

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL

....


New Delhi, the 27th July, 2015

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject : Minutes of the Meeting of Inter-Ministerial Committee on Allocation of Lignite blocks - reg.

The undersigned is directed to forward herewith the Minutes of the Meeting of Inter-Ministerial Committee held under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Coal) on 21-07-2015 on the above mentioned subject for information and necessary action.

Encl. : As stated above.


(A.K. Das)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tel. No. 23073936

To

1. Additional Secretary (Sh. A.K. Dubey), Ministry of Coal
2. Joint Secretary (Sh. Vivek Bharadwaj), Ministry of Coal
3. Joint Secretary (Sh. Rajesh K. Sinha), Ministry of Coal
4. Advisor (Projects) (Sh. D.N. Prasad), Ministry of Coal
5. Joint Secretary (Sh. S.K. Shahi), Ministry of Coal
6. Joint Adviser (Sh. Harendra Kumar), Niti Aayog, Yojna Bhawan, New Delhi.
7. Joint Director (Sh. Abhijit Phukan), Department of Economic Affairs, North Block, New Delhi.
8. Assistant Legal Adviser (Dr. R.S. Shrinet), Department of Legal Affairs, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
9. Consultant (Sh. Nand Lal), Department of Industrial Policy & Promotions, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi.
10. Under Secretary (Sh. K. Srinivasu), Department of Industrial Policy & Promotions, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi.
11. Under Secretary (Sh. K. B. Nair), Ministry of Steel, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi.
12. Director (T/P&D) (Sh. R.K. Chopra), Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Ltd., Gondwana House, Kanke Road, Ranchi, Jharkhand.

Copy for kind information to : PSO to Secretary(Coal)

Copy to : T.D., NIC Cell for publishing on the web-site of Ministry of Coal.

Minutes of the meeting of Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) constituted under Rule 4(3A) of Auction by Competitive Bidding of Coal Mines Rules, 2012 held on 21.07.2015 to consider allocation of Lignite blocks to the State Government Companies/Corporations

The list of participants is at Annex-I.

2. At the outset, Shri Vivek Bharadwaj, Joint Secretary submitted the background of the subject matter for consideration as stated in the subsequent paragraphs.

3. A Technical Committee (TC) constituted by the Ministry under the Chairmanship of Advisor (Projects), MoC identified 8 regionally explored lignite blocks located in Gujarat and Rajasthan (7 for Opencast and 1 for underground coal gasification) for allocation under the provisions of the Auction by Competitive Bidding of Coal Mines Rules, 2012.

4. In a meeting held at the level of Secretary (Coal) on 25.06.2013, wherein representatives of Govt. of Gujarat and Rajasthan were present, it was decided to earmark following 5 lignite blocks out of total 8 identified for allocation to companies of the Government of Gujarat and Rajasthan:-

S. No.	Name of Block	Location of Block (State)	End-use
1.	Panandhro Extn.	Distt. Kutch, Gujarat	Power by Govt. Company of Gujarat
2.	Bharkandam	Distt. Kutch, Gujarat	Commercial Mining by Govt. Company of Gujarat
3.	Ghala	Distt. Surat, Gujarat	
4.	Nagurda-Joranda	Distt. Barmer, Rajasthan	Commercial Mining by Govt. Company of Rajasthan
5.	Vastan (UCG)	Distt. Surat, Gujarat	Underground Coal Gasification by Govt. Company of Gujarat

5. As per the decision taken in the aforesaid meeting, a notice inviting application (NIA) was issued on 29.07.2013 inviting applications from the Government companies/corporation of Gujarat and Rajasthan for allocation of above mentioned 5 lignite blocks. The applications received were sent for comments to NLC, host States, Ministry of Power and Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas.

6. Applications received were considered in the meetings held under the chairmanship of Secretary (Coal) on 09.01.2014, 20.02.2014 (*Not circulated*) and 26.06.2014. Minutes of these 3 meetings are attached at Annex-II, Annex-III & Annex-IV respectively.

7. In the meeting held on 26.06.2014, the following lignite blocks were recommended for allocation to PSUs of Government of Gujarat.

Sl. No.	Lignite Blocks	End-use	Applicant State	Government Company
1.	Panandhro Extn.	Power	Gujarat	Gujarat Mineral Development Corp. Ltd. (GMDC)
2.	Bharkandam	Commercial Mining	Gujarat	
3.	Ghala	Commercial Mining	Gujarat	
4.	Vastan	Underground Coal Gasification	Gujarat	Gujarat Industries Power Company Ltd. (GIPCL)

8. In the said meeting, it was also recommended that in respect of Vastan Lignite block for underground coal gasification, the project execution will be carried out by a joint venture between GIPCL and ONGC.

9. The above recommendations were considered by the Inter-Ministerial Committee in the instant meeting as is required under the Rules of 2012 and the Committee endorsed the above mentioned recommendations made in the meeting taken by Secretary (Coal) on 26.06.2014.

10. The representative of Department of Economic Affairs (Ministry of Finance) enquired as to why no decision is being taken for allotment of Nagurda - Joranda Lignite block for commercial mining to PSUs of Government of Rajasthan. His attention was drawn to para-3 of the minutes of the meeting dated 26.06.2014 wherein the representative of Rajasthan State Mines & Minerals Ltd. informed that Nagurda - Joranda Lignite block has meagre lignite resources i.e. 15 million tonnes which cannot meet the requirement of their proposed power plant and thus requested for allocation of entire Nagurda block having 232 million tonnes of lignite resources. It was decided to consider allocation of the said block in a separate meeting.

11. IMC, therefore, recommended for allocation of 4 lignite blocks in the following manner:-

Sl. No.	Lignite Blocks	End-use	Applicant State	Government Company
1.	Panandhro Extn.	Power	Gujarat	Gujarat Mineral Development Corp. Ltd. (GMDC)
2.	Bharkandam	Commercial Mining	Gujarat	
3.	Ghala	Commercial Mining	Gujarat	
4.	Vastan	Underground Coal Gasification	Gujarat	Gujarat Industries Power Company Ltd. (GIPCL) (To be executed by a joint venture between GIPCL and ONGC)

12. Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Meeting of Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) constituted under Rule 4(3A) of Auction by Competitive Bidding of Coal Mines Rules, 2012 held on 21-07-2015 to consider allocation of Lignite blocks to the State Government Companies/Corporations.

List of participants

1. Shri Anil Swarup, Secretary, Ministry of Coal - **In the Chair**
2. Shri A.K. Dubey, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal
3. Shri Vivek Bharadwaj, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Coal
4. Shri Rajesh K Sinha, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Coal
5. Shri D.N. Prasad, Adviser(Projects), Ministry of Coal
6. Shri S.K. Shahi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Coal
7. Shri Harendra Kumar, Joint Adviser, NITI Aayog
8. Shri Abhijit Phukan, Joint Director, Deptt. of Economic Affairs
9. Dr. R.S. Shrinet, Assistant Legal Adviser, Deptt. of Legal Affairs
10. Shri Nand Lal, Consultant, Deptt. of Industrial Policy & Promotions
11. Shri K. Srinivasu, Under Secretary, Deptt. of Industrial Policy & Promotions
12. Shri K.B. Nair, Under Secretary, Ministry of Steel
13. Shri R.K. Chopra, Director (T/P&D), CMPDI

No. 13016/26/2004-CA-I(Pt.VI)
Government of India
Ministry of Coal
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Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi,
Dated the 30th January, 2014

To

1. Chief Secretary, Government of Gujarat, Gandhinagar-382010.
2. Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan Secretariat, Jaipur - 302001.
3. CMD, NLC, Neyveli, Tamil Nadu.

Subject:- Record note of discussion of the Meeting on Allocation of Lignite Blocks-reg.

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith the Record Note of discussions of the Meeting held under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Coal) on 9-1-2014 to discuss on the above mentioned subject for information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,



(Kishore Kumar)

Under Secretary to the Government of India
Tel. No.23382188

Copy for information to:

- i. Sr. PPS to Secretary (Coal).
- ii. PS to Addl. Secretary (Coal).
- iii. PS to JS(C), MoC
- iv. PS to Advisor (P), MoC
- v. Director (CA-III), MoC
- vi. CMD, CMPDIL, Kanke Road, Ranchi.
- vii. US (CA-III), MoC

**Record Note of the Discussions of the Meeting Taken by Secretary (Coal)
on 9 January, 2014 to discuss about Issue of Allocation of Lignite Blocks**

List of participants is at **Annexure-1**.

2. Welcoming the participants, Secretary (Coal) mentioned that as per the discussions held in the meeting on 14 November, 2013, certain issues were to be sorted out with State Governments of Gujarat and Rajasthan for allocation of the earmarked lignite blocks. He requested Joint Secretary, Ministry of Coal to mention about the comments received from Ministry of Power on the blocks identified for power and MoPNG on the UCG block.

3. It was informed that in the meeting taken by Secretary (Coal) on 25.06.2013, five lignite blocks located in the State of Gujarat were earmarked as below:

- (i) Panandhro Lignite Block – for Power by Government Companies
- (ii) Bharkandam and Ghala Lignite Blocks – for commercial mining by Government Companies.
- (iii) South of Rajpardi Lignite Block – For power plants to be selected on tariff based bidding.
- (iv) Vastan Lignite Block – For underground coal gasification.

4. Secretary (Coal) requested the representative of Government of Gujarat to offer their views on the letter of Hon'ble Minister of Energy, Government of Gujarat regarding allocating the blocks identified for power particularly South of Rajpardi earmarked for tariff based bidding for commercial mining purposes and also the comments of MoPNG in regard to the Vastan UCG Block for associating ONGC with GIPCL. This is more so in view of the observation of representative of Ministry of Power in the previous meeting that "Gujarat has sought a number of coal blocks for its future power generation plans and if they are surplus in power, why should they seek new coal blocks/ coal linkages and rather should utilize the available lignite for new power generation capacity.

5. Representative of Govt. of Gujarat mentioned that in view of the large demand of industries for lignite and depletion of reserves in the existing Rajpardi Mines, a view was taken to utilize the lignite from these blocks for industrial purposes. However, they would discuss the matter with Ministry of

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Power and get back to Ministry of Coal at the earliest. Regarding the views of MoPNG for association of ONGC with GIPCL, he requested Managing Director, GIPCL to respond.

6. MD, GIPCL mentioned that while it is a fact that the proposed UCG pilot project will have to be carried forward by GIPCL in association with ONGC as per MoU entered into by them earlier but it was not discussed about joint development of the block by these two companies. Secretary (Coal) desired whether GIPCL could consider entering into a joint venture with ONGC with major shareholding by GIPCL so that the block could be allocated to the JV Company. MD, GIPCL agreed to consider the proposal and inform MoC after holding a meeting with ONGC, at the earliest.

7. JS, Ministry of Coal mentioned that regarding Panandhro Extension Lignite Block earmarked for allocation to a Government Company for power, Ministry of Power has offered their comments saying that :

“The existing Panandhro Lignite Mine of GMDC is having balance reserves only 9 MT. As such to fulfil lignite requirement of proposed lignite based expansion power plant in Kutch and existing power plants in operations, additional lignite mines by GMDC is essential. Panandhro Extension block is in continuation with existing Panandhro Lignite Mine of GMDC, hence the infrastructure and manpower of existing Panandhro Lignite Mine can be utilized for the proposed Panandhro Extension Block so that lignite production can be at competitive rates.”

After discussions, it was decided that Panandhro Extension Block may be earmarked for allotment to a Government Company for power.

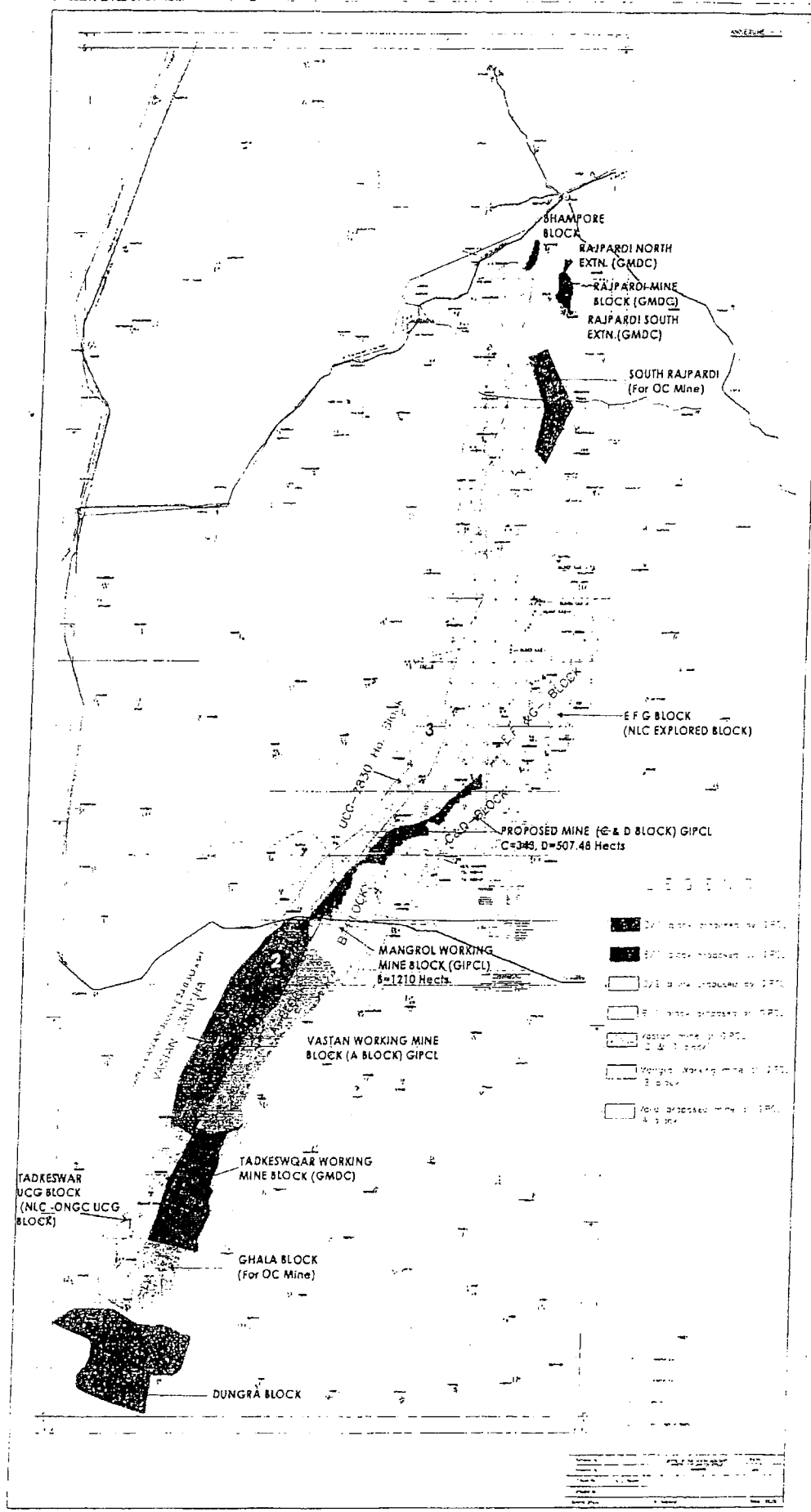
8. He further mentioned that comments from Ministry of Power in regard to the South of Rajparadi block identified for power through tariff based bidding are awaited. It was decided to take a view after comments from Ministry of Power are received.

9. Secretary (Coal) desired to know the status of Tadkeswar UCG Block adjacent to the Vastan Block. Representative of NLC mentioned that NLC has proposed to take up UCG in Tadkeswar Block and entered into a MoU with ONGC in 2005 and incurred expenditure to carry out research and development work. NLC applied for mining lease in 2006 and Govt. of Gujarat has also agreed for granting mining lease in favour of NLC. However the same is

have also entered into a MoU with Govt. of Gujarat in July, 2006 for establishing and operating integrated lignite mine based power project. However, Govt. of Gujarat is now interested in going alone for commercial mining of the area. Secretary (Coal) requested the representative of Govt. of Gujarat to offer their comments on the observations of NLC. The representative of Gujarat mentioned that at the time of entering into a MoU, the financial position of Gujarat Govt. to take up the project was not congenial and as such they were interested in associating NLC. Also, 100 percent power sharing by the State Govt. was an issue as NLC being a CPSU, MoP was of the view that power distribution will be as per the Gadgil's Formula. However, Government of Gujarat is now interested in carrying out mining on their own for commercial purposes. Secretary (Coal) observed that as the reserves are large which would permit setting up of minimum 500 MW thermal power plant and as such this block should be considered for tariff based bidding. He requested representative of Gujarat to also discuss the issue of power sharing in line with Barsingshar TPS in Rajasthan with Ministry of Power and offer their comments accordingly. Representative of NLC mentioned that they would like to participate in the tariff based bidding for this project.

14. Secretary (Coal) mentioned that after considering the comments of Ministry of Power and Govt. of Gujarat on the above issues, a final decision will be taken in the next meeting scheduled to be held shortly.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.



Record Note of Discussions of the Meeting taken by Secretary (Coal) to discuss about the issue relating to Allocation of Lignite Blocks held on 20-2-2014.

(Not circulated)

List of participants is enclosed at **Annexure**.

Welcoming the participants, Secretary (Coal) requested Adviser (Projects), MoC to brief the Members about the proposed Agenda of the discussion.

1. The lignite blocks namely Panandhro for power, Bharkandam and Ghala for commercial mining was earmarked to Govt. of Gujarat and the same was agreed by the Gujarat representative.
2. Vastan UCG block is earmarked to GIPCL for carrying out UCG by forming JV with ONGC on 51:49 ratio partnerships.
3. Tadkeshwar UCG block is earmarked to NLC for carry out UCG Exploration project.
4. The new blocks B3, D1(Lignite bearing) and B1 and D2(non lignite bearing area identified for Overburden dumping) proposed in the extension of BCD blocks of Mangrol-Valia Working mine of GIPCL was discussed. Secretary informed that these block are declared as a new blocks in the extension areas of BCD and earmarked to GIPCL. Further, Secretary (Coal) also informed to NLC representative to submit the block details within a week to MOC for earmarking the block by inviting application for allocation to GIPCL. The NLC representative agreed to send the detail after getting the pending reply from GIPCL pertaining to these blocks. However the GIPCL official informed to Secretary that the reply has already been sent to NLC and if required a copy may be submitted to NLC representative. Finally NLC agreed to send the detail immediately.

5. The EFG blocks in Valia-Gujarat came for discussion and Secretary (C) informed that the EFG block will be earmarked to NLC for power project as per the MOU signed with Govt. of Gujarat. He also informed that the Gujarat Govt. may take up Rajapardi block (which is earmarked for tariff based power project) for commercial mining. However no representative from Govt. of Gujarat was present, the decision was deferred by Secretary (C).
6. Nagurda-Joranda (OC lignite) block was earmarked to Govt. of Rajasthan for commercial mining. The representative of Govt. of Rajasthan agreed to the decision.
7. Nagurda- UCG block was discussed. NLC informed to JS (Coal) that the MoU between RSPCL-NLC is in advance stage with 51:49 ratio partnerships. The Secretary coal informed that the block may be earmarked to RSPCL (Government of Rajasthan) to carry out UCG project since the RSPCL is having 51% of share. NLC requested that Nagurda UCG block may be earmarked to NLC-RSPCL JV company. However, Secretary (Coal) informed to earmark the block to RSPCL who is having major share holding. The Advisor project asked NLC representative that the block was not included in the list of block submitted to MOC. The NLC representative informed that this block was retained by NLC for NLC-RSPCL UCG project, hence it was not submitted to MOC. Further, the Advisor requested NLC to provide the Nagurda UCG block detail to invite application for allotment.
8. ~~In respect of~~ Bithnok Extension and Bapaue lignite blocks are earmarked for tariff based power plant and the same was agreed by the representative of Rajasthan.
- Representative of Gujarat (GMDC) raised the issue of Lakhpat-Dedadi for earmarking to Govt. of Gujarat. It is informed by NLC representative to Advisor (P), MoC that, this block was included in the list of seven blocks submitted to MOC during 5th meeting of the technical committee. Advisor informed to the Secretary that these blocks will be taken during the next meeting.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

AnnexureMeeting convened by Secretary(Coal) to discuss on the issue of allocation of Lignite Blocks on 20.02.2014.List of Participants

1. Shri S.K Srivastava, Secretary, Ministry of Coal - In Chair
2. Shri A.K Bhalla, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Coal
3. Shri D.N Prasad, Advisor(Projects), Ministry of Coal
4. Shri Anurag Kapil, Director, Ministry of Coal
5. Shri V. Appa Rao, Director, Ministry of Power
6. Shri S. Boopathy, Director, NLC
7. Shri T. Kannadasan, GM/Geology, NLC
8. Shri B.S. Sodha, Addl. Director (Mines), Govt. of Rajasthan
9. Shri K.C. Sharma, Manager(Geology), RSMML
10. Shri A.L. Thakor, GM (P&RD), GMDC
11. Shri N.K. Purohit, GM (Mines), GIPCL

No. 13016/26/2004-CA-I(Pt.VI)/CA-III
Government of India
Ministry of Coal
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Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi,
Dated the ~~4th~~ August, 2014

To

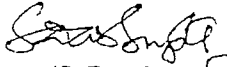
1. Chief Secretary, Government of Gujarat, Gandhinagar-382010.
2. Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan Secretariat, Jaipur - 302001.
3. CMD, NLC, Neyveli, Tamil Nadu.

Subject:- *Record note of discussion of the Meeting on Allocation of Lignite Blocks-reg.*

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith the Record Note of discussions of the Meeting held under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Coal) on 26-6-2014 to discuss on the above mentioned subject for information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,



(S. Das Gupta)

Section Officer

Tel. No.23073933

Copy for information to:

- i. Sr. PPS to Secretary (Coal).
- ii. PS to Addl. Secretary (Coal).
- iii. PS to JS(AKB), MoC
- iv. PS to Advisor (P), MoC
- v. Director (CA-III), MoC
- vi. TD, NIC – with the request to upload on the website of the Ministry.
- vii. Guard folder.

Record Note of discussion of the meeting taken by Secretary (Coal) on 26.06.2014 at MOC, New Delhi, to discuss about the issue of allocation of lignite blocks.

List of the participants at Annex.

At the outset a brief background was given on the 5 lignite blocks, out of which 4 blocks located in Gujarat namely Panandhro Extension (for Power), Bharkandam, Ghala (for commercial mining) & Vastan (for UCG) and 1 block located in Rajasthan namely Nagurda-Joranda (for commercial mining). It was mentioned that, these 5 lignite blocks have been put on offer through NIA dated 29-7-2013, seeking applications from the State of Gujarat and Rajasthan for Allocation to the Government Companies/Corporations under 'Auction by Competitive Bidding of Coal Mines, Rules, 2012'.

2. **State of Gujarat:**

(a) As decided in earlier meetings, Panandhro Extension, Bharkandam & Ghala may be recommended for allocation to Government of Gujarat. Regarding Vastan UCG block, it was recommended that this block may be allotted to GIPCL. However, the project execution shall be carried out by joint venture between GIPCL and ONGC for underground coal gasification purposes. The Block-wise details are as under:

Sl. No.	Lignite Blocks/Capacity/Host State	End-use	Proposed Applicant State	Proposed Government Company
1.	Panandhro Extension/14.45 MT/ Gujarat	Power	Gujarat	Gujarat Mineral Development Corp. Ltd. (GMDC)
2.	Bharkandam/7.20 MT/Gujarat	Commercial Mining	Gujarat	Gujarat Mineral Development Corp. Ltd. (GMDC)
3.	Ghala/12.3 MT/Gujarat	Commercial Mining	Gujarat	Gujarat Mineral Development Corp. Ltd. (GMDC)
4.	Vastan/107.0 MT/Gujarat	UCG	Gujarat	Gujarat Industries Power Co. Ltd. (GIPCL)

(b) In regard to B3, B1, D1 & D2 blocks requested for allocation by GIPCL, Joint Secretary (Coal) informed that, out of 4 blocks proposed for allocation, 2 blocks i.e. B1, D2 do not contain non-lignite bearing area. It was mentioned that, as MOC cannot allocate non-mineralized areas, MOC will consider only the lignite bearing blocks i.e. B3 & D1 for allocation. Accordingly, NLC was asked to submit the details of the lignite blocks viz. B3, D1 within a week's time to MOC. In this regard, Director/P&P, NLC informed that the revised details of B3, D1 lignite blocks covering an area of 650 Hectares (B3- 450 Hectares, D1 - 200 Hectares) will be submitted to MOC. In this regard, GIPCL informed that B1 & D2 is identified for external dump and if this block is not considered, it would be very difficult to accommodate overburden external dump. Regarding this, it was recommended that GIPCL while submitting the mining plans may show areas of B1 & D2 blocks for using as external dumps, so that the area for mining lease can be considered by the State Government. It was decided to call for applications in respect of B3 & D1 blocks from the Government Companies of the Gujarat Government.

(c) In regard to South of Rajpardi block in Gujarat, which was earlier earmarked for tariff based bidding for power generation, it was decided that, the block may be earmarked for allocation to Government Companies for the purpose of commercial mining in the State, based on the request of Govt. of Gujarat. Accordingly, applications may be invited by MoC from the Govt. Companies of Gujarat Government.

(d) The Director/P&P, NLC informed that mining lease application in respect of the Tadkeshwar UCG block was submitted in the year 2006. Now, while processing the ML application, CGM/Gujarat has informed that the Tadkeshwar UCG block is having an overlap with GMDC's blocks. In this regard, NLC has obtained the ML boundary of existing Tadkeshwar opencast mine of GMDC and the fresh area that has been applied for Ghala block by GMDC. NLC examined these block boundary maps and found that 14 Hectares of Tadkeshwar OC ML area and 384 Hectares of Ghala block is overlapping with Tadkeshwar UCG block. In this regard, a fresh ML boundary plan deleting 14 Hectares of overlapping area was sent by NLC to GMDC on 20.05.2014 for obtaining NOC. However, NOC is yet to be issued by GMDC.

The representative of Govt. of Gujarat was asked for an expeditious decision in the matter as the development of UCG projects in the country is essential. CGM/Gujarat was also advised to process and grant ML to NLC for Tadkeshwar UCG block after taking the above issues into consideration.

(e) Representative of GMDC further requested to earmark the Lakpat - Dhedadi block which is very near to their existing operational area. NLC informed that the block has been included in the list of 7 lignite blocks submitted to MOC during 5th meeting of Technical Committee for allocation and decision will be taken separately. Once these issues are resolved, applications will be invited by MoC.

(f) In regard to Valia E,F & G blocks it was mentioned that, as per the deliberations during the meeting held on 9-1-2014, wherein it was informed that, NLC has entered into an MoU with Govt. of Gujarat for establishing, operating lignite based power project (through a JV on 51:49 basis) and has carried out detailed exploration in the blocks. The Govt. of Gujarat has expressed the view that, now they are interested in setting up of the power plant themselves and jointly with NLC. After deliberations in the meeting, it was decided that, it would be appropriate that Valia E, F & G blocks are retained by NLC so as to establish a Thermal Power Station in line with the existing MoU with Govt. of Gujarat. The representative of Govt. of Gujarat was advised to consider the issue favourably and may discuss the issue of sharing of power with Ministry of Power.

In this regard, representative of Govt. of Gujarat informed in the meeting that he will have a meeting convened at high level and convey their recommendation about the power project in JV sector based on Valia E,F &G blocks, to the Ministry of Coal, at the earliest. The Government of Gujarat may propose power sharing arrangements in consultation with Ministry of Power. The Director/P&P, NLC informed that the MOU signed between G/o Gujarat during 2005 still exists and for establishing lignite based power plant in Valia area, the same MOU could be continued.

3. **State of Rajasthan:**

- (a) Nagurda-Joranda opencast lignite block was earmarked to Govt. of Rajasthan for commercial mining and accordingly NIA was issued seeking application from Govt. Companies of Rajasthan.
- (b) The representative of RSMML informed that the Nagurda-Joranda is having very less lignite resources i.e.15 MT which cannot meet the requirement of the proposed power plant. Accordingly, RSMML requested that the entire Nagurda block having 232MT may be considered for allocation.
- (c) In this connection, the Director/P&P, NLC informed that the Nagurda block has been divided into two blocks based on the occurrence of lignite in this block namely Nagurda-Joranda OC mining block and Nagurda UCG block. The allocation of Nagurda UCG block was discussed in the earlier meeting and it was recommended to earmark to RSPCL and NLC in 51:49 ratio to have JV Company to carryout UCG studies. The MOU between NLC and RSPCL is under approval of NLC Board. However, it was decided that since M/s RSPCL is interested to take up the UCG area also for the purpose of power generation, the Technical Committee may review the requirement of M/s.RSPCL and a separate meeting will be convened to discuss on the issue. After this issue is resolved fresh applications may be invited by MoC.
- (d) Representative of RSMML requested that a decision needs to be taken in regard to allocation of Jalipa North extension block for which NLC has already given NOC and RSMML purchased the Geological Reports. Hence, the allocation of Jalipa North Extension block was requested in favour of RSMML. NLC was directed to furnish the details of this block, so that this block can be earmarked for allocation. NLC was also advised to submit all the lignite block details at the earliest to MoC.
- (e) Further, discussions were also held in regard to Bithnok Extension and Bapeu blocks located in Rajasthan, which were earmarked for tariff based bidding. Representative of Rajasthan informed that these blocks may be allocated to the State Government Company for power generation instead of tariff based bidding. As no representative of MoP was present, it was decided to defer the decision on these two blocks.
- (f) Advisor (P), MoC informed that a total of 7 lignite blocks submitted by NLC during 5th Technical Committee will be taken up in the next meeting and requested NLC representative to get the relinquished area if any, from the Dte. General of Hydrocarbons (DGH), out of the 20 Petroleum Exploration License /Petroleum Mining Lease (PEL/PML) overlapping area to carve out new blocks for allocation. In this regard, NLC representative informed that NLC has already submitted a list of above mentioned 20 PEL/PML overlapping blocks to DGH to inform the relinquished area on 13.05.2014 and reply is awaited.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the chair.

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Annex.

Meeting under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Coal) to discuss on the Issue of Lignite Blocks on 26-06-2014.

List of Participants

1. Shri S K Srivastava, Secretary, Ministry of Coal – In Chair
2. Shri A.K Dubey, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal
3. Shri A.K Bhalla, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Coal
4. Shri D.N. Prasad, Advisor (Projects), Ministry of Coal
5. Shri Anurag Kapil, Director, Ministry of Coal
6. Shri J. Natarajan, Commissioner of Geology and Mining, Govt. of Gujarat
7. Shri S. Boopathy, Director(Project and Planning), NLC
8. Shri S.S.Jamrani, Addl. Director(Geology), Department of Mines and Geology, Govt. of Rajasthan
9. Shri R.K. Zoshi, GGM, RSMML
10. Shri A.L Thakor, GM(P,R&D), GMDC
11. Shri N.K Purohit, GM(Mines), GIPCL
12. Dr. T. Kannadasan, GM(Geology), NLC
13. Shri Piyush Shah, Senior Manager, GMDC
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