

Standard Operating Procedure for Explosives usage in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa



**To Avoid Pilferage and Ensure
Safe and Secure Use of Explosives**

Home & Tribal Affairs Department
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
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**SOPs FOR EXPLOSIVES USAGE IN MINING INDUSTRY
IN KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA
(To Avoid Pilferage and Ensure Safe/ Secure Use of Explosives)**

This document is prepared to provide basic guidelines and need to be reviewed time to time, special/ thorough revision will be required after formulation of DEC (District Explosive Committee) as mentioned in this document. Moreover, till the time digital explosive track and trace software / application is not fully operational, the current hard copy documentation of explosive reports and returns and stock registers will remain in force.

1. A District Explosive Committee (DEC) shall be constituted by the Deputy Commissioner concerned to process, monitor and control "Explosive related matters" in the district. The composition of committee shall be as under: -

a.	Deputy Commissioner	Chairperson
b.	Addl. Deputy Commissioner	Secretary
c.	Assistant Commissioner Concerned Sub-Division	Member
d.	Rep of Police Department not below the rank of DSP;	Member
e.	Rep of Explosive Deptt not below the rank of BPS-17	Member
f.	Rep: of Intelligence Agencies (IB, SB and ISI) and Army / FC	Member
g.	Rep: of Mines & Minerals Deptt not below the rank of BPS17	Member
h.	AD IT Home Department as focal person for website at HD	Member

2. **TORs of DEC**

- a. The DEC shall process all Explosive licenses cases through District Arms License Branch and shall issue necessary explosive licenses as per Explosive Rule- 2010 and revised SOPs;
- b. The DEC shall carry out necessary verification/ clearance of all license holders and persons appointed in charge of explosive magazines, safe-handling, transportation and blasting of explosives (Mine Manager and Shot Firers) by the license holders and keep the record of explosive materials, blasting, consumptions and production of minerals;
- c. The DEC shall ensure to conduct security audit of record maintained by all EL-02, EL-03 and EL-04 license holders, in addition to physical verification of explosive material at magazines and working sites, quarterly and submit reports accordingly to the Home Department.

- d. The DEC will nominate / appoint an individual responsible for handling all matters related to website / application. Responsibilities of the appointee will be as: -
- (1) As a 1st Step starting immediately, he should coordinate with website developer and train all EL holders in the District.
 - (2) Data Filling (Registration Process) of all EL holders in the District, his involvement from the beginning will be critical for success and effects desired from this exercise.
 - (3) Consequently, monitor whether data / reports are being uploaded by EL holders as desired, EL holders be sensitized on importance of uploading data on Website. In case of non-compliance, strict action will be taken against them.
 - (4) He will liaise with website developer in case of any problems faced by EL holders in uploading of data.
 - (5) Responsible for all issues, matters and progress on website.
 - (6) Update on Website Progress to DEC on weekly basis.
- e. The DEC will give plan of action with timelines to make website operational
- f. The DEC will ensure digitization of explosive consumption by using the specially developed web / android application by imparting training to representatives of EL-02 , EL-03 and EL-04 holders. Also, as the android application / software is firstly being used, the DEC will also ensure to provide requisite input to further improve / optimize the software. A quarterly meeting in this regard would be planned involving all concerned to review the implementation progress / addressing the issues.
- g. DEC will ensure that data of respective district pertaining to explosives and mines is uploaded on the explosive track and trace website periodically. Till then central record be maintained in hard copies.
- h. DEC will ascertain that explosive consumption by miners of active mine leases and construction (drillers) and EL-04 holders is in order and no one is using explosive without EL-04 license.

- i. Review of EL-04 licenses every month at District Intelligence Coordination Committee Forum and report back to DEC for further transmission to and necessary action by Home Department .
- j. DEC will ensure that transportation of explosive from manufacturer (EL 1 holder) to consumer (EL 4 Holder) always remain under its radar.
- k. The DEC should carry out snap checks of mining sites, magazines / storage site of EL 2, EL3, EL 4, EL5 and EL 11 besides transportation license holders like EL6 and EL7.
- l. Random security inspections shall be conducted by the DEC or any competent person authorized by the DEC. Any observations / violations noted during the inspections, shall be communicated to the mine owner / EL license holder for rectification in specific timeline. Explosive License (EL-04) shall be cancelled in case of failure to rectify the irregularities by the mine owners / license holders and recommend to be cancelled in case of EL2 and EL3.
- m. 3rd party audit of EL holders be carried out on annual basis for transparency dully nominated by Home Department as and when required.
- n. It is to be ensured during inspections / checking that no improvised explosive (Home Made Explosive) like Ammonium Nitrate (urea fertilizer) *Kaali Khad* is used in addition to explosives.
- o. Under no circumstances removal / scratching away of marking on detonators or detonating chord be allowed. Any such instance to be immediately reported and legal action be taken against the culprits.
- p. DEC should verify that explosive licenses are not issued to mine lessees whose leases have been expired.
- q. DEC shall ensure that explosives are not transported in un-approved, un-authorised / hazardous packing and/or vehicle.

3. **Explosive Consumption and Issue Scales.** As per previous SOPs Mining industry were authorized a certain quantity of High Explosive (HE) and Detonators per day which needs to be reviewed. Each DEC will get fresh assessment / survey in respect of each mining / quarry / construction site to have the actual requirement of explosive and accessories. Based on that, Deputy Commissioner will issue Permit/

(Rahdari) for a particular duration not exceeding five days. Each Deputy Commissioner will intimate Home Department for the particular scale of issue in his respective district based on ground assessment and prevailing security situation in consultation with Army / FC Formation deployed there.

4. **EL-04 Holder (End User)**

- a. Shall be responsible for storage of explosive in a magazines and transportation till blasting site.
- b. Magazine constructed for the storage of explosive at mining site shall meet the specifications as per law or prescribed in the rules for the time being enforced. The location and picture of magazine to be shared with DEC as well as uploaded on the website.
- c. The magazine should have lightening conductor and other precautionary measures with respect to lightening to ensure safety and avoid any untoward incident.
- d. The magazine should have fire extinguishers to safe guard against any accidental fire hazard. The same shall be inspected / checked regularly by mine owner / EL4 license holder and certificate to this effect shall be sent to DEC.
- e. EL Holders will register themselves on the website at the earliest. Report to focal person / appointee for operating the website on any issue faced. In case of non-compliance, strict action will be taken against them. Shall constantly update their record on website.
- f. Mine owner / license holders shall appoint a competent person to be in charge of explosive magazines at working site and similar competent person shall be appointed for safe handling, transportation and use of explosive from magazine to the blast site.
- g. Explosives issued for blasting, if not utilized during the specific day shall be returned to the magazine immediately and entry be made in the register.
- h. Blasting shall be carried out by a competent person appointed by the mine owners/mines manager in the presence of representative nominated by DEC.

- i. Transportation and blasting of explosive shall only be allowed in the day time (from dawn till dusk).
- j. Every explosive consumption report duly signed by mine owner/manager and construction site supervisor along with thumb impression of shot firer on the prescribed format shall be forwarded to Deputy Commissioner / DEC.
- k. In case of contractor, for the working of a mine shall get license from the competent authority after submission of an affidavit duly signed by the mine owner and verified by concerned Inspector of mines.
- l. Explosives delivered by the EL 2 license holder shall be received by the holder of EL 4. Proper record of the same (preferably with pictures clearly showing the lot numbers etc) be kept by both EL 2, EL 3 and EL 4 holders. The same is liable to be produced as and when required.
- m. All mine managers, shot firers, construction site supervisors (drilling) and mine workers shall be registered with concern Local Police Station and Special Branch after necessary verification and clearance from concerned Inspector of mines.
- n. Each explosive usage / consumption report to be uploaded on website. EL Holder will share live location, picture and upload the same on software after functionality of the application however till then documentation be ensured in hard copies.
- o. All EL 4 holders shall ensure that no blasting/ explosive material/ accessories be consumed on any day/ any site without arrangement or presence of competent person from EL-4/ miners to upload live location and picture of that site by using application/ software.
- p. All mine owners / mine managers and construction site supervisors to ensure that the designated person in charge of transportation of explosive has an android based mobile with google live location tuned on at the time of taking explosive from magazine to blasting site. The live location of the person in charge of explosive transportation would indicate the location of explosive (just before putting the explosive into its prepared blast holes). The mine owners should ensure that their mines have failsafe mobile data coverage. The request for ensuring the same can also be made through relevant Government departments.

- q. Explosive being consumed on a particular day must be photographed with its lot numbers clearly visible. The same record is mandatory to be kept with mine owners as well as to be submitted to DEC on monthly basis.

5. **Actions by Explosive Magazines Owners (EL-02)**

- a. Explosive Magazines shall be established for respective districts so as to curb unnecessary movement and availability of the explosive in close proximity within the district.
- b. Explosive magazines owner shall ensure necessary security arrangements at explosive magazine including fencing, protection wall, offices, employment of security guards and registration of explosive vans as laid down under the rules.
- c. Explosive magazine owner shall hire security personnel after agreement / NOC from Deputy Commissioner / Police Authorities for necessary transportation of explosive from EL 2-license magazine to the working sites/mines.
- d. During transportation of explosive by EL 2 license holders, advance intimation shall be given to the concerned District Administration / Police Authority for vigilance during transportation phase.
- e. Explosive magazine owners shall abide by all provisions laid down under the Explosive Act, Rules made there under and SOPs issued from time to time in this regard.
- f. Explosive Magazines owners (EL 2) shall forward report on weekly basis regarding Explosive delivered to different EL 4 license holders to DEC, MI Directorate and Explosive Department Peshawar for necessary audit and record. The same will be digitally uploaded in parallel on the application as well.
- g. EL Holders will register themselves on the website at the earliest. Will constantly update their sale record on website.
- h. Will report to focal person / appointee for website on any issue faced. In case of non-compliance, strict action will be taken against them

- i. EL2 license holder shall not charge any irrational and exaggerated price of explosive materials from end users.
- j. Friday shall be observed as holiday in mining industry and no blasting shall be carried out thus no explosive material shall be issued to mine owners on Friday by Explosive Magazines owner (EL 2).

6. **Miscellaneous**

- a. Home Department shall take over the software, duly mature it as per latest requirements of explosive regulation. Any query during initial use and any improvement in future shall be referred to/ dealt by Explosive Department / Home Department.
- b. Deliberate efforts must be made to make website operational at the earliest. However, till that time status quo, documentation be maintained in hard copies and regular ground inspections/ monitoring mechanisms as prescribed in this document be ensured.
- c. Website developed by Home Department will serve as an excellent track and trace mechanism of all explosives / accessories in KPK. Its role / purpose to be understood at all levels to accrue dividends.
- d. Reliance on website will enable ease of access and reduce shortcomings of manpower / resources if given due place in the system.
- e. The Deputy Commissioner shall keep and maintain record of all explosive license holders and DEC shall also adopt practicable mechanism for inspection and verifications of explosive material issued by the EL-02 license holders from time to time.
- f. The Chief Inspector of Explosive shall ensure implementation of Explosive Act and Rules made thereunder.
- g. The District Administration shall ensure implementation of the SOPs with respect to explosive.
- h. District Administration / Home Department along with other relevant departments to conduct survey to find the data coverage of mobile communication. providers in respective districts with special focus to

ensure sufficient coverage in mining areas. This would further facilitate implementation of Explosive SOPs.

- i. In case of non-availability internet / mobile service at magazine / mining site, the data filing be done off line on computer / mobile and same then can be uploaded from location where internet service is available either daily or weekly basis.
- j. Explosive Department KPK to update all record of EL2, EL3 and EL11 holders on regular basis in website as well as hard copies with Home Department.
- k. KPK Mines and Mineral Department to submit updated list of miners of each district with Home Department quarterly, so that deconfliction of data is resolved at each district level.
- l. If any term, condition etc. contained in this SOP are found inconsistent with the laws and rules relating to explosives and mining or not meeting the requirements of stakeholders on ground shall forthwith be communicated in writing by the DEC to Home Department for necessary corrections to make it practicable and inconformity with the Laws and Rules made there under.

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