Rules seek to rein in illegal mining

In the absence of regulations, unauthorised stockyards had mushroomed in Bellary district.

The notification of Karnataka (Prevention of Illegal Mining, Transportation and Storage of Minerals) Rules, 2013, on April 1, has among other things banned unauthorised stocking of iron ore. The notification that repeals the earlier 2008 rules, makes it mandatory to store ore only in registered stockyards. All existing mineral stockyards have to register with the office of the Deputy Director, Mines and Geology, within three months. The notification has been issued close on the heels of Supreme Court constituted Central Empowered Committee’s visit to the State.

Unauthorised stocking of iron ore along highways is common across Bellary district. Dust (iron ore fines) from these stockyards pervades the air, damaging the environment and human health. Hundreds of families have been forced to abandon their villages that are located near mines and settle down elsewhere because of the problem, official sources said.

The problem had become severe due to rampant illegal mining. In the absence of stringent rules to prevent reckless stocking of iron ore, hundreds of unauthorised stockyards had cropped up in the district. Those who were into illegal mining used to dump iron ore along highways till they made some arrangements to transport the stock. The new rules will put an end to this menace,” sources said.

Submission of accounts

The new rules also make it mandatory for the owners of the stockyards to submit accounts of quantity of minerals obtained, its sources and sale or disposal before the competent authority every month. This apart, the notification has introduced an entirely a new system of iron ore transportation to put a break on illegal mining.

Accordingly, only those holding mineral dispatch permits (MDP) will be allowed to transport minerals. Besides, vehicles transporting ore will have to be mandatorily fitted with GPS. If the mining lease is located on forest land, one has to obtain Forest Way Pass from the Forest Conservator for transport of the mineral.

In order to ensure that the MDPs are not misused, the permits have been made valid only from the mine head to the destination. Even the validity of MDPs have been restricted. If a vehicle is transporting minerals by road, the MDP will be valid up to 100 km a day and for a maximum of eight days for distances beyond 500 km. Earlier, the permits were valid for 30 days.

DH News Service
मध्य-पूर्व को ज्यादा निर्यात

दुनिया भर से जेम्स व जैलरी का जितना निर्यात किया जाता है उसमें मध्य-पूर्व का हिस्सा 35-40 प्रतिशत होता है। दुनिया के राष्ट्रों में यह निर्यात किया जाता है। राष्ट्रीय जिम्मेदार नौसेना नेत्रमणकांक का अधिकार है कि जेम्स व जैलरी का कुल वैश्विक बाजार कीमत 85 अरब डॉलर का है और इसकी व्यापारी प्रमुखता 5 से 10 प्रतिशत है। कंपनी ने एक बार में कहा है कि जेम्सवेल्ड्स द्वारा जापान में अमोजन में रहने वाली पूरी बाजार और भागीदारों को जीवित रखने में यह बार्ट उपयोग कर सकते आस्ट्रिया के निर्माताओं में महामूर्त योगदान मध्य-पूर्व का होता है। भारत के जेम्स व जैलरी निर्माताओं के लिए संयुक्त अरब अमीरात (यूएई) एक बड़ी बाजार के रूप में उभरा है, जिसमें अरबियां और यूरोप की सरलता के भी पैर घोंटे रहा है। इस दौरान में कंपनी को पूरा हो चुका 99 लाख डॉलर की राशि प्राप्त हुई, जो कंपनी का दूसरा जीविका अभी जोड़र रहा था। रोशन टीम के बाजार पूर्व में अन्य जैलरी श्रेणियों से रेंजी से बढ़ने की संभावना है।
Coal India misses production target

New Delhi: State-run mining giant Coal India Ltd (CIL) missed its output target, producing just 431.325 million tonnes (mt) of coal in the just concluded fiscal, against the lower, recently revised target of 440.2 mt due to green hurdles, said a top official.

CIL, the world's largest coal miner, had a production target of 460.5 mt for 2010-11, which was revised to 440.2 mt, barely a few days before the close of the fiscal.

"CIL could produce only 431.325 mt during the last fiscal as environmental clearances could not be obtained for its capacity expansion projects," the company official said.
The production target could have been met from expansion projects but despite the company's best efforts, it could not obtain clearances for the same from the ministry of forest and environment, said the official on condition of anonymity. PTI
Corporate

Nalco ups aluminium prices by ₹5,000

Bhubaneswar: State-run metal producer National Aluminium Co. Ltd (Nalco) has raised aluminium prices by ₹5,000 per tonne in the domestic market, a senior company official said on Sunday.

"The revision in prices was done to match rising prices on the LME (London Metal Exchange)," the official, who did not want to be named, said.

He said the basic price of standard aluminium ingots had been increased to ₹145,200 a tonne and that of standard aluminium sow ingots to ₹145,150 per tonne. The new prices for all aluminium products were effective from Saturday, he said. Reuters
नाल्को का उत्पादन उच्चतम स्तर पर

भुक्केश्वर • वर्ष 2010-11 के दौरान नाल्को एल्युमिनियम कंपनी (नाल्को) का उत्पादन उच्चतम स्तर पर गई। इस अवसर के दौरान कंपनी का उत्पादन 4,43,597 टन था। अबकी वर्ष 2009-10 के दौरान वह उत्पादन 4,31,148 टन रहा था। एल्युमिनियम हाइड्राइड के उत्पादन में नाल्को की एल्युमिनियम हिन्दुस्तान की गुरुत्वाकर्षण क्षमता 98.8 प्रतिशत रही, और इससे 15,56 लाख टन एल्युमिनियम हाइड्राइड का उत्पादन किया। जबकि कंपनी का वायरल हाइड्राइड उत्पादन 48.24 लाख टन था। गुरुत्वाकर्षण प्रबंधक गुरु तलाकेजी द्वारा, धर्मस्थल 100.5 प्रतिशत रही। इस अवसर के दौरान कंपनी के विकासी हाइड्राइड में वृद्धि का रहा गई। कंपनी द्वारा एक ब्रांड के मुताबिक इस अवसर के दौरान कंपनी ने 660.8 करोड़ रूपये का स्थिरोत्तर उत्पादन किया।
Merger deals worth $27 billion announced in metal space

press trust of india

NEW DELHI, 3 APRIL: After a lull in 2009, global merger and acquisition activity in the metal space is witnessing a resurgence, with as many as 188 deals worth $27 billion being announced in 2010, says a report.

This year also, the metal space is expected to see a sizeable number of global mergers and acquisition (M&A) deals, according to a report by global consulting giant PricewaterhouseCoopers.

As per the report, the total deal value in the metal sector rose to $27 billion in 2010 from $15.1 billion in the previous year.

However, while the recovery looks large in year-on-year terms, it is modest compared to the highs of $86.4 billion and $144.7 billion reached in the M&A boom years of 2006 and 2007, respectively.

What is more, there was no repeat of $1-billion contribution by Indian buyers to the total deal value in 2009 — instead, Indian purchases dwindled to just $95 million in 2010.

In terms of volume, the number of cross-border deals in the metals space picked up to 188 in 2010 from 129 in the previous year. This translates into a growth of 46 per cent.

The largest deal completed in 2010 was Posco’s $2.8-billion acquisition of a controlling stake in trading and resource company Daewoo International, followed by ValeBRG Resources ($2.5 billion) and Sumitomo-Mineracao ($1.93 billion) deals.

Some of the other major deals were Tangshan-Handan ($1.68 billion), Gerdau Steel-Gerdau Ameristeel ($1.6 billion) and JFE Steel Corporation of Japan’s acquisition of a $1.02-billion minority stake in Indian steelmaker JSW Steel.

Interestingly, the total value of the top five deals announced in 2010 or early 2011, which are anticipated to be completed during the year, has crossed $17 billion. This indicates a 60 per cent rise in size vis-a-vis the top five deals in 2010, which were worth $10.6 billion.

The report said that pending deals further indicated this upward trend in deal sizes would become even more evident in 2011.

The upturn in deal activity was felt in all the regions. The biggest year-on-year increases came in the developed markets of North America and Western Europe.

In the Asia-Pacific region, total deal value rose significantly in 2010 to $11.5 billion. It, however, was well behind compared to the record $16.4 billion worth deals achieved in 2008. The rise was attributable to a revival, in $1-billion-plus deals. None took place in 2009, whereas there were three such deals in 2010. However, the deal numbers actually fell by 10 per cent year-on-year.
Land acquisition issues stall $150b worth of projects

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI, 3 APRIL: Projects worth a staggering US$ 150 billion (about Rs 6,65,550 crore) have been stalled in India in the past decade mainly due to land acquisition problems and strong opposition from local communities at the sites, says a study.

The stalled ventures include greenfield projects in mining, manufacturing and infrastructure sectors, according to a study by strategic risk management firm Orkash.

"Projects to the tune of nearly US$ 150 billion have been stalled in the past decade (2001-11).

"Land acquisition issues, strong opposition from local communities, Naxalism (concerns) as well as overall policy issues, are among the main reasons for stalling (of the projects)," Orkash's CEO Mr Ashish Sonal told PTI.

The estimates come against the backdrop of India aiming for US$ 1 trillion investments in the infrastructure sector during 2012-17.

The affected projects include those of Vedanta in Orissa, ArcelorMittal in Jharkhand and the Bangalore-Mysore Road Corridor. Vedanta's proposed US$ 1.7 billion bauxite mining project in Orissa has been hanging fire for a long time on account of environmental clearance as well as local community issues.

ArcelorMittal's projects in Orissa and Jharkhand, each worth Rs 50,000 crore, have also been delayed.

Apart from "genuine and 'manipulated' community opposition to land acquisition," the study pointed out that there are also issues such as environmental impact on land and water resources and inconsistencies in regulatory compliance.

Meanwhile, an Orkash survey of 25 large Private Equity (PE) entities that focus on infrastructure showed that there are concerns about risks outside the domain of "traditional financial risk management".

Gurgaon-based Orkash offers custom research, intelligence and business assurance services, among others.
Nalco production soars

कम रहा कोल इंडिया का उत्पादन

नई दिल्ली (एम्स)। सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की प्रमुख कंपनी उत्पादक कंपनी कोल इंडिया उत्पादन लेख से मूल तथा है। कंपनी ने निचले वर्ष 2010-11 में 43.13 करोड़ टन कोलोन भी उत्पादन किया जबकि संपूर्ण लेख 44.02 करोड़ टन था। परिस्थिति संबंधी वातावरण के कारण कंपनी उत्पादन लेख हिस्सा करने में सक्षम रही है।

कोल इंडिया लिमिटेड ने 2010-11 में 46.01 करोड़ टन कोलोन उत्पादन का स्थान रखा था। इसे यह में विशेष उम्मीद करने में कुछ विशेष पात्रता संपूर्ण है कि 44.02 करोड़ टन का उत्पादन किया गया।

मंजूलन सुधिकार के अनुसार सीएचआईएन सिखावा विशिष्ट कर वर्ष में डेंगा 45.13 करोड़ टन कोलोन का उत्पादन कर सकता। परिस्थिति में रही के कारण कंपनी विशाल परियोजनाओं को क्रिया व्यापक नहीं कर सकी। मंजूलन के वरिष्ठ अधिकारी ने नाम नहीं देने की शर्त पर कहा कि परिस्थितियों के विवरण के जरिए उत्पादन 10% हड़पने किया जाएगा तथा लेकिन इस एक्शन परिस्थिति मंजूलन से मंजूरी प्राप्त करने के कंपनी के बेहतर प्रायोजनों के वाक्यपुत्र इसे हिस्सा नहीं किया जा सकता।

पूर्वांग है कि मंजूलन कंपनी को देश पर 154 ऐसी परियोजनाएं हैं जिनसे परिस्थिति मंजूलन का उत्पादन है। ये परियोजनाएं 26,000 इंजिनियर, नौकर के प्रदेश हैं तथा इनकी उत्पादन प्रमाण 21 करोड़ टन है। सरकार ने कोलोन उत्पादन को प्रभावित करने वाले मुद्दों के हल के लिए विशेष प्रकार मुख्यों को अभ्यास में 12 सालाहून रखना चाहिए। मंजूलन को अपने पठान में हिस्सा होने वाली है। सीएचआईएन ने नामे विशेष वर्ष के लिए 45.2 करोड़ टन कोलोन उत्पादन का लाभ रखा है।
Nalco posts robust results

AGE CORRESPONDENT
BHUBANESWAR

April 3: National Aluminium Company Ltd (Nalco), the Navratna PSU under the ministry of mines has reported robust results in terms of production and sales for the year 2010-11. The company has achieved the highest-ever cast metal production of 445,897 tonnes, against the previous "best" of 431,488 tonnes achieved in 2009-10. Besides, Nalco’s alumina refinery in Koraput district has achieved 98.8 per cent capacity utilisation by producing 15.6 lakh tonnes of alumina hydrate, while its bauxite mines has produced 48.2 lakh tonnes with a capacity utilisation of 100.5 per cent.

Moreover, Nalco’s captive power plant has also recorded the highest-ever net power generation of 6,608 million units, against the previous best of 6,293 million units achieved in 2009-10. On the sales front too, Nalco has achieved the highest ever metal sale of 438,952 tonnes, against the previous best of 435,979 tonnes in 2009-10.

"This has been possible due to a considerable rise in demand for aluminium and improvement in company’s share in the domestic market. The company has recorded the highest-ever domestic metal sale of 340,752 tonnes in 2010-11, surpassing the previous highest of 289,032 tonnes in the previous fiscal," a Nalco release said.
58 कोयला ब्लॉक के लिए बोली मंगाएगा मंत्रालय

सरकार की फिन

कोयला मंत्रालय नई दिल्ली

कोयला मंत्रालय पहले चरण में 58 कोयला ब्लॉक के लिए प्रतिस्पर्धा बोलीयां आमंत्रित करना। यह प्रक्रिया अगले छह महीने में पूरा हो जाएगा। योजना है कि इन ब्लॉकों में कुल 1,860 करोड़ टन से अधिक कोयला का भंडार है। ये ब्लॉक जोगताला, जराखंड, महाराष्ट्र, पश्चिम बंगाल, उड़ान, राजस्थान और अंतह्यंत्र प्रदेशों में सिध्द हैं। यह आपका एक नयी सरकारी कार्यवाही है।

मुख्यमंत्री चरण की बोली में कुछ बड़े कोयला ब्लॉकों को शामिल नहीं किया गया है। बोली की प्रक्रिया में 20 करोड़ टन कोयला भंडार काला पश्चिम बंगाल का दोपहर-पाँच की क्षमता शामिल नहीं है। इसी तरह उड़ान के तत्तुओं (120 करोड़ टन), योगेन्द्र के बादाम डिग्स साइड और रोम-राजस्थान के दिप साइड (100-150 करोड़ टन) भी शामिल नहीं है। बोली की फिन का अर्थ इसका विवाद बना है।

अधिकारी ने बताया, 'इन ब्लॉकों का अभियंत्र उज्ज्वल है। लेकिन इसके प्रभावित चरण को भी हमारी प्रज्ञा उपयोगी है। इसमें से कई कोयला की नियोक्ता के स्केलरेस नहीं मिलता है। इसे हासिल करने की प्रक्रिया पर काम जारी है। इसके तरह विश्वास वाली बोली के माध्यम से ही निजी कंपनियों को कैष्टील ब्लॉक के लिए देना चाहिए।'
Copper Prices May Slip Below $9,000

In the year-to-March three month copper on London Metal Exchange (LME) has averaged $9,628 a tonne, 27% higher than the average for the whole of 2010. The benchmark contract hit a high of $10,190 a tonne in mid-February and is currently at trading at $9,360.

Prices likely to come off

Industry experts feel that the price could dip below $9,000 in the near to medium term on account of monetary tightening by China, the dominant user, and reports that the country has huge stockpiles that may reduce demand. Also, markets have discounted news of Japanese demand for reconstruction. Arun Chokhani, a senior executive of a private company, believes prices could touch $8,800-$8,900 in the next two months due to fundamental factors like lower Chinese demand. Shortly after the quake hit Japan last month, copper had a brief setback but began to rally thereafter on expectations that demand would rise as the world’s third-largest economy begins reconstruction. However, the prices came off once markets realised that bulk of the demand would be for recycled copper, used in house wiring and other low voltage applications, rather than for primary metal.

Speculators fuelling rally

Experts believe the rally in the metal has been driven largely by global funds who are pumping cheap money into commodities. They point to the fact that but for a brief period between mid-September and December last year, prices have risen even as LME increased. Data on LME cash versus warehouse stocks over the past 21 months confirm this trend. For example, the LME spot price climbed from $9,556 at the beginning of the year to $10,145 in mid-February even as stocks rose by over 6%. Of late, though, the inverse correlation between price and stocks is back in play.

Smelter profits up

The rise in copper has not dented the performance of copper users as they are said to have passed on the price to their consumers. The net profit of Hindalco has risen 14% year-on-year to ₹1,429 crore in the financial year to December 2010 while that of Sterlite has risen 35% to ₹3,118 crore over the same period.

Analysts bearish for the near term

While positive news from the US relating to jobs recovery and manufacturing data could support copper, the metal could shed $100-$150 in the next one month, say some analysts. On local commodity bourse MCX, the most active month futures contract, which mirrors that on LME, could shed between ₹15 and ₹20 within a month from the current level of around ₹420, said Suresh Nair of Adhish Commodities.
HC asks ministry to end Bhatti mines deadlock

New Delhi: The Union environment and forest ministry will now take a call if a part of the Bhatti mines is fit to be developed as a garbage dump.

The ministry has been asked to step in by the Delhi high court after the Delhi government objected to MCD’s decision to identify pits in the mines as proposed landfill sites. Saying the capital was under threat of turning into one large “garbage dump” the civic agency had sought land on the city’s outskirts to manage garbage.

Justice Rajiv Sahai Endlaw asked the centre to find out if there is any possibility of the Bhatti mines area being used as a landfill site without it posing an environment threat to the wildlife sanctuary — as claimed by the state government. For this purpose, the ministry has been directed to come up with its stand even as the HC wondered how mining was permitted earlier in the same area when it was a wildlife sanctuary. If now this ground is being invoked to stop a garbage dump from coming up.

Opposing any plans by MCD to use the pits in the abandoned mines as dumping sites, the state government in an affidavit claimed such a move would seriously imperil the adjoining forest and its remaining wildlife. It advised the corporation to survey and identify an area outside the sanctuary for the purpose of a landfill site. The affidavit informed HC that the proposal to use abandoned mining pits in Bhatti as landfill was discussed in 2003.

Though an in-principal approval was granted by the Ridge Management Board in 2005 to the civic agency to use four pits for dumping waste, a recent survey of the area and a site inspection led by the state government found that the site is part of the Bhatti wildlife sanctuary, reserved forest and southern Ridge.

On its part, the MCD cried foul. It pointed out before HC that the state government had suddenly shifted its stand. While earlier before the Supreme Court, the government had given its nod to the MCD proposal, it was opposing the same before HC. The MCD claims it identified the sites after carrying out all the required tests and has obtained all clearances.
58 Coal Blocks To Go Under Hammer

BLACK GOLD Reserves of 18,600 million tonnes lie in the coal belts of seven states of the country

SARITA C SINGH
NEW DELHI

A total of 58 coal blocks with over 18,600 million tonnes of reserves would go under hammer in the first round of competitive bidding to be initiated by the coal ministry in six months. The blocks lie in the coal belts of seven states of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh, a top government official said.

Some of the big blocks that could be put on auction are Doocha-Pachhami in West Bengal with 2,000 million tonnes reserves, Tontuloi in Orissa with 1,300 million tonnes, Badam Dip Side and Dip Side of Khone-Sutipara in Jharkhand with 1,000-1,500 million tonnes of coal.

"All these blocks are unexplored and their profiling has to be done. The regulatory clearances to many of these are also pending. We have decided that captive coal blocks to private companies would be given only through competitive bidding, but if need be some of these blocks could also be given to government companies under government dispensation route," the official said.

Parliament had last year approved amendment to Mines and Minerals Regulation and Development Act of 1957 to enable government auction coal blocks. The government has not awarded even a single coal or lignite block for captive use to private companies since October 2006. Hilberto, the coal block allocation was done by a government screening committee.

The coal ministry has identified four options for bidding these mines. "We would soon initiate a discussion process with stakeholders based on which the most appropriate procedure of bidding would be selected. The competitive bidding process would bring genuine private players in coal mining business and will ensure transparency and more revenue to the state governments," he said.

The coal ministry is mulling awarding mines to private companies that quote highest upfront amount for a mine. As per another proposal, companies proposing highest payment per tonne of coal mined would be selected.

The ministry is also thinking giving weightage in coal block allocation to end-use projects that have made substantial development.

Coal blocks bidding will be a five-step process involving assessment of technical and financial strength of bidders, setting up mandatory milestones, evaluating offers made by the companies and final selection or rejection. Companies can bid for any number of blocks, individually or in consortium with other companies. Coal blocks and their associated end-use projects have to be developed within government stipulated timelines and failure to do so could lead to de-allocation.
Gold to test support, rise

Comex gold futures ended marginally lower on Friday, as an encouraging US jobs report boosted the dollar. Positive non-farm payrolls and manufacturing data confirmed a strengthening US economy. However, quarter-end buying, euro zone debt worries and unrest in the West Asia lifted bullion off lows. Though the Fed is not expected to tighten monetary policy in the short term, recent hawkish comments by top Fed officials are weighing on bullion investor sentiment. Gold tends to suffer when rates climb, as the opportunity cost of holding non-yielding assets increases. In the first quarter, the price climbed 1.3 per cent, marking the 10th straight gain, the longest rally since at least 1975. The metal has advanced 27 per cent in the past 12 months.

Comex gold futures are consolidating in a range. As mentioned in the previous update, we saw a decline towards $1,410-15 levels initially. We expect the rally to continue higher towards $1,455-75 levels again or even higher towards $1,495-1,500 levels. Only an unexpected fall below $1,405 could result in a corrective decline targeting $1,365 levels initially. Resistance is now seen at $1,435 followed by $1,445 levels now. Fall below $1,375, being a near-term trend-line support as seen in the chart above could revive bearish hopes again for $1,300 or even lower to $1,250. We have to revisit the counts once again. This typically happens when markets are either nearing a peak or in a messy correction. As mentioned earlier, a daily close above $1,395 will hint that a new impulse or an irregular wave “B” could be in the making. Our preference is now towards a beginning a fifth wave targeting $1,495 rather than that of an irregular wave “B” as prices crossed $1,385. We now see the recent high of $1,435 as the end of a third wave impulse only and a decline to $1,309 as an end of a minor corrective A-B-C decline. RSI is still in the neutral zone now indicating that it is neither overbought nor oversold. The averages in MACD have crossed above the zero line of the indicator signalling a bullish reversal. Therefore, look for gold futures to test the supports and then rise higher subsequently. Supports are at $1,410, $1,395 and $1,365. Resistances are at $1,435, $1,455 and $1,475.

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लक्ष से कम रह जोल इंडिया का ऊतान

नई दिल्ली। सरकारी क्षेत्र की प्रमुख क्षेत्रीय उपाध्यक्ष कंपनी जोल इंडिया ऊतान लागू से चुक गयी है। कंपनी ने पिछले वर्ष 2010-11 में 43.13 करोड़ टन कोशिका का उपयोग किया जबाब शंखों तथा संसाधन का ऊतान 44.02 करोड़ टन था। सरकारी संस्थाओं के बीच संकर्तमति उपकरण राशि हासिल करने में उकसाया गया है। जोल इंडिया लिमिटेड (सीआईएल) ने 2010-11 में 46.01 करोड़ टन कोशिका उपयोग का नया रेखा खो दिया था। इसी प्रकार, वित्त विभाग ने इस वर्ष में फिर 43.13 करोड़ टन कोशिका का उपयोग प्राप्त किया। फलस्वरूप, विभाग में शेयर के कारण कंपनी निर्मल परियोजनाओं को वित्तदान नहीं कर सकी।

अधिकारी ने जिन नहीं तो नहीं कि परियोजनाओं के विकास के लिए ऊतान लागू होने वाले कर्तव्य नहीं किया। लेकिन एवं फलस्वरूप भारतीय सरकार ने कंपनी के बैंक को शेयर का वांछन किया, जीवन का सुनिश्चित किया जा सके।