GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES

No. 31/55/2016/M-III

New Delhi, Dt. 6.12.2016

To,

The Principal Secretary / Secretary
In-charge Mining Department,
State Government of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana

Subject: National Workshop on “Remediation of mined out areas and abandoned mines – Status & Strategies” on 19th December, 2016 at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.

Sir / Madam,

The scientific closure of mines with proper reclamation and rehabilitation is a very critical area which has not received due importance leading to socio-economic and environmental concerns. The Ministry of Mines had inserted clauses necessitating the Mine Closure Plan for the existing mines of major minerals in the Rule 23 A to F in the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules (MCDR) in 2003, to ensure a progressive and final closure of the mining activities in a systematic manner with adequate financial safeguards. This has come a long way in preventing further environmental hazards due to mining activities.

The issue of remediation of the mined out areas prior to this statutory safeguards and also the abandoned mines were taken up by the Ministry in consultation with Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) and the State Governments. These mined out areas & abandoned mines contribute to the legacy of environmental degradation left by historic mining activities which occurred before mine closure regulations were developed. The Ministry has felt that a fresh initiative need to be taken up to assess and remediate the mined out areas and the abandoned mines in the country.

It is therefore necessary that a dialogue needs to be established amongst the various stakeholders, encompassing the following action points –

- to encourage discussion between stakeholders
- compilation a database of abandoned mines of all known abandoned and inactive mine sites and features
- identify challenges in addressing the abandoned mines problem
- remediation schemes
- funding strategies for taking up these activities

The Ministry of Mines, in association with IBM & TERI, has decided to organize a National Level Workshop on “Remediation of mined out areas and abandoned mines – Status & Strategies” on 19th December, 2016 at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. A provisional agenda is enclosed. It is requested to confirm whether you will be making presentation in the workshop on success stories / case studies of your state.
I request you to kindly attend the workshop on 19th December, 2016. Your gracious presence will strengthen our efforts to address the sustainability issues of mining. I would request you to advise few related stakeholders who have done good work in remediation or reclamation of mines viz. PSUs, private sector, academia, consultants and other organizations in your State, to actively participate in this workshop. A line in confirmation about your participation and of other officers may kindly be sent to this office at subhash.chandra65@gov.in with a copy to prithul.kumar@nic.in.

Yours faithfully,

Enclos: as above

(Subhash Chandra)
Joint Secretary
011-23384334
subhash.chandra65@gov.in

Copy to:
1. The Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, Nagpur
2. Dr. J. V. Sharma, Senior Fellow, The Energy & Resources Institute, New Delhi
# PROGRAM SCHEDULE

## INAUGURAL SESSION

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>09.30 - 10.00 AM</td>
<td>Registration &amp; Tea</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.00 - 10.10 AM</td>
<td>Welcome Address&lt;br&gt;Dr J V Sharma, IFS, Senior Fellow, TERI</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.10 - 10.30 AM</td>
<td>Overview on Reclamation and Rehabilitation of Mines&lt;br&gt;Shri R K Sinha Controller-General, Indian Bureau of Mines</td>
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<td>10.30 - 10.45 AM</td>
<td>Issues &amp; Challenges in Remediation of Mines&lt;br&gt;Shri Subhash Chandra, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Mines</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.45 - 11.00 AM</td>
<td>Special Address&lt;br&gt;Dr Ajay Mathur, Director General, The Energy and Resources Institute</td>
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<td>11.00 - 11.15 AM</td>
<td>Inaugural Address&lt;br&gt;Shri Balvinder Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of Mines</td>
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<td>11.15 - 11.20 AM</td>
<td>Vote of Thanks&lt;br&gt;Shri Prithul Kumar, Director, Ministry of Mines</td>
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<td>11.20 AM – 11.30 PM</td>
<td>Tea</td>
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## TECHNICAL SESSION 1

### Technical Session 1: Techniques for Mine Reclamation and Rehabilitation

**Chair:** Prof V. K. Sharma, Indian Institute of Public Administration, IIPA  
**Co-Chair:** Dr Rajiv Kumar Garg, Environment Advisor, Coal India Limited

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:30 - 1:00 PM</td>
<td>Rehabilitation of Red Mud in Bauxite Mined Areas&lt;br&gt;Dr. J V Sharma, IFS, Senior Fellow, TERI</td>
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<td>Restoration of Areas used for Limestone Quarrying&lt;br&gt;Dr H B Vasistha, Head, Ecology, Environment &amp; Climate Change Division, Forest Research Institute</td>
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<td>Mine Water Utilisation&lt;br&gt;Shri A.K. Diwakar, Senior Manager, CMPDIL, Dhanbad</td>
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<td>Restoration of Areas Mined for Iron Ore&lt;br&gt;Dr Pia Sethi, Fellow, TERI</td>
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<td>1.00 - 1.45 PM</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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### TECHNICAL SESSION 2

**Technical Session 2: Industry Viewpoint**

Chairman: Dr. S K. Sarkar, Director, Water Resources and Forestry Division, TERI and Former Secretary, DOPT and Water Resources  
Co-Chair: CMD, NALCO

#### Sharing of Best Practices

1. Federation of Indian Mining Industries (FIMI)  
2. Noamundi Iron Ore Mines, Tata Steel  
3. Manganese, SMOIR  
4. Jamul Cement Works of M/s ACC  
5. Coal India Limited  
6. NALCO

### TECHNICAL SESSION 3

**Technical Session 3: Status of Mined Out Areas Remediation**

Chair: Shri Sudhaker Shukla, Economic Advisor, Ministry of Mines  
Co-Chairs: (TBD)

Presentation by State Government Representatives

#### Tea

### TECHNICAL SESSION 4

**Technical Session 4: Panel Discussion on Statutory Framework and Identification of issues for mine remediation**

Chair – Mr S Vijay Kumar, Distinguished Fellow, TERI & Former Secretary, Ministry of Mines  
Co-Chair - Shri Subhash Chandra, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Mines

**Theme presentation**  
Shri A B Panigrahi, Controller of Mines, Indian Bureau of Mines

**Panel Discussions**  
Dr J V Sharma, IFS, Senior Fellow, TERI  
Shri R K Sinha Controller-General, Indian Bureau of Mines  
Representative of State Governments

### CONCLUDING SESSION

**Concluding Session**

Chair – Shri R Sridharan, Special Secretary, Ministry of Mines  
Co-Chair - Shri N.K.Singh, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Mines

**Keynote Address**

Shri R Sridharan, Special Secretary, Ministry of Mines

**Summing Up - 5 minutes each for all four Technical Sessions**  
by Chair/Co-Chair of the respective Technical Sessions

**Vote of Thanks**

Shri Yatish Lele, Associate Fellow, TERI

#### High Tea