BHUANESWAR: The National Aluminium Company (NALCO) achieved its highest-ever cast metal production of 443,897 tonnes in 2010-11, against a previous best of 431,488 tonnes in 2009-10.

NALCO’s alumina refinery achieved 98.8 per cent capacity utilisation by producing 15.56 lakh tonnes of alumina hydrate, while its bauxite mines produced 48.24 lakh tonnes, with a capacity utilisation of 100.5 per cent, in 2010-11. Its captive power plant also recorded the highest-ever net power generation of 6,606 million units during 2010-11, against the previous best of 6,293 million units in 2009-10, a company statement said on Sunday.

On the sales front too, NALCO achieved its highest-ever metal sales of 435,952 tonnes, against a previous best of 435,979 tonnes in 2009-10, it said. The company recorded its highest-ever domestic metal sales of 340,752 tonnes in 2010-11, surpassing 299,032 tonnes in the previous fiscal.

NALCO also achieved the record sale of 20,022 tonnes of rolled products in the domestic market in 2010-11, against the previous best of 14,419 tonnes in 2009-10.
Coal ministry issues draft guidelines for block allocation

BS REPORTER
New Delhi, 4 April

THE Union coal ministry today issued a draft of the guidelines being framed for putting in place a competitive bidding regime for allocating coal blocks in the country.

Competitive bidding will replace the current practice of allocating blocks to the private sector for notified captive use based on recommendations of an inter-ministerial committee. The news system is expected to induce “transparency and objectivity” in the overall allocation.

The draft guidelines, framed after months of deliberations over the matter in an inter-ministerial committee headed by the Union coal secretary, present four models for selection of successful bidders during the multi-step auction process. The four probable models include upfront payment, production-linked payment, upfront payment with priority for development status of the end use plant and production-linked payment with preference for development of the end-use project.

“The draft guidelines present four models for selection of successful bidders during the multi-step auction process,” said a senior official from the coal ministry.

“In the production-linked model, there will be a reserve price tag for coal on a per tonne basis, over the entire life of the coal mine. Further, a 20 per cent weight will be given in cases where significant development of the end-use project has taken place,” he added.

The common thread that runs through all the four options is the preference to be accorded to projects set up in the same state in which the mine is located. The ministry has asked stakeholders to give their views within 15 days, following which the widely chosen option would be taken for inviting competitive bidding for blocks.

Parliament in August last year passed the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill of 2010, which paved the way for introduction of auction of coal blocks through competitive bidding to private companies for captive use.
Nalco raises aluminium prices by ₹5,000 a ton

NEW DELHI, 4 APRIL. State-owned National Aluminium Company (Nalco) has increased the price of the metal across categories by ₹5,000 a ton in the wake of firming up of the prices in the London Metal Exchange (LME).

Requesting anonymity a senior company official said that the hike has already been effected from 2 April and with this, the average aluminium price currently stands at ₹1,21 lakh per ton.

"We have effected the price hike by ₹5,000 per ton. This was required to bring the price of the metal at par with the LME," he said.

The price of aluminium on the London Metal Exchange (LME) is currently hovering at around ₹2,600 a ton from just over ₹2,500 per ton a month ago.

Nalco, the second-biggest producer of aluminium in the country, had also raised prices of the metal in January, but corrected them in the third week of the month itself as the global price slackened.

It had again increased the price by ₹6,000 a ton in February, but reduced it by ₹2,500 per ton in March.

The price of aluminium is on the upswing as a result of the slight demand-supply mismatch of the metal in the wake of closing down of some smelters in China.

Global production and consumption of aluminium currently stands at 39-40 million tons per annum. A slight change in the supply side lead to a price push.

However, the current "small" mismatch is only a temporary phenomenon as with the firming up of the price, the closed smelters have again resumed operation, the official said.

Nalco achieved its highest-ever cast metal production of 4,43,597 tons in 2010-11, against the previous best of 4,31,488 tons in 2009-10. pfi
Hindalco

Current Price: ₹216,
Target Price: ₹223

In terms of an intermediate timeframe, the stock is range-trading between ₹198 and ₹225 and it could test the upper range in the next three sessions. Keep a stop at ₹212 and go long. Increase the position between ₹218 and ₹220 and reset the stop to ₹216. Book profits above ₹222.

—Devangshu Datta
Higher prices brighten outlook for aluminium companies

Last week, UC Rusal announced its 2010 financial results and also issued its outlook for 2011. The aluminium maker expects demand for the metal to rise by 8.3%, after growing 9% in 2010, spurred by growing consumption in the Bric (Brazil, Russia, India and China) countries. Despite worries about China’s efforts to restrict energy consumption and inflation-fighting monetary measures, it expects aluminium consumption to rise by 12%.

Another concern has been the high level of inventories at the London Metal Exchange (LME). It has not affected aluminium prices so far, proving the belief right that most of this inventory is tied up in financing deals, and will not enter the physical market. UC Rusal said that nearly 75% of LME inventories are covered by financial transactions, and it does not expect this position to change significantly in 2011.

The aluminium market favours firm prices, and most financial transactions linked to stocks are being retained as longer-term investments, according to a company statement. Investors in aluminium stocks will keep a close watch on China’s consumption growth and LME inventories for any signs of stress.

UC Rusal projects the metal to trade in the range of $2,500-2,600 (Rs 112-116 per tonne) throughout 2011. In 2010, prices were hovering in the $2,000-2,500 per tonne range. Domestic producers will benefit from steady aluminium prices.

Hindalco Industries Ltd recently announced financial closure of its Rs 10,500 crore Mahan aluminium smelter project, which will produce about 360,000 tonnes of aluminium. This project is expected to start production in October. Another smelter project, with capacity similar to Mahan, and a 1,500 kilotonne per annum alumina refinery, will start production by the end of 2012.

National Aluminium Co. Ltd (Nalco) recently reported its fiscal 2011 production figures, with metal production of 440,000 tonnes, up by about 2% over the previous year. In the current fiscal, its targeted production is 10% higher.

But Nalco missed its target for fiscal 2011, so it may do so for fiscal 2012 also. Higher prices give its sales growth that much-needed cushion. The Vedanta group’s aluminium business, managed by Sterlite Industries (India) Ltd and Vedanta Aluminium Ltd, too, will benefit from better realizations.

Average aluminium prices in the March quarter are about 9% higher than in the December quarter, and about 16% over the year-ago period. That pretty much sets the stage for good sales growth.

But rising energy costs—coal and fuel oils—had crimped profit margins in the December quarter for the industry and may continue to do so in the March quarter as well. But higher product prices make the situation better, compared with the December quarter.

RAVI ANANTHANARAYANAN
Nalco raises aluminium prices by ₹5,000 a tonne

NEW DELHI: National Aluminium Company (Nalco) has increased the price of the metal by ₹5,000 a tonne due to firming up of prices on the London Metal Exchange. The hike has been effected from April 3 and the current aluminium price stands at ₹1.2 lakh per tonne.
नाल्को ने एल्युमिनियम के दाम 5,000 रुपये बढ़ाए

नई दिल्ली। नये बाल्कुल कमांड में तेजी के कारण, नये बाल्कुल कमांड के दाम 5,000 रुपये प्रति टन बढ़ गए हैं। कमांड के बातचीत में जानकारी प्रदान करते हैं। नये बाल्कुल कमांड के दाम 5,000 रुपये प्रति टन है।

उद्योग बाटा कि यह लोक मुद्रा एक्सचेंज (एलएमी) के सारांश रश्य की तैयारी आवश्यक थी।
चांदी 57 हजार की रिकॉर्ड बुलंदी पर

एक दिन में। अंतरराष्ट्रीय नगर दिल्ली के दाम 31 रुपए के उच्चतम नगर पर पहुंच गए। इसका अर्ध वर्ष रोज़ा सरकार बाजार पर पहुंच और कांडी 600 रुपये की मुआंदे बरकर लिखने 57,000 रुपये प्रति किलो के मा पर पहुंच गई। जबकि रोजा 25 रुपये का बढार 21,095 रुपये प्रति दम प्राप्त बना गया।

ले यह से किसी तरह के अनुप्रेषण, कोलोरो के दोगान लेने के कारण 1,434.80 रुपये प्रति दम पर रहे, जबकि हलारी सरकार की दिनांक में नहीं।

नया सरकार में 1,427.98 डॉलर प्रति दम पर थे। अर्थव्यवस्था में अपराजित रोजा नवीन बाजार दाम 1,434.80 डॉलर प्रति दम पर की गई। अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार में कांडी के दम रिकॉर्ड नगर पर पहुंच गए। कांडी के दोगान अधिकारी को अर्थ 31 रुपये की दिनांक 38.40 डॉलर प्रति दम पर बाजार में की गई। बाजार में कांडी का किलो रुपये का मामला 38.31 डॉलर प्रति दम पर रहा, जबकि कांडी को लिखने 37.74 डॉलर प्रति दम पर थे। अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार में कांडी के दम 56,400 रुपये से 600 रुपये बढ़कर रिकॉर्ड 57,000 रुपये प्रति किलो की गई। रोजा के दम 21,070 रुपये से 25 रुपये बढ़कर 21,095 रुपये प्रति दम पर आया। बाजार में 2,000 रुपये प्रति दम का इलाज हुआ। कांडी के दम 300 रुपये प्रति दम पर बाजार में 2,000 रुपये प्रति दम का इलाज हुआ। कांडी के दम 300 रुपये प्रति दम पर बाजार में 2,000 रुपये प्रति दम की गई। बाजार में 2,000 रुपये प्रति दम का इलाज हुआ। कांडी के दम 300 रुपये प्रति दम पर बाजार में 2,000 रुपये प्रति दम की गई। बाजार में 2,000 रुपये प्रति दम का इलाज हुआ। बाजार में 2,000 रुपये प्रति दम का इलाज हुआ।
नाल्को ने खिलाड़ियों को सम्मानित किया।

खान मज़ाले के अधीनस्थ सचिवालय उपकरण नेशनल अल्यूमिनियम रूपवाली हिस्ट्रीटेक (नाल्को) ने राज्यसभा इंडेशिया इंटरनेशनल इंडिया इंडिया में दलितों के लिए खिलाड़ियों को सम्मानित किया। नाल्को ने छठा दिवस राज्यसभा के उपकरण में राकोटे नगर में राज्यसभा इंटरनेशनल इंडिया इंडिया में स्वच्छ पानी की विभागीय भारतीय राज्य के दलितों को सम्मानित किया। इसके अन्य विवादों इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल इंटरनेशनल
नाल्को ने उत्पादन व बिक्री में बनाए नए कीर्तिमान

नई विस्तार: न्यायालय अल्पनिधिम कंपनी नवजीवन (नाल्को) ने, शेष विवरण वर्ष 2010-11 में अल्पनिधिम के उत्पादन व बिक्री में अब तक का सर्वाधिक प्रदर्शन किया है। खान मजबूत अंकों के अनुसार नये दस्तावेज देख पीले इस वर्ष अल्पनिधिम उत्पादक ने निकले विश्व वर्ष में 4.44 लाख टन उत्पादन किया।

इससे पहले 2009-10 में इस सरकारी उत्पादक ने 4.31 लाख टन अल्पनिधिम का उत्पादन किया था। नाल्को की अल्पनिधिम रिपोर्ट ने 15.56 लाख टन अल्पनिधिम आईटी का उत्पादन करते हुए अपनी विश्व वर्ष का 98.8 प्रतिशत उत्पादन किया। बालासाहेब खण्डन ने अपना का 100.5 प्रतिशत का उत्पादन करते हुए 48.24 लाख टन का उत्पादन किया। इसके अलावा नाल्को के बैलिज विजीली संध्या ने अपना का 660.8 जीप्ट कृषि की सुधार का उत्पादन किया है।

अल्पनिधिम की विपणन के के पहले बाजार में नाल्को की हिस्टोरी में धूप सुधार का प्रमुख कंपनी को नाल्को के नए रंग का प्रतीक रूप में मिला।

इस दीवार नाल्को ने 43.30 लक्ष टन धातु की चित्तरी करते हुए बनाया नवाज लाटाज बनाया है।

इसी के तहत प्रमुख बाजार में धातु की चित्तरी में नाल्को ने 3.40 लक्ष टन लाटाज को बनाया कर अपने पुरुषों रिजर्व को व्यवस्था कर दिया।

इसके अलावा कंपनी ने शेष में प्रति रंग के 4614 टन बिल्ट का उत्पादन किया। बाजार में अल्पनिधिम के छेद लाइट करते हुए कंपनी ने अपने तहत अनेक पहले की की है। इसके अलावा कंपनी ने लंबे में एस्ट्रील के पत्थर स्थापन के लिए अप्रैल में अल्पनिधिम के दाम 5.000 रुपये प्रति टन तक बढ़ा दिए है।
Silver hits new high at ₹57,000 per kg

Surpassing all previous records, silver rose to a new peak on Monday by rising ₹600 to ₹57,000 a kg on heavy buying by stockists and speculators amid a firming global trend.
Nalco raises aluminium prices

State-owned National Aluminium Company (Nalco) has increased the price of the metal across the categories by ₹5,000 a tonne in the wake of firming up of the prices in the London Metal Exchange (LME). Requesting anonymity, a senior company official said the rise has already been effected from April 2 and with this, the average aluminium price currently stands at ₹1.21 lakh per tonne. “We have effected the price rise by ₹5,000 per tonne. This was required to bring the price of the metal at par with the LME,” he said. The price of aluminium on LME is currently hovering at around $2,600 a tonne.

PTI
National Aluminium Company (Nalco) has increased the price of the metal across the categories by ₹5,000 a tonne due to firming up of the prices in the London Metal Exchange.
Nalco hikes aluminium prices by ₹5,000/tonne

State-run National Aluminium Co Ltd (Nalco) has raised aluminium prices by ₹5,000 per tonne in the domestic market, a senior company official said. “The revision in prices was done to match rising prices on the LME (London Metal Exchange),” he told Reuters.
Zuma's quest for India ties threatens S Africa power supply

Apr 4: South African President Jacob Zuma has forecast a “great future” for relations with India as he pushes for a partnership with one of the world’s fastest-growing economies.

Side effects for his country may include higher inflation and a power crisis.

Indian purchases of South African coal are beginning to suck up the low-quality fossil fuel used by national utility Eskom Holdings, which is spending $56 billion on a five-year expansion. As miners like Anglo American (AAL) and Xstrata (XTA) benefit from a 50% jump in prices over the last year, the government and Eskom say exports may need to be controlled.

“The price of coal is much more important than just for Eskom,” Cornels van der Waal, an energy analyst at Frost & Sullivan, said from Cape Town on March 18. “It’s the government’s duty to intervene to ensure that the bigger interest of the country, and not just the coal mining groups, derive the benefit of the minerals of the country.”

Countries including Indonesia, the world’s largest exporter of power-plant coal, are considering restrictions on mineral exports to safeguard their economies. South Africa relies on coal for 93 percent of its 40,870 mw power generation capacity. That’s the most of 12 countries heavily dependent on the fuel, according to London’s World Coal Association.

While South Africa has traditionally been the biggest source of high-quality coal needed by western European power plants, India became the largest market for its exports last year, buying more than a third of the 63 million metric tons shipped through Richards Bay Coal Terminal, or a 10th of South Africa’s total production.

That’s 11 times the volumes shipped five years ago, Geneva-based coal trader Comptoir Bal-land-Brugneaux SARL said in a February presentation in Cape Town. Indian buyers are willing to purchase coal that generates less heat per ton than European buyers.

South Africa’s biggest coal miners say it’s a “fallacy” that demand from India will compromise Eskom’s ability to supply power.

“Heavy handed mechanisms” may have unintended consequences that “may well prejudice security of primary energy supply,” Johannesburg’s Chamber of Mines, which represents the largest producers including BHP Billiton (BHP), said in a February statement. Anglo and Xstrata declined to make additional comment.

India’s coal imports may rise to 600 million tons in 2030 from 2010’s 85 mt, Kolkata-based Mjunction Services, a web-based commodity trader, said in a February presentation. The government is increasing power capacity by 18% to 200,000 mW by 2012.

“India is probably left with no option but to import lower grades of coal because of growing demand and insufficient domestic production,” said K Sriram, general manager, Singapore’s Trust Energy Resources, a unit of Tata Power, which is building a 6,000 mw power plant in India to use imported coal.

For Eskom, competition is not welcome as it struggled to finance expansion after a January 2008 power shortage, in part caused by inadequate coal stocks, closed most of the country’s mines and metal smelters for five days. Further power price increases will meet opposition after Eskom won regulatory approval to raise prices by about 25% annually last year; this year and in 2012. South Africa’s annual inflation is 3.7%.

Bloomberg
Ministry issues draft norms for competitive bidding of coal blocks

Our Bureau
New Delhi April 4

The Coal Ministry on Monday issued draft guidelines for allocation of coal blocks through competitive bidding to ensure transparency in the process.

This is in line with the New Exploration and Licensing Policy (NELP), which invites oil and gas companies to explore and produce hydrocarbons in the country.

The Ministry in consultation with the Central Mine Planning and Design Institute has come out with four set of options in the draft notice: inviting offers for captive mining of coal for permitted end use in the blocks offered for the purpose namely steel, power and cement sectors. Stakeholders have been asked to comment within 15 days.

An interesting feature is that the Ministry proposes to give preference in allotment of coal blocks to bidders whose end-plants are in the same State as the coal blocks.

The notified coal blocks will be offered with reserve price tags fixed by the Ministry on the basis of the assessed potentiality of the blocks. The bidders’ networth shall have to be at least equal to the reserve price tag and 15 per cent of the cost of its end use plant. Qualifying bids of a block shall be ranked on the basis of the diminishing values of the bids offered towards upfront payment. Eligible bidder can bid for more than one block indicating its priority for allotment.

Successful bidders shall be responsible for exploration, development, operation and post-operation activities including mine closures of notified captive coal blocks for end use.

At present, the coal blocks are offered to the end-users on a preferential basis by an inter-ministerial screening committee. An amendment to the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2010, in August last year paved the way for introduction of auction through competitive bidding for allocation of coal blocks to private companies for captive use.
Hunger for gold

Stocking-up: A study by the World Gold Council, ‘India: Heart of Gold’, states Indian households hold the largest stock of gold in the world at 18,000 tonnes. Gold purchases in India accounted for 32 per cent of the global total in 2010. The consumer demand for gold is estimated to touch 1,200 tonnes, at a value of Rs 2500 billion, by 2020, from 963 tonnes (Rs 1700 billion) in 2010, fuelled by GDP growth, rapid urbanisation, emergence of strong middle class, and increased savings and income levels. — K. K. Mustafah
In Jharkhand, children slog it out in ‘rat holes’ to make a living

Many work in unscientifically built mines, employing crude methods and risking their lives

DEATH TRAPS: Women and children at work in an illegal coal mine at Banwar Bhangarh village in Jharkhand. – PHOTOS: MANOJ CHOWDHURY

Jitu Pati

Jharkhand: Jitu Pati, 14, works in illegal coal mines, each a "rat hole," 300 feet and 400 feet deep, where a mere slip of the foot will plunge one to a certain death.

A large number of children aged below 14 are working in such mines, built unsafely, in Jharkhand’s Hazaribagh district. These mine workers are mostly from Orissa, West Bengal, Bihar, Chhattisgarh and Assam.

The way coal is mined is scary and complicated, as Jitu Pati explains: iron rods are hoisted and then sharpened for digging. Every five minutes, a wooden bucket containing coal is heaved out of a bore. The coal is dumped on the side of the quarry before being loaded on to the waiting truck. Every day, a child mines 20-40 buckets.

These mines are increasing in numbers, manned mostly by children ranging in age from 7 to 17. The Mines Act, 1952, stipulates that anyone aged below 18 cannot be employed in mines; the labour force laws permit the permissible age for employment at 14.

These labourers start work at 5 in the morning by the time they come out of the mine, it is dark. Then they drink and gamble.

The kin of those who die in accidents in these mines never get any compensation as the deaths are never recorded, claims Chitra Bhagri.

"It’s really dark inside. When I was there for the first time, I was scared, fearing whether I could even come to the surface," recalls Pratibha, 17.

"Everyone uses an oil lamp to light their way in the mine." With the frequent exposure to dust and coal particles, these children suffer from respiratory problems.

The primary health centre is out of reach.

Also, there is no clean water to flush. A single hand-pump serves a population of 600.

Water scarcity forces the people to use water the mines are filled with.

Frequent fatalities

Death plays hide and seek here, says Jitu Pati, a resident: there are frequent deaths in incidents of mine cave-ins, as the gaps are not properly filled after coal is extracted.

"The police have never investigated any death. Why are these children not in school? Pat comes the answer: ‘Poverty.”

As the rate of child labour is high, juvenile crime is also rampant.

The Jharkhand government has not given these workers any benefit under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act.

"MGNREGA is meant for the rich, not for the poor like us. We have gone to government officials for work so many times. They told us that the scheme was yet to reach these parts," some of them say.

Sexual harassment

Worst of all, adolescent girls face “sexual harassment.” Pradeep Singh, a medical practitioner, said: "The Hindus that the pills for termination of pregnancy were being used in large numbers. Many abortions are done in nursing homes, but they rarely come to government notice because these hospitals are not registered. A man at his home or even the people are afraid of the police — these people are only temporary. These units are made of plastic, materials and stores, so fragile that a strong wind can tear them away.

The state government is aware of the plight of these children, but it is yet to ensure their rights.

"We are aware of the situation. We can’t deny the accusations. The government is planning to provide these children with basic education and healthcare facilities," says Director-General of Police N.V. Rath.
Nalco achieves highest-ever metal output

Our Bureau

Bhubaneswar, April 5

National Aluminium Company Ltd (Nalco) has achieved the highest-ever cast metal production of 4,43,597 tonnes for 2010-11 against the previous best of 4,31,488 tonnes in 2009-10, according to a press release.

Nalco's alumina refinery achieved 98.8 per cent capacity utilisation by producing 15.56 lakh tonnes (l) of alumina hydrate, while bauxite mines produced 48.24 l with a capacity utilisation of 100.5 per cent.

The captive power unit generated 6,608 million units against the previous best of 6,293 million units in 2009-10.

On the sales front, the company achieved the highest-ever metal sale of 4,38,952 tonnes against the previous best of 4,35,979 tonnes in 2009-10. The rise in demand for aluminium in the domestic market led to the higher sales.

The highest-ever domestic metal sale of 3,40,752 tonnes was achieved in the year against 2,89,033 tonnes during the previous year.
Chinese Co bid for largest African mine boosts copper

Bloomberg
April 4

Copper rose in New York after China's Minmetals Resources Ltd. offered about $6.6 billion for copper miner Equinox Minerals Ltd., reving speculation of more demand for the metal by China, the world's largest buyer. It is seen as a bid to gain control of Africa's largest copper mine.

Copper for May delivery gained 2.8 cents, or 0.7 per cent, to $4.2865 a pound by 9:16 a.m. on the COMEX in New York. The metal for delivery in three months jumped $69.50, or 0.7 per cent, to $9,429.50 a tonne on the London Metal Exchange. Lead climbed as much as 5.1 per cent to $2,835 a ton, the highest price since April 2008.

LME copper inventories dropped 980 tonnes to 437,900 tonnes, according to the exchange. Lead rose on speculation that rebuilding in Japan after last month's earthquake and revived car sales will spur demand. Aluminium, tin, nickel and zinc also advanced in London.

Aluminium in London was little changed at $2,631.25 a tonne, and nickel was unchanged at $25,600 a tonne. Zinc advanced 1.5 per cent to $2,425 a tonne, while tin fell 0.7 per cent to $31,350 a tonne.
Nalco Raises Aluminium Prices By Rs 5,000 A Tonne

NEW DELHI State-owned National Aluminium Company (Nalco) has increased the price of the metal across the categories by Rs 5,000 a tonne in the wake of firming up of the prices in the London Metal Exchange (LME). Requesting anonymity, a senior company official told PTI that the hike has already been effected from April 2 and with this, the average aluminium price currently stands at Rs 1.21 lakh per tonne.

"We have effected the price hike by Rs 5,000 per tonne. This was required to bring the price of the metal at par with the LME," he said. The price of aluminium on the London Metal Exchange (LME) is currently hovering at around $2,600 a tonne from just over $2,500 per tonne a month ago.
SC Hearing on Iron Ore Export Ban Continues

REUTERS
NEW DELHI
Supreme Court will continue a hearing of an appeal against iron ore export ban in Karnataka on Tuesday. Karnataka, which accounts for a quarter of India's iron ore exports, banned shipments of iron ore from 10 ports and stopped its transport to other ports for exports in July last year. "We will continue the hearing tomorrow," one of the judges said, after turning down a request by the state government for a four-week extension.
खतरे मे है बाइमेर में सेना का आयुध डिपो

अभी भारत-पाकिस्तान सेना बाइमेर जिले के जसपाटी सेना का आयुध डिपो कहीं रहने के बाद खतरे के बाद पुनः मे है। इसके आधिकारिक होने जहां बाहर को लेकर सेना की घटक अधिकारियों ने सेना का नहीं कहा है कि इस क्षेत्र में खनन करने की उपलब्धता है। सेना का मानना है कि मित्र की पूर्व नामक ऑफिसर भी उसके पहुंचने के बाद इस क्षेत्र में खनन करने की उपलब्धता है। जिसकी मित्र की पूर्व नामक ऑफिसर भी उसके पहुंचने के बाद इस क्षेत्र में खनन करने की उपलब्धता है।