ORDER

Subject:- Relaxation of area limit in exercise of powers under section 6 of the MMDR Act, 1957, for prospecting licence and mining lease in the state of Gujarat for limestone


Whereas the State Government of Gujarat has sought for relaxation of the prescribed area limits for mining lease under section 6 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act, 1957), for limestone.

And whereas the limestone deposits in Gujarat are milliolithic and shallow in nature, the total resources of which have been estimated to the tune of 20 billion tonnes as per the Indian Mineral Year Book, 2014 published by the Indian Bureau of Mines.

And whereas there is a need for increasing the area limits for prospecting licence for limestone to encourage prospecting over large areas to establish sufficient mineralisation for future production of limestone.

And whereas there is a need for increasing the area limits for mining lease for limestone to facilitate in expediting the auction process and for a better price discovery by enabling the participation of existing cement players in Gujarat in the auction of limestone blocks in the State of Gujarat.

P. Vinay Kumar / Under Secretary
Ministry of Mines
Government of India
New Delhi
Now therefore the Central Government, in exercise of the powers conferred under the proviso to clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 6 of the MMDR Act, 1957, hereby conveys its approval for increasing the area limits specified under section 6(1) (a) and 6 (1) (b) of the MMDR Act, 1957, in the interest of the development of limestone and the captive industry based on supply of limestone, as follows:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Mineral</th>
<th>ML (Sq. Km)</th>
<th>PL (Sq. Km)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Limestone</td>
<td>100 Sq. Kms. in each case</td>
<td>150 Sq. Kms. in each case</td>
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(P. Vinay Kumar)
Under Secretary to the Government of India
011-23384070
pv.kumar70@nic.in

The Additional Chief Secretary
[Shri P K Taneja, IAS]
Industries & Mines Department
Government of Gujarat
Block No.5, 3rd Floor
New Sachivalaya
Gandhinagar – 382 010
Gujarat

Copy to: The Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, Indira Bhawan, Civil Lines, Nagpur