सोना-चांदी नई ऊँचाइयों पर

नई दिल्ली, (एनएनपीसी. वार्ता, भाषा): अबराकर की अर्थव्यवस्था पर चढ़ी आरोपी के कारण अंतरराष्ट्रीय कारोबार में सोने और चांदी के दामों तीव्रता उत्पन्न हो गई जिससे आज दिल्ली सरकार बाबर में दोनों कोर्टों में पड़ों ने नया इतिहास रच दिया। कारोबार के दौरान सोने के दाम 215 रुपए बढ़कर रिकार्ड 19405 रुपए प्रति दस ग्राम पर टपक गए और चांदी बढ़ने के। ▶ लेख पृष्ठ 9 पर
साफ़ चाँदी भी 525 रुपए की कीमत में लागत हुए रिकार्ड 30950 रुपए प्रति किलो बेचा गया। सोने से मिले समाचारों के अनुसार अमेरिका के अर्थव्यवस्था के बाद भी मुनाफे की उम्मीद निवेशकों को नहीं है। कारोबार के दौरान चाँदी भार 79.35 दालर प्रति औसत के सार की रोपी गई। हालांकि बाद में इसका कारोबार 1250.55 दालर प्रति औसत पर किया गया जबकि पिछले कारोबारी दिनों में न्यूयॉर्क में थे 1246.99 दालर प्रति औसत पर बेचे गए थे।

चाँदी के भाजी में रोज 800 रुपए। कारोबार के दौरान चाँदी के भाजी 19.53 दालर प्रति औसत तक गए जैसे 17 मई के दौरे सबसे बड़ी है। हालांकि बाद में इसका कारोबार 19.42 दालर प्रति औसत रहा। पिछले कारोबारी दिनों में थे 19.34 दालर प्रति औसत पर रहे थे। जानकारों का कहना है कि अमेरिका के अर्थव्यवस्था का हाल अगर उम्मीद से लंबा चाली सी और बिशी बाजारों की हालत खराब रही। सोने के लिए निवेशक पुर्जों सिर्फें रहे। अर्थव्यवस्था को पेट्रोल पर नीचे के लिए जेनरल बढ़ा और कई बदल झटपट सकता है।
Nalco mulls equity sale in
$3.9 bn-project in Indonesia

STATE-owned Nalco today said it is considering selling stake in its $3.9 billion (over Rs 18,000 crore) aluminium project in Indonesia in lieu of acquiring equity in coal mines in the island country.

"We are open to selling stake in the aluminium project to the firm, which offers us its coal mines. In return, we will acquire stake in the coal mine offered to us," Nalco director Finance BL Bagra told PTI.

Nalco holds 76 per cent stake in the Indonesian project, while RAK Minerals & Metals Investments, a unit of RAK Investment Authority, holds 24 per cent.

"We will always maintain majority stake in the project," he added. The project comprises setting up of a five-lakh-tonne smelter and an integrated 1,250 MW power plant in Indonesia.

The company will import required alumina to run the smelter from its India operations. The company is looking for captive coal block to run the plant and had yesterday invited companies interested in selling coal mines.

Nalco is looking for a coal mine with an estimated reserves of 500 million tonnes and an annual production capacity of 10 million tonnes starting from 2014 for running the project.

There are about 200 coal mines in East Kalimantan province, where the project is proposed, Bagra said. "Last day for submitting offers to our Expression of Interest is September 30, 2010. We plan to launch financial bids in October-November," he said.

Asked if Nalco's JV partner RAK Minerals could be a possible partner for coal supply to the project, Bagra said, "They are already developing coal deposits there. They can also submit proposal to us. At present, they are our potential partner in the aluminium project."

As per the agreement with RAK Minerals, the UAE-based company will set up infrastructure like railway and port in the island country to cater to the project.
YELLOW METAL HITS ₹19,230

Gold price at record high

AGE CORRESPONDENT

Sept. 1: Gold prices touched yet another high on Wednesday as concerns over the health of the US economy pushed the investors towards the metal. Gold prices closed at a level of ₹19,230 per 10 grams in Mumbai on Wednesday. Prices of silver are also up.

Apart from bad economic news globally, a weak rupee is also pushing up prices in India. In the near term however, experts feel there could be a small correction in the yellow metal.

"Whatever data points are coming out of the US are not very good," says Mr Kunal Shah, of Nirmal Bang Securities. "That's driving investors to gold as the pace of recovery is not very convincing," he adds.

"Apart from the fear of another downturn, gold prices are going up because of a weakening rupee," says Mr Rajesh Mehta, managing director, Rajesh Exports. He feels that while gold prices are in uncharted territory now, a drop in the next six months is likely.

The expectation of a correction is echoed by Mr. Kuljeet Kataria of Motilal Oswal. "Apart from other factors, gold consumption is expected to be strong in India this year," he says.

"This is because the monsoon has been good, which should lead to higher rural incomes — places where there is no banking. So that should lead to an increase," he adds.

However, a 6-8 per cent correction is likely in the near term, he says.

Apart from gold, silver prices have also been going up over the past few weeks. Silver prices crossed ₹31,000 per kg on Wednesday.

Analysts say that apart from its status as a precious metal, silver also benefits as there is a strong industrial demand in many emerging industries.

Gold in Q2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supply</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mine supply: 644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government sales: 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old gold: 496</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total supply: 1,132</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demand</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jewellery: 406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial &amp; dental: 107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment: 243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ETF: 291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total demand: 1,047</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Gold jewellery demand in India, the largest jewellery market, was little changed from year-earlier levels, down just two per cent at 124 tonnes. All figures in tonnes.*

Source: World Gold Council
DONGRIYA STORY OFFERS A GLIMPSE INTO THE REALITY OF TRIBAL INDIA

Pataleka Chatterjee

THE ASIAN AGE, DELHI
THURSDAY, 2ND SEPTEMBER 2010, PAGE: 14

The Dongria Kondh people, who live in the Naveen mini-Hills of Orissa, are embroiled in a long struggle to protect their lands and forests against mining companies. The Dongria consider their land to be sacred and believe that it is their duty to preserve it for future generations. The government has plans to mine rare earth minerals in the area, which the Dongria oppose. The struggle between the government and the Dongria has been going on for several years, and it is a battle for the preservation of their culture and way of life.

The Dongria have a unique system of governance, where decisions are made through a council of elders. They believe in living in harmony with nature and have a deep respect for their ancestors. The Dongria have been resisting the mining projects, and their struggle has been gaining international attention.

The Dongria are also opposed to the proposed construction of a dam in the area, which would displace thousands of people and destroy their way of life. They have been fighting against the construction of the dam for many years, and their struggle has been supported by various organizations.

The Dongria’s struggle is not just about protecting their land and forests but also about preserving their culture and identity. They believe that their land is their heritage, and they want to ensure that future generations can continue to live in harmony with nature.

The Dongria’s struggle is an example of how indigenous communities are fighting for their survival and rights in the face of development projects that threaten their way of life. It is a battle against modernization and progress, and it is a struggle against the forces that seek to exploit their land and resources.

The Dongria’s struggle is also a reminder of the importance of respecting the rights of indigenous communities and their rights to self-determination. It is a call to action for governments and international organizations to support the Dongria’s struggle and to ensure that their rights are protected.

The Dongria’s struggle is a battle against the forces of modernization and progress, and it is a struggle against the forces that seek to exploit their land and resources. It is a battle against the forces that seek to destroy their way of life and culture, and it is a battle for the survival of their people.

The Dongria’s struggle is an example of the resilience and determination of indigenous communities in the face of adversity. It is a battle for the preservation of their culture and way of life, and it is a battle for the future of their people.

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76 held for vandalism at refinery

AKSHAYA KUMAR SAHOO
BHUBANESWAR

Sept. 1: Contractual workers, who reportedly lost their work after some projects implemented by work-contractors were wound up at Vedanta Aluminium's Lanjigarh refinery in Orissa's Kalahandi district, went berserk on Wednesday and ransacked properties of the plant.

At least 76 contractual workers were taken into custody and the police said they would be forwarded to court on Wednesday night. “We have taken into custody at least 76 people who indulged in vandalism. They will be forwarded to court after questioning,” Kesinga sub-divisional police officer Akshaya Nayak said.

Kalahandi district collector told this newspaper that a team of senior officials have rushed to the site.
Why not use oil & gas model to allot mines, asks Bhartia

State govs should secure clearances before land is allocated to companies for development: CII President

For oil and gas, the government applies for and gets approvals and then goes for the bidding. If we are following it for oil and gas, why can’t it be for mining projects?

HARI BHARTIA
CII PRESIDENT

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 1
9-3-15
LARGE mining projects can be salvaged from potential political controversies if the government adopts the model used in oil and gas sector for exploration of other minerals too, the Confederation of Indian Industry president Hari Bhartia has said. This is the first time an industry chamber has commented on the issues surrounding the allocation of mining rights after the government denied environmental and forest clearances to Vedanta’s proposed bauxite mining venture at Orissa’s Niyamgiri.

The government secures environmental and other necessary clearances before it proposes to allocate oil and gas blocks through competitive bidding.

At the Express Group’s Idea Exchange programme, Bhartia said the same model could be employed for allocating mining rights for other minerals also. The government can then ask for a commensurate revenue share form the mining activity as it gets profit petroleum. “The problem begins when something is first allocated to a company and clearances are sought later,” he said.

“For oil and gas exploration, the government applies for and gets the environment approvals and then goes for the transparent bidding. If we are following it for oil and gas, why can’t it be for mining projects,” Bhartia asked.

In a letter to Vedanta posted on the environment ministry’s website on Wednesday, it asked the company to explain why the environment clearance given to its Orissa plant should not be revoked.

Asked for CII’s views on the Niyamgiri episode, he said the industry body has not formed a view on the subject since the company concerned, Vedanta, has not approached it for any help. “CII takes up an issue when it affects a large number of its member companies. On Vedanta, CII has no view because no one has spoken to us about it. We are watching the situation closely but we have not raised an alarm so far,” Bhartia said.

Asked for his personal view as an industry observer, he said he’s not privy to what all transpired between the government and the company; therefore, it was difficult for him to form a view and comment. “There may be some positives and some negatives, unless one is privy to all the details, it is difficult to form a view,” he said.

However, Bhartia said Niyamgiri-like situations happen all over the world and companies have to deal with the interests of local communities. “Issues pertaining to environment, in the case of mining in the forest or hills, or marine-life related issues in the event of oil exploration in the sea do crop up. Companies have to learn to deal with such situations specially when local communities are involved,” he said.

Still, with land acquisitions posing challenges to various industry and infrastructure projects, is CII worried?

“We are concerned. Large industrial projects need land. CII has been telling various state governments that they have a key role. Ultimately, the industries will go to only those states which are proactive,” he said. Emphasising on the role of state governments, Bhartia said that large projects like automobile manufacturing plants, hospitals, educational institutions among others require large amounts of land. Therefore, state governments are in the best position to acquire land before inviting private sector companies.

Anil Agarwal’s Vedanta Resources proposes to mine bauxite from Niyamgiri hills for its aluminium refinery in nearby Lanjigarh in Orissa.
पहाड़ को खोखला करती परियोजनाएं

राजस्थान सरकार की उप-राज्य संपत्ति समाधान परियोजना के अंतर्गत मोज सहायता प्राप्त करने के लिए राजस्थान राज्य वित्त मंत्री उप-राज्य संपत्ति आयोग के अध्यक्ष दर्शनी त्रिशेष ने सभी राजस्थानी मुद्रा मन्त्री से मिलकर राजस्थान सरकार के उपराज्य संपत्ति आयोग के अध्यक्ष दर्शनी त्रिशेष की उपस्थिति में एक सम्मेलन किया।

अध्यक्ष दर्शनी त्रिशेष ने कहा कि राजस्थान सरकार का उद्देश्य है कि राजस्थान में स्थापित हो जाए जससे राजस्थान में वित्तीय समस्याओं का समाधान हो सके। उन्होंने कहा कि राजस्थान सरकार का उद्देश्य है कि राजस्थान में स्थापित हो जाए जससे राजस्थान में वित्तीय समस्याओं का समाधान हो सके।

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लेखक ने कहा कि राजस्थान सरकार का उद्देश्य है कि राजस्थान में स्थापित हो जाए जससे राजस्थान में वित्तीय समस्याओं का समाधान हो सके। उन्होंने कहा कि राजस्थान सरकार का उद्देश्य है कि राजस्थान में स्थापित हो जाए जससे राजस्थान में वित्तीय समस्याओं का समाधान हो सके।
N Korea forges trade papers to evade sanction

SEOUL: North Korea has changed the names of its trading companies and falsified trade documents to avoid international sanctions, a news report and an intelligence official said Wednesday. Since the UNSC sanctions last year, North Korea has changed the names of two companies — Korea Mining Development Trading Corp. and Korea Tangun Trading Corp. — to Gapmun Tosong and Jasong-dang Trade, the Dong-a Ilbo newspaper reported, citing South Korean and US officials.

North Korea is also transporting arms exports through China and using forged trade invoices, for example labeling torpedoes as fish processing equipment.
Vedanta plant gets showcase notices

Labourers vandalise office premises

DEBabrata Mohanty
Bhubaneswar, Sept 1

A WEEK after the Ministry of Environment and Forests denied clearance to Vedanta’s alumina refinery for bauxite mining in Niyamgiri mountains of Kalahandi district, the embattled company on Wednesday received another jolt with the ministry issuing two showcase notices to it asking why its existing 1 million tonne alumina refinery at Lanjigarh should not be closed down.

The letter from MoEF scientist Nalini Bhatt, dated August 31, issued to the Director (business development) and COO of Vedanta Aluminium asked why environmental clearance to the 1 MTPA refinery issued in 2004 should not be revoked under Section 5 of Environment Protection Act, 1986. The company, which has been given 15 days to reply to the notice, was also asked why direction for closure of the 1 MTPA refinery should not be issued.

The letter said “appropriate orders” will be passed if no replies were received within 15 days.

COO of Lanjigarh refinery Mukesh Kumar, however, said the company is yet to get the notice and Vedanta has not done any violations.

Meanwhile, trouble ensued at the refinery on Tuesday when hundreds of labourers engaged in refinery expansion work by L&T, vandalised the office premises demanding advance payment.
Hegde questions Reddy presence at mining meet

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BANGALORE, SEPT 1

The Karnataka government's seriousness on curbing illegal iron ore mining in the state has once again been questioned after Chief Minister B S Yeddyurappa invited Tourism Minister G Janardhan Reddy, who has himself been accused of illegal mining, to a key meeting on the issue on Tuesday.

The propriety of Reddy's presence was questioned by Karnataka Lokayukta Justice Santosh Hegde, government officials and Opposition Congress leaders.

"If the meeting was pertaining to mining only, it was inappropriate for a person against whom allegations have been made to be in attendance since he is involved in the mining business. It would have been alright if the meeting was about Bellary in general," said Hegde.

Some officials of the state's Forest and Transport departments said Reddy's presence prevented them from briefing the CM on the measures that can be taken to stop illegal mining as the minister would not listen to suggestions for stricter control on the weight of ore carried by trucks.

The Congress too lashed out at the BJP. "It is like sending a message to officials that they must stop illegal mining by everybody but the Bellary minister. This only shows that the BJP as a party has a stake in this business and that's why we want a CBI probe," Congress leader V S Ugrappa said.

However, a forest department official claimed Reddy was there in his capacity as the minister in charge of Bellary.
वेदोता के कार्यलय पर
हमला, संपत्ति को नुकसान

नई दिल्ली (एएसबी)। वेदोता (रिलेसेंस) ने कहा कि बुधवार ने आज लंबी अवधि में उसके कार्यलय पर हमला किया और एक कारोबारी जड़ें मूल्य की संपत्ति को नुकसान पहुँचाया। कंपनी के उप मंडल ने एक उप-कार्यदर्शक रात को इस पटकी के कारोबारी संपत्ति में एक फ़ॉलिंग रात होना कहा है। प्रशिक्षक कार्यक्रम पर एलाइंडी प्रकाश का उप कूट एलाइंडी के बीच बाहरी अंगूठी रहने के बाद बुधवार अपराजित लोगों ने दे रहे यह भी बीती। कंपनी को कहा गया है कि पश्चात 100 रोइटे के समूह ने वेदोता एलाइंडी लिमिटेड के कार्यलय को भाग लगाकर किया गया। इस बीच परिवर्तन मंडल ने उसकी बिना अनुमति के अपनी रिपोर्ट ने चलायी। बिजली संचालक (लाउडबाइक) की शैक्षा बाई के मामले में देवदूत को आरोप बदायों उपर जारी किया गया है। कंपनी को एक पत्थर में नबब देंवा होंगे। गंभीर ने कहा है कि कंपनी इस परिस्थिति के लिए 2004 में दो गई परिवर्तन मंडल के बाद नियमों का अनुपालन नहीं कर रही है।
खनन परियोजनाओं के मुनाफे की 26 फीसद रकम विस्थापित को मिलेगी

60-10

नई दिल्ली, 1 सितंबर (न्याय) खनन कंपनियों को अपने मुनाफे की 26 फीसद रकम के संपर्क में विस्थापित लोगों को देनी होगी। खान मंशिलों ऐसे प्रवासियों को अनिवार्य बनाते हुए उसे अंतिम रूप से रहा है। लेकिन उर्मिला जाना सरकार के इस कदम का विशेष नहीं है। खान रिश्वत ऐसे विवाद कुमार ने कहा - हम यह युनिलिक करना चाहते हैं कि प्रभुक्ष के खनन पुलिस में कंपनियों इस सामाजिक जिम्मेदारी को भी निभाएं।

नए खनन विवेचन में प्रस्तावित मुआवजा योजना को मंशिल है। फिरणे को देने में जुटा है। इसके बाद प्रताप को जनता के लिए मंजी समूह के पास भेजा जाएगा। खान मंशिल के एक अधिकारी ने बताया तक नए मंजी समूह की बैठक की तारीख अभी तक नहीं हुई है। लेकिन मंजी समूह की 30 जुलाई को हुई बैठक में परियोजनाओं से कंपनियों के मुनाफे की 26 फीसद रकम के बंटवारे को मंजी है जा चुकी है। खान मंजी बोले हैं कि इससे हमें पहले कह चुके हैं कि नए खान विवेचन को संसार के चालू रह रहे पेशेवरों को पैसा किए जाने की उम्मीद है। ताकि सार्वजनिक सत्ता में इसे पाना कराया जा सके।

हालांकि उर्मिला का मंशिल इस प्रताप का विशेष नहीं है। उर्मिला मंशिल फिकियों और भारतीय खनन उर्मिला फिकी (फिजी) ने पूर्व में मांसाल के 26 फीसद भागिनी के प्रताप को खाली कराया है उर्मिला का मंशिल कराया है और व्यावसायिक सत्ता में है।

प्रस्तावित मुआवजा योजना के मुनाफे की 26 फीसद रकम अनिवार्य है। इसके अलावा मंशिल का प्रताप है कि मंजी को परियोजना में हालात हो जाती है या पाठ में आ जाती है। तो कंपनियों ऐसे लोगों की जिम्मेदारी का अभिव्यक्त किया गया है, जब भी है रकम मुआवजे के लाभ में देनी, जो वे राष्ट्र सरकार को रंगल्ले के रूप में देने रहते हैं। खनन कंपनियों द्वारा राष्ट्र सरकार को रंगल्ले के रूप में देने रहे वाली रकम कंपनियों में होती है।
Orra Diamonds eyes Rs 75-cr PE funds

Bindu D. Menon
New Delhi, Sept. 1

Orra Diamonds, a part of the $1.8-billion Belgian group Rosy Blue, is adopting a multi-pronged strategy to increase its thro-put in India.

The company said it will be raising Rs 75 crore through private equity investments.

Apart from looking at a private equity infusion of Rs 75 crore for its retail expansion, the company is eyeing a sustained growth through market diversification and design differentiations strategy.

"In the coming years, India will present a huge retail opportunity for us to grow. Despite high prices, we have been experiencing a same-sale growth of 50 per cent year-on-year," Mr Vijay Jain, CEO Orra Diamonds, said on the sidelines of a product launch.

"This (PE investments) will be mainly to fund our retail expansion over the next three years," he said, adding that Orra will be soon appointing merchant bankers for the same.

Mr Jain owns 15 per cent in the venture, while the balance 85 per cent is held by the Belgian company. Currently, the company has 30 stores in 20 cities and also exports diamonds to 15 countries including the US.

"We are looking to add one store every alternate month. The market is highly fragmented. But with large business houses and family owned business coming into retail in a big way is leading to consolidation in the industry," he said.

Orra's expansion is largely through the company-owned company-operated model.

The company will not restrict itself to the metros but is also entering mini-metro like Nagpur and Baroda which has been showing consistent growth for branded jewellery. Mr Jain said a typical store takes about 12 months to break-even in India.
Gold glitters at ₹19,405

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 1

Gold today climbed to an all-time of Rs 19,405 per 10 grams in the bullion market here after frantic buying stockists to meet the rising demand during the ongoing festival season.

The precious metal mirrored the gains in global markets, the trend setter on the domestic front, marketmen said.

Gold prices spurted by Rs 215 to trade at a record high of Rs 19,405 per 10 grams, surpassing the previous record level of Rs 19,220 set on June 8.

Marketmen said that a sharp rise in demand from jewellers and stockists to meet the ensuing festival season demand boosted the uptrend. --- PTI
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 1

The Monsoon Session of Parliament concluded yesterday with both the Houses sitting for two extra days - 26 instead of the planned 24 -- to compensate for time lost to disruptions. Still, the Lok Sabha lost 18 hours of business and the Rajya Sabha six.

Question Hour did not take place on nine days in both Houses. In the Lok Sabha, only 10 per cent listed questions were orally answered - something the government today described as a matter of "grave concern". "Presiding officers of both Houses are proposing to move Question Hour to another time of the day. We are open to all arrangements to ensure the Question Hour is held," Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pawan Bansal said.

On the legislative front, the government claimed it did well by passing 24 Bills. The plan was to pass 33. Analysis of data on legislative business in Parliament's monsoon session collated by PRS Legislative Research, New Delhi, shows that the Lok Sabha passed 47 per cent Bills in less than two hours.

The controversial Civil Liability for Nuclear Damages Bill was the most debated law followed by the MP Salary Hike Bill. The N-Liability law was also the only one that saw Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's intervention. In the lower house, 20 MPs debated this law over 4.7 hours while in the Rajya Sabha, 25 members discussed it for 5.1 hours.

Other laws that saw discussions for over three hours were the Mines and Minerals Amendment Bill (permits auction through competitive bidding for allocation of coal blocks for captive mining), Educational Tribunal Bill (to set up tribunals for out of court settlement of educational disputes) and the Foreign Trade Amendment Bill (includes services for export incentives and permits quantitative restrictions).

The least discussed laws in Lok Sabha were the MCI Amendment Bill (to replace the ordinance dissolving MCI), Representation of People Amendment Bill (provides voting rights to NRIs) and Personal Laws Amendment Bill (makes adoption gender neutral).

Four laws had to be deferred due to opposition - the Enemy Property Bill in the Lower House and Educational Tribunals Bill in the Upper House. Bills pertaining to control of Wakf properties and prevention of torture have also been referred to select committees of Upper House and will be taken up later.

In the Lok Sabha, six short discussions were held under Rule 193 (urgent importance) on delay in preparation of the Commonwealth Games, the Bhopal gas tragedy, illegal mining, atrocities against SCs, STs, Kashmir situation and floods and drought in the country. The Rajya Sabha discussed the Bhopal tragedy and illegal mining.

Interestingly, the monsoon session was the first of the 15th Lok Sabha when the Prime Minister was not on a foreign tour and was available throughout the proceedings. He, however, participated in no debate except the one on the N-Liability Bill.
छठनी आदेश से गृहस्थ श्रमिकों
ने बेदाता पांव में तोड़फोड़ की।

सुनामगढ़, (आती): उड़ीसा के
लांजीपुर जिले में बेदाता के तहसील के तहत,
ठेका मांडूर के बीड़ी आदेश कार्य
किये जा रहे विभिन्न विभागों के द्वारा,
उनके ठेके पांव और तोड़कटोड़ी की शिकायत कर दिया।

के संस्था के सुप्रीमो पुलिस
अधिकारी अधिकूर्त नानक ने
हालांकि कि 2000 से अधिक श्रमिक
बीड़ी रात करीब 11 बजे लौटें और
हट्टियार्स से नौकरों द्वारा आये और उन्होंने
पांव, बस्सार्टी भनन लेना और अन्य
सम्पत्ति का नुकसान पहुँचवाया।

इस पटना में पांव को करोड़ों रुपए की
सम्पत्ति का नुकसान पहुँचवाया।
बेदाता एल्युट्रीमेंट पांव पर तोड़कटोड़ी
नुकसान की शिकायत कर रहे थे।
मजबूत लोग ठेके पांव तोड़कटोड़ी
कर रहे थे। बाद में पुलिस ने 40
से अधिक श्रमिकों को गिरफ्तार किया।

उनमें गुलाब और जीवाणु की शिकायत कर दिये गये थे।
उन्हें यदि इस संस्था के भवन में
बेदाता के ठेके पांव की समस्या को उन्हें
पहुँचाया तो उन्हें बाहर निकाला जा सकता था।

केन्द्रीय पुलिस कार्यालय और बीड़ी संगठन द्वारा बेदाता
कंपनियों को राष्ट्रीय कार्यकर्ता के नियमों के
पावन से बाहर खाने के लिए फिर तोड़कटोड़ी के
फैलाव में फांसी का जाम कर रहे
एल एंड टी कंपनियों ने अपने कार्य को
बंद कर दिया और 5000 से अधिक
श्रमिकों के छठनी आदेश कर जारी कर
दिये।
Vedanta’s alumina refinery under lens

Greenmin scans lack of compliance in waste disposal at Lanjigarh unit

By Sowmya Aji
in Ringopolli village (Orissa)

ANIL AGARWAL-led multinational metal giant Vedanta’s environmental troubles seem to be just beginning with the ministry of environment and forests deciding to cancel its forest clearance for mining. The existing alumina refinery in Lanjigarh, Orissa, has come under a cloud, with the ministry investigating complaints of lack of environmental compliance in waste disposal.

Located in the backyard of the Vedanta alumina refinery in Kalahandi district, Ringopolli village has had a serious problem from 2006 — that of ‘red mud’. All their land has been forcibly acquired by Vedanta to deposit the red mud, which is the residue left after bauxite is washed for the first time in the process of making aluminium.

While there are no medical records to prove that the red mud is causing health hazards, villagers in this backward region believe that 13 deaths of people in the age group of 18 to 25 in the last four years are linked to the aluminium factory’s waste disposal.

A village woman, Hemwati Naik, points to the house of a woman Ashok Majhi, who died about 10 days ago reportedly due to tuberculosis, at the age of 26. “Our air and water is destroyed. We are all getting malaria and other diseases and dying like flies,” she said angrily.

Echoing her, villager Patto Naik told Mail Today, “People get water-borne diseases. No medicines work. We took some to Visakhapatnam for treatment. But they all died.”

Patto Naik, in his late 20s, said his sight and that of most of the villagers was impacted because of the dust that rises from the red mud falls into the landfill from the factory pipes. An old man, Kullu Majhi, explained it more graphically. “You can’t open your eyes as they burn, and you can’t breathe, till it is over. The dust also spreads all over the food that we have kept in our huts. And this is why our people are falling ill and dying.”

The full impact on human health, particularly on people living right beside the red mud landfill, has not been researched. But international researchers are unanimous that there is the risk of groundwater pollution due to seepage of alkaline liquid from the waste, besides air pollution, while the land becomes less arable.

The village has been in existence for at least the last nine generations, according to Kullu Majhi. But he and the others are so sickened by the red mud deposit at their doorstep that they are actually willing to move away, if compensated by Vedanta. “If we continue to live here, all of us will die,” Patto Naik said, bleakly.

NGO Green Kalahandi and Kalahandi’s MP Bhakticharan Das have made the rehabilitation of this village a pre-condition for allowing the factory to function. They have demanded that the chemical effluents from the Vedanta factory into river Vanadhar be treated first.

The people at the nearest railway town, Kesinga, are also unhappy with the red dust in the air every time bauxite is offloaded from the railway rakes onto trucks. “The factory draws 40,000 cubic tonnes of water per day from the river Tel just outside Kesinga. The ground water level is sinking. A check dam should be built there,” Das said.

"People get water-borne diseases. No medicine works. We took some to Visakhapatnam for treatment. But they all died."
— Patto Naik, A villager

Kalupur, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand


girded from page 36

A DIFFERENT RED FEAR
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WHOSE LAND IS IT?
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IMPACT
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Thirty-five held for ransacking Vedanta office

The administrative office of Vedanta’s refinery unit at Lanjigarh in Orissa’s Kalahandi district was ransacked by contract labourers. Thirty-five of whom were arrested on Wednesday.

The office was ransacked on Tuesday night after Vedanta suspended its contract with L&T, an outsourcing company for expansion activities of the refinery.

The state government had earlier allowed Vedanta to expand the capacity of its refinery from 1 mtpa to 6 mtpa.

L&T had engaged about 5,000 workers on contract but served retrenchment notices to the labourers following the suspension of the contract by Vedanta.

Angry over their loss of employment, the contract labourers attacked the administrative office within the plant premises demanding three months’ salary as compensation, while the company agreed to pay remuneration for 45 days.

Properties worth over Rs 50 lakh had been damaged due to the attack, a Vedanta spokesman said.

PTI
October deadline for ONGC’s Cairn bid

New Delhi: State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corp. (ONGC) has over a month to decide if it chooses to exercise its pre-emption or right of first refusal to block sale of majority stake in Cairn India to Vedanta Resources Plc.

Vedanta is paying $8.48 billion to buy Edinburgh-based Cairn Energy’s 40 to 51% stake in Cairn India, which has 10 oil
assets in the country including the giant Rajasthan oilfield. PTI
WILL VEDANTA SPARE NIYAMGIRI?

It will be interesting to see what happens now with Vedanta Resources Plc in India. For my money, it’s too easy yet to join the crowding of activist and human rights organisations celebrating the 24 August orders of the ministry of environment and forests. The orders denied a Vedanta subsidiary final clearance to mine the Niyamgiri Hills of Orissa for bauxite.

This hurts Vedanta. The subsidiary, Sterlite Industries (India) Ltd, in a venture with state-run Orissa Mining Corp, Ltd, had hoped to mine the bauxite to feed Vedanta’s existing aluminia refinery in Lanjigarh in the shadow of the Niyamgiri range. Secondly, the ministry has also put on hold the refinery’s expansion plans. And, thirdly, the ministry virtually banned import of ore from Jharkhand for the project, saying most mines Vedanta had contracted with are illegal. Vedanta trucks in ore from neighbouring Jharkhand to feed existing capacity to produce calcined aluminia, used for captive consumption in plants elsewhere. It couldn’t be pleasant viewing either for Vedanta officials to see Congress heir-apparent Rahul Gandhi chopper in to Lanjigarh in Kalahandi district two days after the ministry’s order, to address a rally in support of the area’s Dongria Kondh tribals who consider the hills holy, the abode of Niyaam Raja, their god. Gandhi’s pit-stop at Jagangathpali just down the road from Lanjigarh was tellingly near the tiny mud-thatch-and-tile hut of Kumit Majhi, leader of Niyamgiri Suraksha Samiti that has for long protested mining incursions. He may have noticed the resoluteness of the locals to deny Vedanta the hill at any cost. Not far from Majhi’s hut is the unfinished conveyor belt to bring bauxite ore from the hills to the refinery, which the Dongria Kondh have prevented Vedanta from completing.

All this is of considerable embarrassment to both Vedanta and the Orissa government, but I’m waiting to see what change-rabbit Vedanta will pull from its deep hat. According to its own figures, it has spent nearly $900 million (around $4,220 crore) till September on the existing refinery; and put down over $400 million for the expansion, close to one-third of the projected cost. This would not cover, say, establishment cost of the sort that permitted Vedanta a series of assumptions, of which assuming it would get past forest conservation laws is only a minor one. It permitted the assumption of setting up its 1.4 million tis per annum (mtpa) aluminia refinery; indeed, with the further assumption of expanding its capacity by 3 mtpa. This was done with the Orissa government, would be able to cast aside the need for views or objections—which in human rights parlance is called Free, Prior and Informed Consent—of the several thousand Dongria Kondh as to the fate of their bauxite mother lode of a holy hill and the 200 or so hamlets that dot the Niyamgiri range. In its interim report for 2010, Vedanta declared: “We are in a state of preparedness to commence the mining of Niyamgiri bauxite on receipt of final government clearances, expected in the current financial year. Progress on the 3 mtpa refinery expansion project and the 0.6 mtpa dehydroxiprocessing project at Lanjigarh is on schedule for commissioning.”

This comes either from faith/knowledge of how things work in India, or foolishness that, as a global corporation, it would be immune to the pressures of growing global activism, investor ethics, and the occasional, though inexplicably late, do-right by India’s environment mandarins.

An outcome favouring Vedanta will, of course, play into conspiracy theories that permeate this cause célèbre of the convergence of business and human rights. But the point is: It will require great momentum to check Vedanta. According to a presentation Vedanta made to investors last year, Lanjigarh and a 60km radius around it contains reserves of around 900 mt of high-grade bauxite, or around 60% of Orissa’s recoverable reserves.

This may be too much for Vedanta to pass up. It will also be too much for a buyer, should Vedanta in an unlikely worst-case scenario sell its plant to a competing metals interest. It will be interesting to see if the ministry has the brass to relocate to its position, let alone build on the Vedanta episode to query every major—and equally rampant—metals and mining project in other parts of Orissa, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Karnataka that are in the stages of prospecting, land acquisition and initial construction. Sudeep Chakravarti writes on issues related to conflict in South Asia. He is the author of Red Sun: Travels in Maoist Country. He writes a column alternate Thursdays on conflicts that directly affect business.

Respond to this column at rootcause@livemint.com
No relief in sight for copper smelters

Indian copper companies are having a hard time, despite rising copper prices. Higher demand, limited supply and falling London Metal Exchange (LME) inventories have created a strong pricing environment. LME spot copper prices, which fell from around $7,900 (some 33.7 lakh) a tonne in April to around $6,100 a tonne in June, have risen to $7,300 levels. China’s August HSBC Purchasing Managers’ Index shows a recovery in manufacturing, after a two-month gap. That may mean China’s appetite for commodities could remain strong.

The benefits of better copper prices are going to the mines. Indian companies, with the exception of Hindustan Copper Ltd, get a lion’s share of their revenue by operating custom smelters. Companies such as Hindalco Industries Ltd and Sterlite Industries (India) Ltd buy copper concentrate from miners to process them into copper cathodes and value-added products.

The main revenue for custom smelters accrues from a charge known as TC/RC (treatment charges and refining charges). Custom smelters buy copper concentrate at a price derived by reducing the TC/RC from the LME price. Higher charges mean better margins and vice-versa. These charges have been falling. Long-term TC/RC rates have fallen 36% in the June quarter.

Smelting capacity has risen faster than mining expansion, resulting in limited availability of copper concentrate. Smelters are competing to buy concentrate, with Chinese smelters blamed the most, giving miners the leeway to beat down TC/RC. In 2010, for example, compared with the demand of 13.1 million tonnes of copper concentrate, availability is expected at just 12.4 million tonnes, according to a presentation made by Hindalco. Contract rates for TC/RC are expected to fall by as much as 18% in the second half of 2010, compared with the first half, according to the Chilean Copper Commission.

Custom smelters have survived by the realization on by-products such as precious metals and chemicals such as sulphuric acid. Temporary plant shutdowns are another way of keeping costs lower. Companies also focused on selling more value-added products. Hindalco’s ratio of value-added products to copper cathode output rose to 53% in the June quarter, from 37% in the year-ago period.

Will the outlook improve? Aurubis AG, a large European copper producer, expects concentrate supply to improve in the medium term as mining capacities expand. The International Copper Study Group projected world copper mine production to increase by 6.7% in 2010. But in the January-May period, actual production was flat over the year-ago period. Slower growth in the Chinese economy was expected to ease demand for copper. Also, after an accident at a smelter, the government is reported to be considering shutting down other polluting smelters. That could take some buyers off the concentrate market. But if the Chinese economy achieves a soft landing, that may change the situation.

Rising demand will see miners continue to benefit while smelters find the going tough.

RAVI ANANTHANARAYANAN
Govt: Vedanta breaching green laws

By Krittivas Mukherjee
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NEW DELHI

The environment ministry said on Wednesday it has found "serious violations" of green laws in Vedanta Resources Plc's alumina refinery in Orissa, the latest in the London-based firm's mining troubles in India.

In a letter to the firm posted on the ministry's website on Wednesday, it also asked Vedanta to explain why the environment clearance given to the plant should not be revoked.

The move comes within days of the government rejecting the group's plans to mine bauxite in Orissa over environmental concerns, a blow to a company already facing hurdles to a planned $9.6 billion acquisition of a stake in Cairn India Ltd.

The latest government notice puts Vedanta's alumina refinery under cloud. The firm plans to expand the refinery's annual capacity to 6 million tonnes (mt) from 1 mt. The project is valued at about $9.5 billion.

The latest violations were found by a ministry inspection team which said the refinery was running on bauxite sourced from mines that did not have green clearance. "It may be noted that if no response is received within 15 days, appropriate orders as deemed fit will be passed," the ministry's letter said.

A Vedanta spokesman could not comment immediately.

Reuters
नालको बेचेगी हिस्सेदारी

कई वर्षों के लिए विदेशी कंपनी ने अपने शॉपिंग मॉल एन्ट्र्युमेंशन को आनंद और कामांक विकसित किया। अब इस कंपनी ने नालको की हिस्सेदारी बेचने का फैसला किया है। इसके लिए कंपनी को अपने शॉपिंग मॉल में हिस्सेदारी की दोहरी घर-घर होना है।

कंपनी ने इस प्रकार के प्रकार के विकल्पों को अपने अधिकारियों से लेते हुए प्रस्तावित किया है। कंपनी ने इस प्रस्ताव के लिए अपने विकल्पों को 30 अगस्त को की है। नालको की दोहरी हिस्सेदारी विकल्प को अपने अधिकारियों से लेते हुए प्रस्तावित किया है।
बिंदुभाष में कॉपर के दाम बढ़े

सिंगापुर * संपादक में कॉपर के दाम बढ़कर को सुधार गए। जबकि लंदन में एलसीएच में कॉपर के मूल्य शुरूआत सत्र में सुन्दर रहे लेकिन बाद में मजबूती आ गई। बीन में सकारात्मक आंकड़े आने के कारण कॉपर सुनहरे लगा। एलएसी में तीन माह डितीयी कॉपर कारोबार में सत्र के दूर तक 10 डॉलर मिलकर 7430 डॉलर प्रति टन पर हुया। लेकिन बाद में कॉपर 100 डॉलर बढ़कर 7537.25 डॉलर प्रति टन तक पहुँच गया। सत्र के अंत में उस बार होगा 7587 डॉलर प्रति टन तक पहुँच गया। यह युक्त सरकार ने अपने से सबसे ज्यादा है। उपर संपादक में तीन माह डितीयी कॉपर को फीसदी बढ़कर 59,500 डॉलर प्रति टन तक पहुँच गया। (एजेंसी)
Ministry issues show-cause

Bhubaneswar: The Union environment ministry on Tuesday slapped a show-cause notice on Vedanta's Lanjigarh refinery for violating the terms of environment clearance. The ministry found that the refinery was set up on forestland without seeking the mandatory forest clearance and also started expansion work without obtaining the ministry's clearance.
More trouble for Vedanta, violence at plant

HT Correspondent

BHUBANESWAR: About 100 contract labourers under Larsen and Toubro, construction contractor at Vedanta Resources’ refinery at Lanjigarh in Kalahandi district, went on rampage inside the plant on Tuesday.

The labourers allegedly demanded their dues from the L&T management and ransacked the factory’s administrative building and switched off the power plant. They later clashed with the police, security guards and local villagers.

Kalahandi police chief Sudha Singh said 54 of the agitators were arrested on Wednesday. The rest reportedly fled the area after the incident.

On August 24, following protests by local tribal groups, the Union environment ministry stopped Vedanta, promoted by NRI entrepreneur Anil Agarwal, from developing bauxite mines in Niymagiri Hills.

The government also slapped a show-cause notice (see box) on Vedanta’s Rs 4,500-crore one-million-tonne Lanjigarh refinery, about 450 km from here on Tuesday.

Vedanta Group said in a press release on Wednesday that about 200 workers talked with the L&T management. But it was inconclusive as the Labour Commissioner could not attend the meeting.

“Around 11.00 pm,” the Vedanta release said, “suddenly we found a group of about 100 people forcibly entering the plant premises and ransacking the administrative offices.”

The labourers, however, alleged that the authorities refused to pay their three months’ due salary and threatened them with the help of the police during the meeting.

“In the night (on Monday) itself, the company goons started it all when they attacked our fellow workers who were sleeping in their quarters,” said a labourer.

When the news spread to the nearby villages, locals rushed to the site and helped rescue the plant and the staff. Vedanta also alleged that property worth Rs 1 crore was destroyed in the incident and lodged an FIR with the local police.

While chief operating officer of the refinery Mukesh Kumar said the number of labourers engaged by L&T was less than 1,000, government sources said on condition of anonymity that the construction firm had engaged more than 3,000 men through sub-contractors.
Workers at Vedanta’s refinery attack office

BS REPORTERS
Bhubaneswar/Kalahandi,
1 September

Close to 75 workers at the alumina refinery complex of Vedanta Aluminium Ltd (VAL) at Lanjigarh in western Orissa’s Kalahandi district were detained by the police, after 100-odd people, perceived to be a mix of contractual workers and outsiders, attacked the company’s office, damaging assets worth Rs 1 crore.

Sources said those who did the vandalism were engaged by L&T, contractor of the VAL expansion project, and were agitated over the serving of retrenchment notices. This was a sequel to the halt of refinery expansion work at Lanjigarh following the N C Saxena committee report and subsequent statement of Union minister of environment and forests Jairam Ramesh, depicting the expansion as illegal in the absence of statutory environment clearances.

However, VAL authorities said neither VAL nor L&T had issued notices to lay off the contractual employees. They said these workers were being relocated to sites outside Orissa by L&T and they were unwilling to accept the proposal.

Trouble began at around 11:20 pm last night when 100-odd miscreants attacked the company’s office. Thereafter, our refinery complex plunged into total darkness for about 45 minutes when some unidentified persons switched off the main switch of the plant. The trouble mongers were probably a mix of contractual workers and outsiders. These agitators finally fled after the project-affected people staying in the company’s rehabilitation colony came to our rescue,” Mukesh Kumar, chief operating officer (Lanjigarh) of VAL, told Business Standard.

According to Kumar, the contractual workers were agitating as L&T had proposed to shift some of the workers outside Orissa, a move stiffly opposed by the workers. They had demanded immediate payment of Provident Fund. Though negotiations were held on Tuesday with the district collector and the labour commissioner present, the issue could not be resolved.

MoEF serves notice on Vedanta

BS REPORTER
Bhubaneswar, 1 September

The Union ministry of environment and forests (MoEF) has served a notice on Vedanta Aluminium Ltd (VAL) to explain why the environmental clearance given to it in 2004 for a 1 million tonne per annum (mtpa) alumina refinery and 75 Mw captive power plant (CPP) at Lanjigarh, Kalahandi, should not be revoked. VAL has to also explain, in 15 days, why it began expanding the refinery from 1 mtpa to 6 mtpa, and the CPP from 75 Mw to 300 Mw with- out prior clearance.
लोहारीनगरपाला परियोजना के लिए उक्रान का प्रदर्शन जारी

फेब्रुअरी, 7 शिवाजी (आम)।
उक्रान के उक्रान की स्थिति में नेशनल बैंक पाकर अलग-अलग का किसका का ज्ञान के अधिक रुप से विभिन्न लोहारीनगरपाला जल बिजली परियोजना की वेद सरकार के स्थायी दिन जाने के पैसे के विलास कुछार का भी उक्रान का प्रदर्शन देने ने जितना मुख्यमंत्र जरूर प्रदर्शन किया। प्रदर्शनकारियों ने वेद और गण्न सबकर पर अपने समय के रूप के विलास के साथ सिलिकावाव विलास का ज्ञान है। एक दर्शन जाने ही विकल्प को पहुंचने से आम लोग परियोजना ने इसे वेद और गण्न सबकर नई परियोजनाओं को देना कर दिया है।
इसी परियोजना ने भी दर्शन के विलास के विलास की हिसाब में वेद के पैसे के विलास का अधिक प्रदर्शन नहीं किया।
उक्रान के वेद के अधिक बिजली विलास पर फर्जा का किसका के लोहारीनगरपाला पर उक्रान के अधिक बिजली विलास हो जाए है। सुना का निमित्त बिलास जा जुड़ा है।
स्थानीय लोगों का ज्ञान अधिशक्ति कर लोगों है। विज्ञान लोगों का ज्ञान अधिशक्ति कर लोगों है।