कौला क्षेत्र के लिए चुनौतीपूर्ण रहा साल

नई दिल्ली (वार्ता)। कौला क्षेत्र के लिए वर्ष 2011 उपलब्धियों और पुरस्कारों के साथ रहा। भौतिक और सामाजिक मार्गदर्शनीय में हो रही वृद्धि के महत्वपूर्ण कारणों को देखकर, कौला क्षेत्र की मांग का जवाब दिया गया।

हालांकि, कौला क्षेत्र की संस्कृति अपमूर्ति थी, तथा कौला निर्माण प्रभाव प्राप्त रहा। इसके लिए, उन्होंने सरकारी और प्रशासनिक क्षेत्रों को अभिलाषा देना शुरू किया। कौला क्षेत्र के लिए उच्च राजनीतिक सत्ता का शासन शुरू किया गया।

इस दीर्घकालिक प्रदाय के बाद, कौला क्षेत्र के सभी महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्रों को देखकर, कौला क्षेत्र क्रियात्मक बदल रहा और इसके संघ की क्षेत्र के साथ-साथ काम में भी में भाग लेने को मिला।

इसके बाद, राजस्थान और गुजरात की मध्य प्रदेश के स्थानों को जीतने के लिए अपने महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्रक्षेत्रों का जवाब देने पर इसका निर्देश में बहुत ही तक मदद मिली।

कौला क्षेत्र की आगाजित बढ़ने और नए खंडों में खनन सुरू करने के लिए, आर्थिक और सामाजिक दोहरी उन्नति के लिए दीर्घकालिक रणनीति का नकाशा दिया गया।

वर्ष 2011 के दर्शन के उपरांत, कौला क्षेत्र की महत्वपूर्ण खनन प्रगति के लिए रिसर्च डिपावर्ड (रोआईड) के लिए भी वर्तमान शासक क्षेत्र की स्थिति पूर्व रही। इस दीर्घकालिक विकास में उन्हें महत्वपूर्ण रहने वाली महत्वपूर्ण बदलते रहे।

अगस्त 2008 से यह नागरिक क्षेत्र की श्रेणी में था। मंत्रीश्लेष्मा राजनीतिक कोंवर्लेंच प्रसन्न के नवनामकरण का दर्शन मिला।
Quote Low Power Tariffs to Get Coal Blocks

New rules aim to protect consumers from spiralling electricity rates; bids from cement and steel companies will be based on upfront payment

SARITA CSINGH
NEW DELHI

Power companies will get coal blocks only if they quote low tariffs, a move that is expected to revive investment in the sector and protect consumers from spiralling electricity rates.

Blocks earmarked for the power sector will be given to states, which will have to invite tariff-based bids for electricity supply, a top mines ministry official said.

These states, in consultation with the power ministry, will then recommend allocation of blocks to the lowest bidders to the coal ministry.

“This decision has been taken after the power ministry’s insistence to avoid a spike in retail electricity tariff,” the official said. Since January 2011, power companies have to participate in tariff-based bidding to bag state electricity contracts. “Companies would have quoted higher tariff if coal blocks came at a high cost,” he said.

The government plans to auction 51 coal mines with 18,650 million tonnes of reserves after a gap of three years.

Cement and steel companies will have to participate in a two-stage bidding process that will be based on upfront payment, the official said.

The mines ministry will notify “the auction by competitive bidding of coal mines rules, 2011” once they are vetted by the law ministry. It expects aggressive bidding for the mines as overall coal deficit is likely to increase to 238 million tonnes by 2016-2017 from the present 53 million tonnes.

“Coal supply is the main problem for the Indian power sector. Such projects will undoubtedly attract response from power companies like ultra mega power projects do,” an Adani Power official said, adding that the proposed bidding process for projects with coal blocks will bring back investors to the power sector.

An official with JSW Energy said power companies would prefer to bid low for such projects with attached coal mines rather than wait for fuel supply from state-run Coal India Ltd.

The government is already planning steps to cap electricity tariffs of companies that have secure supplies from Coal India or captive mines.

Nearly 60% of the country’s power generation capacity is coal-fired and 22,000 MW capacity of new power plants is stranded for want of coal. The situation is unlikely to improve as Coal India has indicated that it will be able to supply only 100 million tonnes of additional coal to the power sector in the next five years which will not be sufficient to run projects commissioned in the 11th plan.

Some big blocks that will be auctioned include Dooaga-Pachham in West Bengal, Tantullol in Orissa and Ratanpura in Jharkhand.
3 Chinese Cos Bag Contract to Develop Copper Mines in India

Wenzhou Construction, Laiwu Steel and Sinosteel part of consortiums that won bids

RAKHI MAZUMDAR, KOLKATA

Three Chinese companies are part of consortiums that have bagged ₹1,600-crore worth of five contracts awarded by state-owned Hindustan Copper to raise its production four-fold to 12 million tonnes over the next five years.

While Chinese companies are already building steel plants in India, it will be the first time that they will be involved in developing domestic copper mines.

“We awarded the contracts through a transparent two-stage bid process. It should, hopefully, set a template for all such mining jobs in the future,” said Shokeel Ahmed, chairman and managing director of Hind Copper, the country’s only copper miner.

A consortium of Maheshwari Mining and Wenzhou Construction Group of China has bagged the engineering, procurement, construction (EPC) contract worth ₹97 crore to develop Khetri mines in Rajasthan over a five-year period. HCL had invited tenders for supply and installation of ore handling system and allied excavation at Khetri.

Two other Chinese firms, Laiwu Steel Group Mine Construction and Sinosteel Engineering Design & Research Institute of China, are part of a consortium which has bagged ₹206.34-crore project at HCL’s Surda mines in Jharkhand. Shriram EPC Ltd is the lead member of the consortium which will supply and instal winders, ore handling system and allied mines development.

The ₹256.50-crore contract for development of a 1.5 MT underground mine in Jharkhand’s Chapri-Sidheshwar has been bagged by Maheshwari Mining along with Wenzhou.

The largest contract of ₹1,176.12 crore, for expansion of the Malanjkhand mines, was bagged by a consortium led by IVRCL Infrastructures & Projects. The other members of the IVRCL-led consortium are MCCL of Ukraine, Teknomin Constructions Limited Vijaywada and Davy Markham of UK.

China Coal Mine Construction Group was one of the companies which had been shortlisted on basis of price bids submitted for the project.

Hindustan Copper has lined up a detailed plan for development of 5 MT underground mine at Malanjkhand that will contribute the largest chunk in its bid to raise output from 3 MT to 12 MT.
'Iron ore still crossing Goa border on the sly'

Press Trust of India
Panaji, Dec. 29

Goa's mining industry, in the last six months, has reported almost 10 per cent of its iron ore being exported under doubtful circumstances despite being under strict surveillance for illegal mining activities.

Records indicate that between April-November, 2011, total 24 million tonnes of iron ore was exported from both the ports in Goa-Panaji port and Mormugao Port Trust (MPT).

Of the entire export, only 21 MMT was registered with the Goa Mineral Ore Exporters Association (GMOEA) and the rest remains unclassified, GMOEA Secretary, Mr Glenn Kalavampara, said.

GMOEA is a body of exporters in the state, which has biggest miners as its members.

Suspicion shrouds 3 MMT of Iron Ore, which was exported by small-time traders, usually termed as fly-by-night operators.

Goa witnessed unprecedented regulatory measures by the State Government after the Mr Justice M B Shah Commission began its probe into illegal mining activities. Around 400-odd traders, who were linkages between exporters and mine owners, were summoned by the State Mines and Geology Department following which it was found that many of these operators worked with fake addresses.

The Goa Government also tightened the noose around the ports after it was known that of the total 54 million tonnes of ore sent through Goa ports, around 7 MMT was unclassified.

The situation was expected to be improving this financial year after much discussion on the unclassified ore but it remained the same.
Metal prospects hinge on international price revival

The year 2011 has ended for metal companies on a weak note, and nothing suggests 2012 will be any better. In the domestic market, there is a marked slowdown in sectors such as infrastructure, automobiles, real estate and engineering.

Rising interest rates mean that working capital and even term loans coming up for renewal are becoming more expensive. A depreciating rupee may be good for sales growth, but imported input costs such as those of coal become expensive too. What’s worse, most companies have significant foreign currency-related exposures, which has resulted in mark-to-market losses scarring their financial results. These losses may be notional, but investors understandably baulk at the magnitude of the same.

In the international markets, the euro zone’s fiscal problems have hurt both growth and sentiment. This is affecting demand for both ferrous and non-ferrous metals. Since demand from investors too plays a role in price discovery for non-ferrous metals, the effect is more pronounced there. On the London Metal Exchange (LME), for example, aluminium, copper and zinc prices are down 20-25% from the start of the year. The falls are sharper when compared with the year’s high levels.

In steel, the fall in product prices is not as pronounced as the effect that rising costs—of iron ore and coking coal—are having on margins, along with slowing demand. Steel prices have not fallen by much year-on-year, but are down from the preceding quarter. The CRU Group’s global steel price index (weekly) as of 22 December was down by 8% compared with the 6 October level, and down by 10% compared with the 7 July level. It is up by about 3% from a year earlier.

Steel makers will get some relief on the margin front from a deceleration in iron ore and coking coal costs. Non-ferrous metal companies too will benefit from more benign cost trends.

In India, slower economic growth is predicted. In the near term, therefore, the outlook continues to be uncertain. While the Reserve Bank of India has paused on interest rate hikes, it is in no hurry to lower them yet. If the rupee strengthens against the dollar, that could be positive in the short term. In the medium to long term, unless economic growth recovers, especially on the capital investments front, it is difficult to expect a sustained revival in demand. The only quick remedy for the industry is if international metal prices move up due to an improvement in sentiment or a tighter supply situation. That will have a knock-on effect on domestic prices as well, which should earn better realizations for metal companies.