Technical Session I
Showcasing of Auctionable blocks

Presentations –

1. Presentation on ‘Robust Mineral Auction Regime’ – by Shri Prithul Kumar, Director, Ministry of Mines
2. Presentation on Auctionable Blocks by the following State Governments:
   a. Andhra Pradesh
   b. Chhattisgarh
   c. Gujarat
   d. Jharkhand
   e. Karnataka
   f. Madhya Pradesh
   g. Maharashtra
   h. Odisha
   i. Rajasthan
   j. Assam
   k. Telangana

SESSION ROUND-UP

The first technical session on the ‘Showcasing of Auctionable Blocks’ was chaired by Dr. K. Rajeswara Rao, Additional Secretary, MoM. Dr. Niranjan Kumar Singh, Joint Secretary, MoM, Ms. Reena Sinha Puri, JS & FA, MoM and Shri Alok Chandra EA, MoM were Rapporteur. So far 43 mineral blocks in 9 states have been auctioned till 03.07.2018 with cumulative revenue of Rs. 1.55 lakh crore which accruing to the states over the lease period. Further, 102 Mineral blocks are in pipeline for auction by the States for the year 2018-19.
Dr. K. Rajeswara Rao, Additional Secretary, MoM in the opening remarks welcomed all the participants and stated that FY 2018-19 will be year for mining as more blocks will be auctioned along with the new initiatives. He invited Shri Prithul Kumar, Director, MoM, to give roundup of the auction regime till now, to be followed by the presentation on auctionable blocks by the States.
The first presentation was given by Shri Prithul Kumar, Director, MoM. He stated that in 2015 the regime for allocation of blocks was changed from application basis to auction system with which the discretion in allocation of mineral resources was taken away and a transparent system was introduced. Further, he also highlighted various legislative changes brought out in 2015 for ensuring a transparent and non-discriminatory process for auction of mineral blocks and highlighted the reforms for benefit sharing and also ease of doing business. He also gave an overview of the mineral blocks auctioned after the amendment to the MMDR Act in 2015 along with the way the Central Government has made all possible efforts to help States adapt to this transparent regime of auctions. He also explained the auction process adopted by the Central Government to make it robust yet simple.

The presentation on behalf the Ministry of Mines by Shri Prithul Kumar was succeeded by the presentation by 11 States. The second presentation was given by Shri. D. Nagaraju, Joint Director, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh. He stated that till now they have completed auction of 3 blocks for cement grade limestone and for the FY 2018-19 they are planning to auction 7 more mineral blocks i.e. 1 of gold and 6 of cement grade limestone.
The third presentation was given by Smt. Alarmel Mangai, Director, DGM, Govt. of Chhattisgarh. She stated that they achieved 71% success rate in auction and are leading state in various minerals such as coal and iron-ore. She stated that till now they have completed auction of 5 blocks i.e. 4 of cement grade limestone and 1 of gold and for the FY 2018-19 they are planning to auction 11 out of which 7 is ready for auction i.e. 5 of bauxite and 2 of cement grade limestone. She emphasized the single window clearance system in the state for giving various statutory clearances.

The fourth presentation was given by Shri. Subhash Joshi, Sr. Geologist exploration, Govt. of Gujarat. He stated that till now they have completed auction of 3 blocks for cement grade limestone in Kutch region of Gujarat and for the FY 2018-19 they are planning to auction 3 more mineral blocks i.e. 2 of cement grade limestone and marl and 01 of cement grade limestone.

The next presentation was by Shri. Aboobacker Siddique, Secretary Mines, Govt. of Jharkhand. He stated that Jharkhand has 40% of the mineral resources of the country and are leading state in various minerals such as coal and iron-ore. He stated that till now they have completed auction of 5 blocks i.e. 1 iron ore, 2 gold and 2 Limestone. Further, he stated that auction of 3 graphite mineral blocks are under process. Moreover, 2 emerald, 2 bauxite, 1 copper, 1 limestone and 1 dolomite cum limestone mineral blocks are proposed to be auctioned in 2018 and for exploration of 11 mineral blocks MoU is signed with MECL.

The sixth presentation was given by Shri. Prasanna Kumar, Secretary Mines, Govt. of Karnataka. He stated that till now they have completed auction of 7 blocks of iron-ore blocks, out of which 2 blocks are operational and remaining 5 may get operational this year. Further, NIT is issued in FY 2018-19 for 8 iron-ore blocks and apart of these blocks exploration in 8 blocks is going on.

The seventh presentation was given by Shri. Vineet Austin, DGM, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh. He stated that till now they have completed auction of 6 blocks of limestone, graphite, diamond and iron-ore blocks. Further, for the FY 2018-19, 13 blocks are proposed to be auctioned (2 of gold, 1 of manganese, 3 of basemetal, 6 of limestone and 1 of bauxite & laterite).
The eighth presentation was given by Shri. R.S. Kalamkar, Director, DGM, Govt. of Maharashtra. He stated that till now they have completed auction of 3 blocks of limestone, manganese, bauxite. Further, for the FY 2018-19 they are planning to auction 13 more mineral blocks for various minerals such as bauxite, limestone, copper, manganese etc. Moreover, 11 blocks are getting ready for auction in December 2018.

The ninth presentation was given by Shri. Deepak Mohanty, Director, DM, Govt. of Odisha. He stated that Odisha is the prominent state for mineral sector in country. He stated that till now they have completed auction of 5 blocks i.e. 1 of cement grade limestone and 1 of manganese and 3 of iron-ore. Further, NIT is issued in FY 2018-19 for 2 iron-ore blocks and apart of these blocks they are planning to auction 7 mineral blocks i.e. 2 of iron-ore, 3 of cement grade limestone, 1 of manganese and 1 of iron-ore and manganese. Moreover, exploration of 5 mineral blocks in going on.

The tenth presentation was given by Shri. S.K. Minda, Geologist, Govt. of Rajasthan. The salient points of the presentation are as follows:

- Successfully auctioned six limestone mineral blocks are already auctioned and for 2 blocks EC is already been granted.
- Identified 10 blocks in the same region where blocks were successfully auctioned earlier.
- Four mineral blocks are to be put up for auction in 2nd quarter of 2018-19 and six blocks in 3rd quarter of 2018-19 and six mineral blocks will be put up
for auction in 4th quarter of 2018-19. Out of total 16 blocks, 10 blocks are of limestone, 5 blocks are of cooper and 1 block is of base metal.

The eleventh presentation was given by Shri. G.S. Panesar, Joint Secretary and DGM, Govt. of Assam. State of Assam is ready to auction 4 limestone blocks which are explored by DGM. The total resources in these blocks are 102 million tonnes and they are proposed to be granted as composite license.

The twelfth presentation was given by Shri. B.R.V. Susheel Kumar, Director, DGM, Govt. of Telangana. The salient points of the presentation are as follows:
- No auction is conducted till now.
- Three Limestone mineral blocks in Suryapet district are proposed to be auctioned in 2018-19 under ML concession. All the blocks are in the forest area and State of Telangana will ensure all support in getting necessary statutory clearances.
- Fifteen limestone blocks are identified for exploration in 2018-19 from NMET fund.

The question and answer session: Due to paucity of time only few questions could be taken up for discussion in the session. Chairman advised the audience to give the remaining questions in writing for consideration of the appropriate authority. The following questions were raised:
1. Whether there is any policy for acquisition of private land?
   - It was stated that respective State revenue department of the State Government has policies on land acquisition.
   - Further, representative of State Government of Karnataka stated that they are issuing mining leases for patta land also.

2. Whether the private entities will be involved for undertaking exploration in the country and for the same any policy is being prepared or not?
   - It was stated that roadmap for exploration is prepared and sufficient funding is being provided to States.
   - Exploration under NMET is the major thrust and definitely there will be various opportunities for private players.
   - Representative of State Government of Odisha stated that they have formulated state policy for exploration and incorporated an entity for exploration. Further, that entity can outsource exploration and even join hands with private players for exploration.
   - Further, representative of State Government of Gujarat stated that in Gujarat they are already out-sourcing exploration.

Dr. K. Rajeswara Rao, Additional Secretary, MoM ended the session with thanks to all the participants and to the representatives of various State Governments.

Dr. Niranjan Kumar Singh, Joint Secretary, MoM thanked all the participants and dignitaries by honoring them with the Mementoes.