

**Ministry of Mines
Government of India**

**“5th National Conclave on Mines and Minerals”
23rd November, 2021 at Hotel Ashok, New Delhi**

1. At the onset of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2015, the regime of auction for grant of mineral concessions has brought transparency and removed discretion to a great extent. This has not only resulted in substantial increase in the revenue to the State Governments but also brought in the paradigm of ‘Ease of Doing Business’ in mining sector.
2. Ministry of Mines introduced the concept of Mining Conclave in order to provide a platform for interaction between all stakeholders like Central Government officers who are policy makers, state government officers, the real executors in the auction regime, industry and the industry associations.
3. The Ministry of Mines organized the 1st National Conclave on Mines & Minerals on 4-5 July, 2016 at Raipur, 2nd National Conclave on Mines & Minerals on 15th February, 2017 at New Delhi, 3rd National Conclave on Mines & Minerals on 20th March, 2018 at New Delhi and 4th National Conclave on Mines & Minerals on 13th July, 2018 at Indore.
4. Various stakeholders of the mining sector participated in these conclaves and held meaningful discussions on key issues and opportunities in the mining sector to bring in higher growth and facilitate ‘Ease of Doing Business’. The National Conclaves on Mines & Minerals are reckoned as an overwhelming success in providing an effective platform to showcase the key policy initiatives undertaken by the Government and helped the Government in garnering valuable feedback, for furthering the efforts to enable steady growth of the mineral sector.
5. In the year 2016, the Ministry of Mines had launched the Scheme of ‘Star Rating of Mines’ for awarding the mining lease owners for their efforts and initiatives taken for implementation of the Sustainable Development Framework (SDF). One to five stars are awarded to the mines based on the provisions stipulated, with the best performing leases being given 5 stars.
6. To encourage exploration activities, auction regime and sustainable mining practices in mining sector, it has been decided by Hon’ble Union Minister for Mines to organize the “5th National Conclave on Mines and Minerals”. Hon’ble Minister of State for Mines will also participate in this Conclave.
7. The 5th National Conclave on Mines and Minerals will be held on 23rd November, 2021 at Hotel Ashok, New Delhi and expected to bring in greater participation. In the morning, technical sessions will be organized where panel discussions on recent amendment in the mining legislation to ease the process of auction of mineral blocks and on the initiatives taken for mineral exploration in the country as well as utilization of Nation Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) funding will be held.

8. Thereafter, the main event will take place where the star rating awards for the last 3 years i.e. 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-2020 will be given. During this event, Geological Survey of India (GSI) will also hand over 50 blocks for which GSI has completed exploration in various States. This occasion will also be utilized for reimbursement of 'Transaction advisor fee' (@ Rs. 10.00 Lakh per successful auction) to States from NMET fund for successfully auctioning of mineral blocks during current financial year.

9. This occasion will also be used for launching of online portal of accreditation scheme for exploration agencies in mineral sector as per recent amendment in MMDR Act to increase the pace of exploration in the country and to bring advanced technology in mineral exploration. This will enable private exploration entities to accredit themselves through transparent and paperless process. Ministry of Mines has developed an accreditation scheme through QCI-NABET.

10. The Central and State Governments have been working in coordination with each other to further strengthen the auction regime, and to identify more and more mineral blocks for auction to increase domestic mineral production. This Mining Conclave will provide unique opportunity to the State Governments to showcase their auctionable mineral blocks with regard to its exploration, mineral resources, transport connectivity from mineral block, policy scenario in State and incentives to attract prospective investors. It will also provide a great opportunity to the investors to identify the mineral blocks and participate in the auction of suitable mineral blocks.

11. The participation of the industry and other stakeholders in the earlier conclaves was kept free of charge for encouraging their participation and the same will be continued in this conclave. Both the public and the private mining companies will actively take part in the conclave. This would provide an effective platform to the various Government organizations of the mining sector, viz. Union Mines Ministry, State Mining Departments, regulators such as IBM & DGMS, explorations entities GSI & NMET, etc. to interact with the mining and allied industry stakeholders.

12. The PSUs which are closely associated with the mining activity directly or as an integral part of their production process, would be one of the major stakeholders assisting the Ministry in organizing the conclave. These PSUs are HCL, NALCO, & MECL under the Ministry of Mines and the companies in which the government stake is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Mines, viz. HZL & BALCO.

13. The registration and handing over of folder and badges would be done at the venue itself from 9:00 AM onwards on 23rd November, 2021.