

K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO



Chief Minister
Telangana

Hyderabad

December 7, 2021

Dear Shri Narendra Modi Ji,

You are kindly aware that Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) is a Public Sector coal mining company, jointly owned by the State Government of Telangana and the Government of India (GoI) with equity sharing of 51 : 49 respectively. It is the oldest coal mining PSU in the country.

SCCL is currently producing around 65 million tonnes of coal and meeting coal requirements of Thermal Power Stations of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamilnadu. After bifurcation of the state, peak power demand has increased from 5661 MW in June, 2014 to 13688 MW in March, 2021 in Telangana. Therefore, uninterrupted supply of coal is very critical for electricity generation.

Under the provisions of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 Government of India had earlier notified M/s SCCL to take up exploration in Godavari Valley Coal Fields (GVCF) of Telangana on their own. Prior to amendment of MMDR Act, 1957 and till 2015, SCCL was granted exclusive rights by the erstwhile Nizam's Government for carrying out exploration and coal mining in the State. Subsequently, number of mining leases were granted by successive State Governments for continuing mining activity in the newly explored areas of GVCF in accordance with the procedures laid down from time to time and the tripartite agreement between Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd., Government of Telangana and Government of India. Accordingly, mining plans were also approved by Ministry of Coal, Government of India for these leases.

Subsequent to the amendment of MMDR Act in 2015, allocation of coal bearing areas to Government Companies were done either through reservation under the provisions of section 17(A)(2) or allocation under section 11A of MM (D&R) Act 1957 or through auction. Accordingly, SCCL approached Ministry of Coal, GoI for allocation of four coal blocks viz., Sathupalli block-III, Koyagudem block –III, Sravanpalli block and Kalyanikhani block 6, where detailed exploration has been completed by SCCL under the provisions of Section 11 A of MMDR Act, 1957.

However, in spite of repeated requests from State Government and SCCL, Coal Ministry has included the above mentioned four blocks in the list of blocks put up for auction under Tranche 13.

Allocation of these four coal blocks of GVCF to Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd., is very critical for maintaining coal supplies to the power sector and also these are the extension blocks on the dip side of the existing mining leases and adjacent to operating mines with coal occurring at a considerable depth and it will be economical to access the blocks only through the existing mine workings of SCCL and also will help in conserving the reserves.

In view of the above, I request you to kindly direct Ministry of Coal to de-list the above mentioned four coal blocks (JVR OC-III, Sravanapalli OC, Koyagudem OC-III & KK-6 UG) from the list of blocks for auction under Tranche 13 and allocate them to SCCL under Section 11A of MMDR Act, 1957 and the relevant rules.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,



(K.CHANDRASEKHAR RAO)

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India
NEW DELHI.