Subject: Meeting of the Working Group on developing software for monitoring pendency of mineral concession applications, to be held on Tuesday, the 14th June, 2011 at 11.00 AM in Aluminium Room, D Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.

The undersigned is directed to refer to this Ministry’s Order of even number dated 20th January, 2011 on the subject mentioned above, and to say that a meeting of the Working Group on developing software for monitoring pendency of mineral concession applications at the State Government level will be held under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary (Mines) on Tuesday, the 14th June, 2011 at 11.00 AM in Aluminium Room, D Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi. A background note on the subject is enclosed.

2. All members of the Working Group are requested to make it convenient to attend the meeting.

(Bhupal Nanda)
Director
Tel 23073233

1. The Director General, Forests, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Paryavaran Bhavan, New Delhi.

2. Senior Technical Director, NIC, Ministry of Mines

3. Technical Director, NIC, Ministry of Environment and Forests.

4. State Secretaries in charge of Mining and Geology in the States of:

   i. Chhattisgarh
   ii. Gujarat
   iii. Karnataka
   iv. Madhya Pradesh

Copy to:

(i) PPS to Secretary (Mines)

(ii) Sr. PPS to AS (M).
Meeting of the Working Group on developing software for monitoring pendency of mineral concession applications at the State Government level, to be held on Tuesday, the 14th June, 2011 at 11.00 A.M. in Aluminium Room, D Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.

A Working Group has been constituted by the Ministry of Mines vide Order No. 7/4/2011-M.IV dated 20.1.2011 for developing software for monitoring pendency of mineral concession applications. The objective of the Working Group is to evolve a software solution for monitoring the pendency of applications at the State level and for integration of the State Governments’ data with the database of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, in the context of expediting FCA clearances. The Working Group is chaired by Additional Secretary (Ministry of Mines). Its members are DIG/AIG, MOEF, Senior Technical Director, NIC (Min of Mines), Technical Director, NIC (MOEF) and State Secretaries in charge of Mining and Geology in the States of Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh. Director (Mineral Concessions), Min of Mines is the Member-Secretary of the Group.

2. The first meeting of the Working Group was held under the chairmanship of Shri S.K. Srivastava, Additional Secretary (Mines) on Tuesday, the 5th April, 2011. AIG, Forests, MoEF explained that they already had a system for monitoring pendency of cases awaiting forest clearances. He said that the MoEF was in the process of developing the system further so as to expand its scope. The templates of the system being so developed were circulated to the State Governments in the meeting. AS (Mines) suggested to all State Governments to access the MoEF website again and also go through the templates circulated by the MoEF in the meeting. The State Governments were requested to furnish their comments or suggestions with regard to the contents of the website and its proposed expansion.

3. The matter came up for discussion in the CEC meeting held on 3.5.2011. Chairman, CEC also requested all State Governments to inform if they had any comments or suggestions
with regard to the contents of the website and its proposed expansion. After a round of consultations with the State Governments, it was felt that no State had any major problem with regard to the MOEF’s software, and accordingly the templates were treated as final. Chairman, CEC stressed the need for launching the software at the earliest, and hoped that by the next CEC meeting the software would be operationalised at the State level. He suggested that the MOEF issue guidelines on the subject and also define duties and responsibilities of the nodal officer.

4. The MOEF to take necessary action accordingly and intimate the progress in the matter.

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