphur dioxide (SO2).

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Gaseous emissions generated from HEMM & transportation of vehicles. The key emissions due to crushing in the mine are Particulate Matter.

Proper mitigation measures are being/ will be taken like controlled blasting, water sprinkling before drilling, blasting & during transport activities and development of greenbelt/plantation area to control fugitive emissions. Better maintenance of equipment's also helps to reduce such emissions. At crushing site measures such as use of Bag filters, Regular water spraying on Crusher hopper to arrest dust from becoming air-borne, development of green belt/plantation all around in the vicinity of the crusher to trap fugitive dust. Mist fog system (Atomized water sprinkler) has been/will be installed at crusher hopper.

Water Environment

Existing Water requirement is 120 KLD which is being sourced from the ground water & mine sump and additional 130 KLD will be required for expansion project which will be sourced from mine sump. Thus, total water requirement after expansion is 250 KLD. NOC for groundwater withdrawal (1200 KLD) has been obtained from CGWA dated 01.01.2021 & same was valid up to 31.12.2023. The Company have submitted separate application for renewal of ground water withdrawal of 1000 KLD for Plant and 200 KLD for mine and NOC for Mine from CGWA was obtained vide NOC No. CGWA/NOC/MIN/ORIG/2024/2025, dated 22.04.2024 & same is valid up to 21.04.2026.

Noise & Vibration

Major noise generating sources of the mining activity are drilling, blasting and HEMM movement used for transportation of limestone.

DGMS guideline has been/will be followed to reduce the impact of blasting on the nearest habitation. HEMMs equipped with acoustic cabins have been/will be provided for the operators. Controlled blasting techniques through proper blast design and explosive selection will be used to reduce the vibrations to a greater extent. Hydraulic rock breaker will be used in place of secondary blasting. PPEs like earplugs/earmuffs will be provided to mine workers. HEMMs equipped with acoustic cabins will be provided for the operators. Proper maintenance, oiling and greasing of HEMMs will be done.

Crushing process generate noise. Proper mitigation measures i.e. Insulators have been provided in the crusher to control the noise pollution, closed acoustic systems for controlling the noise within the crusher. Flexibles curtains and bag filter have been installed at crusher unloading area to avoid fugitive emission. Regular water spraying is being/will be done on the haul roads. Development of green belt/plantation along the mining lease boundary, around mining activity help in reducing noise level.

Land Environment

The land use of the lease area will be altered from waste land as well as agricultural land to mining areas including pits, temporary dumps, greenbelt etc. and will not have any significant effect on the surface features of the surrounding areas. At conceptual stage, total excavated area will be

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350.4 ha out of which 241.0 ha will be backfilled & rehabilitated by plantation/regressing & 109.4 ha area will be developed as water reservoir (includes 6.4 ha for plantation on topmost benches).

At conceptual stage, 456.4 ha area will be covered under greenbelt/plantation (Greenbelt along the 7.5m mine periphery: 8.5 ha, Plantation on Virgin Area: 5.0 ha, Plantation under Utility Services: 6.0 ha, Plantation on topmost benches of water reservoir: 6.4 ha and on backfilled area: 241.0 ha and Plantation on OB Dump for stabilization: 189.9 ha). Total 64.2 ha area will remain undisturbed.

Top Soil & Waste Management

- ➤ Till date 0.301 Million Tonnes of top soil has been generated. Annually, 0.12 Million Tonnes, during plan period 0.376 Million Tonnes & at conceptual stage 2.5 Million Tonnes of top soil will be generated. Part of the top soil is being simultaneously used for plantation activity and remaining part is being/ will be temporarily stacked in the mine lease area and will be used in plantation over & backfilled area later on.
- ➤ Till date 40.104 Million Tonnes of waste has been generated. Annually, 21 Million Tonnes, during plan period 70.1904 Million Tonnes & at conceptual stage 460 Million Tonnes of waste will be generated. At present, 1.802 Million Tonnes of ROM Reject has been generated. Annually, 0.358 Million Tonnes, during plan period 1.79 Million Tonnes & at conceptual stage 179 Million Tonnes of ROM Reject will be generated. Part of waste will be used for backfilling the 241 ha of the excavated area up to the maximum height of 88 m and later on same will be stabilized by the plantation & re-grassing. Further, part of generated waste will be stored within mine lease area as waste dump over an area of 189.9 ha which will be stabilized by the plantation & re-grassing.

1.7 ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES (TECHNOLOGY & SITE)

Letter of Intent was issued by State Government in favor of Shree Cement Limited over an area of 624 ha dated 23.08.2007. Lease deed has been executed & registered on 18.04.2019 & 08.05.2019 respectively and same is valid for 50 years i.e. up to 07.05.2069.

Entire Mining lease site is selected on the basis of occurrence of mineral for suitable end use. Since the mineral deposit is site specific in nature, and there is no forest land or other Eco-sensitive places, hence seeking alternative site is not required.

Mining operations is being/ to be carried out by fully mechanized opencast method. Mining is being/ will be done as per Modified Review of Mining Plan along with Progressive Mine Closure Plan approved by Indian Bureau of Mines, Ajmer.

1.8 POST PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING PROGRAMME

Table – 1.3
Post Project Monitoring

S. No.	Description	Frequency of Monitoring
1.	Micro-Meteorological Data	Hourly
2.	Ambient Air Quality Monitoring	Online CAAQMS & Manual as per CPCB Guideline

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3.	Ground Water Quality & Level Monitoring	Pre-monsoon/Quarterly
4.	Surface Water Quality & Level Monitoring	Seasonal
5.	Noise Level Monitoring	Monthly/Quarterly
6.	Ground Vibration Monitoring	On every blast
7.	Crusher Stack Monitoring	Monthly
8.	Medical Checkup of employees	3 to 5 Year Interval Age of workers <45 years: After every 5 years Age of workers >45 years: After every 3 years
9.	Digital Mapping/ Drone survey of Mine Area	Once in 3 years/ as per IBM Guidelines

Source: Standard EC Conditions & Shree Cement Ltd.

1.9 ADDITIONAL STUDIES

Additional Studies i.e. Hydro–Geological Study, Biological Study Report, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Plan are covered with this EIA/EMP Report as per the Terms of Reference granted by MoEF&CC, New Delhi vide letter no. IA-J-11015/08/2024-IA-II (NCM) dated 28.02.2024 in favor of Shree Cement Ltd.

1.9.1 HYDRO-GEOLOGICAL STUDY

Existing Water requirement is 120 KLD which is being sourced from the ground water & mine sump and additional 130 KLD will be required for expansion project which will be sourced from mine sump. Thus, total water requirement after expansion is 250 KLD. Mine seepage from working faces will be collected in sumps over lower benches and water will be pumped for its use in mine & Cement Plant. Surplus water will be supplied to the villagers as per their requirement.

NOC for groundwater withdrawal (1200 KLD) has been obtained from CGWA dated 01.01.2021 & same was valid up to 31.12.2023. The Company have submitted separate application for renewal of ground water withdrawal of 1000 KLD for Plant and 200 KLD for mine and NOC for Mine from CGWA was obtained vide NOC No. CGWA/NOC/MIN/ORIG/2024/2025, dated 22.04.2024 & same is valid up to 21.04.2026.

1.9.2 BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

Flora: Trees like Acacia leucophloea (Ronjh), Acacia nilotica (Desi Babool), Azadirachta indica (Neem), Alianthus excelsa (Ashoka), Acacia nilotica (Gum Arabic), Morus alba (White Mulberry) etc.; Shrubs like Aerva javanica (Bui), Abutilon indicum (Indian mallow/ Kanghi), Calotropis gigantea (Safed akado), Xanthium strumarium (Chota Dhatura), Ziziphus nummularia (Chota ber) etc.; Herbs viz. Argemone mexicana (Satyanashi), Datura metal (Datura), Solanum surattense (Kateli), Tephrosia purpurea (Sarphonk), Aloevera (Gwarpatha) etc.; Grasses viz. Apluda mutica (Lapla), Cynodon dactylon (Durva), Cyperus rotundus (Moth), Dichanthium annulatum (Karad), Lasiurus sindicus (Sewan) etc.; Climbers viz. Citrullus colocynthis (Tumba), Cucumis callosus (Kachari), Cuscuta reflexa(Amarbel), Luffa acutangula (Ridge gourd/ Turai) etc. exist within the 10km study area.

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Fauna: According to the field survey of the 10 km study area, according to (IWPA) Indian Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 as amended on 20.12.2022; total 07 nos. of Schedule I species i.e. Canis aureus (Jackal), Felis Silvestris (Desert Cat), Felis chaus (Jungle Cat), Vulpes bengalensis (Common fox), Pavo cristatus (Indian Peafowl), (Bubo Bubo Eurasian-eagle owl), Sterna aurantia (Tihri) were recorded. Considering above, for conservation of the schedule I species, Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan has been prepared and submitted to the Dy. Conservator of Forest, vide Ref. Nawagarh/WLCP/Gothra Mine/2024-25/158, dated 18.04.2024.

There is no National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, ESA/ESZ, Biosphere Reserves, Wildlife Corridors, Tiger/Elephant Reserves, Ramsar Site, Protected Forest, Reserve Forest etc. found within 10 km radius of the study area.

Reg. authentication of the Location Map and Approval of List of Flora & Fauna a request letter has been submitted to the Deputy Conservator of Forest, Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan, vide letter no. Nawalgarh/Forest/Gothra Mine/2024-25/152, dated 08.04.2024.

1.9.3 REHABILITATION & RESETTLEMENT ACTION PLAN

Mining lease area falls in 4 Villages i.e. Gothra, Choudhani, Devgaon & Kheswa Ki Dhani. Total ML area is 624 ha; out of which 607.32 ha is Pvt. land, 14.18 ha is Govt. land & 2.5 ha is Charagah land. As per khasra details there are 192 PAFs, whose land left to be acquired/purchased of ML area. There are many structures are falling within ML area, out of which most of the families has been shifted after taken compensation and their vacant structures are present within ML area, and there are 25 family's structures are present within ML area which will be displaced. Some are also falling within lease area but not to be purchased land, which will not be displaced.

The land acquisition activity was followed the surface right procedure to keep transparency & to avoid involuntary resettlement of land holders. For balance land to be acquired & this will be achieved by Fair Compensation & Transparency in Land Acquisition, R & R through the process of consent and mutual agreement whereby the buyer is responsible for economic rehabilitation of land losers. Budget proposed for the same is Rs. 80.4198 Crore.

1.10 PROJECT BENEFITS

The project is being/will help the local economy directly as well as indirectly as there is going to be huge capital expenditure for this proposed expansion unit and it will generate substantial employment in the region. This expansion project will also contribute to the State as well as to National exchequer by way of various taxes and duties. With the proposed development in and around the area, there will be supporting facilities/infrastructure eventually leading to the development of the area. The project boosts the overall growth of the region and in the State; the local economy flourishes due to income expenditure in the local market. Therefore, project is having great importance to the state and national economy.

Along with the contribution in employment generation and economic growth of the country project is/will also be helpful in the development of basic needs of the local area like education, Health & family welfare, women empowerment, Natural resource management, water conservation, infrastructure development etc.

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ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN 1.11

SCL has a full-fledged Environmental Management Cell (EMC) for environmental monitoring and control. The roles and responsibilities of various personnel, who manage, perform and verify the activities having effect on environment and/or OH & S have been fixed by the Top Management. Total cost is Rs. 512.72 Crore. Capital cost for Environment Protection is Rs. 12.41 crore and recurring cost for the EMP is Rs. 1.01 crore/Annum is envisaged for implementation of the project. After Expansion the total capital cost for Environment Protection is Rs. 15.91 crore and recurring cost for the EMP is Rs. 1.26 crore/Annum is envisaged for implementation of the project

CONCLUSION 1.12

The expansion project will prove beneficial to the locals as direct and indirect employment opportunity will be generated. There is /will be increase in revenue generation to the government by way of royalty, DMF, NMET, GST and other taxes etc. Further improvement in infrastructure will take place like education, roads, availability of drinking water, medical facilities in adjacent villages. There will be increase in earnings of local villagers, as they will get employment in the limestone mine due to further expansion which ultimately will result in better standard of living. There is no significant pollution of air, water, soil & noise. Regular monitoring of all the components of environment is being/will be carried out. Increased social welfare measures taken by the company is bringing development in the nearby villages.

