



**साउथ ईस्टर्न कोलफील्ड्स लिमिटेड**  
**South Eastern Coalfields Limited**

(भारत सरकार का उपक्रम)  
(A Government of India Undertaking)

**Legal Department, Bilaspur(CG)**

**DETAILED NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR EMPANELMENT OF ADVOCATES / LAW FIRMS**

**South Eastern Coalfields Limited, a Miniratna Public Sector Enterprise and a Subsidiary of Coal India Limited**, is the largest Coal producing company in the country. The coal reserves of South Eastern Coalfields Limited spreads mainly over two States of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. The Company is operating a total of 89 mines, with 35 Mines in the State of Madhya Pradesh and 54 Mines in the State of Chhattisgarh besides a Coal Carbonization Plant namely Dankuni Coal Complex (DCC) at Dankuni in West Bengal on lease basis from Coal India Limited. SECL has two subsidiaries, M/s Chhattisgarh East Railway Ltd (CERL) and M/s Chhattisgarh East- West Railway Ltd (CEWRL) both located at Raipur, C.G and proud to own "GEVRA OPEN CAST MINE" , the largest coal mine in Asia and second-largest in the World with a workforce of approximately 55000 employees.

The operations of the company being diverse and varied in nature tends to have issues which warrant a formal settlement through the established legal mechanisms. As such, we intend to have a panel of Advocates/Firms for defending the interest of the company before various courts/forums in different states and cities of India, primarily from the states of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and cities of Delhi, Kolkata, Nagpur, Ranchi, Mumbai, Bhopal, Kanpur, Lucknow. A particular mention of the primary states and cities does not refrain any Advocates or Law Firm, located outside the referred places, to apply for empanelment.

**A . ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS:-**

- 1) The Law Firms, Partners or Solicitors representing the Law Firms and the Advocates registered with Bar Council of India/ State Bar Council are eligible for empanelment.
- 2) EmpanelmentfortheSupremeCourt ofIndia - 10 yrs. Of court practice experience in Supreme Court.
- 3) Empanelment for the High Courts in India/Competition Appellate Tribunal and other equivalent courts - 5yrs. of court practice experience in High Court(s) and other equivalent courts.
- 4) Empanelment for the Subordinate Courts/Tribunalsand other equivalent courts -5 yrs. of court practice experience in Sub-ordinate Courts/Tribunals and other equivalent courts.
- 5) The Advocates should be familiar with branches of law especially those concerning Mining Laws including Coal mines, Land Acquisition Laws, Competition Law, Constitutional Law, Company Law, Forest and Environmental Law, Labour Laws, Contract Law,

Commercial Law, Property Laws and Taxation, Motor Vehicles Act, Criminal Laws etc. Due weightage shall be given to Advocates having experience in handling cases of CPSEs and Government Departments.

- 6) An advocate against whom any disciplinary action is pending, any criminal case filed, debarred/ penalized by any Bar Council or committed any act which is unbecoming of an advocate as per Advocates Act, 1961 shall not be eligible to apply for empanelment as the same constitutes a ground of disempanelment.

**B. GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:-**

- 1) Advocates, already on the Panel of SECL, should also be required to apply afresh for empanelment as they will cease to exist on the panel of SECL for new cases, until re-empanelled. Notwithstanding the above and irrespective of their new empanelment, they will continue to represent SECL/Company till the disposal of matter(s) already assigned to them and shall be paid as per the old Schedule of Fee.
- 2) The Advocate shall accept the work as assigned to him from time to time and shall not refuse to accept any work without reasonable cause. Any such refusal, otherwise than on grounds of conflict of interest, may entail removal of such Advocate from the Panel.
- 3) Advocates empanelled by SECL, shall have right to private practice but shall not undertake any case/matter against the Company or where company's interest is involved. If the empanelled Advocate happens to be a partner of a Firm of lawyers or solicitors, it will be incumbent upon the Firm not to entertain any case against the Company arising in any court.
- 4) The Panel advocates allotted with a case cannot delegate the same and may have to coordinate with designated Senior Advocates, if any, engaged in the case as well as with the Officers of the Company, as required.
- 5) The Advocates empanelled by SECL shall not be the employees of Company and hence not eligible for any benefits whatsoever, as available to its employees.
- 6) The empanelled Advocate shall maintain absolute secrecy and confidentiality about the cases of Company as required under the Act and rules/regulations made thereunder.
- 7) The Advocates shall accept the terms and conditions of the empanelment in full as determined by SECL from time to time.
- 8) Law Firm may also be empanelled through an Advocate, duly authorized by the said Firm. In such a case all the terms and conditions for empanelment of an individual Advocate shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.
- 9) Written communication to Advocates confirming their empanelment will be issued by SECL separately on finalization.
- 10) The detailed Terms and Conditions of empanelment will be shared with the advocates selected for empanelment.
- 11) Applying for empanelment at SECL does not confer any right/guarantee/assurance whatsoever, regarding their final empanelment.

**C. SCHEDULE OF FEE:-**

- 1) The schedule of fee, as amended from time to time, applicable for Panel Advocates of SECL, will be shared once the list of empanelled advocates is finalized.
- 2) Advocates empanelled for assignments to be undertaken other than in States of MP and CG shall be governed by the Schedule of Fees of CIL/CIL's Subsidiaries, as applicable from time to time,
- 3) No Retainer Fee shall be paid to any panel Advocate merely because such Advocate has been empanelled.

**D. DURATION OF EMPANELMENT:-**

- 1) The initial empanelment will be for five years or until further orders, whichever is earlier. The empanelment may be renewed for a period of another three years by SECL on mutually acceptable terms and conditions.

**E. HOW TO APPLY:-**

- 1) The interested Advocates/Firms may apply only through online mode of filing application with available link which will be visible on Company's Website <http://www.secl-cil.in> from 01.07.2021. No written application or other forms of application will be entertained.
- 2) The interested advocate/firms should apply for empanelment, only if they fulfill the eligibility criteria & the General Terms & Conditions of Empanelment are acceptable. Else, the application shall be out rightly rejected.
- 3) The applicants should follow the detailed instructions to file online application available on the link for a smooth and hassle free filing.

**F. QUERIES REGARDING EMPANELMENT/ONLINE APPLICATION:-**

- 1) For any clarification/information regarding the empanelment of Advocate/Law Firms and online applications can be sought by sending the query to email ID [seclpanelment@gmail.com](mailto:seclpanelment@gmail.com).

**G. PERIOD OF ONLINE APPLICATION:-**

- 1) Filing of online applications for empanelment commences from **01.07.2021(10:00 HRS)** and closes on **31.7.2021(17:00 HRS)**.

**Note: SECL reserves its right to change, amend or modify any of the terms and conditions of this notification. The changes, amendment or modification, if any, will be notified to all concerned on the company's website.**