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GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

No. CI 163 MMN 96

Karnataka Government Secretariat,  
M.S. Building,  
Bangalore, dated: 9.10.96.

CIRCULAR

Karnataka is one of the States rich in Major as well as Minor Mineral Resources. Of late, there has been an increased demand for ornamental granite both in the domestic and the international market. This has resulted in the spurt of activity by the interested mining public leading to overexploitation of this mineral wealth. There are, reportedly, certain instances of illegal quarrying in some parts of the State. Therefore, in order to explore and exploit this mineral wealth in a more scientific and systematic manner and to ensure that there is a singular agency for the entire State to control and administer the same with a view to curb illegal quarrying activity, Government promulgated the minor mineral policy in the form of Karnataka Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 1994. These Rules came into force with effect from 28th May 1994. For grant of quarry leases in respect of fresh applications and renewal of the existing leases for ornamental granite, these Rules lay down that a Committee constituted under Rule 11 therein under the Chairmanship of Secretary to Government, Commerce & Industries Department with Secretaries to Government from Revenue, Forest, Ecology and Environment and Finance Departments as Members besides the Director of Mines and Geology, Bangalore as Member Secretary, should examine the applications for grant/renewal of quarry leases/licences for ornamental granite and make recommendations to Government. Sub-rule (5)(i) of Rule 8 of these Rules specified that in respect of specified minor minerals, the Deputy Commissioner of the concerned District shall be consulted by the Competent Authority before granting or renewing a lease and sub-rule (6) there under specifies that the Deputy Commissioner shall send the recommendation within thirty days from the receipt of communication from the Competent Authority. The Director of Mines and Geology on his part, also gets a report from the jurisdictional Senior Geologist or the geologist as the case may be in respect of the area applied for quarry lease/license.

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Co. Secy to Govt.

