

The Assam Stone Crusher Establishment and Regulation Rules, 2013

In exercise of Powers conferred under Section 54, Sub-section 2, clause (j) of the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Government of Assam makes following rules to discharge its functions prescribed under clause (j), Sub-section 1 of Section 17 of the said act.

1.
 - i) These rules may be called “The Assam Stone Crusher Establishment and Regulation Rules, 2013”.
 - ii) They shall come into force with effect from the date of their publication in the Gazette.

2. Location:

A stone crusher shall be established on a land owned by the promoter or on such land taken on lease or agreement for at least 10 years by the promoter provided that the following distance criteria is met:

- i) A Stone Crusher shall be established at least 300 meters away from residential area having a minimum population of 100-150 people or 20 houses including both kachcha/thatched and pucca house, 500 meters from a residential area having a population more than 150 or more than 20 houses including both kachcha/thatched and pucca house. However, the distance from notified municipal area / town committee shall be not less than 1.0 Km.
- ii) The aerial distance of Stone Crusher shall be at least 500 meters from the areas like registered hospitals, school, public building or religious place. Stone crusher shall not be allowed within a radius of 1.0 Km in notified sensitive areas like zoo, wild life sanctuary, historic monuments, museum etc. The distance to be verified by an officer not below the rank of Forest Range Officer/Revenue Circle Officer or the Board Official not below the rank of Assistant Executive Engineer.
- iii) A stone crusher shall not be constructed within 200 meters (aerial distance) from the sides of railway tracks.
- iv) The distance between two stone crusher boundaries shall not be less than 300 meters to avoid clustering of stone crushers in an area if a new stone crusher is being installed.
- v) The plot area for the stone crusher shall be at least 100 meters by 100 meters (7.5 Bighas).

3. Restrictions on Setting up of Stone Crusher:

- i) All the provisions of these rules will apply on stone crushers established or proposed to be established in the mining lease area too.
- ii) The Stone Crusher shall be allowed only on such land which is certified as “Non Agricultural Land” by the concerned Circle Officer of Revenue Department of the Government of Assam.
- iii) For establishment of a new stone crusher, Public Hearing shall be conducted in the concerned Gaon Panchayat for assessing the acceptability of the unit by local people and without “, “No Objection” from Gaon Panchayat, no new stone crusher shall be allowed.
- iv) The Stone Crusher unit must have valid source for raw materials supply. An affidavit to this effect shall be submitted by the project proponent.

4. Establishment of Stone Crushers:

Forest Department on production of NOC/CTE of the Pollution Control Board, Assam shall allow establishment of stone crusher(s) and regulate its functions. Further the Forest Department shall prescribed detailed guidelines with regard to setting up, procurement and movement of stone (raw material) and product (chips) etc. The Pollution Control Board, Assam shall monitor the pollution related issues and shall prescribe necessary guidelines to be followed by stone crushers.

5. Operation of Stone Crushers:

- i) In case the stone crushing unit is in the vicinity of a water body, the unit must be provided with garland canal and / or suitable drainage system around the site, to collect the dust-laden storm water runoff. The drains shall be connected to a suitably designed holding tank to allow settlement of dust. The tank water shall be suitably disposed off or used for dust control spraying. The settled dust in the tank shall be removed periodically and used to make concrete blocks etc.
- ii) The crusher unit shall be provided with suitable control measures like hood and centrifugal system to prevent the escape of dust.
- iii) The stone crusher unit shall be provided with suitable water sprinkling system to reduce the dust from each generation area.
- iv) The stone crushing unit shall be provided with suitable wind breaking wall to arrest the dust blown out of the premises.
- v) The road inside the crusher premises shall be metalled.
- vi) The Suspended Particular Matter measured between 3 meters and 10 meters from any process equipment of a stone crushing unit shall not exceed 600 microgram per cubic meter as prescribed under Sl. No. II and 37 of Schedule – I of Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 (as amended from time to time).

6. Other Requirements:

- i) A green belt consisting of minimum two rows of tall leafy trees or Bamboo with a minimum 5 meters width should be planted around the stone crusher plant area to minimize dust and improve the aesthetic appearance.
- ii) Suitable safety measures shall be provided to the workers to protect them from the ill effect of dust pollution.
- iii) The case where capacity of existing stone crusher is proposed to be enhanced it will be treated as the case of establishing a new crusher.
- iv) The stone crushing industries will also be required to comply with the conditions laid down in all other laws in force. The Consent to Establish / Consent to Operate issued under the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 does not absolve the project proponent from the other statutory obligations prescribed under any other law or any other instrument.
