

SEEKING OF EXPLANATION
By Speed Post

No. 13016/16/2008-CA-I (Part-II)
Government of India
Ministry of Coal

New Delhi, dated 30th December, 2013

To,
The Director,
M/s Sasan Power Ltd.,
I-Block, 2nd Floor, North Wing,
Dhirubhai Ambani Knowledge City,
Thane Belapur Road, Koparkhairane,
Navi Mumbai - 400710.

Subject: Seeking of explanation from M/s Sasan Power Ltd for slow progress in respect of Chhatrasal Coal block - regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letter No. 13016/4/2006-CA-I dated 26.10.2006 conveying allocation of **Chhatrasal coal block** in pursuance of the provisions contained in Section 3(3)(a) of the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973, subject to certain conditions. One of the conditions of allocation was that coal production from the captive block shall commence within 36 months (42 months in case the area is in forest land) in case of open cast mine and in 48 months (54 months in case the area falls under forest land) in case of UG mine from the date of allocation. The end-use project schedule and the coal mine development schedule were to be modified accordingly and submitted to the Ministry within 3 months from the date of allocation.

2. Allocation letter also stipulates that allocation/mining lease of the coal block may be cancelled, inter-alia, on the following grounds:-

- a. Unsatisfactory progress of implementation of their end use power plant.
- b. Unsatisfactory progress in the development of coal mining project.
- c. For breach of any of the conditions of allocation.

3. In order to expedite the development of the coal blocks, review meetings were held from time to time. In the review meeting held on 11/12.01.2012, it was noticed that the progress of the **Chhatrasal** coal block allocated to the company is not satisfactory. The



Committee expressed concern over unsatisfactory progress and advised the allocattees whose blocks were held up due to location in No-Go area to pursue their forest diversion proposals since Go/No-Go concept has been done away with. Accordingly, an advisory letter No. 13011/2/2012-CA-I dated 26.04.2012 was issued to the company with the direction to expedite the development of coal block. It was also stated that the progress would be monitored regularly and if the development of the coal block and associated end use plant is not as per the schedule furnished and if any wilful delay is noticed, appropriate action including deduction of bank guarantee/de-allocation of the block would be considered.

4. In the meantime, the Government has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) on 21.06.2012 under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal having members from Ministry/Department of Power, Steel, Industrial Policy & Promotion, Legal Affairs and Economic Affairs. IMG has the mandate to review the progress of development of allocated coal blocks and associated end use projects and to recommend action including de-allocation, if required. IMG in its 19th meeting held on 25.06.2013 *inter alia* considered the status of the development of the **Chhatrasal** coal block prepared by the Coal Controller's Organisation (CCO) as on 31st March, 2013 and noted that there has been slow progress towards development of the coal block and no sincere efforts have been made by your company. It has been noticed that a number of important/critical milestones are pending. The details of milestones to be achieved and the time lapsed against each milestone, as reported by the Office of Coal Controller, are given in the table below:

Mile Stones	Schedule date of Completion	Actual date of Completion	Slippage in YY/MM (as on Mar.13)	Remarks	Special Observation
Purchase of GR	21.9.2007 45 days	23.5.2008	8 Months		
Submission of Bank Guarantee	7.11.2007 3 months	7.11.2007	-		
Mining Lease Application	7.11.2007 3 months	30.9.2008	9 Months	ML area:- 928 Ha	
Submission of Mining Plan	7.2.2008 6 months	29.8.2008	6 Months		
Approval of Mining Plan	7.4.2008 8 months	30.3.2009	1 Yr		
Application of	7.6.2008	Pending	4 Yrs 9		

Previous approval	10 months		Months		
Granting of Previous approval	7.7.2008 11 months	Pending	4Yrs 8 Months		
Application of Forest clearance	7.8.2008 12 months	29.7.2009	1Ye	Forest land:925.08 Ha Revenue Land:- 2.92 Ha	Stage-I Forest clearance received on 23.11.2012
Grant of Forest Clearance	7.2.2009 18 months	Pending	4Yrs 1 Months		Chatrasal block is under No-Go Forests area
Application EMP Clearance	7.8.2008	12.8.2008	-		
Grant of EMP Clearance	7.2.2009 18 months	Pending	4Yrs 1 Month	EAC recommended for EMP clearance.	
Grant of Mining Lease	7.8.2009 24 months	Pending	-		
Application of Land Acquisition	7.3.2009 19 months	Yes	-	Agreement for Pvt land in Amelia village (21.32 Ha) published in Gazette on 10.6.11. LA process to be started after FC.	Total Land: 992.57 Ha. Pvt. Land: 23.5Ha. Govt. land: 3.67 Ha. Forest Land: 965.4 Ha.
Completion of Land Acquisition	7.8.2010 36 months	Pending	2Yr 7 Months		
Application for opening permission	7.12.2010 40 months	Pending	2Yrs 3 Months		
Grant of Opening permission	7.1.2011 41 months	Pending	2Yrs 2 Months		
Coal Production	7.2.2011 (42 months)	Pending	2Yrs 1 Months	UG mine with forest land.	Delay due to No Go area categorization.

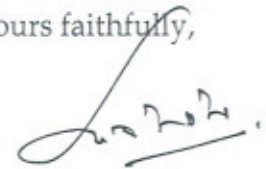
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Keeping in view the slow progress, IMG recommended to seek explanation for slow progress in development of coal block. The recommendation of IMG has since been considered and accepted by the Government.

5. Under the above circumstances, you are hereby called upon to **explain**, on each milestone separately to this Ministry within a period of **20 days** from the date of issue of this letter, the reasons for the slow progress as well as the efforts made by you in development of the coal block, failing which it would be presumed that your company has no explanation to offer and action as appropriate would be taken.

6. You are also requested to furnish a detailed status note on the progress of end use plant(s) (EUPs) for which the above mentioned coal block was allocated to you.

Yours faithfully,



(S.K. Shahi)
Director
Tel: 23382807

Copy to:

(i) The Coal Controller, Coal Controller Organisation, 1- Council House Street, Kolkata.

✓ (ii) NIC, Ministry of Coal for uploading the letter on Ministry's website.