1. Auction of Mineral Blocks

Two mineral blocks of limestone and manganese ore were successfully auctioned in the State of Odisha. These two blocks have an estimated value of mineral resources to the tune of Rs 7,458 crore. The estimated cumulative revenue to the state governments over a period of 50 years through the process of e-auction of these two blocks turns out to be approximately Rs 2,822 crore, inclusive of royalty, contribution to District Mineral Foundation and National Mineral Exploration Trust.

2. DMF

Except for Tamil Nadu all the remaining major minerals states have instituted DMF and adopted guidelines as contained in Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY). So far about Rs. 5,000 crore have been collected in the fund. As follow up of CoS meetings, discussions were held with NISG for development of national portal to monitor the implementation of projects/schemes being undertaken under this major welfare initiative of Government of India.

3. Procurement of a Geo-Technical Vessel

The procurement of a geo-technical vessel of Geological Survey of India (GSI) with shallow drilling capacity up to a depth of 30m at the cost of Rs. 258.34 crore has been approved. The vessel will be very useful for mineral exploration in territorial water (TW) and accelerate augmentation of offshore mineral resources.

4. Multi-sensor Aero-geophysical Survey

Approval has been accorded for carrying out first phase of multi-sensor aero-geophysical survey by GSI in about 2 lakh sq km of geological potential area in the country at estimated cost of Rs. 111.34 crore. The acquisition and analysis of the data would be vital for targeting concealed and deep seated mineral deposits.

5. Review meeting by Hon’ble MoS (IC) for Coal, Power, NRE & Mines

Hon’ble Minister of State (IC) for Coal, Power, NRE and Mines held a review meeting with the officers of Ministry and heads of PSUs, attached office, subordinate office & autonomous bodies on 20th December, 2016.

6. National Level Workshop

The Ministry of Mines in association with Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) and TERI organized a National Level Workshop on “Remediation of mined out areas and abandoned mines – Status & Strategies” on 19th December, 2016 in New Delhi. The workshop was attended by all stakeholders including over 80 major mining companies including PSUs from the mining sector.
7. **Meeting of Official Language Implementation Committee (OLIC)**

During the month, quarterly meeting of Official Language Implementation Committee (OLIC) was held which was attended by all Directors, Deputy Secretaries and Under Secretaries of the Ministry. One Hindi Workshop was also organized in the Ministry of Mines for Assistant Section Officers on 27th December, 2016 with a view to increase the use of Hindi in the Ministry.

8. **Public Grievances**

At the end of September, 2016, 48 Public Grievances have been disposed of.