The Conference of Power, Renewable Energy and Mines Ministers of States/UTs was held on 7th-8th October at Vadodara. The Conference was chaired by Hon’ble Union Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal, New & Renewable Energy & Mines. As the Conference was held in Gujarat, accordingly Hon’ble Minister of Energy, Govt. of Gujarat was invited to co-chair the Conference. The Conference was attended by 21 Ministers from States/UTs and 13 States/UTs were represented by Secretaries/Pr. Secretaries along with heads of power utilities.

**Address by Secretary (Mines):**

2. Union Secretary (Mines) highlighted the developments and initiatives undertaken in the mining sector. He intimated that 16 blocks of mines had already been auctioned and out of which additional revenue of Rs. 47,000 crore will be generated. He requested the States Governments concerned to look into the matter for resolving the issues for expediting auction of blocks including the blocks which were annulled earlier.

3. He mentioned that the new scheme “Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana” (PMKKKY) is going to make paradigm shift in mining sector by directly addressing the welfare of mining affected population. He urged the States to prepare & implement good projects under District Mineral Fund (DMF) for benefitting local communities in the spirit of the PMKKKY. He further informed that the National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) is exploring the possibility of discovering new mines by using conventional method as well as aero-geophysical survey.

4. He pointed out that more than 200 cases for grant of mining leases are pending on account of clearances from State Government and Ministry of
Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (M/o EF & CC) Government of India. He sought the cooperation of the concerned State Governments and requested that all cases need to be followed up for its early disposal. He also suggested that Mining Surveillance System should be adopted for minor minerals by the States to curb the illegal mining as it would also help in sustainable development of mines and mineral sector. He stressed that all states which have not yet notified Rules for Minor Minerals must do so expeditiously.

**Address by Secretary (Power):**

5. Secretary (Power) in his opening remarks stated that the prime focus of the Ministry of Power is to reduce the cost of power so that 24X7 electricity is available to all at an affordable price. In order to achieve this objective, a number of measures have been taken by the Ministry of Power, including reduction in transmission and distribution losses.

6. He asserted that reduction of AT&C losses is basically a governance issue and need to be dealt with by the State Governments with firm political will. He emphasized that feeder monitoring system would cover all the urban feeders and all the rural feeders would be included on priority basis gradually. He acknowledged that rural electrification in Arunachal Pradesh, Jharkhand and Assam are facing some problems. He urged that the renewed focus should be on ensuring access of electricity to each household in rural areas.

7. He emphasized that the Government’s commitment to achieve the target of 175 GW of renewable energy within specified time frame, fully integrated to the grids. As regards integration of renewable energy in the grid, he mentioned that there are some issues and that the Ministry of Power is in the process of resolving the same. He pointed out that the thermal power plants are required to go in for retrofitting for environmental emission norms compliance due to new guidelines issued by M/o EF & CC. He informed that the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is working out the demand projection
for 2017 and 2022. He also emphasized that the States should pro-actively implement the energy efficiency initiatives taken by Ministry of Power.

Address by Secretary (Coal):

8. Secretary (Coal) in his address stated that with cooperation of the State Governments, issues related to coal supply have been resolved and that problems related to quality have been largely addressed through the mechanism of 3rd party sampling. He urged the states to analyse as to why there is still import of coal when there was indigenous coal available with the Coal India Ltd. (CIL). He underlined that the State power generating companies be impressed to pay up its dues to CIL for the coal that they have already received.

Address by Secretary (MNRE):

9. Secretary, MNRE emphasized on the need for developing innovative pricing structures by the States to bring down tariff for Solar, Wind or Integrated projects. The main goal is to achieve the target assigned by the Hon'ble Prime Minister. He also emphasized on commissioning of 17 GW projects in the current financial year. He added that the State Nodal Agencies (SNA) and Association of Renewable Energy Agencies need to be strengthened. He informed that the additional Solar Parks of 20,000 MW capacity and another 10,000 MW under farmers’ scheme were under consideration. The new financial instruments and flow of capital from World Bank, ADB Local Banks will play an important role to achieve the target of 175 GW by 2022. He said MNRE is in the process to make an equity fund of USD 2 Billion to help the local companies in Renewable Energy (RE) Sector. He then invited the dignitaries in foundation stone laying ceremony of Atal Akshay Urja Bhawan in New Delhi, scheduled on 19th October, 2016.

10. He also emphasized that RE Sector needs to be supported by the States in terms of timely payments for the energy consumed by them. It was informed that the proposal for renewal of Tripartite Agreement among RBI, Central
PSUs including SECI and the States is under consideration of the Government of India with inclusion of Solar Power supplied from projects owned by the CPSUs and from projects under Government of India Schemes.

Address by Hon’ble Union Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal, New & Renewable Energy & Mines:

11. Hon’ble Union Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal, New & Renewable Energy & Mines extended a warm welcome to all the participants and delegates. He expressed his pleasure that the meeting is being held within 4 months and announced that Hon’ble Energy Minister, Govt. of Gujarat would be the Co-Chairman of the proceedings. He stated that all 4 ministries under him are working in tandem with the focus to achieve good governance through good economics.

12. He stated that rural electrification process has slowed down. He opined that there should be a mechanism to rectify any shortcomings in the process of implementation. He stressed that there is a need to be more vigilant, transparent and accountable and accordingly the working style should be reoriented. He stressed the importance of transparency and accountability and observed that use of digital applications like URJA Mitra, Vidut Pravah, and other apps would be helpful in this regard. He also informed that in order to ensure real time monitoring of coal production, transportation & distribution, new apps would be launched shortly which would be helpful in improvement of accountability as well as transparency in the coal sector. He stressed on the importance of faster data flow from the States as it would be in their own interest, which will enable quick fund transfer. He emphasized the firm resolve of the Govt. to provide electricity to every household by 2019.

13. Hon’ble Union Minister observed that, in the long run, UDAY will be instrumental in growth of power demand. He expressed his satisfaction that in a short span of six months, UDAY has achieved several milestones. He urged those states which have not yet signed the MOU under UDAY to make
up their mind and to sign the same for the larger benefit of the Indian power sector.

14. He further emphasized that coal import would be reduced to zero and India will be in a position to export coal to the neighboring countries. He urged the states to expedite auction of maximum possible number of mineral blocks during the year and address causes for non-auctioning of various mineral blocks. He stressed the importance of fast tracking of mining projects and urged the State representatives to follow up the projects vigorously. He mentioned that 30% of royalty will go into the DMF for the development of district affected by mining. The directions have been issued by the Central Government under section 20A in regard to the implementation of PMKKKY under DMF. He also expressed his desire that the State should set up DMF in case of minor mineral also.

15. Hon’ble Union Minister emphasized the need for the production of low cost RE. He suggested that hydro power, including power from large hydro power projects can be considered as RE. He expressed his concern that instead of sourcing RE from solar and wind projects which are must-run, some States are procuring power from exchange in short term. This practice should be discouraged and he urged the States to promote RE. He also expressed his concern that some States are not adhering to mandatory Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO).

**Power Distribution:**

16. Joint Secretary (Distribution), Ministry of Power highlighted the various features of UDAY scheme. He mentioned about electrification of remaining villages in mission mode and that it is necessary to know whether electrified villages were getting electricity. He appreciated the action taken by the Government of Bihar for putting at a mechanism, thereby ensuring supply of electricity to BPL households. He also informed that Ministry of Power has set-up a working group with Ministry of Rural Development to ensure supply of electricity to each household, based on census 2011. He also mentioned
about the tenders floated under DDUGJY and IPDS for procurement of smart meters.

17. Secretary (Power), Govt. of India supplemented JS (Distribution) and reiterated the importance of feeder monitoring in both urban and rural areas. He has requested the States to ensure the porting of the data of feeders on a common online platform so that the information could be used by the DISCOMs/State managements as a managerial tool to identify loss pockets. The States were requested to extend cooperation in porting the data online.

18. Govt. of Kerala raised the issue of loss funding being restricted under UDAY only through State government guaranteed/issued Bonds and the same will have to be within the FRBM limits.

19. It was clarified that UDAY is an optional scheme and that the States would have to weigh the benefits. The objective behind this clause was to ensure commitment from both the States and DISCOMs for a sustainable debt level.

20. Government of Bihar raised concerns on the difficulties for getting working capital loans and short term loans from the Banks. It was clarified that the Working capital provisions under UDAY are clear and the matter has been clarified in detail in the recent meeting with Indian Bank Association (IBA) and Bankers. As regards other short term debt requirements, it was clarified that an understanding has been developed, according to which General Purpose DISCOM Bonds with State Government guarantee can be issued which can be subscribed by the Banks.

21. Joint Secretary (Distribution), Ministry of Power mentioned that information under IT enablement in both rural and urban areas would be available in the public domain. Similarly, Vidyut Pravah App also discloses the demand and supply of the power available in the grid on a real time basis. Therefore, it is important that all the States/ DISCOMs ensure that the data is synchronized online and is duly sanitized.
22. On a query from Tamil Nadu, it was clarified that under the Urja Mitra, DISCOMs would be paid the charges for the push SMS notifications to the Consumers.

23. Government of Karnataka raised the issue of different agencies and systems working on the online integration of feeders in rural and urban areas. As a large number of substations in the States have both rural and urban feeders, it would be better to have a common agency and system for the same. It was decided that the Ministry of Power would examine this suggestion for further appropriate action.

24. State governments were advised to prepare blueprints for grid and off-grid connectivity of households/settlements.

25. Further, it was suggested that the various Apps in the public domain would be inter-linked with each other so that the public would be empowered to draw their conclusions.

26. Under RAPDRP, more than 30000 feeders are to be online, out of which only about 16000 feeders are online so far. There is a need to ensure that all the communicable feeder’s data get ported to the National Power Portal at the earliest. It is therefore important that all the States/DISCOMs work actively and cooperate with PFC to get the information uploaded on the online portal.

27. Smart Grids are the way forward for ensuring the last mile reliability in realizing 24X7 Power for all. The National Smart Grid Mission (NSGM) will handhold States in assisting with various Business models/Service Models, with or without viability gap funding, capped at 30% of the project cost for installing smart meters and smart grids. Sample Service models were shared in the Conference.

28. It was informed that the price of Smart meters is coming down. Aggregation of demand would put a further pressure on the prices of smart meters to come down. If States agree to indicate their requirements, then the possibilities for a centralized procurement can be explored. Suggestions from the State
Governments were solicited to take the process forward as CEA has already issued the commercial specifications of the advanced metering infrastructure.

29. States may decide on their state specific rollout plans for the Smart meters, whether it be area wise or feeder wise in terms of the National Tariff Policy and as per previous deliberations. CEA has recommended that the smart meters should be rolled out preferably as an end to end solution.

30. ED, REC made a presentation on rural electrification elaborating the steps taken in a mission mode for electrification of the remaining villages in the country. It was emphasized that the States should electrify all the remaining villages in the country before December, 2016 as per the agreed timelines, except Bihar, Chhattisgarh and West Bengal, which have agreed to complete the village electrification by March, 2017. The presentation also highlighted the need for timely action by the power utilities for early energization of the villages once the infrastructure is created and release of BPL connections as per the State list. The issue relating to sign boards both in unelectrified and intensively electrified villages as well as engravement of word “DDUGJY” in all major materials was also highlighted.

31. Even after around one year of sanction of new projects under DDUGJY, Karnataka, Assam, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, Meghalaya, Sikkim, Dadra Nagar Haveli and Goa are yet to submit the recasted DPRs. States were requested to send the same to REC at the earliest. The issue relating to non-execution of Tripartite Agreements by the States and consequent delay in release of funds for commencement of works was also highlighted.

32. States were also impressed upon for providing access of electricity to all households by December 2018 so as to achieve 100% electrification of households. In the updated GARV App, Base Household data and villages sanctioned in XII Plan/DDUGJY would be reflected. Further, in the App, electricity connection details (viz. Name, Consumer No. and Mobile No.) are required to be updated by DISCOM/PMA using login access. Updated GARV App will have additional features like Distribution Transformer monitoring,
separate dashboard for DISCOM MDs and engagement of District Administration and Citizen in the Household electrification process.

33. It was suggested that States may adopt SECC-2011 (Socio Economic Caste Census) data for providing free electricity connections in rural areas. It was decided to solicit the views of States on practicability and implications of adopting SECC-2011 data under DDUGJY.

34. It was agreed that states would utilise funds already sanctioned under DDUGJY new projects for creation of necessary electricity infrastructure to provide access to electricity to households (both APL and BPL) on priority.

35. Depending upon the stages of electrification in the States, timelines were agreed for achieving 100% household electrification as under:

- West Bengal, Haryana, Kerala, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and UTs by March 2017.
- Sikkim, Assam, Odisha, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh by March 2018
- Maharashtra, Telangana and Chhattisgarh by March 2017 (Except LWE Areas) and March 2018 (including LWE Areas)
- Jammu & Kashmir by 15th August 2017
- Bihar: 20 lakh Households by March 2017 & all remaining households by December 2018
- Uttar Pradesh: 90 Lakh Households by March 2018
- Uttarakhand and other remaining States by December 2017

36. For last mile connectivity and APL Household Electrification, it was suggested that States may avail funding through REC with a longer repayment tenure of 10-15 years with competitive interest rates.

37. Govt of Bihar stated that the Project Management Agency (PMA) charges under DDUGJY is 0.5% of the project cost which is inadequate and requested for its enhancement appropriately. Secretary (Power) mentioned that the PMA charges under DDUGJY were fixed by CCEA while approving the scheme and added that REC should examine the matter and bring it to DDUGJY Monitoring Committee of MoP.
38. ED, REC (Ms. Ritu Maheshwari) made a detailed presentation on urban feeder monitoring, IT enablement of 2600 towns. She also covered the main features of Urban Jyoti Abhiyan (URJA) App.

39. A presentation on Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) and Smart Meter deployment scenario in India was given by Director, National Smart Grid Mission-Project Monitoring Unit. The concept of AMI was briefly explained. A case study of smart meter deployment for around 9000 consumers at Tundla, UP was also presented wherein it was demonstrated that the cost of entire deployment was recovered in less than one year. Cost-Benefit analysis of current operations and smart meter operations were shown. Utilities were requested to go for AMI deployment keeping in line with the mandate for smart meter deployment under UDAY and factoring in the strong business case for such a deployment.

**Solar Grid Connected Power:**

40. The cumulative target is 17000 MW of solar power to be achieved by 31st March, 2017. With present installed capacity of 8600 MW, another 8400 MW is to be added in remaining 6 months. PPAs of around 9700 MW have been signed, which needs to be completed before 31st March, 2017. States were requested to put all efforts to complete these projects before 31st March, 2017.

41. Letter of Intent (LOI) has been issued in some states but PPA has not been signed, particularly in Jharkhand and Haryana, due to the issues related to the approval of tariff, by the Regulators.

42. Some Solar projects are ready for commissioning before the date of commissioning mentioned in PPAs. The concerned Discoms were requested to allow such projects for early commissioning so that the target for 2016-17 could be met.

43. Fresh tenders for addition of more than 20,000 MW RE need to be floated by the end of this financial year in order to achieve the target of 15000 MW for next financial year.
44. Although Central Government is floating tenders with SECI & NTPC under different scheme, State Governments also need to float tenders of approx. 10-12 thousand MW by March, 2017 to achieve the targets set for next year.

45. The critical issue of pending dues from DISCOMs is causing anxiety and concern to the developers of solar and wind power projects. States were requested to look into the issue. In order to ensure payment of dues, it was suggested that the States may open a dedicated Escrow Account for purchase of RE. The Payment Guarantee Mechanism (PGM) is proposed as a short terms solution and the World Bank has come forward with 470 Million PGM in this regard.

46. As regards Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO), it was informed that States are lagging behind and some states have shortfall of approx. 90%. States were informed that Ministry of Power has issued year-wise Solar RPO trajectory upto 2019-20. The solar RPO requirement for 2016-17 is 2.75%. States were requested to meet the solar RPO requirements without fail.

47. The solar park scheme may be a game changer for achieving the target of National Solar Mission. Under this scheme, 34 solar parks with a total capacity of 20,000 MW have been approved in different states. The EFC Note has already been approved for the enhancement of the scheme and Cabinet approval is awaited. After its enhancement, the total target under this scheme would be 40,000 MW. The DPRs for 17 out of 34 solar parks have been prepared, land has been arranged for 9 solar parks and financial closure is done in 5 solar parks.

48. The World Bank has come forward to do the funding for infrastructure in addition to the MNRE grant of Rs.20 Lakhs per MW for each solar park. The World Bank will facilitate $200 millions of infrastructure loan under IBRD and CTF at the rate of 0.25 %. Madhya Pradesh has shown keen interest for requirement of $70-80 Millions for 4 solar parks and the window is open for all other states. The funding will flow through MNRE to the states at the pre-decided rate of 8.50% which means the currency risk will be taken care by
The repayment has 5 year moratorium period and 15 year repayment period.

Solar Roof Top:

49. For solar roof-top system, MNRE is providing subsidy/incentive of 30% for general category States (70% for Special category States) for installation on residential, household, institutional, Government or PSUs buildings. Government of India has withdrawn the capital subsidy support for commercial and industrial sector due to their tariff competitiveness.

50. The utilities have an advantage that they do not have to go for short-term and high cost purchases during day-time and can meet their RPO obligations. The states of Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Delhi, Karnataka and Maharashtra are leading in the Scheme implementation.

51. A panel of 900 technically and commercially qualified agencies have been finalised to take up these projects. The list is available on MNRE web-site to facilitate smaller roof-tops.

52. MNRE is developing an army of ‘Suryamitra’ which can be approached through mobile App created by the Ministry. An online portal called ‘SPIN’ has been set up. All the relevant data for roof top solar projects will be available on the portal.

53. MNRE has tied up with ISRO for geo-tagging of all of these plants using ISRO’s Vedas portal which will be linked on MNRE’s web-site.

54. A total sanction of 1300 million dollars has been received from the World Bank, KFW, ADB and NDB and funding will be through SBI, PNB, Canara Bank and IREDA at the rate of less than 10%.

55. MNRE has initiated the process of accumulating the demand for 3 lacs systems of a total capacity of 500 MWp. The financial bids have been evaluated and will be awarded soon.

56. PPA and EPC agreements have been standardized which will be shared with all the Ministries and DISCOMs.
57. In order to achieve the target of 5000 MW of roof-top capacity in Phase II Scheme, the PSUs, DISCOMs and urban local bodies have been identified as focal centres.

58. The draft of mini-grid policy is available on MNRE web-site.

Wind Power:

59. In order to facilitate fulfilment of non-solar RPO by the DISCOMs of non-windy States, MNRE has sanctioned a scheme under which 1000 MW ISTS connected wind power projects would be selected through open competitive bidding process followed by e-reverse auction. The PTC India Ltd. has been selected as trading company, who will sign PPA with Wind power developers and back to back PSA with DISCOMs at a pooled price of total bids. Ministry of Power has already issued an order, waiving the ISTS charges and losses for inter-state transmission of wind.

60. MNRE is also in the process of issuing new guidelines for wind power development in the country. The new guidelines will address issues including timely completion of projects, free availability of wind resource data, regulatory compliance, improved micrositing, health and safety, decommissioning plan etc.

61. MNRE has issued Repowering Policy for old and small capacity wind turbines providing facilitative framework for repowering. States to facilitate repowering by augmentation of transmission system, providing additional foot prints and allowing PPA or third party sale for additional generation.

62. MNRE also came out with draft wind-solar hybrid policy aiming to 10 GW of hybrid power by 2022. The stakeholders’ comments on draft policy were under examination. States were requested to impose no connectivity and transmission charges for injecting additional power through hybridization of existing wind/solar plant, in case no augmentation of transmission system is required. Further, similar provision may also be made for the existing Biomass plants going for Hybridization.
63. Proper forecasting and scheduling of wind power is required to address the challenges of grid security and stability. Model regulations have already been issued by FoR (Forum of Regulators) and State of Karnataka has already finalized these regulations. Other States have been requested to finalize the forecasting and scheduling regulations for wind and solar.

64. States were also requested to impose the intra-state transmission charges for wind on the basis of kWh instead of KW basis as applicable in the states of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.

65. GST is likely to be introduced soon and the same may impact the cost of renewable power generation. States were requested to allow pass through of such impact to generators.

66. Other critical issues including non-signing of PPA, delay in payment to renewable generators, “Must run status” were also discussed and Hon’ble Union Minister suggested to resolve these issues in an earnest manner. He also requested the non-windy States to communicate their requirement under 1000 MW wind bid.

67. The status of compliance of RPO and issue of increasing REC inventory were discussed and States were requested to ensure RPO compliance by the DISCOMs and also ensure RPO to be aligned with RPO trajectory issued by MoP.

68. The Govt. of Tamil Nadu raised the issue of managing grid with high share of in-firm renewable power and stated that the band of 250 MW under deviation settlement mechanism need to be reconsidered. It was informed that this windy season, the State has absorbed around 10 BU of wind power by backing down the conventional power. He further stated that State DISCOMs have to pay fixed charges on conventional power and backing down such power imposes additional burden on the DISCOMs and suggested that in such cases the DISCOMs should be adequately compensated. It also suggested that assistance may be provided under PSDF for such renewable rich states.
69. Hon’ble Union Minister suggested to form a sub-group including TN, POSOCO, CEA, MoP and NTPC to study the financial impact to DISCOMs on backing down conventional power for allowing must run to renewable power and prepare suitable scheme to compensate Discoms.

70. The Govt. of Andhra Pradesh suggested that DISCOMs should be given incentives for RPO compliance.

71. The Govt. of Karnataka stated that use of renewable for captive and open access is increasing and such consumption may be accounted under RPO of Discoms.

72. The Govt. of Madhya Pradesh suggested that ISTS waiver should also be given to captive and open access consumers. Hon’ble Union Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal, New & Renewable Energy & Mines directed MoP to take a view on the issue.

73. Hon’ble Union Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal, New & Renewable Energy & Mines agreed that the compliance of RPO need to be incentivize. He suggested to form a committee comprising of Principal Secretary (Energy), Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh and CMD, NTPC to suggest suitable scheme for this purpose.

74. Later a presentation was made by representative of the renewable energy industry highlighting the major problems indicating payment delays, need for more evacuation facilities and the issue of GST. Hon’ble Ministers and senior state officers present assured the industry that all their concerns would be addressed in a time bound manner.

Presentation by Joint Secretary, Ministry of Coal:

75. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Coal informed about the status of coal supply between April to September 2016. He requested States to take up outstanding undisputed dues of State Genco as a standing item in monthly review meetings of energy departments and devise schedule for timely payment. Outstanding disputed dues of State
Genco should be addressed in ADRM. The constitution, operational mechanism and issues that can be resolved in ADRM were presented. Dues not taken up in ADRM should be deemed to be undisputed. He informed that some States are yet to participate in ADRM. 14 meetings of ADRM has been held so far and many issues have been resolved. He also informed that third party sampling, where tripartite agreement for 355 MT of coal was signed, has been put in place to address the concern of quality issues. Sampling results shall be put on web portal by 31st December 2016.

76. The two modes of coal rationalization were discussed. One the distance based rationalization wherein movement of 41.04 MT of coal has been rationalized and annual savings of Rs 2563.56 crores has been achieved and second was efficiency based rationalization where flexibility in use of coal has been offered to the power producers with an option to aggregate ACQ and allocate more coal to the more efficient units. The State Gencos were requested to get the ACQ aggregated, sign side agreement with the Coal Company and operationalize efficiency based coal supply matrix for their different units in terms of the policy.

77. It was informed that on account of coal import substitution with domestic coal, the country has saved about Rs 20,000 crore in the year 2015-16 and about Rs 4844 crore in the first four months of the current year. The strategy for the individual unit wise imports in the State genco category was discussed and it emerged that the efforts of the coal companies would lead to a replacement of 15.37 MT of Imported coal quantity by March 2017 out of the total 24.85 MT quantity which is probable import quantity. The elements of the
import substitution strategy included a one to one discussion with the users, shifting of part FSA to High Grade coal where PI is not levied, Third party sampling by CIMFR for quality assurance and other customer friendly measures like consumer friendly measures in Special Forward e-Auction for power sector. States were urged to substitute imported coal with domestic coal.

Interaction with CEOs from Private Sector

78. An interactive session was held with private players in the power sector to get a feed back from them on various issues facing the sector. The interaction highlighted the following issues:-

- Non-acceptance of CPRI test certificates in many Countries
- Use of TBCB process for States
- PSUs to encourage domestic suppliers, as part of Make In India campaign

Address by Hon’ble Union Minister for Railways:

79. Hon’ble Union Minster for Railways informed that India was first Country to create Renewable Energy department. India hopes to become the largest RE power producer in the world. He stressed the need for States and Center to work as a team to achieve ambitious target of RE. He emphasized that Smart Stations are required for Smart Cities for which electricity is required. States should make all efforts to provide electricity to Railways. Medical colleges could be set up with constructed in railways hospitals where sufficient space is available. Hon’ble Union Minister suggested that meeting may be called upon every Wednesday between MoP and Railways to sort out all transmission related issues on the lines of mechanism evolved with the Ministry of Coal.
Remarks by Hon’ble Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal, NRE and Mines:

80. Hon’ble Union Minister emphasized that the need to process every single liter of water coming out from coal mines up to 3 levels i.e. drinking water, groundwater recharge and river recharge levels. Waste water from thermal power plants should be treated and utilized. Distribution license has been given to Indian Railways and it can buy power directly from generators. Hon’ble Union Minister requested States to let Railways buy their power directly. SECI was requested to provide solar power to Railways without financial implication.

81. Hon’ble Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal, NRE and Mines suggested that solar projects could be installed on unused railway lines. He also suggested to explore use of small wind turbines to utilize the movement of air when a train moves. Energy efficiency measures including use of LED bulbs should be promoted in Railways and 100 % green Railways should be targeted in 5 years.

82. Hon’ble Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal, NRE and Mines requested Railways Ministry to form a committee with members from Railways, MoP, CEA, POSOCO to frame guidelines for crossing of railway lines by transmission lines so that process of approval for such crossing could be expedited.

83. He assured that a mechanism will be set-up for holding meeting every Wednesday between MOP and Railways to sort out all transmission related issues.

HYDRO

84. A detailed presentation of draft Hydro Power Policy incorporating inputs and suggestions received from various stakeholders was made. It was decided that:-

a) A copy of the presentation will be shared with all the State Governments for their comments.
b) 22 financially stressed/stalled projects will be reviewed in detail individually by SS (BPP) / JS (Hydro) along with the concerned stake holders, including States, FIIs, MNRE, IPPs, CERC, CEA etc. to explore how these projects could be made viable / restarted. General understanding derived from this study may be used for finalising Hydro Power Policy proposal. The process may be completed in the next 3 months.

c) Hydro power may be deemed as renewable energy, proposal for required approval may be processed.

d) Incentive available to small hydro power projects upto 25 MW may be extended to the hydro power projects upto 100 MW.

e) Extending low cost credit to hydro power projects and access to NCEF will be explored. Green sovereign tax free bonds, interest subsidy, priority sector status for lending to hydro are options to be explored for reducing the cost of financing.

f) Hydro power may be included under RPO as a separate component.

g) Possibility of despatching “Cleanest Power First” may be referred for further examination to the Committee examining merit order issues.

h) Possibility of 50 year depreciation period for civil work of hydro projects may be explored.

**Energy Efficiency & Energy Conservation:**

85. Special Secretary, MoP, stressed upon industrial efficiency, lighting efficiency and Standard & Labelling programme. He urged States to adopt Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC). He detailed various enabling measures being taken to provide support to States in this regard.

86. MD, EESL in his presentation mentioned that Energy Efficiency and Demand Side Management (DSM) are important tools to control the demand of electricity. It was informed that under UJALA Scheme 16.85 crore LED bulbs have been distributed in 24 States/UTs. Distribution of LEDs will start in Chandigarh, Punjab, J&K and Telangana in November 2016. MoU has been
signed between Ministry of Urban Development and EESL for energy efficiency measurement.

Transmission

87. Joint Secretary (Transmission), Ministry of Power gave the status of the implementation of guidelines issued on 15th October, 2015 for determining compensation for RoW for transmission lines. She stated that as per the decision taken in the Power Minister’s Conference held in Goa, a committee has been constituted on 11th August, 2016 under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Ministry of Power. The committee is deliberating on issues, including the innovative technology that can be used to reduce the RoW problems.

88. A presentation was given by PGCIL on the possible technical solutions for reducing the RoW issues, especially the urban areas.

89. All the States were requested to give their suggestion to the committee so that the guidelines can be finalised at the earliest.

90. Hon’ble Union Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal, New & Renewable Energy & Mines suggested that CEA and PGCIL should work together to come out with innovative solutions. It was suggested that CEA with PGCIL should prepare a compendium of approved designs so that these design could be adopted by States.

Captive Generation and Open Access

91. Deputy Secretary, MoP, presented various issues relating to captive generation and open access. One of the major issues discussed was frequent switching by open access consumers which is impacting the financial performance of Discoms.

92. Hon’ble Union Minister suggested that all efforts need to be made to settle the issues relating to captive generation and open access and suggested that if required, the matter could be taken up with forum of Regulators to address Regulatory issues.
National Electricity Plan

93. Draft National Electricity Plan was presented by CEA which has been prepared in consultation with various stakeholders. This Plan presents demand projection for the period from 2017 to 2022 and also perspective projection for 2022-27. It was agreed that NEP document shall first be circulated to States for comments before putting up in public domain for public comments.

Flexibility in Utilisation of Coal:

94. Joint Secretary (OM) informed that pursuant to the Cabinet decision on the proposal for allowing flexibility in utilisation of domestic coal amongst generating stations to reduce the cost of power generation, CEA has already issued the methodology on 8th June, 2016. NTPC and some of the States have identified the areas for benefit under the scheme and have been able to reduce their cost of generation.

95. States were requested to pro-actively utilise the provisions of flexibility in utilisation of domestic coal to further reduce the cost of power generation. It was informed that CIL has already requested the State Genco and NTPC for signing of supplementary agreements.

Presentation by Secretary (Mines)

96. Union Secretary (Mines), gave a presentation on "Mineral Sector: Challenges & Way Forward" which extensively covered the agenda items, such as the status of e-auction of major minerals, DMF, NMET, NMEP, SDF (Star Rating), MSS, use of space in mining technology and saved cases under section 10A(2)(c) of the MMDR Act 1957. The presentation is given in Annexure II. The salient issues discussed under each item, during the presentation, are summarized below.

97. E-Auction of major mineral blocks: Union Secretary (Mines) congratulated the States on the overwhelming response for the 16 blocks which have been auctioned successfully. He asked the States to re-auction the 37 blocks which
were annulled in phase-I auction by eliminating the issues raised by the registered bidders. The 61 blocks in pipeline should be expedited and put up in auction in 2016-17 by the respective States. Further, State Governments may also give their suggestions for any changes required in the existing auction process.

98. Setting up of District Mineral Foundations (DMF) and National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET): Union Secretary (Mines) stressed for expediting the set up of DMF in all districts by the States, collection of all due contributions under DMF & NMET, identifications and implementation of projects under Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY). Hon'ble MoS (IC) for Mines mentioned that the Government has notified the date for collection of DMF for coal also from the date of effecting of the MMDR Amendment, 2015 i.e. 12.01.2015 and asked the States expedite collection of DMF as this fund is to be used for the development & welfare programme in mining areas. He suggested that simplified & dedicated MIS web portal need to be developed for easy monitoring, collection and tracking of DMF. He appreciated the portal developed by Odisha Government on DMF and he asked the States to develop their online portal for DMF on the same lines. It was informed that Tamilnadu has not yet notified DMF rules due to local elections.

99. Processing of saved ML applications under section 10A(2)(c): Union Secretary (Mines) mentioned that 80% of the saved Mining Lease (ML) cases under Section 10A(2)(c) are pending with State Government level viz. for decision with the Mining or Forest or Revenue department or District Administration, etc. The rest of the cases are pending with the MoEFCC and some with IBM, which are being pursued with them for expediting. Further, Hon'ble Minister of State (IC) for Mines stressed that these ML applications, if saved and executed, would result in loss to the States exchequers as they are likely to be the fastest ones to start mineral production and thus their expeditious processing is of utmost importance, not only because it would affect the mineral development, but will also have its impact on the
downstream and allied sector. Further, the opening of new mines would also contribute to employment of local people and would help in enhancement in GDP. Union Secretary (Mines) expressed that lapsing of these mining lease applications, which are under process of acquiring clearances, is likely to result in a lot of litigations, if not expedited. The State Governments were asked to conduct weekly review to expedite the decisions by all State Government Departments.

100. Minor mineral rules – Union Secretary (Mines) emphasized the adoption of transparent systems for grant of mineral concessions for minor minerals by the States, as per the directive issued by the Ministry, under 20A. Andhra Pradesh expressed difficulty in instituting auctions for minor minerals. Hon’ble MoS (IC) for Mines suggested to examine using the First cum First Serve combined with the Swiss Challenge method.

101. National Mineral Exploration Policy (NMEP): Union Secretary (Mines) stated that the exploration work is crucial for the growth of mining sector and informed that Total 100 mineral blocks have been identified for regional explorations which have potential for resources of various minerals. The mechanism/procedure to be followed to carry out reverse auctioning/allotment of exploration blocks under the New Mineral Exploration Policy, is being finalized by the Ministry of Mines, for engaging private explorers through revenue sharing mechanism. The concurrence of the State Governments will be sought on the same.

102. Star Rating of the Mines: Union Secretary (Mines) mentioned that the star rating of mines (with built-in compliance mechanism for environment and forest safeguards) introduced recently, will recognize good performers in the mining sector for their efforts and initiatives in implementing the Sustainable Development Framework and urged the States that the system of Star Rating may also be adopted for minor minerals.

103. Curbing illegal Mining through Mining Surveillance System (MSS)- Union Secretary (Mines) informed that the MSS project is being developed by IBM
along with BISAG, Gujarat and informed that initial triggers of the likely unauthorized mining areas have already been identified and would be transmitted to the States soon after the launch of MSS. He stressed that it is essential on part of the States to get the field verification done of the trigger generated by the MSS within the specified time period of 7 days, through the district level officers. The State Governments are also required to nominate district wise nodal officers, to whom the triggers should be sent and they may be registered with the MSS. Union Secretary (Mines) again emphasised the State Governments to give their commitment to support the Government of India initiative of development of Mining Surveillance System (MSS) for major minerals and also take up the project of Satellite Mapping and Digitization for Minor Minerals.

104. Union Secretary (Mines) then invited Ministers / Officials of the State Governments to share their views and issues. The gist of views expressed by the State Ministers / Officials is as under-

105. Odisha: Shri Deepak Mohanty, Director Mines of Odisha requested that the saved ML applications under section 10A(2)(c) which require forest clearances, may be pursued from MoEF&CC for grant of general approval under Section 2(iii) under FC Act meeting the deadline of lease execution by 11.01.2017. He also informed that total 973 projects have been identified under DMF for which 288 crores have been allocated.

106. Telangana: Shri BRV Susheel Kumar, DMG of Telangana raised concern about the high sale price fixed of limestone by the Indian Bureau of Mines, which would be used for auction of mineral blocks and is creating unwarranted distortion.

107. Rajasthan: Shri R.K. Nalwaya, Additional Director (Mines), Director of Mines & Geology, proposed that the requirement of minimum 3 bidders for conducting auction may be reviewed and allotment to any participating bidders may be allowed. He also raised the issue of eligibility for grant of the saved ML cases of area less than 5.0 hectares to be considered under the
M(OTAHEM)CR, 2015 and requested for necessary guidance by the Central Government.

108. Punjab: Hon’ble Minister, Industries & Commerce & Technical Education & Industrial Training, Punjab, Shri Madan Mohan Mittal, sought assistance from the Central Government regarding Environment Clearances (EC) to be taken by the State Government for auctioning and grant of leases of minor minerals as necessitated by the High Court judgment. He said it has been leading to huge delays in auctioning and starting mining operations in the State. He suggested that the Ministry of Mines may consider having a joint meeting with MoEFCC to take up this issue.

109. Hon’ble MoS (IC) for Mines in his concluding remarks reemphasised that the ultimate objective of all policies and endeavors of the Government should be for the holistic development which should transcend to the common man.

Conference Resolutions

110. Based on the deliberations on the Agenda and major decisions/conclusions arrived at in the Conference, a draft of the Conference Resolutions was prepared. However, in view of the paucity of time, this draft could not be shared in the Conference. It was decided that the draft of Resolutions will be sent by email to all the States/UTs with a request to send the feedback within one week.

111. Further, it was decided that after incorporating the feedback/comments from States/UTs on the draft Resolutions, the same would be treated as the Final Resolutions adopted at the Conference.

112. The Conference Resolutions finalized on the above lines are given at Annexure-I

*****
Annexure-I

CONFERENCE OF POWER, MINES AND NRE MINISTERS OF STATES/UTs

Date: 7th & 8th October, 2016

Venue: Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Exhibition Center, Express Highway, Darjipura, Vadodara, Gujarat

RESOLUTIONS

POWER DISTRIBUTION

1) States\(^1\) which have not yet joined Ujwal Discom Assurance Yojna (UDAY) and desire to do so, will give in-principal approval by 30\(^{th}\) November, 2016 and finalize MoU latest by 31\(^{st}\) December, 2016.

2) All states under UDAY will upload operational parameters monthly and financial parameters quarterly on UDAY portal for better monitoring.

3) States will award the works relating to electrification of un-electrified villages latest by 30\(^{th}\) November 2016 and remaining works sanctioned under Deen Dayal Upadhay Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) not later than 31\(^{st}\) March 2017.

4) States will electrify all remaining un-electrified villages by 31\(^{st}\) December, 2016 except those in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) areas and remote hilly regions, for which efforts will be made by the concerned States to electrify such villages by 1\(^{st}\) May, 2017.

5) States reiterate to ensure access to electricity to 100 % households in 18452 villages by 15\(^{th}\) August, 2017 by organizing camps in these villages with on-spot completion of necessary formalities and release of electricity connections on priority.

6) States also reiterate the timelines as shown below, agreed in the previous conference held in June 2016 to provide electricity access to 100% households in all the villages in India:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>West Bengal, Haryana, Kerala, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and UTs</td>
<td>March 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Maharashtra, Telangana and Chhattisgarh</td>
<td>March 2017 (Except LWE Areas)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) All references to “States” may be read to include “UTs”.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Areas</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</td>
<td>15th August 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sikkim</td>
<td>March 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Assam, Odisha, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh</td>
<td>March 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Bihar</td>
<td>20 lakh Households by March 2017 and all remaining households by December 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Uttar Pradesh</td>
<td>90 Lakh Households by March 2018 and balance by March 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Uttarakhand and other remaining States</td>
<td>December 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7) States will provide Feeder wise tagged consumer information as per the Common Data Format provided by REC Transmission Power Company Ltd by 15th November 2016.

8) States will integrate existing Meter Data Acquisition System (MDAS), DISCOM website & Call centers with Urja Mitra App and agree to provide customer information about outages through SMS by December 2016.

9) States will share Master data and Java Script Object Notation (JSON) formats of 11KV Rural Feeders for integration with National Power Portal (NPP) by October, 2016.

10) States will facilitate installation of modems & implementation of Rural Feeder Monitoring Scheme by December, 2016.

11) States will submit proposals for IT enablement of balance 2600 towns under Integrated Power Development Scheme (IPDS) by 31st December, 2016, to enable sanction by Ministry of Power (MoP) by 31st January, 2017. Subsequently, States will appoint implementing agencies progressively but not later than 31st March 2017 so as to complete projects no later than 30th September, 2017.

12) States will ensure issuance of NIT and subsequent award for IPDS projects not later than 31st December, 2016 and claim next tranche of grant as per scheme guidelines by 1st January, 2017.

14) States (especially UP, Rajasthan, TN, Haryana) will ensure porting data from 11KV feeders of Go-Live towns to Urban Distribution Feeder Monitoring System (UDFMS) and ensure pushing transaction data on regular basis by 31st March 2017. States will use the feeder monitoring data as a management tool to ensure better power reliability and AT&C loss reduction as per UDAY.

15) States will ensure sanitization of data provided for ‘URJA App’ to ensure accurate information about various “consumer-related” and “DISCOM-related” parameters in public domain.

16) All States to ensure provision of reporting power theft on ‘1912’ and make it toll-free.

HYDRO POWER

17) Incentives available to Small Hydro Projects 25 MW may be extended to the power project up to 100 MW. For others, a case to case approach may be considered.

18) Entire Hydro Power may be deemed as Renewable Energy.

19) Extending low cost credit to Hydro Power Project and access to NCEF will be explored.

20) Hydro Power may be included under RPO, as a separate component.

TRANSMISSION

21) States resolve to adopt the guidelines issued by MoP via OM No. 3/7/2015-Trans dated 15th October, 2015 to have a uniform methodology for payment of compensation for “Right of Way” of transmission lines

22) A Committee having Members from Ministry of Power, Railways, CEA and POSOCO will be constituted to frame guidelines for permitting crossing of railways lines by transmission lines so that process of approval for such crossing could be expedited.

UTILIZATION OF URS POWER

23) States shall use the option of lending URS (Un-requisitioned surplus) power to reduce the cost of power. If required, necessary changes in regulation / grid code may be
made to provide for a deemed approval by procurers up to, say 50%, in case where producers do not give current on time.

24) A committee will be constituted on "Merit Order Dispatch" under the Chairmanship of Chairman, CEA with ToR given in Annexure.

**FLEXIBILITY IN COAL UTILIZATION**

25) State shall use the provision of flexibility in coal utilization to further reduce the cost of power. MoC shall facilitate in getting the supplementary agreement signed at the earliest with NTPC and States.

**National Electricity Plan (NEP)**

26) States to study the draft National Electricity Plan prepared by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) and circulated to the States and send their comments by end of November 2016.

**CAPTIVE GENERATION**

27) States to send their comments on the proposed amendment in the Rules put on website by MoP (of Captive Power generation provisions). States will send changes required in regulatory framework, if any, to be taken up with the FOR (Forum of Regulators) within two weeks.

**ENERGY CONSERVATION**

28) States shall mandate ECBC by December 2017 with the objective that new commercial buildings will be ECBC compliant.

29) States will establish ECBC Cells by December 2017 in State Urban Development Departments / PWDs to support and implement energy efficient building construction.

30) States will implement state-wide regulatory mechanism by December, 2017 for mandating the use of BEE Star Labelled pump sets, as far as possible, for new agriculture pump connection, including solar pump sets.

31) States will endeavour to implement the Agriculture Demand Side Management projects through Savings based model or Annuity based model as suitable for their States.
COAL RELATED ISSUES

32) State GENCOs shall clear the outstanding over dues in monthly installments latest by 30th June, 2017 (with interest/surcharge). In case of any disputed dues, the same may be settled with mutual reconciliation or alternatively the issues may be taken up in ADRM for speedy resolution.

33) In view of sufficient indigenous coal availability unless technically required or commercial commitments to be fulfilled, States shall endeavour that no coal based power plant shall import coal.

RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES

34) Potentially rich areas for installation of Renewable Energy Projects will be identified and advance planning for evacuation and transmission of Renewable Power in an effective and coordinated manner will be carried out. Necessary regulations to do advance planning and creation of infrastructure will be drawn up for consultation by 31st January, 2017.

35) Around 19,300 MW of solar capacity has been tendered. States will facilitate setting up of these power plants and sign PPAs/PSAs as may be required, addressing issues of unilateral termination, “must run” status and payment security mechanisms.

36) Fresh tendering of solar projects including PPAs, up to 20,000 MW will be done by 30th June, 2017.

37) States will ensure speedy implementation of renewable projects, by addressing issues of Land acquisition, PPAs and Grid Integration.

38) Renewable Energy projects are “must-run” projects and, therefore, they are not to be backed down. In case of backing down charges will have to be paid. Necessary regulations in this regard will be formulated.

39) For promotion of Solar Rooftop Projects, SERCs of Jammu & Kashmir, Telangana, the North-eastern States, except Assam and Tripura shall notify regulations to allow net metering / feed-in-tariff by 31st March, 2017. Further, DISCOMs will streamline their processes and develop online mechanisms by 30th June, 2017 to provide grid connection.
40) Kisan Urja Sashaktikaran Mission (KUSUM), the proposed Mission, would enable optimal use of wastelands and encourage hybridization and enable earning of additional income for farmers. Concerned DISCOMs shall be responsible for providing connectivity of the farmer's solar PV power project to the nearest grid sub-station.

41) States will adhere to time schedules for achieving Project commissioning of over 25,000 MW of renewable energy projects during the Financial Year. If need be, SPDs who complete & commission the projects ahead of scheduled date will not be penalized.

42) The States shall discourage squatting on wind-potential sites by ensuring strict adherence to the time line fixed for installation of projects.

43) The States shall take stock of wind power projects already commissioned and yet to be commissioned. The issue of signing PPAs will be resolved in a time bound manner.

44) The States shall evolve a mechanism for timely payment to solar and wind power generators and will ensure that in no case the delay is more than 2 months (paid with interest). Further, transparent norms will be followed for payment to all parties equitably, with no discrimination between solar and wind generators.

45) For smooth implementation of AJAY scheme for street lights’ electrification, eligible States and DISCOMs shall provide full assistance to EESL for installation by 31st March, 2017. Similarly for providing solar lamps to students, the States shall provide support to IIT-Bombay and SECI.

46) In off-grid schemes, the States shall follow transparent process for ensuring competitive pricing in all segments of renewable energy. Such projects can be used for energizing the un-electrified households.

47) The State shall start forecasting and scheduling of wind power either by utilizing the services of NIWE or any other agency. Metering and communication infrastructure shall be installed at all pooling stations for real time generation of data. The States shall finalize and notify the mechanism for scheduling and forecasting for intra-state transmission of solar and wind power.

48) Intra-state transmission & wheeling charges will be levied on kWh basis to facilitate both intra and inter-state sale of renewable power in the States.
49) Issues relating to (a) Unilateral termination (b) “Must-run” and (c) Payment security will be addressed urgently so that tariff of renewable energy comes down further.

50) The States shall initiate capacity building of DISCOMs/SERC/SNA officers and entrepreneurs in renewable energy. Further, each State may nominate maximum number of official for training programme being conducted by MNRE.

51) States shall make rooftop solar installation mandatory in all new buildings / constructions. Further, the process of approval for rooftop solar subsidy and approval of building plan approved by Municipal Corporation shall be integrated.

**MINES**

52) **Preparedness for e-auction of Major Mineral Blocks**- The State Governments to auction 61 proposed blocks in 2016-17 and also re-auction the annulled blocks by March, 2017. Further, the States will expedite the mineral auction preparedness for 2017-18 and beyond.

53) **Setting up of District Mining Fund (DMF)** – The DMF will be set up in all districts by the States. Identifications and implementation of projects under DMF will be done in line with the PMKJKY (Prandhan Mantri Khanij Kalyan Yojna) Scheme. The DMF needs to be constituted for Minor Minerals also by the State Government. The State Governments should regularly monitor collection of funds and implementation of schemes under DMF, to give the maximum benefit to local people. The State Governments to prepare the portal for PMKJKY on the lines of the portal developed by State Government of Odisha.

54) **Exploration Policy** – The mechanism/procedure to be followed for reverse auctioning/allotment of exploration blocks under the New Mineral Exploration Policy will be finalized by the Ministry of Mines.

55) **Star Rating**- The system of Star Rating also to be adopted by the State Governments for minor minerals.

56) **Curbing Illegal Mining through Mining Surveillance System (MSS)** - The States are required to get the field verification done of the trigger generated by the MSS within the specified time period of 7 days, though the district level officers. The district wise nodal officers to whom the triggers should be sent may be registered with the MSS.
The State governments will support the Government of India initiative of development of Mining Surveillance System (MSS) for major minerals. The State Governments to take up the project of Satellite Mapping and Digitization for Minor Minerals by January, 2017.

57) **Minor mineral rules** – Transparent systems for grant of mineral concessions for minor minerals will be adopted by the States, so that the directives issued by the Ministry, under 20A, should be in place by December, 2016.

58) **Processing of saved Mining Lease Applications before 11th January, 2017** - The State Governments will expedite the decisions on cases pending for action or decisions, on their part, in respect to the mining lease applications which were saved by Section 10A (2) (c) of the MMDR Act, subject to fulfillment of the conditions of the previous approval or of the letter of intent, with the time line up to 11th January, 2017.

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CONSTITUTION OF MERIT ORDER DISPATCH COMMITTEE

Merit Order Dispatch Committee is required for integration of Renewables under the Chairmanship of chairman CEA with JS (OM) as Member Secretary and Members from POSOCO, Regulators and States including Southern Regional LDC.

Terms of reference

- Transparency in observance of Grid Code for merit order dispatch.
- Addressing any regulatory issue for making renewables and Hydro as must run in merit order.
- Amendment in Grid Code if required in view of the above.
- Incentivizing states who comply with RPO and measures to dissuade non-compliance.
- Any other related measures to promote renewable energy and sustain long term growth in the sector.
- Pilot projects for solar/wind energy demonstration project (of about 10 MW) for utilizing in non-generating times (lean).
- Suitable balancing mechanism/spinning reserve for the handling large quantity of RE (not possible presently under the prevailing DSM).
- Revising RPO/RE mechanism to provide the necessary policy/incentive framework.

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Mineral Sector Challenges & Way Forward

8TH OCT, 2016
MINISTRY OF MINES
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MMDR Amendment Act, January 2015

- e-Auctions
- DMF
- NMET
- Mining Leases for 50 years for security of tenure
- Stringent penalties to curb illegal mining
- Transferability of captive leases
- Additional 31 minerals classified as minor minerals
- MTS work awarded
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>e-AUCTIONS</strong></th>
<th><strong>Facilitation by Ministry of Mines to the States</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>➢ All necessary rules &amp; frameworks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Handholding support - IBM, GSI, SBICAPS, MECL, MECON, MSTC and Ministry.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ 303 mineral exploration reports of GSI &amp; MECL.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>e-AUCTIONS - TILL NOW</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>➢ 55 major mineral blocks already notified in 9 States for auction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ 70,000 Cr minerals disposed of in a transparent manner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Royalty+DMF+NMET-12,000Cr over the lease pd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Additionality to States’ exchequer - 47,000 Cr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Total revenue will be ‘5’ times of the normal revenue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ 61 mineral blocks in pipeline for 2016-17 across 10 states.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Status of Mineral Block Auction - Commitments given by the States for auction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Phase I Auctions (2015-16)</th>
<th>2016-17</th>
<th>NIT’s ongoing</th>
<th>In pipeline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Auctioned</td>
<td>Annulled</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>1 (Limestone)</td>
<td>5 (Limestone)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10 (2 gold, 3 manganese, 5 limestone)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 gold blocks - BGM closed mines which can be put for auction in 2016-17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chhattisgarh</td>
<td>3 (2 Limestone, 1 Gold)</td>
<td>2 (Limestone)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8 blocks (2 bauxite in Sept, 6 limestone in Nov-Dec) work on 10 blocks in progress to establish mineralization for auctioning in 2017-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>5 (Limestone)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7 blocks identified (4 limestone &amp; marl block, 1 limestone, 2 bauxite blocks)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jharkhand</td>
<td>2 (Limestone)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2 (Gold)</td>
<td>7 blocks (2 bauxite, 1 iron ore, 1 graphite, 1 emerald and 2 gold) 6 limestone blocks would require relaxation of mineralization norm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>7 (Iron-ore)</td>
<td>7 (Iron ore)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>15 iron ore blocks by Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>9 (1 Limestone, 1 Iron ore, 2 Tungsten, 3 Bauxite, 1 Copper, 1 Manganese)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2 base metal blocks (1 graphite block for which details to be provided by GSI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madhya Pradesh</td>
<td>1 (Diamond)</td>
<td>3 (Limestone)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5 (4 limestone, 1 manganese) by September, 2016; 4 blocks (3 iron +1 bauxite in December) -3 reports to be made available by GSI in November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Odisha</td>
<td>1 (Iron ore)</td>
<td>2 (Limestone)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5 (4 limestone, 1 manganese) by September, 2016; 4 blocks (3 iron +1 bauxite in December) -3 reports to be made available by GSI in November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajasthan</td>
<td>1 (Limestone)</td>
<td>4 (3 Limestone, 1 Copper)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>17 G2 blocks SMS grade limestone can be brought to auction stage provided limestone policy issue is resolved by the state government. Letter from minister to CM to be issued. Kamathiy block for rare earth is also G2 explored and state govt has not decided for NIT yet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3 (1 molybdenum by November, 2 by Dec) 1 Platinum group report has to be provided by GSI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>16</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### e-auction Annulled in 37 blocks

### Issues:
- general dull market scenario
- land ownership pattern,
- the quantity and grade of ore,
- quality of the mineralization studies,
- any end use conditions imposed by the states in the bidding documents
- The apprehensions on average sale price notified by IBM
PRADHAN MANTRI KHANJI KSHETRA KALYAN YOJANA

- Implementation by District Mineral Foundations
- Developmental & welfare programmes in mining affected areas
- 60% of funds for High Priority Areas - drinking water supply, health care, education, welfare of women, children & disabled, skill development & sanitation etc.
- 40% of funds for Physical Infrastructure - irrigation, energy, watershed development etc.
- Annual DMF collection expected Rs. 6000 Cr.
- Rs. 3214 Cr have been collected till date
- 234 Districts in 11 mineral rich States have been covered

PMKKKY : STATE WISE - PROGRESS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>No of Districts where DMFs established</th>
<th>Collection of DMF Fund (Rs Cr.)</th>
<th>Percentage of DMF Collected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jharkhand</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>507</td>
<td>44 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Chhattisgarh</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>652</td>
<td>71 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Rajasthan</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>7 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Telangana</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Madhya Pradesh</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>455</td>
<td>25 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.7 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Odisha</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1292</td>
<td>70 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Goa</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>98 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>76 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Tamilnadu</td>
<td>Not yet established</td>
<td>Not yet started</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total amount of funds collected: 3214 Cr 34 %
### ISSUES

#### COURT CASES ON DMF
- Around 60 cases have been filed in 7 High Courts challenging the retrospectivity of contribution to DMF w.e.f. 12.1.2015.
- Transfer Petition filed in Supreme Court.
- Matter is presently being heard by the Supreme Court.
- Proceedings in High Courts have been stayed by Supreme Court.

#### Action Points
- Tamil Nadu to frame rules, establish DMFs
- States to ensure regular collection of DMF
- States to roll out schemes for PMKKKY
- States to develop MIS web portal for monitoring implementation of PMKKKY.

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### SAVED ML CASES UNDER S-10A(2)(C)

- Cases saved under Section 10A(2)(c) of the amended MMDR Act, 2015 pending for EC, FC and other clearances.
- Time limit for eligibility - 11.01.2017
- Ministry is coordinating with States and MoEF&CC
- States to expedite action pending at their level
- States to call meetings with applicants and stakeholder departments to sort out issues
- Being pursued with MoEF&CC and also through DLA
### Summary Status of mining lease applications pending under Section 10A(2)(c) (as on 6.10.2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>States</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>No action by PP</th>
<th>Decision of State Govt. (Mining Department, District Adm., etc.)</th>
<th>Environment Clearances</th>
<th>Forest Clearances</th>
<th>IBM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>MoEF</td>
<td>State Govt</td>
<td>PP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Chhattisgarh</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Goa</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Jharkhand</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Madhya Pradesh</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Odisha</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Rajasthan</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Telengana</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>317</strong></td>
<td><strong>97</strong></td>
<td><strong>95</strong></td>
<td><strong>69</strong></td>
<td><strong>36</strong></td>
<td><strong>22</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Summary

- **Total Cases**: 317
- No action by PP: 97
- Environment Clearances: 95
- Forest Clearances: 69
- IBM: 41
- **Total**: 15
MINOR MINERAL RULES

• Supreme Court’s opinion dated 27/09/2012 on President of India reference dated 12/04/2012
• Directive issued by the Ministry under Section 20A on 17.08.2015
• to implement transparent systems for giving minor mineral concessions

AUCTIONING OF MINOR MINERALS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Whether auctioning provided in rules</th>
<th>If Yes, which minerals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chhattisgarh</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>All Minor Minerals (except Sand)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>All minor Minerals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Granite, Building Stone etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madhya Pradesh</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Stone, Sand, Flag stone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Sand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Odisha</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Building Stone, Gravel, Ordinary Clay etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajasthan</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>All minor Minerals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>All minor Minerals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telangana</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Some Minor Minerals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haryana</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kerala</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bihar</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>All Minor Minerals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Himachal Pradesh</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>All Minor Minerals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jharkhand</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uttar Pradesh</td>
<td>Yes, but subjudice</td>
<td>Sand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punjab</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Sand &amp; Gravel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STAR RATING OF MINES

- Implementation of Sustainable Development Framework (SDF)
- Mines to be rated based on the performance on techno-scientific, socio-economic, environmental, safety and best practices.
- Star Rating from 1 to 5 Stars (5 star for the best performance, 1 star for the least)
- Self certification
- Online portal for filing of Star Rating Evaluation template – Inaugurated by Hon’ble Minister on 18th Sep, 2016
- Lessees have started the online filing of returns
- To be completed by December, 2016.

USE OF SPACE TECHNOLOGY TO CHECK ILLEGAL MINING

Remote Sensing technology has
- minimum human interference
- accessible to remotest area
- automatic detection
- Deterrence Effect: ‘Eyes watching from the sky’
- Quicker Response and Action
- Effective Follow-up

Collaboration with NRSC
- IBM working with National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), ISRO for-
  - Pilot study: monitoring of mining activities
  - Setup of remote sensing laboratory in IBM
**PROVISIONS TO CHECK ILLEGAL MINING (CONTD.)**

‘Mining Surveillance System’ (MSS)

- BISAG, Gujarat
- For major minerals
- Superimposition of lease map over the satellite map to find out changes in the surrounding area with time
- The State Governments may adopt the MSS for minor minerals where illegal mining cases are all the more rampant

**TRIGGERS GENERATED IN THE VICINITY OF EXISTING MINING AREAS**
A user-friendly mobile app has been designed for use by inspecting officials & citizens

Inspection report by the field officers can be submitted on the app directly

Complaints can be lodged on the app for consideration of regulatory authorities

The app allows checking the location of nearby mining leases even in the offline mode

Information on mining leases, MIS reports etc. can be accessed on through the app

NATIONAL MINERAL EXPLORATION POLICY

NMEP notified on 13.7.2016. Main features are:

a) Attracting private agencies through revenue sharing model.
b) Generation and dissemination of baseline geoscientific data by the govt. as public good.
c) Aerogeophysical survey of the whole country.
d) Creation of a National Geoscience Data Repository

Some steps taken:

a) Engagement of SBI Caps as the consultant for preparing the legal and contractual framework for engaging private explorers through revenue sharing mechanism.
b) Identification of 100 blocks for regional exploration which have potential for resources of various minerals.
NATIONAL AEROGEOPHYSICAL MAPPING PROJECT (NAGMP)

- A consultant engaged has submitted the DPR for the NAGMP.
- The DPR for coverage of high potential area 8.12 lakh sq km has been approved.
- The DPR proposes line spacing of 300 m and height of 80 m
- EOI for selecting implementing agency has been floated.
- The project to be carried out in three years:
  - 1st year (till March, 2017): 2.07 lakh sq km
  - 2nd year: 3.15 lakh sq km
  - 3rd year: 2.90 lakh sq km

REGIONAL EXPLORATION OF IDENTIFIED BLOCKS

a) Exploration of 100 identified blocks
b) To be carried out as:
   - 30 blocks will be explored by GSI (from its budget grant)
   - 30 by MECL (from a revolving fund of Rs.100 cr. Exploration cost of successfully auctioned blocks to be reimbursed to NMET by State Governments from the successful bidder)
   - 20 has been identified by different CPSUs and SPSUs (1-2 auctionable block discovered may be reserved for the PSU by the State; in case no auctionable block is discovered, exploration expenditure to be reasonably compensated by NMET)
   - Remaining 20 will be awarded for contractual exploration.

C) SBI Caps has examined various options for contractual exploration.
CONTRACTUAL EXPLORATION UNDER NMEP

SBI Caps has suggested execution of Project by explorer and exploration contractor through competitive bidding

Explorer:
- Engaged in exploration consulting in the identified project
- Will be chosen on competitive basis (technical and financial)
- Will oversee exploration jointly with NEA (Notified Exploration Agency – State DGMs/SPSUs etc)
- Incentives to be paid for discoveries

Exploration contractors:
- Engaged in any specific exploration activity (drilling, gravity survey, ER survey etc)
- Chosen on competitive basis based on lowest cost
- Will work under joint supervision of Explorer and NEA.

PROPOSED MODEL

Empanelment of Potential Explorers
- NMET will empanel explorers on the basis of stipulated technical criteria (i.e. project as well as professional experience).

Selection of Explorer for an Exploration Project
- NEA to invite technical and financial bids from empanelled explorers

Engagement of Exploration Contractor(s)
- NEA with assistance of Explorer to select entities for a particular exploration activity through technical and financial bids.
Funding Exploration Projects
• Exploration project may either be fully funded by NMET or jointly funded by the State Government and NMET at mutually agreed terms.
• Advisory fee of the Explorer and quoted cost of Exploration Contactor(s), which are to be paid periodically as per project milestones will be paid by the NEA from the funds received from NMET and/or State Government.
• Since the State Government is the ultimate beneficiary, NMET is considering seeking 40% funding of cost of exploration project from the State Government.

INCENTIVES

Incentive to Explorer
• Incentive for a viable mineral deposit ‘find’ (at G2 Level of resources) will be 0.05% of value of estimated resources subject to a minimum of one time and a maximum of ten times of annual advisory fee.
• Incentive will be paid only to the Explorer within one year of conclusion of exploration project in case resources up to G2 level are established.
• Further, in case the block is explored only up to G3 level and auctioned for grant of Composite License, 70% of the above proposed incentive (i.e. 0.035% of the value of estimated resources) may be paid.
• State Government will reimburse the incentive payout, from the successful bidder, to NMET on successful auctioning of the block.
NATIONAL MINERAL EXPLORATION POLICY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reconnaissance Blocks of</th>
<th>Main commodities</th>
<th>Total No. Of blocks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chhattisgarh</td>
<td>Diamond/ Kimberlite, Gold</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madhya Pradesh</td>
<td>Gold, Graphite</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Iron, REE, PGE</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bihar</td>
<td>Gold, Iron</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jharkhand</td>
<td>Gold, Basemetal, Tin, Ni-PGE</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Odisha</td>
<td>Manganese, Chromite</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Bengal</td>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>Diamond/ Kimberlite, basemetal</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>Gold and Basemetal</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kerala</td>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>PGE, Ni, Cr, Iron</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telangana</td>
<td>Basemetal</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haryana</td>
<td>Copper</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Himachal Pradesh</td>
<td>Dolomite</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jammu and Kashmir</td>
<td>PGE, Ni, Cr</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uttara Pradesh</td>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uttarakhand</td>
<td>Limestone</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajasthan</td>
<td>Basemetal (Pb, Zn, Cu) and gold</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Basemetal and gold</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DIGITIZATION OF EXPLORATION REPORTS

- More than 6000 mineral investigation reports of GSI, with maps, bore hole data, geochemical data, will be digitized for dissemination to stake-holders.
SIMPLIFICATION OF PROCEDURES FOR EXPLORATION

- Ministry of Defence (MoD) has agreed for relaxation of restrictions imposed on sharing baseline geoscientific data in public domain.
- MoD & Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) requested to facilitate expeditious accordance of survey/flight related approvals.
- MoEFCC requested to relax provisions for requisite forest clearances for carrying out mineral exploration.

DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

1. **Preparedness for e-auction of Major Mineral Blocks** - The State Governments to give commitments for 2016-17, 2017-18 and beyond.

2. **Setting up of DMF** –
   1. The DMF to be set up in all districts by the States, all contributions to be collected for DMF, identifications and implementation of projects
   2. The DMF constitution for Minor Minerals also to be done by the State Government.

3. **Exploration Policy** – The mechanism/procedure to be followed to carry out reverse auctioning/allotment of exploration blocks under the New Mineral Exploration Policy, to be finalised by the Ministry of Mines.

4. **Star Rating** - The system of Star Rating also to be adopted by the State Governments for minor minerals.
5. **Curbing Illegal Mining through Mining Surveillance System (MSS)**
   - Field verification of the trigger generated within 7 days, though field officers.
   - District wise nodal officers to whom the triggers should be sent may be registered with the MSS.
   - States to take up the project of Satellite Mapping and Digitization for Minor Minerals.

6. **Minor mineral rules**
   - Transparent systems for grant of mineral concessions for minor minerals have to be adopted by the States, as to the directive issued by the Ministry, under 20A.

7. **Processing of saved Mining Lease Applications before 11.1.2017**
   - State Governments may expedite the cases pending for action or decisions on their part for 10A (2) (c) cases

8. **Restoration/Rehabilitation of Abandoned Mines**
   - State Governments to carry out comprehensive survey of old abandoned mines and star timebound restoration

**THANK YOU**