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कौशल भारत - कुशल भारत



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SKILL COUNCIL FOR MINING SECTOR

(Promoted by Federation of Indian Mineral Industries)

An ISO 9001:2015 Certified Company

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1. Comprehensive projects in health, education, livelihoods and disaster preparedness and response. Our Overall goal is the empowerment of women and girls from poor and marginalized communities leading to improvement in their lives and livelihoods.

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Our President accepting the "Best Training Partner 2018-2019" Award



A K Maharaj our accepting the "Best Trainer 2018-2019" Award



**SKILL COUNCIL for
MINING SECTOR**
Honing India's Mining Skill



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From The Desk of Chief Executive Officer,



Dear colleagues,

I personally and also on behalf of team SCMS, will like to convey my greetings to one and all.

Well as each one of us is aware that last quarter has been challenging in view of increased numbers of COVID cases at one side but due to phased unlocking, the economy and business is gradually returning to normalcy. We understand it will take long way to reach the pre lockdown era, however now the term of “New Normal” has rejuvenated us to adjust & adapt to a new way of lifestyles and going about our lives, work & interactions with other people for a very long time.

Coming to the affairs of skilling and SCMS, I am pleased to share that as per GOI Unlock Orders, skill training has been permitted and recommenced from 21st Sep 2020. With this good news, we have interacted with all our training partners & assessment agencies and shared the guidelines as well as gauged their preparedness. Happy to share that all stakeholders were impatiently waiting for such an opportunity and are now excited to join the journey of skilling with all safety measures in place. In addition to above, we are also eagerly waiting for launch of PMKVY 3.0. I am sure this clearances and new launches will energize all our training partners, assessors, other stake holders & SCMS in particular. I wish each of them a grand success in clinching new assignments and execute all withheld and new programs with full throttle.

I am pleased to inform that project Steering committee during its 3rd and final meetings held on 17 September has accepted and approved the “Human Resource & Skill Requirement Study for Indian Mining Sector” for 2019-2025 submitted by PwC. Team SCMS will like to convey our sincere thanks to Shri Alok Chandra, Chairman, PSC and all other members for their time, inputs and valuable contributions. I am sure this skill gap study will bring new strategy in mining skilling ecosystem and open many opportunities for skilling, reskilling, multiskilling and even employment. This is going to strengthen the SCMS vision and its connection with industries as well.

I am also happy to share that despite tough time due to COVID and many hurdles, SCMS has recently signed an MoU with Northern Coal Field (NCL) to train 480 local youths in various mining trades. We are working out modalities and will soon announce date of launch of training on ground.

From this corner I also extend a warm welcome to the new members in Governing Board, Shri Sanjay Shivnani from HINDALCO and Shri SK Singh from Coal India Ltd. I am sure SCMS and entire skilling fraternity will be benefitted with their immense experience and passion on training.

Now we are entering into the Autumn festivals in Oct-Nov starting with Navratri, Dussehra, Durga Puja, Diwali and so on..., thus ending my message with wishing you all the happiness during above celebrations. Wish you all a healthy and safe days ahead.

Sanjay Sharma

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MINING & EXPLORATION

Mining industry needs scientific tools to mitigate risks due to fluctuating iron ore prices

Miners' body FIMI on 11th September, 2020 stressed on the need to have a "structural mechanism" in place for iron ore pricing, saying risks persist for both suppliers and sellers in the market due to fluctuation in rates of the main ingredient used in steel making. It also emphasised on adopting scientific tools for monitoring on various fronts like quantity, quality and pricing of iron ore in a bid to mitigate the risk due to fluctuating prices. "The mining industry faces financial risks to its profitability, cash flows and in entire value chain. The risks have shown to arise as a consequence of volatility in the exchange rates, interest rates and commodity prices," FIMI Vice President R L Mohanty said. In India, there is no structural mechanism for iron ore pricing and it directly depends on the demand and supply mix, he said.

"There is risk involved for both supplier and seller in the market due to fluctuating pricing," Mohanty explained while speaking at a virtual event on 'Risk management for iron ore markets and prices'. "There is a need for increasingly scientific approaches to the estimation of risks in mining. To mitigate the risk there is requirement of scientific tools to inculcate improvement in quantity, quality as well as pricing of iron ore. So that, mining industry can have access to security in future market," he said. India, he said, produces around 220 million tonnes (MT) of iron ore annually, mainly mined in the Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka and Jharkhand. With steel demand rebounding post COVID-19 outbreak, iron ore has been one of the best performing commodities in a year of high volatility across multiple asset classes -- both globally as well as in India. As such, risk management for iron ore has never been more important. Considering the uncertainties in the commodity cycle, it is essential to understand the current dynamics of steel/iron ore markets and business implications in a bid to better manage the risk of volatile iron ore prices and supplies for all stake holders, including mining companies, steel plants and traders, Mohanty said. Hedging is one of the risk management tools for allowing mining companies to protect their profitability, revenue flows and balance sheets from the damaging effects of the commodity prices due to downside movements, he said.

(The Economic Times, New Delhi – 11 September, 2020)

GENERAL

Digital mining to be source of transformational change, says FIMI

Miners' body FIMI on 13th August said digitalisation is challenging traditional industry lines and business models and there is a need for adoption of technology and digital mining in India. According to Federation of Indian Mineral Industries (FIMI) across the mining value chain, from mineral exploration and valuation, through mining, ore processing and metals production, to downstream sales and distribution, digitalisation is challenging traditional industry lines.

"Digital mining will be the source of transformational change, but there are a number of hurdles to be addressed. As technology empowers some workers and creates new jobs, it could also threaten traditional roles," FIMI Vice-President R L Mohanty said during a webinar on 'Digital mining: A step closer to Atmanirbhar Bharat'.

This is where the constant need of skill upgradation of our people comes into picture, he said adding that there is also a need to strengthen cyber-security as well as digital skills of our human resources engaged in mining. More than just technology adoption, digital mining is an approach to run the mining business more effectively and sustainably across the entire value chain, he added.

During the present COVID-19 pandemic, productivity and safety remain the prime concern in the mining sector. Faced with these challenges, the Indian mining industry is striving hard to improve its productivity, optimise costs and adopt newer ways of conducting business, Mohanty said. This has indeed accelerated the need for adoption of technology and digital mining in India. It is also the need of the hour to design mining operations with latest technology innovation towards the goal of Atmanirbhar Bharat, he stressed.

"Especially after the lockdown, we have all realised the importance of digitalisation in our professional as well as personal lives how it facilitates interaction at individual mine level, project or organization level," he added.

Digitalisation in mining offers the promise of profitable business, with improved decision-making and increased employee empowerment. More importantly, digitalisation can improve health, safety and environmental impact thus saving lives, reducing injuries, lowering emissions and waste, and increasing transparency and sustainability, Mohanty explained. **(Press Trust of India, New Delhi – 13 August, 2020)**

Steel firms set to raise prices from Sept on higher costs, global prices

Steel companies are set to increase prices from September owing to cost-push and higher international prices. Jayant Acharya, director (marketing, commercial & corporate strategy) at JSW Steel, said the difference between domestic and international prices currently was about 8 percent. "An increase in prices from September is on the cards. The amount will be decided," he said.

Acharya explained that iron ore prices were at a six-year high. "International steel prices in August, too, have increased," he said. The average free on board China for hot-rolled coil (HRC) in April 2019 was \$532 a tonne. At the beginning of August 2020, it was at \$495 a tonne, which has now gone up by \$20 a tonne to \$515. However, the current price is yet to breach last year's April level.

The increase from September could be in the range of Rs 2,000-3,000 a tonne. While a major primary steel producer said an increase of Rs 3,000 a tonne in steel prices was being contemplated, a secondary steel maker said it could be Rs 2,000 a tonne. In the second quarter so far, steel prices have increased by about Rs 3,000 a tonne.

Acharya said demand was improving across the world and average sales in August was on a par with pre-Covid levels. However, prices were still not back to pre-Covid levels of March.

JSW Steel said on Thursday it had started roll-out of JSW Radiance, a steel colour-coated product range in high-gloss feature with multiple variants. It was suitable for applications ranging from warehousing, appliances, cold storage, and hospitals, etc. Incrementally, Acharya said, demand was picking up in the domestic market across sectors. "While demand was picking up in the domestic market, export markets were buoyant," the secondary steel producer said.

The data from the Joint Plant Committee shows that exports of semi-finished steel in the first four months of 2020-21 had crossed the total volumes of semi-finished steel exports in the previous financial year. Finished steel exports during April-July were more than 50 percent of total volumes of finished steel exports last year.

As countries across the world were coming out of lockdowns, demand was improving. According to the World Steel Association's July data released recently, the world crude steel production for the 64 countries reporting to it was 152.7 million tonnes (mt), a 2.5 percent decrease compared to the month a year ago.

However, the recovery was mostly led by China, which produced 93.4 mt of crude steel in July 2020, an increase of 9.1 percent compared to July 2019. While Japan produced 6.0 mt of crude steel in July 2020, down 27.9 percent, South Korea's steel production was down by 8.3 percent at 5.5 mt.

The overall production in the European Union is estimated to be 9.8 mt of crude steel in July 2020, down by 24.4 percent from month a year ago. The US produced 5.2 mt of crude steel in July 2020, a decrease of 29.4 percent compared to July 2019; in the CIS, production is estimated to be 8.1 mt in July 2020, down 5.8 percent.

In India, capacity utilisation levels were increasing month on month. ICRA said earlier this month that the steel industry's capacity utilisation levels had steadily inched higher from the lows of 27 per cent in April to 67 per cent in July, but were still lower than last year's average of 77 percent. Major primary steel producers were, however, operating at 85 percent to 95 percent. **(Business Standard, New Delhi – 28 August, 2020)**

World: July 2020 crude steel production

World crude steel production for the 64 countries reporting to the World Steel Association (worldsteel) was 152.7 million tonnes (Mt) in July 2020, a 2.5% decrease compared to July 2019.

Due to the ongoing difficulties presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, many of this month's figures are estimates that may be revised with next month's production update. China produced 93.4 Mt of crude steel in July 2020, an increase of 9.1% compared to July 2019. Japan produced 6.0 Mt of crude steel in July 2020, down 27.9% on July 2019. South Korea's steel production for July 2020 was 5.5 Mt, down by 8.3% on July 2019.

Germany produced 2.4 Mt of crude steel in July 2020, down 24.7% on July 2019. Production in the EU overall is estimated to be 9.8 Mt of crude steel in July 2020, down by 24.4% on July 2019. The United States produced 5.2 Mt of crude steel in July 2020, a decrease of 29.4% compared to July 2019. Production in the C.I.S. is estimated to be 8.1 Mt in July 2020, down 5.8% on July 2019. Ukraine produced 1.8 Mt of crude steel in July 2020, down 1.9% on July 2019. Turkey's crude steel production for July 2020 was 3.1 Mt, up by 7.4% on July 2019.

(World Steel Association, Brussels – 24 August, 2020)

India targets 100 MT coal gasification by 2030: Pralhad Joshi

India aims for 100 million tonnes (MT) coal gasification by 2030 with investments worth over Rs. 4 lakh crores, said Shri Pralhad Joshi, Union Minister of Coal and Mines. Addressing a webinar on Coal Gasification and Liquefaction, Joshi said that Coal Gasification and Liquefaction is no more an aspiration, but a requirement. He added that for encouraging use of clean sources of fuel, government has provided for a concession of 20% on revenue share of coal used for gasification.

He emphasized that this will boost production of synthetic natural gas, energy fuel, urea for fertilisers and production of other chemicals. The webinar was organised by Ministry of Coal (MoC) in New Delhi for discussing the road map for achieving the target. The webinar was attended by around 700 delegates from Government of India, CIL and the coal sector. Reiterating on government's commitments for green initiatives in the coal sector, Joshi said that Coal Gasification and Liquefaction are well in the government's agenda and various actions have been taken for development of Surface Coal Gasification in India.

(Business Standard, New Delhi – 1 September, 2020)

India targets 100 MT coal gasification by 2030: Shri Pralhad Joshi

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(Business Standard, New Delhi – 1 September, 2020)

Government prepares draft framework policy for development of steel clusters in India

The government has prepared a draft framework policy for development of steel clusters in the country that will help to increase production of value-added steel and generate employment, Steel Minister Dharmendra Pradhan informed the Lok Sabha on 14th September. The draft framework policy aims at facilitating setting up of greenfield steel clusters along with development and expansion of existing steel clusters, Pradhan said while replying to a question in Lok Sabha. "The Ministry of Steel has prepared a draft framework policy for development of steel clusters in the country. It is aimed at facilitating setting up of greenfield steel clusters along with development and expansion of existing steel clusters," he said.

Pradhan further said that the steel clusters shall not only help the country become "Atmanirbhar in value-added steel" and capital goods but would also generate employment, especially in the eastern part of the country covering the states of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Odisha and Andhra Pradesh as part of the 'Purvodaya' initiative of the Ministry of Steel. In January 2020, the minister had launched "Mission Purvodaya" which aims at accelerated development of eastern India through integrated steel hubs. The eastern belt has the potential to add more than 75 per cent of the country's incremental steel capacity envisioned by the National Steel Policy, he had said while launching the mission. Pradhan said it is expected that out of the 300 million tonne capacity by 2030-31, over 200 million tonne can come from this region alone. The mission will also drive India's march towards the USD 5 trillion economy set by the government.

(The Economic Times, New Delhi – 14 September, 2020)

SKILLS IN PARLIAMENT

Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 795 answered on 18.09.2020

Change in Skill Development Programmes Post COVID-19

795. Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:

Will the Minister Skill Development and Entrepreneurship be pleased to state:

- (a)** the steps being taken by Government to ensure that people get proper skill training in the midst of COVID-19 lockdown;
- (b)** whether Government has any data on as to how many people trained, so far, under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) are currently employed;
- (c)** if so, the details thereof;
- (d)** the steps being taken to ensure employability of people trained under PMKVY; and
- (e)** the manner in which Government proposes to change the skill development programmes in a post-COVID world?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (Shri R. K. Singh)

(a) and (e): Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) through National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) is imparting on-line skilling through 'eSkillIndia' platform in the midst of COVID-19 lockdown. Further, Ministry of Home Affairs has permitted the conduct of skill training programmes in physical form from September 21, 2020 onwards. Accordingly, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) has been issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) for restarting the training.

(b) and (c): Under PMKVY, as on 17.03.2020, 42.02 lakh and 33.66 lakh candidates have been trained and certified, respectively, under Short Term Training (STT) courses. Out of these certified candidates, 17.54 lakh candidates have been provided with placement. Also, 49.12 lakh candidates who already have the informal skills but are not formally certified have been oriented under Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) component of the scheme.

(d): Various initiatives have been taken to enhance placement of the certified candidates. Some of the major initiatives are as follows:

- Training Providers/ Training Centres (TPs/TCs) have to organize Rozgar Melas with the support of Sector Skill Councils;
- Last tranche of payment (i.e. 20% of total training funds) to TPs/TCs is based on placement of certified candidates;
- Additional incentives are given to TPs/TCs for placing candidates above the minimum required level;
- Allocation of fresh targets to TPs/TCs is based on their placement performance.

(Rajya Sabha, New Delhi – 18 September, 2020)

Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 36 answered on 14.09.2020

Board of Skill Development

36. Shri Feroze Varun Gandhi:

Will the Minister Skill Development and Entrepreneurship be pleased to state:

- whether the Government is planning to set targets for percentage of people skilled as it is there in the case of literacy;
- if so, the details thereof;
- whether the Government is planning to set up a board for skill development that is similar to the Central Board of secondary education to ensure the assessment and standard of skill development and if so, the details thereof;
- whether there are any incentive mechanisms to ensure employers take part in active recruitment and also in the process of skilling and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (Shri R. K. Singh)

(a)& (b) Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) (2016-2020) is the flagship outcomebased Skill Training Scheme of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) which aims to train 10 million youth by 2020. Under the scheme 40.27 lakh candidates have been trained under the short term training (STT) programme and 33.20 lakh candidates have been oriented under Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) across the country as of January 2020. The Ministry focuses on demand driven industry relevant skill training.

(c) National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET) has been set up by the Ministry vide Notification dated on 5th December, 2018 as an overarching regulatory body for the skill ecosystem. It is mandated to regulate the functioning of entities engaged in vocational education and training, both long and short-term, and establish minimum standards for the functioning of such entities.

(d) Under PMKVY scheme, various initiatives are taken to ensure better placement outcomes for the trained/certified candidates. Rojagr Melas are conducted for placement of youth by industry. MSDE has launched Aatmanirbhar Skilled Employees Employer Mapping Portal which Acts as a directory of skilled workforce. The objective is to provide a platform that matches supply of skilled workforce with the market demand, thereby facilitating better livelihood opportunities for youth and availability of ready skilled manpower to employers. **(Lok Sabha, New Delhi – 14 September, 2020)**

SCMS IN ACTION

Meeting with RSLDC and “Rajputana Mine Owners & Mineral Merchant Association (RMOMMA), Beawar

A virtual meeting was held on 11.08.2020 under the Chairmanship of Secretary, DSEE and Chairman, Rajasthan Skill livelihood development corporation (RSLDC) on the proposal submitted to RSLDC by the president “The Rajputana Mine Owners & Mineral Merchant Association, Beawar Shri R. V Maheshwari on the subject “possibility of Employment in Mining Sector by introducing the Mining Mate certification by RSLDC”. Shri Sanjay Sharma, CEO and Mr. Bikram Sahu attended the meeting and shared thoughts on the process of simplification.

Digital Mining: A step closer to Atmanirbhar Bharat

Federation of Indian Mineral Industries in association with Ernst & Young (E&Y) organized a Webinar on “Digital Mining: A step closer to Atmanirbhar Bharat” on 13th August, 2020 at FIMI office, New Delhi. The Keynote Address was delivered by Shri Alok Chandra, Economic Adviser, Government of India, Ministry of Mines. Shri R L Mohanty, Vice President, FIMI delivered the Welcome Address. The Vote of Thanks was delivered by Shri Shantesh Gureddi, Vice-President, FIMI. The Webinar was actively participated by more than 250 participants and 5 Technical Papers were also presented. Shri Sanjay Sharma, CEO, SCMS attended the webinar.

Webinar on “Conducive Environment and Forest Regime for Growth of Mining Sector”

Federation of Indian Mineral Industries organized a Webinar on “Conducive Environment and Forest Regime for Growth of Mining Sector” on 4th September, 2020 at FIMI office, New Delhi. The Keynote Address was delivered by Shri R P Gupta, Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change and Welcome Address was delivered by Shri Sunil Duggal, President, FIMI. Shri R L Mohanty, Vice-President, FIMI delivered the Vote of Thanks. The Webinar was actively participated by more than 275

participants across the country. The Presentations were made in two sessions on Forest and Environment regime chaired by Shri Sisir Kumar Ratho, Additional Director General of Forests (FC), MoEFCC and Shri Sharath Kumar Pallerla, Scientists “F”, IA (Policy) and Member Secretary, EAC (Mining), MOEFCC respectively. Shri Sanjay Sharma, CEO, SCMS attended the webinar.

Webinar on Risk Management for Iron Ore Markets & Prices

Federation of Indian Mineral Industries in association with SGX and S&P Global Platts organized a Webinar “Risk Management for Iron Ore Markets & Prices” on 11th September, 2020 at FIMI office, New Delhi. The Webinar was actively participated by more than 250 participants across the country and 3 technical presentations were also made. Welcome Address was delivered by Shri R L Mohanty, Vice-President, FIMI and Vote of Thanks was delivered by Shri Shantesh Gureddi, Vice-President, FIMI. Shri Sanjay Sharma, CEO, SCMS attended the webinar.

Webinar on GST in Mining: Issues & Challenges

Federation of Indian Mineral Industries in association with Lakshmikumar & Sridharan Attorneys organized a Webinar on “GST in Mining: Issues & Challenges” on 18th September, 2020 at FIMI office, New Delhi. The Webinar was actively participated by more than 325 participants across the country and 4 technical presentations were also made. Welcome Address was delivered by Shri R L Mohanty, Vice-President, FIMI and Vote of Thanks was delivered by Shri Shantesh Gureddi, Vice-President, FIMI. Shri Sanjay Sharma, CEO, SCMS attended the webinar.

New Joinee of Skill Council for Mining Sector

Mr. Apoorv Aishwarya has joined of Skill Council for Mining Sector as Manager (Content Development) w.e.f 21.09.2020. He is an alumni of Indian Institute of Technology-Benaras Hindu University (IIT-BHU, Varanasi) and obtained his B. Tech. degree from IIT-BHU in the year of 2015. He joined HZL-Vedanta in 2015 and served it till August, 2020. He has 5 years of experience in the mining industry in various capacity and specializes in mine operation, safety, & vocational training oriented activities.



7th Annual General Meeting of Skill Council for Mining Sector

The 7th Annual General Meeting of the Skill Council for Mining Sector was held at FIMI House on 24th September, 2020 through Video Conferencing. The meeting was Chaired by Shri Arvind Singhal, MD, Wolkem India Ltd. as nominated by Shri PK Satpathy due to his other unavoidable engagements. The AGM discussed and approved the Annual Report and adopted the Directors Report, Audited Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Statement of the Skill Council for Mining Sector for the year ended 31st March, 2020. The Following Directors/ Members of Governing Board have resigned in year 2019-20 on account of superannuation or change in role in their respective organization or due to personal reasons:

1. Dr. N K Nanda – Director (Technical), NMDC Ltd.
2. Mr. R. Mukundan – MD Tata Chemicals Ltd, Nominee Director, NSDC
3. Mr. Vinay Prakash Goel, CEO, Adani Enterprises Ltd.
4. Mr. S Shanmuga Sundaram, GM- L&D, NLC India Ltd
5. Mr. B K Thakur, Director (HR), NALCO ITd

The new appointees are:

1. Mr. PK Satpathy – Director (Production), NMDC Ltd.

2. Mr. Kousik Chattopadhyay – Financial Controller, NSDC
3. Mr. Uma Shankar- Sr. Vice President (Project Management), Adani Enterprises. Ltd
4. Mr. N. Franklin Jayakumar- GM (Mines), NLC India Ltd
5. Mr. R. Mahapatro – Director (HR), NALCO Ltd.

28th Meeting of the Governing Board of Skill Council for Mining Sector

The 28th Governing Board Meeting of the Skill Council for Mining Sector was held at FIMI House on 24th September, 2020 through Video Conferencing. During opening remarks, the chairman appreciated industry partners and members that with utmost care and in the regime of “New Normal” industry has adjusted in the current difficult times despite having many challenges. He further informed members that as per MHA guidelines, skill training has been permitted and recommenced from 21st Sep 2020 and PMKVY 3.0 is also going to be launched soon. He congratulated SCMS team for signing an MoU with Northern Coal Field (NCL) to train 480 local youths which is likely to commence in November, 2020.

The chairman also complimented the project Steering committee for having accepted and approved the “Human Resource & Skill Requirement Study for Indian Mining Sector” for 2019-2025 submitted by PwC. While concluding his remarks the chairman conveyed his thanks and gratitude to the Sr. leadership of Hindalco and Coal India Ltd for nominating their representatives in the governing board of SCMS and extended warm welcome to the representatives. After the opening remarks, Mr. Sanjay Sharma, CEO-SCMS took the meeting forward as per the agenda. Due to other unavoidable engagement and on request by chairman, further proceedings were chaired by Shri Arvind Singhal, MD, Wolkem India Ltd & member SCMS.



Governing Board of Skill Council for Mining Sector

New Members in Governing Board of Skill Council for Mining Sector

SCMS works incessant to improve the mining skill ecosystem and to fulfil this representation from major industries are also required. Two new members from Coal India Ltd and Hindalco Industries Ltd became members of Governing Board in the 28th GB meeting held on 24th September,2020. Brief profile of both members are below:

1. Shri Sanjay Shivnani, Hindalco Ltd

Sanjay is a graduate Engineer (Elect) from NIT, Rourkela and MBA from IIM(L). He has been with the Aditya Birla Group for almost 5 years now where he leads the Technical Training function at Hindalco Ltd and also heads the Hindalco Technical University (HTU).



Sanjay has close to 30 yrs. of exp. having major stint in education with a strong focus on vocational education & skill training. His passion for the skills & training has helped him forge relationships with several Asian & International academic communities. He has set up working relationships & partnerships with VET organizations in the UK under various initiatives such as UKIERI, UKISF & UKIBC. He is a member of several skills & education committees at CII and FICCI.

We are sure, with the immense experience and passion in training, Sanjay's contribution to the SCMS and mining fraternity at large will be highly benefitted

2. Shri Sanjay Kishore Singh, COAL India Ltd.

SK Singh is a graduate engineer (Mech) from NIT Surat and has been working with Coal India Ltd since 1984. Currently he is handling portfolios as General Manager (HRD & CSR).



During his association with CIL, SK has handled various job roles in Repair, Maintenance and Operation of HEMM equipment in Opencast Coal, however he has been contributing in Training and Development of Human Recourse since 2002.

With his vast experience in handling “machine to man” we are sure the SCMS will immensely be benefitted with his inputs, suggestions and contribution even beyond coal sector.

SPECIAL FEATURE

Mining operations set for revamp

The government wants to overhaul the working of private mine developers and operators (MDOs) ahead of the first coal mining auctions with private company participation next month and wider plans for a massive increase in coal production. The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) has written to NITI Aayog, asking it to

consult with industry to create a new legal framework and policy regime for private mine operators. MDOs play a vital role in the operation of coal mines, but there are two challenges: they are illegal, and they are mostly selected for their ability to do the job at a low cost rather than for bringing in the technical expertise needed to scale up coal mining. The government's move comes amid plans by Coal India, the world's largest coal miner, to produce 1 billion tonnes a year by 2024. In a letter to the NITI Aayog, the PMO said, "There are differing legal positions, practices and approaches and a lack of consistency and transparency" in how MDOs are currently engaged in mining coal and major minerals. "The appointment of MDOs before allotment of the mineral block appears inappropriate and this may not be allowed in future," the PMO said. It asked NITI Aayog to frame guidelines for the selection and appointment of MDOs in consultation with secretaries from the Union ministries of mines, coal, steel and finance. Mint has seen a copy of the letter. In the mining industry, a mine owner often contracts the work of mine development to a third-party MDO, especially in coal. The MDO oversees the whole range of activity, from mine design, planning and construction and rehabilitation of local populations to overburden removal, mining and processing and delivery of the mineral.

The MDO contract is awarded mostly on the basis of quoted mining cost per tonne, to the lowest bidder. So far, coal mine ownership has been restricted to PSUs like Coal India and NTPC or state, who have been the largest employers of MDOs. But with commercial coal mining slated to begin in October, the MDO industry is expected to expand. However, outsourcing mining activity is illegal under the Contract Labour Act and Mines and Minerals Act. PSUs and state governments have so far escaped a legal tangle with approval from the ministry of coal. Pankaj Satija, chief - regulatory affairs, Tata Steel, said. "A mine owner uses an MDO in India primarily to cut costs and improve efficiency. This, however, is in contrast to the global practice of appointing MDOs to bring in expertise and drive adoption of technical best practices." "Many public sector companies like NTPC, Coal India and, of late, NMDC as well as state government PSUs have gone ahead and engaged MDOs in the mines allotted to them without prior approval from the Central Contract Labour Advisory Board," R.K. Sharma, secretary general, Federation of Indian Mineral Industries, told Mint. "One can understand engaging MDOs in the case of NTPC and such PSUs because the lease period for coal mining was for captive use, but in the case of Coal India and NMDC and other standalone mining companies, it is puzzling since they are mining companies. With a view to have synergy in the regulatory framework, it is imperative that there is compatibility in different laws for the engagement of MDOs in the case of coal and major minerals."

Satija recommends clearing the legal inconsistencies and creating a framework that insists on ethical practices and improves safety, while employing the best talent and technology. With power generation heavily dependent on coal, the need to keep production numbers growing means that MDOs will become significant players in the mineral industry, a senior executive at an MDO said on condition of anonymity. "Coal India wants to produce 1 billion tonnes every year by 2024. With their own capacities stretched, they need MDOs to produce at least 150-200 million tonnes yearly, that's why even they are coming out with tenders now to engage MDOs. But these contracts are skewed heavily in favour of state agencies and differ from state to state with MDOs made to absorb many of the risks and penalties and deal with payment delays, making it difficult and expensive for us to get bank financing. "I think what the PMO also wants to do is create standard contracts on engaging MDOs where it is clear who bears which risk, who is responsible for land acquisition, relief and rehabilitation, etc." Large MDOs today include BGR Mining and Infra Ltd, Adani Enterprises, Thriveni Earthmovers, Dilip Buildcon, Sainik Mining and Allied Services, Sical Logistics, Monte Carlo and Ambey Mining. The NDA government is keen to step up India's coal

production. Despite having the world's fourth largest coal reserves, India imports around 235 million tonnes (mt) of coal a year. The government estimates that of this, at least 135 mt can be substituted by mining more locally. The Centre had set a mining target of 1.5 billion tonnes of coal by 2020, which was missed. In May, along with opening up commercial coal mining, promoting coal gassification and auctioning 50 new coal and 500 mineral blocks as part of the covid-19 reforms package, the government also promised an investment of Rs50,000 crore to create transportation infrastructure for evacuating 1 billion tonnes of coal from Coal India Ltd's mines. **(LiveMint, New Delhi – 4 September, 2020)**



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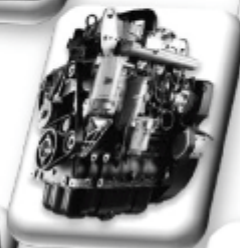


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