

Government of Jammu and Kashmir Directorate of Geology and Mining, J&K

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CIRCULAR No. 03- JK (DGM) of 2024 Dated: 27-05-2024

Whereas, the dedicated e-marketplace/e-challan web portal (www.geologymining.jk.gov.in) of this department has been put in place for ensuring transparency, swiftness and fairness in the sale/purchase of minerals (raw and processed) from the legal sources/vendors on the Government notified rates through online mode with assured service deliverance within specific period;

And Whereas, all Mining Lessees, Mineral Dealer Licensees, Stone Crusher and Hot-Wet Mix Plant Units are registered on this portal and are required to conduct all their sale/purchase transactions and the transportation of minerals only through e-challans to be generated from the said e-marketplace portal;

And Whereas, the Mining Lessees, who have been granted Mining leases of the Minor Mineral (RBM/Stone Quarry) Blocks on the basis of paying highest bids in e-auction process, are allotted specific quantity to be extracted and transported during the year for specific number of days from the pit head on the basis of e-challans generated from the said e-marketplace portal;

And Whereas, it has been observed that the District Mineral Officers (DMOs) often resort to blocking of the user logins of the Mining Lessees without uploading any self-speaking/justified reason/Administrative Order in the data field of the portal provided for the purpose thereby not only frequently rendering such Mining Leases non-operational but thus also resulting into loss to the Govt. Exchequer of the Royalty which accrues to Govt. from operational mining leases. It has been viewed very seriously that despite several instructions issued in this regard by this Directorate as well as by the Administrative Department from Civil Secretariat to this effect that in case user logins are required to be blocked by the authorised Admins/Field Officers/DMOs to ensure any administrative/legal compliance, the same must be done only by uploading self-speaking justification and/or by uploading Administrative Orders issued in this regard in the portal in relevant space provided for this purpose, the DMOs/field Officers are not adhering to the instructions of the higher authorities;

And Whereas, because of such frequent blocking of Mining leases on the portal by the DMOs/Admins without mentioning justification thereof, it has lead to loss of time and quantities of the extractable material/mineral to the Mining Lessees, specifically that of Minor Mineral (RBM) Blocks who are allowed to operate for a maximum of 270 days in a year (leaving 90 days for replenishment of the RBM), and thus have also been resulting into loss of Royalty to the Govt. from such Mining Leases;

And Whereas, Mining Leases are granted on the basis of e-auctions and huge investments by H1 bidders in respect of Bid amount, Security deposits etc. and the Lease holders are allowed to extract/transport the minerals restricted to the permitted quantities and time period as per the approved Mining Plan and Environmental Clearance and after completion of all other statutory formalities;

And Whereas, vide Order No. 33-JK (DGM) of 2024, dated:15.05.2024 issued by this Directorate, Divisional Level Nodal Officers have been designated in addition to the already designated UT level Nodal Officer with the instructions in this Order to the DMOs to coordinate with the designated Nodal Officers for all issues pertaining to the e-marketplace/e-challan portal;

Whereas, it has been observed that District Mineral Officers are blocking the registered mining lease holders on the e-market/e-challan portal without informing or consulting with the designated Nodal Officers and without uploading any justification or self-speaking orders in this regard impeding the sustained operation of legal mineral blocks and ensuring availability of raw material for the developmental works;

Now therefore, it is hereby impressed upon all the field officers including the District Mineral Officers to strictly follow below mentioned instructions:-

- 1. No District Mineral Officer shall block any mining lease holder at his own level without prior approval from this Directorate to be obtained through the designated Nodal Officer(s) and thereafter by uploading justification/self-speaking order in this regard on the portal. Also, at the time of unblocking a Mining Lessee the justification shall be uploaded.
- 2. In case, District Magistrate concerned orders the District Mineral Officer to block a Mining Lease on the portal for failing to comply any statutory obligation(s), the District Mineral Officer shall do so only after obtaining and uploading a self speaking order with acceptable reasons on the portal with a copy to Director, G&M Department, concerned Joint Director (J/K) and UT/Division Level Nodal Officer(s).
- 3. The District Mineral Officer may block the registered Mineral Dealer Licensee/ Stone Crusher/Hot Wet Mix Plants etc. wherein closure orders

have been issued by the District Administration by uploading self-speaking order with justifiable reasons on the portal with a copy to Director, concerned Joint Director (J/K) and UT/Division Level Nodal Officer(s).

Sd/P.S Rathore (JKAS) Director, Geology & Mining, J&K.

No: 406/C-Adm/DGM/Circular/2024-25/(E-7147806)

Dated: 27.05.2024

Copy to the:-

- 1. Commissioner/Secy. to Govt. Mining Department, J&K Civil Secretariat, Jammu/Srinagar for information.
- 2. Deputy Commissioners/District Magistrates (All) for information.

3. Joint Director (J/K), G & M Department, J&K for information.

4. UT/Division Level Nodal officers for e-marketplace/e-challan portal for information and necessary action.

5. District Mineral Officers (All), for information and strict compliance.

M/s Mildain Solutions LLP. for information with the direction not to block/unblock any mining lease holder/minor mineral based unit without justification & self-speaking orders by DMO concerned.

7. Incharge website, Directorate of Geology & Mining, J&K for n/a.

8. Concerned file.

Mohamamd Yaseen Bhat

T.O. to the Director, Geology & Mining, J&K