

MINISTRY OF MINES
Major Highlights / Activities

October, 2021

- Directions were issued vide Order dated 14.10.2021 to all the State Governments under section 20A of the MMDR Act, 1957 to extend the period of Six Months for execution of Mining Lease, execution of Prospecting Licence and for commencement of production and dispatch for the scientific and sustainable development and exploitation of minerals resources in view of the outbreak of COVID-19 and subsequent lock downs (total or partial).
- Draft Note for Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs on amendment of the Schedules of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 for specifying rate of royalty in respect of certain minerals and reducing additional amount payable by Government Companies in certain cases was circulated among the Central Ministries/ Department for Inter-Ministerial Consultation vide OM dated 27.10.2021.
- A committee was constituted vide Order dated 27.10.2021 under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (Mines) for reviewing of rates of royalty of those minerals where royalty rate is calculated on per tonne basis.
- State Governments are continuing to use District Mineral Foundation (**DMF**) funds to combat COVID-19, wherein **Rs. 1264.30 crore** has been spent till **31.10.2021**. The latest position of fund utilization by the States up to 31.10.2021 is at **Annexure**.
- As per the directions of Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (**DARPG**) dated 09.09.2021, Ministry of Mines has conducted a Special Campaign for Disposal of Pending Matters (**SCDPM**) during 02.10.2021 to 31.10.2021. Weekly Review meetings were taken by the Secretary (Mines) and Nodal Officer. Hon'ble Minister of Mines and Minister of State for Mines also reviewed and visited the Cleanliness campaign and inspected Record management drive of the Ministry.
- Since the amendment to the MMDR Act, 1957 in the year 2015, a total of 125 mineral blocks have been auctioned so far across 9 States. 4 blocks were auctioned during October, 2021 in the states of Odisha(1), Chhattisgarh(2), Andhra Pradesh(1). NITs for 3 limestone, 1 Graphite, 1 Iron ore, 1 Kyanite and Sillimanite, 1 Bauxite, 2 Manganese Ore, 1 Copper and 1 Copper & Gold blocks in the State of Maharashtra have been issued on 11.10.2021. Further, to monitor the progress of auction, a meeting was held with Government of Tamil Nadu on 13.10.2021.
- Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (**PMKKKY**) is being implemented through the funds collected under DMF and till September, 2021, Rs.53,830.92 Cr was collected (monthly collection in September, 2021 is 1400.26 Cr.), Rs.48,989.96 Cr stands allocated and Rs.26,879.82 Cr has been spent. Total 2,08,435 projects have been sanctioned under the scheme and total 1,07,303 projects have been completed so far.
- Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) between Geological Survey of India (**GSI**), Ministry of Mines, the Government of the Republic of India and the Florida International University Board of Trustees on behalf of its Department of Earth and Environment, College of Arts, Sciences and Education, United States of America on cooperation in the field of Geology under the Research Project Title "Study of Post-collisional Magmatism in the India-Asia Collision Zone (Ladakh Granitoids, Indus Ophiolite Belt) and Integrative Geological and Geochronological studies of the

Mishmi Techtonic Belt, North Eastern India (Arunachal Pradesh) was signed on 6th October, 2021.

- The 1st Meeting of the Task Force constituted to examine the issues of overlap/ duplication of functions and data sharing between different departments/ organizations was held virtually on 25th October, 2021 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Arabinda Mitra, Scientific Secretary, O/o Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India.
- IBM carried out 152 inspections (under MCDR / MP / Other references) during the month. Cumulatively 793 inspections were carried out up to October, 2021.
- IBM disposed of 2 mining plan, 20 review of mining plan and 1 final mine closure plan during the month and cumulatively disposed 16 mining plans, 106 review of mining plan and 6 final mine closure plans up to October, 2021.
- IBM completed 3 full scale and 3 limited scale Ore Dressing Investigations equivalent to 3.75 full scale investigations, 1,330 Chemical Analysis and 293 Mineralogical Examinations during the month and cumulatively carried out 19.25 Ore Dressing Investigations, 9,540 Chemical Analysis and 1360 Mineralogical Examinations up to October, 2021.
- The portal for filing the Star Rating template by the lessees, for the performance year 2020-21 has been enabled, by NISG. Regarding filling of SDF templates with respect to performance year 2020-21, so far up to October, 2021, 955 lessees filed online templates on SDF web portal under provisions of rule 35 of MCDR, 2017.
- The Index of mineral production for the month of September, 2021 was 95.1 which is 8.6 percent higher as compared to the level in the month of September, 2020. Similarly, the cumulative growth for the period of April - September 2021-22 over the corresponding period of the previous year was higher by 22.3 percent.
- As part of “Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav”, during the quarter July to September, 2021, plantation over 82.00 Ha. area (1,52,242 saplings planted) in the mining area of Central Zone was carried out and three SDF workshops/online lectures in Central Zone covering Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh States were organized.
- IBM organized the “Interactive meet with Industry Personnel and machinery & equipment manufactures” on 22.10.2021 at IBM, Bengaluru. The objective of the meet was to exchange of ideas on “Deployment of modern automated equipment to improve the efficiency, productivity and economics of mining operations and mineral beneficiation processes” as enshrined in National Mineral Policy 2019.
- IBM vide its letter dated 17.08.2021 has constituted a 4 member committee for examining the issue of utilization of low and lean grade Iron ore resources in the Country. In the Meeting of the Committee held on 20th October, 2021, Stakeholders such as M/s JSW, SAIL, Tata Steel, Rungta Mines, Indian Steel Association have made their respective presentations and they are submitting comments on the subject matter.
- Two meetings of the National Mineral Index (NMI) committee were held in the month of October 2021 on 21.10.2021 and 29.10.2021 respectively.

- Vigilance Awareness Week was observed in the Ministry of Mines during the period 26th October, 2021 to 1st November, 2021. On this occasion, a message from the Hon'ble Minister of Mines was circulated in the Ministry and its Attached/Subordinate Offices and PSUs in order to create vigilance awareness among staff members of the Ministry/organizations as well as public. During the Vigilance Awareness Week, various competitions such as essay and debate competitions were organized in the Ministry where the staff members participated with full enthusiasm

- 3.13 Highlights of National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) during the month of **October, 2021** are as follows:
 - NALCO's Lean Slurry Project at Angul was inaugurated on 20.10.21. Completion of the Lean Slurry Project by the Company will ensure 100% utilization of ash generated at the Company's Captive Power Plant (CPP) and marks a big step forward in its commitment towards environment-friendly & sustainable operations.

 - NALCO's Alumina Refinery Plant at Damanjodi, Odisha bags the prestigious Kalinga Environment Excellence Award for adopting outstanding practices in environmental management and pollution control.

Daily expenditure report for Covid - 19 - DMF funds

Till 31st October, 2021

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	135.06
2	Assam	77.50	-	0.65
3	Bihar#	84.50	-	0.00
4	Chhattisgarh	1190.04	1707.59	32.55
5	Goa	187.89	-	30.53
6	Gujarat	153.52	83.68	25.35
7	Haryana#	20.24	-	0.00
8	Himachal Pradesh	135.66	-	0.43
9	Jharkhand	2056.85	-	22.85
10	Karnataka	1281.64	-	164.83
11	Kerala#	2.00	-	0.00
12	Madhya Pradesh	1297.65	1185.56	9.24
13	Maharashtra	687.99	-	59.50
14	Odisha	3274.18	6418.90	354.27
15	Punjab	26.16	-	0.65
16	Rajasthan	2020.08	-	60.03
17	Tamil Nadu	98.93	99.60	17.79
18	Telangana	1001.20	-	334.08
19	Uttar Pradesh	383.22	423.22	5.87
20	Uttarakhand	74.39	110.62	10.16
21	West Bengal	17.70	-	0.46
Total		14694.46	10307.85	1264.30

Note: Total balance available in DMF as on 28th 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 25th August 2021 relaxation has been given for expenditure related to COVID-19 from DMF funds such that it does not exceed thirty (30) percent of the balance funds available with DMF as on 31.03.2021.

Data is awaited from States of Bihar, Haryana and Kerala