

A Report on Complain received regarding “Working beyond rules by M/s HINDALCO and M/s Minerals & Minerals Ltd. in their Pakhar Bauxite Mines”

Name of the Inspecting Officer – Naman Ekka
Junior Mining Geologist, Indian Bureau of Mines, Ranchi

Date of Inspection - 20/09/2017

Area inspected - (1) Pakhar Bauxite Mines (109.50 Ha.) of M/s Minerals & Minerals Ltd.
(2) Pakhar Bauxite Mines (115.13 Ha.) of M/s HINDALCO
(3) Pakhar Bauxite Area (38.95 Ha.) of M/s HINDALCO (FMCP approved on 23/03/2015)

Accompanying Officials - (1) Pakhar Bauxite Mines (109.13 Ha.) of M/s Minerals & Minerals Ltd. –
(a) Jitendera Kumar, Mines Manager.
(b) Dev Anand Nayak, Mining Engineer.
(2) Pakhar Bauxite Mines (115.13 Ha.) of M/s HINDALCO
(a) Shil Prakash Jha, Mines Manager
(b) Narayan Pramanik, Geologist

Subject of the Inspection – Mr. Mohibullah Ansari, District Secretary, Jharkhand Vikash Morcha (J.V.M), Lohardaga logged a complain to the District Collector, District – Lohardaga, Jharkhand, subjected “Working beyond rules by M/s HINDALCO and M/s Minerals & Minerals Ltd. in their Pakhar Bauxite Mines”. A copy was endorsed to the Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, Nagpur, which was forwarded by the O/o Chief Controller of Mines, IBM, Nagpur to Regional Controller of Mines, IBM, Ranchi to offer his comments regarding the matter.

Complain logged by Mr. Mohibullah Ansari, District Secretary, Jharkhand Vikash Morcha (J.V.M), Lohardaga –

1. Pakhar Bauxite Mines of M/s HINDALCO consists of two quarries – Pakhar “A” & Pakhar “B” in which blasting is being carried out within the range of 300 mts. within which there exists houses of backward class people. Raising time is not fixed, raising of mineral is being carried out in the night also without any light. Accidents have occurred in both the quarries while loading and during blasting.
2. Near Pakhar Bauxite Mines of M/s Minerals and Minerals there exists houses of backward class, (Cast – Asur) within the range of 300 mts. and blasting has been carried out daily and without any safety measures raising work is being carried out. Near the mines there exists a forest land in which fruit bearing trees have been planted by the forest department and mining has been carried out outside the forestland creating a Island.

Road being un-metalled (Kuchha road) pollution occurs while transportation of the Minerals.

**Findings of the Complain logged by Mr. Mohibullah Ansari, District Secretary, Jharkhand
Vikash Morcha (J.V.M), Lohardaga –**

1. Pakhar Bauxite Mines (115.13 Ha.) of M/s HINDALCO consists of two quarries – Pakhar “A” & Pakhar “B” where the outer boundary of the quarry and the nearby village Sarnapat and Banglapat comes within the range of 40 to 50 mts. (SW of Pakhar “A”) within which there exists houses of backward class (Cast – Nagesia and Oraon) people residing in these houses. In the northern side there exists 4 hutments. Within the lease area there exists 14 hutments. While inspection raising was not carried out during night but on checking the transportation register it was found that it has been carried out sometimes even at night also.(Photographs of Transportation Register of 15/09/2017 attached as Annexure – 1)
2. Near Pakhar Bauxite Mines (109.50 Ha.) of M/s Minerals and Minerals where outer boundary of the quarry and the nearby village Dumerpat and Pokharpat comes within the range of 100 mts. (SE Side) within which there exists 4 houses of backward class (Cast – Nagesia) people residing in these houses. Mangru Nagesia and Jethu Nagesia of this village complained about the damage done by the blown off material after blasting.(Photograph Below)



Jethu Nagesia with his wife and Mangru Nagesia in front of their house (SE side of the Lease) (after repairing of roof, economic assistance provided by M/s Minerals and Minerals Ltd. as briefed by both of them)

A house was also found within the lease area within the 30 mts. of quarry boundary (towards northern side of the lease) but no one resides in here. (Photograph below)



Previously there also exists Asur cast people in and around these areas, but M/s Minerals and Minerals have built colony named “Aditya Colony” for people of Asur Cast with Solar Panel for each houses. 16 families out of 21 of Asur cast has been provided houses in this Aditya Colony, (Photographs below) rest 05 families reside in the Indira Awas within the Lease area. A total of around 35 hutments with people residing in these are present within the lease area.



The area to be ODF, 4 nos. of toilets were also constructed by M/s Minerals and Minerals.
(Photograph below)



After SW side of Pakhar Bauxite Mines (115.13 Ha.) of M/s HINDALCO there existed a Pakhar Bauxite Mines (38.95 Ha.) of M/s HINDALCO for which FMCP has been approved on 23/03/2015 in which plantation of fruits bearing trees has been carried out by HINDALCO itself.
(Photographs below)



Pakhar Bauxite Mines (109.50 Ha.) of M/s Minerals and Minerals Ltd. and Pakhar Bauxite Mine (115.13 Ha.) of M/s HINDALCO uses the same road for transportation of Mineral and the road being un-metalled was logged with water having holes in them. During summer season or in dry season transportation through these roads can cause pollution (heavy dust).

