To,
Principal Secretary/Secretary,
Department of Mines and Geology,
All State Governments and UTs.

Subject: Meetings on key issues pertaining to mining sector.

Sir,

I am directed to say that a meeting with the Hon’ble Ministers in-charge of Mining Department of all State Governments has been called by the Hon’ble Union Minister of Mines, on key issues pertaining to the mining sector on 27th May 2016 at Goa. Agenda items for the meeting enclosed herewith. Venue of the said meeting will be informed shortly.

2. Formal invitations to the Hon’ble Ministers in-charge of Mining Department of all State Governments will also be sent separately. You are requested to kindly attend this meeting along with Hon’ble Minister.

3. You may kindly confirm the participation from your State Government to make the arrangements for the meeting, to Shri AK Mallik, Mobile No 09868817590, latest by 10th of May.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-
(A.K. Mallik)

Under Secretary to the Government of India
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AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION IN MEETING ON 27.05.2016

1. **Preparedness for e-auction of Major Mineral Blocks** - The States of Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh & Odisha have put up 6 major mineral blocks on e-auction. The mineral blocks need to be prepared for putting them up on mineral auctions by every State Government. The identification of major mineral blocks and their auction preparedness will be discussed in the meeting.

2. **Setting up of DMF** – The progress in setting up DMF by the States viz. promulgation of DMF rules and constitution of DMF at district level had to be done in line with the directions issued by the Central Government under Section 20A in regard to the PMKKKY (Prandhan Mantri Khanij Kalyan Yojna) Scheme. The status of collection of the money accrued in the DMF funds by the State Government and its utilization would also be discussed.

3. **NMET** – The status of collection and transfer of the money accrued in the NMET funds under section 9C of the amended MMDR Act by the State Government. The State Governments were asked to identify exploration proposals which may be taken up under NMET.

4. **Minor mineral rules** – Pursuant to the Supreme Court judgment dated 27/02/2012 in Deepak Kumar’s Case (OA No. 12-13 of 2011 in Special Leave Petition (C) No. 19628-19629 of 2009), a clearance under the Environment Protection Act, 1986, was made mandatory in respect of all minor minerals irrespective of the area of the mining lease. The Ministry of Mines has prepared draft guidelines for mining of minor minerals which was circulated to the state governments. The action taken in response to the directive issued by the Ministry under 20A to implement transparent systems for giving minor mineral concessions, especially in the light of Minister of Mines DO letter no 16/119/2015-M.VI/220 dt. 24.11.2015 to the Chief Minister of the States. The status of framing their rules in this regard, by the state governments may be discussed.

5. **Curbing Illegal Mining & Enhanced Penal provisions** – A ‘Mining Surveillance System’ (MSS) for major minerals is being developed with the help of Bhaskaracharya Institute of Space Applications & Geo-Informatics (BISAG), Gujarat under DEITY, to curb the incidences of illegal mining with the use of space technology. The State Governments have been requested to provide the available digitised lease-wise information for all major mineral leases in their
State for expediting the development of MSS. The penal provisions for illegal mining cases under Section 21 have been enhanced to a maximum penalty of 5 lacs and jail term of 5 years. Any other item with the permission of the chair. The use of these enhanced penal provisions by the State Governments for curbing the illegal mining cases are extremely important.

6. **Scheme for Mining Plan** – The amendment in Section 5(2) solicits the State Governments to develop a system to be established for preparation, certification, and monitoring of mining plan.

7. **IT adoption for Mineral Administration** – The level of adoption of IT in mineral regulation and administration by the State governments.