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MOST IMMEDIATE

13016/5/2002-CA  
Government of India  
Ministry of Coal & Mines  
Department of Coal

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New Delhi, dated the 10.8.2004

To

The Chairman,  
Coal India Limited,  
10, Netaji Subhash Road,  
Kolkata.

Subject: Renewal of mining lease of coal - Permission under section 31 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957.

Sir,

I am directed to state that the coal companies have expressed difficulties in furnishing the original documents and other details as required as per form-J of the Mineral Concession Rules for renewal of leases in respect of the coal mines taken over by the Central Government under Coking Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1972 and Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973. In these circumstances, in the interest of mineral development, the Central Government have decided to consider under section 31 of the MMDR Act the request of the coal companies to authorise working of these mines for a further period of 10 years beyond the lease period considering the energy security of the country. This will be treated as if leases have been renewed by the competent authority and would be similar to that envisaged in section 5 (2) of the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973. However, the coal companies will delineate the boundaries as they are existing at present date so that there is no scope of uncertainties at a future date.

A good development indeed!

2. In the light of the above, the coal companies are requested to submit their proposals with details of the areas whose leases have expired and which need authorisation under section 31 of the MMDR Act for continuance of working in the interest of mineral development in the country and in the interest of the overall energy security of the nation. This authorisation for working of mines would, however, be subject to clearances as required under other applicable statutes like the Forest Conservation Act etc.

Copy forwarded to

AD CMD:- for kind information and  
needful action please!

10/8/04  
for follow up and further coordination  
please!

BIRENDRA SINGH

Project Officer

Selected Dhori Open Cast Mine  
Dhori Area CCL

Yours faithfully,

*(Signature)*  
(Premraj Kumar)  
Section Officer