

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

REVENUE AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION

No 24587 R&DM, Bhubaneswar dated 07 JUL 2025

RDM-MMS-POLICY-0039-2024

Sub: Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for disposal of fly ash in extinct stone quarries

The principles regarding the temporary allotment of Government land for private purposes has been outlined in this Department letter No. GE(GL)-S-56/2013-33503/R&DM dated 31.08.2013. Additionally, this Department had also issued a clarification concerning the issuance of permits for industries to use abandoned (extinct) stone quarries or low-lying Government land for filling with unused fly ash via letter No. RDM-MMS-CLRFIC-0007-2020- 38754/R&DM dated 16.11.2022.

In supersession of all the previous resolutions/notifications/letters/clarifications issued in this regard, the Government is pleased to prescribe the following SOP for the use of extinct stone quarries for the disposal of fly ash which should be followed by all concerned henceforward:

1. The Steel and Mines Department, Government of Odisha, shall prepare a list of extinct stone quarries (hereinafter referred to as ESQ) in the state, district-wise, and notify them according to the guidelines prescribed by the Steel & Mines Department in this regard and return the said quarries to R&DM Department. Steel & Mines Department should strive to identify at least 100 ESQs during each year subject to availability. This Identification must be spread over the year to ensure that adequate number of ESQs are available to Industries on a regular basis.
2. The S&M Department will ensure that the notified ESQs are returned to the R&DM Department within one week from the date of notification by the S & M Department.
3. The R&DM Department shall forward this list of ESQs, returned from the Steel & Mines Department to the Odisha State Pollution Control Board (OSPCB) for conducting feasibility study on environmental consideration for filling them with fly ash preferably within one fortnight of receipt of the list of identified ESQs.
4. On receipt of the list from the R&DM Dept, the OSPCB will conduct feasibility study of the identified extinct stone quarries, aiming to complete it preferably within one month. It is expected that at least 15 extinct stone quarries will be examined during this timeframe, with the next 15 being studied in the following month, and so on. The OSPCB may engage expert consultant agencies for this purpose. The exercise for each case will be completed preferably within a period of one month.



5. After receiving the environment feasibility study report from SPCB, the R&DM Department will provide the list of feasible extinct stone quarries to the respective Revenue Divisional Commissioners and the District Collectors. This will enable them to temporarily lease these quarries to fly ash generating companies for the deposition of fly ash in accordance with Rule 9 of the OGLS Rules, 1983.
6. The temporary lease of the ESQ for the filling of fly ash shall be granted exclusively to fly ash generating companies and not to any other agency.
7. The Collector shall invite applications from fly ash generating companies for temporary leases of feasible extinct stone quarries within the district. A period of 15 days shall be allowed for fly ash generating companies to submit their applications. A list of the fly ash generating companies, along with the quantity of fly ash they produce, will be provided by the OSPCB to the Collectors. Accordingly, these companies will be informed to apply for ESQs by the Collector. Applications may be invited by Collectors from Fly Ash Generating Companies Irrespective of receiving the list of ESQs from RDC. This list may be valid for one year from the date of notification. This list can then be used for allocation of ESQs by Competent Authority.
8. After receiving applications from the fly ash generating companies, the Collector shall forward them to the concerned Tahsildars for scrutiny. After obtaining the report from Tahsildar, if the company is found eligible, then the Collector shall propose a temporary lease of the extinct stone quarry in favour of the applicant fly ash generating company to the RDC for approval in accordance with Rule 9 of the OGLS Rules, 1983.
9. If there are more than one application for a particular ESQ, the following principles should be followed to determine the priority —
 - i. Priority should be given to companies generating fly ash that are closer to the ESQ to reduce transportation distance.
 - ii. The capacity of the fly ash generating companies may be reviewed, and the total number of ESQs may be allotted keeping in view the quantum/volume of void space (in terms of m^3) required by the applicant companies.
 - iii. The capacity of thermal power plant (in terms of MW) may also be taken into consideration since capacity will reflect the magnitude of their requirements. A proposal to allot the ESQ may then be made by the Collector.
10. Every Fly ash-generating company should receive at least one extinct stone quarry. While allocating the extinct stone quarries, it is to be ensured that the filling capacity of the ESQ (void volume) should be proportionate to their power generation capacity, as much as possible, to effectively address the disposal of fly ash. Once an ESQ is allocated by the Competent Authority, it shall not be changed ordinarily.
11. Companies that generate fly ash should be encouraged to recycle it for use in road construction, cement production, brick manufacturing, mine void filling and other applications. Disposal in the extinct stone quarries should be the last option and



least in quantity, with no more than 50% of the generated fly ash placed in these quarries.

12. The District Collector, with prior permission from the RDC, shall allow the temporary use of Extinct Stone Quarries for the fly ash generating company for this specific purpose. A lease deed, outlining all conditions, shall be executed between the Collector and the project proponent and shall be registered at the latter's expense.
13. After securing a temporary lease for the abandoned quarry, the project proponent must obtain the Consent to Establish (CTE) and the Consent to Operate (CTO), as applicable, from the SPCB to fill the quarry with fly ash.
14. The temporary lease for filling the fly ash shall be subject to the following conditions —
 - i. The temporary lease may be sanctioned for a period of one year. However, this period may be extended by the Government for such period as the Government may decide from time to time.
 - ii. The project proponent must pay 10% of the current market value of the land as license fee each year.
 - iii. Any fraction of a year beyond one year shall be considered as one year, and an additional 10% of the market value will be collected as a license fee up to a maximum of 10 years.
 - iv. All conditions, restrictions, and limitations outlined in the SPCB guidelines for transportation, filling, compaction, top soil capping, closure plan and plantation must be strictly adhered to.
 - v. The project proponent shall make a security deposit for top soil capping which will be assessed by SPCB. SPCB will do the estimate of top soil capping every year at the time of renewal and the differential amount, if any, should be deposited by the project proponent. The project proponent shall submit a Bank Guarantee @ Five(5) Lakhs/ Acre for top soil capping followed by plantation over it, if required.
 - vi. Filling of quarries should be done under the guidance of SPCB and SPCB will give certificate to the Collector every month. Filling of quarries should be done as per the regulation of SPCB.
 - vii. After the ESQ is completed, SPCB will certify that it is fit and suitable for public use, and after that the abandoned quarry area shall be returned to the Government. However in case the filling has exceeded the permitted quantity or exceeded in height compared to its immediate surrounding, SPCB will direct the user company to remove the excess quantity and District Administration will record it as an adverse remark which may impact upon subsequent allocation of ESQ.
 - viii. If the project proponent fails to return the land in all respects, the Collector shall, after providing the temporary lessee with an opportunity of being heard, cancel the temporary lease and forcibly take possession, transferring it to the Government khata.



- ix. If the temporary lessee violates any conditions of the temporary lease or any stipulations set by the SPCB, the Collector shall cancel the lease after providing an opportunity of being heard and revert the land to the government khata along with a penalty of INR 1,00,000 per acre.
- x. If the temporary lessee further renders the land unusable for any future purpose, the cost of the damage, that is, the amount required to restore the land to a usable status, shall be assessed by a technical committee comprising of representatives from Works Department, SPCB and District Administration and recovered from the lessee, along with a penalty of INR 1,00,000 per Acre.
15. A committee consisting of the Tahasildar, IIC, and R.O. SPCB under the chairmanship of Sub Collector will conduct field visit to each ESQ assigned for this purpose, every quarter, to ensure that fly ash filling complies with SPCB guidelines. The report, accompanied by geo-tagged photos and satellite imagery, will be submitted to the Collector by the 5th of every quarter and Collector in turn will submit the report to RDC by the 10th day of each quarter
16. Towards the end of the temporary lease year, the Tahsildar shall submit a report to the Collector through Sub Collector. Collector in turn will submit the report to RDC. Any decision regarding the extension of the temporary lease or the closure of the lease and the use of the fly ash-filled ESQ will be based on the District Collector's report. If the ESQ is completely filled with fly ash, the Collector shall recommend to the R&DM Department through RDC to reserve such land for one or more of the following purposes -
- i. Plantation
 - ii. Convert to Gharabari kisam and use it for settling homesteads for the landless in accordance with the OGLS Act and Rules.
 - iii. Public amenities, such as schools, Anganwadi Centre, Kalyan Mandaps, Community Centre, play ground and so on.
- Safe bearing capacity shall be assessed by Works Department before opting for use as listed in items ii and iii above.**

By Order of Governor


07/07/2025

Additional Chief Secretary
Revenue & Disaster Management Department

Memo No. 24588 /R&D.M. dated 07 JUL 2025

Copy along with copy of the enclosure forwarded to Secretary Board of Revenue/ All RDCs /All Collectors for information and necessary action.

Additional Secretary to Government
Handwritten signature and date: 07/07/25

Memo No. 24589 /R&D.M. dated 07 JUL 2025

Copy along with copy of the enclosure forwarded to Member Secretary State Pollution Control Board for information and necessary action.

Additional Secretary to Government
Handwritten signature and date: 07/07/25

Memo No. 24590 /R&D.M. dated 07 JUL 2025

Copy along with copy of the enclosure forwarded to the Special Secretary to Government, Steel & Mines Department/Special Secretary to Government, Forest, Environment and Climate Change Department /Director, Directorate of Minor Minerals, Odisha for information and necessary action.

Additional Secretary to Government
Handwritten signature and date: 07/07/25

Memo No. 24591 /R&D.M. dated 07 JUL 2025

Copy along with copy of the enclosure forwarded to All Departments for information and necessary action.

Additional Secretary to Government
Handwritten signature and date: 07/07/25

Memo No. 24592 /R&D.M. dated 07 JUL 2025

Copy along with copy of the enclosure forwarded to All Sub- Collectors/ All Tahasildars for information and necessary action.

Additional Secretary to Government
Handwritten signature and date: 07/07/25

