

**Ministry of Mines
Major Highlight / Activities**

May, 2024

1. Important Decision and Major achievement :

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1A) of section 17A of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (67 of 1957), the Central Government, after consultation with the State Government of Chhattisgarh, reserved an area of 48.493 hectares vide notification dated 22.05.2024, located near the western lease boundary of Deposit No. 11 ML for undertaking mining operations, including, dumping of waste material and allied infrastructure facilities in relation to existing Deposit No. 14 NMZ mining lease for mineral iron ore in favour of NMDC Limited.

2. Monthly Status of Action / PMKKKY – DMF :

- Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojna (PMKKKY) is being implemented through the funds collected under DMF and till April 2024 Rs. 92979.77 Cr. was collected (monthly collection in April 2024 - Rs 2249.70 Cr.). Till April 2024, Rs. 82558.28 Cr. stands allocated and Rs. 50900.17 Cr. has been spent. Total 329945 projects have been sanctioned under the scheme and total 188642 projects have been completed so far.

3. National Mineral Exploration Trust(NMET)

NMET has approved 13 mineral exploration projects with the cost of Rs 26.35 Cr which include 06 projects of critical minerals with the Cost of Rs 9.03 Cr and out of the 13 Projects 05 Projects are of Notified Private Exploration Agencies with the cost of ₹ 6.08 Cr. NMET has also approved 02 Project of financial assistance for procurement of machinery items with the cost of ₹ 13.87 Cr. NMET also approved Financial sanction of Rs 95.03 Cr to carry out National Aero geophysical Mapping Program (NAGMP) work over 4 nos of OGP block. NMET has also approved the in principal approval for purchase of 01 nos digital core logger amounting to Rs 43.24 Cr. During the month NMET has incurred expenditure of Rs. 40.40 Cr. The overall expenditure incurred during FY.2024-25 is Rs. 55.69 Cr.

4. Progress in the auction of Mineral Blocks:

- Since the amendment to MMDR Act, 1957 in 2015, a total of 354 mineral blocks have been auctioned till 31.05.2024 across 11 States.
- To review the progress in the auction of mineral blocks, operationalization of auctioned blocks and exploration of blocks, three mining review meetings were held in May 2024. The details are as under:

i. Mining Review Meeting with the State Govt. of Chhattisgarh held under the Chairmanship of the Secretary (Mines) on 10.05.2024 at Raipur.

- ii. Mining Review Meeting under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Mines) with State Government of Gujarat held on 22.05.2024 at Gandhinagar.
- iii. Mining Review Meeting under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Mines) with State Government of Goa held on 14.05.2024.

5. Progress made in the auction of critical & Strategic minerals:

Progress in the auction of critical mineral blocks: During May 2024, a road-show was conducted on the auction of 2nd and 3rd Tranche of critical and strategic mineral blocks at Jaipur, Rajasthan on 03.05.2024. Further, an introduction of critical mineral blocks notified for auction by the Central Government was presented at the Workshop on Exploring the Mineral Wealth of Assam-Achievements and Future Prospects at Guwahati on 10.05.2024. Last date for sale of Tender Document with respect to mineral blocks of 2nd and 3rd Tranche ended on 16.05.2024. Bid due date for technical and IPO for 2nd and 3rd Tranche was extended to 14.06.2024 and dates for other auction-related activities were also amended including the announcement of Preferred Bidder for mineral blocks of both Tranche to up to 18.07.2024.

6. Conferences / Workshops/Seminars/Meeting and other activities:

- To discuss and finalize the indicators of performance, a one-day workshop in collaboration with Ministry of Mines and the Indian Institute of Technology-Indian School of Mines (IIT-ISM), Dhanbad on State Mining Index has been organized under my chairmanship on 8th May, 2024. The Index would serve as a tool for stakeholders of the mining sector to understand various aspects related to the Ease of Doing Mining Business within a State. 26 States participated in the Workshop.
- In order to push forward the goal of Atmanirbhar Bharat, Registered Office of Khanij Bidesh India Limited (**KABIL**) at PTI Building, Sansad Marg, New Delhi has been inaugurated by Secretary (Mines) on 11.05.2024. With a steadfast commitment to excellence, KABIL is poised to play a crucial role in driving India's growth and self-sufficiency in the realm of critical & strategic minerals aligning with the objectives of "Make in India" and "Viksit Bharat" and India achieving the Net Zero Emission Goal.
- Secretary (Mines) chaired a meeting on 01.05.2024 to review the progress of NGDR (National Geo-Science Repository) in hybrid mode with officers from Ministry of Mines, GSI & BISAG-N (Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Application and Geo-Informatics).
- A Workshop/Webinar is conducted under the chairmanship of Secretary (Mines) on 15.05.2024 at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi on pre-auction discussion with stakeholders on offshore mining and draft rules made under the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development & Regulation) Act, 2002. The workshop was attended by industry associations; academia; Ministries and Departments, institutions working in ocean technology, oceanography; CISR and few international firms working in Deep-sea mining.
- Secretary (Mines) chaired a meeting on 20.05.2024 with Asian Development

Bank (ADB) to discuss Critical Minerals and supply chains, in Ministry of Mines regarding collaborations on Technical Assistance programme, Critical Mineral Fund and Green Mining Initiatives.

- Secretary (Mines) held a virtual meeting on 23.05.2024 with Mr. Geoff Pyatt, US Department of State Assistant on projects related to critical minerals which may be taken up and may be announced during the upcoming iCET annual review meeting.
- A Workshop on Granite & Marble Mining was jointly organized by Ministry of Mines along with State Government of Karnataka on 29.05.2024 at Bangaluru which was inaugurated by Secretary (Mines) along with Additional Chief Secretary and Development Commissioner; Government of Karnataka. The workshop was attended by State Governments and Industry Associations.
- A meeting between, Joint Secretary, M/o Mines with Mr. Sanjiva de Silva, Counsellor, Australian High Commission held on 14.05.2024 in Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan for discussion on KABIL- CMO.
- In continuation to the first industry interaction organized by Ministry of Mines on 05.01.2024, a VC meeting was convened on Vein Graphite in Sri Lanka on 20.05.2024. The meeting was hosted by High Commission of India, Colombo.

7. Activities of Geological Survey of India (GSI) & Indian Bureau of Mines(IBM):

- DG, GSI virtually inaugurated workshop on 'Landslide Disaster Management in Kerala' in hybrid mode on 01.05.2024 organized by GSI, SU Kerala.
- The first review meeting on Action Taken Report (ATR) of the 63rd CGPB meeting-minutes was held on 06.05.2024 through video-conferencing (VC) under the chairmanship of Secretary (Mines) & Chairman, CGPB in Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
- The Geological Survey of India (GSI) in association with Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Limited (MECL) has organised a day long workshop on the mineral wealth of Assam entitled, "Workshop on Exploring the Mineral Wealth of Assam (EMWA): Achievements and future prospects" at Assam Administrative Staff College, Guwahati on 10.05.2024.
- Geological Survey of India, Regional Training Division, NER Shillong organized a 3-day training programme on 13.05.2024 titled "Training workshop on Utility of National Geoscience Data Repository (NGDR) and its Application" in offline mode.
- DG, GSI inaugurated the ICPMS laboratory at SU:Odisha on 14.05.2024 in the presence of ADG & HOD, Eastern Region, GSI and DDG, State Unit: Odisha.

- DG, GSI accompanied by ADG & HOD, Eastern Region, GSI and DDG, State Unit: Odisha visited CSIR-Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology (IMMT), Bhubaneswar on 14.05.2024 to discuss the road map for beneficiation of low grade ores by IMMT, especially critical and strategic minerals, in the light of the MoU signed between the two organizations, recently. The team visited the facilities of Central Characterization Laboratory, Mineral Processing Pilot Plant and Hydro-metallurgy Unit.
- Unlocking geo-scientific innovation GSI, SU WB & AN hosted a transformative workshop highlighting role of NGCM Data and NGDR Portal in boosting mineral exploration on 15.05.2024. DG. GSI inaugurated the event in presence of attendees from both public and private sectors.
- GSI signed MoU with MECL on 17.05. 2024 to supplement coal and lignite drilling. MoU was signed through VC in the august presence of DG, GSI & CMD, MECL and other senior officers.
- Geological Survey of India, State Unit Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal had participated in celebration of International Museum Day in collaboration with Regional Science Centre, Bhopal (A Unit of NCSM) on 18.05.2024. The theme of this program was “Museums for Education and Research”.
- Geological Survey of India, State Unit: Manipur & Nagaland, Dimapur organized a daylong workshop on “Application of National Geochemical Mapping data & utility of National Geoscience Data Repository” at Conference Hall of Directorate of Geology and Mining (DGM) Office, Dimapur, Nagaland on 22.05.2024.
- Geological Survey of India, State Unit: Tripura & Mizoram, Agartala has conducted a one-day workshop on “Application of National Geochemical Mapping Data & Utility of National Geoscience Data Repository (NGDR) Portal” on 28.05.2024 at Agartala. The workshop was attended by representatives from Department of Industry and Commerce (Tripura & Mizoram), DGM Mizoram, CGWB (Agartala), SAC (Tripura), ICAR (NEH), ONGC and personnel from universities and colleges.
- Sustainable Development of Mines:-On the Portal for performance year 2022-23 so far 1255 lessees have filed SDF templates of which 1173 templates are validated. Technical Evaluation Committee Meeting of Star Rating of Mines for the year 2022-23 is being held shortly. Further new star rating templates have been prepared for small mines and large mines separately instead of common star rating templates for all the mines, for implementation from performance year 2023-24 onwards.
- Mining Surveillance System: During the Phase IV (2022-23), 138 triggers are generated so far up to May, 2024 of which 40 triggers are verified by the concerned State Governments and 07 cases of unauthorized mining have been detected.
- Average Sale Price (ASP) for Minerals and of Metals for the month of March,

2024 has been hosted on IBM website. IBM has recently made a giant leap forward with the advancements of its MTS Project by launching the New Average Sale Price (ASP) Module. This New ASP Module enables IBM to bridge the time gap in the release of the Average Sale price of minerals. Scrutiny of Returns is in progress for publishing ASP for April, 2024.

Mining Tenement System (MTS):

- Registration Module: During the FY 24-25 till May, 2024, a total of 161 Nos. of registration for different business domains has been carried out in the portal. Cumulatively Up to April, 2024, 8098 Miners, 5514 End Users, 10488 Traders, 2985 Stockiest, 1657 Exporters have registered online.
- Returns Module: During the FY 24-25 till May, 2024, 235 miners and 149 End Users have submitted Annual Returns for 2022-23.
- Mining Plan Module: During 2024-25, During the FY 24-25 till May, 2024, 79 Mining Plans have been approved online in IBM-MPAS. DPR in respect of the other modules is in progress and they will become operational in phased manner.
- Updation of National Mineral Inventory: For Updation of NMI adopting UNFC as on 01.04.2025, work initiated for Mapping of leasehold deposits (3724 deposits) of NMI as on 01.04.2020 and Checking and validation of existing 4787 free hold deposits from NMI as on 01.04.2020. For Updation of NMI adopting UNFC as on 01.04.2023 in respect of 9 minor minerals namely barytes, calcite, corundum, diaspore, dolomite, gypsum, laterite, ochre and pyrophyllite, Collection of data is in progress.
- UAV Survey related activities: A register of receipt of drone/ satellite data submitted by the lessees under rule 34A of MCDR 2017 is being maintained at IBM. Action is being taken to create GIS layers, through Mining Plan Data/ the boundary pillar co-ordinates of the auctioned blocks & leases, for comparison with drone/satellite data.
- Drone Data Management System: IBM at its Headquarters has recently commissioned its largest Data Centers with capacity of 131 Terabytes. During the FY 24-25 till May, **2024**, 148 mines have submitted online Drone data on Drone Data Management System portal.
- Training Centre: Training Programme on “Functions of cheque drawing DDOs (NPS, PFMS, Bhavishya etc.) Budget matters, E-procurement through Government E-Marketplace (GEM), Accounts, Pension, NPS, e-Bills in PFMS” was held at IBM HQ Nagpur for IBM Officers and officials from 21st May 2024 to 22nd May 2024 in which 42 IBM Officers and officials participated.
- Training programme for capacity building of IBM officials in Offshore areas at CSIR-National institute of Oceanography Goa from 20-5-2024 to 25-5-2024 was organized and total 09 official participated. This initiative aimed to enhance the knowledge and skills of IBM officials in managing and regulating

offshore mining activities. The training focused on various aspects of Oceanography, Seafloor features, Marine Mineral Resources, Various types of surveys offshore mining, etc including regulatory frameworks, environmental considerations, and the latest technological advancements.

- Offshore Capacity Development of IBM: Training programme for capacity building of IBM officials in Offshore areas at CSIR-National institute of Oceanography Goa from 20-5-2024 to 25-5-2024 was organized and total 09 official participated. This initiative aimed to enhance the knowledge and skills of IBM officials in managing and regulating offshore mining activities. The training focused on various aspects of Oceanography, Seafloor features, Marine Mineral Resources, Various types of surveys offshore mining, etc including regulatory frameworks, environmental considerations, and the latest technological advancements.
- Capacity Building Plan of IBM: As per the recommendation of Technical Evaluation Committee and Price Bid Opening Committee, M/s. Ernst & Young LLP was entrusted to prepare Capacity Building Plan of IBM. Annual Capacity Building Plan (ACBP) of IBM has been approved by the competent authority and is being implemented. Monitoring the implementation of ACBP (2024-25) as per the set quarterly target as mentioned in ACBP Training Calendar (2024-25), is in progress at Divisional head level.

8. Activities and highlights of National Aluminium Company (NALCO) & Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL), CPSEs under the Ministry of Mines are as under:

NALCO:

Production:

- Bauxite production is 5,69,550 tonnes as against provisional target of 7,00,000 tonnes in May, 2024. Provisional annual target is 75,25,000 tonnes in 2024-25.
- Alumina Hydrate production is 1,55,000 tonnes as against provisional target of 1,50,000 tonnes in May, 2024. Provisional annual target is 21,00,000 tonnes in 2024-25.
- Aluminium Cast Metal production is 38,554 tonnes as against provisional target of 39,922 tonnes in May, 2024. Provisional annual target is 4,70,000 tonnes in 2024-25.

Sales:

- Alumina /Hydrate sale is 34,254 tonnes as against provisional target of 33,100 tonnes in May, 2024. Provisional annual target is 11,04,000 tonnes in 2024-25.
- Alumina Export sale is 1019 tonnes as against provisional target of 1000 tonnes in May, 2024. Provisional annual target is 25,000 tonnes in 2024-25.
- Domestic Metal sale is 42,045 tonnes as against provisional target of 36,000 tonnes in May, 2024. Provisional annual target is 4,45,000 tonnes in 2024-25.

Financial Highlights: 2023-24:

- According to the results taken on record in the 349th meeting of the Board of Directors, the company has recorded stellar performance in FY 2023-24, achieving revenue from operations of Rs. 13,149 Cr.
- NALCO recorded net profit of Rs 2, 060 Cr in the FY 2023-24, registering an increase of 33% w.r.t FY 2022-23.
- NALCO has registered an impressive net profit of Rs.1016 Cr in Q4 registering an increase of 95% w.r.t Q4 of FY 2022-23.
- The company has registered considerable growth in several fronts in the Financial year like, best ever annual Bauxite excavation of 76.00 Lakh T, Bauxite production of 75.27 Lakh T, Aluminium cast metal production of 4.63 Lakh T and Metal sales of 4.70 Lakh T.

HCL:

- The Board of Directors of HCL in its meeting held on 24.05.2024 in Kolkata had approved the financial results for the Financial Year 2023-24. The PBT achieved for the Financial Year 2023-24 was at Rs 410.43 crore on Revenue from Operations of Rs 1717 crore as against Rs.395.66 crore and Rs. 1677.33 crore in Financial Year 2022-23 respectively. The EBITDA of the Company has risen to Rs 601.42 crore with EBIDTA margin a robust 34%. The Board has recommended a dividend of 30.11 % of PAT for FY 2023-2024. The payout on this account is estimated to be Rs 88.97 Crore to the shareholders of the company.
- The Company has achieved copper ore production of 3.78 million tonne in FY 2023-24 which is highest in last four years and about 13% higher than FY 2022-23. MIC (Metal in concentrate) production is 27,404 tonne in FY 2023-24 which is highest in last five years and about 11% higher than FY 2022-23.
- The Copper ore production of HCL upto the month of May 2024 in FY 2024-25 is 653005 tonne which is about 8% higher for the similar period in FY 2023-24 and the MIC production upto the month of May 2024 in FY 2024-25 is 4636 tonne which is about 17% higher for the similar period in FY 2023-24.
- Secretary (Mines), visited the HCL's Malanjkhanda Copper Project from 08.05.2024 to 09.05.2024. He reviewed the performance of the Unit and visited the Underground Mine, Concentrator Plant, Tailing Dam and Paste Fill Plant. CMD, Director (Operations) and Director (Mining) were present at MCP during the visit of Secretary (Mines).
- Malanjkhanda Copper Project (MCP) participated in the "The Friend of Tigers" Meet organised by Madhya Pradesh Tiger Foundation Samiti of Forest Department, Govt. of MP, at Pench Tiger Reserve on 26.05.2024. MCP presented its contribution towards wildlife conservation under its CSR.

MECL

The physical performance i.e., exploratory drilling during the month of May, 2024 was 34,299 m. Further, till May 2024 a total of 65,836 m has been completed.

9. District Mineral Foundation (DMF) funds to combat Covid-19 :

State Governments are continuing to use District Mineral Foundation (DMF) funds to combat Covid-19, wherein Rs. 1517.98 Cr. has been spent till 30.04.2024. Details are given at **Annexure-I**.

Annexure-I

Expenditure report for Covid - 19 - DMF funds

Till April, 2024

S.No.	Name of State	DMF fund available as on 28th March 2020 (Rs.in crore)	DMF fund available as on 31st March 2021 (Rs.in crore)	Cumulative amount spent on activities related to COVID-19 since 28 Mar 2020 (Rs. in crore)
1	Andhra Pradesh	623.12	278.68	139.79
2	Assam	77.5	-	0.65
3	Bihar	84.5	-	0
4	Chhattisgarh*	1190.04	1707.59	106.41
5	Goa	187.89	-	30.53
6	Gujarat	153.52	83.68	26.23
7	Haryana	20.24	-	0
8	Himachal Pradesh	135.66	-	0.43
9	Jharkhand	2056.85	-	22.85
10	Karnataka	1281.64	1211.64	205.04

11	Kerala	2	-	0
12	Madhya Pradesh	1297.65	1185.56	9.24
13	Maharashtra	687.99	-	59.5
14	Odisha**	3274.18	6418.9	482.72
15	Punjab	26.16	-	0.65
16	Rajasthan	2020.08	2625.28	60.03
17	Tamilnadu	98.93	99.6	17.92
18	Telangana ^{\$}	1001.2	-	334.08
19	Uttar Pradesh	383.22	423.22	11.29
20	Uttarakhand	74.39	110.62	10.16
21	West Bengal	17.7	-	0.46
Total		14694.46	14144.77	1517.98

Note: Total balance available in DMF as on 28 March, 2020 is 14694.47 cr. and 30% of this comes as approx. 4408 cr.

^{\$} As per D.O.No.7/2/2020-MIV, dated 28.03.2020 Rs 334.08 crore from 19 districts has been transferred to Chief Minister's relief fund.

* Chhattisgarh reported correction in COVID19 reporting in Jan 23 for districts Bijapur (5.14 cr. reduced to 2.53 cr.) and Korea (7.66 cr. reduced to 2.63 cr.).

** Odisha reported reduction of 2.08 Cr. from August 23 COVID19 reporting in September 23