

No. 16/115/2016-M.VI
Government of India
Ministry of Mines

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated, the 17th November. 2016

ORDER

Subject:- Relaxation of area limit in exercise of powers under section 6 of the MMDR Act, 1957, for prospecting licence and mining lease in the state of Tamil Nadu for limestone

Reference: Government of Tamil Nadu's letter No.3712/MMA2/2016-4 dated 22.8.2016

Whereas the State Government of Tamil Nadu has sought for relaxation of the prescribed area limits for mining lease under section 6 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act, 1957), for limestone.

And whereas limestone occurs in Tamil Nadu mostly as metamorphic crystalline deposits in narrow discontinuous bands of shallow depths as a result of which more non-mineralised area is required for systematic and scientific exploitation of limestone; and further, the crystalline limestone bands are highly intruded by the younger generation of rocks and some of the mines are having high magnesia, which reduces the limestone recovery percentage.

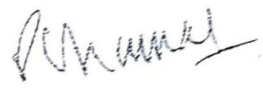
And whereas the sedimentary deposits in Ariyalur basin, the bands of limestone are mostly inter-bedded with limestone and marl, which drastically reduces the recovery percentage of cement grade limestone.

And whereas the total resources of limestone in the State of Tamil Nadu have been estimated to the tune of 1049 million tonnes as per the Indian Mineral Year Book, 2014 published by the Indian Bureau of Mines.

And whereas there is a need for increasing the area limits for prospecting licence for limestone to encourage prospecting over large areas to establish sufficient mineralisation for future production of limestone and the area limits for mining lease for limestone keeping in view the future expansion of the cement plants and the requirement of limestone for captive purpose, in the State of Tamil Nadu.

Now therefore the Central Government, in exercise of the powers conferred under the proviso to clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 6 of the MMDR Act, 1957, hereby conveys its approval for increasing the area limits specified under section 6(1) (a) and 6 (1) (b) of the MMDR Act, 1957, in the interest of the development of limestone and the industry based on supply of limestone, as follows:-

SL No	Name of Mineral	ML (Sq. Km)	PL(Sq. Km)
1.	Limestone	50 Sq. Kms. in each case	100 Sq. Kms. in each case



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