

**Saryu Roy**

Ex-MLA

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Date : .....

To,

**1. The Chief Minister,**

Govt. of Jharkhand  
Ranchi.

**2. Minister of Mines**

Govt. of India  
New Delhi.

Sub. : Re-examination of renewal/fresh mining leases recommended in the period of Madhu Koda as Chief Minister of Jharkhand.

Dear Sir,

You are aware that investigation wing of the Income Tax Department at Ranchi conducted searches and raids on residential and office premises of large number of persons on 31-10-2009 and 16-02-2010 in connection with the disproportionate assets case against the Ministers of Madhu Koda govt. in Jharkhand High Court, Ranchi. On the basis of the seizures and incriminating documents found during the searches the Income Tax Officials recorded statements of the persons concerned including the then Secretary of Mines, Govt. of Jharkhand, Mr. Jaishankar Tiwari, Section Officer, Mines Department, Ranchi, Mr. Basant Kumar Bhattacharya, Mr. Sanjeev G. Mansotra, Director of Coal Group Companies, Mumbai and many others.

The Income Officials has submitted various Appraisal Reports to their seniors in Madhu Koda group of cases. On the basis of one such report regarding the illegal gratification in Jharkhand State Electricity Board the vigilance bureau of Jharkhand Govt. has registered case against the accused persons. In one another such Appraisal Report Income Tax Department has made following conclusions :-

1. All renewal/fresh mining leases recommended in the Madhu Koda's period should be thoroughly examined.
2. The accounts and statements of payers to Shri Madhu Koda should be scrutinized.
3. The findings of the scrutiny may be referred to the Ministry of Mines.
4. In the background of statements of Shri Jai Shankar Tiwary and Shri Basant Bhattacharya, other associated persons should also be examined.
5. Co-ordinated data analysis in connection with illegal mining obtained from Ports, Railways, Transporters covered under search & seizure operations and Jharkhand Space Centre to arrive the extent of illegal mining done by this group.

I am not aware whether the Department of Mines, Govt. of Jharkhand, The Ministry of Mines, Govt. of India and the Vigilance Bureau, Govt. of Jharkhand are in know of the above mentioned conclusions of the Income Tax Department or not. Hence I am bringing it in their notice through this letter. It would not be out of context to quote a few more excerpts from the Appraisal Report of Income Tax Department in this context. In a quasi-judicial statement made on oath under section 131 of the Income Tax Act, 1961, Mr. Jai Shankar Tiwary the then Secretary of Department of Mines has accepted the role of a few Mines Department officials in the processes of illegal recommendations of Mines.

In one such statement Mr. Tiwary says quoting victims that "whenever Sri Binod Sinha was negotiating a deal with parties he would be asking for a share in the company at a very high percentile. Sri Binod Sinha would ask for Rs. 10/- per ton of iron ore existing in the mines applied for. Sri Sanjay Chaudhary was even higher negotiator. He would always bargain for preposterously high percentile of share in the company of Rs. 10/- per ton of deposits in the mine proposed for allocation. He even bargained for outright sale of the company....."

Mr. Tiwary in his statement on oath before the Income Tax Officials further says that "when Sri Binod Sinha would telephone me for knowing the status of a particular matter, CM Sri Madhu Koda would ring me immediately after Sri Binod Sinha has finished talking about the same matter. Sri Binod Sinha or Sri Sanjay Chaudhary would keep changing the names of mines if Industrialists were not coming to the terms of the deal. For example if an Industrialists wanted 'Mine-A' (having thick, regular and high grade deposit) Sri Binod Sinha would suggest 'Mine D' (having low grade, irregular and poor quality deposit) until the deal was extracted. **In such exercises, backroom support was provided by Sri Basant Bhattacharya and Sri Raghav Nandan Prasad.**"

Explaining the back room support provided by Sri Basant Bhattacharya and Sri Raghav Nandan Prasad, Mr. Tiwary further says that "When Sri Binod Sinha was talking through a deal he needed information about the status of mine for which deal was being negotiated like the size of mine, likely deposits, status of geological exploration, whether earlier this site was allocated to somebody or not. Sri Binod Sinha needed these informations to impress the negotiating company that the whole set of Government machinery was working for him. Status on these points were used to be given by Sri Basant Bhattacharjee & Sri Raghav Nandan Prasad telephonically."

In addition to it I would like to remind that during the president rules Mr. Sheo Basant, the Chief Secretary of Jharkhand ordered enquiry about illegal mining of "iron ore" but no specific progress was made nor responsibility on any one was fixed except that a few officials of directorate of geology, govt. of Jharkhand visited the area. It is ironical that same set of officers are ruling the roost in the mines department of the Jharkhand govt. One of them was transferred in the president rule but soon after he was given the same responsibility he was holding in the department before his transfer. Also the officers arrested by the vigilance bureau at Gitilipi chekpost near Chaibasa for their role in illegal mining and illegal transportation on fake challans were later rehabilitated in the same capacity. One can imagine as to in what respect the department of mines is taking the illegalities resorted at large scale during the Madhu Koda regime.

In the light of the depositions of the Secretary of Mines, the recommendation of the Income Tax Officials in their Appraisal Report and the other facts I demand that :-

- the affairs in the department of mines and geology, govt. of Jharkhand need a through probe and all the recommendation of mining/prospecting leases made during Madhu Koda govt. be examined and scrapped by the state as well as the union govt.
- allegations of illegal graft in this connections be enquired.
- besides action against the officials of the state and union govt. involved in it the persons as well as the companies found guilty giving ransom the also identified and suitable action as per law must be taken against them.
- the persons and the state govt. officials responsible for sending fraudulent and partisan reports regarding iron ore deposits in a particular areas to influence the mining/prospecting leases recommendation should also be brought to book.
- the connection between the govt. officials and mining mafia in illegal mining should be exposed and guilty must be prosecuted.
- the mines department of govt. of Jharkhand and the govt. of India should ask the Appraisal Reports and other incriminating documents from the Income Tax Department, the Enforcement Directorate and the CBI.
- the chargesheets submitted by the CBI and ED in their respective special courts should be procured by the state and the union govt. and suitable action must be taken against the guilty persons and organisations.

I hope that the concerned govts. would consider my above mentioned demands and take suitable actions for eradication of corruption and malpractices in the govt. and in the corporate sector as well as in the society.

With Regards,

Yours



(Saryu Roy)

Ex-MLA

Copy to :

1. **The Hon'ble Governor**, Jharkhand
2. **The Minister**, Deptt. of Mines, Govt. of Jharkhand
3. **Secretary**, Deptt. of Mines, Govt. of Jharkhand
4. **Secretary**, Deptt. of Mines, Govt. of India