

DEVELOPMENT OF MINERAL SECTOR:

During the year 2008-09 only 2 (two) Mining Lease for major mineral covering 52.957 hectares has been granted. Besides 20(twenty) Prospecting Licenses for decorative stone covering 245.317 hectares have also been granted by the State Government. Emphasis has been given on grant of mining leases for mineral based industries for value addition, preferably in the State so as to generate more employment and to promote industrialization in the State. However during the financial year 2008-09, 225 applications for P.L., 301 application for ML, 48 (forty-eight) applications for RML and 3 (three) nos. of application for R.P. have been processed and forwarded to Govt. for further action. Likewise the application in respect of decorative stone, QL. 14 nos. RML 13 nos, PL 69 nos, ML 9 nos have been received during the year 2008-09, similarly 6 quarry leases 3 RML 57-PL, 7 ML have been disposed by the Director of Mines during the year 2008-09.

The mineral sector earned revenue to the tune of Rs.1380.52 crores during the year (2008-09) which exceeded the collection figure of the Rs.1126.09 crores during the corresponding period of 2007-08 by Rs.254.43 crores.

Effective steps are being taken for enforcement of the Orissa Minerals (Preventions of theft smuggling and illegal Mining and Regulation of possession, storage, Trading and Transportation) Rules, 2007 framed thereunder to curb the illegal mining activities and trading of Ores/minerals and to prevent leakage of revenue.

During the financial year 2008-09, 844 cases of illegal extraction, storage, transportation of coal, iron ore, manganese ore, chromite, fireclay, quartz to the tune of 36105 MT valued at Rs.667.66 lakhs and 500 Vehicles were seized in such activities and Rs.537.53 lakhs was realized on account of compounding fee, penalty and cost of mineral.

During the period, Chemical analysis of 32694 minerals/ore samples consisting of 47912 constituents were undertaken by the Analytical Laboratory of the Directorate of Mines. An amount of Rs.55.41 lakhs was collected on account of analysis charges of commercial samples.