पर्यावरण का झटका | मंगलय ने टोकी स्वीकृति, राजस्थान की 28 खनन योजनाएं अटकीं

400 परियोजनाएं अधर में

अभ्यास निर्माण भी नहीं

कुछ राज्यों में बड़ी भवन व निर्माण योजनाएं भी पर्यावरणीय मंजूरी की राह लाकर रही हैं। तमिलनाडु में ऐसी परियोजनाओं की संख्या 102 तथा हरियाणा में 90 तक है।

अभी रिपोर्टेज के अटकाया

कमीशन सभी योजनाएं ‘पर्यावरणीय प्रभाव मूल्यांकन (एन्वायर्मेंट इम्पैक्ट एस्सेसमेंट) अक्सरजन-2006’ के नियम पूरे करने के कारण अटकीं।

दरअसल, परियोजना का प्रस्ताव देने वाली एजेंसी की इसी वजह से पर्यावरण पर पड़ने वाले प्रभाव और उसे हटाने करने के उपाय की रिपोर्ट देनी होती है। लेकिन ज्यादातर योजनाओं में इसका अभाव है। ऐसे में विशेषतः समतल तथा अन्य योजनाओं को रोक दिया है।

उत्तरप्रदेश की सर्वाधिक

अंकड़ों के मुधक मृत्यु प्रदेश में सर्वाधिक 31 खनन योजनाएं पर्यावरण मंजूरी का इंतजार कर रही हैं। यहां ताप विद्युत (थर्मल पावर) की 1 परियोजना भी स्वीकृति के रहे देख रही है। इसी तरह उड़ीसा की 23 खनन व 5 थर्मल पावर, झारखंड की 14 खनन व 2 टाप विद्युत परियोजनाओं, छत्तीसगढ़ की 10 तथा मध्यप्रदेश व महाराष्ट्र की 8-8 खनन योजनाओं को मंजूरी मिलने की इंतजार है। छत्तीसगढ़ की 1 एवं मध्यप्रदेश की 4 थर्मल पावर परियोजनाओं को भी मंजूरी मिली।
Afghanistan seeks investors for four copper, gold deposits

By Jesse Riseborough
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LONDON

Afghanistan has said it is seeking investors for four mineral deposits containing copper and gold, a week after Indian steel and mining companies announced plans to spend as much as $11 billion in the war-ravaged country.

The government is starting a tender process for deposits in the provinces of Badakhshan, Ghazni, Herat and Sar-i-Pul, and Balkh, according to a statement on Tuesday. The Badakhshan gold site comprises four licence areas of 250 sq. km each, while the Zar-kashan copper-gold project in Ghazni province hosts two licences of 242 sq. km each.

India and China have so far led foreign investment in the country’s mineral resources. A group of seven Indian steel and mining companies last week said they planned to invest $11 billion to develop iron ore mines and build a steel mill and power plant, after winning contracts in the country. The group won bids for three of four iron ore mines offered in the Hajigak region.

“The country’s rich mineral resources have the potential to transform the nation’s economy and provide early investors with substantial upside,” Waisidullah Shahrami, minister of mines, said in the statement. “Assessments of only a fraction of the country’s land area indicate the potential for considerable mineral resources.”

Shahrami is promoting the tender in London this week. The offer is expected to lead to mining accords, including licences for exploration and possibly exploitation, it said.

Canaccord Genuity, SRK Consulting and Mayer Brown are advising on the tender.

The Balkhab copper project in Sar-i-Pul and Balkh provinces in north-central Afghanistan has two exploration licence areas of 210 sq. km and 247 sq. km.

The Shalda copper project in the Ardasan district of the Herat province comprises one exploration licence of 250 sq. km.

One of the tenders won by the Indian group of investors last week included the Hajigak iron ore project.

Hajigak, a series of rugged mountain ridges 100km west of Kabul, holds an estimated 1.8 billion tonnes of ore and is the biggest mining project on offer in a country that the US government estimated last year holds $1 trillion of untapped minerals.
एससी-एसटी को कोर्ट के निर्देश के बाद भी खान आवंटन नहीं

प्रेजेडेट खान आवंटन नामका : गार्डियन में सरिता अर्णा तर्क के लोगों को भी है इंतजार

आदेश का पालन करा ना

हाई कोर्ट की ओर से निर्देश देने के तीन साल बाद भी एससी-एसटी के आवेदकों को खान आवंटित
नहीं की खान हो रही है। इसके पास ही भी 18 गार्डियन ओप्स भी खान
आवंटन का इंतजार कर रहे हैं, जिसमें कोर्ट ने अपनी कार्यकालीन परिस्थिति की थी। पार्टी नियम और
पूर्व पार्टी गार्डियन एप्स ने मुख्यमंत्री अधिकार गार्डियन के हस्तों ही दिया जाएगा। इसके अनुसार इन
रण में इन आवेदकों का साधन दी गई है। कुल 23 खानों में भी कोर्ट की आवेदकों को भी मुख्यमंत्री की घरों
को लिखाई किया जाएगा।

चूंकि की धर्म वर्ग के आवेदकों और
सरकारीता को खान आवंटन के
पूर्व भेजने का साधन दी गई है,
जिसमें भी आवेदक को हैं अवश्य।
Vedanta Aluminium says coal imports make no sense

RAJESH KUMAR
Hyderabad, 6 December

Vedanta Aluminium today said it was neither in the interest of any company, nor in the interest of the country, to depend on imported coal when there were ample coal reserves at home, with extraction cost as low as ₹10 per tonne for open cast and less than ₹2,040 for underground mining.

"Imported coal is, at best, a fallback option. Government should at least make arrangements to meet the coal needs of hinterland projects. Coal needs should be met only from the local sources," said S K Roonagta, managing director of Vedanta Aluminium.

"The government is looking at policy options such as auctioning new captive coal blocks and Vedanta was ready to bid for those once the policy was in place, he said on the sidelines of a three-day international aluminium conference which began here today. Vedanta is currently implementing plans to scale up the group’s total aluminium production capacity to 2.5 million tonnes. Roonagta says the company expects to achieve the total intended capacity in less than two years from now. An investment of ₹60,000 crore had been made on capacity expansion, including captive power projects, and 75 per cent of the capex had already been made, Roonagta said. The aluminium industry depends extensively on captive power generation."
‘Aluminium production may be hit’

Issues concerning allocation of coal blocks and environmental clearances may pose a threat to achieve the expected production levels of aluminium in the 12th plan, a senior official of the ministry of mines said. G Srinivas, Joint Secretary of Ministry of Mines said the current production of aluminium stood at 3.6 million tonnes per annum and is expected to reach 4.7 million tonnes by the end of the 12th plan.
AFGHANISTAN OPENS BIDS FOR GOLD MINES

Kabul, Dec. 6: Afghanistan opened bids on Tuesday on billions of dollars' worth of copper and gold deposits in four areas of the country that together are roughly half the size of the Grand Canyon.

Despite ongoing violence, Afghanistan has high hopes that its budding mining industry will generate billions in revenue to help rebuild the nation after 30 years of war. For Afghanistan, with virtually no exports, the minerals are a potential windfall but it will require international investment, a better transportation network and improved security.

Geologists have known for decades about Afghanistan's vast deposits of iron, copper, cobalt, gold and other prized minerals. The US defense department put a starring $1 trillion price tag on the vast mineral reserves, but the Afghan minister said other geological assessments and industry reports estimate the nation's mineral wealth at $3 trillion or more.
Mining scam: Central panel to reach Orissa today

DEBARATA MOHANTY
BHUBANESWAR, DEC 6

The state steel and mines department continued to be on the edge a day before the Centre-appointed Justice M B Shah Commission probing the illegal mining activities in different parts of the country lands here to inquire into Orissa mining scam.

Ahead of the commission's visit to Bhubaneswar today, the state government has tightened the screws on illegal miners sending show-cause notices to 57 mines for violation of mining and other laws.

The multi-crore mining scam, unearthed in 2009, is a complex case of over-mining, mining without lease, and mining in forest areas without the necessary clearance from the authorities concerned.

It led state government to suspend mining operations in hundreds of iron ore, manganese and chromite mines.
Environment Ministry Halts Vedanta’s Lanjigarh Plan

Ministry puts on hold the terms of reference for refinery expansion till HC passes verdict

NAGESHWAR PATHAK
BHUBANESWAR

Anil Agarwal-owned Vedanta Aluminium’s bid to expand its refinery capacity at Lanjigarh in Odisha’s Kalahandi district appears to have run into a legal hurdle with the environment ministry putting on hold the terms of reference for the expansion till the disposal of the Odisha High Court judgement.

Even as the high court reserved its judgment on the review petition filed by Vedanta Aluminium, the ministry issued the notice putting on hold the terms which are necessary to conduct an environment impact assessment, vital for a government approval.

"It is proposed that the issuance of the terms of reference be kept in abeyance till the disposal of the review petition by the high court of Odisha, Cuttack," the MoEF notice said.

Vedanta Aluminium president Mukesh Kumar said he was surprised to have received the letter at a time when the high court judgment was reserved. "We went to the high court for reviewing its earlier order for more clarity on the office memoran-

Vedanta group chairman Anil Agarwal

dum dated November 16, 2010, to qualify for the amnesty. The court has "inadvertently left unanswered" its plea to be considered under the MoEF’s notice.

Earlier, the environment ministry had allowed amnesty to Jindal Power’s Tamnar project and others.

Meanwhile, the Vedanta Aluminium president has made it clear that the ministry was wrong in considering its application as a fresh application, for issuance of TOR. "Although our covering letter dated July 22, 2011 ... clearly states that our request was only to grant environmental clearance under office memorandum dated November 16, 2010, by restarting the process from where it was stopped earlier, it appears from the letter dated December 1, 2011, that you are considering our application as a fresh application," the letter said.
Vedanta Aluminium to Bid for Coal Blocks

HYDERABAD Vedanta Aluminium, which had suffered a setback after the government banning bauxite mining at Niyamgiri, is now preparing to bid for coal blocks to ensure fuel security and to keep a check on costs. Vedanta managing director SK Roy says the company is waiting to participate in the next round of bids for coal blocks across the country. "We are waiting for the government to announce a new policy on auction of coal blocks. We will see what kind of coal blocks will be put on auction, keeping in mind our needs and the logistics involved," he said. — Our Bureau
S&P talk on lowering Europe ratings hits copper

Bloomberg
Dec 6

Copper fell in London on revived concern that Europe's sovereign-debt crisis may worsen after Standard & Poor's said it might lower credit ratings for euro-area nations including Germany and France.

Copper for three-month delivery declined 1.8 per cent to $7,800 a tonne by 9:37 a.m. on the London Metal Exchange. Prices retreated for a first day in three. Copper for March delivery fell 2 per cent to $3,544 a pound on the COMEX in New York.

Copper stockpiles monitored by the LME rose for a fourth day, climbing 600 tonnes to 390,100 tonnes, daily exchange figures showed.

Aluminium for delivery in three months on the LME fell 0.9 per cent to $2,130 a tonne. Tin rose 0.6 per cent to $20,125 a tonne, the only gain among the six main metals traded on the LME. Zinc declined to $2,014 a tonne and lead dropped 1.3 per cent to $2,092 a tonne. Nickel fell 2.7 per cent to $18,000 a tonne.
Government finalising industry Mission Plan

Our Bureau
Hyderabad, Dec. 6

The Government is in the advanced stages of finalising a ‘Mission Plan’ for aluminium to enhance per capita consumption of the metal in India and facilitate better exploitation of bauxite and coal resources.

Mr Vishwapati Trivedi, Secretary, Ministry of Mines, said the Mission Plan, when finalised, will also help the Government evolve a national policy for well-planned growth of the Indian aluminium sector.

“The plan will not only be relevant for the aluminium industry but strategic planning of the metal industry as a whole will revolve around it in the coming decades,” he said while inaugurating the Sixth International Conference on Aluminium (INCAL) here on Tuesday.

He said the Department of Science and Technology is actively involved with the Aluminium Association of India (AAI) to prepare a document on technology roadmap for Indian aluminium industry.

Mr G. Srinivas, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Mines, pointed out that India’s per capita aluminium consumption was about 1.5 kg, while that in Germany was 38 kg, Japan 30 kg and China 12 kg.

He felt that India and China will dictate prices and production of the metal by 2030, contributing about 44 per cent of the world production. “Faster clearances of mining leases and allocation of coal blocks for the aluminium sector will determine the pace of growth of this sector,” he pointed out.

Mr D. Bhattacharya, Managing Director of Hindalco and Honorary President of AAI, said the aluminium value chain in India was changing, with the transport and packaging sector set to consume more quantities of the metal. While electrical industry accounts for 41 per cent of the aluminium consumption in the country, the transport sector has a share of 17 per cent at present.

While the contribution of secondary aluminium in total production is to the extent of 20 per cent in India, that in the US was 57 per cent and Germany 61 per cent. “If one kg of aluminium replaces conventional material in vehicles, it will eliminate 20 kg of carbon dioxide. Railway wagons can use up to five tonnes of the metal per wagon,” he said.

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Mining rules thrown to wind

Devika Sequiera

PANAJI: Despite an outrage against illegal mining that thrived under the patronage of corrupt politicians and bureaucrats in the recent past, over 30 mining leases in Goa are still operated by persons or companies other than the lessee.

In clear violation of the rules, raising contractors, who supply heavy duty equipment required to excavate and load ore, control more than 30 mines in the state, a public interest litigation (PIL) filed by Goa Foundation, an NGO, in the Bombay High Court said.

Mining regulations, the Environment Protection Act and the Forest Conservation Act are violated when raising contractors are allowed to operate a mine. They are not directly bound to implement the conditions laid down by the environment and forest clearances. In any case, the authorities cannot take action against a contractor for violation of a clearance to which he is not a party, the NGO pointed out.

In Goa, ministers, their sons and other prominent politicians have managed to make a killing by becoming contractors, investing their questionably acquired wealth in high-
Mining rules thrown to wind in Goa

The NGO learnt through a Right to Information (RTI) application that the Goa State Pollution Control Board has also granted clearances to parties who are not the mining lease holders. The petition filed by the environment NGO in the High Court for which notices were issued on Monday also submitted that Section 37 of the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960, explicitly prohibits a third party from operating the mine without the lessee having obtained prior permission from the state or the Central government.

The Forest Rules and Guidelines issued under the Forest Conservation Act are also explicit that forest clearance is granted to the user agency alone. The clearances are issued in the name of the lease holder and cannot be utilised by another person without the approval of the competent authority.

The maximum investment in Goa’s mining industry after the China boom has come not from the mining companies or lease owners, but from the Goa Mining Machinery Owners’ Association, and individuals who have bought barges and trucks, a Goa Foundation report showed.

While investment in trucks and barges touched around Rs 2,200 crore, mining companies invested just Rs 662 crore in comparison.

DH News Service
इंडिया में मंगलवार को प्रतिष्ठित पर एक अंतर्राष्ट्रीय समिति और एक्विलियम की स्थापना की गई चार साल के सीयसी बीएस बाबा, तेहसील के पूरी पूरी टूटी, प्राप्ति-एक्सिबिशन ऑफ इंडिया के अध्यक्ष डॉ. भद्राकार्य और अन्य पत्रिकायों।