

**BY SPEED POST**

**No.13016/8/1999-CA-I**  
Government of India  
Ministry of Coal

.....

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi,  
Dated, the 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2014

To,

**The Chairman & Managing Director,**  
M/s. Castron Mining Ltd.,  
(Earlier M/s. Castron Technologies Ltd.),  
504, Diamond Prestige,  
41A, AJC Bose Road,  
Kolkata-700017.

**Sub: Review of coal blocks by the Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) in its 24<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 7-8<sup>th</sup> February, 2014-Regarding**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's notice dated **15<sup>th</sup> January, 2014** (copy enclosed) wherein it was decided to review the captive coal blocks allocated to Private Companies for specified end-use based on the recommendation of the Screening Committee, which have not come under production on the basis of specified criteria as mentioned in the notice.

2. Your reply vide letter No. CML/BOCP/MOC/2013-14/037 dated 31.01.2014 in response to the said notice dated 15.01.2014 in respect of **Brahmadiha** coal block allocated to your company, was placed before the IMG in its 24<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2014. IMG noted that the review of **61** coal blocks [including this coal block(s)] allocated to private companies which had not come under production would be undertaken in the context of the 'Statement' submitted to the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India by Ld. Attorney General for India (AGI) wherein the conditions for review were mentioned. Accordingly, the allocatees of these 61 coal blocks were issued notice by Ministry of Coal (MoC) on **15.01.2014** requiring them to submit explanation with requisite documents by **05.02.2014** on the basis of which the review would be undertaken. IMG also took into account the written comments of Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF) regarding the status of Environment and Forest Clearance and Ministry of Power (MoP) regarding status of end use plants in power sector as well as comments of Government of West Bengal which were received.



3. After due deliberation and taking into account all material facts including your reply *ibid*, IMG recommended **de-allocation** of the coal block allocated to your company. The recommendations of IMG in respect of your coal block is reproduced below :-

*"21. BRAHMADIHA [ALLOCATED TO CASTRON MINING LIMITED]*

*IMG observed that this coal block has already been reviewed last time by IMG in its 21st meeting held on 06.08.2013 and recommended for de-allocation since it had not set up the end use plant which was the basic condition for the very allocation of coal block. Since then a considerable period has elapsed.*

*IMG also noted that an FIR has been filed against allocatee by the CBI.*

*IMG further noted that the allocatee has filed W.P. (C) No.4712/2013 before the Hon'ble Jharkhand High Court, inter alia, praying for quashing notice dated 29.07.2013 for appearing before IMG and for directing the MoC to comply with High Court order dated 05.11.2012 in W.P. (C) No. 6658 of 2012. The Hon'ble High Court vide order dated 05.08.2013 directed that Petitioners are permitted to appear in 21st meeting of IMG, but without prejudice to their rights and contentions made in the writ petition.*

*It is further noted that the allocatee had earlier filed W.P. (C) No. 6658 of 2012 before Hon'ble High Court of Jharkhand which was disposed vide order dated 05.11.2012 directing MoC to consider petitioner's representation dated 15.10.2012 & 17.10.2012 and, if required, give an opportunity of hearing to the petitioner and pass appropriate order. Thereafter, the allocatee has filed a Contempt Case alleging that the order dated 05.11.2012 of the Court passed in W.P. (C) No.6658 of 2012 has not been complied with by the MoC.*

*This case poses a serious legal dilemma. The basic purpose of allocation of coal block to private parties under the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act is for captive use for its own end use plants in the defined sector. Private sale of coal is not permitted under the Act. Now that the end use plant has not come up, the justification for retaining the coal block gets extinguished. **Hence, the earlier decision for de-allocation is reiterated as this shall be in pursuance of the letters and spirit of the CMN Act.**"*

4. The recommendations of IMG have been considered and accepted by the competent authority on 11.02.2014.

*Ahaya*

5. Accordingly, the **Brahmadiha** coal block allocated to your company vide this Ministry's letter No.47011/(13)/99-CPAM dated 01.09.1999 is **de-allocated** forthwith. Your company shall not be eligible for allocation of coal block in lieu of the de-allocated coal block(s).

6. The decision with regard to deduction/forfeiture of Bank Guarantee, where ever applicable, shall be communicated subsequently.

Yours faithfully,



[ A. SANJAY SAHAY ]

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

Copy to:-

1. The Chief Secretary, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi.
2. The Secretary, Ministry of Steel, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. The CMD, Coal India Limited, 10, Netaji Subash Road, Kolkata-700001.
4. The Coal Controller's Organisation, 1, Council House Street, Kolkata
- ✓ 5. NIC Cell, MoC for placing the letter on Website of Ministry of Coal.

**NOTICE/TIME BOUND**  
**BY SPEED POST**

No.13016/04/2014-CA-I

Government of India

Ministry of Coal

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Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi,  
Dated, the 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2014

To

The Block Allocates of 61 Coal Blocks,  
(As per the list enclosed).

**Sub: Review of captive coal blocks allocated to Private Companies for specified end-use based on the recommendation of the Screening Committee, which have not come under production - Issue of notice.**

Sir,

It has been decided by the Government to review the captive coal blocks allocated to Private Companies for specified end-use based on the recommendation of the Screening Committee, which have not come under production on the basis of certain specified criteria.

2. The criteria for review are specified as below:-

(i) The following coal blocks will be de-allocated:-

(a) Coal blocks where Environmental Clearance and Forest Clearance Stage I (where required) have not been obtained.

(b) Coal blocks which were unexplored/regionally explored/partially explored at the time of allocation, and where Prospecting Licence has not been obtained or where Prospecting Licence has been issued but Geological Reports have not been prepared [despite the lapse of prescribed period of 27 months from the date of allocation as per normative milestones].

(ii) Three weeks' time will be given to allocates to obtain the requisite approvals and produce documents as proof in support and within a week thereafter a decision for de-allocation will be taken. Further, State Governments concerned and the Ministry of Environment and Forests shall also submit their views within three weeks' time to this Ministry.

.....2/-



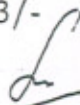
- (iii) Cases where Forest Clearance (FC) Stage II has not been obtained, will be reviewed and a decision will be taken within six weeks keeping in mind the guidelines of Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF) and after assessing the situation to ascertain whether such clearance (FC Stage II) will be forthcoming within a reasonable time, failing which blocks will be de-allocated. MoEF will be requested to take an appropriate decision within four weeks.

3. In this regard, you are requested to furnish following information duly certified by the authorized signatory of your company:-

- (i) Whether mining lease has been executed with the concerned State Government in respect of the allocated coal block? If yes, please provide a certified photocopy thereof.
- (ii) If mining lease has not been executed, has the application been made to the State Government after obtaining requisite approvals required for execution of mining lease? If yes, please provide a copy thereof wherein receipt of such application by the State Government has been acknowledged.
- (iii) In case mining lease has not been applied for, please state whether Environment Clearance (EC) and Forest Clearance (FC) - Stage I (wherever required) has been obtained? If yes, please provide a duly certified copy of the each approval.
- (iv) In case the coal block allocated to you was unexplored/regionally explored/partially explored at the time of allocation, please indicate whether Prospecting License (PL) has been obtained from the concerned State Government? If yes, please provide a certified copy of the PL.
- (v) In case, Prospecting License has been obtained from the concerned State Government, please indicate whether Geological Report (GR) has been prepared? If yes, please provide a certified copy of GR alongwith the date of preparation.

4. The block allocatcees who have already obtained EC and FC Stage-I and have applied for FC Stage-II shall submit the status of obtaining FC Stage II including the documentary proof in support including the proof of obtaining of EC and FC Stage-I.

5. You are given a time upto 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2014 (except for the cases covered under para 4 above) to obtain requisite approval and furnish the

.....3/-  


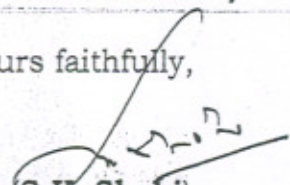
documents in support as mentioned in **para 3** above till **5.30 P.M. on 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2014** to the undersigned. A decision for de-allocation will be taken based on the documents furnished as requested above in a week thereafter.

6. The allocatees whose cases are covered by **para 4** above are given time till **5.30 P.M. on 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2014** to furnish the updated status with documents in support. A decision for de-allocation will be taken within two weeks thereafter.

7. This notice supersedes any previous notice issued on the recommendations of the Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) or otherwise.

8. In case no information is received from the block allocatee to whom this notice is being given by the prescribed date and time, the Government shall take appropriate decision based on the available information and material on record.

Yours faithfully,

  
(S.K. Shahi)

Director (CA-I)

Copy for information and necessary action to:

Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, New Delhi with reference to para 2 (ii) and 2 (iii) of this notice.

Copy for furnishing their comments within 3 weeks to:

1. Secretary, Ministry of Power, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. Secretary, Ministry of Steel, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi.
4. Chief Secretaries of the Government of Coal Bearing States of Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and West Bengal.

Copy also to:-

Technical Director (NIC), MoC for uploading this notice on the website of MoC.