

Action plan on mining planned

Panel to draw out policy guidelines

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
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The State government will soon come out with a State-level mining action plan 2030 to match the industries' demand for iron ore. Rajender Kumar Kataria, Secretary, Commerce & Industries (Mines & MSME), said at the ASSOCHAM India Mining Summit 2017 held in New Delhi on Friday.

"Karnataka will hopefully supply the kind of ore required for the next 14 to 15 years," said Mr. Kataria.

Framework

He also said a committee has been constituted to come out with broad policy guidelines and framework so that some kind of discipline can be brought into the minor mineral sector.

Highlighting that the issues regarding process simplification and bringing in transparency are already under discussion of the Ministry of Mines, he said, "In the State government also, you will find some simplification of processes in the short-term," said a

release issued by ASSOCHAM.

Mr. Kataria also urged Arun Kumar, Secretary, Union Ministry of Mines, to compile a mineral database comprising size, demand, and a prospective plan to meet that demand.

Data management

"Both the industry and the government need to do adequate data management to carry out demand and supply assessment in the industry on the basis of which we can think of exploiting the resources," he said.

Talking about the need to promote systematic scientific mining, he said it is an area both policy makers and miners need to now start thinking of.

"With a view to bridge the widening gap between iron ore demand and supply, we should go for scientific mining, identify and plan well in advance so that systematic and scientific mining can take place without spoiling the environment," said the release quoting Mr. Kataria.

Govt to release draft changes in mineral auction rules in August

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, August 4

THE GOVERNMENT WILL bring out proposed changes in mineral auction rules this month as it looks to make sale of mines more effective, a top official said on Friday.

The government looks to remove 'small' glitches in the rules highlighted by bidders and industry associations, mines secretary Arun Kumar was quoted as saying in a statement by Assocham.

"The mines ministry will bring out proposed draft changes to the Mineral Auction Rules, 2015, within August with a view to make mineral block auctions more effective thereby removing the small glitches highlighted by the bidders and industry associations....," the statement quoted Kumar as saying.

"When we put it out on the net, there would be again an occasion to give in your suggestions," Kumar said.

The secretary further said that definition of captive will stay for the existing leases but for auctions the government will see how it can tweak the system legally to allow for a certain percentage of the minerals to be traded as well, according to the statement.

A total of 29 mineral blocks with a combined estimated resources of ₹1.56 lakh crore have been auctioned so far, the government had earlier said.

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NEW DELHI: The Government will bring out proposed changes in mineral auction rules this month as it looks to make sale of mines more effective, a top official said on Friday. The Government looks to remove 'small' glitches in the rules highlighted by bidders and industry associations, Mines Secretary Arun Kumar was quoted as saying in a statement by Assocham.

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Now, take loans from 'State Bank of Tomato'

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LUCKNOW: As market price of tomato continues to remain high, an offer by 'State Bank of Tomato' to provide cheap loan to buyers is bringing smile on people's faces here in Uttar Pradesh.

Set up by Uttar Pradesh Youth Congress (UPYC), "State Bank of Tomato" is running its business from its headquarter here.

UPYC leaders work as bank's chief manager and employees, extending facilities such as easy loans for buying tomatoes, attractive interest rates on its deposit and locker facility as a novel way to protest the soaring price of the vegetable.

"We are assuring double returns of tomatoes in six months. For loan, a buyer will have to return 1.5 kg tomato to us for one kg tomato taken on loan," said UPYC leader Anshu Awasthi. Also, the UPYC had put up a special counter in front of the Vidhan Bhawan on Friday selling tomatoes at ₹10 per kg.

"This is our way to protest the soaring tomato price. We are

selling it to common man to show our concern for them. CM Yogi Adityanath should understand the problem and take action," said Shailendra Tiwari, a Youth Congress leader.

The idea behind the bank is to lodge protest and create awareness among the people about the commodity being sold at such high rates. "I bought half a kilogram tomato from the UPYC's stall this morning. We thank them for this gesture as this is a great help," said Shashi Kant.

Awasthi, who has been leading the UPYC's campaign as the bank's chief general manager, said the bank's offers were evoking good response from people. "Our protest will continue till prices of tomato drop to at least ₹50 per kg," he said.

Prices of tomato have shot up about four times since the beginning of June when tomatoes were being sold at about ₹25 per kg in the Delhi-National Capital Region market.

Industry body Assocham had said recently that "tomato prices may not immediately ease as flooding in some of the states that grow the vegetable has led to damage of the crop."

राज्य स्तरीय खनन कार्य योजना जल्द: कटारिया

व्यवस्थित वैज्ञानिक खनन पर जोर

बेंगलूरु. लौह अयस्कों के लिए उद्योगों की मांग की पूर्ति के लिए कर्नाटक सरकार जल्द ही राज्य स्तरीय खनन कार्य योजना-2030 लाएगी। उम्मीद है कि कर्नाटक अगले 14-15 वर्षों तक मांग के अनुसार लौह अयस्कों की आपूर्ति कर सकेगा। व्यापक नीतिगत दिशा-निर्देश एवं ढांचा तैयार करने के लिए एक समिति का गठन किया गया है।

खनन विभाग के सचिव राजेंद्र कुमार कटारिया ने शुक्रवार को यह बात कही। वे दिल्ली में भारतीय वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंडल (एसोचैम) के भारतीय खनन सम्मेलन में संबोधित कर रहे थे। उन्होंने कहा कि प्रक्रिया सरलीकरण और पारदर्शिता से संबंधित मुद्दों पर खनन मंत्रालय से विचार-विमर्श जारी है। प्रदेश स्तर पर भी प्रक्रिया सरलीकरण में कुछ बदलाव दिखेगा।

कटारिया ने केन्द्रीय खनन मंत्रालय के सचिव अरुण कुमार से आकार और मांग के आधार पर खनिज डेटाबेस तैयार करने एवं मांगों की पूर्ति के लिए संभावित कार्य योजना पर काम करने की अपील की। उन्होंने कहा कि मांग और आपूर्ति मूल्यांकन के लिए केंद्र और प्रदेश दोनों सरकारों को व्यापक और पर्याप्त डेटा प्रबंधन की जरूरत पड़ेगी।

लौह अयस्कों की मांग और आपूर्ति सहित वातावरण संरक्षण के लिए व्यवस्थित वैज्ञानिक खनन जरूरी है। इस पर नीति निर्माताओं और खनिक को सोचना शुरू कर देना चाहिए। आदमिक प्रौद्योगिकी के कारण खनन में काफी समय नष्ट होता है। अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर पर उपलब्ध नवीनतम तकनीक के इस्तमाल की जरूरत है।

कटारिया ने कहा कि खानों की ई-नीलामी में कर्नाटक का अनुभव अच्छा है। शुरूआती दो वर्षों में दिक्कतें आई थीं लेकिन अब कर्नाटक अन्य प्रदेशों के लिए एक मॉडल बन गया है।