सभी ख़ादानों को ‘रेड सिग्नल’!

जोशपुर: प्रशासन को सभी ख़ादानों को अब ‘रेड सिग्नल’ दे दिया गया है। क्षेत्र के ग्रामीणों की ओर से सैलानी पुलिस में सभी ख़ादानों को अलर्ट देने वाले प्रक्रिया फैलाने के कारण छाया की सूची (रेड फैंटेपी) में डाला गया है। इसके तहत अब ख़ादानों को प्रदर्शण जांच हर साल अनिवार्य हो जाएगी। जल एवं बांध अभियंता के तहत इन इकाइयों की लाल भेंड़ी में शामिल करने के बाद अब इन पर प्रदर्शण मानदंडों के अनुसार खादानों की सूची जारी होगी। हर साल इनकी प्रदर्शण जांच भी होगी। राजस्थान के राष्ट्रीय नियंत्रण मंडल के सहभागितार अभियंता सदस्य समेत के मुताबिक क्षेत्र में नियंत्रण के बाद खादानों को निश्चित मानदंडों के अनुसार लाल, नीली और हरे रंग सहित अन्य-अन्य लालशड़ियों में निष्क्रिय किया जाएगा। जब भी प्रदर्शण फैलाने वाली इकाइयों को साल, जबकि प्रवर्तन के लिए कम हानिकारक इकाईयाँ हों रंग की भेंड़ी में आती हैं। अब से यहाँ तक पर्याप्त जानकारी की सूची (रेड पैपियर) को लाल भेंड़ी में और छोटी ख़ादानों को अन्य भेंड़ी में गिना जाएगा। जो फैल की अन्य से पहले प्रवर्तन नियंत्रण मंडल की ओर से 15-15 साल की दर्जा शड़ियों हासिल कर लेते हैं, अब उनके अभियंता रेड लाल और सफेद एक साल की जांच की जाएगी और फैल की जाएगी।

वे संस्थान के राजस्थान नियंत्रण मंडल की ओर से हाल ही में आयी राजस्थान में किए गए हैं। इस तरह की अब से पहले जिले की सभी ख़ादान अन्य भेंड़ी में सामग्री देने की दर्शन से 15 साल तक इनके प्रदर्शण रंग की जांच नहीं की जाती थी, हालांकि अब हर साल प्रदर्शण जांच की गई।
पर्यावरण मंत्रालय में पारदर्शिता धुंधली

अरविंद कुमार

इस मंत्रालय का एडिट का नाम दिया गया था। अब हमें बचने दिया गया था और अपने प्रेमी को कैरियर में बढ़ावा दिया जाएगा। यह दिशायिता पर्यावरण एवं बन मंत्री जयराम राव ने अपने ही मंत्रालय को लेकर कहा था। साथ ही उन्होंने यह भी कहा था कि उन्होंने इस एक चिन्हों एवं पारदर्शिता मंत्रालय बनाना चाहता है। मंत्रालय का कामकाज सभी नागरिकों के लिए जारी किया जाएगा। इस मंत्रालय का कामकाज करने के लिए तैयारी करेंगे। उन्होंने कहा था कि हमें तैयारी करने का समय आएगा।

पर्यावरण मंत्रालय का कामकाज करने के लिए तैयारी करेंगे। उन्होंने कहा था कि हमें तैयारी करने का समय आएगा।

इसके शुरुआत जयराम ने अक्टूबर, 2009 में निर्देशों को जांच की जा रही। उन्होंने कहा था कि हमें तैयारी करने का समय आएगा।

जयराम ने पर्यावरण पर पहुंचने की अपील कर दी थी यह ऐसा विषय के लिए हमें तैयार रखना होगा। लेकिन, जयराम ने पर्यावरण पर पहुंचने की अपील कर दी थी यह ऐसा विषय के लिए हमें तैयार रखना होगा।

हमें तैयारी करने का समय आएगा।
ARCELORMITTAL MATCHES RIVAL OFFER FOR BAFFINLAND

ArcelorMittal on Friday upped its offer for control of Baffinland Iron Mines to C$1.40 a share, matching a rival offer from Nunavut Iron for the vast iron ore deposit in the Canadian Arctic. Nunavut Iron had earlier this week raised its offer to C$1.40 a share for 90 per cent of Baffinland's shares, valuing the company at about $550 million and challenging ArcelorMittal's friendly bid of C$1.25 a share for all of the shares.

REUTERS
Hindustan Copper shares drop 18%

Shares of state-run Hindustan Copper nosedived by over 18 per cent in early trade on the BSE on Friday amidst reports that the company's follow-on public offer may be priced at a discount of nearly 72 per cent, vis-a-vis the closing price of the scrip on Thursday. According to media buzz, Hindustan Copper FPO may be priced at around ₹100 per share, 71.83 per cent lower, or less than a third of the closing price of ₹355 a piece on Thursday. Reacting to the speculation, the scrip tumbled by 18.3 per cent to an early low of ₹290 on the Bombay Stock Exchange.
नये साल का नया संकल्प

ही-नैही वर्षों के साथ 2010 को हम ने अपने आदर्शों में निहित सत्य चाहते हुए खुद प्रदर्शित करते थे। लेकिन जीवन का सार ऐसा ही नहीं हो सकता रहा। इसी साल की आत्मनिर्भरता और सत्यमेव जयते का धर्म की गाँठ करते हुए, हम इस साल का नया संकल्प लेकर आते हैं।

राजनीतिक विषयों में भी हमें अपने आदर्शों के अनुसार काम करने की जरूरत है। इस भावना के लिए हमें सत्यमेव जयते का संकल्प लेकर आते हैं।

यह दिन हमें सार्थकता की योजना तय करने का अवसर मिलेगा। हमें अपने आदर्शों के अनुसार काम करने की जरूरत है।

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नया साल का नया संकल्प लेकर आते हैं।
खनन क्षेत्र में उतार-चढाव भरा रहा साल

नई दिल्ली, 31 दिसंबर (भाव)। खनन क्षेत्र के लिए यह साल काफी उतार-चढाव भरा रहा। खनन परियोजनाओं में 26 प्रतिशत लाख बंटवारा का मनाल और देवता को परवर्तन सुनिधि देने से इनकार करने के मुद्दे सुखद में रहे। अवैतनिक खनन का मुद्दा नकारक को जंगनीति में पूरे साल धारा रहा और एक समय तो इससे राज्य की वीडियोमाय क्षेत्र के गिरने तक का बहुत इतिहास हो गया था।

बीएस वीडियोमाय की आमराइज वाली कार्यालय सारखे के केंद्रीय मंत्री जी जनार्दन रेड्डी और जी काऊंसलर रेड्डी द्वारा खनन परक्षेत्र को संसर्ग देने के अलावा लगे रहे। रेड्डी मंजुरन को अपने विवेक खाली सारे लाख द्वारा खनन के आरोपों के निरीक्षण पर श्रेष्ठ लगा दी गई।

इस की राज्य भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था की अन्य कार्यालयों को अगुआ वाली वे मोदेने 1.7 सप्ताह द्वारा दिग्दर्शिका की 1.7 अस्थायी खनन परियोजना को इंकार का लगा जब बन और परवर्तन कामे दह जत्तित में परवर्तन कामे जो कठिन अर्थव्यवस्था में है मगर इंकार करके भी इंकार कर दिया।

प्रधान तंत्री श्रीमद्धर शिवराज, कार्यालय के मुख्यमंत्री बीएस वीडियोमाय, जेनरल स्टैटस के प्रबंध, निर्देशक दलित और कंट्रोल साधारण उपकला को संसाधन समिति ने ली हार्क लागे के विवेक पर भी तह घटदी होकर अधिकार

बीएन अपर 25 अरब 24 करोड़ टन मंडल है और यह वर्ष 2009 में अन्य वर्ष 2009 में छोड़कर तीसरा साल निर्माण कार्य देखा है।

इस साल तीन साल से 12 करोड़ 80 लाख टन लीह अपर का विवरण दिया गया।

सभी विवादों के बीच खनन क्षेत्र हिंदुस्तान कार्य के दूसरे साधारण अस्थायी इंकार का इंकार कर दिया करता रहा। कंट्रोल 20 प्रतिशत विवेक के इंकार पर सरकार ने जन्म दी हुई मंजुरि दी दी थी। यहाँ इंकार में 3,500 से 4,000 करोड़ रुपए जु़ाटा का लाभ कठी चल रहा सरकार ने साधारण क्षेत्र को बनाने की आंदोलन एवं एवं जु़ाट का रखते हुए इंकार का करार के लाभ लेने दिया।
Copper advances to record

Bloomberg
Dec. 31
Copper rose to a record for a second day in New York on heightened speculation that a supply shortage will worsen as China, the world's biggest consumer, leads reviving demand for industrial metals. Copper for March delivery gained 0.2 cents, or 1.4 per cent, to $4.4245 a pound at 7:52 a.m. on the COMEX in New York after earlier reaching $4.432. Metal for delivery in three months rose $162, or 1.7 per cent, to $9,657 a tonne on the London Metal Exchange after touching $9,675, a third consecutive record high. Tin is this year's best performer traded on the LME, rising 57 per cent, followed by nickel's 32 per cent jump. Zinc dropped 5.8 per cent, lead is up 4.4 per cent and aluminium gained 10 per cent. Aluminium, lead, nickel, tin and zinc also advanced.
Nalco plans to bid for large power projects

Bloomberg Dec. 31

National Aluminium Co, the country’s second-biggest producer of the metal, plans to bid for two large coal-based power projects being offered by Government, seeking to diversify its business.

“We are planning to bid for Orissa and Chhattisgarh ultra mega power projects, the Director Finance, Mr R L Bagra, said by telephone on Friday. “We are in preliminary discussions with NMDC Ltd. and Neyveli Lignite Corporation to form a consortium.”

The country plans to build nine power projects, each with a capacity of 1,000 MW. Reliance Power Ltd won bids for three such projects and Tata Power was awarded one.

State-owned National Aluminium signed an agreement with Nuclear Power Corporation of India in December 2009 to set up atomic power stations in the country.

National Aluminium shares climbed 2.4 per cent to Rs 391.10 at the close in Mumbai trading. The stock has declined 6 per cent this year, compared with a 17 per cent increase in the benchmark Sensitive Index.

Bidding for the project in Orissa may start by the end of January, the Power Secretary, Mr P Uma Shankar, said on Thursday. The deadline for bids for the plant in Chhattisgarh is January 7,
Gold imports fall in December by 63% - 15%

Gold imports in India, the world’s largest consumer of the yellow metal, fell to 20-25 tonne provisionally, below Reuters forecast of 35 tonne, the head of the Bombay Bullion Association (BBA) told Reuters on Friday. December was a bit slack as markets were volatile and there were many holidays, in addition weddings are also coming to an end, said Prithviraj Kothari, president of the BBA.
The Financial Express, Delhi  
Saturday, 1st January 2011, Page: 15

METALS END 2010 WITH STELLAR GAINS

■ Palladium notches 94% increase, followed by silver 81% and tin 65%

London, Dec 31: Commodity markets ended 2010 with a second year of gains, with copper powering to record highs and oil heading for its eighth rise in nine years, while investors prepared for the rally to continue into 2011.

The precious metals complex has had a stellar run this year, led by palladium’s 94% rise, in a broad commodities rally that pushed the 19-commodity Reuters-Jeffries CRB index up 15% in a second consecutive year of gains.

The uncertainty over the US economy this year has undermined the dollar, while emerging economies such as China have continued to devour raw materials even as policymakers raise interest rates to quash inflationary pressures.

Industrial commodities such as copper, palladium and crude oil have benefited from the robustness of emerging economies, while financial market volatility has pushed investors into gold and changing weather patterns have driven agricultural products to multi-year highs.

“What’s the best thing about commodities? Bonds. If you’re a pension fund, you should not be involved in bonds because inflation is destroying the yield,” said Patrick Armstrong, a fund manager for Armstrong Investment Managers, which oversees $220 million in assets.

People are turning away from bonds and looking for things that deliver real returns, he said.

Copper for delivery in three months on the London Metal Exchange hit a record high of $8,945.50 a tonne and was trading at $8,638.00 by 1315 GMT, up from $8,490 on Thursday, having risen by 30.7% this year.

"Copper is the top pick for the metals next year simply because of strong fundamentals," said Andrey Krutyanchik of VTB Capital. “It looks like the bullish momentum is here to stay, also because of falling copper grades, industrial action, supply disruptions - that’s the copper story,” he added.

The global market for refined copper is seen moving into a supply deficit next year of 400,000 tonnes due to declining ore grades in Chile, the world’s top producer, and a lack of large new projects.

Oil was set to close the year up more than 12%, despite a slight decline on Friday, driven by a resurgence in global demand, an unusually cold winter and falling inventories. It was also on track to average $79.60 a barrel for the year, second only to the 2008 record of $99.7.

After rallying since May to a 26-month high of $91.88 on Monday, the US crude February contract was down 30 cents at $89.54 a barrel on Friday.

December is set to be the strongest month of the year in demand terms, with particularly strong indications of gasoline demand, said analysts at Barclays Capital in a research note.

Gold rose on Friday, notching up its strongest annual performance since 2007 and marking a fifth straight month of gains in December, driven by a weaker dollar and global economic uncertainty.

Spot gold rose 0.6% to $1,412.36 an ounce, on course for a 29% annual gain, its tenth consecutive yearly increase.

“It is still a positive picture for metals next year. There is sufficient demand from investment perspective to maintain a relatively bull market trend, in gold in particular,” said Darren Heethcote, head of trading at Invesco Australia in Sydney.

Traders and analysts expect gold to break above $1,500 in 2011.

US wheat futures were flat on Friday, having risen by 44% this year following two straight years of losses. Chicago Board of Trade March wheat rose 0.03% to $7.85 a bushel, while corn for March delivery gained 0.4% to $6.18 a bushel, and soybeans for January rose to $13.56 a bushel.

Wheat futures have been driven higher as dry weather has hurt the winter crop in the United States and excessive rains have hit crop quality in Australia. In addition, a devastating Black Sea-region drought earlier this year forced Russia to ban grain exports and prompted Ukraine to curb shipments.

Corn and beans futures also soared to their highest levels in more than two years with dry weather threatening to damage output in Argentina, the world’s second-biggest corn exporter.

Soybeans gained as trade talks in Beijing, a key soybean supplier and the top provider of soybean and meal.

Reuters
Draft mining Bill moots clearance deadline

Proposal to make state govs responsible for getting initial environment clearance for projects on cos' behalf

New Delhi, Dec 31: In a bid to fasttrack approval of mining projects in the country, the government proposes to fix a time frame within which state governments will have to clear mining applications of companies. The draft new mining Bill has proposed that state government will have to clear mining lease applications within a period of three months from the date it gets environment management plans from companies.

The proposal also aims to make state governments facilitate by making them responsible for getting initial environment clearance for projects on behalf of the companies.

Currently, it takes about three months from the time a company files application for getting mining lease for a mineral block to issuance of letter of intent (LoI). The companies are then required to prepare environment management plan and apply for getting first stage environment clearance. This process is usually cumbersome where companies are required to file several documents and make presentations on their mining plans resulting delays extending from few months to a few years.

Under the changes proposed in the new Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Bill, 2010, state governments will get initial clearance from the environment ministry so that lease can be given to companies within a specified period of time.

Forest Conservation Act.
“...The changes will bring transparency in the system and also speed up the process of getting the mining leases,” said a government official involved in finalising the draft of the new Bill.

Apart from making state governments facilitators, the new mining Bill also makes them fully responsible to decide on mining applications within a specified time. It has been proposed that if state foresters or sit on applications beyond a specified time, the application would get deemed clearance with the Centre giving the final nod. This provision has been included as state have been culprits on sitting on several mining applications without either clearing them or rejecting them.

With ministry of coal already issuing a Cabinet note to remove the hurdles put by environment ministry in form of ‘go’ and ‘no-go’ area, further clarity in the draft of new mining Bill has been much appreciated by various ministries part of ministerial group looking at the new policy.

The Bill is currently being debated by a group of ministers headed by FM Pranab Mukherjee. Once getting clearance it will have to get Cabinet clearance after which the new Bill will be introduced in Parliament for enactment. It is expected to get introduced during the Budget session in February.
PSU TO INSIST ON CAPTIVE RAW MATERIAL, LAND IN FOREIGN FORAY

SAIL plans greenfield units abroad on official invitation

New Delhi, Dec 31: With an eye on having a global footprint as well as securing supplies of key raw material like coking coal and iron ore back home, the state-owned Steel Authority of India (SAIL) is looking at building steel plants abroad. Unlike private sector peers like Tata Steel, JSW Steel and Essar Steel which have acquired and expanded foreign steel mills, SAIL is planning greenfield plants only in those countries where it is invited by the government to set up the plant in a joint venture, and allocated land and captive mines for iron ore and coking coal.

In an exclusive interview with FE, SAIL chairman CS Verma said: "We are a public sector undertaking and will adopt this very route for our global presence. We have received some offers from some countries and we are evaluating them. Our objective is clear: The government concerned should give us land, captive iron ore and coal mines and we will manufacture steel there for their market." Verma, however, did not disclose the names of the countries which have proposed such joint ventures. Official sources said the Indonesian government has sent a proposal to SAIL.

The government concerned should give us land, captive iron ore and coal mines and we will manufacture steel there for their market

CS Verma, SAIL chairman

The government meets its entire iron ore requirement from its captive mines, the same is not true for coking coal. "We import 75% of coal while the balance 25% is met through indigenous sources. Here also, the share through our captive mines is minimal; so, we need more coal from our captive sources to control costs," he said.

This is the first time SAIL has talked about an overseas foray for steel manufacturing. So far, it has been scouting for coal mines abroad as part of a consortium—ICVL—with other PSUs like Coal India, RINL, NDMC and NTPC. The consortium recently appointed Citigroup to conduct due diligence on Australia’s Riversdale Mining.

Continued on Page 2
SAIL to build greenfield steel mills abroad...

Asked whether he thinks ICVL is not working since it has not been able to acquire a single mine so far, Verma said that the consortium took final shape only in June 2009. "In 2007, the idea for such a venture had only emerged; so, it hasn't been that long and we will surely be able to acquire some coal mines abroad. We are already working on 3-4 proposals," he said.

On the prospects and problems of the steel industry, Verma said: "The demand and growth are fine. Steel growth in the country will be aligned with overall growth rates. However, the problems remain the same. Input costs have gone up while the actual realisation is down because compared to the same period of last year, steel prices are down."

On the domestic front, the company's expansion and modernisation are on track, with the first leg expected to be complete by 2012-13 by when its capacity will be around 24 million tonne. The second phase will be over by 2020 when it would be a 60 million tonne company. Verma said SAIL has signed MoUs for joint venture projects with South Korea's Posco and Japan's Kobe Steel and is working out a detailed project report. Both these ventures would produce value-added products which yield high margins in today's market.

As earlier reported by FE, despite the JSW Steel acquiring 42% stake in Ispat, SAIL continues to be the market leader in terms of capacity.
STATE-RUN INDIAN RARE EARTH MINER ATTRACTS JAPANESE COMPANIES

IREL shines on Chinese ban

DC CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Dec. 30: It is unlikely that you have heard of cerium oxide, even if you are a full time investor in commodities. It does seem less exciting compared to gold, oil or silver. It may be time to reopen your school chemistry books again.

The mineral, which cost $1.5 per kg at the beginning of the decade and $4-5 per kg in early 2010, is now going for $50 per kg. The sharp jump in price of cerium — and several other related minerals called rare earths, is because of a trade embargo by China. Worries increased earlier this week when China announced that it will be cutting export quotas by a further 35 per cent in 2011.

China currently accounts for about 95 per cent of the global production of rare earths — a group of minerals that includes cerium, neodymium and lanthanum. These minerals are critical for electronic items such as iPods, cellphones, flat screen monitors, clean energy applications. A recent embargo on shipments by China, coupled with reduced export quotas has sent buyers scurrying around the world, looking for other sources.

Indian Rare Earths Ltd, a public sector firm, could be one of the beneficiaries of the move. IREL has been in this business since 1952, but had stopped production in 2004 — outpriced by the Chinese. The company could now be on a comeback trail as Japanese giant Toyota is trying to source some of these minerals from India. As a part of the deal, IREL will be producing 5,000 tonnes per year of rare earth oxides by the end of 2011, said a source close to the development. This will be almost thrice the volume the firm used to produce annually earlier. Prices too, will be far higher than earlier on. The same factor that has pushed Toyota to IREL however, could also prove to be a fly in the ointment. The Chinese embargo on these minerals has forced users to look for other supply sources. India is just one of them. As of now, more than 20 projects are on around the world — places such as Malaysia, Australia, the US and Greenland. The 11 projects that have already announced their plans will add almost 1.4 lakh tonnes a year of fresh capacity in about four to five years — against a current global demand of 1.25 lakh tonnes. While all of these projects are unlikely to be completed, a jittery world is likely to break the Chinese monopoly on these minerals.
Gold, silver may still shine

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MUMBAI: Gold is back in a big fashion as an investment option after recent gains, and analysts say there could be more left in it — and as a relatively risk-free option that could outstrip bank deposits or other short-term instruments.

Gold and silver are expected to generate returns in the range of 18-22% in 2011, when stock market is expected to remain volatile and inflation will dent returns from bank's fixed deposit.

"Gold is expected to return in the range of 18%-20%, while silver may generate 20%-22% in 2011, on the back of strong demand," says Ritesh Jain, head, fixed income, Canara Bhava.

Of the total amount allotted around 730 tonnes, jewellery, which constitute 75% of the total Indian demand, will continue to drive the demand for gold.

"Gold will continue to dominate the investment space in 2011," says Ajay Mitra, managing director, India and Middle East, World Gold Council. "Price is no longer the deterrent for the buyer. Now the dialogue is no more on the price, but on its being a safe haven for investors in the time of volatility in stock market and weak recovery in global recovery."

Some experts prefer silver to gold. "Gold has seen a rally in 2010 and it looks that at this point the price of gold may be moving towards what is more than justified," says Veer Sardesai, a Pune-based financial planner.

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GO FOR GOLD AND SILVER THIS YEAR

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“We would request investor to look at silver as it appears to be an attractive bet,” he adds.

Sardesai, however, cautioned that despite gold being an attractive investment it should not be compared to the capital markets as far as returns are concerned. “Investors should invest in precious metals to hedge themselves against volatility in other investments but should not compare the returns. As there is a tax angle in to the investments, where if you sell your gold investments after 12 months you may end up paying tax,” said Sardesai.

He suggests that the ideal investment for any high net-worth individual in precious metals should not be more than 5% of his total net worth.

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