Miner Bill with panel, may be passed in next session

The government said on Thursday the new Mines Bill has been referred to a parliamentary standing committee and is hopeful that it will be passed in the upcoming Budget session. "The MMDR Bill has been referred to the parliamentary standing committee. The committee's suggestions after in-depth scrutiny are expected by March end and we are hopeful that the Bill would be passed in the second leg of the Budget session," Mines minister Dinsha Patel said in New Delhi. The Mines and Mineral Development and Regulation (MMDR) Bill, which was introduced in the Lok Sabha in the winter session, provides for coal miners to share 26% of their net profits with project-affected people, while the burden on non-coal miners will be equivalent to royalty.
Mining Bill may be passed in Budget session

Standing Committee to submit report soon

Our Bureau
New Delhi, Feb. 2

The Mines Minister, Mr. Dinesh Patel, is hopeful that the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Bill 2011 will be passed in the upcoming Budget session.

The new Bill, introduced in Lok Sabha in December, has been referred to the Standing Committee on Coal and Steel of Parliament in January. Mr. Patel said the Standing Committee has invited suggestions and comments from the stakeholders and may submit its report before end of March.

“We are hopeful that the Bill will be passed in the second leg of the Budget session in April-May,” Mr. Patel said. He was speaking to reporters after inaugurating the 50th Meeting of the Central Geological Programming Board of the Geological Survey of India.

The Bill seeks to consolidate and amend the law relating to the scientific development and regulation of mines and minerals under the control of the Union. It provides for profit and royalty sharing with project affected people, besides a simple and transparent mechanism for granting of mining lease or prospecting license through competitive bidding.

As per the provisions of the Bill, coal and lignite companies will have to pay an amount equal to 26 per cent of their previous year’s profit from mining operations to the District Mineral Foundation for the welfare of the project affected people. The non-coal mining firms will have to pay an amount equivalent to the royalty paid for the financial year towards the same.

It also enables advanced technology adoption for exploration of deep-seated and concealed mineral deposits and empowers State Governments to cancel the existing concessions to prevalent illegal and irregular mining.

The new Bill also enables registered co-operatives for obtaining mineral concessions on small deposits to encourage tribals and small miners to take up mining operations.

vishwa@thehindu.co.in
पेनल्टी से आय बढ़कर दस गुना हुई

संपादकीय

लेहार लाख से पंढर लाख रुपए तक पहुँची पेनल्टी

विभागीय आंकों के मुताबिक चार साल से पेनल्टी वसूली में लगभग इजाफा हो रहा है। लेख-2008-09 में केवल लाख रुपए वसूले गए। इसके बाद प्रतिवर्ष पेनल्टी से होने वाली आय बढ़ती गई। इस साल अब तक पंढर लाख रुपए वसूले जा चुके हैं।

जुगन्ना अदा नहीं करने पर लीन मामलों में प्रतिवर्ष भी बढ़ कर जा रही है। लगभग कर्मन्त्र के कारण न भरने से पेनल्टी वसूली अब भी अनुमोदन किया जा रहा है।

वाहनाधिकारी में दर्ज विभिन्न कर्ग के अधिक दिनों में जुगन्ना राधा भी अपने मध्यकाल में बढ़ती गई। भारत-भारत जुगन्ना वसूली के नए शरीर से अधिक बनने पर रूपाणी तथा लीन दर्ज विभिन्न कर्ग के अनुसार वसूली अनुमोदन किया जा रहा है।

शरण स्वरूप, वाहन शरणार्थी, पेनल्टी
Centre hopes to see Mines Bill through in Apr.

New Delhi, Feb. 2: The government on Thursday said the new Mines Bill has been referred to a parliamentary standing committee and is hopeful that it will be passed in the upcoming Budget Session.

"The MMDR Bill has been referred to the parliamentary standing committee. The committee’s suggestions are expected by March-end and we are hopeful that the Bill would be passed in the second-leg of the budget session," the mines minister, Mr. Dinesh Patel, said here.

The Mines and Mineral Development and Regulation Bill, which was introduced in the Lok Sabha during the Winter Session, provides for coal miners to share 25 per cent of their net profits with the project-affected people, with the burden on non-coal miners equivalent to royalty.

Once the law is enacted, it will overhaul the sector, bringing in more transparency and boosting FDI in the space, Mr Patel said.
## PRICE CARD

### METALS (£/tonne)
- Aluminium: 2,219.5, 5.5, 2,075.5, 4.0
- Copper: 8,351.5, 5.6, 10,069.2, 7.9
- Nickel: 20,870.0, 11.9, 21,200.6, 3.5
- Lead: 2,210.0, 11.7, 2,481.7, 7.1
- Tin: 24,860.0, 11.4, 27,156.2, 0.8
- Zinc: 2,091.5, 9.2, 2,664.4, 7.5
- Steel-HRC: 643.0, -2.0, 889.4, -1.1
- Gold ($/ounce): 1,747.8, 0.3, 1,776.8, 2.1
- Silver ($/ounce): 33.5, -2.0, 35.3, -0.4

###ENERGY
- Crude Oil ($/bbl): 111.1, 1.5, 110.5, 1.9
- Natural Gas ($/MMBTU): 2.3, -36.8, 2.4, -36.0

###AGRI COMMODITIES (£/tonne)
- Wheat: 259.2, 9.1, 254.7, 13.8
- Maize: 271.2, 3.7, 250.3, 12.3
- Sugar: 638.4, -7.6, 618.2, 1.7
- Palm oil: 1,052.0, 5.3, 1,172.0, 4.2
- Rubber: 3,895.0, 6.5, 3,858.8, -3.6
- Coffee Robusta: 1,793.0, -1.1, 1,830.8, 3.3
- Cotton: 2,064.4, -4.8, 2,081.8, -7.4

###NOTES:
- 1) International prices are BIL spot prices and domestic metal are Mumbai local spot prices converter for steel.
- 2) International prices in front-month and domestic currency in Indian Rupee.
- 3) International prices are against exports; Domestic prices are against Domestic market.
- 4) NCM: near-month futures.
- 5) International index: a World market index, rubber in Singapore, TREX futures in Malaysia.
- 6) Domestic index: a Domestic market index.
- 7) International and Domestic values are against BIL exchange rate.
- 8) International cotton indices are based on World cotton price and Domestic cotton and NCM for BIL exchange rate.
- 9) International index: Indian basket includes, soybean oil, wheat, cotton and coffee futures and are not updated to previous day's prices.

###BALTIC EXCHANGE INDICES

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feb 1, 12</th>
<th>chg%*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baltic Dry</td>
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<td>Baltic Clean Tanker</td>
<td>645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltic Dirty Tanker</td>
<td>683</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* price given in US dollar.
TRANSPARENT PROCEDURES

Apex court bats for auctions in awarding natural resources

Invoking Article 14 of the Constitution, court says national assets must be distributed through a fair method

By Ruchira Singh & Utpal Bhaskar
ruchira.sg@livemint.com

NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court verdict on Thursday has set the stage for the government introducing transparency through auctions in the award of natural resources even in other sectors such as minerals, forests, land and water.

Invoking Article 14 of the Constitution, the apex court held that natural resources and national assets must necessarily be distributed or transferred through a "fair and transparent method", such as auctions.

Even as the country has seen widespread protests and criticism over the manner in which allocation of scarce resources are made, many believe that not enough has been done to bring about transparency and improvement in the utilization of resources and their pricing.

While the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance government did set up a committee on allocation of natural resources (CARN), its recommendations are yet to be implemented.

A case in point being the coal sector, where there is an administered allocation mechanism with state-owned Coal India Ltd (CIL) being the monopoly producer. While the coal ministry has declared its intent to start the process of auctions and allocations of coal blocks for private companies involving competitive bids, the process is yet to begin.

Narendra Chaudhary, a mining and metals consultant and former executive vice-president and CEO for Asia, Africa and CIS countries for ArcelorMittal, said, "Everybody speaks about the growth story of India. But India's growth story has increased the demand for various resources, be it water, power or infrastructure. Our growth story has also thrown up new issues and concerns have been raised by environmentalists and locals. Some of these concerns are genuine. Resources should be allocated in a fair and transparent manner that also looks after the interest of the locals."

"It is definitely possible to have equitable and fair growth through proper policy," he added.

The apex court on Thursday also referred to the 2010 Supreme Court case between Reliance Natural Resources Ltd and Reliance Industries Ltd, where it was stated, "that natural resources are vested with the government as a matter of trust in the name of the people of India and it is the solemn duty of the state to protect the national interest, and natural resources should be allocated in a manner that is fair and transparent, ensuring that the public interest is not sacrificed for private gain."

The ruling may also pave the way for having off regulatory responsibilities of the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons to all those fighting against illegal mines as well. I hope some day the Supreme Court will turn its eyes towards mining and see how much of this resource has been given away into the hands of so many people.

However, some analysts don't agree with the direction showed by the apex court's verdict.

Pratap Bhanu Mehta, political analyst and president, Centre for Policy Research, a Delhi-based think tank, said: "The court seems to have elevated the auction as the only option for the usage of all natural resources, on which I am not very comfortable. I think the government could use its discretion provided there is a reasonable justification. For example, the land allocation for social purpose. The government may have to use other options in order to keep the cost down. In principle, it should be open. This implication is slightly problematic in a democratic view."

The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Bill, which seeks to replace a decades-old mining law, was introduced in the Lok Sabha in December, but is yet to become law.

The Bill's objective is to boost production of much-needed mineral resources in the country with greater transparency and quick approvals than before.

'The court ruling may also pave the way for contentious issues such as having off the regulatory responsibilities of the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) into a separate upstream regulator as recommended by CARN, which was later opposed by the petroleum ministry."

The ruling may also pave the way for contentious issues such as having off the regulatory responsibilities of the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) into a separate upstream regulator as recommended by CARN, which was later opposed by the petroleum ministry.

The ruling may also pave the way for contentious issues such as having off the regulatory responsibilities of the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) into a separate upstream regulator as recommended by CARN, which was later opposed by the petroleum ministry.

The resources industry welcomed the move.

Seshagiri Rao, joint managing director and group chief financial officer, JSW Steel Ltd, said: "There should be a transparent way of allocating resources, be it spectrum or natural gas."

Similarly, Manish Pande, regional director, CRU International, an international metals consultant, said, "As in 2G spectrum allocations, there are issues with mine allocations. In fact, in allocations of mines, there are various other issues at hand. You need a single-window clearance for all regulations and compliances."

"The process of getting leases has been so unclear and time-consuming that it led to people bypassing permission to satisfy the demands of the markets (as we have seen in the iron ore industry). Once they started mining more, they had to conceal the amount they were mining, as they did not have the permission to mine more and that started a lot of corruption. Had the process been transparent, and quick permission given in step with the rising demand of the market, there would not have been any illegal mining," he added.

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www.livemint.com/LZwMathew contributed to the story.

To see a graphic on the recent land and natural resources controversies, go to www.livemint.com/miningcontroversy.htm
लंदन में कॉपर के दाम सुस्त

लंदन में स्तूपी जोन के संकेत को लेकर बिजनेस वालों ने और चीन की मांग को लेकर अग्रिम विवाद रहने के कारण लंदन मेटल एक्सचेंज में तीन बार हिलीबरी कॉपर के दाम 0.4 पेसंट गिरकर 8,408 डॉलर प्रति टन रह गए। कुछ समय के कॉपर 9,440 डॉलर पर बंद हुआ था। यह संकेत के चलते डॉलर के मुकाबले स्तूपी जोन कम हो गई। यह स्तूपी जोन के संकेत को उच्चतम दर पर बनाने के लिए वर्तमान चलो बाजार में रंगीन लेखन से निकलता ही दिखाई देता है। दूसरी ओर चीन में कॉपर की खपत को लेकर अग्रिम विवाद रहा था, वह एसएसए ने नरगिस का रुख दिखाए दिया। नरगिस के मुकाबले लंदन में ज्यादा मूल्य होने के बावजूद कॉपर 94 डॉलर में आया ताकि उन्हें नहीं रहने से भी सुस्ती को बचा मिला।
Nalco raises prices by ₹2,000 per tonne

Bhubaneswar: State-run metal producer National Aluminium Co. Ltd (Nalco) has raised aluminium prices by ₹2,000 per tonne across all products, said Ansuman Das, commercial director at the company. The price was revised for the domestic market after prices rose overseas, he said on Thursday. REUTERS
**ASSET HUNT**

**SAIL in talks to form consortium to bid for Afghan copper deposits**

Afghanistan invites expressions of interest by 9 March for gold and copper deposits in its provinces

By Ruchira Singh  
ruchira.s@livemint.com

NEW DELHI

To bid for gold and copper mines in Afghanistan, Steel Authority of India Ltd and Hindustan Copper Ltd are in talks to form a consortium with Aditya Birla Group and Jindal Steel and Power Ltd (JSPL).

Afghanistan has invited expressions of interest by 9 March for gold and copper deposits in four provinces spread across the country.

Top executives at the state-run firms said they have held one round of talks with officials of Aditya Birla and Jindal Steel and Power. The proposed group is also likely to include government-owned National Aluminium Co. and Mineral Exploration Corp. Ltd, they said. “We have had a meeting about 15 days ago and soon we will finalise the consortium partners,” said Shaakeel Ahmed, chairman and managing director of Hindustan Copper. “With public sector companies, private companies have a comfort factor, especially for big projects with long gestation periods.”

A spokesperson for the Aditya Birla Group declined to comment.

Jindal Steel and Power has been approached for the investment proposal, said V.R. Sharma, deputy managing director and chief executive officer, steel business. The company may not join the grouping as it wants to stay focused on iron ore, coal, power and steel, Sharma said.

“If the government says invest in Afghanistan as a country specific strategy, companies could bid,” he said, “but we are not interested in gold and copper.”

Steel Authority has won three iron ore blocks in November in Afghanistan’s Hajigak province through a group that included Jindal Steel and Power.

“We have won a big tender. The same type of consortium can work for copper and gold,” Steel Authority chairman C.S. Verma said. “The two projects can share the same infrastructure.” The Hajigak project entails building a 6.12 million tonne (mt) steel plant, a 300MW power plant and 200km each of rail, road and power transmission lines, at an estimated cost of $10 billion.

One of the reserves was close to Hajigak and infrastructure could be shared, Hindustan Copper’s Ahmed said. “We could bring the ore to India or we could sell it in the global market,” he said. “For the exploration stage of two to three years, funds could come from the consortium. After that, it could be a mix of internal approvals and debt, much like the Hajigak project.”

Both India and China, two of the world’s fastest growing major economies, are vying with each other for access to Afghanistan’s rich oil and mineral reserves.

China’s National Petroleum Corp., the largest state owned company, won rights to exploit and develop oil fields in Amu Darya basin in Afghanistan. The region has enormous oil reserves. MCC, another Chinese firm, had won a contract to develop the Aynak copper mine in 2008. A Reuters report in October cited Wu Gangcheng, Chinese economic and commercial counsellor in Kabul, as saying that the world’s second largest economy will continue to invest in Afghanistan’s mineral reserves, undeterred by the grim security situation in the country.

“One thing is absolutely certain in Afghanistan, and that’s development,” Wu said.

Slow clearances and approvals to new mines have compelled Indian mining companies to seek opportunities in Afghanistan said Ahmed. “I expect we will have good chances of winning the bids,” he said. “The Afghanistan ministers who visited are supportive of us.”

Global miners are likely to stay away from the war-torn nation and that opens doors for Indian companies, Ahmed said.
Gujarat NRE, the largest producer of met coke in India with mining facilities in Australia, is the sponsor of the seminar series titled "Doing Business and Investing with Australia" organised by Austrade with sponsorship partner Gujarat NRE.

The objective of the seminar is to highlight the opportunities that Australia presents as both an investment destination and as a trading and business partner, across multiple sectors. Austrade works with both Australian and Indian companies to accelerate and grow the commercial and business linkages between Australia and India.

As the sponsorship partner, the Gujarat NRE success story would be presented by the group chairman, Arun Kumar Jagatramka, for the benefit of the participants at the following centres:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, February 3</td>
<td>Mumbai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, February 6</td>
<td>Kolkata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, February 10</td>
<td>Bangalore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In addition to the above, the seminar series would also be held at the following cities as per the schedule below:</td>
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<td>Saturday, February 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, February 7</td>
<td>Chennai</td>
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<td>Hyderabad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, February 9</td>
<td>Pune</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The seminars at Delhi on January 30, Chandigarh on January 31 and Ahmedabad on February 1 were complete success stories.

There is no registration fee for the seminar series but prior registration is compulsory.

Investors in Gujarat NRE group may send email to investor@gujaratnre.com for help with their registration.
GUJARAT NRE MINERAL RESOURCES: Marching Ahead

Gujarat NRE Mineral Resources Company Ltd (GNMRL) is a core investment company and the fountainhead of the Gujarat NRE group. It has benefited immensely from the phenomenal growth in value of investments held in Gujarat NRE group companies during last decade. During that period, GNCL was:

- Identified as the 4th best performing stock of the decade
- Delivered returns to investors in excess of 100% compounded annually.

During the current decade of 2011-2020, GNMRL is poised for even much better returns given the stake in hard coking coal mines in Australia and the rising demand supply gap with growth of steel industry in India.

Coking coal is in short supply globally. The price of coking coal had peaked to over $300 per tonne in early 2011 due to floods in Queensland, Australia, with availability being scarce, putting the entire metallurgical industry in the throes of great uncertainty. Gujarat NRE has taken assured comfort from the secured supply of coking coal from its own mines which insulates it from the extreme volatility. Even today, with slowdown knocking at the door of global economy led by the downturn in Europe, the coking coal price is still higher than what it was 12 months back.

For last one year, work has been in progress towards getting GNMRL listed on the bourses but the same could not be done, in view of the past year’s regressive market conditions which have proven to be unfavourable for investor interest.

GNMRL has recently announced a Rights Issue of Optional Fully Convertible Bonds (OFCB) to its existing shareholders only. OFCBs are:

- ‘Hybrid instruments’ comprising the features and benefits of both shares and bonds with an attractive and assured return.
- OFCBs, as the name suggests, are convertible bonds with a right / option to the bondholders that allow them to either redeem the bonds at the end of maturity period or exchange the bonds for equity shares of the company.
- Upon such exchange, the debt obligations inherent in such bonds are discharged by the entity by issuing equity share. The issue offers assured lucrative redemption premium and is a secured form of investment against any future downturn in the market.

GNMRL has also announced a trip to Sydney and an optional visit to its coal mines in Wollongong, Australia for a couple, to two best entries of a quiz contest that has been organised among the shareholders of Gujarat NRE Mineral Resources Ltd and also extended it to the shareholders of Gujarat NRE Coke Ltd. To ensure transparency, employees of the Company (both existing and past) and their relatives are strictly not eligible to participate in the Quiz Contest. This unique quiz contest is being organised to promote and encourage investor awareness among the shareholders about the company and its operations.

For further details please visit the website of the company www.gnmrl.com.
2 IAS officers arrested in iron ore scam

Our Bureau
Kolkata, Feb. 2
A city court on Thursday sent two IAS officers, one of them retired, to police custody for three days in connection with an alleged Rs 125-cr.ure scam over export of iron ore to a Chinese firm.

The chief metropolitan magistrate of Bankshal Court in Kolkata granted three days' custody of the two accused to the CID, which is probing the alleged scam. Additional secretary-ranked Mr Debadiya Chakraborty and Mr R.M. Jamir, a retired IAS officer, were called to the CID headquarters yesterday and arrested.

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Copper Falls on EU Debt Caution, Demand Doubts

LONDON Copper prices slipped on Thursday as persistent concerns about the euro zone debt crisis weighed on the euro and uncertainty prevailed about the demand outlook from top consumer China as the country starts to return from a week-long holiday. Benchmark copper on the London Metal Exchange (LME) slipped to $8,570 in official rings, down 0.8% from a close of $8,440 on Wednesday. The euro lurched lower versus the dollar due to caution as Greece's debt swap negotiations dragged on, with a media report citing Eurogroup head Jean-Claude Juncker as saying the talks with Greece were very difficult. A weak dollar makes commodities priced in the US unit cheaper for holders of other currencies. Also weighing on prices were questions about short-term demand from top consumer China as the country returns from the Lunar New Year break. Higher London prices against Shanghai discouraged imports, suggesting that Chinese buyers were not eager to make purchases at these levels. "The recent price move was in anticipation of Chinese buying beyond the Lunar New Year. I think in the short term, the danger is that people are going to be disappointed," said Nic Brown, head of commodity research at Natixis. "Physical (copper) premiums in China are coming off, that to me is a clear indication that you have a build-up of copper in bonded warehouses which suggests that the absolute levels of demand in China at the minute are not good."
SAIL Re-invites Bids for Greenfield Coal Mine

Wants to outsource rehabilitation of locals as part of mine development programme

MEERA MOHANTY
NEW DELHI

State-owned Steel Authority of India will again call for quotations from mining contractors to develop a greenfield coking coal mine in which it hopes to, for the first time, also outsource rehabilitation of local people as part of the mine development programme.

The hunt for a mining contractor willing to run the 4-MT mine, coal washer and take on resettlement and rehabilitation of 3,500 families at the Tasra block, Jharkhand, at an affordable price has proven difficult. This month, when SAIL invites tenders for an MDO for the 117-MT Tasra block, it will be the fourth time, having failed in its last three attempts.

To attract increased response, SAIL is also considering offering washed coal rejects to the selected contractor for use in power generation. This proposal will however have to be first cleared by the SAIL board before the tender is announced, said the official.

Coking coal is the second most important raw material for steelmaking after iron ore, and is present in limited deposits in India, prompting most steelmakers to entirely import the mineral. SAIL, which imports 70% of its coking coal requirement, has been vulnerable to price fluctuations. In the second quarter, SAIL’s profits fell 55% largely due to high coal prices. The company is scheduled to announce its third quarter earnings in February.

The government had allocated the Tasra and Sitana coal blocks in Jharkhand, to SAIL in 1996 and 2007 respectively. “What we have been allocated so far will not amount to more than 2 MT of washed coal. We’ve asked for three blocks in Jharkhand; Jhirk in East Bokaro coalfield, Rohn-Routpara (West) and Rourpura in North Karanpura coalfields,” said the official.

At a recent review of captive coal allocations, SAIL informed the Coal Ministry that it was on track to get the two blocks up and running soon. Sitana is a smaller mine with 41MT of underground deposit.
Gold at Eight-Week Peak

Gold advanced to the highest level in eight weeks, gaining alongside equities, as manufacturing improved across the world, boosting the global growth outlook. Spot gold rallied as much as 0.6% to $1,753.20 an ounce, the most expensive since December 8, and traded at $1,752.05 in Singapore.
Wage hikes, price revision and rollback; it’s all in a day’s work for Coal India

NEWS ANALYSIS
Pratim Ranjan Bose
Kolkata, Feb. 2

The past month has been quite a significant one for Coal India Ltd. For the first time since its inception nearly four decades ago, the monopoly has rolled back its decision to revise prices, that too within a month, on January 31.

The ‘correction’ apparently has taken away a large part of the over Rs 6,000 crore in notional profit growth (arising out of the now-abandoned price list issued on December 31) it had estimated for in 2012-13 at the current level of production.

Largely credited to valid criticism from consumer groups, the entire episode took place on the back of a sharp rise in wages for the company’s 3.55 lakh workers in a five-year period beginning July 2011.

SURPRISING SEQUENCE
In fact, the decision to roll back prices was taken within hours of arriving at a consensus with four out of five registered unions about a minimum 25 per cent hike in wages, burdening CIL with an additional annual liability of nearly Rs 5,000 crore. One union, demanding an even sharper hike, stayed away from the wage pact.

But that is not the end of the story. CIL’s production has remained stagnant at 431 million tonne since 2009-10. During this fiscal, the company produced 335 mt of coal till January 30. And, even if it repeats last year’s performance for February and March, CIL may still end this fiscal with a drop in production.

CONTRADICTORY STANCE
And, that was exactly the logic forwarded by the CIL management in September 2011 — approximately a month after it initiated the proceedings for wage negotiations in August — when it put its foot down against the workers’ demand for an over 50 per cent hike in festive bonus as against CIL’s offer for a 13 per cent increase.

Former chairman Mr N C Jha described the demand from trade unions as “unreasonable and beyond the capacity of the company, especially when the production is lagging behind”. The company was subsequently forced to grant a 40 per cent hike in bonus, in the face of a strike call. Relatively speaking, the wage agreement went ahead smoothly and was practically concluded within two months since December when trade unions placed a firm demand. CIL agreed to a minimum 25 per cent hike in almost no time, without any change in the ground realities with regard to production.

PRICING FIASCO
The contradictions were equally prevalent in CIL’s logic over revenue gain through price revision. Soon after switching over to a GCV-based pricing in December, Mr Jha said that there will be minimal revenue impact on the company. Within two months, the same management has admitted to a 12.5 per cent revenue gain and cut back prices.

Perhaps it’s only a CIL management — with its nearly Rs 10 billion-cash in reserve earning fixed deposit interests in the absence of much investment in mining — and the then Union Government, which owns this monopoly producer and is reportedly expecting a handsome interim dividend next week, that can explain such flip-flops.
New Mines Bill for House panel

Special Correspondent

NEW DELHI: The New Mines and Mineral Development and Regulation (MMDR) Bill has been referred to Parliamentary Standing Committee with the hope that it would be taken up for passage during the budget session of Parliament.

“The MMDR Bill has been referred to Parliamentary Standing Committee. The Committee’s suggestions, after in-depth scrutiny, are expected by March-end and we are hopeful that the Bill would be passed in the second-leg of the Budget session,” Union Mines Minister, Dinsha Patel said here.

Once the law is enacted, it would help bring more transparency and boost foreign direct investment in the space, Mr. Patel said on the sidelines of a geological convention here.
दो दर्जन खदान अवैध
सतना. किसी में दो दर्जन से ज्यादा खदानों के अर्जित रूप से संचालित है। खदानों के लिए परीक्षण विभाग से अनुमति नहीं ली गई है। परीक्षण विभाग की एक टिप्पणी में इस खदान का खुलासा हुआ है। परीक्षण विभाग ने रिपोर्ट में खदान विभाग की सौगात दी है, ताकि उद्देश्य कार्यालय के हर संस्थान केंद्र करने का लक्ष्य है। इन खदानों में कुछ ऐसी है, जिन्हें केवल अनुक्रम तालिका नवीनीकरण नहीं कराया गया है। परीक्षण विभाग की टिप्पणी के अनुसार खदानों का संचालन इन अनुमति दो से नौना वापस लेने की जान रखा है। अधिक उद्यम को जोर देना, परीक्षण विभाग को लाइसेंस नवीनीकरण का जांच के लिए उत्साहित करने के लिए उठाए गए थे। जंतूं से समस्या आया कि जिसे के 25 खदान रटवाली ने परीक्षण संस्थान अधिकारियों 1986 के तहत अनुमति नहीं देने थी है और ये खदानों का संचालन जारी रखा जा रहा है।

बिना अनुमति संचालित खदानों
जैसे कि की पहाड़ा स्थित खदान महेंद्रपर्वत रायपुर की खदान में, देश का नाम और काल्पनिक रूप से खदान, जानलेवा की विशेष स्थिति प्रदर्शन की मूल की खदान, प्रशासन कुरुक्षेत्र अर्जित स्थान और और अन्य राज्य के खदान की खदान, सरफुरियाताबद और विभिन्न खदान में जो लाल जैसा खदान की खदान, गोपाल गौतम खदान की खदान, प्रमुख प्रशासन विभाग खदान की खदान, विभिन्न खदान की खदान, जैसे कि की बहराइच ने खदान की खदान, निर्माण निर्माण निर्माण निर्माण की खदान, यह बहुत अधिक ऊँची खदानों की खदान, अन्य राज्यों और अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्थिति प्रदर्शन की खदान, सरफुरियात और अन्य राज्यों के खदान की खदान, जैसे कि की बहराइच ने खदान की खदान, जैसे कि की प्रमुख खदान की खदान, जैसे कि की बहराइच ने खदान की खदान, जैसे कि की बहराइच ने खदान की खदान, जैसे कि की बहराइच ने खदान की खदान, जैसे कि की बहराइच ने खदान की खदान, जैसे कि की बहराइच ने खदान की खदान, जैसे कि की बहराइच ने खदान की खदान, जैसे कि की बहराइच ने खदान की खदान, जैसे कि की बहराइच ने खदान की खदान, जैसे कि की बहराइच ने खदान की खदान, जैसे कि की बहराइच ने खदान की खदान, जैसे कि की बहराइ
जीएसआई ने 12वीं योजना में मांगे 4596 करोड़

नई दिल्ली। देश में खानिजों के खेत में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा रहे भारतीय भूजैविक सर्वेक्षण (जीएसआई) ने 12वीं परियोजना योजना में 4,596 करोड़ रुपए लिए जाने की मांग की है। नेत्रिन चन्द राणा मंत्री वित्त ने पूर्वले ने जीएसआई के कैंटिटीय भूजैविक कार्यक्रम बोरै (सीजीपीबी) की 50वीं बैठक का गुरुत्व को यहां सुधार लेने का मनोहार का यह जानकारी है।