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Government of India
खान मंत्रालय
Ministry of Mines

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SECTION -1

Mineral Legislation and Policy on Export and Import of Minerals/Ores

1. MINERAL LEGISLATION

A. Amendments /Notifications:

1. Ministry of Mines, Notification, No. T. 44027/ Raipur RO/CGBM/2015.— In exercise of the powers conferred by Rule 62 of the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988 and in partial modification to the Notification No.T-43010/CGBM/97 dated 19th February, 1998 published in the Gazette of India, Part III Section I dated 7th March, 1998, the territorial jurisdiction of the Controller of Mines (Central Zone), Regional Controller of Mines, Nagpur Region, Regional Controller of Mines, Raipur Region and Regional Controller of Mines, Jabalpur Region shall be as given hereunder for the purpose of aforesaid rule:

Territorial jurisdiction of the Controller of Mines (Central Zone), the Regional Controllers of Mines of Nagpur, Raipur and Jabalpur Regions, Indian Bureau of Mines.

Zonal Office	Regional Office	State/UT	Districts
Controller of Mines (Central Zone), Indian Bureau of Mines, Nagpur	Nagpur Region	MAHARASHTRA	Ahmednagar, Akola, Amravati, Aurangabad, Bhandara, Beed, Buldhana, Chandrapur, Dhule, Gadchiroli, Gondia, Greater Mumbai, Hingoli, Jalgaon, Jalna, Mumbai (Suburban), Nagpur, Nandurbar, Nashik, Palghar, Parbhani, Raigad, Thane, Wardha, Washim, Yavatmal
	Raipur Region All	CHHATTISGARH	Districts of Chhattisgarh State
	Jabalpur Region	MADHYA PRADESH	All Districts of Madhya Pradesh State
		UTTAR PRADESH	Allahabad, Banda, Chatrapati Shahuji Maharaj Nagar, Hamirpur, Jhansi, Kaushambi, Lalitpur, Mahoba, Mirzapur, Sonbhadra.
	Bhubaneswar Region	Same as that of prescribed in Gazette of India Part III Section I dated 7th March, 1998, and Gazette of India Part III Section I dated Kolkata Region 11 th March, 1999.	
	Kolkata Region (including Guwahati Sub-Region)		
Ranchi Region			

The above shall come into force with effect from the date of notification.

ORDER

Ordered that these territorial jurisdictions of the Controller of Mines (Central Zone), the Regional Controllers of Mines of Nagpur, Raipur and Jabalpur Regions, Indian Bureau of Mines, be published in the Gazette of India, Part III Section I for general information of all.

Source: The Gazette of India: Extraordinary, Part III, Section 1 dt. 12.04.2016

2. Ministry of Mines, Notification, S.O. 1856 (E).—In pursuance of clause (b) of sub-section (2) of Section 5 of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (67

of 1957) (As amended up to 27th March 2015) and in accordance to the provision made in the Rule 16(2) of Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydro Carbons Energy Minerals) Concession Rules, 2016 Mining Plan document accompanied by a non-refundable fee of Rs. 25000/- (Rupees Twenty Five Thousand only) per sq km or part thereof shall be submitted to the Indian Bureau of Mines for approval.

This order shall come into force with immediate effect from the date of notification in the Official Gazette of India.

Source: The Gazette of India: Extraordinary, PART II—Section 3—Sub-section (ii) dt.
18.05.2016

3. Ministry of Mines, Notification, S.O. 1871(E).—In pursuance of clause (b) of sub-section (2) of Section 5 of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (67 of 1957) (As Amended up to 27th March 2015) and in accordance to the provision made in the Rule 16(2) of Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydro Carbons Energy Minerals) Concession Rules, 2016 Mining Plan document accompanied by a non-refundable fee of Rs. 25000/- (Rupees Twenty Five Thousand only) per sq km or part thereof shall be submitted to the Indian Bureau of Mines for approval.

This order shall come into force with immediate effect from the date of notification in the official gazette of India.

Source: The Gazette of India: Extraordinary, PART II—Section 3—Sub-section (ii) dt.
18.05.2016

4. Ministry of Mines, Notification, S.O. 1872 (E).— In pursuance of clause (b) of sub-section (2) of Section 5 of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act 1957 (67 of 1957) (As Amended up to 27th March 2015) and by virtue of powers vested in the Controller General, IBM under Rule 13(1)(a) of Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydro Carbons Energy Minerals) Concession Rules, 2016, I hereby authorize the (1) Regional Controller of Mines & (2) Deputy Controller of Mines, incharge of the Regional offices / Sub-Regional offices of Mineral Development and Regulation Division of Indian Bureau of Mines; to exercise the power specified under Rule 16 and Rule 17 of Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydro Carbons Energy Minerals) Concession Rules, 2016, for approval of Mining Plans.

This order shall come into force with immediate effect from the date of notification in the official gazette of India.

Source: The Gazette of India: Extraordinary, PART II—Section 3—Sub-section (ii) dt.
18.05.2016

5. Ministry of Mines, Notification, S.O. 560 (E).— In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (qqja) of sub-section (2) of Section 13 read with the proviso to sub-Section (6) of Section 12A of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (67 of 1957), the Central Government hereby makes the following rules, namely:-

1. Short title and commencement: (1) These rules may be called the Minerals (Transfer of Mining Lease Granted Otherwise than through Auction for Captive Purpose) Rules, 2016.

(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

2. Definition.- (1) In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires, -

(a) “**Act**” means the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (67 of 1957);

(b) “**transfer charges**” means the amount to be paid from time to time by the transferee to the State Government as notified in accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (1) of rule 6;

(c) “**transferee**” means a person to whom a mining lease granted otherwise than through auction to be used for captive purpose is to be transferred;

(d) “**transferor**” means a person who holds the mining lease to be transferred, which was granted otherwise than through auction and is being used for captive purpose;

(e) “**used for captive purpose**” means the use of the entire quantity of mineral extracted from the mining lease in a manufacturing unit owned by the lessee;

(f) “**value of mineral dispatched**” shall have the meaning as specified in sub-rule (2) of rule 8 of the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015.

(2) The words and expressions used in these rules but not defined herein shall have the same meaning as assigned to them in the Act or rules made thereunder.

3. Applicability.- (1) These rules shall apply to transfer of a mining lease granted otherwise than through auction which is being used for captive purpose.

4. Conditions for transfer.- (1) No transfer of mining lease granted otherwise than through auction being used for captive purpose shall be permitted except in accordance with the provisions of these rules.

(2) The transfer of a mining lease granted otherwise than through auction shall be permitted only where the entire quantity of mineral extracted from such mining lease is being used in a manufacturing unit owned by the lessee.

(3) Any approval for transfer of a mining lease granted otherwise than through auction which is being used for captive purpose shall be subject to the following conditions, namely:—

(a) all consents, approvals, permits, no-objections and the like as may be required under applicable laws for conducting mining operations, and which were obtained by the transferor, shall stand transferred *mutatis mutandis* to the transferee;

(b) the transferee has accepted all the conditions and liabilities under any law for the time being in force which the transferor was subject to in respect of such mining lease;

(c) on and from the date of transfer of the mining lease, the transferee shall be liable to the Central Government and the State Government with respect to any and all liabilities relating to the mining lease.

(d) the transferee shall ensure that the entire quantity of mineral including rejects or tailings or slimes or dumps or overburden extracted from the mining lease shall be used exclusively for captive purpose and shall not be sold or exported; and

(e) on and from the date of transfer of the mining lease, the transferee shall be bound by the provisions of the Act and the rules made thereunder.

5. Transfer of mining lease.– (1) The holder of a mining lease, granted otherwise than through auction which is being used for captive purpose, may apply to the State Government for transferring the mining lease to any person satisfying the conditions specified in sub-section (1) of Section 5 of the Act, in the format given in **Schedule I** appended to these rules.

(2) The State Government shall, within a period of ninety days of receipt of the application made under sub-rule (1), convey its decision to approve or reject such application for transfer to both the transferor and the transferee:

Provided that in case the State Government decides to reject the application, the State Government shall communicate to both the transferor and the transferee, the reasons for its decision to reject the application for transfer of the mining lease:

Provided further that if the State Government does not convey its decision for such transfer within a period of ninety days from the date of receiving an application under sub-rule (1), the State Government shall be deemed to have approved such transfer:

Provided also that no such transfer of a mining lease shall be made in contravention of any of the conditions subject to which the mining lease was originally granted.

(3) The State Government shall, within fifteen days of its approval of the application for transfer of mining lease in sub-rule (2), based upon an estimation of the value of estimated resources of the mining lease, raise a demand upon the transferee for making an upfront payment of an amount equal to 0.50 per cent of the value of the estimated resources.

(4) The upfront payment referred to in sub-rule (3) shall be made in one lump sum within a period of thirty days from the date of receipt of demand for making the upfront payment by the State Government.

(5) The upfront payment shall be adjusted in full against the amount payable under sub-rule (1) of rule 6.

(6) The transferee shall, within fifteen days of making the upfront payment in sub-rule (4), sign the Mine Development and Production Agreement in the format published by the Government of India in the Ministry of Mines, *vide* Part I, Section-I of the Gazette of India, dated the 2nd July, 2015 with the State Government.

(7) The transferee shall, within fifteen days of signing the Mine Development and Production Agreement in sub-rule (6), provide a performance security to the State Government in the form of a bank guarantee as per the format given in **Schedule II** appended to these rules or as a security deposit, for an amount equivalent to 0.50 per cent of the value of estimated resources, and the performance security may be invoked by the State Government as per the terms and conditions of the Mine Development and Production Agreement.

(8) The performance security shall be adjusted every five years so that it continues to correspond to 0.50 per cent of the reassessed value of estimated resources.

(9) The transferor and the transferee shall jointly submit a duly registered deed for transfer of mining lease in the format given in **Schedule III** appended to these rules within a period of thirty days of fulfillment of the conditions specified in sub-rules (4), (6) and sub-rule (7).

(10) If a duly registered transfer deed is not submitted to the State Government as referred to in sub-rule (9), then the approval given by the State Government for transfer of mining lease in sub-rule (2) shall be deemed to have become null and void.

(11) The date of commencement of the transfer deed shall be the date on which a duly executed transfer deed is registered.

(12) The State Government shall execute a mining lease deed with the transferee in the format given in Schedule VII appended to the Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydro Carbons Energy Minerals) Concession Rules, 2016, within ninety days of registration of the deed for transfer of mining lease referred in sub-rule (9).

6. Transfer charges and other payments, – (1) Whenever royalty is payable in terms of the Second Schedule to the Act, the transferee shall in addition to the royalty, pay to the State Government as transfer charges the amount given in **Schedule IV** appended to these rules , as a per cent of the royalty.

(2) The transferee shall make payments of the transfer charges as referred to in sub-rule (1), to the State Government simultaneously with payments of royalty.

(3) The transferee shall pay royalty or dead rent to the State Government as specified in the Act and the rules made thereunder.

(4) The transferee shall contribute such amounts to the designated account of the National Mineral Exploration Trust as specified in rule 7 of the National Mineral Exploration Trust Rules, 2015, and the designated account of the District Mineral Foundation as specified in the Mines and Minerals (Contribution to District Mineral Foundation) Rules, 2015.

7. The State Government shall inform the Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines in writing about the transfer made under rule 5.

8. The State Government may, by an order in writing, terminate the mining lease, if the holder of the mining lease has in the opinion of the State Government committed a breach of any of the provisions of these rule or has transferred such lease or any right, title, or interest therein otherwise than in accordance with the provisions of the Act or the rules made thereunder, as the case may be:

Provided that no such order shall be made without giving the holder of the mining lease a reasonable opportunity of stating his case.

SCHEDULE I
[See sub-rule (1) of rule 5]
(FORMAT OF APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF MINING LEASE)

To

[Address]

I/We request for seeking transfer of mining lease.

S. No.	Item Detail	Particulars
1.	Name of the transferor	
2.	Address of the transferor	
3.	Name of the transferee	
4.	Address of the transferee	
5.	Mining lease number	
6.	Date of registration of mining lease	
7.	Whether the transferee is eligible to hold the mining lease in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the rules made thereunder ?	Yes/No
8.	The consideration payable by the transferee	
9.	Whether the transferee is agreeable to accept all the conditions and liabilities under any law for the time being in force which the transferor was subject to in respect of such a mining lease.	Yes/No

We do hereby declare that the particulars furnished above are correct and am/are ready to furnish any other details, as may be required by you.

The transferee and transferor also undertake to comply with the provisions of Section 12A and the Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydro Carbons Energy Minerals) Concession Rules, 2016 and the Minerals (Transfer of Mining Lease Granted Otherwise than through Auction for Captive Purpose) Rules, 2016 with respect to the transfer of the mining lease.

Yours faithfully,
Transferor

.....

Place:

Date:

Instructions to applicants:

(a) The application must be signed by a duly authorized representative of the applicants, in case the applicant is a company. In case the applicant is an individual, the applicant must personally sign the application. In case of a firm or association of individuals, all the partners/members constituting the firm or association of individuals shall sign the application.

(b) The corporate authorisation of the authorised signatory of the applicant (which is a company) must be enclosed with the application. Any change in such corporate authorisation must be immediately intimated to the State Government.

(c) Documentary evidence to confirm eligibility of the transferee to hold the mining lease in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the rules made thereunder, must be submitted along with the application.

SCHEDULE II

[See sub-rule (7) of rule 5]

(FORMAT OF BANK GUARANTEE FOR PERFORMANCE SECURITY)

[Reference number of the bank] [Date]

To

The Governor of [Name of State]

[address]

WHEREAS

A. [Name] incorporated in India under the Companies Act, [1956/2013] with corporate identity number [CIN of the Transferee], whose registered office is at [address of registered office], India and principal place of business is at [address of principal place of business, if different from registered office]1 (the “**Transferee**”) is required to provide an unconditional and irrevocable bank guarantee for an amount equal to INR [figures] (Indian Rupees [words]) as a performance security valid until [date of expiry of performance bank guarantee] (“**Expiry Date**”). Mentioned only for companies, the format to include individuals / other applicants also.

B. The Performance Security is required to be provided to **The Governor of [Name of State]**, (the “**State**”) for discharge of certain obligations under the [reference to the principal documents –prospecting licence/mining lease, mine development and production agreement] dated, [date] with respect to [particulars of concession] (collectively the “**Concession Document**”).

C. We, [name of the bank] (the “**Bank**”) at the request of the Transferee do hereby undertake to pay to the State an amount not exceeding INR [figures] (Indian Rupees [words]) (“**Guarantee Amount**”) to secure the obligations of the Transferee under the Concession Document on demand from the State on the terms and conditions herein contained herein.

NOW THEREFORE, the Bank hereby issues in favour of the State this irrevocable and unconditional payment bank guarantee (the “**Guarantee**”) on behalf of the Transferee in the Guarantee Amount:

1. The Bank for the purpose hereof unconditionally and irrevocably undertakes to pay to the State without any demur, reservation, caveat, protest or recourse, immediately on receipt of first written demand from the State, a sum or sums (by way of one or more claims) not exceeding the Guarantee Amount in the aggregate without the State needing to prove or to show to the Bank grounds or reasons for such demand for the sum specified therein and notwithstanding any dispute or difference between the State and Transferee on any matter whatsoever. The Bank undertakes to pay to the State any money so demanded notwithstanding any dispute or disputes raised by the Transferee in any suit or proceeding pending before any court or tribunal relating thereto the Bank’s liability under this present being absolute and unequivocal.

2. The Bank acknowledges that any such demand by the State of the amounts payable by the Bank to the State shall be final, binding and conclusive evidence in respect of the amounts payable by Transferee to the State under the Concession Document.

3. The Bank hereby waives the necessity for the State from demanding the aforesaid amount or any part thereof from the Transferee and also waives any right that the Bank may have of first requiring the State to pursue its legal remedies against the Transferee, before presenting any written demand to the Bank for payment under this Guarantee.

¹ Note: To be modified if the Transferee is not a company.

4. The Bank further unconditionally agrees with the State that the State shall be at liberty, without the Bank’s consent and without affecting in any manner the Bank’s obligation under this Guarantee, from time to time to:

- (i) vary and/or modify any of the terms and conditions of the Concession Document;
- (ii) extend and / or postpone the time for performance of the obligations of the Transferee under the Concession Document, or
- (iii) forbear or enforce any of the rights exercisable by the State against the Transferee under the terms and conditions of the Concession Document.

and the Bank shall not be relieved from its liability by reason of any such act or omission on the part of the State or any indulgence by the State to the Transferee or other thing whatsoever which under the law relating to sureties would, but for this provision, have the effect of relieving the Bank of its obligations under this Guarantee.

5. Any payment made hereunder shall be made free and clear of and without deduction for, or on account of, any present or future taxes, levies, imposts, duties, charges, fees, commissions, deductions or withholdings of any nature whatsoever.

6. The Bank agrees that State at its option shall be entitled to enforce this Guarantee against the Bank, as a principal debtor in the first instance without proceeding at the first instance against the Transferee.

7. The Bank further agrees that the guarantee herein contained shall remain in full force and effect during the period that specified in the Concession Document and that it shall continue to be enforceable till all the obligations of the Transferee under or by virtue of the said Concession Document with respect to the Performance Security have been fully paid and its claims satisfied or discharged or till the State certifies that the terms and conditions of the Concession Document with respect to the Performance Security have been fully and properly carried out by the Transferee and accordingly discharges this guarantee. Notwithstanding anything contained herein, unless a demand or claim under this guarantee is made on the Bank in writing on or before the Expiry Date the Bank shall be discharged from all liability under this guarantee thereafter.

8. The payment so made by the Bank under this Guarantee shall be a valid discharge of Bank's liability for payment thereunder and the State shall have no claim against the Bank for making such payment.

9. This Guarantee is subject to the laws of India. Any suit, action, or other proceedings arising out of this Guarantee or the subject matter hereof shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of courts at the State of [respective State].

10. The Bank has the power to issue this Guarantee in favour of the State. This guarantee will not be discharged due to the change in the constitution of the Bank.

11. The Bank undertakes not to revoke this Guarantee during its currency except with the previous consent of the State in writing.

12. The State may, with prior intimation to the Bank, assign the right under this Guarantee to any other departments, ministries or any governmental agencies, which may act in the name of the Governor. Save as provided in this Clause 12, this Guarantee shall not be assignable or transferable.

13. Notwithstanding anything contained herein,
a. the liability of the bank under this bank guarantee shall not exceed the Guarantee Amount.
b. This bank guarantee shall be valid up to the Expiry Date.

14. The Bank is liable to pay the guaranteed amount or any part thereof under this bank guarantee only and only if the State serves upon the Bank a written claim or demand on or before the Expiry Date.

Dated the [day] day of [month] [year].

In witness whereof the Bank, through its authorized officer, has set its hand and stamp.

(Signature)

(Name and Designation)

(Bank Stamp)

SCHEDULE III

**[See sub-rule (9) of rule 5]
(FORMAT OF DEED FOR TRANSFER OF MINING LEASE)**

The Transfer Deed ("**Deed**") is made on this [day] day of [month], [year] between:

1. (*Name of the individual with address and occupation*) (hereinafter referred to as the "**Transferor**" which expression shall where the context so admits be deemed to include his heirs, executors, administrators, representatives and permitted assigns); or

Name of the association of individuals through (*Name of member with address and occupation*) and (*Name of member with address and occupation*) or (*Name of the representative with address and occupation who has been duly authorised by all members*) (hereinafter referred to as the "**Transferor**" which expression shall where the context so admits be deemed to include their respective heirs, executors, administrators, representatives and their permitted assigns); or

Name of the partnership firm through (*Names and addresses of all the partners*) or (*name of the representative with details of address and occupation who has been duly authorised by all partners*) all carrying on business in partnership under the firm name and style of (*Name of the firm*) registered under the Indian Partnership Act, 1932 (9 of 1932) and having their registered office at [address] (hereinafter referred to as the "**Transferor**" which expression where the context so admits be deemed to include all the said partners, their respective heirs, executors, legal representatives and permitted assigns); or

(*Name of Company*), a company registered under the (*Act under which incorporated*) and having its registered office at [address] represented by (*Name of the Director with address who has been authorised by the Board of Directors*) (hereinafter referred to as the "**Transferor**" which expression shall where the context so admits be deemed to include its successors and permitted assigns) of the first part;

And

2. (*Name of the individual with address and occupation*) (hereinafter referred to as the "**Transferee**" which expression shall where the context so admits be deemed to include his heirs, executors, administrators, representatives and permitted assigns); or

Name of the association of individuals through (*Name of member with address and occupation*) and (*Name of member with address and occupation*) or (*Name of the representative with address and occupation who has been duly authorised by all members*) (hereinafter referred to as the

"**Transferee**" which expression shall where the context so admits be deemed to include their respective heirs, executors, administrators, representatives and their permitted assigns); or

Name of the partnership firm through (*Names and addresses of all the partners*) or (*name of the representative with details of address and occupation who has been duly authorised by all partners*) all carrying on business in partnership under the firm name and style of (*Name of the firm*) registered under the Indian Partnership Act, 1932 (9 of 1932) and having their registered office at [*address*] (hereinafter referred to as the "**Transferee**" which expression where the context so admits be deemed to include all the said partners, their respective heirs, executors, legal representatives and permitted assigns; or

(*Name of Company*), a company registered under the (*Act under which incorporated*) and having its registered office at [*address*] represented by (*Name of the Director with address who has been authorised by the Board of Directors*) (hereinafter referred to as the "**Transferee**" which expression shall where the context so admits be deemed to include its successors and permitted assigns) of the first part;

And

3. The Governor of [*State*] (hereinafter referred to as the "**State Government**" which expression shall where the context so admits be deemed to include the successors and assigns) of the third part.

WHEREAS:

A. The Transferor has been granted a mining lease by the State Government in respect of which the State Government and the Transferor have executed a lease deed dated [*date*] and registered as no. [*number*] on [*date*] at the office of the Sub-Registrar of [*address*] in connection with the mining lease (collectively "**Concession Documents**") and the same is attached hereto as **Annexure A**.

B. In terms of the Concession Documents, the Transferor is entitled to search for, win and work mines and minerals in respect of (*Name of minerals*) in the lands described in the schedules to the Concession Documents (more particularly set out in **Annexure B**), for the term and subject to the payment of the rents and royalties and observance and performance of the Transferor's covenant and conditions in the Concession Documents including a covenant not to transfer the mining lease in violation of applicable laws.

C. The Transferor has, pursuant to its transfer application letter dated [*date*], requested the State Government for its approval in connection with transfer of the Mining Lease to the Transferee.

D. The State Government has, pursuant to its letter dated [*date*] approved the transfer application of the Transferor subject to compliance by the Transferee of the terms and conditions contained in this Deed.

NOW THIS DEED WITNESSETH AS FOLLOWS:

1. Capitalised terms used but not defined in this Deed shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the respective meanings ascribed thereto in the Concession Documents.

2. The Transferee hereby covenants with the State Government that from and after the transfer and assignment of the mining lease, the Transferee shall be bound by, and be liable to perform, observe and conform and be subject to all the provisions of all the covenants, stipulations and conditions contained in the Concession Documents in the same manner in all respects as if the mining lease had been granted to the Transferee as the lessee thereunder and he/ it had originally executed the Concession Documents as such.

3. It is further hereby agreed and declared by the Transferor of the one part and the Transferee of the other part that:

3.1. The Transferee and the Transferor declare that the Transferee meets and shall continue to meet all the eligibility conditions which were required to be met by the Transferor for grant of the mining lease.

3.2. The Transferor and the Transferee declare that they have ensured that the mineral rights over the area for which the mining lease is being transferred vest in the State Government.

3.3. The Transferee acknowledges that he/ it has received a copy of, and has read and understands the Concession Documents, and covenants, agrees and confirms that it shall be bound by all provisions of the Concession Documents as if it was an original party thereto.

3.4. The Transferor hereby declares that he/ it has not assigned or in any other manner transferred the mining lease now being transferred and that no other person or persons has any right, title or interest where under in the present Mining Lease being transferred.

3.5. The Transferee hereby declares that he/ it has accepted all the conditions and liabilities which the Transferors was having in respect of such mining lease.

3.6. The Transferor has supplied to the Transferee the original or certified copies of all plans of abandoned workings in the area and in a belt sixty five metres wide surrounding it.

3.7. The Transferee hereby further declares that as a consequence of this transfer, the total area while held by him/ it under mineral concessions are not in contravention of the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 or the rules made thereunder.

3.8. The Transferor has paid all the rent, royalties, and other dues towards the State Government till the date, in respect of the mining lease.

In witness whereof the parties hereto have signed on the, date and year first above written. For and on behalf of the State Government:

Name:

Designation:

For and on behalf of the Transferor:

Name:

For and on behalf of the Transferee:

Name:

**ANNEXURE A:
Copy of Concession Documents**

ANNEXURE B:
Location and area of the Mining Lease
[Particulars of area to be provided]

**SCHEDULE IV
[See sub-rule (1) of rule 6]
AMOUNT OF TRANSFER CHARGES**

Transfer charges payable by the transferee shall be an amount equal to eighty per cent of the royalty paid in terms of Second Schedule to the Act.

[F. No. 1/2/2016-M.VI]
R. SRIDHARAN, Addl. Secy.

Source: The Gazette of India: Extraordinary, PART II—Section 3—Sub-section(i)
dt.30.05.2016

6. Ministry of Mines, Notification, G.S.R. 578 (E). — In pursuance of the second proviso to sub-section (1) of Section 4 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (67 of 1957), the Central Government hereby notifies the Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited for the purposes of the second proviso to sub-section (1) of Section 4 of the said Act:

Provided that Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited shall make over the data generated by it, in respect of the prospecting operations undertaken by it, to the State Government.

2. This notification shall come into force on the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

Source: The Gazette of India: Extraordinary, PART II—Section 3—Sub-section(i)
dt.07.06.2016

7. Ministry of Mines, Notification, F. No. 11/52/2010 (Pt. 3).— In continuation of the Ministry of Mines Resolution no. 11(52)2010-M.I dated 05th September, 2011 regarding

Geoscience Advisory Council (GAC), the following changes in the composition of the GAC have been decided in the Ministry of Mines with immediate effect:

(a) In para 6 (iii), “Representation of the following Ministries/Departments not below the rank of Additional Secretary/Secretary” be replaced with “Representation of the following Ministries/Departments not below the rank of Joint Secretary”.

(b) In para 6 (iv), the following Scientific Institutions are included as Members:

- (1) Central Mine Planning & Design Institute (CMPDI)
- (2) Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC)
- (3) National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC)

and the following Scientific Institution is excluded as Member:

- (1) Central Arid Zone Research Institute

Source: The Gazette of India: Extraordinary, PART I—Section 1, dt. 29.04.2016

8. Ministry of Mines, Notification, S.O. 2324 (E). — Whereas the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 2002 (No.17 of 2003) (hereinafter referred to as **OAMDR Act**) received the assent of the President of India on the 30th January, 2003.

Whereas, in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 35 of the OAMDR Act, the Ministry of Mines, Government of India notified the Offshore Areas Mineral Concession Rules, 2006 (hereinafter referred to as **OAMCR**) on 3rd November, 2006.

Whereas, the Ministry of Mines by notification in the Official Gazette dated 12th February, 2010 appointed 15th January, 2010 as the date on which the OAMDR Act and OAMCR shall come into force.

Whereas, in exercise of the powers conferred under clause (a) of Section 4 of the OAMDR Act, the Central Government vide S.O.339(E) dated 11th February 2010 notified the Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, Nagpur as the Administering Authority for the purposes of the said OAMDR Act.

Whereas, in exercise of the powers conferred under sub-section (1) of section 10 of OAMDR Act, the Administering Authority notified 63 mineral bearing offshore blocks for grant of exploration licences, vide S.O.1341(E) dated 7th June 2010 which was published in the Official Gazette dated 9th June 2010.

And whereas, 377 applications were received from 53 applicants and whereas, 16 applicants were shortlisted for grant of 62 exploration blocks (the bounding latitude and longitude of Block Nos. 3 & 32 falling in the Arabian Sea were same and, therefore, these were considered as a single block and granted as Block No. 3).

Whereas, orders for grant of exploration licences were issued by the Administering Authority on 05.04.2011 to 16 successful applicants for the 62 exploration blocks.

And whereas, as per the provisions of sub-rule (1) of rule 19 of the OAMCR, where an order has been made for the grant of exploration licence, a deed granting such license shall be executed within ninety days of the date of the communication of the said order.

Whereas, the grant of exploration licences in 62 blocks was challenged in the judicature of various High Courts.

And whereas, the Hon'ble High Court of Judicature of Bombay, Nagpur Bench, vide its Order dated 28.03.2011 in Writ Petition No. 1502 of 2011, directed that all subsequent actions be kept in abeyance till the final order of the Hon'ble High Court.

And whereas, in keeping with the directions issued by the Hon'ble High Court of Judicature of Bombay, Nagpur Bench, vide its Order dated 28.03.2011, all the 16 applicants were informed that all subsequent actions are being kept in abeyance till the final order of the Hon'ble Court is received.

Whereas, the Hon'ble High Court of Judicature at Bombay, Nagpur Bench vide interim Order dated 28.11.2011 in Writ Petition No. 1502 of 2011 clarified that the order dated 28.03.2011 should be confined to 17 blocks for which the petitioner has staked claim and the remaining blocks do not form the subject matter of consideration before the Court.

And whereas, the Hon'ble High Court of Judicature at Bombay, Nagpur Bench vide order dated 17.09.2013 while disposing the Writ Petition No. 1502 of 2011 ordered the continuance of the interim order dated 28.11.2011 for a period of ten days to enable the petitioner to move an appropriate application for further continuation of the interim order if so desired.

And whereas, the Hon'ble High Court of Judicature at Bombay, Nagpur Bench vide Order dated 27.09.2013 extended the Order dated 28.03.2011 as modified on 28.11.2011 for a further period of six weeks.

Whereas, the Hon'ble High Court of Judicature of Andhra Pradesh at Hyderabad vide interim order dated 22.06.2011 in Writ Petition No. 12835 of 2011 directed that "in the meanwhile, if any steps are taken for grant of exploration licences, the same shall be subject to further orders by this Court". Further, another order dated 11.07.2011 was issued by the Hon'ble Court in this regard directing that "the interim order dated 22.06.2011 granted earlier shall continue until further orders".

And whereas, the Writ Petition No. 12835 of 2011 filed in the Hon'ble High Court of Judicature of Andhra Pradesh at Hyderabad has not been disposed as on the date of this order, and the offshore exploration licences granted have not been executed till date.

Whereas, it has come to the notice of the Administering Authority that some of the exploration blocks notified for grant of offshore exploration licences vide notification dated

07.06.2010 overlap with areas other than offshore area, to which the OAMDR Act does not apply.

That the jurisdiction of OAMDR Act, applies exclusively to offshore areas which has been defined in the said Act as the territorial waters, continental shelf, exclusive economic zone and other maritime zones of India under the Territorial Waters, Continental Shelf, Exclusive Economic Zone and Other Maritime Zones Act, 1976.

And that the grant of mineral concessions over areas other than offshore areas is regulated by the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (67 of 1957).

Whereas, the Central Government vide S.O.19 (E) dated 6th January, 2011, published in the Official Gazette by the Department of Environment, Forests and Wildlife, Ministry of Environment and Forests, has declared the extent of the Coastal Regulation Zone (**CRZ**) and has also imposed certain restrictions on the setting up and expansion of industries, operations or processes and the like in the CRZ.

And whereas, the said statutory order dated 6.1.2011 states that CRZ shall also apply to the water and the bed area between the Low Tide Line to the territorial water limit (12 Nm) in case of seas and has prohibited in the area so identified as CRZ, inter alia, the mining of sand, rocks and other sub-strata materials except those rare minerals not available outside the CRZ area.

And whereas, all the 62 offshore blocks which were notified for grant of exploration licences vide S.O.1341(E) dated 9th June 2010, lie within the area identified as CRZ, i.e. they lie within the territorial water limit of 12 nautical miles which attracts the prohibition of mining (which means any operation undertaken for the purpose of winning any mineral) imposed by the statutory order dated 6.1.2011 issued by the Central Government.

Whereas, production lease is granted under the OAMDR Act for the purpose of winning any mineral from the offshore area.

And whereas, grant of production lease is consequential to the grant of exploration license as the OAMDR Act provides that the holder of an exploration license shall have the exclusive right to a production lease which is the operating right for winning of a mineral.

Whereas, in view of the effect of the CRZ Notification dated 6.1.2011 the purpose of executing the 62 offshore exploration licences gets defeated as the applicants cannot undertake operations for winning of minerals subsequent to the grant of production lease after the successful completion of exploration operations.

Now, therefore, taking into consideration all the above stated facts, I hereby annul the Notification issued vide S.O.1341(E) dated 7th June 2010 with effect that all subsequent actions undertaken for grant of the 62 exploration licences hereby stand rescinded.

Source: The Gazette of India: Extraordinary, PART II—Section 3- Sub- Section (ii) dt.
30.06.2016

9. **Ministry of Mines, Notification, S.O. 2356 (E).** — In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 11C of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (67 of 1957), the Central Government hereby makes the following further amendments to the First Schedule of the Act, namely:—

In the First Schedule, in Part B, after entry 11, the following entry shall be inserted, namely:—
“12. **Beach sand minerals**, that is, economic heavy minerals found in the teri or beach sands, which include ilmenite, rutile, leucoxene, garnet, monazite, zircon and sillimanite”.

Source: The Gazette of India: Extraordinary, PART II—Section-3 Sub-Section (ii) dt.
11.07.2016

10. **Ministry of Mines, Notification, F. No. 11[42]2015-M.I.**— Consequent upon the approval of the Cabinet, the Ministry of Mines, Government of India hereby notifies the following policy, namely:—

NATIONAL MINERAL EXPLORATION POLICY (Non-Fuel and Non-Coal Minerals)

1. PREAMBLE

1.1 The country is endowed with vast resources of a variety of minerals and has favorable geological settings for many others. However, vast geographical areas are still to be explored to the desired levels. Detailed exploration to understand and uncover this potential is crucial for the growth of Indian economy. This requires a sound and comprehensive mineral exploration policy/ strategy to be implemented in a coordinated, systematic and consistent manner.

1.2 The country needs to formulate a suitable mineral exploration policy framework which:

- (i) Establishes priorities, in terms of activities, mineral commodities, areas, mining technology, etc.;
- (ii) Identifies and defines roles for the groups of key players in the sector viz., government, the exploration industry, research and academic bodies, and financiers;
- (iii) Recognizes that coordinated activity amongst all these players is vital to success in exploration and, therefore, creates the institutional mechanisms necessary for this purpose;
- (iv) Outlines the changes in the enabling framework (legal, regulatory, financial and fiscal) required for obtaining the best results in exploration; and
- (v) Estimates the resources required, in terms of funds, human capital and technology, and the means of harnessing these to the tasks ahead.

2. SCOPE OF POLICY DOCUMENT

2.1 The National Mineral Exploration Policy (NMEP) document spells out the strategy and outlines the action plan that the Government will adopt to ensure comprehensive exploration of country's mineral resources (non-fuel and non-coal). Successful exploration requires the bringing together of the best of knowledge and experience, the state-of-the-art technology,

highly trained manpower, and also enormous financial resources, on an open, collaborative and inter-disciplinary platform. The major portion of the effort is clearly of the public good character.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The framework governing exploration activity in the country can be considered essentially in two parts:

- a) The institutional and administrative framework through which pre-competitive baseline data generation and exploration work is implemented; and
- b) The legal and regulatory framework that governs the activities of various players in the sector, including the Government and the private sector.

3.2 Institutional and Administrative Framework

3.2.1 Geological Survey of India (GSI), since its inception in 1851, has been the most important institution that has performed the task of regional exploration of coal, lignite and non-fuel minerals. GSI is entrusted with the lead role in the task of carrying out geological mapping and acquiring other baseline geoscience data for the entire country. It generates and disseminates baseline geoscience data to other exploration agencies for accelerating the mineral exploration process. Directorate of Geology and Mines of some of the States have also made notable contributions in detailed exploration. Besides, Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL) and other Public Sector Undertakings carry out detailed exploration.

3.2.2 Since independence, GSI and the State Governments have discovered 60 important mineral deposits including 38 'greenfield' discoveries. However, looking at the India's likely mineral potential, there is an urgent need for accelerating exploration in the country through public and private participation.

3.3 Legal and regulatory framework governing exploration activities

3.3.1 Mines and Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act 1957 is the main statute for the regulation of mines and mineral sector in the country. Under this Act, Mineral Concession Rules 1960 and Mineral Conservation and Development Rules 1988 were framed.

3.3.2 Subsequent to the economic liberalization in 1991, a comprehensive National Mineral Policy was announced in March 1993. The policy introduced for the first time the idea of encouraging private investment in exploration in mining. Consequently, amendments were made in the MMDR Act in Jan. 1994. These amendments sought to simplify the procedure for grant of mineral concession so as to attract large investment through private sector participation, including foreign direct investment (FDI), and thereby, induct latest technology into the mining sector.

3.3.3 Despite the above initiatives, prospecting and mining activity could not be facilitated to the desired level. Later, based on recommendations made by the expert group constituted in the Ministry of Mines in 1997, further amendments were made in MMDR Act in December 1999. The amended Act introduced the concept of reconnaissance operations as a distinct

stage prior to prospecting, in terms of reconnaissance permit (RP). The RP holder had the preferential right for obtaining PL, and then ML subject to stipulated conditions.

3.3.4 The investment policy was liberalized progressively and in Feb 2006, 100 percent FDI through automatic route was allowed in mining sector. However, liberalization of investment regime and amendments in regulatory framework did not attract private investment as desired. Many companies put in their applications for RPs and PLs but very few of them have been finally converted into MLs. Inadequate resources with public sector agencies, such as, GSI and MECL and State governments' agencies also remained a major challenge for the country. In this backdrop, a High Level Committee (HLC) was constituted by the Planning Commission in the year 2005 to suggest the changes needed for encouraging investment of public and private sector in exploration and extraction of minerals.

3.3.5 Based on recommendations of the HLC, revised National Mineral Policy was announced in 2008. The important features of this policy are: (a) grant of mineral concession of all types, such as RP, PL and ML, would be transparent and seamless and security of tenure be guaranteed to the concessionaries, (b) prospecting and mining is to be recognized as independent activities with transferability of concessions playing a key role in mineral sector development, (c) while government agencies would continue to perform the tasks assigned to them for exploration and survey, the private sector would be the main source of investment in reconnaissance and prospecting and government agencies would expend public fund primarily in areas where private sector investments are not forthcoming, (d) an open sky policy of non-exclusive reconnaissance work would be adopted to expedite completion of reconnaissance work for the entire country as early as possible.

3.4 Recent Policy Initiatives

3.4.1 In recent years, some major developments took place in mineral sector especially by way of judicial pronouncements, which were having far reaching ramifications. In brief, these developments led to the realization that all actions of the Government in the mines and mineral sector have to stand the test of Article 14 of the Constitution. In practical terms, this means that complete transparency and 'equal opportunity for all' must be ensured and the scope for arbitrariness and unfettered discretion must be eliminated in the allotment of mineral concessions.

3.4.2 The limited success of earlier policy measures, as well as the requirements of the new emerging imperatives, has led to the amendments made to the MMDR Act by the Amendment Act of 2015. The most important feature of this amendment is the grant of mining leases and composite licenses (Prospecting Licence-Cum-Mining Lease) only through an auction process. The Mineral (Evidence and Mineral Contents) Rules 2015 specifies that for auction of mining lease, at least general exploration (G2) is required to be completed and for auction of composite licence, at least preliminary exploration (G3) to be completed. The amended Act also removed the earlier provision of RP and provided for non-exclusive reconnaissance permit (NERP). However, the holder of such NERP shall not be entitled to make any claim for grant of PL-cum ML or ML. The amended Act also removed the restriction on lease transferability and allowed the transfer of mineral concession held by lease holders to any person eligible to hold such lease.

3.4.3 Further, the amended Act established National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) and the holder of a mining lease or PL-cum-ML would pay to the Trust a sum equivalent to 2 percent of the royalty paid in terms of the second schedule. The Trust is supposed to carry out regional and detailed exploration for minerals and related activities for development of exploration.

3.4.4 In the light of above amendments in MMDR Act and emergent need to provide an impetus to exploration in the country at this juncture has prompted a thorough review of exploration policy and strategy. The review revealed several areas that need added emphasis. A new Exploration Strategy has, therefore, been finalized with a view to provide new sense of purpose and direction within the amended legal framework.

4. BASIC FEATURES OF THE NEW EXPLORATION STRATEGY

4.1 The exploration strategy will be centered on the following basic features:

(i) The Government will make available pre-competitive baseline geoscience data of the highest standards. This data will be continuously updated and benchmarked with those of other jurisdictions. The Government will specify the kind of data that will be provided to potential exploration agencies, and the timelines for their publication.

(ii) The pre-competitive baseline geoscience data will be made available for open dissemination free of charge.

(iii) Government will create baseline geoscience data as a public good and fund the generation and dissemination of such data.

(iv) Government will launch a special initiative to probe deep-seated/concealed mineral deposits.

(v) Public expenditure on regional and detailed exploration will be prioritized and subject to periodic review based on assessment of criticality and strategic interests.

(vi) Private sector participation in exploration will be encouraged within the existing legal framework. Government will work out suitable models for incentivizing private sector explorers. Government will also take steps to simplify procedural requirements for carrying out exploration by private sector.

(vii) Government will collaborate with scientific and research bodies, universities and industry for the scientific and technological development necessary for exploration.

(viii) Administrative structure for coordination amongst various agencies engaged in exploration will be reviewed and restructured.

5. PRE-COMPETITIVE BASELINE GEOSCIENCE DATA

5.1 Generation and dissemination of baseline data is of paramount importance for effective exploration. It has been the experience from mineral rich countries that increased exploration activity, and discovery of economic resources, can be directly attributed to the release of pre-competitive baseline geoscience data. Further, high quality interpretation that can lead to the discovery of a deposit also depends upon the nature and resolution of data.

5.2 In keeping with the international best practices of providing pre-competitive baseline geoscience data to the stakeholders, Government intends to carry out the following in order to generate and disseminate data free of cost in public domain through web-based information system.

5.3 Geological Mapping

5.3.1 GSI has completed geological mapping on 1:50 k scale of more than 98% of the mapable area of the country. The remaining areas, which are inaccessible, are being covered incrementally on expedition basis. Digital geological maps will be made available in public domain.

5.4 National Geochemical Mapping (NGCM)

5.4.1 NGCM program was launched by GSI from the beginning of 10th Plan to gather information on the chemical behaviour of the material of the earth's crust. Under this program stream sediment samples at 1 km x 1 km grid are collected and composite samples of 2 km x 2 km are analyzed. In addition, soil, regolith, surface water and humus are also collected and analyzed. At present, 60 elements/ compounds like SiO₂, Al₂O₃, Fe₂O₃, MgO, MnO, Na₂O, K₂O, gold, silver, cadmium, copper, mercury, lead, zinc, etc. are analyzed. Two more elements viz. platinum and palladium are analyzed in selected areas. All these elements are analysed with a precision level up to Clarke value.

5.4.2 Till March 2015, GSI has completed NGCM in an area of 0.54 million sq km in the entire country. Out of this, about 0.24 million sq km is within the OGP. GSI targets to cover the entire OGP area by the year 2018-19. Subsequently, NGCM will be carried out for the entire country in about eight years. Digital geochemical maps and data will be provided in public domain.

5.5 National Geophysical Mapping (NGPM)

5.5.1 NGPM Program was launched by GSI during 10th Plan period to gather information on the gravity and magnetic behaviour of the material of the earth's crust. Gravity (up to 0.1 mGal) and magnetic (5nT) data are collected at a station interval of 2.5 sq km.

5.5.2 NGPM has been completed in an area of 0.28 million sq km out of which 0.13 million sq km lies in the OGP area. GSI plans to cover the entire OGP area by 2020-21. Subsequently, NGPM will be carried out in the potential areas identified by the National Aerogeophysical

Mapping project in the subsequent years. Digital geophysical maps and data will be provided in public domain.

5.6 Geochronological Studies

5.6.1 The modern mineral exploration practices involve generation of isotopic and geochronological data for understanding lithospheric architecture and metallogenic evolution through space and time. As per global best practices, high precision and high resolution geochronological data is an important component of baseline geoscience data. GSI would acquire a Sensitive High Resolution Ion Micro Probe (SHRIMP) for this purpose. The instrument will help understand the geological evolution of the cratons and mobile belts of India which are the conducive locales for mineral formation. Further, stable isotope studies using SHRIMP will be of immense help in providing the laboratory support to critical exploration needs. With this instrument, GSI will develop a layer of Uranium-Lead (U-Pb) dates of all suitable rocks of the cratons and mobile belts of India.

5.7 Aerogeophysical Survey

5.7.1 GSI has acquired low-altitude aerogeophysical data under the project “Operation Hard Rock” during 1967- 68. Under this project, an area of 93,395 sq km was covered with 500 m of line spacing at an altitude of 60-120 m above ground level (AGL) with Magnetic, Spectrometric and Time Domain Electromagnetic Sensors.

5.7.2 Subsequently, low altitude aerogeophysical data was acquired under the contract with BRGM, France, during 1971-72 for base metal investigation. Under this project, an area of 76,460 sq. km was covered with 500 m of line spacing at an altitude of 120 m AGL. During 1978-82 and 1981-95, high altitude (1500 to 3000 m) aeromagnetic data at a wider line spacing (1 to 4 km) were acquired by GSI through National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI) and National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA) over an area of 0.17 million sq km and 1.37 million sq km respectively. From 1986, GSI with its own Twin Otter Airborne Survey System (TOASS) has covered an area of 0.5 million sq km in different geological milieus with different survey parameters. In addition, Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research of Department of Atomic Energy and Govt. of Odisha have also carried out aerogeophysical surveys.

5.7.3 The aero-geophysical surveys are especially important in providing valuable inputs in soil covered and concealed mineral potential terrains. The desert part of western Rajasthan, Deccan Trap, and soil-covered peneplained pre-cambrian terrains of India are the areas for focused aerogeophysical surveys at close intervals for bringing in enhanced precision level in data generation. There is an urgent need to identify important potentially concealed terrains for undertaking aerogeophysical surveys with state of the art technology.

5.7.4 There is an urgent need for collecting aerogeophysical data on a uniform flight height and spacing. GSI has planned to take up a National Aerogeophysical Mapping Program (NAGMP) involving acquisition of aeromagnetic, electromagnetic, radiometric and gravity data. Initially, an area of about 0.8 million sq km including OGP area will be taken up on

priority and completed by 2020-21. The project is proposed to be started in 2016-17. For the rest of the country (about 2.4 million sq. kms.), aerogeophysical survey will be carried out subsequently. The analog/digital aeromagnetic map and data will be provided in public domain.

6. REGIONAL EXPLORATION DATA

6.1 GSI has a repository of more than 8500 geological reports (GR) of mineral investigations carried out since 1941. These reports can be immensely useful for planning exploration strategies and focusing on targets. Metadata of all these reports are accessible on the GSI portal. More than 6100 full reports are also available on the GSI portal. In order to facilitate easy access, extraction, analysis and interpretation of these data by users, GSI has recently started carrying out digitization of all its mineral exploration reports. All data including maps and tables containing physical and chemical characteristics of samples, lithologs, etc., will be digitized and stored on a geospatial format. This data is proposed to be made available in the GSI portal by mid 2016 and will be available to all users free of charge.

7. OFFSHORE MAPPING AND EXPLORATION

7.1 India has a vast area of about 2.02 million sq. km. under its territorial waters (TW) and exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Preliminary mineral exploration surveys have shown great potentiality of mineral occurrence off the coast on either sides of Peninsular India. Occurrence of phosphate and lime muds and monazite (REE and Thorium) bearing heavy suite of minerals have been mapped and sparsely sampled for a depth of 1-2 meters only. The ninety degree east ridge in the Bay of Bengal is an extensive mega-linear submarine structure known for modern day ore forming mineral muds. Co-Ni-Mn-Fe bearing nodules on the ocean floor are recorded off the coasts of India. This provides a considerable scope for mineral targeting in offshore areas of India.

7.2 GSI has systematically mapped on reconnaissance scale an area of 1.98 million sq km in the EEZ with 40 km/20 km spaced traverses and detailing to 5 to 10 km tracks at selected sectors. Based on the seabed mapping data, preliminary mineral investigation has been carried out in an area of 0.43 million sq. km. with a sampling grid ranging from 5 km x 2 km to 1 km x 1 km.

7.3 Survey as well as assessment of mineral resources within the EEZ constitutes a key responsibility of GSI. GSI needs to plan its programmes keeping in view the Coastal Regulation Zone notification, 2012 of the MoEF&CC, which stipulates that mining of minerals, except for rare minerals not available outside the CRZ, is not permitted within the limits of the TW. GSI will identify through its regional exploration activities mineral resources for allocation of exploration license and production lease.

7.4 The work of marine survey and exploration will be carried out by GSI in coordination with Ministry of Earth Sciences and National Institute of Oceanography through the CGPB mechanism.

8. NATIONAL GEOSCIENCE DATA REPOSITORY (NGDR)

8.1 All geological, geochemical, geophysical and mineral exploration data needs to be made available in public domain on a digital geospatial platform. Accordingly, a National Geoscience Data Repository (NGDR) will be set up by GSI. This will collate all baseline and mineral

exploration information generated by various central and state government agencies and also mineral concession holders and maintain these on a geospatial database. This database will be made available in public domain through an appropriate mechanism. GSI will build up capacity for collating, processing and interpretation of geosciences information.

8.2 National standard in regards to submission of softcopies of mineral exploration reports need to be initiated in line with those in developed countries. These standards should include guidelines in relation to the submission of mineral exploration digital data. Mineral Exploration Reporting Template (MERT) formats are required to be built to facilitate the management of geoscience, drilling and other spatial data in the required data templates to assist mineral exploration agencies to comply with the reporting guidelines. A suitable format to read, retrieve and disseminate the data submitted through MERT will be developed. These templates will enable ease of storage, retrieval and usage of the data repository. Any research made by making use of the NGDR will have to be communicated to the data authority for keeping a check on data sharing benefits and further dissemination.

8.3 For preservation and archiving of drill cores generated during mineral exploration carried out by public and private exploration agencies, GSI has established core repositories in different Regional Offices in line with the best international practice. The repository will have all the digital and analogue data of core logs, correlative studies, litho variations, stratigraphic successions, mineral zone variations, etc.

9. OGP AREA AND ITS PERIODIC REVIEW

9.1 The baseline geoscience data generation carried out by GSI so far has resulted in identification of an area of nearly 0.57 million sq. km. of Obvious Geological Potential (OGP). The mineral potential of geological terrains needs to be evaluated periodically by incorporating the latest basic geoscience data and exploration data as and when it is available. The concept of OGP is dynamic and needs to be revisited periodically with the updation of database for various mineral commodities. OGP maps need to be prepared by GSI in respect of fertilizer minerals, nickel, cobalt, antimony, rare earth elements and rare metals, lithium, bismuth etc.

9.2 Considering the fact that understanding of the mineral systems is evolving with time and new exploration data is being added every year, GSI will upgrade the OGP areas mineral-wise at least once every five years, and bring out a detailed atlas.

10. PROBING DEEP SEATED/CONCEALED MINERAL DEPOSITS

10.1 GSI will initiate a project for probing deep seated/concealed mineral deposits. Characterizing India's cover, investigating India's lithospheric architecture, resolving 4D geodynamic and metallogenic evolution, and detecting and characterizing the distal footprints

of ore deposits, would be the main components of this initiative. This initiative is proposed to be taken up immediately on a pilot scale. GSI will seek collaboration with prestigious agencies in India, such as National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI) and the proposed National Centre for Mineral Targeting (NCMT) and abroad. An approximate length of 500 km will be taken up under the pilot project.

10.2 The major work components would include:

1. Regolith characterization (transported/local, source rock).
2. Depth of basement (depth of quaternary sediments/regolith cover over basement).
3. Detect and recognize distal footprints.

11. PRIORITIZATION OF REGIONAL AND DETAILED EXPLORATION

11.1 Global exploration priorities in respect of expenditure in mineral exploration are broadly defined by the economics of the demand and supply of various minerals. Over the past several years, gold has claimed the major share of global expenditure in exploration, amounting to around half of the total budget.

11.2 In India, GSI is mainly mandated with the task of regional exploration and there is no other agency doing this work in a substantive way. Some of the State Governments have also carried out regional exploration and discovered significant deposits. MECL, a central PSU carries out detailed exploration, however, the promotional work done by MECL is negligible. GSI has prioritized its mineral exploration programmes for base metals, noble metals, diamond and Rare Earth Elements (REE) and Platinum Group Elements (PGE) minerals. The demand-supply in respect of various mineral commodities is dynamic and fast changing. Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) will develop a mechanism for fixing national priorities based on mineral intelligence information. These priorities will be subject to periodic review. Special care will be taken to ensure that critical minerals for industry and strategic minerals vital for national security are given the requisite priority.

11.3 The Central Geological Programming Board (CGPB) is the nodal agency for formulating and detailing exploration programmes in close coordination with the GSI, stakeholder ministries and associations and State geology departments. The CGPB, with its 12 thematic committees, formulates short term and long term plans, and coordinates the activities in the mandate and priorities of the National Mineral Policy.

11.4 The CGPB will, every year, on a suitable date, work out suggested priorities for public funded regional and detailed exploration, both for the immediately following Plan year, as well as on a rolling basis for the next 5 years. This scheme of priorities for the annual plan and the rolling 5 year Plan will be examined and discussed with all the stakeholders and, after approval, be communicated to all the entities working in the field so as to draw up a detailed field level action programme as well.

12. PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIAPTION IN EXPLORATION

12.1 Government's objective is to facilitate, encourage and incentivize private sector participation in all spheres of mineral exploration. Government intends to harness the technical expertise, technological capability and the financial resources of the private sector to discover and exploit the country's vast mineral resources.

12.2 Participation of private sector in exploration depends on the following:

- (a) Availability and free accessibility of comprehensive, pre-competitive baseline geosciences data;
- (b) Incentives structures that provide an appropriate risk-return scenario; and
- (c) Ease of doing business and earning attractive returns from the investment.

12.3 Generation and free dissemination of pre-competitive geoscience data has been dealt with at length in the earlier parts of this policy paper.

12.4 The legal framework currently in place has two types of mineral concessions for carrying out exploration which can be obtained by private sector participants, namely, non-exclusive reconnaissance permit (NERP) and the composite license (Prospecting License-cum-Mining Lease). Composite Licence in the amended Act ensures the participation of private entrepreneur in carrying out detailed exploration with assurance of tenurial security of the mining lease.

12.5 In order to provide incentives to NERP holders, the amended MMDR Act provides the option to either retain the reconnaissance data with themselves in contrast to the earlier requirement of mandatorily sharing of information pertaining to exploration with the State Governments or to opt for submitting the information to the State Governments in case blocks are of auctionable nature. The present procedure of eauctions also permit the holder of any NERP to participate in the auction process and in a way effectively exercise the option of first right of refusal. This procedure is also consistent with the overall policy of Government not to allot any mineral concession other than through auction process.

12.6 Full transferability of mineral concessions at any stage has also been allowed under the Amended MMDR Act, 2015. The experience abroad seems to indicate that several transfers take place between initial exploration and commercial mining of a deposit. The very requirement for effecting a transfer of mining lease or composite license of PL-cum-ML now built into the Act will help the exploration agencies interested only in particular segments of the activity and value chain (say prospecting, exploration, feasibility study or mining) to enter and exit with ease.

12.7 Private agencies could be engaged to carry out exploration work in identified block/areas with the right to a certain share in the revenue (by way of certain percentage of royalty/premium) accruing to state government throughout the lease period, with transferable rights. This percentage/amount will be paid by successful bidder to the concerned exploring agency and to be determined when mineral blocks on the basis of successful exploration are put on e-auction.

12.8 Such revenue sharing could be either in the form of a percentage of royalty/premium for throughout the concession period (of 50 years) or a lump sum amount, to be calculated on the

basis of net present value of that share of royalty/premium to be accrued during the lease period. Further, the exploration agencies will be allowed to participate in e-auctioning when mineral blocks after successful exploration are put on auction.

12.9 Government will also work out normative cost of exploration works for different kinds of minerals so that the exploration agencies could be compensated, in case they could not discover any mineable reserves in their respective areas. This will be an added incentive for exploration agencies to mitigate their risk for exploration works.

12.10 Different options can be exercised in combination or alone to attract global level exploration agencies for carrying out exploration especially for concealed and deep seated minerals like diamond, gold, PGE, nickel etc. which require specialized technical knowledge and, the latest technology.

12.11 Government will develop model contracting procedures and standard agreement templates under which State Governments and their agencies can engage private sector expertise in specific exploration cases. The government will provide hand holding support to the State Governments in this process of engaging the private sector for mineral exploration. Further, the government will keep provisions to mitigate the risks of the private explorers in carrying out mineral exploration under the scheme.

13. ORE BENEFICIATION

13.1 Ore beneficiation studies and related mineralogical and chemical characterization of the ore/gangue minerals is vital in assessing economic feasibility of mineralization. In view of the marginal/low grade nature of the many ores of our country, focus on beneficiation techniques is a vital necessity.

13.2 Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) is the principal agency for undertaking ore beneficiation studies. There are five major areas that need to be focused upon by IBM:

- i. Identification of lean ores or waste of important technology metals and development of beneficiation mechanisms along with other labs and institutions.
- ii. Identification of crucial apparatus/equipment that are dependent on imports. IBM needs to work on cost effective capital equipment development in the country.
- iii. Energy efficiency studies in mineral processing.
- iv. Water conservation and water recycling circuits in mineral processing.
- v. Upgradation of existing processes to make them more environmental friendly.

14. NATIONAL CENTRE FOR MINERAL TARGETING (NCMT)

14.1 India has exploited most of its outcrop and near surface mineral deposits. It has become imperative to focus on identification of deep-seated (below 300 m to 1000 m in the initial phase) and concealed mineral targets. Such an exercise requires thorough understanding of the geological and geochemical framework, knowledge of occurrence ore-forming mineral systems and the extent of thickness of non-mineralized cover rocks over the concealed mineral producing belts. Geophysical studies always play a vital role in exploration of buried ore deposits.

14.2 Deep exploration is a cost-intensive exercise with high degree of uncertainty and risk. It is, therefore, essential to adopt an integrated approach for selecting suitable geological tracts before undertaking multidisciplinary geoscientific surveys and subsequent deep drilling projects. If country is to look for sizeable new resources for sustained growth of its mineral-based industry, the country has to embark on a systematic programme of capacity building in mineral targeting.

14.3 This capacity building programme has to be a multi-disciplinary and collaborative effort that brings together the best of expertise in the GSI, academic and research institutions and the exploration and mining industry. Mineral targeting on a stand-alone basis is not an economically viable proposition for public and private mining agencies.

14.4 This activity is proposed to be housed in a not-for-profit autonomous body/company registered under Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013, as a private-public partnership and will be called the National Centre for Mineral Targeting (NCMT). Government will contribute a part of the seed funding for this venture.

14.5 The NCMT will be a unique applied research enterprise focusing on increasing the discovery rate in mineral exploration and the quality of discoveries without relying on substantial increases in exploration expenditure. NCMT will aim to add value to the mineral exploration sector through various collaborative research, training and information dissemination programs.

14.6 This approach is expected to allow maintaining the balance between fundamental and applied research outputs by ensuring that fundamental research is aligned with application in mineral sector. NCMT will fill the knowledge gap in the field of mineral exploration and act as a think tank for the overall development of the sector.

14.7 The output of the NCMT will be tailored to the requirements of the mineral sector and will have direct benefit of the public and private exploration and mining agencies.

14.8 Drilling is correlated with exploration success. The annual exploration drilling in India of about 0.5 million meters, way below global standards. Developed countries significantly invest in research on drilling technology to enhance the efficiency and quality of drilling. Many countries have dedicated centres for this purpose which has resulted in advances in drilling technology, safety and reduced environment impact. The NCMT will also address research and adoption of such fast track, environmental friendly drilling technology.

15. ROLE OF STATE GOVERNMENTS AND PUBLIC SECTOR UNDERTAKINGS (PSUs)

15.1 State Governments have a key role to play in building up a steady stream of auctionable mineral prospects. They will have to take up mineral exploration reports prepared by the GSI or other agencies and build on them to complete G3 or G2 level of exploration. States also need to build up the exploration capabilities of their staff. The Central Government will have to provide suitable incentives to expedite this process. Capacity building of States will be supported by the NMET.

15.2 In order to bring in greater number agencies for regional scale mineral exploration in the country, a significant provision has been incorporated in the MMDR Amendment Act, 2015. In pursuance of this provision the government has permitted several public sector undertakings in addition to GSI & MECL, to carry out prospecting operations without license or lease. In order to accelerate Greenfield discoveries, regional exploration by these PSUs including MECL will be encouraged. The activities of these agencies will be coordinated and monitored through the CGPB mechanism.

16. PROCEDURES & CLEARANCES

16.1 The existing procedure for grant of mineral concession and procedural complexities for obtaining clearances from a number of different authorities are identified as one of the deterrent in the development of exploration in mining sector. In case of RPs where clearance is required for aerial survey, the exercise involves clearances from different governmental agencies including Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) and Ministry of Defence. Efforts will be made to simplify the procedure for obtaining such permissions in time bound manner.

16.2 Clearances are also required from Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) separately from forest angle. While Reconnaissance surveys carried out in connection with mineral exploration do not attract the provisions of the Forest Conservation Act (FCA), 1980 as long as these surveys do not involve any clearing of forests or cutting of trees, prospecting under a PL granted under MMDR Act would require permission under FCA. Exploration guidelines of United Nation Framework Classification (UNFC) require a minimum number of bore holes per unit area to be drilled for various levels of exploration. The present guidelines of MoEF&CC do not provide for automatic approval of exploration to be carried out in compliance with UNFC guidelines. Though some relaxations have been permitted, further relaxations for prospecting operations especially in areas with lower canopy density are required. Ministry of Mines will endeavor to move in the direction of automatic approvals for the exploration levels mandated by UNFC.

Source: The Gazette of India: Extraordinary, PART I—Section 1 dt. 13.07.2016

11. Ministry of Mines, Notification, G.S.R. 430(E).—In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 18 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (67 of 1957), the Central Government hereby makes the following rules further to amend the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988, namely :-

1.(1) These rules may be called the Mineral Conservation and Development (Amendment) Rules, 2016.

(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

2. In the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988 (hereinafter referred to as the principal rules), in rule 45,—

(a) in sub-rule (2), for the words “for registration within one month from the date of commencement of these rules”, the words “for registration, in electronic form, within one month from the date of registration of lease deed or before the commencement of trading operation or storage or end-use or export of minerals, as the case may be” shall be substituted;

(b) for sub-rule (3), the following sub-rule shall be substituted, namely:-

“(3) The Indian Bureau of Mines shall allot and record the registration number in the register referred to in sub-rule (4).”;

(c) in sub-rule (5),-

(I) after the words “shall submit”, the word “online” shall be inserted;

(II) for clause (a), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“(a) a daily return which shall be submitted through the Mobile application of the Indian Bureau of Mines, latest by 1800 hours of the following day;

(aa) a monthly return which shall be submitted before the 10th day of every month in respect of the preceding month in electronic form, along with a print copy of the same if it is not digitally signed, in the respective Form as indicated below:-

(i) for all minerals except copper, gold, lead, pyrite, tin, tungsten, zinc, precious and semi-precious stones, in Form F-1;

(ii) for copper, gold, lead, pyrite, tin, tungsten, zinc, in Form F-2; and

(iii) for precious and semi-precious stones, in Form F-3;”;

(III) for clause (b), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:-

“(b) an annual return which shall be submitted before the 1st day of July each year for the preceding financial year in electronic form, along with a print copy of the same if it is not digitally signed, in the respective Form as indicated below:-

(i) for all minerals except copper, gold, lead, pyrite, tin, tungsten, zinc, precious and semi-precious stones, in Form H-1;

(ii) for copper, gold, lead, pyrite, tin, tungsten, zinc, in Form H-2; and

(iii) for precious and semi-precious stones, in Form H-3:

Provided that in case of abandonment of a mine, the annual return shall be submitted within one hundred and five days from the date of abandonment.”;

(d) in sub-rule (6), in the opening portion,-

(i) after the words “shall submit”, the word “online” shall be inserted;

(ii) after the word “returns”, the words “in electronic form, along with a print copy of the same if it is

not digitally signed,” shall be inserted;

(e) in sub-rule (7), in the opening portion,—

- (I) for the words “monthly or special”, the words “daily or monthly” shall be substituted;
- (II) in clause (ii), the words “or export” wherever they occur and the words “or carrying out export” shall be omitted;
- (III) after clause (ii), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:-
 - (iii) in the case of export of minerals, the Directorate General of Foreign Trade shall order suspension of permits for carrying out such exports of minerals of such person or company engaged in export of minerals, and may revoke the order of suspension only after ensuring proper compliance.”;

(f) for sub- rule (8), the following sub-rule shall be substituted, namely:-

“(8) In case of mining of minerals by the owner, agent, mining engineer or manager of mine the

—

(a) sale value is the gross amount payable by the purchaser as indicated in the sale invoice, where the sale transaction is on an arms’ length basis and the price is the sole consideration for the sale, excluding taxes, if any.

Explanation.— For the purpose of computing sale value, no deduction from the gross amount shall be made in respect of royalty, payments to the District Mineral Foundation and payments to the National Mineral Exploration Trust;

(b) ex-Mine price of mineral grade or concentrate shall be,—

(I) where export has occurred, the total of, sale value on free-on-board (F.O.B) basis, less the actual expenditure incurred beyond the mining lease area towards —

(i) transportation charges by road;

(ii) loading and unloading charges;

(iii) railway freight (if applicable);

(iv) port handling charges or export duty;

(v) charges for sampling and analysis;

(vi) rent for the plot at the stocking yard;

(vi) handling charges in port;

(vii) charges for stevedoring and trimming;

(viii) any other incidental charges incurred outside the mining lease area as notified by the Indian Bureau of Mines from time-to-time, divided by the total quantity exported.;

(II) where domestic sale has occurred, the total of sale value of the mineral less the actual expenditure incurred towards transportation, loading, unloading, rent for the plot at the stocking yard, charges for sampling and analysis and any other charges beyond mining lease area as notified by the Indian Bureau of Mines from time-to-time, divided by the total quantity sold;

(III) where sale has occurred, between related parties and is not on arms' length basis, then such sale shall not be recognised as a sale for the purposes of this rule and in such case, sub-clause (IV) shall be applicable;

(IV) where the sale has not occurred, the average sale price published monthly by the Indian Bureau of Mines for that mineral grade or concentrate for a particular State:

Provided that if for a particular mineral grade or concentrate, the information for a State for a particular month is not published by the Indian Bureau of Mines, the last available information published for that mineral grade or concentrate for that particular State by the Indian Bureau of Mines in the last six months previous to the reporting month shall be referred, failing which the latest information for All India for the mineral grade or concentrate, shall be referred;

(V) the cost of production in case of captive mines.”;

(g) for sub- rule (9), the following sub-rule shall be substituted, namely:-

“(9) In case of trading or storage or end use or export of minerals, for the purpose of filing of returns, the value of the mineral grade or concentrate shall be,—

(a) where the sale of the mineral grade or concentrate has occurred and the sale transaction is on an arms' length basis and the price is the sole consideration for the sale, the sale value of the mineral grade or concentrate recorded in the invoice;

(b) where the sale has not occurred, the product of average sale price published monthly by the Indian Bureau of Mines for a particular mineral grade or concentrate for a particular State and the quantity dispatched or procured:

Provided that if for a particular mineral grade or concentrate, the information for a State for a particular month is not published by the Indian Bureau

of Mines, the last available information published for that mineral grade or concentrate for that particular State by the Indian Bureau of Mines in the last six months previous to the reporting month shall be referred, failing which the latest information for All India for the mineral grade or concentrate, shall be referred.”;

(h) in sub rule 10, for the words “submitted in”, the words “submitted along with the relevant parts of the” shall be substituted;

3. In the principal rules, in the Schedule,–

(a) for Forms F-1 to F-8, the following Forms shall be substituted, namely:-

“FORM F-1

[See rule 45(5) (aa) (i)]

For the month of _____20

MONTHLY RETURN

[To be used for minerals other than Copper, Gold, Lead, Pyrites, Tin, Tungsten, Zinc and precious and semi-precious stones]

To

(i) The Regional Controller of Mines
Indian Bureau of Mines
_____Region,
PIN:

(Please address to Regional Controller of Mines in whose territorial jurisdiction the mines falls as notified from time to time by the Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines under rule 62 of the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988)

(ii) The State Government

PART – I

(General and Labour)

1. Details of the Mine:	
(a) Registration number allotted by Indian Bureau of Mines (to give registration number of the Lessee/ Owner)	
(b) Mine Code (allotted by Indian Bureau of Mines)	

(c) Name of the Mineral		
(d) Name of Mine		
(e) Name(s) of other mineral(s), if any, produced from the same mine		
(f) Location of the Mine :		
Village		
Post Office		
Tahsil/Taluk		
District		
State		
PIN Code		
Fax no:	E-mail:	
Phone no:	Mobile:	
2. Name and address of Lessee/Owner (along with fax no. and e-mail):		
Name of Lessee/Owner		
Address		
District		
State		
PIN Code		
Fax no:	E-mail:	
Phone No:	Mobile:	
3. Details of Rent/ Royalty / Dead Rent/ DMF /NMET amount paid in the month		
(i) Rent paid (₹)		
(ii) Royalty paid (₹)		
(iii) Dead Rent paid (₹)		
(iv) Payment made to the DMF (₹)		
(v) Payment made to the NMET (₹)		
4. Details on working of mine:		
(i) Number of days the mine worked:		
(ii) Reasons for work stoppage in the mine during the month (due to strike, lockout, heavy rain, non-availability of labour, transport bottleneck, lack of demand, uneconomic operations, etc.) and the number of days of work stoppage for each reason separately	Reasons	No of days

5. Average Daily Employment and Total Salary/Wages paid #:

Work place	Direct		Contract		Total Salary/Wages (₹)	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Direct	Contract
Below ground						
Opencast						
Above ground						
Total						

To include all employees exclusive to the mine and attached factory, workshop or mineral dressing plant at the mine site

PART-II (PRODUCTION, DESPATCHES AND STOCKS)

(To be submitted separately for each mineral)

(Unit of Quantity in Tonnes)

1. Type of ore produced:

(Applicable for Iron ore only; tick mark whichever is applicable)

(a) Hematite

(b) Magnetite

2. Production and Stocks of ROM ore at Mine-head

Category	Opening stock	Production	Closing stock
(a) Open Cast workings			
(b) Underground Workings			
(c) Dump workings			

3(i) Grade-wise ROM ore despatches from mine head (\$):

Grade of ROM@	Despatches from mine-head	Ex-mine Price (₹)

(\$): Applicable for iron ore and chromite only. For other minerals data of despatches to be reported in 3(ii)

3(ii) Grade-wise Production, Despatches, Stocks and Ex-mine prices:

Grades**	Opening stock at mine- head	Production	Despatches from mine-head	Closing stock at mine-head	Ex-mine price (₹/Tonne)

3(iii) In case the mineral is being pulverized in own factory, please give the following particulars (*):

Grade**	Total quantity of mineral Pulverized (in tonnes)	Total quantity of pulverized mineral produced (for each mesh size)		Total Quantity of pulverized mineral sold during the month		
		Mesh size	Quantity (tonne)	Mesh size	Quantity (tonne)	Ex-factory Sale value (₹)

3(iv) Average cost of pulverization (*) : ₹ _____ per tonne.

(*): Not applicable for Iron ore, Manganese ore, Bauxite and Chromite

4. Details of deductions made from sale value for computation of Ex-mine price (₹/ Tonne)

Deduction claimed #	Amount (in ₹/ Tonne)	Remarks
a) Cost of transportation (indicate loading station and distance from mine in remarks)		
b) Loading and unloading charges		
c) Railway freight, if applicable (indicate destination and distance)		
d) Port handling charges/ export duty (indicate name of port)		
e) Charges for sampling and analysis		

f) Rent for the plot at Stocking yard		
g) Other charges (specify clearly)		
Total (a) to (g)		

Not applicable for captive dispatches and ex-mine sales

5. Sales/ Dispatches effected for Domestic Purposes and for Exports:

Grade ([^])	Nature of Despatch (indicate whether <i>Domestic Sale or Domestic Transfer or Captive consumption or Export</i>)	For Domestic Purposes				For export		
		Registration number as allotted by the Indian Bureau of Mines to the buyer ##	Consignee name ##	Quantity	Sale value (₹)	Country	Quantity	F.O.B Value(₹)

([^]): To indicate the grades of ores as mentioned below (see @ and **)

To indicate separately if more than one buyer.

NOTE:- Mine owners are required to substantiate domestic sale value/ FOB value for each grade of ore quoted above with copy of invoices (not to be submitted with the return; to be produced whenever required).

6. Give reasons for increase/decrease in production/nil production, if any, during the month compared to the previous month.

-
-
-

7. Give reasons for increase/decrease in grade wise ex-mine price, if any, during the month compared to the previous month.

-
-
-

I certify that the information furnished above is correct and complete in all respects.

Place:
Date:

Signature
Name in full:
Designation: Owner/Agent/Mining Engineer/Manager

@Grades of ROM ore dispatched:

MINERAL	GRADES
Iron ore	a) Below 51% Fe ROM
	b) 51% to below 55% Fe ROM
	c) 55% to below 58% Fe ROM
	d) 58% to below 60% Fe ROM
	e) 60% to below 62% Fe ROM
	f) 62% to below 65% Fe ROM
	g) 65% and above Fe ROM
Chromite	a) Below 40% Cr ₂ O ₃ ROM
	b) 40% to below 52 % Cr ₂ O ₃ ROM
	c) 52% and above Cr ₂ O ₃ ROM

****Grades of minerals to be reported in the above tables are as given below. (If separate grades are not mentioned below, report the mineral name against grade):**

MINERAL	GRADES
Iron ore	(i) Lumps:
	a) Below 51% Fe
	b) 51% to below 55% Fe
	c) 55% to below 58% Fe
	d) 58% to below 60% Fe
	e) 60% to below 62% Fe
	f) 62% to below 65% Fe
	g) 65% and above Fe
	(ii) Fines:
	a) Below 51% Fe
	b) 51% to below 55% Fe
	c) 55% to below 58% Fe
	d) 58% to below 60% Fe
	e) 60% to below 62% Fe
	f) 62% to below 65% Fe
	g) 65% and above Fe
	(iii) Concentrates
	(iv) Calibrated Lump Ore (CLO) <i>(Quantity already reported in Lumps should not be reported against CLO)</i>
	a) Below 62% Fe (CLO any size)

	b) 62% to below 65% Fe (5-18 mm size CLO)
	c) 62% to below 65% Fe (10-40 mm size CLO)
	d) 62% to below 65% Fe (CLO others)
	e) 65% and above Fe (5-18 mm size CLO)
	f) 65% and above Fe (10-40 mm size CLO)
	g) 65% and above Fe (CLO others)
Manganese Ore	(i) Ore
	a) Below 25% Mn
	b) 25% to below 35% Mn
	c) 35% to below 46% Mn
	d) 46% and above Mn
	e) Dioxide ore
	(ii) Concentrates
Bauxite	(i) For use in alumina and aluminium extraction:- (Please also furnish the actual averages of the ore falling within the following ranges of grades):
	a) Below 40% Al ₂ O ₃
	b) 40% to below 45% Al ₂ O ₃
	c) 45% to below 50% Al ₂ O ₃
	d) 50% to below 55% Al ₂ O ₃
	e) 55% to below 60% Al ₂ O ₃
	f) 60% and above Al ₂ O ₃
	(ii) For use other than alumina and aluminium metal extraction
	a) Cement
	b) Abrasive
	c) Refractory
	d) Chemical
Chromite	(i) Lumps
	a) Below 40% Cr ₂ O ₃
	b) 40% to below 52 % Cr ₂ O ₃
	c) 52% and above Cr ₂ O ₃
	(ii) Fines
	a) Below 40% Cr ₂ O ₃
	b) 40% to below 52 % Cr ₂ O ₃
	c) 52% and above Cr ₂ O ₃
	(iii) Concentrates
Asbestos	a) Amphibole
	b) Chrysotile
Fluorite/Fluorspar	a) 80% and above CaF ₂
	b) 70% to below 80% CaF ₂
	c) 30% to below 70% CaF ₂
	d) Below 30% CaF ₂
Graphite	a) With 80% or more fixed carbon
	b) With 40 % or more fixed carbon but less than 80% fixed carbon
	c) With 20% or more fixed carbon but less than 40% fixed carbon

	d) With less than 20% fixed carbon
Kyanite	a) 40% and above Al_2O_3
	b) Below 40% Al_2O_3
Limestone	a) LD Grade (less than 1.5% silica content)
	b) SMS
	c) BF
	d) Chemical
	e) Cement
Rock Phosphate/ Phosphorite	a) Above 30% P_2O_5
	b) Above 25% to 30% P_2O_5
	c) Above 20% to 25% P_2O_5
	d) Upto 20% P_2O_5

FORM F-2

[See rule 45(5) (aa) (ii)]

For the month of _____ 20

MONTHLY RETURN

[To be used for minerals Copper, Gold, Lead, Pyrites, Tin, Tungsten and Zinc]

To

- (i) The Regional Controller of Mines
 Indian Bureau of Mines
 _____ Region,
 PIN:

(Please address to Regional Controller of Mines in whose territorial jurisdiction the mines falls as notified from time to time by the Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines under rule 62 of the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988)

- (ii) The State Government

PART – I

(General and Labour)

1. Details of the Mine:	
(a) Registration number allotted by Indian Bureau of Mines (to give registration number of the Lessee/ Owner)	
(b) Mine Code (allotted by Indian Bureau of Mines)	
(c) Name of the Mineral	

(d) Name of Mine		
(e) Name(s) of other mineral(s), if any, produced from the same mine		
(f) Location of the Mine :		
Village		
Post Office		
Tahsil/Taluk		
District		
State		
PIN Code		
Fax no:	E-mail:	
Phone no:	Mobile:	
2. Name and address of Lessee/Owner (along with fax no. and e-mail):		
Name of Lessee/Owner		
Address		
District		
State		
PIN Code		
Fax no:	E-mail:	
Phone No:	Mobile:	
3. Details of Rent/ Royalty / Dead Rent/ DMF /NMET amount paid in the month		
(i) Rent paid (₹)		
(ii) Royalty paid (₹)		
(iii) Dead Rent paid (₹)		
(iv) Payment made to the DMF (₹)		
(v) Payment made to the NMET (₹)		
4. Details on working of mine:		
(i) Number of days the mine worked:		
(ii) Reasons for work stoppage in the mine during the month (due to strike, lockout, heavy rain, non-availability of labour, transport bottleneck, lack of demand, uneconomic operations, etc.) and the number of days of work stoppage for each reason separately	Reasons	No of days

5. Average Daily Employment and Total Salary/Wages paid #:

Work place	Direct		Contract		Total Salary/Wages (₹)	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Direct	Contract
Below ground						
Opencast						
Above ground						
Total						

To include all employees exclusive to the mine and attached factory, workshop or mineral dressing plant at the mine site

PART-II (PRODUCTION, DESPATCHES AND STOCKS)

(To be submitted separately for each mineral)

(Unit of Quantity in Tonnes; indicate unit of quantity if not in tonnes)

1. Production and Stocks of ROM ore

	Opening stocks		Production		Closing stocks	
	Quantity	Metal content/grade	Quantity	Metal content/grade	Quantity	Metal content/grade
A. From Underground workings						
i) From Development						
ii) From Stopping						
B. From Opencast workings						
Total						

2. Ex-mine price of the ore produced (₹ per unit):

3. Recoveries at Concentrator/Mill/Plant:

Opening stocks of the Ore at concentrator/plant	Ore received from the mine	Ore treated
---	----------------------------	-------------

Quantity	Metal content/ grade	Quantity	Metal content/ grade	Quantity	Metal content/ grade

Concentrates * Obtained			Tailings		Closing stocks of concentrates at the concentrator/plant	
Quantity	Metal content/ grade	Value (₹)	Quantity	Metal content/ grade	Quantity	Metal content/ grade

*In case of any leaching method adopted, give quantity recovered and grade contained separately.

4. Recovery at the Smelter/Mill/Plant:

Opening Stocks of the concentrates at the smelter /plant		Concentrates received from concentrator/plant		Concentrates received from other sources (specify)		Concentrates sold (if any)	
Quantity	Metal content/ grade	Quantity	Metal content/ grade	Quantity	Metal content/ grade	Quantity	Metal content/ grade

Concentrates treated		Closing stocks of concentrate at the Smelter/Plant		Metals(*) recovered (specify)			Other by-products, if any, recovered		
Quantity	Metal content/ grade	Quantity	Metal content/ grade	Quantity	Grade	Value (₹)	Quantity	Grade	Value (₹)

(*) Please give category-wise break-up viz. blister, fire refined copper, cathodes, electrolytic copper wire bars, lead ingots, zinc cathodes, zinc dross, gold, tungsten etc.

5. Sales during the month:

Metal/ Product	Opening stocks of Metals/Products		Place of sale	Metals/Products sold(@)			Closing stocks of Metals/Products	
	Quantity	Grade		Quantity	Grade	Value(#) (₹)	Quantity	Grade

Note:

(#) Please give ex-plant sale value.

(@) Please give category-wise break-up of metals and other products sold.

6. Details of deductions made from sale value for computation of Ex-mine price (₹/ Unit)

Deduction claimed #	Amount (in ₹/ Unit)	Remarks
a) Cost of transportation (indicate loading station and distance from mine in remarks)		
b) Loading and unloading charges		
c) Railway freight, if applicable (indicate destination and distance)		
d) Port Handling charges/ export duty (indicate name of port)		
e) Charges for sampling and analysis		
f) Rent for the plot at Stocking yard		
g) Other charges (specify clearly)		
Total (a) to (g)		

Not applicable for captive dispatches and ex-mine sales

7. Sales/ Dispatches of ore and concentrates effected for Domestic Purposes and for Exports:

Grade (ore/ Conc.)	Nature of Despatch (indicate whether Domestic Sale or Domestic Transfer or Captive consumption or Export)	For Domestic Purposes				For export		
		Registration number as allotted by the Indian Bureau of Mines to the buyer ##	Consignee name ##	Quantity	Sale value (₹)	Country	Quantity	F.O.B Value(₹)

To indicate separately if more than one buyer.

NOTE:- Mine owners are required to substantiate domestic sale value/ FOB value for each grade quoted above with copy of invoices (not to be submitted with the return; to be produced whenever required).

8. Give reasons for increase/decrease in production/nil production, if any, during the month compared to the previous month.

- a)
- b)
- c)

9. Give reasons for increase/decrease in grade wise ex-mine price, if any, during the month compared to the previous month.

- a)
- b)
- c)

I certify that the information furnished above is correct and complete in all respects.

Place:
Date:

Signature
Name in full:
Designation: Owner/Agent/Mining Engineer/Manager

FORM F-3

[See rule 45(5) (aa) (iii)]

For the month of _____20

MONTHLY RETURN

[To be used for precious and semi-precious stones]

To

- (i) The Regional Controller of Mines
 Indian Bureau of Mines
 _____Region,
 PIN:

(Please address to Regional Controller of Mines in whose territorial jurisdiction the mines falls as notified from time to time by the Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines under rule 62 of the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988)

- (ii) The State Government

PART – I**(General and Labour)**

1. Details of the Mine:	
(a) Registration number allotted by Indian Bureau of Mines (to give registration number of the Lessee/ Owner)	
(b) Mine Code (allotted by Indian Bureau of Mines)	
(c) Name of the Mineral	
(d) Name of Mine	
(e) Name(s) of other mineral(s), if any, produced from the same mine	
(f) Location of the Mine :	
Village	
Post Office	
Tahsil/Taluk	
District	
State	
PIN Code	
Fax no:	E-mail:

Phone no:	Mobile:	
2. Name and address of Lessee/Owner (along with fax no. and e-mail):		
Name of Lessee/Owner		
Address		
District		
State		
PIN Code		
Fax no:	E-mail:	
Phone No:	Mobile:	
3. Details of Rent/ Royalty / Dead Rent/ DMF /NMET amount paid in the month		
(i) Rent paid (₹)		
(ii) Royalty paid (₹)		
(iii) Dead Rent paid (₹)		
(iv) Payment made to the DMF (₹)		
(v) Payment made to the NMET (₹)		
4. Details on working of mine:		
(i) Number of days the mine worked:		
(ii) Reasons for work stoppage in the mine during the month (due to strike, lockout, heavy rain, non-availability of labour, transport bottleneck, lack of demand, uneconomic operations, etc.) and the number of days of work stoppage for each reason separately	Reasons	No. of days

5. Average Daily Employment and Total Salary/Wages paid #:

Work place	Direct		Contract		Total Salary/Wages (₹)	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Direct	Contract
Below ground						
Opencast						
Above ground						
Total						

To include all employees exclusive to the mine and attached factory, workshop or mineral dressing plant at the mine site

PART-II (PRODUCTION, DISPATCHES AND STOCKS)

(To be submitted separately for each mineral)

1. R.O.M production:

Category	Unit of quantity	Quantity
(a) Opencast workings		
(b) Underground workings		

2. Production, stocks and dispatches:-

	Gem Variety				Industrial		Others	
	Rough and uncut stones		Cut and Polished Stones		No. of stones	Qty @	No. of stones	Qty @
	No. of stones	Qty @	No. of stones	Qty @				
A .Opening stocks								
B. Production								
i)From Opencast Working								
ii)From underground working								
TOTAL (Production)								
C. Despatches								
D. Closing Stocks								
E. Ex-mine Price (₹)								

@:The Unit of quantity viz. Carats/Grams/Kilogram etc., as the case may be, should be indicated under quantity.

3. Details of deductions made from sale value for computation of Ex-mine price (₹/ Unit)

Deduction claimed#	Amount (in ₹/ Unit)	Remarks
a) Cost of transportation (indicate loading station and distance from mine in remarks)		
b) Loading and unloading charges		
c) Railway freight, if applicable (indicate destination and distance)		
d) Port handling charges/ export duty (indicate name of port)		
e) Charges for sampling and analysis		
f) Rent for the plot at stocking yard		
g) Other charges (specify clearly)		
Total (a) to (g)		

Not applicable for captive dispatches and ex-mine sales

4. Sales/ Dispatches effected for Domestic Purposes and for Exports:

Grade (*)	Nature of Despatch (indicate whether Domestic Sale or Domestic Transfer or Captive consumption or Export)	For Domestic Purposes				For export		
		Registration number as allotted by the Indian Bureau of Mines to the buyer ##	Consignee name ##	Quantity	Sale value (₹)	Country	Quantity	F.O.B Value(₹)

*: To indicate rough and uncut stones, cut and polished stones, industrial, others

To indicate separately if more than one buyer.

NOTE:- Mine owners are required to substantiate domestic sale value/ FOB value for each grade of ore quoted above with copy of invoices (not to be submitted with the return; to be produced whenever required).

5. Give reasons for increase/decrease in production/nil production, if any, during the month compared to the previous month.

-
-
-

6. Give reasons for increase/decrease in grade wise ex-mine price, if any, during the month compared to the previous month.

- a)
- b)
- c)

I certify that the information furnished above is correct and complete in all respects.

Place:
Date:

Signature
Name in full:
Designation: Owner/Agent/Mining Engineer/Manager.”;

(b) for Forms H-1 to H-8, the following Forms shall be substituted, namely:-

“FORM H-1

[See rule 45(5)(b)(i)]

For the financial year 1st April, 20____ to 31st March, 20____

ANNUAL RETURN

[To be used for minerals other than Copper, Gold, Lead, Pyrites, Tin, Tungsten, Zinc and precious and semi-precious stones]

To

- (i) The Regional Controller of Mines
Indian Bureau of Mines
_____Region,

PIN:

(Please address to Regional Controller of Mines in whose territorial jurisdiction the mines falls as notified from time to time by the Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines under rule 62 of the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988)

- (ii) The State Government

PART – I (General)

1. Details of Mine:	
(a) Registration number allotted by Indian Bureau of Mines <i>(to give registration number of the Lessee/Owner)</i>	
(b) Mine Code (allotted by Indian Bureau of Mines)	
(c) Name of the Mineral	
(d) Name of Mine	
(e) Name(s) of other mineral(s), if any, produced from the same mine	
2. Location of the Mine :	
Village	
Post Office	

Tahsil/Taluk			
District			
State			
PIN Code			
Fax no:	E-mail:		
Phone no:	Mobile:		
3. Name and address of Lessee/Owner (along with fax no. and e-mail):			
Name of Lessee/Owner			
Address			
District			
State			
PIN Code			
Fax no:	E-mail:		
Phone No:	Mobile:		
4. Registered Office of the Lessee:			
5. Director in charge :			
6. Agent :			
7. Manager :			
8. Mining Engineer in charge:			
9. Geologist in charge :			
10. Transferor (previous owner), if any, and date of transfer:			
11. Particulars of area operated/Lease (Furnish information on items (i) to (vi) lease-wise in case mine workings cover more than one lease)			
(i) Lease number allotted by the State Government.....			
(ii) Area under lease (hectares):			
Under Forest			
Outside Forest			
Total			
(iii) Date of execution of mining lease deed			
(iv) Period of lease			
(v) Area for which surface rights are held (hectares)			
Under Forest			
Outside Forest			
Total			
(vi) Date and period of renewal (if applicable)			
(vii) In case there is more than one mine in the same lease area, indicate name of mine and mineral produced			
12. Lease area (surface area) utilisation as at the end of year (hectares):	Under forest	Outside forest	Total
(i) Already exploited & abandoned by opencast (O/C) mining			
(ii) Covered under current (O/C) Workings			
(iii) Reclaimed/rehabilitated			
(iv) Used for waste disposal			
(v) Occupied by plant, buildings, residential, welfare buildings & roads			
(vi) Used for any other purpose (specify)			

(vii) Work done under progressive mine closure plan during the year			
13. Ownership/exploiting Agency of the mine: (Public Sector/Private Sector/Joint Sector)			

PART - II (Employment and Wages)

1. Number of supervisory staff employed at the mine		
Description	Wholly employed	Partly employed
(i) Graduate Mining Engineer		
(ii) Diploma Mining Engineer		
(iii) Geologist		
(iv) Surveyor		
(v) Other administrative and technical supervisory staff		
Total:		
2.(i) Number of days the mine worked:		
(ii) No. of shifts per day:		
(iii) Indicate reasons for work stoppage in the mine during the year (due to strike, lockout, heavy rain, non-availability of labour, transport bottleneck, lack of demand, uneconomic operations, etc.) and the number of days of work stoppage for each of the factors separately .	Reasons	No. of days

3. Employment and salary/wages paid #:

Maximum number of persons employed on any one day during the year:								
(i) In workings below ground on (date).....(a) (number).....								
(ii) In all in the mine on (date).....(a) (number).....								
Classification	Total number of man days worked during the year			No. of days worked during the year	Average daily number of persons employed			Total Wages /Salary for the year (₹)
	Direct	Contract	Total		Male	Female	Total	
(1)	2(A)	2(B)	2(C)	(3)	4(A)	4(B)	4(C)	(5)
Below Ground								
Opencast								
Above Ground								
Total:								

To include all employees exclusive to the mine and attached factory, workshop or mineral dressing plant at the mine site

PART-II A (Capital Structure)

1. Value of Fixed Assets* (₹.....)

(in respect of the mine, beneficiation plant, mine work-shop, power and water installation)

In case this information is furnished as combined information in another mine's return please specify Mine Code/Mine Name:

Description	At the beginning of the year (₹)	Additions during the Year (₹)	Sold or discarded during the year (₹)	Depreciation during the year (₹)	Net closing Balance (₹) (2+3)-(4+5)	Estimated market value** (₹)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
(i) Land***						
(ii) Building:						
Industrial						
Residential						
(iii) Plant and Machinery including transport equipment						
iv) Capitalised Expenditure such as pre-production exploration, development, major overhaul and repair to machinery etc. (As prescribed under Income Tax Act)						
Total:						

* In case the fixed assets are common to more than one mine, furnish combined information for all such mines together in any one of the mine's return. In the returns for other mines, give only a cross reference to the particular mine's return where-in the information is included.

** Optional and may be furnished in respect of items (i), (ii) and (iii) if the mine owner desires.

*** Including any non-recurring expenditure incurred on the acquisition of land.

2. Source of Finance (at the end of the year) :		
(i) Paid up Share Capital (₹)		
(ii) Own Capital (₹)		
(iii) Reserve & Surplus (All Types)(₹)		
(iv) Long Term loans outstanding (#)(₹)		
Name of the Institution/Source	Amount of Loan (₹)	Rate of Interest

(#) Indicate the names of the lending institutions such as State Finance Corporation, Industrial Development and other Public Corporations, Co-operative Banks, Nationalised Banks and other sources along with the amount of loan from each source and the rate of interest at which loan has been taken.

3. Interest and Rent (₹)	
(i) Interest paid during the year	
(ii) Rents (excluding surface rent) paid during the year	

PART - III (Consumption of Materials)

1. Quantity and cost of material consumed during the year			
Description	Unit	Quantity	Value (₹)
(i) Fuel			
(a) Coal	Tonnes		
(b) Diesel Oil	Ltrs.		
(c) Petrol	Ltrs.		
(d) Kerosene	Ltrs.		
(e) Gas	Cu.M.		
(ii) Lubricant			
(a) Lubricant oil	Ltrs.		
(b) Grease	Kgs.		

(iii) Electricity			
(a) Consumed	Kwh		
(b) Generated	Kwh		
(c) Sold	Kwh		
(iv) Explosives (furnish full details in Part IV)			
(v) Tyres	Nos.		
(vi) Timber & Supports			
(vii) Drill rods & kits	Nos.		
(viii) Other spares & stores			
2. Royalty, Rents and Payments made to DMF & NMET (₹):			
X		Paid for current year	Paid towards past arrears
(a) Royalty			
(b) Dead rent			
(c) Surface rent			
(d) Payment made to DMF			
(e) Payment made to NMET			
3. Compensation paid for felling trees during the year (₹)			
4. Depreciation on fixed assets (₹)			
5. Taxes and cesses			
X	Amount in Rupees paid during the year to:		
X	Central Govt.	State Govt.	
(i) Sales Tax			
(ii) Welfare cess			
(iii) Other taxes & cesses:-			
(a) Mineral cess			
(b) Cess on dead rent			
(c) Others (please specify)			
6. Other expenses (₹):			
(i) Overheads			
(ii) Maintenance			
(iii) Money value of other benefits paid to workmen			
(iv) Payment made to professional agencies			

Part –IV (Consumption of Explosives)

Licensed capacity of magazine: (specify unit separately in kg/tonne, numbers, metres)		Item	Unit	Capacity	
Classification of Explosives	Unit	Quantity consumed during the year		Estimated requirement during the next year	
		Small dia. (upto 32 mm)	Large dia. (above 32 mm)	Small dia. (upto 32 mm)	Large dia. (above 32 mm)
1.Gun Powder	Kg.				

2.Nitrate Mixture	Kg.	X	X	X	X
a. Loose ammonium nitrate					
b. Ammonium nitrate in cartridge form					
3. Nitro compound	Kg.				
4. Liquid Oxygen soaked cartridges	Kg.				
5.Slurry explosives (Mention different trade names)	Kg.				
6. Detonators	No.s	X	X	X	X
i) Ordinary					
ii) Electrical		X	X	X	X
(a) Ordinary					
(b) Delay					
7. Fuse	Mts	X	X	X	X
(a)Safety Fuse					
(b)Detonating Fuse					
8.Plastic ignition cord	Mts				
9.Others (specify)	(Mention the unit)				

Different sizes of soaked liquid oxygen cartridges to be reported in equivalent kg. as per manufacturer's instruction.

PART-V (General Geology and Mining)

(Items 2 and 3 to be submitted separately for each mineral)

1. Exploration

1(i) Exploration activities during the year:

		At the beginning of the year	During the year	Cumulative	Grid spacing/ Dimension
Drilling	No of holes				
	Metrage				
Pitting	No of pits				
	Excavation (in m ³)				

Trenching	No of trenches				
	Excavation (in m ³)				
	Length covered (in metre)				
Expenditure on exploration (₹)					X

1(ii). Any other exploration activity during the year:

2. Reserves and Resources estimated (in tonnes).

Classification	Code	At the beginning of the year 1.4.20__	Assessed during the year	Depletion of reserves during the year	Balance resources as on 31.3.20__
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)= (3+4-5)
A. Mineral Reserve					
1. Proved Mineral Reserve	111				
2. Probable mineral Reserve	121				
	122				
3. Total Reserves					
B. Remaining Resources					
1. Feasibility mineral Resource	211				
2. Prefeasibility mineral resource	221				
	222				
3. Measured mineral resource	331				
4. Indicated mineral resource	332				
5. Inferred mineral resource	333				
6. Reconnaissance mineral resource	334				
7. Total remaining Resources					
Total (A+B)					

3. Subgrade/Mineral Reject (in tonnes)

(Information to be given in respect of mineral fractions generated and stacked/ dumped below cut-off grade and above threshold value, if prescribed, having no immediate sale value)

At the beginning of the year	Generated during the year	Disposed during the year	Total stacked at the end of the year	Average grade of the mineral reject generated

4. Overburden and Waste (in m³)

(Information to be given in respect of overburden/ waste and mineral fractions generated below threshold value, if prescribed)

At the beginning of the year	Generated during the year	Disposed in dumps during the year	Backfilled during the year	Total at the end of the year

5. Trees planted/ survival rate

Description	Within lease area	Outside lease area
i) Number of trees planted during the year		
ii) Survival rate in percentage		
iii) Total no. of trees at the end of the year		

6. Type of Machinery: Give the following information for the types of machinery in use such as hoist, fans, drills, loaders, excavators, dumpers, haulages, conveyors, pumps, etc.

Type of machinery	Capacity of each type of machinery	Unit (in which capacity is reported)	No. of machinery	Electrical/ Non-electrical (specify)	Used in opencast/ underground (specify)

7(i) Details of mineral Treatment Plant, if any: Give a brief description of the process capacity of the machinery deployed and its availability. (Submit Flow Sheet and Material Balance of the Plant separately).

(ii) Furnish following information:

Item	Tonnage	Average Grade
Feed:		
Concentrates/processed products :	(mention name)	
By-products/Co-products:	(mention name)	
Tailings:		

PART-VI (PRODUCTION, DESPATCHES AND STOCKS)

(To be submitted separately for each mineral)

(Unit of Quantity in Tonnes)

1. Type of ore produced:*(Applicable for Iron ore only; tick mark whichever is applicable)*

(a) Hematite

(b) Magnetite

2. Production and Stocks of ROM ore at Mine-head

Category	Opening stock	Production	Closing stock
(a) Open Cast workings			
(b) Underground Workings			
(c) Dump workings			

3(i) Grade-wise ROM ore despatches from mine head (\$):

Grade of ROM@	Despatches from mine-head	Ex-mine Price (₹)

(\$): Applicable for iron ore and chromite only. For other minerals data of despatches to be reported in 3(ii)

3(ii) Grade-wise Production, Despatches, Stocks and Ex-mine prices:

Grades**	Opening stock at mine-head	Production	Despatches from mine-head	Closing stock at mine-head	Ex-mine price (₹/Tonne)

3(iii) In case the mineral is being pulverized in own factory, please give the following particulars (*):

Grade**	Total quantity of mineral Pulverized (in tonnes)	Total quantity of pulverized mineral produced (for each mesh size)		Total Quantity of pulverized mineral sold during the year		
		Mesh size	Quantity (tonne)	Mesh size	Quantity (tonne)	Ex-factory Sale value (₹)

3(iv) Average cost of pulverization (*) : ₹ _____ per tonne.

(*): *Not applicable for Iron ore, Manganese ore, Bauxite and Chromite*

4. Details of deductions made from sale value for computation of Ex-mine price (₹/ Tonne)

Deduction claimed #	Amount (in ₹/ Tonne)	Remarks
a) Cost of transportation (indicate loading station and distance from mine in remarks)		
b) Loading and unloading charges		
c) Railway freight, if applicable (indicate destination and distance)		
d) Port handling charges/ export duty (indicate name of port)		
e) Charges for sampling and analysis		
f) Rent for the plot at Stocking yard		
g) Other charges (specify clearly)		
Total (a) to (g)		

Not applicable for captive dispatches and ex-mine sales

5. Sales/ Despatches effected for Domestic Purposes and for Exports:

Grade ([^])	Nature of Despatch (indicate whether Domestic Sale or Domestic Transfer or Captive consumption or Export)	For Domestic Purposes				For export		
		Registration number as allotted by the Indian Bureau of Mines to the buyer ##	Consignee name ##	Quantity	Sale value (₹)	Country	Quantity	F.O.B Value(₹)

([^]): To indicate the grades of ores as mentioned below (see @ and **)

To indicate separately if more than one buyer.

NOTE:- Mine owners are required to substantiate domestic sale value/ FOB value for each grade of ore quoted above with copy of invoices (not to be submitted with the return; to be produced whenever required).

6. Give reasons for increase/decrease in production/nil production, if any, during the year compared to the previous year.

- a)
- b)

7. Give reasons for increase/decrease in grade wise ex-mine price, if any, during the year compared to the previous year.

- a)
- b)

PART-VII: COST OF PRODUCTION
Cost of production per tonne of ore/mineral produced

Sl.No.	Item	Cost per tonne (₹)
(i)	Direct Cost	
	(a) Exploration	
	(b) Mining	
	(c) Beneficiation(Mechanical Only)	
(ii)	Over-head cost	
(iii)	Depreciation	
(iv)	Interest	
(v)	Royalty	
(vi)	Payments made to DMF	
(vii)	Payments made to NMET	
(viii)	Taxes	
(ix)	Dead Rent	
(x)	Others (specify)	
	Total	

Note: Information given under Part VII will be kept confidential. The Government, however, will be free to utilize the information for general studies without revealing the identity of the firm.

VERIFICATION

I certify that the information furnished above is correct and complete in all respects.

Place:
Date:

Signature
Name in full:
Designation: Owner/Agent/
Mining Engineer/Manager

@Grades of ROM ore dispatched:

MINERAL	GRADES
Iron ore	a) Below 51% Fe ROM
	b) 51% to below 55% Fe ROM
	c) 55% to below 58% Fe ROM
	d) 58% to below 60% Fe ROM
	e) 60% to below 62% Fe ROM
	f) 62% to below 65% Fe ROM
	g) 65% and above Fe ROM
Chromite	a) Below 40% Cr ₂ O ₃ ROM
	b) 40% to below 52 % Cr ₂ O ₃ ROM
	c) 52% and above Cr ₂ O ₃ ROM

****Grades of minerals to be reported in the above tables are as given below. (If separate grades are not mentioned below, report the mineral name against grade):**

MINERAL	GRADES
Iron ore	(i) Lumps:
	a) Below 51% Fe
	b) 51% to below 55% Fe
	c) 55% to below 58% Fe
	d) 58% to below 60% Fe
	e) 60% to below 62% Fe
	f) 62% to below 65% Fe
	g) 65% and above Fe
	(ii) Fines:
	a) Below 51% Fe
	b) 51% to below 55% Fe
	c) 55% to below 58% Fe
	d) 58% to below 60% Fe
	e) 60% to below 62% Fe
	f) 62% to below 65% Fe
g) 65% and above Fe	

	(iii) Concentrates
	(iv) Calibrated Lump Ore (CLO) (Quantity already reported in Lumps should not be reported against CLO)
	a) Below 62% Fe (any size)
	b) 62% to below 65% Fe (5-18 mm size CLO)
	c) 62% to below 65% Fe (10-40 mm size CLO)
	d) 62% to below 65% Fe (CLO others)
	e) 65% and above Fe (5-18 mm size CLO)
	f) 65% and above Fe (10-40 mm size CLO)
	g) 65% and above Fe (CLO others)
Manganese Ore	(i) Ore
	a) Below 25% Mn
	b) 25% to below 35% Mn
	c) 35% to below 46% Mn
	d) 46% and above Mn
	e) Dioxide ore
	(ii) Concentrates
Bauxite	(i) For use in alumina and aluminium extraction:- (Please also furnish the actual averages of the ore falling within the following ranges of grades):
	a) Below 40% Al ₂ O ₃
	b) 40% to below 45% Al ₂ O ₃
	c) 45% to below 50% Al ₂ O ₃
	d) 50% to below 55% Al ₂ O ₃
	e) 55% to below 60% Al ₂ O ₃
	f) 60% and above Al ₂ O ₃
	(ii) For use other than alumina and aluminium metal extraction
	a) Cement
	b) Abrasive
	c) Refractory
	d) Chemical
Chromite	(i) Lumps
	a) Below 40% Cr ₂ O ₃
	b) 40% to below 52 % Cr ₂ O ₃
	c) 52% and above Cr ₂ O ₃
	(ii) Fines
	a) Below 40% Cr ₂ O ₃
	b) 40% to below 52 % Cr ₂ O ₃
	c) 52% and above Cr ₂ O ₃
	(iii) Concentrates
Asbestos	a) Amphibole

	b) Chrysotile
Fluorite/Fluorspar	a) 80% and above CaF ₂
	b) 70% to below 80% CaF ₂
	c) 30% to below 70% CaF ₂
	d) Below 30% CaF ₂
Graphite	a) With 80% or more fixed carbon
	b) With 40 % or more fixed carbon but less than 80% fixed carbon
	c) With 20% or more fixed carbon but less than 40% fixed carbon
	d) With less than 20% fixed carbon
Kyanite	a) 40% and above Al ₂ O ₃
	b) Below 40% Al ₂ O ₃
Limestone	a) LD Grade (less than 1.5% silica content)
	b) SMS
	c) BF
	d) Chemical
	e) Cement
Rock Phosphate/ Phosphorite	a) Above 30% P ₂ O ₅
	b) Above 25% to 30% P ₂ O ₅
	c) Above 20% to 25% P ₂ O ₅
	d) Upto 20% P ₂ O ₅

FORM H-2

[See rule 45(5) (b)(ii)]

For the financial year 1st April, 20____ to 31st March, 20____

ANNUAL RETURN

[To be used for minerals Copper, Gold, Lead, Pyrites, Tin, Tungsten and Zinc]

To

- (i) The Regional Controller of Mines

Indian Bureau of Mines

_____Region,

PIN:

(Please address to Regional Controller of Mines in whose territorial jurisdiction the mines falls as notified from time to time by the Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines under rule 62 of the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988)

- (ii) The State Government

PART – I (General)

1. Details of Mine:	
(a) Registration number allotted by Indian Bureau of Mines (to give registration number of the Lessee/Owner)	
(b) Mine Code (allotted by Indian Bureau of Mines)	
(c) Name of the Mineral	
(d) Name of Mine	

(e) Name(s) of other mineral(s), if any, produced from the same mine			
2. Location of the Mine :			
Village			
Post Office			
Tahsil/Taluk			
District			
State			
PIN Code			
Fax no:	E-mail:		
Phone no:	Mobile:		
3. Name and address of Lessee/Owner (along with fax no. and e-mail):			
Name of Lessee/Owner			
Address			
District			
State			
PIN Code			
Fax no:	E-mail:		
Phone No:	Mobile:		
4. Registered Office of the Lessee:			
5. Director in charge :			
6. Agent :			
7. Manager :			
8. Mining Engineer in charge:			
9. Geologist in charge :			
10. Transferor (previous owner), if any, and date of transfer:			
11. Particulars of area operated/Lease (Furnish information on items (i) to (vi) lease-wise in case mine workings cover more than one lease)			
(i) Lease number allotted by the State Government.....			
(ii) Area under lease (hectares):			
Under Forest			
Outside Forest			
Total			
(iii) Date of execution of mining lease deed			
(iv) Period of lease			
(v) Area for which surface rights are held (hectares)			
Under Forest			
Outside Forest			
Total			
(vi) Date and period of renewal (if applicable)			
(vii) In case there is more than one mine in the same lease area, indicate name of mine and mineral produced			
12. Lease area (surface area) utilisation as at the end of year (hectares):			
	Under forest	Outside forest	Total
(i) Already exploited & abandoned by opencast (O/C) mining			
(ii) Covered under current (O/C) Workings			

(iii) Reclaimed/rehabilitated			
(iv) Used for waste disposal			
(v) Occupied by plant, buildings, residential, welfare buildings & roads			
(vi) Used for any other purpose (specify)			
(vii) Work done under progressive mine closure plan during the year			
13. Ownership/exploiting Agency of the mine: (Public Sector/Private Sector/Joint Sector)			

PART - II (Employment and Wages)

1. Number of supervisory staff employed at the mine		
Description	Wholly employed	Partly employed
(i) Graduate Mining Engineer		
(ii) Diploma Mining Engineer		
(iii) Geologist		
(iv) Surveyor		
(v) Other administrative and technical supervisory staff		
Total:		
2.(i) Number of days the mine worked:		
(ii) No. of shifts per day:		
(iii) Indicate reasons for work stoppage in the mine during the year (due to strike, lockout, heavy rain, non-availability of labour, transport bottleneck, lack of demand, uneconomic operations, etc.) and the number of days of work stoppage for each of the factors separately .	Reasons	No. of days

3. Employment and salary/wages paid #:

<i>Maximum number of persons employed on any one day during the year:</i>								
<i>(i) In workings below ground on (date).....(a) (number).....</i>								
<i>(ii) In all in the mine on (date).....(a) (number).....</i>								
Classification	Total number of man days worked during the year			No. of days worked during the year	Average daily number of persons employed			Total Wages /Salary for the year (₹)
	Direct	Contract	Total		Male	Female	Total	
(1)	2(A)	2(B)	2(C)	(3)	4(A)	4(B)	4(C)	(5)
Below Ground								
Opencast								
Above Ground								
Total:								

To include all employees exclusive to the mine and attached factory, workshop or mineral dressing plant at the mine site

PART-II A (Capital Structure)

1. Value of Fixed Assets* (₹.....)

(in respect of the mine, beneficiation plant, mine work-shop, power and water installation)

In case this information is furnished as combined information in another mine's return please specify Mine Code/Mine Name:

Description	At the beginning of the year (₹)	Additions during the Year (₹)	Sold or discarded during the year (₹)	Depreciation during the year (₹)	Net closing Balance (₹) (2+3)-(4+5)	Estimated market value** (₹)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
(i) Land***						
(ii) Building:						
Industrial						
Residential						
(iii) Plant and Machinery including transport equipment						
iv) Capitalised Expenditure such as pre-production exploration, development, major overhaul and repair to machinery etc. (As prescribed under Income Tax Act)						
Total:						

* In case the fixed assets are common to more than one mine, furnish combined information for all such mines together in any one of the mine's return. In the returns for other mines, give only a cross reference to the particular mine's return where-in the information is included.

** Optional and may be furnished in respect of items (i), (ii) and (iii) if the mine owner desires.

*** Including any non-recurring expenditure incurred on the acquisition of land.

2. Source of Finance (at the end of the year) :

(i) Paid up Share Capital (₹)	
(ii) Own Capital (₹)	
(iii) Reserve & Surplus (All Types)(₹)	
(iv) Long Term loans outstanding (#)(₹)	
Name of the Institution/Source	Amount of Loan (₹) Rate of Interest

(#) Indicate the names of the lending institutions such as State Finance Corporation, Industrial Development and other Public Corporations, Co-operative Banks, Nationalised Banks and other sources along with the amount of loan from each source and the rate of interest at which loan has been taken.

3. Interest and Rent (₹)

(i) Interest paid during the year	
(ii) Rents (excluding surface rent) paid during the year	

PART - III (Consumption of Materials)

1. Quantity and cost of material consumed during the year

Description	Unit	Quantity	Value (₹)
(i) Fuel			

(a) Coal	Tonnes		
(b) Diesel Oil	Ltrs.		
(c) Petrol	Ltrs.		
(d) Kerosene	Ltrs.		
(e) Gas	Cu.M.		
(ii) Lubricant			
(a) Lubricant oil	Ltrs.		
(b) Grease	Kgs.		
(iii) Electricity			
(a) Consumed	Kwh		
(b) Generated	Kwh		
(c) Sold	Kwh		
(iv) Explosives (furnish full details in Part IV)			
(v) Tyres	Nos.		
(vi) Timber & Supports			
(vii) Drill rods & kits	Nos.		
(viii) Other spares & stores			
2. Royalty, Rents and Payments made to DMF and NMET (₹):			
X		Paid for current year	Paid towards past arrears
(a) Royalty			
(b) Dead rent			
(c) Surface rent			
(d) Payment made to DMF			
(e) Payment made to NMET			
3. Compensation paid for felling trees during the year (₹)			
4. Depreciation on fixed assets (₹)			
5. Taxes and cesses			
X	Amount in Rupees paid during the year to:		
X	Central Govt.	State Govt.	
(i) Sales Tax			
(ii) Welfare cess			
(iii) Other taxes & cesses:-			
(a) Mineral cess			
(b) Cess on dead rent			
(c) Others (please specify)			
6. Other expenses (₹):			
(i) Overheads			
(ii) Maintenance			
(iii) Money value of other benefits paid to workmen			
(iv) Payment made to professional agencies			

Part –IV (Consumption of Explosives)

Licensed capacity of magazine: (specify unit separately in kg/tonne, numbers, metres)		Item	Unit	Capacity
Classification of Explosives	Unit	Quantity consumed during the year	Estimated requirement during the next year	

		Small dia. (upto 32 mm)	Large dia. (above 32 mm)	Small dia. (upto 32 mm)	Large dia. (above 32 mm)
1.Gun Powder	Kg.				
2.Nitrate Mixture	Kg.	X	X	X	X
a. Loose ammonium nitrate					
b. Ammonium nitrate in cartridged form					
3. Nitro compound	Kg.				
4. Liquid Oxygen soaked cartridges	Kg.				
5.Slurry explosives (Mention different trade names)	Kg.				
6. Detonators	No.s	X	X	X	X
i) Ordinary					
ii) Electrical		X	X	X	X
(a) Ordinary					
(b) Delay					
7. Fuse	Mts	X	X	X	X
(a)Safety Fuse					
(b)Detonating Fuse					
8.Plastic ignition cord	Mts				
9.Others (specify)	(Mention the unit)				

Different sizes of soaked liquid oxygen cartridges to be reported in equivalent kg. as per manufacturer's instruction.

PART – V (General Geology and Mining)

(Items 2 and 3 to be submitted separately for each mineral)

1. Exploration

1(i) Exploration activities during the year:

		At the beginning of the year	During the year	Cumulative	Grid spacing/ Dimension

Drilling	No of holes				
	Metrage				
Pitting	No of pits				
	Excavation (in m ³)				
Trenching	No of trenches				
	Excavation (in m ³)				
	Length covered (in metre)				
Expenditure on exploration (₹)					X

1(ii). Any other exploration activity during the year:

2. Reserves and Resources estimated (in tonnes).

Classification	Code	At the beginning of the year 1.4.20__	Assessed during the year	Depletion of reserves during the year	Balance resources as on 31.3.20__
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)= (3+4-5)
A. Mineral Reserve					
1. Proved Mineral Reserve	111				
2. Probable mineral Reserve	121				
	122				
3. Total Reserves					
B. Remaining Resources					
1. Feasibility mineral Resource	211				
2. Prefeasibility mineral resource	221				
	222				

3. Measured mineral resource	331				
4. Indicated mineral resource	332				
5. Inferred mineral resource	333				
6. Reconnaissance mineral resource	334				
7. Total remaining Resources					
Total (A+B)					

3. Subgrade/Mineral Reject (in tonnes)

(Information to be given in respect of mineral fractions generated and stacked/ dumped below cut-off grade and above threshold value, if prescribed, having no immediate sale value)

At the beginning of the year	Generated during the year	Disposed during the year	Total stacked at the end of the year	Average grade of the mineral reject generated.

4. Overburden and Waste (in m³)

(Information to be given in respect of overburden/ waste and mineral fractions generated below threshold value, if prescribed)

At the beginning of the year	Generated during the year	Disposed in dumps during the year	Backfilled during the year	Total at the end of the year

5. Trees planted/ survival rate

Description	Within lease area	Outside lease area
i) Number of trees planted during the year		
ii) Survival rate in percentage		
iii) Total no. of trees at the end of the year		

6. Type of Machinery: Give the following information for the types of machinery in use such as hoist, fans, drills, loaders, excavators, dumpers, haulages, conveyors, pumps, etc.

Type of machinery	Capacity of each type of machinery	Unit (in which capacity is reported)	No. of machinery	Electrical/ Non-electrical (specify)	Used in opencast/ underground (specify)

7(i) Details of mineral Treatment Plant, if any: Give a brief description of the process capacity of the machinery deployed and its availability. (Submit Flow Sheet and Material Balance of the Plant separately).

(ii) Furnish following information:

Item	Tonnage	Average Grade
Feed:		
Concentrates/processed products :	(mention name)	
By-products/Co-products:	(mention name)	
Tailings:		

PART-VI (PRODUCTION, DESPATCHES AND STOCKS)

(To be submitted separately for each mineral)

(Unit of Quantity in Tonnes; indicate unit of quantity if not in tonnes)

1. Production and Stocks of ROM ore

	Opening stocks		Production		Closing stocks	
	Quantity	Metal content/grade	Quantity	Metal content/grade	Quantity	Metal content/grade
A. From Underground workings						
i) From Development						
ii) From Stopping						
B. From Opencast workings						
Total						

2. Ex-mine price of the ore produced (₹ per unit):

3. Recoveries at Concentrator/Mill/Plant:

Opening stocks of the Ore at concentrator/plant		Ore received from the mine		Ore treated	
Quantity	Metal content/grade	Quantity	Metal content/grade	Quantity	Metal content/grade

Concentrates * Obtained	Tailings	Closing stocks of concentrates at the concentrator/plant
-------------------------	----------	--

Quantity	Metal content/ grade	Value (₹)	Quantity	Metal content/ grade	Quantity	Metal content/ grade

*In case of any leaching method adopted, give quantity recovered and grade contained separately.

4. Recovery at the Smelter/Mill/Plant:

Opening Stocks of the concentrates at the smelter /plant		Concentrates received from concentrator/plant		Concentrates received from other sources (specify)		Concentrates sold (if any)	
Quantity	Metal content/ grade	Quantity	Metal content/ grade	Quantity	Metal content/ grade	Quantity	Metal content/ grade

Concentrates treated		Closing stocks of concentrate at the Smelter/Plant		Metals(*) recovered (specify)			Other by-products, if any, recovered		
Quantity	Metal content/ grade	Quantity	Metal content/ grade	Quantity	Grade	Value (₹)	Quantity	Grade	Value (₹)

(*) Please give category-wise break-up viz. blister, fire refined copper, cathodes, electrolytic copper wire bars, lead ingots, zinc cathodes, zinc dross, gold, tungsten etc.

5. Sales during the year:

Metal/ Product	Opening stocks of Metals/Products		Place of sale	Metals/Products sold(@)			Closing stocks of Metals/Products	
	Quantity	Grade		Quantity	Grade	Value(#) (₹)	Quantity	Grade

Note:

(#) Please give ex-plant sale value.

(@) Please give category-wise break-up of metals and other products sold.

6. Details of deductions made from sale value for computation of Ex-mine price (₹/ Unit)

Deduction claimed #	Amount (in ₹/ Unit)	Remarks
a) Cost of transportation (indicate loading station and distance from mine in remarks)		
b) Loading and unloading charges		
c) Railway freight, if applicable (indicate destination and distance)		
d) Port Handling charges/ export duty (indicate name of port)		
e) Charges for sampling and analysis		
f) Rent for the plot at Stocking yard		
g) Other charges (specify clearly)		
Total (a) to (g)		

Not applicable for captive dispatches and ex-mine sales

7. Sales/ Dispatches of ore and concentrates effected for Domestic Purposes and for Exports:

Grade (ore/ Conc.)	Nature of Despatch (indicate whether Domestic Sale or Domestic Transfer or Captive consumption or Export)	For Domestic Purposes				For export		
		Registration number as allotted by the Indian Bureau of Mines to the buyer ##	Consignee name ##	Quantity	Sale value (₹)	Country	Quantity	F.O.B Value(₹)

To indicate separately if more than one buyer.

NOTE:- Mine owners are required to substantiate domestic sale value/ FOB value for each grade quoted above with copy of invoices (not to be submitted with the return; to be produced whenever required).

8. Give reasons for increase/decrease in production/nil production, if any, during the year compared to the previous year.

- a)
- b)

9. Give reasons for increase/decrease in grade wise ex-mine price, if any, during the year compared to the previous year.

- a)
- b)

PART-VII: COST OF PRODUCTION
Cost of production per unit of ore/mineral produced

Sl.No.	Item	Cost per unit (₹)
(i)	Direct Cost	
	(a) Exploration	
	(b) Mining	
	(c) Beneficiation(Mechanical Only)	
(ii)	Over-head cost	
(iii)	Depreciation	
(iv)	Interest	
(v)	Royalty	
(vi)	Payments made to DMF	
(vii)	Payments made to NMET	
(viii)	Taxes	
(ix)	Dead Rent	
(x)	Others (specify)	
	Total	

Note: Information given under Part VII will be kept confidential. The Government, however, will be free to utilize the information for general studies without revealing the identity of the firm.

VERIFICATION

I certify that the information furnished above is correct and complete in all respects.

Place:
Date:

Signature
Name in full:
Designation: Owner/Agent/
Mining Engineer/Manager

FORM H-3

[See rule 45(5)(b)(iii)]

For the financial year 1st April, 20____ to 31st March, 20____

ANNUAL RETURN

[To be used for precious and semi-precious stones]

To

- (i) The Regional Controller of Mines
Indian Bureau of Mines
_____Region,

PIN:

(Please address to Regional Controller of Mines in whose territorial jurisdiction the mines falls as notified from time to time by the Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines under rule 62 of the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988)

- (ii) The State Government

PART – I (General)

1. Details of Mine:	
(a) Registration number allotted by Indian Bureau of Mines (to give registration number of the Lessee/Owner)	
(b) Mine Code (allotted by Indian Bureau of Mines)	
(c) Name of the Mineral	
(d) Name of Mine	
(e) Name(s) of other mineral(s), if any, produced from the same mine	
2. Location of the Mine :	
Village	
Post Office	
Tahsil/Taluk	
District	
State	
PIN Code	
Fax no:	E-mail:
Phone no:	Mobile:
3. Name and address of Lessee/Owner (along with fax no. and e-mail):	
Name of Lessee/Owner	
Address	
District	
State	
PIN Code	
Fax no:	E-mail:
Phone No:	Mobile:
4. Registered Office of the Lessee:	
5. Director in charge :	
6. Agent :	
7. Manager :	
8. Mining Engineer in charge:	
9. Geologist in charge :	
10. Transferor (previous owner), if any, and date of transfer:	
11. Particulars of area operated/Lease (Furnish information on items (i) to (vi) lease-wise in case mine workings cover more than one lease)	
(i) Lease number allotted by the State Government.....	
(ii) Area under lease (hectares):	
Under Forest	

Outside Forest			
Total			
(iii) Date of execution of mining lease deed			
(iv) Period of lease			
(v) Area for which surface rights are held (hectares)			
Under Forest			
Outside Forest			
Total			
(vi) Date and period of renewal (if applicable)			
(vii) In case there is more than one mine in the same lease area, indicate name of mine and mineral produced			
12. Lease area (surface area) utilisation as at the end of year (hectares):	Under forest	Outside forest	Total
(i) Already exploited & abandoned by opencast (O/C) mining			
(ii) Covered under current (O/C) Workings			
(iii) Reclaimed/rehabilitated			
(iv) Used for waste disposal			
(v) Occupied by plant, buildings, residential, welfare buildings & roads			
(vi) Used for any other purpose (specify)			
(vii) Work done under progressive mine closure plan during the year			
13. Ownership/exploiting Agency of the mine: (Public Sector/Private Sector/Joint Sector)			

PART - II (Employment and Wages)

1. Number of supervisory staff employed at the mine		
Description	Wholly employed	Partly employed
(i) Graduate Mining Engineer		
(ii) Diploma Mining Engineer		
(iii) Geologist		
(iv) Surveyor		
(v) Other administrative and technical supervisory staff		
Total:		
2.(i) Number of days the mine worked:		
(ii) No. of shifts per day:		
(iii) Indicate reasons for work stoppage in the mine during the year (due to strike, lockout, heavy rain, non-availability of labour, transport bottleneck, lack of demand, uneconomic operations, etc.) and the number of days of work stoppage for each of the factors separately .	Reasons	No. of days

3. Employment and salary/wages paid #:

Maximum number of persons employed on any one day during the year:
(i) In workings below ground on (date).....(a) (number).....
(ii) In all in the mine on (date).....(a) (number).....

Classification	Total number of man days worked during the year			No. of days worked during the year	Average daily number of persons employed			Total Wages /Salary for the year (₹)
	Direct	Contract	Total		Male	Female	Total	
(1)	2(A)	2(B)	2(C)	(3)	4(A)	4(B)	4(C)	(5)
Below Ground								
Opencast								
Above Ground								
Total:								

To include all employees exclusive to the mine and attached factory, workshop or mineral dressing plant at the mine site

PART-II A (Capital Structure)

1. Value of Fixed Assets* (₹.....) (in respect of the mine, beneficiation plant, mine work-shop, power and water installation)						
In case this information is furnished as combined information in another mine's return please specify Mine Code/Mine Name:						
Description	At the beginning of the year (₹)	Additions during the Year (₹)	Sold or discarded during the year (₹)	Depreciation during the year (₹)	Net closing Balance (₹) (2+3)-(4+5)	Estimated market value** (₹)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
(i) Land***						
(ii) Building:						
Industrial						
Residential						
(iii) Plant and Machinery including transport equipment						
iv) Capitalised Expenditure such as pre-production exploration, development, major overhaul and repair to machinery etc. (As prescribed under Income Tax Act)						
Total:						

* In case the fixed assets are common to more than one mine, furnish combined information for all such mines together in any one of the mine's return. In the returns for other mines, give only a cross reference to the particular mine's return where-in the information is included.

** Optional and may be furnished in respect of items (i), (ii) and (iii) if the mine owner desires.

*** Including any non-recurring expenditure incurred on the acquisition of land.

2. Source of Finance (at the end of the year) :	
(i) Paid up Share Capital (₹)	
(ii) Own Capital (₹)	
(iii) Reserve & Surplus (All Types)(₹)	

(iv) Long Term loans outstanding (#)(₹)		
Name of the Institution/Source	Amount of Loan (₹)	Rate of Interest

(#) Indicate the names of the lending institutions such as State Finance Corporation, Industrial Development and other Public Corporations, Co-operative Banks, Nationalised Banks and other sources along with the amount of loan from each source and the rate of interest at which loan has been taken.

3. Interest and Rent (₹)	
(i) Interest paid during the year	
(ii) Rents (excluding surface rent) paid during the year	

PART - III (Consumption of Materials)

1. Quantity and cost of material consumed during the year			
Description	Unit	Quantity	Value (₹)
(i) Fuel			
(a) Coal	Tonnes		
(b) Diesel Oil	Ltrs.		
(c) Petrol	Ltrs.		
(d) Kerosene	Ltrs.		
(e) Gas	Cu.M.		
(ii) Lubricant			
(a) Lubricant oil	Ltrs.		
(b) Grease	Kgs.		
(iii) Electricity			
(a) Consumed	Kwh		
(b) Generated	Kwh		
(c) Sold	Kwh		
(iv) Explosives (furnish full details in Part IV)			
(v) Tyres	Nos.		
(vi) Timber & Supports			
(vii) Drill rods & kits	Nos.		
(viii) Other spares & stores			
2. Royalty, Rents and Payments made to DMF and NMET (₹):			
X		Paid for current year	Paid towards past arrears
(a) Royalty			
(b) Dead rent			
(c) Surface rent			
(d) Payment made to DMF			
(e) Payment made to NMET			
3. Compensation paid for felling trees during the year (₹)			
4. Depreciation on fixed assets (₹)			
5. Taxes and cesses			
X	Amount in Rupees paid during the year to:		
X	Central Govt.	State Govt.	
(i) Sales Tax			
(ii) Welfare cess			
(iii) Other taxes & cesses:-			
(a) Mineral cess			

(b) Cess on dead rent		
(c) Others (please specify)		
6. Other expenses (₹):		
(i) Overheads		
(ii) Maintenance		
(iii) Money value of other benefits paid to workmen		
(iv) Payment made to professional agencies		

Part –IV (Consumption of Explosives)

Licensed capacity of magazine: (specify unit separately in kg/tonne, numbers, metres)		Item	Unit	Capacity	
Classification of Explosives	Unit	Quantity consumed during the year		Estimated requirement during the next year	
		Small dia. (upto 32 mm)	Large dia. (above 32 mm)	Small dia. (upto 32 mm)	Large dia. (above 32 mm)
1.Gun Powder	Kg.				
2.Nitrate Mixture	Kg.	X	X	X	X
a. Loose ammonium nitrate					
b. Ammonium nitrate in cartridged form					
3. Nitro compound	Kg.				
4. Liquid Oxygen soaked cartridges	Kg.				
5.Slurry explosives (Mention different trade names)	Kg.				
6. Detonators	No.s	X	X	X	X
i) Ordinary					
ii) Electrical		X	X	X	X
(a) Ordinary					
(b) Delay					
7. Fuse	Mts	X	X	X	X
(a)Safety Fuse					
(b)Detonating Fuse					
8.Plastic ignition cord	Mts				
9.Others (specify)	(Mention the unit)				

Different sizes of soaked liquid oxygen cartridges to be reported in equivalent kg. as per manufacturer's instruction.

PART-V (General Geology and Mining)

(Items 2 and 3 to be submitted separately for each mineral)

1. Exploration

1(i) Exploration activities during the year:

		At the beginning of the year	During the year	Cumulative	Grid spacing/ Dimension
Drilling	No of holes				
	Metrage				
Pitting	No of pits				
	Excavation (in m ³)				
Trenching	No of trenches				
	Excavation (in m ³)				
	Length covered (in metre)				
Expenditure on exploration (₹)					X

1(ii). Any other exploration activity during the year:

2. Reserves and Resources estimated (in tonnes).

Classification	Code	At the beginning of the year 1.4.20__	Assessed during the year	Depletion of reserves during the year	Balance resources as on 31.3.20__
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)= (3+4-5)
A. Mineral Reserve					
1. Proved Mineral Reserve	111				
2. Probable mineral Reserve	121				
	122				

3. Total Reserves					
B. Remaining Resources					
1. Feasibility mineral Resource	211				
2. Prefeasibility mineral resource	221				
	222				
3. Measured mineral resource	331				
4. Indicated mineral resource	332				
5. Inferred mineral resource	333				
6. Reconnaissance mineral resource	334				
7. Total remaining Resources					
Total (A+B)					

3. Subgrade/Mineral Reject (in tonnes)

(Information to be given in respect of mineral fractions generated and stacked/ dumped below cut-off grade and above threshold value, if prescribed, having no immediate sale value)

At the beginning of the year	Generated during the year	Disposed during the year	Total stacked at the end of the year	Average grade of the mineral reject generated.

4. Overburden and Waste (in m³)

(Information to be given in respect of overburden/ waste and mineral fractions generated below threshold value, if prescribed)

At the beginning of the year	Generated during the year	Disposed in dumps during the year	Backfilled during the year	Total at the end of the year

5. Trees planted/ survival rate

Description	Within lease area	Outside lease area
i) Number of trees planted during the year		
ii) Survival rate in percentage		
iii) Total no. of trees at the end of the year		

6. Type of Machinery: Give the following information for the types of machinery in use such as hoist, fans, drills, loaders, excavators, dumpers, haulages, conveyors, pumps, etc.

Type of machinery	Capacity of each type of machinery	Unit (in which capacity is reported)	No. of machinery	Electrical/ Non-electrical (specify)	Used in opencast/ underground (specify)

7(i) Details of mineral Treatment Plant, if any: Give a brief description of the process capacity of the machinery deployed and its availability. (Submit Flow Sheet and Material Balance of the Plant separately).

(ii) Furnish following information:

Item	Tonnage	Average Grade
Feed:		
Concentrates/processed products :	(mention name)	
By-products/Co-products:	(mention name)	
Tailings:		

PART-VI (PRODUCTION, DESPATCHES AND STOCKS)

(To be submitted separately for each mineral)

1. R.O.M production:

Category	Unit of quantity	Quantity
(a) Opencast workings		
(b) Underground workings		

2. Production, stocks and despatches:-

	Gem Variety				Industrial		Others	
	Rough and uncut stones		Cut and Polished Stones		No. of stones	Qty @	No. of stones	Qty @
	No. of stones	Qty @	No. of stones	Qty @				
A .Opening stocks								
B. Production								
i)From Opencast Working								
ii)From underground working								
TOTAL (Production)								
C. Despatches								
D. Closing Stocks								
E. Ex-mine Price (₹)								

@:The Unit of quantity viz. Carats/Grams/Kilogram etc., as the case may be, should be indicated under quantity.

3. Details of deductions made from sale value for computation of Ex-mine price (₹/ Unit)

Deduction claimed#	Amount (in ₹/ Unit)	Remarks
a) Cost of transportation (indicate loading station and distance from mine in remarks)		
b) Loading and unloading charges		
c) Railway freight, if applicable (indicate destination and distance)		
d) Port handling charges/ export duty (indicate name of port)		
e) Charges for sampling and analysis		
f) Rent for the plot at stocking yard		
g) Other charges (specify clearly)		
Total (a) to (g)		

Not applicable for captive dispatches and ex-mine sales

4. Sales/ Despatches effected for Domestic Purposes and for Exports:

Grade (*)	Nature of Despatch (indicate whether Domestic Sale or Domestic Transfer or Captive consumption or Export)	For Domestic Purposes				For export		
		Registration number as allotted by the Indian Bureau of Mines to the buyer ##	Consignee name ##	Quantity	Sale value (₹)	Country	Quantity	F.O.B Value(₹)

*: To indicate rough and uncut stones, cut and polished stones, industrial, others

To indicate separately if more than one buyer.

NOTE:- Mine owners are required to substantiate domestic sale value/ FOB value for each grade of ore quoted above with copy of invoices (not to be submitted with the return; to be produced whenever required).

5. Give reasons for increase/decrease in production/nil production, if any, during the year compared to the previous year.

- a)
- b)

6. Give reasons for increase/decrease in grade wise ex-mine price, if any, during the year compared to the previous year.

- a)
- b)

PART-VII: COST OF PRODUCTION

Cost of production per unit of ore/mineral produced

Sl.No.	Item	Cost per unit (₹)
(i)	Direct Cost	
	(a) Exploration	
	(b) Mining	

	(c) Beneficiation(Mechanical Only)	
(ii)	Over-head cost	
(iii)	Depreciation	
(iv)	Interest	
(v)	Royalty	
(vi)	Payments made to DMF	
(vii)	Payments made to NMET	
(viii)	Taxes	
(ix)	Dead Rent	
(x)	Others (specify)	
	Total	

Note: Information given under Part VII will be kept confidential. The Government, however, will be free to utilize the information for general studies without revealing the identity of the firm.

VERIFICATION

I certify that the information furnished above is correct and complete in all respects.

Place:
Date:

Signature
Name in full:
Designation: Owner/Agent/
Mining Engineer/Manager.”;

(c) for Forms M, N and Form - O, the following Forms shall be substituted, namely:-

“FORM M

[See rule 45(1)]

(Application for registration under Rule 45 of MCDR for undertaking
mining or trading or storage or end use or export of minerals)

Note:-If there is any change after registration in any of the fields, the form may be updated accordingly and informed to the Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines

To

The Controller General

Indian Bureau of Mines

Nagpur- 440001

(Application to be filed through the respective Regional Office of Indian Bureau of Mines under whose jurisdiction the State or Union Territory in which the registered office or the office of the association or individual or firm or company is located)

1. **Category of applicant:** (Please tick mark below)

- Individual
- Association of individuals
- Firm
- Company registered under Companies Act.

2. Type of business/activity: (Please tick mark options given below, multiple options permitted)

- Mining
- Trading of minerals
- Storage of minerals
- End-user of minerals (including consumption from captive mines)
- Export of minerals (also mention IE code)

3. Details of the applicant:

(a) In case of individual applicant (includes owner, agent, mining engineer or manager of every mine):

(i)	Name	Shri / Smt. (First name) / (Middle name) / (Last name)
	Father name	Shri (First name) / (Middle name) / (Last name)
	Date of Birth	(DD/MM/YYYY)
(ii)	Position in mine (please tick mark the option)	<input type="radio"/> Owner <input type="radio"/> Agent <input type="radio"/> Mining engineer <input type="radio"/> Manager
(iii)	Address	(Door number/ building number/ plot number)
	Block	(street number / block number)
	Taluka	
	District	
	State / U.T	
	Pin code	
	E-mail	
(iv)	Telephone	Office : Fax : Residence : Mobile :
(v)	PAN number	

(vi)	Voter ID number	
(vii)	Passport number / Driving licence number	

(b) In case of association of individuals:

(i)	Name of Association, or name of the Signing authority of association					
	Father name (of signing authority)					
	Date of Birth					
(ii)	Address	(Door number/ building number/ plot number)				
	Block	(street number / block number)				
	Taluka					
	District					
	State / U.T					
	Pin code					
	E-mail					
(iii)	Telephone	Office : Fax : Residence : Mobile :				
(iv)	Details of Associates	Name	PAN number	Voter ID number	Citizenship	Passport number / Driving licence number (if available)

(c) In case of a Firm:

(i)	Name of Firm					
(ii)	Address	(Door number/ building number/ plot number)				
	Block	(street number / block number)				
	Taluka					
	District					
	State / U.T					
	Pin Code					
	E-mail					
(iii)	Telephone	Office : Fax : Residence : Mobile :				
(iv)	Details of partners in the Firm	Name of partner	PAN number	Voter ID number	Citizenship	Passport number / Driving licence number (if available)

	Firm Type (Tick)	Registered / Unregistered				
(v)	Registration number of Firm (as registered under Indian Partnership Act, 1932)					
	PAN No.	TIN No.		TAN No.		
(vi)	Name of the State where registered					
(vii)	Date of registration	(dd/mm/yyyy)				

(d) In case of a company:

(i)	Name of Company					
(ii)	Registered Address					
	State / U.T					
	Pin code					
	E-mail					
(iii)	Telephone	Office :				
		Fax :				
(iv)	Details of Directors in the Company	Name	PAN number	Voter ID number	Citizenship	Passport number / driving licence number (if available)

(v)	Registration number of Company (as registered under Indian Companies Act, 1956)					
	TAN No.				TIN No.	
(vi)	Name of the State where registered					
(vii)	Date of registration	(dd/mm/yyyy)				
(viii)	Details of Officer responsible for conduct of business of the Company	Name				
		Designation				
		Address				
		Phone No.	Office: Residence: Mobile:			
		PAN No.				
		Voter ID No.				
		Passport No. / Driving Licence No.				

(e) State Licence details (only for State Licence holder under section 23 C of MMDR Act) :

State Licence No.	State	Area of Business (District)	Date of issue	Valid upto (dd/mm/yyyy)	Issuing Authority	Name of Minerals

4. Please give details of mines held at the time of applying for registration, if any, by the Individual/ Association of Individuals / Firms or Company.

Sl. No.	Name of the mine	Mine code assigned by IBM

5. Please give details of prospecting licence held at the time of applying for registration, if any, by the Individual/ Association of Individuals / Firms or Company.

Sr. No	Location of PL area						Area held under PL (in ha)	Name of Minerals	Date of grant	Period	Date of execution of licence
	Village	Taluka	District	State	Latitude (ddmmss)	Longitude (ddmmss)					

6. Please give details of reconnaissance licence held at the time of applying for registration, if any, by the Individual/ Association of Individuals / Firms or Company.

Sr. No	Location of RP						Area held under RP (in ha)	Name of Minerals	Date of grant	Period	Date of execution of licence
	Village	Taluka	District	State	Latitude (ddmmss)	Longitude (ddmmss)					

	Villages	Talukas	Districts	State	Latitude (ddmmss)	Longitude (ddmmss)					

7. If engaged in mineral trading/ storage and export, please give details of storage facilities owned at the time of applying for registration.

Sr. No	Location(s) of area used for storage						Area Owned/held under rent (In hectares)	Name of Minerals	Remarks
	Village	Taluka	District	State	Latitude (ddmmss)	Longitude (ddmmss)			

8. If engaged in production or manufacturing through a mineral based industry, please give details of mineral consumption:

Sr. No	Location(s) of plant where mineral is used						Name of the plant	Mineral consumed	Average consumption per year	Remarks
	Village	Taluka	District	State	Latitude (ddmmss)	Longitude (ddmmss)				

VERIFICATION

I _____ S/o / D/o / W/o _____ age _____ occupation _____ resident of _____
village/town/city post office _____ police station _____ taluka _____
district _____ state _____ certify that the information furnished above is complete
and correct in all respects.

Place:

Signature:

Date:

Name in full:

Not to be filled by the applicant

(For internal use of the Indian Bureau of Mines)

Registration Number assigned by IBM:

--

FORM N

[See rule 45(6)(i)]

For the month of _____ 20

MONTHLY RETURN

To

- (i) The State Government

- (ii) The Regional Controller of Mines

Indian Bureau of Mines

_____ Region,

PIN:

(Please address to Regional Controller of Mines in whose territorial jurisdiction the area falls as notified from time to time by the Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines under rule 62 of the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING THE FORM

1. Quantity to be reported in tonnes. If not please specify the unit.
2. Value to be reported in rupees only.
3. Registration number means the registration number allotted by Indian Bureau of Mines to the lessee/owner or to a trader/ stockist / end-use mineral based industry / exporter.
4. Ore grade for various minerals, as given in the form, to be strictly used while reporting.

1. GENERAL PARTICULARS

Registration No (allotted by IBM)	
---	--

Name and Address			
Plant Name/Storage location, if available			
Latitude and Longitude			
Name of activity(s) reported (Tick whichever is/are applicable)	(a)	Trading	
	(b)	Export	
	(c)	End-use	
	(d)	Storage	

2. DETAILS OF THE ACTIVITY

(Quantity to be reported in tonnes. If not please specify the unit)

(a) Trading Activity

Mineral/Ore	Grade of mineral/ore	Opening stock	Ore purchased during the month (within the country)			Ore imported during the month			Ore dispatched during the month			Closing stock
			Quantity	Registration number as allotted by the Indian Bureau of Mines to the supplier (to indicate separately if more than one supplier)	Value (in ₹)	Country	Quantity	Value (in ₹)	Registration number as allotted by the Indian Bureau of Mines to the buyer (to indicate separately if more than one buyer)	Quantity	Value (in ₹)	

(b) Export of ore

Mineral/Ore	Grade of mineral/ore	Opening stock	Ore procured during the month for export (from within the country)		Ore imported during the month		Ore exported during the month		Closing stock
			Quantity	Value (in ₹)	Quantity	Value (in ₹)	Quantity	Value (in ₹)	

		Quantity	Registration number as allotted by the Indian Bureau of Mines to the supplier (to indicate separately if more than one supplier)	Quantity	Value (in ₹)	Country	Quantity	Value (in ₹)	Country	Quantity	Value (in ₹)	Quantity

(c) End-use mineral based activity

Mineral/Ore	Grade of mineral/ ore	Opening stock	Ore procured during the month (within the country)			Ore imported during the month			Ore consumed during the month		Ore dispatched during the month			Closing stock
			Quantity	Registration number as allotted by the Indian Bureau of Mines to the supplier (to indicate separately if more than one supplier)	Value (in ₹)	Country	Quantity	Value (in ₹)	Country	Quantity	Value (in ₹)	Registration number as allotted by the Indian Bureau of Mines to the buyer (to indicate separately if more than one buyer)	Quantity	

(d) Storage Activity

Mineral/Ore	Grade of mineral/ore	Opening stock	Ore received during the month (within the country)			Ore imported during the month			Ore dispatched during the month			Closing stock
			Quantity	Registration number as allotted by the Indian Bureau of Mines to the supplier (to indicate separately if more than one supplier)	Value (in ₹)	Country	Quantity	Value (in ₹)	Registration number as allotted by the Indian Bureau of Mines to the person/company to whom ore dispatched (to indicate separately if more than one person/company)	Quantity	Value (in ₹)	

VERIFICATION

I, _____ S/o / D/o / W/o _____ age _____ occupation _____
resident of _____ village/town/city post office _____ police station _____ taluka
_____ district _____ state _____ certify that the information furnished above is
complete and correct in all respects.

Place:

Signature:

Date:

Name in full:

Grades of minerals to be reported in the above tables are as given below. (If separate grades are not mentioned below, report the mineral name against grade):

MINERAL	GRADES
Iron ore	(i) Lumps:
	a) Below 51% Fe
	b) 51% to below 55% Fe
	c) 55% to below 58% Fe
	d) 58% to below 60% Fe
e) 60% to below 62% Fe	

	f) 62% to below 65% Fe
	g) 65% and above Fe
	(ii) Fines:
	a) Below 51% Fe
	b) 51% to below 55% Fe
	c) 55% to below 58% Fe
	d) 58% to below 60% Fe
	e) 60% to below 62% Fe
	f) 62% to below 65% Fe
	g) 65% and above Fe
	(iii) Concentrates
	(iv) Calibrated Lump Ore (CLO) <i>(Quantity already reported in Lumps should not be reported against CLO)</i>
	a) Below 62% Fe (CLO any size)
	b) 62% to below 65% Fe (5-18 mm size CLO)
	c) 62% to below 65% Fe (10-40 mm size CLO)
	d) 62% to below 65% Fe (CLO others)
	e) 65% and above Fe (5-18 mm size CLO)
	f) 65% and above Fe (10-40 mm size CLO)
	g) 65% and above Fe (CLO others)
	(v) ROM ore
	a) Below 51% Fe
	b) 51% to below 55% Fe
	c) 55% to below 58% Fe
	d) 58% to below 60% Fe
	e) 60% to below 62% Fe
	f) 62% to below 65% Fe
	g) 65% and above Fe
Manganese Ore	(i) Ore
	a) Below 25% Mn
	b) 25% to below 35% Mn
	c) 35% to below 46% Mn
	d) 46% and above Mn
	e) Dioxide ore
	(ii) Concentrates
Bauxite	(i) For use in alumina and aluminium extraction:-
	a) Below 40% Al ₂ O ₃
	b) 40% to below 45% Al ₂ O ₃
	c) 45% to below 50% Al ₂ O ₃
	d) 50% to below 55% Al ₂ O ₃
	e) 55% to below 60% Al ₂ O ₃
	f) 60% and above Al ₂ O ₃
	(ii) For use other than alumina and aluminium metal extraction
	a) Cement
	b) Abrasive
	c) Refractory
	d) Chemical

Chromite	(i) Lumps
	a) Below 40% Cr ₂ O ₃
	b) 40% to below 52 % Cr ₂ O ₃
	c) 52% and above Cr ₂ O ₃
	(ii) Fines
	a) Below 40% Cr ₂ O ₃
	b) 40% to below 52 % Cr ₂ O ₃
	c) 52% and above Cr ₂ O ₃
	(iii) Concentrates
	(iv) ROM ore
a) Below 40% Cr ₂ O ₃	
b) 40% to below 52 % Cr ₂ O ₃	
c) 52% and above Cr ₂ O ₃	
Asbestos	a) Amphibole
	b) Chrysotile
Fluorite/Fluorspar	a) 80% and above CaF ₂
	b) 70% to below 80% CaF ₂
	c) 30% to below 70% CaF ₂
	d) Below 30% CaF ₂
Graphite	a) With 80% or more fixed carbon
	b) With 40 % or more fixed carbon but less than 80% fixed carbon
	c) With 20% or more fixed carbon but less than 40% fixed carbon
	d) With less than 20% fixed carbon
Kyanite	a) 40% and above Al ₂ O ₃
	b) Below 40% Al ₂ O ₃
Limestone	a) LD Grade (less than 1.5% silica content)
	b) SMS
	c) BF
	d) Chemical
	e) Cement
Rock Phosphate/ Phosphorite	a) Above 30% P ₂ O ₅
	Above 25% to 30% P ₂ O ₅
	Above 20% to 25% P ₂ O ₅
	Upto 20% P ₂ O ₅
Precious and semi- precious stones	a) Rough and uncut stones
	b) Cut and polished stones
	c) Industrial
	d) Others

FORM O

[See rule 45(6)(ii)]

For the financial year 1st April, 20____ to 31st March, 20____

ANNUAL RETURN

To

(i) The State Government

(ii) The Regional Controller of Mines

Indian Bureau of Mines

_____Region,

PIN:

(Please address to Regional Controller of Mines in whose territorial jurisdiction the area falls as notified from time to time by the Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines under rule 62 of the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988)

(iii) The Chief Mineral Economist,
Indian Bureau of Mines

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING THE FORM

- a) Quantity to be reported in tonnes. If not please specify the unit.
- b) Value to be reported in rupees only.
- c) Registration number means the registration number allotted by Indian Bureau of Mines to the lessee/owner or to a trader/ stockist / end-use mineral based industry / exporter.
- d) Ore grade for various minerals, as given in the form, to be strictly used while reporting.
- e) Item 5 related to raw materials consumed may be filled up by all end use industry and iron & steel industry also.

1. GENERAL PARTICULARS

Registration No (allotted by IBM)			
Name and Address			
Plant Name/Storage location, if available			
Latitude and Longitude			
Name of activity(s) reported (Tick whichever is/are applicable)	(a)	Trading	
	(b)	Export	
	(c)	End-use	
	(d)	Storage	

2. DETAILS OF THE ACTIVITY

(Quantity to be reported in tonnes. If not please specify the unit)

(a) Trading Activity

Mineral/Ore	Grade of mineral/ ore #	Opening stock	Ore purchased during the year (within the country)		Ore imported during the year		Ore despatched during the year			Closing stock	
			Quantity	Value (in ₹)	Country	Quantity	Value (in ₹)	Registration number as allotted by the Indian Bureau of Mines to the buyer (to indicate separately if more than one buyer)	Quantity		Value (in ₹)
			Registration number as allotted by the Indian Bureau of Mines to the supplier (to indicate separately if more than one supplier)								

(b) Export of ore

Mineral/Ore	Grade of mineral/ore #	Opening stock	Ore procured during the year for export (from within the country)			Ore imported during the year			Ore exported during the year			Closing stock
		Quantity	Registration number as allotted by the Indian Bureau of Mines to the supplier (to indicate separately if more than one supplier)	Quantity	Value (in ₹)	Country	Quantity	Value (in ₹)	Country	Quantity	Value (in ₹)	Quantity

(c) End-use mineral based activity

Mineral/Ore	Grade of mineral/ore #	Opening stock	Ore procured during the year (within the country)	Ore imported during the year	Ore consumed during the year	Ore despatched during the year	Closing stock

Quantity	Registration number as allotted by the Indian Bureau of Mines to the supplier (to indicate separately if more than one supplier)	Quantity	Value (in ₹)	Country	Quantity	Value (in ₹)	Quantity	Value (in ₹)	Registration number as allotted by the Indian Bureau of Mines to the buyer (to indicate separately if more than one buyer)	Quantity	Value (in ₹)	Quantity

(d) Storage Activity

Mineral/Ore	Grade of mineral/ore #	Opening stock	Ore received during the year (within the country)		Ore imported during the year			Ore despatched during the year			Closing stock	
		Quantity	Registration number as allotted by the Indian Bureau of Mines to the supplier (to indicate separately if more than one supplier)	Quantity	Value (in ₹)	Country	Quantity	Value (in ₹)	Registration number as allotted by the Indian Bureau of Mines to the person/company to whom ore despatched (to indicate separately if more than one person/company)	Quantity	Value (in ₹)	Quantity

NOTE:

- (a) Only end-use mineral based industry to respond to section 3 to 6
- (b) Information to be given separately for each industry and each unit

3. INFORMATION REGARDING END-USE MINERAL BASED INDUSTRIES (OTHER THAN IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY)

- (i) Name of Industry : _____ Name of Plant: _____
- (ii) (a) State: _____ (b) District : _____ (c) Location : _____
- (iii) Details on products manufactured with their capacities and production :

Products	Annual installed capacity during the year (in tonnes)	Production (in tonnes)	
		Previous financial year	Present financial year
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
FINISHED PRODUCTS			
i)			
ii)			
INTERMEDIATE PRODUCTS			
i)			
ii)			
BY-PRODUCTS			
i)			
ii)			

Expansion programme undertaken and progress made during the year :

(iv) Expansion programme/ Plan envisaged for future :

(v) Research & Development programme carried out during the year (give details) :

4. INFORMATION REGARDING IRON and STEEL INDUSTRY

(i) Name of Plant:

(ii) (a) State: (b) District : (c) Location :

(iii) Products manufactured with their capacity and production:

Products	Installed capacity (in tonnes)	Production (in tonnes)		Remarks
		Previous financial year	Present financial year	
(a) Sinter				
i)Self fluxing				
ii)Ordinary				

(b) Pellets				
(c) Coal i) Clean coal ii) Coke (own production)				
(d) Pig iron i) Hot metal (total) ii) Hot metal for own consumption. iii) Pig iron for sale				
(e) Sponge Iron				
(f) Hot Briquetted Iron				
(g) Steel i) Liquid Steel/ Crude Steel ii) Total Saleable Steel a) Semi-finished Steel b) Finished Steel				
(h) Tin plates				
(i) Sulphuric acid				
(j) Refractories/bricks				
(k) Fertilizers				
(l) Any other product/by-product				
Coke purchased (in tonnes)	previous year		present year	

(iv) Expansion programme undertaken and progress made during the year :

(v) Expansion programme /Plan envisaged for future :

(vi) Research & Development programme carried out during the year (give details) :

DETAILS OF RAW MATERIALS CONSUMED IN PRODUCTION {including Electricity (in kwh), Coal and Petroleum products}

Raw Material			Actual Consumption*				Estimated Requirement*	
Mineral/ Ore/ Metal/ Ferro- alloy	Physical Specification	Chemical Specification	Previous financial year		Present financial year		Next financial year	Next to Next financial year
			Indigenous	Imported	Indigenous	Imported		
(1)			(2)		(3)		(4)	(5)

* Quantity to be reported in tonnes. If not please specify the unit.

6. SOURCE OF SUPPLY

Type@	Mineral/ Ore/ Metal/ Ferro- alloy	Indigenous						Imported					
		Name & address of supplier		Source of supply (mine or area)	Indicate the distance of mine/rail to plant (in km)	Transportation cost per unit by Rail/Road		Quantity*	Price per unit at factory site (in ₹)	Name & complete address of supplier (country wise)		Quantity purchased *	Cost per unit at factory site (in ₹)
						Mode	Cost per unit (in ₹)			Address	Country		

@ Indigenous/ Imported; * Quantity to be reported in tonnes. If not please specify the unit.

VERIFICATION

I, _____ S/o / D/o / W/o _____ age _____ occupation _____
resident of _____ village/town/city post office _____ police station _____ taluka

_____ district _____ state _____ certify that the information furnished above is complete and correct in all respects.

Place:

Signature:

Date:

Name in full:

Grades of minerals to be reported in the above tables are as given below. (If separate grades are not mentioned below, report the mineral name against grade):

MINERAL	GRADES
Iron ore	(i) Lumps:
	a) Below 51% Fe
	b) 51% to below 55% Fe
	c) 55% to below 58% Fe
	d) 58% to below 60% Fe
	e) 60% to below 62% Fe
	f) 62% to below 65% Fe
	g) 65% and above Fe
	(ii) Fines:
	a) Below 51% Fe
	b) 51% to below 55% Fe
	c) 55% to below 58% Fe
	d) 58% to below 60% Fe
	e) 60% to below 62% Fe
	f) 62% to below 65% Fe
	g) 65% and above Fe
	(iii) Concentrates
	(iv) Calibrated Lump Ore (CLO) <i>(Quantity already reported in Lumps should not be reported against CLO)</i>
	a) Below 62% Fe (CLO any size)
	b) 62% to below 65% Fe (5-18 mm size CLO)
	c) 62% to below 65% Fe (10-40 mm size CLO)
	d) 62% to below 65% Fe (CLO others)
	e) 65% and above Fe (5-18 mm size CLO)
	f) 65% and above Fe (10-40 mm size CLO)
	g) 65% and above Fe (CLO others)
	(v) ROM ore
	a) Below 51% Fe
b) 51% to below 55% Fe	
c) 55% to below 58% Fe	
d) 58% to below 60% Fe	

	e) 60% to below 62% Fe
	f) 62% to below 65% Fe
	g) 65% and above Fe
Manganese Ore	(i) Ore
	a) Below 25% Mn
	b) 25% to below 35% Mn
	c) 35% to below 46% Mn
	d) 46% and above Mn
	e) Dioxide ore
	(ii) Concentrates
Bauxite	(i) For use in alumina and aluminium extraction:-
	a) Below 40% Al ₂ O ₃
	b) 40% to below 45% Al ₂ O ₃
	c) 45% to below 50% Al ₂ O ₃
	d) 50% to below 55% Al ₂ O ₃
	e) 55% to below 60% Al ₂ O ₃
	f) 60% and above Al ₂ O ₃
	(ii) For use other than alumina and aluminium metal extraction
	a) Cement
	b) Abrasive
	c) Refractory
	d) Chemical
Chromite	(i) Lumps
	a) Below 40% Cr ₂ O ₃
	b) 40% to below 52 % Cr ₂ O ₃
	c) 52% and above Cr ₂ O ₃
	(ii) Fines
	a) Below 40% Cr ₂ O ₃
	b) 40% to below 52 % Cr ₂ O ₃
	c) 52% and above Cr ₂ O ₃
	(iii) Concentrates
	(iv) ROM ore
	a) Below 40% Cr ₂ O ₃
	b) 40% to below 52 % Cr ₂ O ₃
	c) 52% and above Cr ₂ O ₃
Asbestos	a) Amphibole
	b) Chrysotile
Fluorite/Fluorspar	a) 80% and above CaF ₂
	b) 70% to below 80% CaF ₂
	c) 30% to below 70% CaF ₂
	d) Below 30% CaF ₂
Graphite	a) With 80% or more fixed carbon
	b) With 40 % or more fixed carbon but less than 80% fixed carbon
	c) With 20% or more fixed carbon but less than 40% fixed carbon
	d) With less than 20% fixed carbon
Kyanite	a) 40% and above Al ₂ O ₃
	b) Below 40% Al ₂ O ₃
Limestone	a) LD Grade (less than 1.5% silica content)
	b) SMS

	c) BF
	d) Chemical
	e) Cement
Rock Phosphate/ Phosphorite	a) Above 30% P ₂ O ₅
	b) Above 25% to 30% P ₂ O ₅
	c) Above 20% to 25% P ₂ O ₅
	d) Up to 20% P ₂ O ₅
Precious and semi- precious stones	a) Rough and uncut stones
	b) Cut and polished stones
	c) Industrial
	d) Others.

Note: - The Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988 were published in the Gazette of India, Part II, Section 3, sub-section (i) vide notification number G.S.R. 1023 dated the 24th October, 1988 and lastly amended vide notification number G.S.R. 407(E), dated the 20th May, 2015.

Source: The Gazette of India: Extraordinary, Part III, Section 3(i) dt. 19.04.2016

B. Court Decisions:

1. State of Rajasthan and another, Appelants v. M/S. Deep Jyoti Company and another, Respondents, AIR 2016 Supreme Court 1152, Vol.103, Part 1228, April, 2016.

Subject: Challenging the order of quashing the circular dated 6.10.2008 (concerning collection of the royalty from contractors).

Facts:

Deep Jyoti Company filed Writ Petition No.1309 of 2009 before the High Court, challenging the legality of the said circular dated 06.10.2008 and prayed for restraining the authorities from implementing the said circular. Learned Single Judge dismissed the writ petition, holding that the condition imposed by the circular dated 06.10.2008 was a reasonable restriction and in public interest. Aggrieved thereof, the respondent preferred appeal before the Division Bench of the High Court. By the impugned order, Division Bench quashed the circular dated 06.10.2008 and allowed the appeal holding that the contractor cannot be compelled to obtain short term permit for conducting mining operations and also cannot be asked to pay royalty from the bills payable and then seek for refund of the same. Relying upon *M/s Deep Jyoti Company's* case, the High Court dismissed Special Appeal No.753 of 2012 by order dated 14.01.2013. These appeals challenge the correctness of the impugned orders.

Learned counsel for the appellants submitted that the circular dated 06.10.2008 merely provides the procedure for payment of royalty by the contractors who have been given the works contract by the department of government and that the said condition was imposed by the State Government in public interest. It was contended that the High Court

erred in not noticing clause (7) of the circular dated 06.10.2008 which takes care of the situation that the contractor can get refund of the royalty deducted from his bills by the department if the contractor satisfies by producing necessary bills showing that he used royalty paid mineral in execution of the contract.

Learned counsel for the respondent Mr. Manish Singhvi contended that the High Court rightly quashed the circular dated 06.10.2008 as the State cannot compel a work contractor to obtain short term permit and also to pay royalty in advance and then claim refund of the royalty as the same is unreasonable and arbitrary.

Decision:

The Supreme Court has referred to the circular dated 06.10.2008 and stated that imposition of the condition to obtain short-term permit as provided in circular dated 06.10.2008 is reasonable and not arbitrary. The Supreme Court has further stated that there is no such compulsion. It is only to ensure that no mineral is excavated and used without payment of royalty. The purpose of short-term permit is to ensure that the material and minerals, etc. used by the contractor in the construction work are royalty paid. It only means that such material is purchased by the contractor from the market which is legally mined and on which due royalty is paid. In other words, the objective is to see that illegally mined mineral/material is not purchased by the contractor and used in the construction work which is awarded by the Government. Not only it is a laudable object, such a stipulation is inserted in order to check illegal mining which unfortunately has assumed serious proportions in the recent past. In terms of clauses (5) and (7) of the said circular, the contractor has to pay royalty at the rates specified in the circular depending upon the nature of work and on production of bills showing payment of royalty, the contractor can get refund of royalty. There is, thus, no financial burden on the respondents of any nature. The purpose which is sought to be achieved, viz., non royalty paid mineral (which would naturally be illegally mined mineral) is not used in the execution of the Government work and it cannot be treated as unreasonable or arbitrary. In our view, there is a complete justification for providing such a provision.

The Supreme Court also stated that The circular only provides the procedure for payment of royalty for the minerals used by the contractors who have been given the works contract by the government department. The High Court did not keep in view the object of the circular and erred in quashing the impugned circular.

Thus, the Supreme Court has allowed these appeals and set aside the impugned orders of the High Court in Special Appeals No.369 of 2009 and 753 of 2012. The Supreme Court also dismissed the Writ Petitions filled by the respondents. The Supreme Court ordered the parties to bear their respective cost.

Petition dismissed.

2. Shanthu Gurum, Petitioner v. State of Karnataka and others, Respondents, AIR 2016 Karnataka 75, Vol.103, Part 1228, April, 2016.

Subject: Challenging the refusing of the grant of the licence for granite operation in respect of the patta land.

Facts:

The learned advocate appearing for the petitioner contended that there was no justification on the part of the authorities for not issuing licence for granite operation in respect of the patta land of the writ petitioner. It is also submitted that there is no minimum prescribed area for issuing the licence. He, also, submits that the writ petitioner wants to operate granite excavation in his own patta land. All that he needs is permission from the government. The learned additional government advocate submitted that there have been amendments in the previous granite mining lease providing that there could not be any lease in respect of lesser than 2.2 acres of land.

Decision:

The High Court has stated that the Legislature has expressed two different expressions “lease and licence consciously. When in relation to the same subject matter, different words are used in the same statute, there is a presumption that they are not used in the same sense. A construction deriving support from differing phraseology in different sections of a statute imply that they have a different import and they are not used in the same sense. The High Court has further stated that when there is no prescription of a minimum area for grant of licence for granite excavation in the patta land, the authorities were in error in refusing to grant the licence to the petitioner on the presumption that the area was less than 2.2 acres.

Thus, the High Court has allowed the writ Petition without any order as to costs and directed to the authorities to issue licence in favour of the writ petitioner immediately.

Petition allowed.

3. Shyamlal Samarwar, Petitioner v. State of Madhya Pradesh & others, Respondents, AIR 2016 Madhya Pradesh 65, Vol. 103, Part 1228, April 2016.

Subject : Challenging the order dated 8.12.2014 of rejecting the application/ appeal for renewal of quarry lease for further period.

Facts : The petitioner was granted quarry lease of flagstone for area admeasuring 1.417 hectares khasra No.2 at village Kanpora. The lease period commenced from 5-4-2009 up to 5 years i.e. 14-4-2014. By an application dated 6-12-2012, the petitioner requested the respondent No. 3 to consider his application for renewal of the said quarry lease. That application was, however, rejected by respondent No. 3 vide order dated 2-8-2013, principally on the ground that after the amendment to Rule 7(2) of the M.P.Minor Mineral Rules, 1996 (in short “Rules of 1996”), the Government can grant quarry lease of flagstone only by way of auction. The petitioner preferred appeal against

the said decision under Rule 57(2) of the Rules of 1996. That appeal was also rejected on 31-5-2014, whilst reiterating the reasons stated by the Collector for rejecting the application for renewal of lease. The petitioner then carried the matter before the respondent No.2/Director, who in turn rejected the appeal vide order dated 8-12-2014 for the same reason. These orders are subject-matter of challenge in present petition.

The petitioner contended that the amended provisions of Rule 7 of the Rules of 1996 cannot be invoked in the fact situation of the present case as the application for renewal of quarry lease was filed by him on 6-12-2012; whereas the amendment was brought into force after issuance of public notification published in the Official Gazette on 23-3-2013. Further, the amended provision, in no way, preclude the authorities from granting renewal of lease keeping in mind the power vested under Rules 17 and 18 of the Rules of 1996. It is further submitted that the question posed by the petitioner has been answered in favour of the petitioner by the single Judge of this Court in W.P.No. 4682/2010 decided on 30-8-2011. It is, therefore, prayed that the impugned orders be set aside and instead the respondents be directed to grant renewal of quarry lease for further period as is permissible in terms of Rules 17 and 18 of the Rules of 1996.

The respondents contended that the application for renewal of quarry lease, though submitted on 6-12-2012 was required to be decided as per the prevalent Rules when the same was considered by the Authorities. Further, since Rule 7 has been amended on 23-3-2013, no fault can be found with the approach of the Collector of having decided the application on the basis of said provisions vide order dated 2-8-2013 and for the same reason rejection of the appeals preferred by the petitioner before the superior Authorities.

Decision : The High Court has referred to Rule 7 of the Rule of 1996 and stated that no fault can be found with the view taken by the authorities in rejecting the application for renewal of quarry lease preferred by the petitioner. The High Court further stated that the application for renewal could be considered only in the light of amended provisions which have come into force from 23-3-2013. Going by the said provisions, the quarry lease of flagstone in Government land, as was granted to the petitioner, could be allotted only by way of auction after the said amendment.

On the submission of the petitioner that since power is invested in the authority to consider the application for renewal of quarry lease, it is coupled with the duty to consider the same and decide the application favorably in absence of any objection received for renewal of the quarry lease, the High Court has stated that it is not possible to countenance this submission, considering the mandate of amended Rule 7 which necessitates allotment of trade quarry of the stated minerals ascribable to serial No. 5 of Schedule I and serial Nos. 1 and 3 of Schedule II by auction. The power to consider the request for renewal of quarry lease as envisaged under Rules 17 and 18 of the Rules of 1996 by the concerned

authority is ascribable to the other minerals (other than at serial No.5 of Schedule I and serial Nos. 1 and 3 Schedule II).

The High Court has dismissed the petition for want of merits.

Petition dismissed.

4. State of Kerala and Others, Appellants v. State M/s Kerala Rare Earth & Minerals Limited and Others, Respondents, AIR 2016 Supreme Court 1817, Vol.103, Part 1229, May, 2016.

Subject: Whether the State Government was justified in declining the applications for grant of leases in favour of the respondent-company on the ground that the mineral wealth found in the coastal regions of the State was vested in the State Government and that it was in exercise of its right of ownership over the said deposits entitled to reserve in its own favour or in favour of State owned companies or corporations the right to exploit such deposits.

Facts:

By an order dated 15th September, 2004 the Government of Kerala sanctioned the grant of mining leases for Ilmenite, Rutile, Leucosene, Zircon and Sillimanite (non-scheduled mineral) for a period of 20 years. The order came in exercise of the powers vested in the State Government under Section 11(5) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and was preceded by the approval of the Government of India in terms of Section 5(1) thereof. Shortly after the issue of the sanction order, however, the State Government by another order dated 25th September, 2004 stayed further action in the matter

on the ground that a detailed study on the environmental impact of the proposed leases need be undertaken before taking any further steps. This was followed by nine letters dated 12th October, 2006, 16th October, 2006 and 9th November, 2006 addressed to the respondent-company stating in no uncertain terms that the Government of Kerala did not consider it necessary to grant mining leases for mineral sand to private parties. Aggrieved by the said letters and communications, the respondents filed nine revision applications No. 14(1)/2007-RC-II to 14(3)/2007-RC-II and 14(6)/2007-RC-II to 14(11)/2007-RC-II under Section 30 of the Act aforementioned before the Government of India. These revision applications were heard and allowed by the prescribed revisional authority by a common order dated 30th November, 2009, setting aside the impugned orders and remanding the matters to the State Government to reconsider the cases in the light of the observations made in the order passed by the revisional authority. The Government of Kerala once again examined the matter and by an order dated 15th December, 2010 rejected all the applications filed by the respondents. Aggrieved by the order passed by the State Government, the respondent-company filed Writ Petitions No.34345 of 2010, 34346 of 2010 and 5420 of 2011 before the High Court of Kerala.

By an order dated 21st February, 2013 passed by a Single Judge of the High Court of the Kerala, the Writ Petitions mentioned above were allowed in part by the High Court inasmuch as the order passed by the State Government was quashed and the matter remitted back to the Government to pass orders in the light of the observations made by the High Court. The High Court quashed the order by which further action in the matter

was stayed by the Government with a direction to the Government to consider the applications pending with it in accordance with law. The High Court took the view that the State Government had not reserved, in terms of Section 17 A(2) of the 1957 Act, the areas covered by the applications filed by the respondents and that so long as no such reservation was made, the direction issued by the Central Government to the State Government to reconsider the applications could not be negated. The High Court also held that the State Government had overlooked the provisions of the National Mineral Policy, 2008. Aggrieved by the order passed by the Single Judge, the State Government preferred Writ Appeals No.1610, 1611 and 1621 of 2014 which were heard and dismissed by a Division Bench of that Court in terms of the order impugned in the present appeals.

Learned senior counsel for the appellant contended that the State Industrial Policy, 2007 aforementioned must be taken to be a reservation in favour of the State owned agencies within the comprehension of Section 17A of the aforementioned Act Section 17A of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957. Learned Senior Counsel further contended that mines and minerals in the territory of the State are vested in the State and it is well within the powers of the State to frame a policy relating to mining activities in the State keeping in mind the public interest, welfare and ecological balance of the State. It was submitted that the policy of the State Government is framed as the mining lease of beach sand for exploitation of mineral involve ecological and environmental sensitive issues and national minerals wealth cannot be allowed to be exploited by indiscriminate mining by private players. It was further submitted that inasmuch as mining leases are governed by statutes and M.C. Rules, there is no question of any promissory estoppel especially when mining lease granted on 15.09.2004 was cancelled within ten days, i.e., on 25.09.2004.

Learned Senior Counsel appearing for the first respondent contended that earlier first respondent was found to satisfy all the conditions prescribed by the Government of Kerala for grant of mining lease as per G.O.Ms.No.102/02/ID dated 22.10.2002, however, first respondent's application was rejected only on the basis of subsequent policy of the State. It was contended that in the light of constitutional scheme and the statutory provisions of MMDR Act, State has no legislative competence to frame a policy de hors MMDR Act and MC Rules and the policy decision of the appellant-State is in derogation of the provisions of MMDR Act. It was submitted that in the light of industrial policy of the Central Government permitting private players in the exploitation of beach sand mineral, the State Government has no competence to frame any rule or policy in contravention of the policy of the Central Government. It was contended that if the State desired to reserve the exploitation of the beach sand minerals in any area, the State should have followed the prescribed procedure under Section 17A(2) and the procedure stipulated under the Statute cannot be thwarted under the guise of policy of the State. It was further submitted that in exercise of power under Section 30 of the Act, the Central Government/ Revisional Authority directed the State to reconsider the matter, the State Government was not justified in again rejecting the applications and the High Court rightly directed the State to consider the applications of the first respondent for grant of mining lease.

Point of issues:

Whether the ownership in the mineral reserves is vested in the State Government; and If it is, whether the Government has the right to decline leases on the ground that the minerals or the areas where the same are found have been reserved for exploitation by government companies or corporations.

Decision:

The Supreme Court has referred to the National Mineral Policy, 2008, the State Industrial Policy, 2007, Section 17A of the MMDR Act, 1957, the Policy on exploitation of Beach Sand Minerals, Department of Atomic Energy, and stated that Under Section 17A(2) of the MMDR Act, the statutory dispensation is the approval of the Central Government and reservation of area by the State Government by notification in the Official Gazette specifying the boundaries of such area and the mineral or minerals in respect of which such areas will be reserved. No doubt, when the statute stipulates a procedure, it should be done strictly as per the procedure stipulated thereon. State Government with the approval of the Central Government has the power to reserve any area for undertaking mining operation through public sector undertakings. Recommendation of the State Government for approval of the Central Government for such reservation and issuance of notification is only procedural. The policy of the State that mining of beach and mineral would be done through public sector undertakings cannot be said to be de hors the MMDR Act or unreasonable justifying interference by the Court.

The Supreme Court has further stated that the approval of the Central Government required by Section 17A (2) is mandatory, but nowhere it is stated that the approval must be sought prior to the reservation. Prior approval of the Central Government before reserving any area by the State Government for the public sector undertaking is not required. Therefore, what logically follows from Section 17A (2) is that the State Government may seek approval of the Central Government even after the framing of the policy. The Section 17A (2) does not use the expression “prior approval” in it.

The Supreme Court has also stated that No doubt by G.O (MS) No.105/04/ID dated 15.09.2004, State has sanctioned mining leases to the first respondent. But within ten days by order dated 25.09.2004, the mining lease granted to first respondent was stopped on the ground that the detailed study on the environment impact will be undertaken before taking further action in the matter. The rule of promissory estoppel can be invoked only if on the basis of representation made by the Government, the party has substantially altered the position. Within short time of ten days, in my view, first respondent could not have altered its position so as to invoke the doctrine of promissory estoppel.

The Supreme Court has held that State of Kerala has the legislative competence to take the policy decision reserving the area for exploitation of minerals by the public sector undertakings and the said policy cannot be said to be de hors the MMDR Act 1957 and MC Rules. The High Court fell in error in not appreciating the policy of the State in the

light of the constitutional mandate and the decision taken by the State for the welfare of the State and exploitation of the mineral by scientific mining by public sector undertakings.

Accordingly, the Supreme Court by the majority opinion dismissed these appeals and also set aside the judgment of the High Court without any order as to costs.

Appeal dismissed.

5. Common Cause, Petitioner v. Union of India and others, Respondents with Prafulla Samantra and another, Petitioner v. Union of India and others, Respondents, AIR 2016 Supreme Court 1672, Vol.103, Part 1229, May, 2016.

Subject: Challenging the legality of carrying on mining operations.

Facts:

1. This Court by its order dated 16.5.2014, in Common Cause v. Union of India, (2014) 14 SCC 155, restrained 102 mining leaseholders from carrying on any mining operations. The above order was passed on account of the fact, that none of these leaseholders were in possession of clearances/approvals/consent, required for carrying on the mining operations. The above order dated 16.5.2014, granted liberty to the leaseholders whose operations were suspended, to move this Court after obtaining the requisite clearances/approvals/consent, whereupon this Court would, on being satisfied, revoke the suspension order.

2. A number of applications came to be filed before this Court seeking revocation of the above order of suspension, wherein the concerned applicants asserted, that they had obtained all clearances/approvals/consent, and further that, they were now legally eligible to recommence mining operations.

Decision:

The Supreme Court has drawn following conclusions as under:

(i) A leaseholder would have a subsisting mining lease, if the period of the original grant was still in currency on 12.1.2015. Additionally, a leaseholder whose original lease has since expired, would still have a subsisting lease, if the original lease having been renewed, the renewal period was still in currency on 12.1.2015. Such a leaseholder, would be entitled to the benefit of Section 8A of the amended MMDR Act.

(ii) A leaseholder who had not moved an application for renewal of a mining lease (which was due to expire, prior to 12.1.2015), at least twelve months before the existing lease was due to expire, under the provisions of the unamended MMDR Act and the Mineral Concession Rules, will be considered as not a valid/subsisting leaseholder, after the expiry of the lease period. The provisions of the amended MMDR Act will therefore not enure to the benefit of such leaseholder.

- (iii) A leaseholder who has moved an application for renewal (of the original/first or subsequent renewal) of a mining lease, at least twelve months before the existing lease was due to expire, and on consideration, such an application has been rejected, will be considered as not a valid/subsisting leaseholder. The provisions of the amended Section 8A of the MMDR Act will not enure to the benefit of such leaseholder, because of the express exclusion contemplated for the above exigency, under Section 8A(9) of the amended MMDR Act.
- (iv) A leaseholder who has moved an application for “first renewal” of the original mining lease, at least twelve months before the original lease was due to expire, and such application has not been rejected, will be considered to be a valid leaseholder having a subsisting right to carry on mining operations, till the expiry of two years after 18.7.2014, i.e., up to 17.7.2016, as is apparent from a conjoint reading of the unamended and amended Rule 24A of the Mineral Concession Rules. Such leaseholder would have the benefit of sub-sections (5) and (6) of Section 8A of the amended MMDR Act.
- (v) A leaseholder who had moved a second (third or subsequent) renewal application under Section 8(3) of the unamended MMDR Act, at least twelve months before the renewed lease was due to expire, and whose application had not been considered and rejected (though not entitled to any benefit under the unamended Section 8A of the MMDR Act and the amended Rule 24A(6) of the Mineral Concession Rules) up to 12.1.2015, would still have the benefit of sub-sections (5) and (6) of Section 8A of the amended MMDR Act, in view of the situation sought to be remedied by the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2015.
- (vi) Consequent upon the amendment of Section 8A of the MMDR Act, the regime introduced through sub-sections (5) and (6) thereof, provides for three contingencies where benefits have been extended to leaseholders whose lease period had earlier been extended by a renewal. Firstly, for a leaseholder whose renewal period had expired before 12.1.2015, and the leaseholder had moved an application for renewal at least twelve months before the leaseholder’s existing lease was due to expire, and whose application has not been considered and rejected, the lease period would stand extended up to 31.3.2030/31.3.2020 (in the case of captive/non-captive mines, respectively). Additionally, a leaseholder whose period of renewal would expire after 12.1.2015, but before 31.3.2030/31.3.2020, the lease period would stand extended up to 31.3.2030/31.3.2020 (in the case of captive/non-captive mines, respectively). Secondly, where the renewal of the mining lease already extends to a period beyond 31.3.2030/31.3.2020 (in the case of captive/non-captive mines, respectively), the lease period of such leaseholders, would continue up to the actual period contemplated by the renewal order. Thirdly, a leaseholder would have the benefit of treating the original lease period as of fifty years. Accordingly, even during the renewal period, if the period of the mining lease would get extended (beyond the renewal period) by treating the original lease as of fifty years, the leaseholder would be entitled to such benefit. Out of the above three contingencies provided under sub-sections (5) and (6) of

Section 8A, the contingency as would extend the lease period farthest, would enure to the benefit of the leaseholder.

(vii) Based on the interpretation placed by us on Section 4A (4) of the MMDR Act, and Rule 28 of the Mineral Concession Rules, we can draw the following conclusions. Firstly, unless an order is passed by the State Government declaring, that a mining lease has lapsed, the mining lease would be deemed to be subsisting, up to the date of expiry of the lease period provided by the lease document. Secondly, in situations wherein an application has been filed by a leaseholder, when he is not in a position to (or for actually not) carrying on mining operations, for a continuous period of two years, the lease period will not be deemed to have lapsed, till an order is passed by the State Government on such application. Where no order has been passed, the lease shall be deemed to have been extended beyond the original lease period, for a further period of two years. Thirdly, a leaseholder having suffered a lapse, is disentitled to any benefit of the amended MMDR Act, because of the express exclusion contemplated under Section 8A(9) of the amended MMDR Act.

Order accordingly.

6 Smt.Anitha P., Petitioner v. Joint Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Mysore and another, Respondents, AIR 2016 Karnataka 100, Vol.103, Part 1230, June, 2016.

Subject: Writ petitions were filed for challenging an endorsement by the Joint Director and Revisional Authority, Southern Region, Mysore, the order of rejecting an application made by the wife of the lessee for renewal of the lease, inter alia, on the ground that the renewal application has to be filed by the original lessee and not by his wife.

Facts:

During the subsistence of the lease, the husband, that is, the original lessee, could not be traced out inspite of best efforts. The police have not yet submitted a report saying that he is dead. The wife could not obtain a declaration of civil death, immediately. The entire family is dependent on the income from the mining lease. Therefore, the wife applied for renewal.

Decision:

The High Court found that when the husband is not traceable, it is within the right of the wife to apply for renewal, inasmuch as the wife could not wait for seven years, as required under Section 108 of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872. She is managing the estate of her husband in his absence. As she is intermeddling with his estate, the High Court has hold that she is entitled to maintain the application for renewal inasmuch as in event of death of her husband she is entitled to maintain such application for renewal.

The High Court has directed to the Joint Director and Revisional Authority, Southern Region, Mysore, to re-consider the matter on the basis that the application for renewal has

been filed on behalf of the original lessee, who is not traceable. In the event, however, the original lessee comes back and does not want to continue with the lease, it shall be open to him to approach the authorities, in the event the lease is renewed.

Accordingly, the High Court has set aside the order and directed to the Joint Director to consider the matter afresh within two months from the date of communication of this order. Thus, the High Court has disposed of the Writ Petition without any order as to costs.

Petition allowed.

7. M/s. R.S.A. Builders and Construction, Petitioner v. State of Madhya Pradesh & others, Respondents, AIR 2016 Madhya Pradesh 110, Vol.103, Part 1230, June, 2016.

Subject: The petition filed for a direction to the authorities to release payment of the bills without insisting upon a 'No Objection Certificate' from the Mining Department or other persons regarding payment of Royalty.

Facts:

Learned counsel for the petitioner, it is observed that vide notification published in the M.P. Gazette (Extraordinary) dated 23.03.2013, three provisos have been added to Rule 68 (1) of the M.P. Minor Mineral Rules, 1996 (for brevity 'Rules of 1996').

Decision:

The High Court has referred to Rule 68 (1) of Rules of 1996 and stated that the statutory provision as amended in the month of March, 2013, now requires every quarry permit holder or contractor to obtain 'no mining dues' certificate from the Mining Officer/Officer in-charge concerned after due verification of documents submitted by the Contractor/quarry permit holder. Such a requirement has now become mandatory after the amendment of 2013 in the Rules and cannot be diluted or waived.

The High Court has further stated that In view of the amended provisions of Rule 68 of Rules of 1996 as the statutory provisions require all quarry permit holders and contractors to obtain no mining dues certificate from the concerned authority, the relief as prayed by the petitioner in the petition cannot be granted to him as the petitioner is now required to comply with the provisions of Rule 68 of the Rules of 1996.

Thus, the High Court has dismissed the petition for want of merits.

Petition dismissed.

8. Vidarbha Mining Association, Petitioner v. Central Government Tribunal Revisional Authority, New Delhi and others, Respondents, AIR 2016 Bombay 168, Vol.103, Part 1231, July, 2016.

Subject: The petitioner has filled the petition for quashing and setting aside the common order dated 26-08-2010 passed by Central Government Tribunal i.e respondent No.1 in Revision Application No.17 (16)/2008-RC.II AND F No.17 (18)/2008-RC.II. Prayer is also made for maintaining the order passed by respondent No.3 on 26-06-2008 in respect of grant of mining license in favour of the petitioner. Further, a direction is sought to set aside the notification dated 29-09-2009 issued by the Central Government-respondent No.2 under Section 17-A(1-A) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (hereinafter referred to as "MMDR Act").

Facts:

The petitioner, a partnership firm having its office at Kamptee, District Nagpur, vide its application dated 16-09-2004 had applied for grant of mining lease in respect of 69.10 H/R of area from village Chikhla, Taluka Tumsar, District Bhandara to Government of Maharashtra, i.e., respondent No.3. On 12-10-2006 respondent No.3 notified few mineral areas for mineral concession in accordance with sub-section 2 and 4 of Section 11 of the "MMDR Act". Respondent No.3 vide the said notification (annexure-B with the petition) invited applications for mineral concession in respect of areas notified in the said notification. Entry at serial No.20 of the said notification shows that 69.10 H/R of area was notified for Manganese Ore from village Chikhla, Taluka Tumsar, District Bhandara for mining lease.

On 06.12.2006 respondent No.4, i.e., Manganese Ore India Limited also preferred an application for grant of mining lease in 36.63 H/R of area from village Chikhla. Total 37 persons including the petitioner and respondent No.4 had applied for the mining lease in pursuance of the said notification. Hearing was conducted by the State Government on 05-05-2008 at Sahyadri Guest House, Mumbai, in regard to grant of the mining lease as aforesaid. After considering the applications of 37 applicants as mentioned above and after having considered the submissions made on behalf of said applicants, the Minister for Industries, Mining, Cultural Affairs and Protocol, Government of Maharashtra passed an order on 26-06-2008 thereby granting the application of the petitioner and rejecting the applications of all other applicants including that of respondent No.4.

Respondent No.4, being aggrieved by the said order preferred the revision under Rule 54 of the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 hereinafter referred to as "M.C. Rules" to the Central Government. Present petitioner was respondent No.1 in the said revision application, whereas the State Government was respondent No.2. During pendency of said revision application before the Central Government Tribunal, the Central Government, acting under the powers conferred upon it by the provisions of Section 17-A(1-A) of the MMDR Act reserved some areas from District Nagpur and from District Bhandara for carrying out mining activities in respect of Manganese Ore through Manganese Ore India Limited, i.e., respondent No.4 by issuing a notification dated 29-09-2009 in that regard.

The Central Government Tribunal decided the revision application so filed by respondent No.4 along with another revision application filed by M/s. Prithvi Enterprises by a common order passed on 26-08-2010. The Central Government Tribunal set aside the order dated 26-06-2008 passed by respondent No.3. The order passed by respondent No.1-Tribunal reveals that it allowed the revision application filed by respondent No.4 mainly on the ground that the area recommended by the State Government for grant of mining lease in favour of the present petitioner vide order dated 26-06-2008 was reserved under sub-section (1-A) of Section 17-A of the MMDR Act for carrying out prospecting or mining operations through Manganese Ore India Limited, i.e., Respondent No.4 under notification dated 29-09-2009. The second reason given by the Central Government Tribunal is that on merits also respondent No.4 is better deserving vis-a-vis the petitioner in view of the requirements/qualifications provided under Section 11(3) of the MMDR Act.

Being aggrieved by the order passed by the Central Government Tribunal, the petitioner filed the present writ petition on 13-04-2011.

Decision:

The High Court has referred to Rules 54, 22(4), 31 of the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960, Section 17 of the MMDR Act, 1957, decisions in the cases Geomin Minerals and Marketing Private Limited v. State of Orissa and others, (2013) 7 SCC 571 (AIR 2013 SC 2438) and Monnet Ispat and Energy Limited v. Union of India, (2012) 11 SCC 1 and stated that the issue of notification dated 12-10-2006 by the State Government calling upon general public to file applications for grant of mining leases over certain areas and the order passed on 26-06-2008 in favour of the petitioner do not take away the special powers of the Central Government as vested in it under Section 17-A(1-A) of the MMDR Act. The High Court has further stated that the wordings of Section 17-A(1-A) it is clear that consultation with the State Government is only mandatory and not the concurrence. For this reason also the Central Government notification cannot be said to be vitiated. The High Court has stated that No fault found in the order passed by the Central Government Tribunal setting aside the State Government order dated 26-06-2008 on the ground that the area recommended therein stands reserved under Section 17-A(1-A) of the MMDR Act. The High Court stated that we do not find any reason to interfere in the impugned order dated 26-08-2010 passed by respondent No.1-Tribunal and dismissed the petition without any cost.

Petition dismissed.

9. State of Gujarat and Others, Appellants v. Nirmalaben S. Mehta and another, respondents, AIR 2016 Supreme Court 3324, Vol.103, Part 1232, August, 2016.

Subject: These appeals are directed against the common judgment and order dated 13.12.2011 passed by the High Court of Gujarat at Ahmedabad in LPA No. 683 of 2011 in

SCA No. 6897 of 2010, LPA No. 684 of 2011 in SCA No. 6899 of 2010 and LPA No. 685 of 2011 in SCA No. 6898 of 2010 urging various legal grounds and praying to set aside the same.

Facts:

One Kantilal Mohanlal Mehta entered into lease agreement with the appellant-State on 20.02.1964 for mining lease for bauxite in respect of lands described in Part I of the Schedule to Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (hereinafter called the "MMDR Act"). The said lease was for 20 years and was given effect from 09.10.1963.

On 26.02.1964, the appellant-State issued a notification bearing no.MND 1760/3788G.V. reserving all areas of Jamnagar and Junagadh district for exploitation of bauxite for public sector. However, on 02.08.1978, again a notification was issued by the appellant-State, whereby the lands, specified in the schedule thereto, which were earlier reserved vide notification dated 26.02.1964, for exploitation of bauxite for the public sector were de-reserved and thus, made available for grant of mineral concession w.e.f. 02.09.1978.

The same day, i.e., on 02.08.1978, the appellant-State addressed a letter to the Central Government seeking permission for de-reservation of the areas of bauxite in Jamnagar and Junagadh districts, which were earlier reserved for exploitation of bauxite in public sector for setting up of alumina plant on the ground that many applications were received by it for the establishment of small scale industries in the State based on bauxite as raw material. The appellant-State, therefore, desired to release areas, which were earlier reserved, to industrial units for their captive consumption only. By this letter the appellant-State sought permission not only for de-reservation of the areas, which were earlier reserved for public sector but also to impose certain conditions upon the mining of bauxite with a view to protect the interest of the State and at the same time extending help to industries which require bauxite as a raw material for bonafide captive use.

On 16.01.1980, Central Government addressed a letter bearing No.4(2)/78-NVI to the appellant-State, whereby, it granted permission for de-reservation of areas of Jamnagar for exploitation of bauxite mineral, which were earlier reserved, and for the imposition of conditions on mining lease.

On 27.02.1992, a circular was issued by the State Government permitting sale/export of Non-Plant Grade (NPG) bauxite. During the period from 10.04.2003 to 04.03.2005 various notifications were issued by the Central Government in exercise of its power under Section 9(3) of the MMDR Act, 1957 and Rule 64D of the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960, laying down the guidelines for computation of royalty on the basis of Statewise mineral value to be notified by the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM).

On 28.11.2007, respondent no.1- Nirmalaben S. Mehta sought the permission of the appellant-State for sale of NPG bauxite for a quantum of 1 lakh tonne (approx). The appellant-State vide its order dated 15.02.2008 granted permission for sale of NPG bauxite subject to condition, interalia, that the respondent no.1 shall deposit royalty of Rs. 120 per tonne in advance with the appellant-State.

The respondent no.1 again applied to the appellant-State by letter dated 18.02.2008 for sale of 1,12,900 tonnes of NPG bauxite. The same was rejected by the appellant-State vide order dated 19.06.2008 holding that the respondent no.1 has failed to establish captive plant within a period of two years in accordance with prevailing policy.

Aggrieved by the orders dated 15.02.2008 and 19.06.2008 passed by the appellant-State, the respondent no.1 approached the High Court of Gujarat at Ahmedabad by filing Special Civil Application. The learned Single Judge vide order dated 31.07.2008 dismissed the application holding that the respondent no.1 had not exhausted the statutory remedy available under Section 30 of the MMDR Act, 1957 read with Rule 54 of the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960. Instead of approaching the High Court, the respondent no.1 should have approached the Central Government which is the Revisional Authority under the MMDR Act, in the matter.

Thereafter, respondent no.1 approached the Central Government by filing Revision Application No. 09/16 of 2008 against the order dated 19.06.2008 passed by the appellant-State.

Aggrieved by the aforesaid order dated 27.08.2009 passed by the Central Government in exercise of its revisional power under Section 30 of the MMDR Act, 1957 read with Rule 55 of the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960, the appellant-State approached the High Court of Gujarat at Ahmedabad by filing Special Civil Application No. 6897 of 2010. The learned Single Judge vide order dated 22.12.2010 dismissed the said Special Civil Application holding that the appellant-State ought not to have suppressed the material fact of Writ Petition being filed before the High Court of Delhi at New Delhi with regard to the same matter. The learned Single Judge further imposed costs of Rs.50,000/- on the appellant-State.

Aggrieved by the Order dated 22.12.2010 passed by the learned Single Judge, the appellant-State approached the Division Bench of the High Court of Gujarat at Ahmedabad by filing Letters Patent Appeal No.683 of 2011. The High Court vide its common judgment and order dated 13.12.2011 partly allowed the appeals to the extent of setting aside the order of the learned Single Judge imposing cost of Rs.50,000/- upon the appellant-State. Hence, these appeals filed.

The learned senior counsel for the respondents contended that neither the Export Import policy nor the MMDR Act enacted by the Central Government impose any restrictions on sale/export of bauxite and hence, the appellant-State could not have introduced its own policy for restricting or regulating the sale/export of bauxite in conflict with policies and decisions of the Central Government.

It was further submitted by him that there is no question of general public importance in the instant case. It was submitted that under the scheme of Section 9 read with Section 13 of MMDR Act and Article 162 of the Constitution of India, it is the prerogative of Central Government to frame policies with regard to major minerals. The State Governments across the country are only supposed to implement the policies made by the Central Government with regard to the grant of lease as well as renewal of lease in respect of major minerals. He further submitted that when the Central Government has deemed it fit not to impose any restrictions on sale/export of bauxite either in export/import policy or under the MMDR Act, the appellant-State being simply an implementing agency, has no authority, whatsoever, to

impose any restriction in the renewal of grant order prohibiting the export of bauxite to other countries by the respondents.

It was further submitted by the learned senior counsel that merely because huge quantity of bauxite has been exported by leaseholders, the same does not confer any power under the MMDR Act upon the appellant-State to frame any policy with regard to the export of bauxite vide resolution dated 04.02.2005 under the guise of regulating the export of bauxite without the sanction of the Central Government. Furthermore, it is an admitted fact that the said resolution dated 04.02.2005 was passed by the State Government without the permission of the Central Government.

Points of issues:

1. Whether the appellant-State has the power at the time of renewal of lease of the mining area in question to impose the condition of setting up of a captive plant by the respondents?
2. Whether the permission granted by the Central Government under Rule 27(3) of the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 vide letter dated 16.01.1980 would be applicable to the respondents' mine?
3. What order?

Decision:

The Supreme Court has stated that the instant case the appellant-State after 16.01.1980 had the power to impose condition *interalia*, for setting up of a captive plant for bauxite by the respondents at the time of renewal of their lease. Therefore, the impugned order passed by both the Revisional Authority and High Court are vitiated in law and therefore, the same are liable to be set aside.

The Supreme Court has further stated that it would not be correct as contended by the learned senior counsel for the respondent that the permission for inclusion of certain conditions including condition for setting up of a captive plant by the leaseholders under Rule 27(3) of the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 for the de-reserved area granted by the Central Government vide letter dated 16.01.1980 would not be applicable to the respondents' lease which was granted prior to 16.01.1980 merely because their mines were not affected by the notification of reservation dated 26.02.1964 issued by the appellant-State. Further, the Supreme Court has stated that the impugned order dated 13.12.2011 passed by the High Court confirming the order dated 27.08.2009 passed by the Revisional Authority being contrary to the approval given by the central government vide letter dated 16.01.1980 is not only erroneous but also suffer from error in law.

Accordingly, the Supreme Court has allowed the civil appeals and held that the state government is at liberty to impose such terms and conditions in the renewal of lease of the mining area in question granted in favour of the respondents.

Appeal allowed.

10. Talaulicar and Sons Private Ltd. Appellants v. Union of India and another, Respondents, AIR 2016 Supreme Court 3351, Vol.103, Part 1232, August, 2016.

Subject: Challenging the order of Division Bench dated 18.10.2007 that the period of environment clearance granted for 5 years.

Facts:

These appeals are directed against a Division Bench judgment dated 12.08.2011 of the High Court of Bombay at Goa in Public Interest Litigation Writ Petition No.6 of 2011. The said writ petition was moved at the instance of the second respondent herein with a prayer that the appellant was originally granted environmental clearance for the expansion of Saniem Sacorda Iron Ore Mine on 25.11.2005 for two years, that by a subsequent letter dated 18.10.2007 of the first respondent, the two years period to conduct a higher geological study was deleted, that by virtue of the conditions stipulated in the Notification dated 27.01.1994 read along with the Notification dated 04.05.1994 such environmental clearance granted in favour of the appellant expired on 25.11.2010 and that in spite of such expiry, the appellant continued to indulge in mining operations. The second respondent, therefore, contended that such illegal mining activity of the appellant was not controlled by the first respondent even after the second respondent's communication dated 30.11.2010. It was on the above said basis, the second respondent prayed for the issuance of the mandamus directing the first respondent to stop the operation of Saniem Sacorda Iron Ore Mine of the appellant and also direct for payment of compensation for having caused environmental damage.

The Division Bench of the High Court having made a detailed analysis of the grievance of the second respondent as a local resident, the relevant provisions of the Statute as well as the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification dated 27.01.1994, took the view that the clearance granted in favour of the appellant in the order dated 25.11.2005 for the expansion of Saniem Sacorda Iron Ore Mine was initially for a period of two years as per the EIA Notification of 1994 and that such clearance can be valid only for a period of five years as is stipulated in the EIA Notifications and the relevant Rules. The Division Bench ultimately held that the appellant was carrying on the mining operations without a valid subsisting environmental clearance and while granting liberty to the appellant to seek an extension/renewal of the environmental clearance for a further period, in accordance with law, within a period of three months also directed that in the event of non-grant of any such environmental clearance, the appellant should discontinue mining operations of the concerned mine, till such time environmental clearance is granted. While holding so, the Division Bench made it clear that the validity of the environmental clearance granted in favour of the appellant was only for a period of five years from the date of commencement of the operation of the mining projects / expansion of the project carried out by the appellant. Aggrieved by the said judgment of the Division Bench, the appeal is filed.

Decision:

The Supreme Court has ordered that , the order dated 18.10.2007 was a cryptic one without giving due regard to the various salient features concerning the environment

protection and the interest of the public at large, while granting such clearance and allowing the clearance granted earlier to be valid beyond the initial period of two years and also without specifying as to the other terms and conditions to be complied with. The Supreme Court has further ordered that the first respondent should be directed to take a fresh look for the continuation or otherwise of the environmental clearance granted by it in the order dated 25.11.2005, after scrupulously following the various relevant factors, such as notifying the State level Authority and other Authorities concerned, effective public hearing after due paper publication even while referring to the hydro geological report submitted by the appellant and then pass final orders. In that perspective we are convinced that the order dated 18.10.2007 is liable to be set aside with necessary direction to the first respondent to look into the application of the appellant afresh after the submission of the hydro geological report and after giving an opportunity of hearing to the appellant as well as the second respondent or such other bodies to whom such hearing is to be offered as per the subsequent Notification dated 14.09.2006, permit them to file the required material documents in support of their respective stand and pass a reasoned order in accordance with the procedure prescribed under the said Notification.

The Supreme Court has set aside the order dated 18.10.2007 and directed that the first respondent MoEF to proceed afresh, issue a notice of hearing to the appellant, the second respondent, as well as, hold the consultative process with the State Level Authorities and call for the required reports from the concerned experts of its choice and after due hearing, pass appropriate orders, in accordance with law. Such exercise shall be carried out by the first respondent MoEF expeditiously, preferably, within a period of three months from the date of production of a copy of this order. On the transfer petition (C) No. 1843/2013 filed by respondent-Shankar Raghunath Jog in above appeals and he approached the National Green Tribunal in O.A.No. 22/2012 as against the MoEF State Pollution Control Board and the department of Mines and Geology.

The Supreme Court took the view that that the O.A. No.22/2012 pending on the file of the Green Tribunal will not survive inasmuch as Respondent-Shankar Raghunath Jog mainly placed his prayer based on the impugned judgment when he filed the O.A. before the Green Tribunal. Since we have set aside the impugned judgment in these appeals, the whole basis of Respondent-Shankar Raghunath Jog's grievance in the O.A. filed before the Tribunal does not survive.

Thus, the Supreme Court has dismissed the O.A. being infructuous.

Order accordingly.

SECTION -2

Trend in Mining, Prospecting and Reconnaissance

2.1 TREND IN MINING

A. Mining Leases Granted

During the period under review, the information pertaining to the grant of 10 mining leases covering an area of about 2254.52 ha was received. Of these, Limestone accounted for 06 mining leases followed by Bauxite, Manganese ore and Silica sand (1 each). In addition to these, mining lease granted in respect of two or more minerals in association (i.e. Group of Minerals) is 01.

Reviewing areawise mining leases granted for limestone, covered an area of 2105.84 ha, followed by Manganese ore 76.40 ha, Bauxite 63.41 ha and Silica sand 4.87 ha. Mining leases granted in respect of Group of Minerals, covered an area of 4.00 ha.

Reviewing statewise number of Mining leases and area granted in Madhya Pradesh accounted for 04 mining leases with 1780.42 ha area followed by Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat 3 each with 401.82 ha & 72.28 ha respectively.

The mineralwise number of mining leases granted together with lease area and details of mining leases granted are given in Tables 1 A & 1 B, respectively.

**Table - 1 A: Details of Mining Leases Granted
(By Minerals)**

Mineral	No. of Mining Leases Granted	Area in ha
Bauxite	1	63.41
Limestone	6	2105.84
Manganese ore	1	76.40
Silica sand	1	04.87
Group of minerals	1	04.00
Total	10	2254.52

Table – 1 B: Details of Mining Leases Granted

Mineral	State/District	Village	Area in ha	Date of Grant	Period in years	Name & Address
Bauxite	Gujarat Devbhumi Dwarka	Ran	63.41	18.04.2016	20	M/s Orient Abrasives Ltd, GIDC, Indl Area, Porbandar – 360577, Gujarat.
Limestone	Andhra Pradesh Guntur	Kesanapalli and Peddagarlapa du	377.51*	08.07.2016	50	M/s Chettinad Cement Corpn Ltd, 4 th & 5 th Floor, Rani Seethai Hall Building, 603, Anna Salai, Chennai – 600 006 Tamil Nadu.
Limestone	Andhra Pradesh Guntur	Mandadi	4.27	16.05.2016	50	M/s K.C.P. Ltd, Macherla, Distt. Guntur – 500 426, Andhra Pradesh.
Limestone	Andhra Pradesh Guntur	Polepalli	20.04	16.05.2016	50	M/s K.C.P. Ltd, Macherla, Distt. Guntur – 500 426, Andhra Pradesh.
Limestone	Madhya Pradesh Katni	Bhatgava Sunehara	101.48	12.07.2016	50	M/s Ram Niwas Singh & Sons, Prop. Smt. Meera Singh Sisodiya, Satyendra Bhawan, Ram Niwas Singh Marg, Bhatta Mohalla, Katni, Madhya Pradesh.
Limestone	Madhya Pradesh Panna	Kamtana Kakra, Judi, Saptai, Deori Purohit & Deora	1594.34	17.03.2016	50	M/s JayKayCem (Central) Ltd, Kamla Tower, Kanpur -208 002, Uttar Pradesh
Limestone	Madhya Pradesh Durg	Medesara	8.20	14.03.2016	50	Smt Alpa Srivastava, G-4, Adarsha Nagar, Durg, Chhatisgarh
Manganese	Madhya Pradesh Balaghat	Bharveli & Awalajhari	76.40	26.05.2016	50	MOIL Ltd, MOIL Bhawan, 1 A, Katol Road, Nagpur – 440 013, Maharashtra.
Silica Sand	Gujarat Surendranagar	Rupavati	04.87	05.04.2016	30	M/s Dynasty Minerals Pvt. Ltd, Shri Durlabh Mandan, C/o Shri Masari Ranavaya, Gitanagar, Besides Suruchi School, Khapat, Porbandar, Gujarat.
White Clay/ China Clay	Gujarat Kutch	Nadapa	04.00	NA	30	Shri Laxmanbhai Ranabhai Dangar, At & PO Dhaneti, Tah. Bhuj, Distt. Kutch, Gujarat.

* Area granted in 932.86 Acre, converted into ha.

B. Mining Leases Executed

Table – 2 : Details of Mining Leases Executed

Mineral	State/District	Village	Area in ha	Date of Execution/Registration	Period in Years	Name & Address
No such information is received during the period.						

C. Mining Lease Period Extended

During the period under review, the information pertaining to the extension of Lease period for 19 Mining Leases covering an area of about 509.22 hectares was received. Of these Dolomite accounted for 4 leases followed by Rock phosphate 3 leases, Bauxite & Manganese ore 2 each and Fluorite, Iron ore & Limestone 1 leases each. The extension of leases period in respect of two or more minerals in association (Group of Minerals) were granted for 5 minerals.

Reviewing areawise, Bauxite accounted for 280.23 ha, followed by Rock phosphate 49.11 ha, Fluorite 31.22 ha, Limestone 12.8 ha, Dolomite 8.88 ha, Manganese ore 07.6 ha, Iron ore 4.37 ha. The mining lease period extended for two or more minerals (Group of Minerals) accounted for about 115.01 ha area.

Reviewing statewise, number of mining lease period extended in Maharashtra 11 with 444.84 ha area followed by Madhya Pradesh 08 leases with 64.38 ha area.

The mineralwise number of mining lease period executed together with lease area and details of mining leases executed are given in Tables 3A & 3B.

Table 3A : Details of Mining Leases where Mining lease Period Extended (By Minerals)

Mineral	No. of Mining Leases Executed	Area in ha
Bauxite	2	280.23
Dolomite	4	8.88
Fluorite	1	31.22
Iron ore	1	4.37
Limestone	1	12.80
Manganese ore	2	7.60
Rock phosphate	3	49.11
Group of Minerals	5	115.01
Total	19	509.22

Table -3 B : Details of Mining Leases where Mining lease Period Extended.

Mineral	State/District	Village	Area in ha	Date of Extension order	Date up to which lease period extended.	Name & Address
Bauxite	Maharashtra Kolhapur	Durgamanwadi & Padsali	182.23	08.08.2016	31.03.2030	M/s Hindalco Industries Ltd, Century Bhavan, 3 rd Floor, Dr. Annie Besant Road, Worli, Mumbai – 400 030 Maharashtra.
Bauxite	Maharashtra Kolhapur	Minche Budruk	98.00	25.02.2016	29.10.2053	M/s Panditrao Mines and Minerals Pvt. Ltd., "Atharva", Shinde Angan, Plot No. 4 & 5, Behind I.T.I., Pachagaon Road, Kolhapur – 416 007 Maharashtra
Dolomite	Madhya Pradesh Mandla	Bhavartal	4.48	16.03.2016	05.09.2061	Jay Shri Shyam Minerals Prop. Shri Santosh Kumar Agarwal, Barhmni, Tah. Bichiya, Distt. Mandla, Madhya Pradesh
Dolomite	Madhya Pradesh Mandla	Bhavartal	0.78	16.03.2016	14.09.2048	Shri Raghvendra Singhaniya Raipur, Chhattisgarh.
Dolomite	Madhya Pradesh Mandla	Bhavartal	2.41	18.02.2016	14.09.2048	M/s Kusum Minerals Part : Shri Bhikamchandra Jain, Malviya Nagar, Durg, Chhattisgarh.
Dolomite	Madhya Pradesh Mandla	Katajar	1.21	16.03.2016	18.04.2046	M/s Kusum Mineral Co. Durg Chhattisgarh
Fluorite	Maharashtra Chandrapur	Dongargaon	31.22	05.04.2016	19.12.2038	M/s Maharashtra State Mining Corporation Ltd., "Vatsalya" Plot No. 7, Ajni Square, Wardha Road, Nagpur – 440 015, Maharashtra.
Iron ore	Maharashtra Gondia	Khursipar	4.37	19.07.2016	30.03.2034	M/s Maharashtra State Mining Corporation Ltd., "Vatsalya" Plot No. 7, Ajni Square, Wardha Road, Nagpur – 440 015, Maharashtra.
Kyanite, Silliminite	Maharashtra Bhandara	Malda	2.35	20.05.2016	27.05.2054	Shri S.S. Islam, 25, NMV Layout, Byramji Town, Nagpur – 440 013, Maharashtra.
Kyanite, Silliminite, Corrundum Quartzite and associate silicates minerals	Maharashtra Bhandara	Pohara Godpendri	17.56	20.05.2016	09.04.2025	M/s Maharashtra State Mining Corporation Ltd, "Vatsalya" Plot No. 7, Ajni Square, Wardha Road, Nagpur – 440 015, Maharashtra.

Contd.

Table- 3B (Concl.d.)

Mineral	State/District	Village	Area in ha	Date of Extension order	Date up to which lease period extended.	Name & Address
Kyanite, Silliminite, Corundum and Quartzite	Maharashtra Bhandara	Pohara Godpendri	28.70	03.06.2016	29.12.2032	M/s Maharashtra State Mining Corporation Ltd, "Vatsalya" Plot No. 7, Ajni Square, Wardha Road, Nagpur – 440 015, Maharashtra.
Kyanite, Silliminite, Corundum & associated aluminium silicates	Maharashtra Bhandara	Pohara	39.40	15.06.2016	15.11.2027	M/s Maharashtra State Mining Corporation Ltd., "Vatsalya" Plot No. 7, Ajni Square, Wardha Road, Nagpur – 440 015, Maharashtra.
Limestone	Maharashtra Chandrapur	Zutting	12.80	18.04.2016	14.01.2036	Smt. Mrunalini Girish Khobragade, Wadgaon Bapat Nagar, Gajanan Mandir Road, Civil Lines, Chandrapur, Maharashtra.
Limestone/Dolomite	Maharashtra Yavatmal	Hivardara	27.00	21.03.2016	12.12.2044	Prashant Vasantrao Deshmukh, C/o Shri R.H. Rathi, Plot No. 308 ,Shankar Nagar, Nagpur – 440 010, Maharashtra.
Manganese ore	Madhya Pradesh Jhabhua	Amliyamal	6.39	24.02.2016	24.02.2059	M/s A V Mines Pvt Ltd Mayur Vihar, New Delhi.
Manganese ore	Maharashtra Nagpur	Parseoni	1.21	20.04.2016	14.05.2042	M/s Felex Enterprises Pvt. Ltd., H-108, B, Connaught Circus, New Delhi – 110 001.
Rock Phosphate	Madhya Pradesh Jhabhua	Guwali	9.12	24.02.2016	06.12.2048	M.P.State Mining Corp.Ltd, Meghnagar,Distt. Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh.
Rock Phosphate	Madhya Pradesh Jhabhua	Guwali	2.29	24.02.2016	26.09.2053	M.P.State Mining Corp.Ltd, Meghnagar,Distt. Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh.
Rock Phosphate	Madhya Pradesh Jhabhua	Kachaldara	37.70	24.02.2016	08.03.2059	M.P.State Mining Corporation, Sub office,Meghnagar,Distt. Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh.

D. Mining Lease Period Executed after Grant of Extension of Mining Lease Period.

During the period under review, the information pertaining to the execution, after grant of extension of Lease period, for 14 Mining Leases covering an area of about 742.60 hectares was received. Of these Limestone (Cement Grade) accounted 3 leases followed by Wollastonite for 01 mining lease. The extension of leases period executed in respect of two or more minerals in association (Group of Minerals) were 10.

Reviewing areawise, Limestone (Cement Grade) accounted for 692.86 ha followed by Wollastonite 4.73 ha. The mining lease period executed for two or more minerals (Group of Minerals) accounted for 45.01 ha area.

The extension of leases period for all the 14 mining leases were executed in Rajasthan state only.

The mineralwise number of mining lease period executed together with lease area and details of mining leases executed are given in Tables 4A & 4B.

**Table 4A : Details of Mining Leases Executed after Extension of Mining Lease Period.
(By Minerals)**

Mineral	No.of Mining Leases Executed	Area in ha
Limestone(Cement grade)	3	692.86
Wollastonite	1	4.73
Group of Minerals	10	45.01
Total	14	742.60

Table 4 B– Mining Lease Period Executed after Grant of Extension of Mining Lease Period.

Mineral	State/District	Village	Area in ha	Date of Execution/ Registration	Date up to which lease period extended.	Name & Address
Feldspar/ Quartz	Rajasthan Ajmer	Fatehgarh	4.35	04.04.2016 06.04.2016	24.06.2057	Smt Bulbul Tonk, W/o Shri Kuldeep Tonk, A-133, Khel Nagar, Chandravardai Yojna, Near Stadium, Beawar Road, Ajmer, Rajasthan.
Feldspar/ Quartz	Rajasthan Ajmer	Mataji ka Khera	4.18	04.04.2016 21.04.2016	07.06.2057	Shri Gulshan Narang, S/o Shri Harish Chandra Narang, Narang Bhawan, Gandhi Chowk, Darji Pada, Bayana, Tah. Bayana, Distt. Bharatpur, Rajasthan.
Feldspar/ Quartz	Rajasthan Ajmer	Pratappura	4.00	06.06.2016 13.06.2016	20.04.2058	Vijayraj Singh, S/o Shri Uday Singh Rathod, Vill & Post Rajgarh, Tah. Nasirabad, Distt. Ajmer, Rajasthan.
Feldspar/ Quartz/ Garnet	Rajasthan Ajmer	Sarwad	5.00	30.11.2015 31.12.2015	26.01.2051	Shri Rajendra Kumar Choudhary, S/o Late Shri Mohanlal Choudhary, Vill. Sarwad, Distt. Ajmer, Rajasthan.
Feldspar/ Quartz/ Mica	Rajasthan Ajmer	Shokliya	4.99	08.01.2016 11.01.2016	25.07.2027	M/s Shubham Mineral, Prop. Smt. Anita Maheshwari, W/o Shri Jagdish Maheshwari, Vill. Loharwada, Tah. Nasirabad, Distt. Ajmer, Rajasthan.
Limestone (Cement grade)	Rajasthan Chittorgarh	Karunda	240.86	09.07.2015 09.07.2015	12.12.2034	M/s J.K. Cement Works, Kailash Nagar, Nimbaheda, Distt. Chittorgarh, Rajasthan.
Limestone (Cement grade)	Rajasthan Chittorgarh	Malyakheda	320.00	09.07.2015 09.07.2015	12.12.2034	M/s J.K. Cement Works, Kailash Nagar, Nimbaheda, Distt. Chittorgarh, Rajasthan
Limestone (Cement grade)	Rajasthan Chittorgarh	Mangrol	132.00	09.07.2015 09.07.2015	03.05.2062	M/s J.K. Cement Works, Kaliash Nagar, Nimbaheda, Distt. Chittorgarh, Rajasthan
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Madada	4.78	04.03.2016 09.03.2016	12.07.2057	Ms/ Ravi Minerals, Prop. Shri Prashant Mansinghka, S/o Shri Suryaprakash Mansinghka, Pusa, Disstt. Bhilwara Rajasthan
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Padasali	4.90	10.02.2016 16.02.2016	03.11.2058	Shri Bhima Ram Choudhary, S/o Shri Manrup Choudhary, Vill. Barsa, Tah. Marwad Junction Distt. Pali, Rajasthan.

Contd

Concl'd. Table 4B

Mineral	State/District	Village	Area in ha	Date of Execution/ Registration	Date up to which lease period extended.	Name & Address
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Pipliya	4.64	02.02.2016 02.02.2016	15.07.2058	Shri Jay Singh Rathod, S/o Shri Karan Singh Rathod, Kelwa, Distt. Rajsamand, Rajasthan.
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Sadada	4.17	16.02.2016 16.02.2016	16.10.2057	M/s Kalpataru Minerals, Partner Shri Parvat Singh Aashiya, S/o Shi Jaykiran Singh, R/o Aashiya, Pasund Tah & Ditt. Rajsamand, Rajasthan.
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Wasni	4.00	16.02.2016 16.02.2016	23.02.2059	M/s Kalpataru Minerals, Partner Shri Parvat Singh Aashiya, S/o Shi Jaykiran Singh, Aashiya, Pasund Tah & Ditt. Rajsamand, Rajasthan.
Wollastonite	Rajasthan Ajmer	Chachundara	4.73	15.07.2016 15.07.2016	23.02.2061	Shri Suresh Yadav S/o Shri Ramnath Yadav, Trailor & Transport Company, 27 th Mile Square, Vijaynagar, Tah. Masuda, Dist. Ajmer, Rajasthan.

E. Mining Leases Renewed

Table-5: Details of Mining Leases Renewed

Mineral	State/District	Village	Area in ha	Date of Renewal	Period in Years (From date of Execution/ Registration)	Name & Address
No such information is received during the period.						

F. Mining Leases Revoked

Table -6: Details of Mining leases Revoked

Mineral	State/District	Village	Area in ha	Date of Revoke	Period in Years	Name & Address
No such information is received during the period.						

G. Mining Leases Determined

**Table: 7– Details of Mining Leases Determined
(By Minerals)**

Mineral	No.of Mining Leases Revoked	Area in ha
No such information is received during the period.		

H. Mining Leases Surrendered

Table – 8: Details of Mining Leases Surrendered

Mineral	State / District	Village	Area in ha	Date of Surrender	Name & Address
No such information is received during the period.					

I. Mining Leases Terminated

Table – 9: Details of Mining Leases Terminated

Mineral	State / District	Village	Area in ha	Date on which lease Terminated	Name & Address
No such information is received during the period.					

J. Mining Leases Transferred

Table – 10A: Details of Mining Leases Transferred

Mineral	State / District	Village	Area in ha	Name and Address		Period (in Yrs.) (From date of Grant of Lease)	Date of Transfer of Deed
				Transferor	Transferee		
No such information is received during the period.							

Table – 10B: Details of Transferred Mining Leases Executed / Registered

Mineral	State / District	Village	Area in ha	Name and Address		Period (in Yrs.)/ Dt of expiry.	Date of Execution/ Registration of transfer deed
				Transferor	Transferee		
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Aakya	4.40	Shri Raymal Gurjar	M/s Earth Natural Resources, C/o Shri Himmat Singh Jala, S/o Shri Ratan Singh Jala, 140, Magri Vajmiya, PO Puriya Khedi, Tah. Vallabhnagar, Dist. Udaipur– 313 601, Rajasthan.	50/ 13.12.2061	10.12.2015 28.01.2016
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Anoppura	4.864	Shri Iqbal Mohammad	Shri Rajendra Yadav, S/o Shri Parashu Ram ji Yadav, Vill. Gagwal, Tah & Distt. Ajmer, Rajasthan.	50/ 24.05.2060	20.01.2016 21.01.2016
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Barjal	4.19	Smt. Ruchi Dangi,	M/s Karni Mines & Minerals, C/o Shri Sanjay Bhura, S/o Shri Ram Lal Bhura, H- 693/1, Nilkanth Colony, Shivaji Marg, Shastri Nagar, Bhilwara, Rajasthan.	50/ 28.04.2058	01.03.2016 04.03.2016
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Bhachediya	4.89	Shri Kamal Kishor Sharma.	Shri Arvind Singh Rathod, S/o Shri Harisingh Rathor, Vill. Kareda, Tah. & Distt. Rajsamand, Rajasthan.	50/ 05.10.2051	21.03.2016 07.04.2016
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Biliyavas	4.00	Shri Chetan Prakash Hinuniya.	M/s Anu Mines & Minerals, Ganpathi Marble, Vijay Nagar Road, Infront of Doordarshan Centre Beawar, Ajmer, Rajasthan.	50/ 18.03.2059	20.01.2016 22.01.2016
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Bramhano ki Merda	4.33	Shri Purushottam Das Sadhanani.	Smt. Jamnadevi, W/o Shri Purushottam Das Sadhnani, Sarvanand Plot No. 2, Band Gali, Shiv Colony, 100 ft. Road, Kankroli, Tah. & Distt. Rajsamand, Rajasthan.	50/ 18.01.2059	19.01.2016 21.01.2016

Contd.

Table 10 B (Contd)

Mineral	State / District	Village	Area in ha	Name and Address		Period (in Yrs.)/ Dt of expiry.	Date of Execution/ Registration of transfer deed
				Transferor	Transferee		
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Chhipala	4.47	Shri Vishnu Prakash Sharma,	Shri Laxmichand Bhansali, S/o Shri Noratmal Bhansali, C- 105, Ricco Housing Colony, Ajmer Road, Beawar, Distt. Ajmer, Rajasthan.	50/ 21.12.2055	20.01.2016 28.01.2016
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Devda ka Guda	5.91	Smt. Kamla Devi,	Shri Shankar Lal Jat, S/o Shri Devi Lal Jat, Dhayla, Via. Kelwa, Tah & Distt. Rajsamand, Rajasthan.	50/ 02.10.2058	29.12.2015 31.12.2015
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Dhelana	4.00	Smt. Manju Patidar	M/s Shri Yash Earth Products Pvt. Ltd, Panchavati Road No. 1, Udaipur Rajasthan.	50/ 22.08.2057	01.01.2016 06.01.2016
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Dhelana	4.45	Smt. Manju Patidar	M/s Shri Ores and Clays Pvt. Ltd, Panchavati Road No. 1, Udaipur Rajasthan.	50/ 10.01.2058	01.01.2016 06.01.2016
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Dholadata	4.12	Smt. Meenakshi Sharma	M/s Charbhujaji Minerals Oswal & Maniyar, In front of Banshi Bhawan, Ajmeri Bate, Beawar, Rajasthan.	50/ 25.10.2057	28.01.2016 01.02.2016
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Dudliya	4.89	Shri Durga Singh Charan,	M/s R M D Minerals, H.No. 2, Ward No. 14, Near Devnarayan Mandir, Gandhi Nagar, Bhilwara, Rajasthan.	50/ 28.06.2057	10.12.2015 21.01.2016
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Heera Kheda	4.99	Shri Parasmal Jain,	M/s Anjana Granites, C/o Shri Dhanraj Marbles, Near Goshala, R K Link Road, Industrial Area, Madanganj, Kishangarh, Distt. Ajmer, Rajasthan.	50/ 28.02.2063	20.01.2016 21.01.2016

Contd.

Table10B(Contd.)

Mineral	State / District	Village	Area in ha	Name and Address		Period (in Yrs.)/ Dt of expiry.	Date of Execution/ Registration of transfer deed
				Transferor	Transferee		
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Kameri	4.00	M/s Manibhadra Mines & Minerals Amet.	M/s Savriya Mines & Minerals, C/o Smt Badami Bai, W/o Shri Bhanwar Lal Gurjar, Vill. Siyana, Tah. Amet, Distt. Rajsamand, Rahasthan.	50/ 22.07.2058	19.01.2016 11.02.2016
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Kanvera	4.70	Shri Narayan Singh Rajput,	Shri Rajendra Yadav Gagwal, A-6, Aditya Mill Staff Colony, Near Laxmi Narayan Mandir, Kishangarh, Distt. Ajmer, Rajasthan.	50/ 10.05.2062	28.01.2016 01.02.2016
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Kerpura	4.71	Shri Pawan Kumar Joshi	Shri Kapil Sharma, S/o Shri Jay Narayanji Sharma, 232, Ghatiwala, Ward No. 39, Ajmer, Rajasthan.	50/ 20.01.2056	20.01.2016 21.01.2016
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Kerpura	4.89	Shri Jassu Lal Gurjar.	Smt. Vardi Bai, W/o Late Shri Jassu Lal Gurjar, Vill. Kerpura, Tah. Devgarh, Distt. Rajsamand, Rajasthan.	50/ 18.06.2057	19.01.2016 21.01.2016
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Lal Ji Ka Khera	4.15	Shri Shyam Sunder Maheswari.	M/s Kaveri Mines, Plot No. 102, Agarwal Bij Udyog Building, Near Roadwage Bus Stand, Bhilwara, Rahasthan.	50/ 04.07.2060	28.01.2016 11.02.2016
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Lohran ki Rapat	4.79	Shri Vishnu Prakash Sharma,	Shri Laxmichand Bhansali, S/o Shri Naratmal Bhansali, C- 105, Ricco Housing Colony, Ajmer Road, Beawar, Distt. Ajmer, Rajasthan.	50/ 21.12.2055	20.01.2016 28.01.2016
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Lohran ki Rapat	4.541	Shri Akhil Sharma,	M/s Dhatu Mega Minerals Pvt. Ltd., C/o Reg. Office, 53/1, Old Fatehpura, Udaipur, Rajasthan.	50/ 23.06.2058	02.12.2015 15.12.2015

Contd

Table10B(Contd.)

Mineral	State / District	Village	Area in ha	Name and Address		Period (in Yrs.)/ Dt of expiry.	Date of Execution/ Registration of transfer deed
				Transferor	Transferee		
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Panadi	4.65	Shri Rajesh Kumar	Shri Shivcharan, S/o Shri Pratapnath Ji Yogi,Gurjar Simla, Tah. Sikray, Distt. Dausa, Rajasthan.	50/ 08.12.2061	12.01.2016 19.01.2016
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Rajwa	5.00	Shri Pravesh Sharma,	Shri Laxmichand Bhansali, S/o Shri Noratmal Bhansali, C- 105, Ricco Housing Colony, Ajmer Road, Beawar, Distt. Ajmer, Rajasthan.	50/ 06.01.2056	20.01.2016 28.01.2016
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Rajwa	5.00	Smt Vandana Sharma,	Shri Laxmichand Bhansali, S/o Shri Noratmal Bhansali, C- 105, Ricco Housing Colony, Ajmer Road, Beawar, Distt. Ajmer, Rajasthan.	50/ 21.12.2055	21.01.2016 28.01.2016
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Ran	4.54	Shri Ramlal Gurjar	Shri Nathuram Gurjar, S/o Shri Keshuji Gurjar,Mansingh ji ka Kheda,PO. Narana, Tah. Devgarh, Distt. Rajsamand, Rajasthan.	50/ 24.09.2057	11.12.2015 20.01.2016
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Sakarda	4.65	Shri Bhanwar Lal Dangi ,	M/s Murliwala Mines & Minerals, C/o Shri Ram Lal Bhura, Nilkanth Colony, Shivaji Marg, Shastri Nagar, Bhilwara, Rajasthan.	50/ 28.04.2058	01.03.2016 04.03.2016
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Sakarda	4.65	Shri Bhanwar Lal Dangi.	M/s Nanesh Mines & Minerals, C/o Shri Sanjay Bhura, S/o Shri Ram Lal Bhura, H- 693/1, Nilkanth Colony, Shivaji Marg, Shastri Nagar, Bhilwara, Rajasthan.	50/ 29.05.2058	01.03.2016 04.03.2016
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Saroth	4.2	Shri Chirag Mathur,	M/s Charbhujia Mines & Minerals, 8, Munshi Colony, Nrusinghpura Ajmer Road,Beawar, Distt. Ajmer, Rajasthan.	50/ 16.06.2056	20.01.2016 28.01.2016

Contd.

Table10B(Concl.)

Mineral	State / District	Village	Area in ha	Name and Address		Period (in Yrs.)/ Dt of expiry.	Date of Execution/ Registration of transfer deed
				Transferor	Transferee		
Quartz/ Feldspar	Rajasthan Rajsamand	Zad sadadi	4.00	M/s Savriya Mines & Minerals, Prop Shri Uday Lal Dangi, S/o Shri Kamal Chandra Dangi Mawali Road, Dabouk Square, Tah. Mavli Dist. Udaipur, Rajasthan.	M/s Savriya Minerals Partner 1.Shri Shantilal Aagal,S/o Shri Nana Lal Aagal, Plot No. 101, Flora Tower,Near Flora Complex, Pula, Udaipur, Rajasthan.	50/ 22.05.2063	01.03.2016 02.03.2016

K. Mines Opened**Table – 11: Details of Mines Opened**

Mineral	State/District	Name of Mine	Village	Date of Opening	Area In ha	Name & Address
Chrome Ore	Odisha Dhenkanal	Asurabandha Chromite Mines	Asurabandha	10/10/2016	91.827	M/s Real India Consultancy Ltd. Plot No. : 428/3818, Jayadev Nagar, Near Panthanivas, Bhubaneswar – 751 002 Odisha

L. Mines Temporarily Discontinued**Table – 12: Details of Mines Temporarily Discontinued**

Mineral	State/ District	Name of Mine	Village	Date of Discontin- uance	Reason	Area in ha	Name & Address
No such information is received during the period.							

M. Mines Reopened**Table – 13: Details of Mines Reopened**

Mineral	State / District	Name of Mine	Village	Date of Reopening	Area in ha	Name & Address
No such information is received during the period.						

N. Mines Abandoned

Table – 14: Details of Mines Abandoned

Mineral	State / District	Name of Mine	Village	Date of Abandonment	Reason	Area in ha	Name & Address
No such information is received during the period.							

2.2 TREND IN PROSPECTING

A. Prospecting Licences Granted

During the period under review information pertaining to the grant of only one prospecting licences covering the area of 9 sq Km was received, which was for the Group of Minerals. The only prospecting licence granted was in the Andhra Pradesh. Details are furnished in table 15.

**Table – 15 : Prospecting Licences Granted
(By Minerals)**

Mineral	State / District	Village	Area in sq.km	Date on which licences Granted	Period in Years	Name & Address
Gold, Iron, Tungston, Copper, Lead, Zinc, Silver and all associated minerals	Andhra Pradesh Chittoor	Sadukonda	9.00	05.08.2015	03	M/s Geomysore Services (India) Pvt. Ltd., Raja Ikon Building 89/1, 4 th Floor, Marthanhalli Outer Ring Road, Bangalore – 560 037 Karnataka

B. Prospecting Licences Executed

Table – 16 : Details of Prospecting Licences Executed

Village	Mineral	State / District	Area in ha	Date of Execution	Period in Years	Name & Address
No such information is received during the period.						

C. Prospecting Licences Renewed

During the period under review, information pertaining to the renewal of 7 prospecting licences covering an area of 1575.56 hectares was received. Of these, Manganese accounted for about 5 licences followed by Diamond & Limestone (01 each).

Reviewing areawise, Licences renewed for Diamond was accounted for about 902.42 ha, followed by Limestone 453.42 ha and Manganese ore 219.65 ha.

Reviewing statewise, number of prospecting licences and area renewed in Maharashtra was 5 with 219.65 ha, followed by Madhya Pradesh 02 with 1355.91 ha.

The mineralwise, number of prospecting licences renewed together with area and details of prospecting licences granted are given in Tables 17 A & 17 B, respectively.

Table –17A: Mineral wise details of Prospecting Licences Renewed

Mineral	No.of Mining Leases Executed	Area in ha
Diamond	1	902.49
Limestone	1	453.42
Manganese	5	219.65
Total	07	1575.56

Table –17B: Details of Prospecting Licences Renewed

Mineral	State/District	Village	Area in ha	Date of Renewal order	Period in Years From date of expiry of licence	Name & Address
Diamond	Madhya Pradesh Panna & Satna	NA	902.49	12.05.2016	01 (07.01. 2015 to 06.01. 2016)	M/s NMDC Ltd, Khanij Bhavan, 10-3-311/A, Kaiser Hill, Hyderabad 500028, Andhra Pradesh
Limestone	Madhya Pradesh Nimach	Borkhedi & Nayagaon	453.42	01.04.2016	02	M/s Ultratech Cement Ltd., (Uni). PO. Khor, Tah. Javad, Distt. Nimach, Madhya Pradesh
Manganese ore	Maharashtra Nagpur	Mansar	84.71	14/07/2016	03	M/s Manganese Ore (India) Ltd. MOIL Bhavan, 1 A, Katol Road, Nagpur – 440 013 Maharashtra
Manganese ore	Maharashtra Nagpur	Nagardhan	44.87	15/07/2016	02	M/s Manganese Ore (India) Ltd. MOIL Bhavan, 1 A, Katol Road, Nagpur – 440 013 Maharashtra
Manganese ore	Maharashtra Bhandara	Kurmuda, Balapur, Hamesha	17.14	06.09.2016	03	M/s Manganese Ore (India) Ltd. MOIL Bhavan, 1 A, Katol Road, Nagpur – 440 013 Maharashtra
Manganese ore	Maharashtra Bhandara	Lanzera	24.37	06.09.2016	02	M/s Manganese Ore (India) Ltd. MOIL Bhavan, 1 A, Katol Road, Nagpur – 440 013 Maharashtra
Manganese ore	Maharashtra Nagpur	Nanadpuri	48.56	12.07.2016	02	M/s Manganese Ore (India) Ltd. MOIL Bhavan, 1 A, Katol Road, Nagpur – 440 013 Maharashtra

D. Prospecting Licences Revoked

Table – 18 Details of Prospecting Licences Revoked

Mineral	State/District	Village	Area in ha	Date of Revoke	Name & Address
No such information is received during the period.					

2.3 TREND IN RECONNAISSANCE PERMITS (R.P.)

Table – 19: Details of Reconnaissance Permits

Mineral	State/District	Area in sq km	Date of Approval of Grant	Name & Address
No such information is received during the period.				

SECTION – 3

Production of Mineral-based Products

Table – 20: Production of Mineral-based Products during January 2014 to September 2016

(ITEM-LEVEL INDICES OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION; BASE YEAR: 2004-05 = 100)

Mineral-Based Products	Unit	←-----Months-----→	Cumulative
Information is not available.			

SECTION – 4

Highlights

A. Domestic

Iron ore mining operations may restart at Surjagarh

Operations at Lloyds Metals and Energy Limited's (LMEL) iron ore mines in Maoist-hit Surjagarh area of district Gadchiroli are expected to restart. After running for a month, the mining was stopped in April last week when local politicians protested.

Sources say if this time politicians had caused the operation to shut down, there has been some support from Maoists who were so far against any mining activity in the area. This has raised hopes of the company. Though it secured mining licence in 2007, the company was able to mine the ore only this year and extracted about 3,000 tonnes. The previous attempt in 2008 was abruptly stopped by the Maoists. In 2013, when mining operations were still closed the Maoists killed a vice-president of the company who was learnt to be negotiating with them.

(Times of India, 07 May 2016)

Dual freight policy for iron ore goes

In a bid to boost freight traffic volumes, the Indian Railways has abolished its dual freight policy for carrying iron ore, a long-pending demand from industry players.

According to a 2008 policy, the tariff for transportation of iron ore to ports for the purpose of exports is three times the rate charged for transporting the same commodity for domestic use in steel and cement industries.

“The dual pricing policy for iron ore transportation was very complicated. From now on, whether you move the iron ore to the plant or to the ports for exports, we will be charging the same,” Railway Board Member (Traffic) Mohammed Jamshed said on Wednesday. Cheering the move, Industry representatives said the freight rationalisation will help both Railways and the iron ore sector. “It is a long-overdue move. We had urged the government to bring parity in rates of iron ore transportation irrespective of point of origin and destination,” said Basant Poddar, vice president at Federation of Indian Mineral Industries. A Comptroller

and Auditor General (CAG) report tabled in Parliament last year had pointed out that the freight business suffered losses of around Rs 29,000 crore in 2008-2013 due to the dual pricing system for transporting iron ore. It had found that iron ore was carried at lower domestic rates but was diverted for exports resulting in huge losses to the exchequer.

(The Hindu, 12 May 2016)

NALCO, MIDHANI plan lithium plant

State-owned aluminium maker National Aluminium Company (Nalco) and the Defence Ministry's Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd (MIDHANI) are in talks to set up an aluminium-lithium alloy plant.

Lithium is the hottest metal today, with its demand underlined by the Space X and Tesla ventures of maverick entrepreneur Elon Musk. Lithium-aluminium alloys meet the extremely strong but very light properties required for spacecraft and high-performance Tesla batteries. The tanks of freezing liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen attached to NASA's space shuttles are made of such alloys.

"Lithium-aluminium alloy is an extremely expensive alloy (sells for around Rs 40 lakh a tonne)," Nalco Chairman Tapan Kumar Chand told ET. "More importantly, it is critical to our strategic sectors. Given the 'Make in India' push in the defence sector and the plans of an energised ISRO, we see a good domestic market for this product."

(The Economics Times, 10 June 2016)

Star rating to promote sustainable mining.

A star rating system to assess miners on sustainable development activities is to be launched next month by the Union Ministry of Mines. Overtime, the Ministry will make changes to the rules and introduce penal provisions for miners not achieving a high rating. Union Secretary (Mines) Balvinder Kumar said this here on Thursday at the signing of an MoU under which National Institute of Smart Government will develop a web-enabled application for Indian Bureau of Mines. "We have identified various indicators, social, economic and environmental and assigned certain weightage to each of them. While those getting above 90 marks (on 100) will get 5-stars, those scoring 80- 90 will be given 4-stars," he said. While it will be a self-certification process, with miners filing the details on the app, the Ministry would rate them after a third-party evaluation.

Those not achieving 4 or 5 stars would get time to improve. Those who continue to lag would be penalised with suspension of the mining operations for certain period, he said, adding the rules would amended to incorporate the penal provisions.

The system will be launched at a two-day national conclave on mining in Raipur beginning July 4, and the first set of ratings given to around 15 companies, he said.

(The Hindu, 10 June 2016)

New mining, exploration policy

The New Mining and Exploration Policy is likely to be finalised and announced next month, according to Union Mines Secretary Balvinder Kumar.

During a meeting here, where Indian Bureau of Mines and National Institute of Smart Government inked a memorandum to develop a web based application to help rate mines. He said, the policy is ready and will be put up for Cabinet approval.

Speaking after the announcement to launch a new star rating system for mines, aimed at ensuring sustainable development of mines, the Mines Secretary said the policy will be notified within a month.

The Star Rating System has been designed by the Indian Bureau of Mines and it will become mandatory for mine operators to opt for the rating system from one star to five stars on a scale of 100. Based on their compliance, they will be rated from one to five star. This rating will decide whether a mine or a project should be allowed to continue.

(Business Line, 10 June 2016)

Mining picks up despite slow pace of auctions in states

The mining activity in the country is showing signs of revival, despite the mining lease auctions at the state government level still moving at a slow pace. Data from the government have largely been positive about the sector, even though industry and analysts remain cautious about the uptick in mining. According to the GDP data, the mining and quarrying sector grew at 7.4 per cent in the fourth quarter of 2015-16 as compared with 6.9 per cent in the same quarter last year.

Growth was also reflected in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) data where mining grew 2.2 per cent in 2015-16 as compared to 1.4 per cent in the previous year. In the IIP data for April 2016, mining continued its growth at 1.4 per cent as compared with a contraction of 0.6 per cent in the same month last year.

(Business Line, 11 June 2016)

Hazardous aluminium waste can be converted into fuel-grade carbon

Nagpur-based JNARDDC has developed detoxifying process that destroys 98 per cent of cyanide from the aluminium waste and converts it into Carbon that can be used in place of coal.

Dealing with hazardous waste, especially destroying cyanide contents from Spent Pot Lining (SPL), was a cause of concern for aluminium industry in the country. Bauxite, a common aluminium ore is used as alumina source and it is the feedstock for smelting operation, such as aluminium metal production, where alumina is fluxed/dissolved with cryolite in large carbon or graphite lined steel electrolytic cells known as 'pots'.

Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Centre (JNARDDC) Nagpur has developed a revolutionary detoxifying process to deal with cyanide contents from SPL and convert it into Carbon of the grade which can be used in place of coal. Along with cyanide, SPL also contains carbon that can be utilised in place of coal as fuel. "Aluminium industry of the country produces about 50,000 tonnes of SPL every year which contains 90 per cent of poisonous cyanide and remaining are valuable materials such as high fuel value carbon," Dr Upendra Singh, Scientist, JNARDDC, told 'The Hitavada'. Calorific Value (CV) of this carbon is more than 6000 KCal/KG which is as good as Grade-A coal that can be put to domestic use also. In fact, an Odisha-based company is going to establish a plant that will commercialise and convert SPL into energy source. JNARDDC developed the process in collaboration with National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO).

(The Hitwada, 13 June 2016)

Tata steel set to ramp up production at Odisha unit

Tata steel has already commissioned the first phase of the Kalinganagar unit having an annual capacity of 3 million tonnes. Another 3 million tonnes will be added in the second phase of the project.

Shri T.V.Narendran, who is Chairman of the eastern regional chapter of CII, added: “We are ramping up very quickly. In steel industry, there is always excess capacity. Our job is to be competitive and be one of the low-cost producers of steel. If we are competitive, we should be able to sell our products.”

(Business Line, 20 June 2016)

Maharashtra and Karnataka set to auction 15 iron ore mines

Maharashtra and Karnataka are set to auction 15 iron ore mines, with an area of more than 790 hectares having estimated reserves of over 260 million tonnes (MT), next month.

Out of 15, Karnataka state will put 14 mines while Maharashtra state will auction one, a senior government official said.

For Karnataka, the initial bid date was postponed to July 11 due to issues related to stamp duty. But now, amendment to the Stamp Duty Act is under final consideration of the State Cabinet, which will clear the docks for the auction, the official added.

(Business Line, 25 June 2016)

New policy may spur pvt play in mining

The new National Mineral Exploration Policy approved by the Union Cabinet on Wednesday is expected to boost private investment in the country's mineral exploration sector.

It is aimed at attracting both domestic and foreign mining companies in exploration jobs. In doing so, it is poised to break the monopoly of the Geological Survey of India (GSI) and state-owned Mineral Exploration Corporation (MECL). The policy will pave the way for competitive bidding of prospective mineral blocks through the process of e-auction. Significantly, through the policy, state governments will have a key role since they will be responsible for identifying mineral blocks to be put up for auction.

(The Economics Times, 30 June 2016)

Mines ministry may push for import duty hike on primary aluminium products

The Ministry of Mines is likely to push for a hike in the customs duty on primary aluminium products to provide relief to an industry hit by low prices and under utilised manufacturing capacity. “We have asked the industry to make a representation to push for their case before we take up the matter with the departments concerned. The aluminium manufacturers are expected to meet me within a week,” said Balvinder Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of Mines, on the sidelines of the National Conclave on Mines & Minerals in Raipur. In the Union Budget 2016-17, the government had raised customs duty on primary aluminium products to 7.5 per cent from 5 per cent.

(Business Line, 7 July 2016)

Steel industry wants minimum import price regime extended

With less than a month to go before the minimum import price (MIP) on 173 steel products expires, the domestic industry has written to the Ministry of Steel seeking its extension.

According to official data, in the first quarter of fiscal 2016-17, India imported 1.79 million tonnes of steel compared with 2.59 million tonnes in the previous fiscal. However, as compared with 2014-15, the steel imports are six per cent higher. “For a country like China it is very easy to export. One per cent of their production is 8 million tonnes, which is equal to

10 per cent of our consumption. So without MIP, they can dump one per cent of their production here at very low and ridiculous prices. This may completely destabilises the Indian industry. If MIP is not extended, many steel plants might close down ”, said Naveen Jindal, Chairman, Jindal Steel and Power Ltd.

(Business Line, 9 July 2016)

India under global pressure to let steel minimum import price lapse next month

Pressure is building on India at the World Trade Organisation (WTO) not to extend the minimum import price (MIP) on steel beyond the first week of August when it is slated to lapse. In a recent meeting of the goods council at the WTO, nine members, which include the US, the EU, Japan, Australia, South Korea, Canada, China, New Zealand and Chinese Taipei, asked India to justify its continued restrictions on imported steel, an official from the WTO told *BusinessLine*.

“We realise that continuing with the MIP for long is not a viable option and could go against WTO rules if seen as a permanent duty. Imposition of anti-dumping duties is a better option, but the process takes time. The government is weighing the situation,” a Commerce Ministry official said. Last February, India had imposed an MIP, ranging from \$341 a tonne to \$752 a tonne, on 173 categories of steel products to provide relief to domestic producers against cheap imports. It topped it up with safeguard duties (penal duties to stop steep increase in imports) on hot-rolled flat steel the following month.

(Business Line , 19 July2016)

Gold imports slide

The lid on the current account deficit is likely to be kept tight, with gold imports falling by about 48 per cent to \$3.90 billion in the first quarter of this fiscal.

The import of the yellow metal stood at around \$7.51 billion in the corresponding period of the last fiscal.

The sliding prices of the precious metal in both the global and domestic markets are seen as a contributory factor to the plunge. The inbound shipments contracted for a fifth consecutive month in June by 38.5 per cent to \$1.20 billion, according to data from the commerce ministry.

(The Telegraphs, 18 July 2016)

Dumping duty on selected steel

The government has imposed an anti-dumping duty on certain hot-rolled products from six countries, including China and South Korea, to protect domestic manufacturers.

The move has evoked a sharp reaction from engineering exporters as it makes their input costs high and renders them uncompetitive in the global market.

The duty will be the difference between the landed value and the prescribed value, which is \$474 per tonne and \$557 per tonne, respectively. The duty imposed "shall be effective for a period not exceeding six months (unless revoked, superseded or amended earlier) and shall be paid in Indian currency," the revenue department said. The restrictive duty was slapped on the import of "hot-rolled flat products of alloy or non-alloy steel" from China, Japan, Korea, Russia, Brazil and Indonesia on the recommendation of the Directorate General of Anti Dumping, a commerce ministry arm.

(The Telegraph, 10 August 2016)

Vedanta wants Goa Govt to increase iron ore output cap

Vedanta Ltd may have to shut down iron ore production by the end of the calendar year, if the Goa government does not increase the production cap of 5.5 million tonnes per annum.

"We were producing about 8 million tonnes a month till the monsoon season started, so we will come against our cap by the end of this calendar year. We look forward to the Goa government to lift the cap otherwise we would have to shut down production and that is not good for anybody," Tom Albanese, Chief Executive Officer of Vedanta Resources Plc and Vedanta Ltd, told *BusinessLine*.

(Business Line, 25 August 2016)

State cabinet clears formation of mineral foundations in all districts.

Maharashtra Cabinet, on Wednesday, cleared a proposal to form District Mineral Foundation in each district in the State. The Foundation, to be chaired by respective Guardian Minister and will function as a trust from respective District Collector's office and work as a trust for protecting the interests of those affected by mining operations. As most of the mines and dumps are in Vidarbha region, formation of District Mineral Foundations will expedite development in areas affected by mining operations. The Foundation in each district will take care of development of area within a radius of 20 km from the site of mine/dump and welfare of persons in the said area. The Foundation will work on 'no profit, no loss' basis. The body to be headed by Guardian Minister of respective district will comprise three legislators preferably from mining-affected areas, as ex-officio members. Already, Central Government has notified the rates of contribution to be made by mining lease-holders to these foundations. In case of mining leases executed before January 12, 2015 or the date of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) or MMDR Act coming into force, mining lease-holders will have to contribute to respective District Mineral Foundations an amount equal to 30 per cent of royalty payable by them on major minerals. In case of mining leases granted after the said date, rate of contribution is set at 10 per cent of royalty payable for minor minerals.

(The Hitwada, 11 August 2016)

CCI slaps over Rs. 6,700 cr fine on 11 cement companies

Competition Commission has imposed more than Rs 6,700 crore penalty on 11 cement companies, including ACC and Binani, for cartelisation.

Apart from penalising the Cement Manufacturers Association (CMA), the fair trade regulator has directed all the entities to "cease and desist" from indulging in any activity relating to agreement, understanding or arrangement on prices, production and supply of cement in the market. In a release, Competition Commission of India (CCI) said Rs 6,715-crore penalty has been imposed on 11 cement companies and the CMA. The latest order has been passed by the watchdog following directions issued by the Competition Appellate Tribunal (Compat), which had remanded the matter involving the cement companies to CCI for passing fresh order. The tribunal had also set aside fine on the 10 cement firms imposed earlier.

(The Hitwada, 11 September 2016)

Nalco told to raise manufacturing capacity to 20 lakh tonnes

National Aluminium Company Ltd (Nalco), a public sector unit under the Ministry of Mines, has been asked to raise its aluminium smelter capacity to at least 20 lakh tonnes to ensure more of the mineral is utilised within the country instead of being exported.

“I have asked Nalco to prepare a prospective future plan raise capacity to 20 lakh tonnes from the present 4.6 lakh tonnes...Nalco has been exporting alumina for several years while the country keeps importing the mineral. We must utilise the mineral within the country to overcome such a scenario,” said Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Mines, Coal, Power and New & Renewable Energy, at the sidelines of the Confederation of Indian Industry’s Sustainability Summit.

“They had a full-fledged expansion plan, which was formed some years ago, but it never took off and the reason they gave was electricity is too costly in the country. Instead, they went for a tie-up with Iran to export alumina there and produce aluminium in Iran as power is cheaper there,” Goyal added.

(Business Line, 15 Septembe 2016)

Rising aluminium imports a concern, says Birla

Hindalco Industries, an Aditya Birla group company, is poised for challenging times with aluminium supply exceeding demand in the overseas markets. The profitability of Indian metal companies was hit as they sell their products based on benchmark LME prices.

Addressing shareholders at Hindalco’s annual general meeting on Wednesday, Kumar Mangalam Birla, Chairman, said notwithstanding the strong operational performance, the short-term outlook is challenging given the structural oversupply and depressed pricing scenario. “The sharp increase in imports into India will continue to impact sales,” he said.

On the positive side, he added that demand in India is expected to be strong with the government’s thrust on the power sector works well for the aluminium and copper industry. The thrust will be on downstream value added products in India, as these yield better realisation, he said.

(Business Line, 15 September 2016)

New mining law: no prior clearance for stuck mining proposals, says environment ministry

The central government is likely to auction the 288 mines, in case they are not granted to the companies by respective state governments by January, 2017.

Before January, 2015, while signing the letter of intent (LOI) with any company, a number of state governments such as Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh had promised them an environment or forest clearance before the grant of mining licence. However, the environment ministry has now told the Union mines ministry that there is no provision in the law which obliges it to give a prior clearance for any such proposal.

(Indian Express, 28 September 2016)

B. Abroad

Rare violet diamond to go under hammer

Global mining giant Rio Tinto's largest and most exquisite diamond, Argyle Violet, is expected to fetch multi-million dollar bid when showcased as the dazzling centerpiece of Rio's auction later this year, it said on Tuesday.

The violet coloured diamond unearthed from Rio's Western Australia diamond mine is 2.83 ca.

(The Hitwada, 04 May 016)

Rare 15- carat pink diamond fetches record \$ 31.6 million

An Asian man has paid a record \$31.6 million for an extremely rare 15.38 carat pear-shaped pink diamond auctioned at Sotheby's, making it the most expensive fancy vivid pink diamond ever to go under the hammer.

The rare gem called the 'Unique Pink' is set in a simple ring and was bought yesterday by an Asian private buyer who bid for it over the telephone and whose identity has not been disclosed.

"The Unique Pink set a new world record for a fancy vivid pink diamond... It's the highest price ever paid for a fancy vivid pink diamond," David Bennett, worldwide chairman of Sotheby's international jewellery division, told reporters.

(Business Line, 19 May 2016)

Niobium : the commodity that no one knows about, but everybody wants to buy"

The world's mines and steel plants got so devalued during the commodity slump that some were just given away by owners struggling to cut losses or debt. But there's at least one metal that's been attracting a lot of attention.

Niobium - named for a Greek goddess who became a symbol of the tragic mourning mother - is used to produce stronger, lighter steel for industrial pipes and aircraft parts. It is mined in only three places on Earth, and the price of every kilogram is seven times higher than copper.

(Business Line, 19 May 2016)

Steel glut: G20 looks to iron out differences

The global steel glut is shaping up as a hot-button issue as leaders of the G20 economies meet in China.

A G20 communique, the wording of which was not final at the time of going to press, recognises the overcapacity in steel for which China has come in for criticism remains on the radar for the world's biggest economies months after it was raised in the discussions at a G7 summit in Japan.

“We recognise that the structural problems, including excess capacity in some industries, exacerbated by a weak global economic recovery and depressed market demand, have caused a negative impact on trade and workers,” G20 leaders will say, according to the communique. “We recognise that excess capacity in steel and other industries is a global issue which requires collective responses.”

(Business Line, dt 25 June 2016)

HINDALCO looks to partly exit Brazil ops to cut debt

Hindalco BSE 3.35 % Industries will push ahead with plans to sell its alumina plant and mines in Brazil as the commodity price collapse shows no signs of improving. People close to the development told ET that AV Birla group major wants to use the money to cut debt and focus on the India business where demand is showing signs of improvement amidst stiff import competition.

The Kumar Mangalam Birla led company is close to appointing an investment banker for the deal. The deal is expected to be in the range of \$90 million to \$100 million. Metal and commodity companies are trying to sell assets, refinance old expensive loans to survive an increasingly tough operating environment. Global metal prices have recovered from multi-

year lows but demand continues to be weak and margins are under pressure. Vale, Anglo American, Freeport-McMoRan and Barrick Gold are some of the global companies that have shed assets to combat the commodity downturn. Aluminium prices on the London Metals Exchange fell 11% to Rs 1,571 a tonne during the first quarter of this financial year versus Rs 1,769 a year earlier.

(The Economics Times, 15 September 2016)

Mining crackdown in philippines boosts nickel prices

The Philippines is the largest exporter of nickel ores, accounting for 23 per cent of global supply. Hence any change in the country's approach towards the mining industry is likely to have a dramatic effect on nickel prices. The arrival of a new government in the country spurred uncertainty regarding the mining policy.

However, the ambiguity soon faded as Rodrigo Duterte, who was elected the Philippines' President in May 2016, at the very outset warned environment-threatening mining companies to either upgrade their practices or face closure.

As soon as the new government came to power on June 30, the newly elected Environment and Natural Resources minister Regina Lopez publicly displayed her abhorrence towards the use of open pits to extract minerals. This threatened to potentially disrupt supplies and limit ore exports, and as a result, nickel prices crossed the crucial \$10,000/tonne mark on July 4.

Since then, prices have held near \$10,000/tonne levels as stern action against the mining industry by way of audits raising fears of a supply crunch in the near future.

(Business Line, 28 September 2016)
