

## **Function and Activities of Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM)**

The Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) is a subordinate office under the Ministry of Mines. It is engaged in the promotion of scientific development of mineral resources of the country, conservation of minerals, protection of environment in mines, other than coal, petroleum and natural gas, atomic minerals and minor minerals. It performs regulatory functions with respect to the relevant provisions of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and enforcement of the rules framed there under, namely Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988/2017 and Mineral Concession Rules, 1960/ 2016 and Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986 and Rules made there under.

It undertakes scientific, techno-economic, research oriented studies in various aspects of mining, geological studies, ore beneficiation and environmental studies.

### **Vision for IBM**

The National Mineral Policy, 2019 (NMP) has envisioned on strengthening the regulatory mechanism by incorporating e-governance, including satellite and remote sensing applications Evaluations of miners in terms of their comparative performance on suitable development framework and enforce commitment on part of the mining companies to adopt sustainable development. Accordingly, the vision envisaged is: *“IBM to perform as a National Technical Regulator and to discharge the developmental functions for the sustainable development of the mineral industry and to work as repository of database on mines and minerals”.*

### **Mission**

- 1) To ensure effective regulation of Indian Mineral Sector which promotes long term benefits for its sustainable growth.
- 2) To provide capacity building to State regulatory agencies and also to provide quality technical assistance to the mineral industry, and

3) To work as data bank on mines and minerals and to disseminate mineral information for policy formulations.

### **Objectives**

- i. To work as National Technical Regulator operating at national-level designing systems, processes and guidelines for regulation of the mining sector;
- ii. To function as a facilitator for creation and improvement of state-level regulatory mechanisms and to facilitate state agencies to ensure adherence to standards and parameters for scientific and systematic mining in the sector;
- iii. To work as catalytic agent for development of mineral sector by evolving capability & proficiency in beneficiation techniques; dissemination of knowledge and skills in mining and allied areas through its training facilities; consultancy services.
- iv. To play crucial role of that of an Advisor to the Government in matters and issues relating to the mineral sector in areas of short-medium and long-term mineral-wise strategies, mineral taxation and legislative processes.
- v. To play the role of National Repository of mineral data through maintaining a data bank of mines and minerals in the country by developing advanced IT based Mineral Information System enabling the industry to report and access information online, and
- vi. To broaden its interactive base and reach out to overseas counter parts through consultations and exchange programmes and to build capacity, skill & expertise through academic and training programmes at institutes of international repute.

### **Present Charter of Functions**

In the wake of liberalization of the policy regime governing mineral sector and increasing need for adequate environment management as part of systematic and scientific mining, the mandated functions for IBM, as given for notification in Official Gazette vide Resolution No. 31/ 49/ 2014 – M. III, dated 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2014 are given below:-

- (i) Collect, collate and organize into a database, all information on exploration, prospecting, mines and minerals in the country in the shape of a National

Mineral Information Repository and take steps to publish and disseminate the same;

- (ii) Function as the National Technical Regulator in respect of the mining sector, and lay down regulations, procedures and systems to guide the State Governments (first tier of regulation);
- (iii) Build up capacity in the system, both for regulatory as well as the developmental work, at the central level as well as at the level of the States;
- (iv) Establish institutional mechanisms of coordination between the centre, the States, mineral industry, research and academic institutions and all stake holders, so as to proactively develop solutions to the demands and problems faced by the industry;
- (v) Promote research on all aspects of practical relevance to the Industry and to act as bridge between research institutions on the one hand and user industry on the other;
- (vi) Provide Technical Consultancy Services;
- (vii) Participate in International collaborative projects in the area of regulation and development of the mineral sector;
- (viii) Advise Government on all matters relating to the mineral industry; and
- (ix) Undertake any such other activity as has become necessary in the light of developments in the field of geology, mining, mineral beneficiation and the environment.

### **Key Activities and Functions**

In light of the role and charter of IBM, the key functions being performed by IBM can be broadly classified as (1) Regulatory Functions, and (2) Developmental Functions.

#### **Regulatory Functions**

- i. Mining Plan -inspections and approval (Rule 13 to 17 of Chapter V of M (OAHCEM) CR 2016; Rule 9, 10, 11 & 12 of MCDR 1988);
- ii. Mining Regulations for ensuring implementations of Mining Plan, Review / modifications of Mining plans, Mine Closure Plans and other statutory provisions of MCDR 2017 and launching of prosecutions (Section 22 & 24 of MMDR Act 1957);

- iii. Inspections and grant of permissions to carry out 'stoping' operations in underground mines (Rule 26 of MCDR1988/ Rule 30 of MCDR 2017);
- iv. Monitoring of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) aspects of mining operations (Rule 13 and 31 to 41 of MCDR 1988/ Rule 35 to 44 of MCDR 2017 and Section 10 of EP Act 1986);
- v. Calculations of State-wise, mineral-wise and month-wise average sale price for the purpose of assessment of royalty on *ad valorem* basis (Rule 64D of MCR 1960/ Rule 38 to 47 of M(OHEM) CR Rules, 2016 and Rule 45 of MCDR 1988/ 2017);
- vi. Mine Closure Plan - Inspections, Approval and monitoring (Rule 23A to 23F of MCDR 1988/ Rule 22 to 27 of MCDR 2017);
- vii. Co-ordination with State Governments for curbing illegal mining activities (intimation of violation of Section 4(1) of MMDR Act 1957 to State Government agencies).
- viii. As prescribed under Section 9(C) of the Act, IBM will discharge a pro- active role in NMET by furnishing advise on mineral-wise conservation strategies, exploration gaps etc. keeping in view of the national interest.
- ix. IBM administer the framework for sustainable development of the mining sector through star rating of mines, as prescribed under section 20A (2) of the Act.
- x. IBM will continue to publish the Average Sale Price of all the major minerals through its MMS division. This information is required as per the rule 8 of Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015 for calculating the "Value of estimated Resources" and "Value of the Mineral Dispatched" and that of 'Reserve Price' of the deposit to be put to auction
- x. Grant of mineral concessions and monitoring of its activities in the offshore areas [various provisions of Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act 2002 and the Offshore Areas Mineral Concession Rules, 2006].
- xi. Providing inputs for revision of rates of royalty, as prescribed under Section 9 of the MMDR Act.

### **Developmental Functions**

- (i) R&D in Mineral Processing - To play a role of a catalytic agency to promote & develop the much-needed R&D in mineral processing in the field of mineral

beneficiation, mineral characterization, chemical analysis of ores and minerals and analysis of environmental samples;

(ii) Information Support and Advisory Services- To function as an advisory body to the government in formulation of mineral policy, lending technical guidance & support for framing Mineral Acts and in articulating provisions, rules & regulations thereof and lend it the credentials to formulate strategies, articulate policy requirements and oversee their implementation at both national and State levels;

(iii) National Mineral Inventory – Periodical Updation of National Mineral Inventory reflecting the micro-level status and possession of various mineral resources of the country as per the international standards like UNFC;

(iv) Repository on Mines & Minerals – To shoulder the responsibility for collection, processing and storage of statistical data in respect of all major minerals through statutory and non-statutory basis;

(v) Publications on topical interest – To assort process and analyze mines and mineral information generated on account of statutorily and non-statutorily collected information and supply them as important inputs for policy interventions, and

(vi) Training and Capacity Building – To provide training facilities for human resource development and to develop required technical expertise and skill in the personnel manning the mineral industry.