IN THE COURT OF MS. SUNENA SHARMA: SPECIAL JUDGE (PC ACT)(CBI)(COAL BLOCK CASES)-02 ROUSE AVENUE DISTRICT COURTS NEW DELHI

CBI Case No. 64/2025
RC No. 221 2014E 0018
CNR No.DLCT11-000879-2025
Branch: CBI, SPE, EO-III, New Delhi
CBI Vs. M/s Jindal Steel & Power Ltd & Others
U/s 120-B r/w 409 & 420 IPC and
13(2) r/w 13(1)(c) and 13(1)(d) PC Act, 1988

01.06.2026

ORDER ON COGNIZANCE

1. The instant chargesheet, which is stated to be one of the most voluminous chargesheets of coal block cases, has been filed by CBI after more than a decade of registration of the FIR. The chargesheet is containing 778 documents running into more than 01 lakh pages and 234 listed witnesses. Besides lengthly investigation involving voluminous record and numerous witnesses, the time taken by the competent authorities in according requisite prosecution sanction in respect of accused public servants, is cited as one of the major reasons for the inordinate delay in filing of the chargesheet.

2. The chargesheet is the outcome of RC no. 221 2014E 0018, which was registered by CBI on 18.10.2014. Out of 08 public servants, who were allegedly involved in the offence, only 01 public servant namely P.C.Parekh, the then Secretary (Coal), Ministry of Coal, Government of India has been chargesheeted, while the names of other 07 public servants have been kept in column no.12. Out of said 07

public servants, who are not being chargesheeted, 02 have already expired, while against remaining 05, the prosecution sanction under Section 19 of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (hereinafter referred as 'PC Act'), is stated to have been declined by the competent authorities. The name of Deepinder Nath Abrol, Advisor, M/s JSPL and Sh. Diwakar Y. Moghe Vice President M/s JSL are also kept in column no. 12, as they also expired during the course of investigation.

3. I have carefully heard the arguments addressed by Sh. V.K.Pathak, Ld. Sr.PP and IO/Dy. SP Pawan Kumar Kaushik on behalf of CBI and also perused the chargesheet as well as the documents filed in support thereof.

Brief background of the case

4. A Preliminary Inquiry No. 219 2012 E 0004 dated 26.09.2012 was registered on the basis of directions from Central Vigilance Commission under section 8 (1) (d) and 8 (1) (h) of the CVC Act, 2003. CVC vide OM dated 19.09.2012 & 21.09.2012, had forwarded CBI two complaints of Shri Sandeep Dixit, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, alleging malpractices in allocation of coal blocks between 1993 and 2005, with a list of 24 coal blocks for in-depth investigation on the process and the manner in which these coal blocks were allocated.

5. Pursuant thereto, an inquiry was undertaken. The inquiry in relation to Gare Palma IV/1 coal block allocated to M/s. Jindal Strips Ltd., led to registration of instant RC- 221/ 2014/E/0018 with CBI/EO-III branch, New Delhi, against (1) M/s Jindal Strips Ltd. and (2) unknown public servants on 18.10.2014, u/s 120-B r/w 409, 420 IPC and 13 (1)(c) and 13(1)(d) of Prevention of Corruption Act.

Factual Matrix in the Chargesheet

6. As per chargesheet, the FIR contained following broad allegations based on preliminary inquiry conducted on the aforementioned complaints:-

(1) A request was received in the Ministry of Coal, Government of India from M/s Jindal Strips Limited for allocation of coal block for its sponge iron plant of 0.6 MTPA capacity. The case of said company was considered in 10th Screening Committee held on 03.04.1996, and Gare Palma IV/1 Sub block was identified for allocation in favour of M/s Jindal Strips Limited. Ministry of Coal accordingly, issued a letter dated 20.06.1996 intimating the company of such identification with a further request to approach Coal India Limited (CIL)/South Eastern Coalfield Limited (SECL) for more detailed information.

(2) Gare Palma IV/1 Sub block had a gross coal reserves of 124 million tons (MT) and net coal reserve of 99.2 MT. Thus the Ministry of Coal allocated a coal block having far excess coal reserve to the company for their sponge iron plant of only 0.6 MTPA capacity. Further, the company had submitted an application dated 12.01.1996, for mining lease to Government of Madhya Pradesh. Thus, much before the identification of said coal block by the 10th Screening Committee and communication of such identification by the Ministry of Coal, the company JSL had already approached the Government of Madhya Pradesh for allocation of coal block for an area of 841.538 Ha vide its application dated 12.01.1996.

(3) The company after issue of identification letter dated 20.06.1996, revised the area to 885.231

Hectares on 23.08.1996 citing the reason that it was modified to rationalize its boundaries to conform to revenue survey number and to make mining lease more purposeful. However, the mining survey on 14.10.1996, revealed that said area of 885.231 Hectares contained roads, river, ponds, forests and residential area and these areas with a distance of 50 meters from road, river, pond, forest and residential area have to be excluded and after excluding said area, the area would reduce by 179.675 Hectares.

(4) In the light of said background, the State Government while requesting Ministry of Coal for previous approval, recommended the reduced area of 705.556 Hectares and on the line of said request, Ministry of Coal accorded previous approval for State government for entering mining lease with the company for said reduced area of 705.556 Hectares with a stipulation that the approval of Central Government under the provision of section 5 (1) of the MMDR Act, 1957 is subject to condition that the above areas coordinates are suitably incorporated. Despite that, the area for which the lease was entered, was much beyond the coordinates.

(5) The major area under forest cover, inhabited area, roads, etc were let out allegedly for the reason that obtaining the permission from Ministry of Environment and Forest would be difficult for the forest area, leading to undue pecuniary benefit to the company. Despite clear mandate given by the Ministry of Coal to State Government that the area of mining lease shall be as per co-ordinates the State Government and the Company entered into a lease for

the area much beyond the demarcated area for which Previous Approval was accorded by Central Government thereby, causing undue pecuniary benefit to the Company.

(6) When the irregular mining lease came to the notice of Ministry of Coal, the matter was examined and Recognized Qualified Person (RQP), who had prepared the mine plan was made responsible and was suspended however, no action against the company was taken by Ministry of Coal inspite of the fact that the Mine Plan was stated to be prepared based on the details of the area furnished by the Company.

(7) After the irregular mining lease came to the notice of Ministry of Coal, no corrective action was initiated and instead the irregular mining area had been regularized in the 27th Screening Committee meeting held on 01.03.2005, though the Screening Committee had no such mandate nor there was any representation from the State Government in said meeting nor even the minutes of said meeting were shared with the State Government. The 27th Screening Committee not only regularized the irregular area but also proposed additional area beyond 705.556 Hectares and thus, caused undue benefit to the accused Company.

(8) The Company resorted to illegal excess mining. While the approved coal production during 1998-99 to 2002-03 was 1.35 MT, the actual coal production done by the Company was 5.9 MT, thus an excess of 4.55 MT of coal was mined irregularly. Further, there was excess coal mining in all the 5 years against the rate approved in Mine Plan and no prior

permission was obtained from Ministry of Coal for such excess coal mining.

(9) The excess mining came on record during presentation made by the Company before Standing Committee of Ministry of Coal for revised Mine Plan in 2004. However, Ministry of Coal did not initiate any action on the excess mining. Thus the Company resorted to misappropriation of coal through excess mining and got the excess coal mined, regularized in alleged connivance with officials of Ministry of Coal.

(10) Ministry of Coal and Coal Controller have permitted sale of coal fines and middling, in open market. The Company resorted to such sale of coal fines/rejects not only to specified end users but also to several other companies who in turn traded the coal in violation of the conditions of permission thus, earning undue benefit. The Company sold the coal fines and rejects at a higher price to others and lower price to their sister concerns including M/s Nalwa Sponge Iron Ltd. Raigarh.

(11) The coal which was mined from IV/1 coal block was far in excess of requirement of the Company. Ministry of Coal had also permitted the Company to consume the coal mined from Gare IV/I coal block in additional kilns, pending consideration of another coal block 'Gare IV/6'mine. The Company also resorted to supply of raw coal to M/s Nalwa Steel and Power Ltd., irregularly.

(12) The permission letter for disposal of washery products by M/s. Jindal Steel & Power Ltd. was issued by the office of the Coal Controller, Kolkata

without any approval letter issued by Ministry of Coal. Ministry of Coal directed to conduct inquiry in the matter but no action was taken by the office of the coal controller.

(13) Though mining lease and all statutory permissions were issued in favour of M/s. Jindal Strips Ltd. but the mining operation was done by M/s. Jindal Steel & Power Ltd. without any transfer of mining lease/ permission of Ministry of Coal. The company M/s. Jindal Steel & Power Ltd. used coal and washery products in the power plant without any permission from the Ministry of Coal.

Result of Investigation

7. As per chargesheet, Section 10 of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR) provides that, the power to grant mining lease lies with State Government, Section 4(1) of the MMDR Act provides that no person shall undertake any mining operation in any area except under/in accordance with the terms and conditions of a mining lease granted under the MMDR Act. Section 10(1) of the MMDR Act provides that application for a mining lease in respect of any land in which the minerals vests shall be made to the State Government concerned in the prescribed form and shall be accompanied by the prescribed fee.

8. For the purposes of screening applications/proposals submitted by private power generating companies for captive coal mines, the Ministry of Coal vide its office Memorandum dated 14.07.1992, constituted a Screening Committee consisting of representatives from Ministry of Coal, Ministry of Railways,

Ministry of Power, Coal India Ltd and it concerned subsidiary, CMPDIL and the State Governments concerned. Subsequently, the scope was further expanded with regard to the screening of proposals submitted by companies in the Iron, Steel and Cement Sectors and therefore, the representatives from concerned Ministries (Steel and DIPP) were also included.

9. During investigation, it was found that that M/s Jindal Strips Ltd. through its letter dated 01.05.1993 addressed to Joint Secretary, Ministry of Steel had requested Ministry of Steel to take up the issue with Ministry of Coal for getting priority in allotment of coal blocks to sponge iron units. The case of M/s Jindal Strips Ltd., was first discussed on 27.09.1993 in the 3rd Meeting of Screening Committee. M/s. Jindal Strips Ltd. was setting up a Sponge Iron Plant at Raigarh District with a capacity of 2 Lakh tonnes per annum and planning to expand it to 6 Lakh tonnes per annum. CMD/SECL was of the view that only Hasdeo-Arand Block was available for captive development. Copy of relevant extract of minutes are as under:-

> *"The company is setting up a Sponge Iron Plant at Raigarh District with a capacity of 2 lakh tonnes per annum which they are planning to expand to 6 lakh tonnes. Long-term linkage for the plant has been established by the Standing Linkage Committee. The consumer has indicated a requirement of 9 lakh tonnes of coal per annum. CMD, SECL stated that as in the case of M/s. Prakash Industries Ltd., for the Sponge Iron Plant of M/s. Jindal Strips Ltd. also they have identified Hasdeo- Arand Block for captive development.*

10. On 04.12.1995, Ministry of Steel informed Ministry of Coal that it had no objection for allocation of sub-block IV/I to M/s. Jindal Strips Ltd. This letter was processed in Ministry of Coal and vide letter dated

26.2.1996 to Executive Director (CP&P) Coal India Ltd., comments were called from CIL but, no comments were received from CIL in this regard.

11. In the 10th Screening Committee meeting held on 03.04.1996 (D-743), Gare Sub-Block IV/I was allocated to M/s. Jindal Strips Ltd. The decision of 10th Screening Committee was communicated to M/s. Jindal Strips Ltd. on 20.06.1996 stating that sub-block IV/1 of Gare was identified for the company. M/s. Jindal Strips Ltd., was advised through this letter to approach CIL, SECL and the State Government for further formalities of obtaining mining lease etc. Copy of the extract of Minutes of 10th Screening Committee meeting is as under:-

> *"The representative of M/s Jindal Strips confirmed that the geological data for the Gare Area was collected by them from the Geological survey of India and submitted to CMPDI for undertaking a sub-blocking exercise as decided by the Screening Committee. CMPDI has now submitted its report indicating the sub-blocks in Gare Area and the report is under examination in the Ministry of Coal. It was further indicated by the representative of M/s Jindal Strips that the annual coal requirement for their Sponge Iron Plant would be 2 million tonnes, for which they need a mine block having reserves of 100 million tonnes. They have requested for allocation of sub-block-IV/1, containing 99.2 million tonnes as per CMPDI's report dated 16th August, 1995 on "Sub-Blocking of Gare Area in Mand Raigarh Coalfield" to M/s Jindal Strips Ltd. The party should take necessary steps for obtaining Mining Lease within 6 months from the date of issuance of the letter communicating such identification. The company would require to pay costs incurred by CIL/SECL on this field as also comply with various legal requirements."*

12. Investigation however, revealed that M/s. Jindal Strips Ltd. had already submitted application dated 12.01.1996 [D-28(ii)] for Mining Lease along with

Annexures to the office of Collector, Raigarh for an area of 841.538 Ha before the issue of formal allocation letter dated 20.06.1996. The company also submitted a map of mining lease for total area of 885.231 Hectare and list of Khasras to the Office of Collector, Raigarh without any forwarding letter.

13. Investigation further revealed that on account of some unauthorised alteration made by the representative of M/s. Jindal Strips Ltd. in the area of the land in the aforementioned application dated 12.01.1996, Sh. F.M. Shadangi, Office Assistant, put up a note dated 23.08.1996 before Sh. S.K. Srivastava, the then Assistant Mining Officer, who in turn submitted it to Collector, Raigarh, Sh.Shailendra Singh for appropriate action against the people who were responsible for making such alterations. In response to this note, Sh. Shailendra Singh vide his note dated 09.02.1996 ordered that the processing may be stopped and that senior most officer of M/s. Jindal Strips Ltd. be called.

14. Investigation also revealed that after due approval of Sh. Shailendra Singh, the then Collector, Raigarh, a letter dated 18.10.1996 signed by Sh. S. K. Shrivastava was sent to Secretary Mineral Resources Department (MRD), Government of Madhya Pradesh mentioning that an area marked as A, B, C, D, E, F, G of 705.556 Ha was available for mining lease and grant of lease for the area marked as ABCD on the map, would generate employment/business and contracts to locals. The proposal of M/s. Jindal Strips Ltd. along with relevant documents/records was sent to the Secretary, Mineral Resources Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh for said area marked as A, B, C, D without indicating its measurement.

15. Investigation revealed that Sh. A.K. Trivedi, the then Under Secretary, Mineral Resources Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh processed this matter. However, he submitted in his noting that Office of Collector had identified land in 7 patches; A, B, C, D, E, F and G totalling 705.556 hectares. Thereafter, mining lease was approved for 705.556 hectares on 25.01.1997, after due discussion between the then Principal Secretary, Minister and the company's representatives. Shri A K Trivedi vide his letter dated 16.12.1996, sought certain information from M/s. Jindal Strips Ltd. with a copy to Collector, Raigarh. In response to this letter, the collector Shri Shailendra Singh vide letter dated 28.01.1997 duly forwarded the information received from the company and also mentioned that this office had recommended the proposal of M/s. Jindal Strips Ltd. for the areas mentioned as ABCD only which included small/big *Jhad ka Jungle* while excluding the residential area and the agricultural land.

16. During the investigation, it came out that Mineral Resources Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh wrongly interpreted the recommendation of Collector office Raigarh and processed and approved Mining Lease for the area of land in 7 patches; A, B, C, D, E, F and G totalling 705.556 hectares, for prior approval of Ministry of Coal. Knowing that mining lease of only an area of 705.556 hectares is being considered, M/s Jindal Strips Ltd. requested collector Raigarh for continuous/contiguous area measuring 705.556 hectares, which was different from the area approved by State Government. Collector's office forwarded this request of M/s. Jindal Strips Ltd to Mineral Resources Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh without any comments on the same, which led to proposal of the

continuous/contiguous area measuring 705.556 hectares, which was different from the identified area, to be placed for recommendation to Ministry of Coal for prior approval u/s 5 (1) of MMDR Act.

17. The Mining Lease Deed dated 19.12.2004 (D-286) was executed for an area which was different from the continuous/contiguous area measuring 705.556 hectares approved in Mining Plan. Also it was different from the area of the Co-ordinates of Gare IV/1 Sub –block, as approved by Ministry of Coal. In the lease deed, area of forest inside the coordinates mentioned by Ministry of Coal was not there, effectively, to an advantage to the company. The Public Servants at district level, inspite of knowledge of inconsistency in the area, connived with private party to extend undue benefit. There is evidence on record that mining has been done in 88.947 Ha outside the Co-ordinates and 35.355 Ha area is overlapped with area earmarked to Chhattisgarh Mineral Development Corporation.

18. Investigation revealed that though mining lease and all statutory permissions were issued in favour of M/s Jindal Strips Ltd. but, all mining operation was done by M/s Jindal Steel & Power Ltd. without having mining rights, without any transfer of mining lease under Rule 37 of MCR or permission of Ministry of Coal, effectively making Mining illegal.

19. Investigation revealed that the annual Production by M/s. Jindal Steel & Power Ltd in Gare-IV coal block was more than the annual Scheduled Production of different years. In some of the years the Annual Production was even more than the Peak Rated Capacity (PRC). As

such, M/s JSPL has done excess mining to the tune of 3.72 Million tonnes.

20. Investigation has further revealed that M/s Jindal Steel & Power Ltd., sold extracted coal products, coal fines, pond fines, washery rejects, middlings, wash coal fines, washery middlings of washed coal fines etc. from Gare Palma IV/I coal block to its sister concern namely M/s Nalwa Steel & Power Ltd., as well as other private parties. Investigation revealed that the company had sold said coal products to its sister concern M/s Nalwa Steel & Power Ltd., during 2001-2002 to 2010-2011.

21. In the chargesheet, the names of 07 accused persons have been kept in column no.11, the specific roles attributed to said accused are briefly discussed in the succeeding paras.

Role attributed to M/s. Jindal Steel & Power Ltd (A-1) and its Director Sh. Naveen Jindal (A-7)

22. Sh. Naveen Jindal, is the Managing Director of M/s. Jindal Steel & Power Ltd. Investigation revealed that on 04.03.2004, M/s. Jindal Steel & Power Ltd., had requested for approval of fresh mining plan of Gare IV/I coal Block to increase the production of coal from 2 MTPA to 6 MTPA. This request was processed in Ministry of Coal and it was observed that the boundaries of the lease area were in variance with the allotted block boundary, while the actual production and OB removal was also considerably more during the period from 1998 to 2003 and same was in contravention of approved mining plan. On 06.10.2004, Ministry of Coal sought explanation of M/s. Jindal Steel & Power Ltd., for extra production and variance in boundaries of these areas. M/s. Jindal Steel & Power Ltd., explained

their stand vide letter dated 08.10.2004, issued under the signatures of Sh. D. N. Abrol.

23. Investigation also revealed that in the meeting of the Standing Committee under MMDR Act, 1957 held on 17.12.2004 under the Chairmanship of Sh. P.C. Parakh, Secretary (Coal), Sh. K.P. Verma, Advisor (Projects)) and Sh. A.K. Sahay, Technical Expert & former CMD, NLC as members, fresh mining plan of M/s. Jindal Steel & Power Ltd. for mining coal block Gare IV/I was discussed. In this meeting the matter relating to approval of mining plan for Gare IV/I (November 2004) submitted by M/s. Jindal Steel & Power Ltd., was taken up. During the scrutiny of the above mining plan, the Standing Committee observed that the mining lease obtained by M/s. Jindal Steel & Power Ltd. for the area is substantially at variance with the area of coal block which was allotted to them by the Screening Committee. In this regard the committee observed as under:

i. That M/s Jindal Steel and Power Limited should approach the Screening Committee, for its consideration, regarding the above variation between the mining lease area and the area allocated to them in Gare IV/I block; by the Screening Committee.

ii. The RQP, who had prepared the mining plan under MMDR Act, 1957 should be issued a show cause notice for the deviation as mentioned above;

iii. In order to avoid recurrence of such cases in future, the Screening Committee should be approached for laying down guidelines for pecuniary and/or other penalties, as deemed fit.

24. Investigation further further that the above issue was not taken up in the 25th or 26th Screening Committee meeting. The matter was also not contemplated to be taken up as an agenda item for the 27th meeting of the Screening Committee meeting to be held on 01.03.2005 as per the agenda approved by Minister of State (C&M) on 25.02.2005. But, in the meantime, Sh. Naveen Jindal, Managing Director, M/s JSPL met Secretary (Coal) on 16.02.2005 and requested for expediting the approval of mining plan and the matter of regularization of area of coal block. There is a reference of said meeting even in the letter dated 21.02.2005 of Late Sh.D.N.Abrol, Vice President (Raw Material), M/s JSPL, addressed to Secretary, Ministry of Coal (D-287, page no.31269). After said meeting, the matter was taken up in the 27th Screening Committee meeting held on 01.03.2005, through an internal note and decision favouring M/s JSPL was taken in respect of area of Chattisgarh without any representative of Government of Chhattisgarh being present in said meeting of 27th Screening Committee.

25. Investigation revealed that though there was no deliberation/ suggestion/decision during the 27th Screening Committee meeting, in respect of M/s. JSPL, however, in the minutes of 27th Screening Committee meeting, it was falsely mentioned as under:

> *"It was decided that M/s Jindal Steel and Power Ltd. should mine the left-out area of the block under forest cover and human habitation while mining the reserve in the extra covered area. Accordingly, the representatives of M/s Jindal Steel and Power Ltd., were called before the Committee and they were informed that they should work the entire area of the block including the forest area and the area under villages and also the additional area in question which has been covered by them and they*

should give details of the whole area and its coal reserves to the CMPDIL and Ministry of Coal and the mining plan be accordingly revised and considered."

26. The contention of CMPDIL representative mentioned in the minutes of the Screening Committee to justify the regularization and allowing additional area to mine was also false. Investigation further revealed that the minutes of 27th Screening Committee was prepared at the level of Director and got subsequently approved at the level of Secretary (Coal) and Minister of State (Coal and Mine). The public servants of Ministry of Coal, the then Director/Secretary, not only tried to regularize the misdoing but also gave additional area without any explicit demand as a benefit extended to the company.

27. M/s Jindal Steel and Power Limited resorted to excess mining, sold the washery products to the parties other then approved end users and also supplied coal to M/s Nalwa Steel and Power Ltd. Without any permission in this regard, M/s JSPL also used the coal and washery products in its power plant without any permission from the Ministry of Coal.

28. Further it was revealed that M/s Jindal Strips Ltd and M/s Jindal Steel and Power Ltd in conspiracy with other accused persons and public servants committed offence of criminal breach of trust by the agent with the objective to misappropriate natural resources of Government of India i.e. coal and hence, obtained huge pecuniary benefit. Investigation has also revealed that the company mined coal without Mining Opening Permission in violation of Colliery Control Order 2000 and without EUP in place which

is in contravention of the mining lease conditions, which is punishable under section 21 of MMDR Act.

Role attributed to Sh. P.C. Parakh (A-2)

29. Sh. P.C. Parakh, IAS (the then Secretary/Coal, Ministry of Coal) alongwith other officials of Ministry of Coal, attended the 27th Screening Committee meeting held on 01.03.2005. Investigation has revealed that in said meeting of 27th Screening Committee, the public servants of Ministry of Coal namely Sh. Sujit Gulati, the then Director and Secretary Coal Sh. PC Parekh (A-2) by abusing their official position and in conspiracy with M/s JSPL, prepared the false contents of said meeting for regularizing the misdoing of M/s JSPL and also gave additional area which was without any explicit demand of M/s JSPL and thereby, theynot only regularized the existing variance in the area but also sanctioned more area of 273.098 Ha to M/s. Jindal Steel & Power Ltd. which was not even sought for by the company expressly. Moreover Jindal Steel and Power Ltd. was never allocated Gare IV/I, rather it was allocated to Jindal Strips Ltd.

Role attributed to Sh. Rakesh Kumar Jindal (A-3)

30. Rakesh Kumar Jindal (A-3) was the General Manager of M/s Jindal Strips Ltd. He had signed the application dated 12.01.96 [D-28(ii)] of M/s. Jindal Strips Ltd. submitted to the Office of Collector, Raigarh for Mining Lease for an area of 841.538 Ha on behalf of the applicant company. Despite the aforesaid inconsistencies in the area which were well within the knowledge of the company, the officers of the Collector signed the Mining Lease containing different area and Khasara no. than what was approved by the Government and Sh. Rakesh Kumar Jindal (A-3) is also

the signatory of said mining lease dated 19.12.97 (D-27), who signed it on behalf of M/s Jindal Strips Ltd.

Role attributed to Sh. Ram Kishore (A-4)

31. Sh. Ram Kishore, General Manager (Sales and Marketing), M/s. Jindal Steel & Power Ltd. was overall In-charge of Sales and Marketing. He was responsible for sale and washery products to private parties other than approved End-Users. Investigation revealed that an agreement dated 01.12.2007 between M/s Jindal Steel & Power Ltd. and M/s Nalwa Steel & Power Ltd for supply of Middling Coal for a period of 5 years w.e.f. 01.12.2007 was executed and the same was signed by Sh. Ram Kishore, the then Deputy General Manager (Marketing), on behalf of M/s. Jindal Steel & Power Ltd.

32. Further, during the year 2007-08, the company had sold 926.36 tonne of washery rejects without obtaining permission and Sh. Ram Kishore, General Manager (Sales and Marketing), M/s. Jindal Steel & Power Ltd. was overall In-charge of Sales and Marketing. He was responsible for sale of washery products to private parties other than approved End-Users. During the year 2005 to 2011, the company had not taken any permission for sale of washery rejects. He is responsible for sale of 926.36 tonne of washery rejects. Thus, the sale of washery rejects was without any permission from CCO/Ministry of Coal and some of such private parties were coal traders and not the approved end-users.

Role attributed to Sh.S.K.Agarwal (A-5)

33. Investigation revealed that M/s. Jindal Steel & Power Ltd. had supplied and consumed coal in its power plant without any specific approval from the Ministry of coal and Sh. S.K. Agarwal (A-5), Sr. Vice President (Commercial)

of M/s. Jindal Steel & Power Ltd had signed an agreement dated 01.04.2011 between M/s. Jindal Steel & Power Ltd. (M/s JSPL) and M/s. Nalwa Steel & Power Ltd. (M/s NSPL) for supply of raw coal and washed coal fines for conversion of Iron Ore Pellets to Sponge Iron for the period 01.04.2011 to 30.06.2011, without any permission from the Ministry of Coal.

Role attributed to M/s Jindal Strips Ltd. (Now M/s Nalwa Sons Investments Ltd.) (A-6)

34. M/s Jindal Strips Ltd. (A-6) as a part of conspiracy to misappropriate natural resources of Government of India, is alleged to have initially applied for Mining Lease for an area of 841.538 Ha and subsequently, it changed the area to 885.231 Ha. On this request of the company (A-6), Mining Section of Office of Collector Raigarh identified 705.556 Ha in 7 different sectors as marked as A,B,C,D,E,F & G as the area available for mining lease. As per investigation, A-6 was instrumental in irregular expansion of the mining area as in order to gain maximum coal benefits, it modified and proposed a different mining area.

35. Prosecution sanction under Section 19 of PC Act, 1988 in respect of Sh. P.C.Parakh (A-2) was granted by the Central Government vide order bearing no. 107/4/2025-AVD-I/C-II dated 17.07.2025 (D-778 page 93871). Whereas, the sanction in respect of other public servants placed in Column no. 12 of the chargesheet namely, Sh. Shailendra Singh, Sh. Anil Kumar Trivedi, Sh. Fakir Mohan Shadangi, Sh. Dilip Kumar Samadder and Sh. Sujit Gulati is stated to have been declined. As per chargesheet, the public servants namely Sh. Dasari Narayan Rao and Sh. Prem Raj Kuar have expired. The name of Deepinder Nath Abrol,

Advisor, M/s JSPL and Sh. Diwakar Y. Moghe Vice President M/s JSL are also placed in column no.12, as they also expired during the course of investigation.

36. Having considered the submissions of Ld. Sr. PP for CBI in the light of above allegations contained in the chargesheet, the specific role attributed to each of the accused placed in column no.11 and the documents filed in support thereof, including the statements of witnesses, more specifically, LW-8 Sh. Rajinder Singh Negi, LW-9 Sh. Rajeev Sharma, LW-14 Sh. Shyam Sunder from Ministry of Coal and LW-17 Sh. Deepak Anurag from Ministry of Steel recorded under Section 161 Cr.P.C, there exists sufficient material for this court to proceed in the matter.

37. **Accordingly, I take cognizance of the alleged offences under Section 120B r/w 409 and 420 IPC and 13(2) r/w 13(1)(c) and 13(1)(d) of PC Act, 1988 and substantive offences thereof.**

38. Accordingly, let summons be issued to M/s Jindal Steel and Power Ltd. (A-1); P.C. Parakh (A-2); Rakesh Kumar Jindal (A-3); Ram Kishore (A-4); S.K. Agarwal (A-5); M/s Jindal Strips Ltd. (now M/s Nalwa Sons Investments Ltd.) (A-6); and Naveen Jindal (A-7) for **17.07.2026.** Let the summons be served through IO/Dy SP Sh. Pawan Kumar Kaushik.

SUNENA SHARMA
Digitally signed by SUNENA SHARMA
Date: 2026.06.01 16:38:18 +0530

Announced in the Open Court on 01st day of June, 2026

(SUNENA SHARMA)
Special Judge, (PC Act), (CBI)
(Coal Block Cases)-02
Rouse Avenue District Courts
New Delhi