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➤ October 2024

➤ No. 7-9

➤ Volume XI



News Update (July - September 2024)



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SKILL COUNCIL FOR MINING SECTOR

(Promoted by Federation of Indian Mineral Industries)

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|--|--|
| AISECT | Full Page Rs. 20000.00 Half Page Rs. 15000.00 |
| CUATCREST Academy Pvt. Ltd. | |
| IREL (India) Limited | The advertisement tariff will be for one-year covering 4 issues (Quarterly) of the News Bulletin. |
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44th Meeting of the Governing Board of Skill Council for Mining Sector

The 44th meeting of the Governing Board of Skill Council for Mining Sector (SCMS) was held on 19th July, 2024 at FIMI House, New Delhi which was chaired by Shri Pankaj Kumar Satija, Executive In-Charge, Ferro Alloys and Minerals Division, Tata Steel Ltd & Chairman-SCMS.

Further, Chairman-SCMS, introduced and welcomed new members in the Governing Board of SCMS; Shri Madhusudhana K, CEO, MSPL Limited, Hosapete, Karnataka, Dr. Sanjay Kumar Roy, Chief Scientist & Head of the Research Group, CSIR-CIMFR and Shri Gunjan Kumar Sinha, General Manager (Personnel/HRD), CIL.



GB meeting in progress

11th Annual General Meeting of Skill Council for Mining Sector

The 11th Annual General Meeting of the Skill Council for Mining Sector (SCMS) was held on 19th July, 2024 at FIMI House, New Delhi. Shri Pankaj Kumar Satija, Executive In-Charge, Ferro Alloys and Minerals Division, Tata Steel Ltd. & Chairman-SCMS steered the meeting.

The AGM discussed and approved the Annual Report, Appointment of Auditors, Audited Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Statement of the Skill Council for Mining Sector for the year 2023-2024.

**India should use mining proceeds to train workforce and raise productivity:
Mining Skill Council Chief**

India needs to tap into proceeds from mining operations and use them to generate skilled workforce for the sector, Pankaj Satija is the Chairman of the Skill Council for Mining Sector (SCMS) under the Federation of Indian Mineral Industries (FIMI) that flagged the need of skilled workforce for the mining sector.

According to the mining industry's assessment, the average productivity of coal in the USA is 36,700 tonnes per employee per year. In China, the productivity of coal is 12,700 tonnes per employee per year. Comparably, the productivity is very low in India at just 1,497 tonnes per employee per year.

“Despite being a vital contributor to India's industrial output, the mining industry grapples with age-old practices in smaller mines, safety concerns, and environmental regulations that demand specialised skills and knowledge,” Satija said and added that per unit labour productivity in India's mining industry is very low compared to other mineral-rich countries.

The perception of mining as a hazardous and physically demanding profession often dissuades young students from pursuing careers in this field, he said while noting that infrastructure constraints in mining regions further exacerbate the challenge.

“Remote locations, inadequate connectivity, and limited access to educational resources hinder the establishment of robust training facilities,” Satija said.

To address these concerns, the Union Mines Ministry has readied a Skill Development Plan to upgrade the skilling ecosystem for the next generation workforce to adapt to the changing technology. This includes identifying and projecting the workforce requirement and skill requirement based on the current scenario and future projection, creating enhanced training facilities and Skill Development Centres at mining locations, and engaging private players to create proper skill upgradation programmes.

According to Satija, a Pan-India approach for utilising the District Mineral Foundation (DMF) funds for all districts dependent on the mining economy will help in getting a skilled workforce for the present time. “It will also prepare the workforce for Just Transition from carbon emissions-intensive sectors including coal mining areas,” he said. Satija also called for reforms in skill certification for the mining sector.

Vocational training in mining is currently governed by Mines Vocational Training Rules, 1966. A mining company releases its workforce for statutory training as per the rules. To get the workforce trained and certified, the company shall have to again release the workforce as per the Sector Skill Council's training plan. “Integration of Mines Vocational Training with the Skill Council for the Mining Sector will be a win-win situation for all the stakeholders. This shall also enable the possibility of alignment of the majority workforce in the mining industry with the National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF),” he added.

(The Economic Times, New Delhi – 17 September, 2024)

DMFT Bokaro

SCMS signed an MOU with District Mineral Foundation Trust, Bokaro (Jharkhand) on 29th February, 2024 for a “Short term Training” project covering 360 local candidates/PAPs. The training (Residential) shall be followed by NSQF aligned certification imparted in various job roles like Mine Electrician, HEMM Mechanic, Mine Welder, Dumper/ Tipper Operator, Excavator Operator & Loader Operator including hands on training on the equipment.

DMFT Bokaro centre was formally inaugurated on 29th September, 2024 by Shri Raj Kumar Sharma, District Planning Officer, Bokaro and Shri Mukesh Machhua, SDO, Bermo, Bokaro. The dignitaries inspected the Training Centre and interacted with the candidates and the trainers. The officials were pleased with the facilities and the preparedness of the project team. The event has been covered widely in the local media.

Media Links:

- a) <https://bigbharatmedia.com/mining-skill-center-inaugurated-in-bahadurpur-bokaro-14808-2/>
- b) <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1vphWhzDqGKDgSh2/?mibextid=I8mCmY>
- c) <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/wkMe36TDC7yqNTRu/?mibextid=I8mCmY>



Glimpses of Inauguration Ceremony of Mining Skill Centre

DMFT Kalahandi

An MoU has been signed between SCMS and DMFT Kalahandi (Odisha) for NSQF-aligned and placement linked training program in the mining sector. The MoU was signed between Shri Ajit Kumar Uttaray, District Skill Development-cum-Employment Officer, Kalahandi and Shri Navneet Kumar, COO, Skill Council for Mining Sector (SCMS), New Delhi in the presence of Shri Sachin Pawar (IAS), Collector, Kalahandi on 25th September, 2024. The project is expected to commence in October 2024. This project aims to train and certify 300 candidates in the job roles of Mine Welder, HEMM Mechanic, Excavator Operator and Dumper/Tipper Operator.

The project shall witness training of candidates (in the operator job roles) on actual HEMMs and Simulators for better learnings.



MOU signing between SCMS & DMFT Kalahandi (Odisha)

From Orphan to International Success: The Remarkable Journey of Karim from Odisha

In the picturesque state of Odisha, India, a tale of resilience and ambition is unfolding. Karim, a young orphan from Angul, has transformed his life through determination and the support of dedicated programs aimed at fostering skills and employment opportunities. His story is a testament to the power of education, vocational training, and global opportunities.

Karim's early life was marked by adversity. Growing up as an orphan, he faced numerous challenges but never let his circumstances define his future. Despite the hardships, Karim remained steadfast in his pursuit of education, understanding its importance as a stepping stone towards a better life.



Recognizing his potential, Karim joined the Skill Development program organized by the Skill Council for Mining Sector (SCMS) under the District Mineral Foundation Trust (DMFT) in Angul. This initiative was a game-changer for him, offering structured training and the opportunity to gain practical skills tailored for the

mining sector. His dedication and hard work paid off when he secured a position with Lucky Minerals Pvt. Ltd., a company working under TATA Steel Ltd. at Meramandli, Odisha, post certification by SCMS.

Karim's journey took a remarkable turn when he was recently selected for employment in Japan, an opportunity made possible through an initiative by the Odisha Government. Out of 180 candidates who participated in the rigorous selection process conducted by a Japanese delegation and an HR firm, Karim was among the 30 chosen for this prestigious opportunity. This selection is not just a personal achievement for Karim but also a significant milestone that underscores the quality of training provided by SCMS.

The selected candidates, including Karim, are set to undergo intensive training in Bengaluru. This training will cover Japanese language, culture, and regulations, ensuring they are well-prepared for their new roles in Japan. This initiative is designed to bridge cultural and professional gaps, facilitating a smoother transition for these skilled individuals into the global workforce.

Shri Pankaj Satija, the Executive IC, FAMMD, TATA Steel Ltd., and Chairman of SCMS, expressed his enthusiasm for this achievement. He emphasized the commitment of SCMS to not only meet the domestic demands of the mining sector but also to prepare skilled professionals for the global market. "SCMS shall put more efforts to create skilled manpower for the mining sector who are competent for the global demands as well," he remarked. Mr. Navneet Kumar, COO-SCMS, personally talked to Karim and congratulated him on his selection.

Karim's success story is a powerful illustration of how targeted skill development programs can open doors to global opportunities. It highlights the importance of such initiatives in providing a platform for individuals from challenging backgrounds to achieve their dreams. For Karim, this journey is far from over. As he prepares for his new role in Japan, he carries with him the hopes and aspirations of many who see in him a symbol of what is possible with dedication and the right support.

As Karim embarks on this new chapter, his story serves as an inspiration, reminding us of the transformative power of education, skill development, and international cooperation. The Odisha Government's initiative, along with the efforts of organizations like SCMS and TATA Steel Ltd., is paving the way for more success stories like Karim's, shaping the future of skilled manpower on a global scale.

Media Links:

- a) <https://kalingatv.com/odisha/power-of-skilling-young-orphan-from-odisha-secures-job-in-japan/>
- b) <https://www.odishafast.in/power-of-skilling-young-orphan-secures-job-in-japan/>

MINING & EXPLORATION

Atmanirbhar Bharat: Two of the World's Five Largest Coal Mines Now in India

Chhattisgarh-based Coal India subsidiary South Eastern Coalfields Limited's (SECL) Gevra and Kusmunda coal mines have secured the 2nd and 4th spot in the list of the world's 10 largest coal mines released by WorldAtlas.com. Located in the Korba district of Chhattisgarh state, these two mines produce more 100 million tons of coal annually accounting for about 10% of India's total coal production.

The Gevra opencast mine has an annual production capacity of 70 million tons and produced 59 million tons of coal in FY 23-24. The mine started operations in the year 1981 and it has enough coal reserves to meet the country's energy requirements for the next 10 years. Kusmunda OC mine produced more than 50 million tons of coal in FY 23-24, only the second mine in India after Gevra to achieve this feat.

These mines have deployed some of the world's largest and most advanced mining machines such as the "Surface Miner" that extracts and cuts coal without blasting for eco-friendly mining operations. For overburden removal (the process of removing layers of soil, stone etc. to expose the coal seam), the mines use some of the world's largest HEMMs (Heavy Earth Moving Machinery) such as 240-ton dumpers, 42 cubic meters Shovel along with Vertical Rippers for environment-friendly and blast-free OB removal.

(Press Information Bureau, New Delhi – 18 July, 2024)

Global coal demand is set to remain broadly flat through 2025

Global coal demand is set to remain broadly unchanged in both 2024 and 2025 as surging electricity demand in some major economies offsets the impacts of a gradual recovery in hydropower and the rapid expansion of solar and wind, according to the IEA's latest update on coal market trends worldwide. The world's use of coal rose by 2.6% in 2023 to reach an all-time high, driven by strong growth in China and India, the two largest coal consumers globally, the IEA's Coal Mid-Year Update finds. While coal demand grew in both the electricity and industrial sectors, the main driver was the use of coal to fill the gap created by low hydropower output and rapidly rising electricity demand.

In China, which accounts for more than half of global coal consumption, electricity generation from hydropower has been recovering in 2024 from last year's exceptionally low levels. This, alongside the continued rapid deployment of solar and wind, is significantly slowing down the growth in coal use in 2024. But another major annual increase in China's electricity demand, forecast at 6.5% in 2024, makes a decline in the country's coal consumption unlikely. In India, coal demand growth is set to decelerate in the second half of 2024 as weather conditions return to seasonal averages. In the first half of the year, India's coal consumption rose sharply as a result of low hydropower output and a massive increase in electricity demand due to extreme heatwaves and strong economic growth.

Coal demand in Europe is continuing on the downward trend that began in the late 2000s, largely due to emissions reduction efforts in power generation. After having fallen by more than 25% in 2023, coal power generation in the European Union is forecast to drop by almost as much again this year. Coal use has also been contracting significantly in the United States in recent years, but stronger electricity demand and less switching from coal to natural gas threaten to slow this trend in 2024. Japan and Korea continue to reduce their reliance on coal, although at a slower pace than Europe.

“Our analysis shows that global coal demand is likely to remain broadly flat through 2025, based on today’s policy settings and market trends,” said Keisuke Sadamori, IEA Director of Energy Markets and Security. “The continued rapid deployment of solar and wind, combined with the recovery of hydropower in China, is putting significant pressure on coal use. But the electricity sector is the main driver of global coal demand, and electricity consumption is growing very strongly in several major economies. Without such rapid growth in electricity demand, we would be seeing a decline in global coal use this year. And the structural trends at work mean that global coal demand is set to reach a turning point and start declining soon.”

On the supply side, global coal production is expected to decrease slightly in 2024 after steady growth the year before. In 2024, coal production in China is moderating after two years of staggering growth. In India, the push to boost coal production continues, with a supply increase of around 10% expected in 2024. In advanced economies, coal production is in decline, broadly reflecting demand. The report finds that trade volumes are at the highest levels ever seen despite the collapse of imports in Europe and the decline in imports in Northeast Asia (Japan, Korea and Chinese Taipei) since 2017. However, other countries are stepping in to take up available supply. In 2024, Vietnam is set to become the fifth largest coal importer, surpassing Chinese Taipei. Imports to China and India remain at all-time highs.

Despite declining domestic production in China in the first half of this year, tighter sanctions on Russian producers and disruptions in a few exporting countries, the global coal market is well supplied, according to the report. With more stable natural gas prices than in recent years, coal prices remained range-bound in the first half of 2024. They have returned to levels last seen before the global energy crisis but remain elevated due to inflationary pressures.

(International Energy Agency, Paris – 24 July, 2024)

Coal Ministry drives initiatives to boost coal gasification projects across the nation

India’s vast coal reserves, estimated at 378 billion tonnes with about 199 billion tonnes classified as 'proven', present significant opportunities for energy production. Around 80% of India's coal is utilized in thermal power plants. As the country embraces cleaner energy solutions and renewable sources gain momentum, the Ministry of Coal is proactively ensuring the sustainable use of coal.

In 2020, the Coal Gasification Mission was launched, aiming to gasify 100 million tonnes of coal by 2030, thereby maximizing the value and utility of this vital resource. This initiative supports the goal of achieving energy independence by 2027. Coal gasification is a thermo-chemical process that convert coal into synthesis gas or "syngas", primarily consisting of carbon monoxide and hydrogen.

With India importing approximately 83% of its oil, over 90% of its methanol, and 13-15% of its ammonia, coal gasification offers an opportunity to reduce reliance on imports and conserve foreign exchange, especially in the oil, gas, fertilizer, and petrochemical sectors. The gasification projects will lead to diversified use of coal partial import substitution for oil and gas and cleaner utilization of India’s abundant coal reserves.

On January 24, 2024, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved equity investments by Coal India Limited (CIL) to form joint venture companies with BHEL and GAIL, pushing beyond a 30% equity limit. This scheme aims to demonstrate the financial and technical viability of gasification projects, stimulate markets for downstream products, and establish new economic value chains.

Furthermore, to promote coal gasification, the Ministry offers a 50% rebate in revenue share in commercial auction policies for gasification coal, established a new sub-sector for syngas production, and provides long-term coal allotments to gasification plants.

(Press Information Bureau, New Delhi – 26 July, 2024)

Ministry of Coal Unveils Ambitious Plan to Boost Coal Production Through Global Mining Operators

The Ministry of Coal has embarked on a transformative initiative to revolutionize coal mining by engaging Mining Developers cum Operators (MDOs) for major coal mine projects under Coal India Limited (CIL) to significantly enhance coal production, reduce reliance on imported coal, and introduce cutting-edge technology into the mining sector.

The primary goal of engaging Mining Developers cum Operators (MDOs) is to significantly increase coal production by streamlining operations, enhancing productivity, and reducing mining costs. These MDOs are tasked with excavating, extracting, and delivering coal to Coal India Limited (CIL) according to approved mining plans, thereby boosting domestic coal output. By partnering with MDOs known for their advanced technological capabilities, CIL aims to modernize mining practices and improve operational efficiency.

Initially, CIL identified 15 coal mine projects with a combined capacity of ~168 MT for MDO implementation. This number has now expanded to 28 projects (18 opencast and 10 underground mines) with a total capacity of ~257 MT. As of today, 18 mines have been awarded to leading private parties, marking a significant milestone in this ambitious endeavor. The engagement of these MDOs promises to make substantial contributions to coal production, ensuring both enhanced output and operational excellence.

These reputed operators, selected through open global tenders, will oversee the entire mining process, from excavation and extraction to the delivery of coal, in line with the agreement. Their involvement is anticipated to inject advanced technology and unparalleled operational efficiency into the system, driving remarkable improvements in production capabilities.

In addition to boosting production, the MDOs will manage crucial aspects such as Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) issues, land acquisitions, and environmental clearances. They will also coordinate with State and Central Pollution Control Boards to guarantee rigorous adherence to environmental standards. Each contract with the MDOs will span 25 years or the life of the mine, whichever is shorter, ensuring long-term stability and consistent advancements in mining operations.

(Press Information Bureau, New Delhi – 13 August, 2024)

Coal Production till August in FY 2024-25 Reaches 384 MT

The Ministry of Coal has achieved significant growth in overall coal production, reaching 384.08 million tonnes (Provisional) up to August 2024 in FY 2024-25, compared to 360.71 MT during the same period in FY 2023-24, reflecting a growth of 6.48%. The production of Coal India Limited (CIL) rose to 290.39 MT during the period of April to August 2024 marking a growth of 3.17% as compared to 281.46 MT during the corresponding period of last period. Coal production from captive and other entities also demonstrated remarkable growth, reaching 68.99 MT from April to August 2024 - a substantial increase of 30.56% compared to 52.84 MT in the same period of the previous year. Meanwhile, Cumulative Coal dispatch has witnessed a significant boost up to August 2024. The cumulative coal dispatches up to August 2024 stood at 412.07 MT (provisional) in FY 2024-25, compared to 391.93 MT during the same period in FY 2023-24, reflecting a commendable growth of 5.14%. CIL dispatched 309.98 MT of coal from April to August 2024, achieving a growth of 1.51% compared to 305.37 MT dispatched during the corresponding period of last year. Additionally, captive and other entities recorded a remarkable coal dispatch of 76.95 MT, representing a significant growth of 31.48% compared to 58.53 MT dispatched during the same period of last year. This growth highlights the sector's enhanced logistical capabilities and commitment to ensuring a steady supply of coal.

(Press Information Bureau, New Delhi – 2 September, 2024)

Coal Production and Supply Trends on Positive Trajectory

India's coal production and supply trends for the period from April to August 2024 show a positive trajectory, despite some short-term variations in the Month of August 24, due to above normal precipitation impacting the mining and mobility. The Ministry of Coal remains committed to meeting the country's energy demands through reliable coal production and supply. From April to August 2024, India's total coal production reached 384.07 Million Tonnes (MT), representing a growth of 6.36% compared to 361.11 MT during the corresponding period of the previous year. However, in August 2024, overall coal production decreased slightly to 62.67 MT, down from 67.76 MT in August 2023. In terms of coal supply across the country during the same period, from April to August 2024, it stood at 412.69 MT, with an increase of 5.17% compared to 392.40 MT during the corresponding period of last year.

In August 2024, however, coal supply fell slightly to 69.94 MT, compared to 75.19 MT in August 2023. Coal supply to the power sector remains a key priority. Between April and August 2024, supply to the power sector reached 338.75 MT, a growth of 4.13% over the 325.33 MT supplied during the same period last year. In August 2024, the supply to the power sector was 58.07 MT, slightly lower than the 61.43 MT recorded in August 2023. As of 31st August 2024, coal stock levels at thermal power plants saw a significant increase, reaching 37.18 MT, a 32.08% growth compared to 28.15 MT on the same day in 2023.

(Press Information Bureau, New Delhi – 10 September, 2024)

GENERAL

Budget 2024: Transformative approach to skill development and employment growth

Budget 2024 reflects a transformative approach to realising the vision of 'Viksit Bharat'. It focuses on inclusive growth by including all sections of the Society-women, poor, youth and farmers towards developing a self-reliant and resilient nation. Additionally, it takes a multi-pronged approach towards achieving the goal of 'Viksit Bharat'. Skilling i.e., skill development has been formally recognized as an important route towards achieving this goal. In order to create conditions for fostering employment growth the budget has introduced a PM's package. The package consists of five (05) schemes for employment-linked incentives.

Schemes explained:

Under scheme A for 'First Timers', it is intended to provide one month's wage to new entrants in all formal sectors in three (3) installments up to ₹15,000/-. This scheme is expected to benefit around 210 lakh youth in the country.

Scheme B – 'Job Creation in Manufacturing' addresses first-time employees and it attempts to promote job creation in the manufacturing sector. The scheme offers incentives to both employee and employer in Employees' PF Organization (EPFO) contributions in the specified scales for the first four years of employment. The scheme is expected to benefit thirty (30) lakh youth.

Another scheme, Scheme C, Support to Employers, is expected to generate fifty (50) lakh jobs. As part of the scheme, the Government will reimburse EPFO contributions of employers up to ₹3000 per month for 2 years for all new hires. These three schemes promote job creation through various forms of incentives and benefits.

A fourth scheme of PM's Package gives further emphasis on the skilling program. It aims to skill 20 lakh youth over 5 years. Moreover, 1,000 Industrial Training Institutes (ITI) will be upgraded in the hub and spoke arrangements with outcome orientation. The course content & design of these upgrades it is would be aligned with per skill needs of the industry.

The fifth scheme in the PM's package provides internship opportunities in 500 top companies to 1 crore youth in 5 years. It also has a provision for an allowance of ₹5,000 per month along with a one-time assistance of ₹6,000 through the CSR funds.

Women's participation in the workforce plays a critical role in enhancing economic and social equity in the country. It has been a matter of concern to the government and therefore the budget seeks to facilitate higher participation of women in the workforce through setting up of working women hostels in collaboration with industry and establishing creches.

As a prelude to skill development, the budget has provisions to annually help 25000 students with loans up to ₹7.5 lakh and a guarantee from a government-promoted Fund. The budget also has planned for financial support in the form of loans up to ₹10 lakhs for higher education in domestic institutions. Moreover, it intends to introduce direct E-vouchers to 1 lakh students every year accompanied by an annual interest subvention of 3%.

Nari Shakti (empowering the women) has received support in Budget 2024. The budget has recognised the priority of increasing women's participation in the workforce through the establishment of hostels and partnerships to conduct women-specific skilling programs.

Budget 2024, has provisioned for the establishment of the Critical Mineral Mission, to focus on advanced training and skill development. Such an effort would equip our workforce with the expertise needed to drive technology development and innovation in this critical sector. It would also increase domestic production and recycling of critical minerals, as well as facilitate the acquisition of essential mineral assets overseas.

The approach to inclusivity in Budget 2024 is also emphasised through the Inclusive Human Resource Development and Social Justice. Under this approach, the budget has been provisioned for 'Purvodaya: Vikas bhi Virasat bhi'. As part of this scheme plans would be formulated for endowment-rich states in the Eastern parts covering Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Odisha and Andhra Pradesh for the generation of economic opportunities to attain Viksit Bharat.

Moreover, the Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan, a scheme under Budget 2024, plans to improve the socio-economic condition of tribal communities covering 63,000 villages benefitting 5 crore tribal people. Such inclusive approaches ensure that all eligible individuals, including farmers, youth, women, and the poor, are empowered through comprehensive educational and health programs thereby gaining skills and exploring employment opportunities.

(Hindustan Times, New Delhi – 7 August, 2024)

India's skilled workforce can play key role in global job market

Highlighting the growing significance of skill development in the changing landscape of the global job market, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 15th August, 2024 said that he is hopeful of India's skilled workforce playing a prominent role and making its presence felt in the global job market. In his 11th Independence Day speech, the Prime Minister spoke about his government's priority on youth skilling and highlighted several initiatives announced by the government to train India's youth to build the country as the skill capital of the world.

“We have come out with the Skill India Programme on a much broader scale this time. We have earmarked a large fund in this year’s Budget for this purpose. In the Budget, we have also emphasised on internships, so that our youth can gain experience, develop their capacity building and showcase their skills in the market. I want to prepare skilled youth in this manner. Observing the global situation today, I can clearly see that Bharat’s skilled manpower, our skillful youth will be making their mark in the global job market, and we are moving forward with that dream,” he said.

Besides, the Prime Minister also noted that skill development has to happen by keeping Industry 4.0 in mind as the world is changing and for India to become a manufacturing hub, skilling has to play an important role. “We have also focused on the necessary skill development for this. We have introduced new models in skill development. We have encouraged public participation so that we can quickly develop skills according to immediate requirements,” he added. The Finance Minister in the Budget announced a set of five schemes at a cost of Rs 2 trillion for skilling and employment as part of the Prime Minister's package. For skilling, these included a year-long paid internship opportunity to 10 million youth in India’s top 500 companies over the next five years and a centrally-sponsored scheme to upgrade 1,000 industrial training institutes (ITIs) in industry collaboration among others.

The Prime Minister also highlighted infrastructure development as a means to create numerous employment and self-employment opportunities for the youth. “The youth of our country are eager to soar to new heights and achieve greatness. Therefore, our aim is to accelerate progress in every sector, focusing on three key areas. Firstly, we must create new opportunities across all sectors. Secondly, we should work towards strengthening the supporting infrastructure required for evolving systems. And thirdly, we must priorities and enhance the basic amenities for our citizens,” he added.

(Business Standard, New Delhi – 15 August, 2024)

The NCrF as a framework for well-rounded education

The National Credit Framework (NCrF) aims to help higher education institutions balance vocational and skill training and knowledge-generating academic pursuits, which are needed in a fast-changing world. Cognitive inconsistency and axiomatic irrationality become evident when a few put forth the view that the spirit behind and the structural reforms advocated by the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 are unsuitable. The NEP is a vision document that provides a broad contour of how education can be transformed in India while getting away from the clutches of the colonial mindset. The National Credit Framework (NCrF) is one of several transformative reforms that are derived from the NEP, providing a flexible template for educational institutions offering school, higher, vocational, and skill education. Using the NCrF, higher education institutions (HEI) can give a unified accumulation and transfer of credits across multidisciplinary education, including skill education. The NCrF is an enabling framework rather than a regulatory one.

When HEIs adopt the NCrF, students can earn credits in various activities provided they undergo an assessment. The NCrF gives students the flexibility to earn credits from classroom teaching, laboratory work, Atal Tinkering Laboratories, research projects, assignments, tutorials, sports and games, yoga, the performing arts, music, handicrafts, social work, National Cadet Corps and National Service Scheme activities, vocational and skill education, minor and major projects, on-the-job training, internships, apprenticeships, and experiential learning. Providing flexibility and broad-based educational opportunities through the NCrF has unnerved some who are deeply rooted in the conventional ways of imparting higher education.

(The Hindu, New Delhi – 25 September, 2024)

GLEANINGS FROM

MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Corporates should take the lead in skill development initiatives: Minister Jayant Chaudhary

India's corporates need to take "ownership" and participate in apprenticeship and skill development programmes, Jayant Chaudhary, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, said on 19th September, 2024. According to him, governments alone cannot create a skilled labour force; there is "need for partnership or ownership from industry, including corporates." Of the Budgetary promise of ₹60,000 crore, the Centre will contribute ₹30,000 crore, the state governments ₹20,000 crore, and the industry ₹10,000 crore. Part of the industry's contribution will be met through CSR funds.

"Companies in India need to do a lot more lifting (in terms of skill development programmes). Corporates and industry have to come forward and take ownership for skilling the labour force. Also, effort is needed at the state government level. The government cannot think and act as fast as the industry. So there needs to be some partnership on this. In fact, we are open to certifying the industry curriculum and adopting it, if they follow best practices," he said at a Deloitte India organised Government Summit. With GST levelling out taxation, states will now have to compete with each other on "providing the most efficient labour markets".

"Previously, apart from land, companies would seek taxation benefits and so on. Now, GST has unified tax structures. So, states will have to compete with one another on the basis of providing an efficient and competent labour force," Chaudhary said.

(The Hindu Business Line, New Delhi – 19 September, 2024)

SCMS IN ACTION

Launch of Modified Skill Loan Scheme

Shri Apoorv Aishwarya, Sr. Manager Curriculum Design & Development, SCMS attended the launch of Modified Skill Loan Scheme, organised by the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) at Kaushal Bhawan, New Delhi on 25th July, 2024. This initiative was aimed to enhance awareness and accessibility to collateral free loans at easier terms for skill development, thereby empowering individuals to acquire new skills and advance their careers.

The event featured the Hon'ble Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Shri Jayant Chaudhary, who graced the occasion with his presence. It began with insightful opening remarks from Shri Sanjeeva Singh, Executive Vice President of NSDC, followed by an in-depth presentation on the Skill Loan Scheme by Shri Nilambuj Sharan, Senior Economic Advisor at the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, GOI.

The Modified Skill Loan Scheme introduces three significant changes:

- Maximum Loan Limit has been increased from Rs. 1.5 lakh to Rs. 7.5 lakh.;
- Lending network has been broadened and NBFCs, MFIs, etc. have also been incorporated.;
- Enhanced access to skill courses: Non-NSQF courses by entities on-boarded on MSDE's Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH) platform are also eligible under this scheme.

Key stakeholders from the financial sector also contributed their insights. Shri Durgesh Pandey, CEO of the National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company (NCGTC), along with Shri Gopal Bhagat from the Indian Bank Association and Shri Varun Chopra, CEO of Eduvanz Financial Services (NBFC), addressed the audience, underscoring the financial industry's vital role in supporting skill development.

The event was further enriched by special addresses from Shri Ved Mani Tiwari, Officiating CEO of NSDC, and Shri Atul Kumar Tiwari, Secretary-MSDE & Chairperson of the National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET).

Webinar on “Achieving Zero Harm Operation: Integrating Sustainable Mining Practices with Mineral Production Growth”

Skill Council for Mining Sector conducted webinar on “Achieving Zero Harm Operation: Integrating Sustainable Mining Practices with Mineral Production Growth” on 27th July, 2024. Our keynote speaker Shri. Muthumari M, Head Mines, FACOR (A Subsidiary of Vedanta Limited) effectively deliberated on various topics like Growth prospects of the Indian Mining Industries, Accident Statistics Analysis Global Vs. India, Growth prospects of the Indian Mining Industries. Accident Statistics Analysis Global Vs. India, Major Contributing Factors and Mitigation measures to Reduce the Risk in the Mining Industries and Key Initiatives for Achieving Zero Harm Operation.

There were 230+ registrations from various Industries, Colleges and Universities out of which 100+ participants were present.



Muthumari M. deliberating a session

39th Meeting of the National Skills Qualifications Committee

The 39th meeting (Phase II) of the National Skills Qualifications Committee (NSQC) was held on 27th August, 2024 in hybrid mode, chaired by Shri Atul Kumar Tiwari, Secretary-MSDE & Chairperson of the National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET). During this meeting, following qualifications of SCMS received NSQC approval:

- Low Profile Dump Truck (LPDT) Operator
- Slurry Pump Operator (Mines)
- Drill Operator {Down-the-hole/Long Hole (DTH/LH)}
- Mine Foreman/Overman

The meeting was attended by Shri Navneet Kumar, Chief Operating Officer, and Shri Apoorv Aishwarya, Sr. Manager-Curriculum Design & Development from SCMS.

SKILL WORKSHOP WITH NCC CADETS

On 9th September, 2024, Shri. Apoorv Aishwarya, Sr. Manager-Curriculum Design & Development, Shri Sanjeet Kumar, Deputy Manager-Finance & Admin and Shri Kuldeep Singh, Deputy Manager-Multimedia Designer & TOT/TOA from SCMS, engaged with approximately 600 NCC Cadets at an event organized by the NCC at Cariappa Parade Ground, Delhi Cantt. This event focused on a skill workshop for the cadets.

During the workshop, SCMS highlighted various job opportunities and career prospects within the mining industry, providing valuable insights to the participants. Further, the team SCMS was honored with a recognition from Colonel Lumba, Deputy Camp Commandant of the All India Thal Sainik Camp (Army Wing), in appreciation of their contributions.



Glimpses from the event

FIMI's Managing Committee Meeting

Managing Committee Meeting of Federation of Indian Mineral Industries (FIMI) was organized on 17th September, 2024 at FIMI House, New Delhi. Entire SCMS team attended the meeting & Shri Navneet Kumar, COO-SCMS, shared updates/ highlights of SCMS to the esteemed members of the committee.



Shri Navneet Kumar COO-SCMS sharing the developments of SCMS with the members

58th Annual General Meeting of Federation of Indian Mineral Industries (FIMI)

SCMS attended the 58th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Federation of Indian Mineral Industries (FIMI), which is the promoting body of SCMS on 18th September 2024 at Eros Hotel, Nehru Place, New Delhi. FIMI had also invited officials from the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), GoI, for interactions with the representatives from the mining industry. Shri. Sunil Ranjan, Director-PMKVY, MSDE, gave a presentation on Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 4.0 during the AGM. Mr. Navneet Kumar, COO-SCMS, delivered a vote of thanks.



Glimpses from the event

16th India Coal Summit

Shri. Navneet Kumar, COO-SCMS, was invited as a panellist in the 16th India Coal Summit organized by Indian Chamber of Commerce at Hotel Le Meridian, New Delhi on 19th September 2024. The summit witnessed the welcome address by Shri. Pankaj Satija, Executive I/C, FAMD, TATA Steel Limited, Shri. Kapil Dhagat, Head-Mining, JSPL, Shri. Animesh Jain, CEO-NTPC Mining Limited, address by Guest of Honour, Smt. Rupinder Brar (IAS), Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal, GoI. COO-SCMS presented and spoke on the topic 'Environmental Impact, Renewable energy Transition and technological Innovations'.



Shri Navneet Kumar, COO-SCMS shared insights on 'Environmental Impact, Renewable Energy Transition, and Technological Innovations.

Jharkhand Skill Conclave

Jharkhand Government organized the Jharkhand Skill Conclave at Dhanbad on 30th September, 2024. Shri Hemant Soren, Hon'ble Chief Minister and Shri Satyanand Bhokta, Hon'ble Skill Development Minister, Jharkhand Government graced the event. Hon'ble CM distributed 20,000 job offers to the placed candidates of the Mukhaymantri Sarthi Yojana. As a part of the Skill Conclave, MoUs were signed between Jharkhand Skill Development Mission and 17 Sector Skill Councils.



Glimpses of the Jharkhand Skill Conclave

Training of Trainers and Assessors

One of the key objective of SCMS is to create sufficient pool of competent, certified trainers and assessors across all mining states on all job roles for successful and effective execution of the skill development programs. SCMS regularly keeps organizing 'Training of Trainers', (TOT) and 'Training of Assessors', (TOA) programs to ensure this. These certifications are generally valid for two years. To keep the existing pool ready for a longer duration, SCMS needs to re-assess and re-certify the existing trainers and assessors for next two years through a one-day TOT/TOA program for existing trainers and assessors.

SCMS carried out following one-day ToT/ToA programs for existing trainers during the period starting July, 2024 to September, 2024 on the job roles like Bulldozer Operator, Dumper Operator, Loader Operator, HEMM Mechanic, Mechanic/Fitter, Mine Electrician, Mine Welder etc. as per details mentioned below:

| Sr. No. | Program Type | Mode | Batch ID | Date | Persons/ Certifications | Job Roles |
|---------|-------------------------|----------------|----------|----------|----------------------------|---|
| 01. | TOT (Existing Trainers) | Online Program | 2762920 | 25-09-24 | 3/1 | Dumper Operator, Loader Operator, HEMM Mechanic, Mechanic / Fitter, Mine Electrician, Mine Welder, etc. |
| 02. | TOT (Existing Trainers) | Online Program | 2762794 | 25-09-24 | 3/3 | |
| 03. | TOT (Existing Trainers) | Online Program | - | 25-09-24 | 2/1 | |

Total 4 trainers were certified in above programs. Shri. S C Vishwakarma, Shri. Rajkumar Aacharya were the members of assessment panel along with Shri. Apoorv Aishwarya, Sr. Manager Curriculum Design & Development, SCMS.

MECL Training Program

A pilot project of 2+1-day RPL training program was launched for the workforce of Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Limited (MECL) in Nagpur, Maharashtra, on 22nd July, 2024. The program, conducted under the guidance of the Ministry of Mines, Government of India, aimed to upskill MECL employees in the roles of Mine Mechanic/Fitter and Mine Electrician, while also incorporating essential soft skills training.

The training program was inaugurated by Shri Indra Dev Narayan, Chairman-cum-Managing Director of MECL, in the presence of senior officers from the HR Department. The sessions were led by Shri. Chandra Shekhar Soni, with coordination by Shri Nikhil Bodele, Training Officer at MECL. A total of 18 candidates participated, allowing them to formalize and enhance their skills in alignment with industry standards.



Inauguration by Shri Indra Dev Narayan, Chairman cum-Managing Director, MECL with Dr. Ch. Sreerama Murthy, GM - HR, MECL



Detailing Safety with Core Drill Machine



Teaching Use of Hand Tools

Pilot project of Hindalco

In August 2024, SCMS had been awarded the pilot project for RPL program tailored for the workforce of Hindalco Industries (Aditya Birla Group). This initiative focused on enhancing the skill set of 70 regular/contractual employees at the Bagru Mines in Lohardaga district of Jharkhand. Out of 70 candidates, 56 have been assessed and certified in the job roles of Kamgar & Assistant-Open Cast Mines.



Glimpses of Assessment

MOIL Ltd. Reskilling and Upskilling Program for Regular & Contractual Workforce

SCMS has been awarded the project for RPL/reskilling/upskilling training program of 600 regular/contractual workforce of MOIL Ltd. at various mining locations in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. So far 253 candidates have been trained and assessed till September, 2024. The program has been planned with 2 days of soft skills and domain skills training followed by assessment on the third day.

NLC India Ltd. Reskilling and Upskilling Program for Regular & Contractual Workforce

SCMS has been awarded the project for RPL/reskilling/upskilling training program of 200 regular/contractual workforces by NLC India Ltd. on 24th July, 2024 wherein in the employees will be trained & assessed for the job roles of Mine Welder, Bulldozer Operator, Driver Special Utility Vehicle, Dumper/Tipper Operator, Mine Electrician, Excavator Operator, Mine Mechanic/Fitter and Mining Rescuer. The training program was planned in 2+1 mode (2 days of soft skills and domain training followed by assessment on the third day). Training program commenced on 9th September, 2024 and shall be completing by October, 2024.



Classroom Training at NLCIL





Glimpses of Assessment

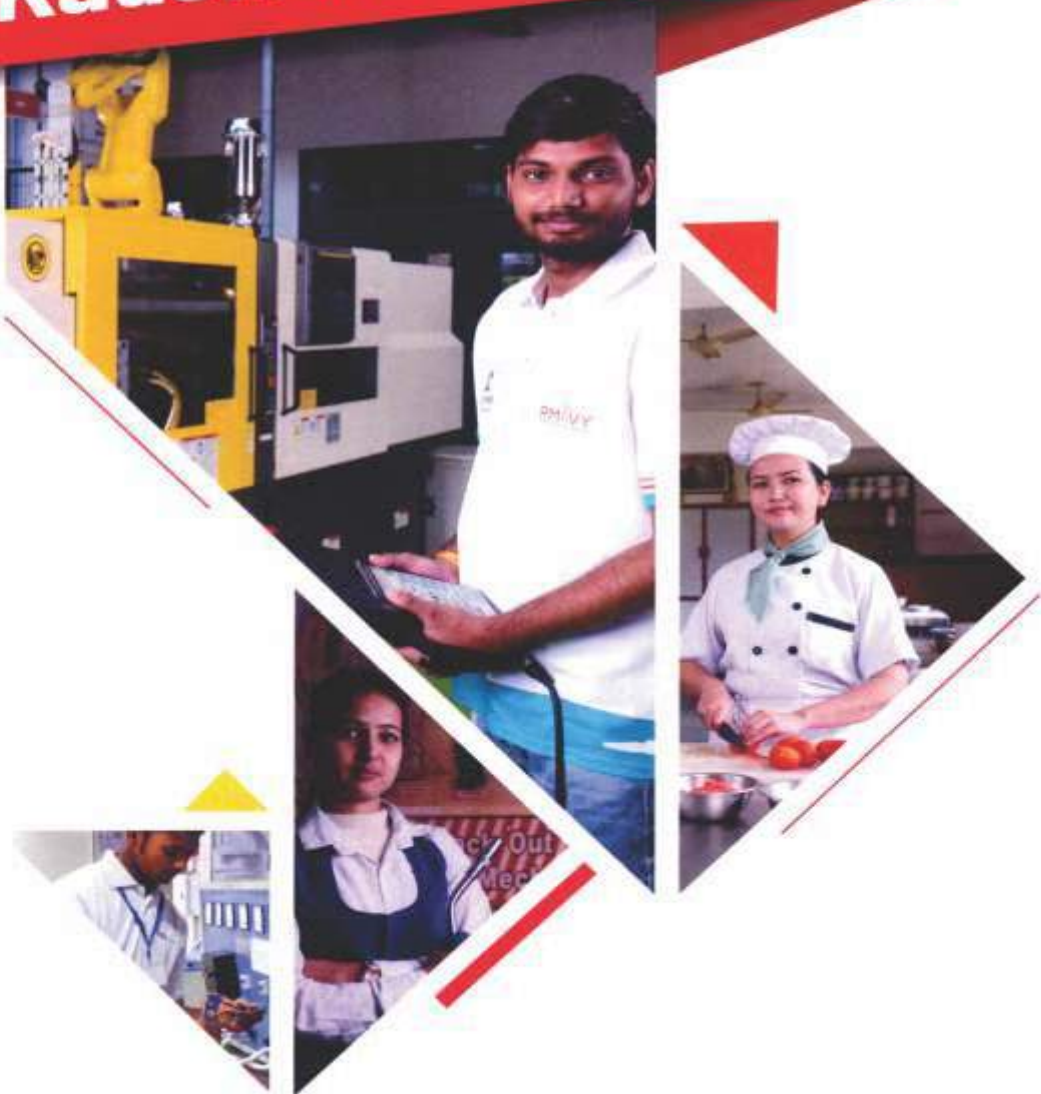
CCL-Short Term Training project

An MOU was signed between SCMS & Central Coalfields Ltd. (CCL) Ranchi under the CSR initiative on 4th November, 2023 for a short-term training project for 60 project-affected persons (PAPs) in the district of Chatra. All 60 candidates have successfully completed their training and got certified on the job role of Loader Operator (Mining) and now they are in the process of being placed in suitable employment opportunities.



Glimpses of Assessment of Batch-2 of Loader Operator (Mining)

Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana



ABOUT THE SCHEME:



A flagship scheme of the Government of India aimed at enhancing employability of the youth by providing industry-relevant skill training.



Launched in 2015, the scheme focuses on bridging the gap between the demand and supply of skilled workforce in various sectors.



Offers short-term training in a wide range of trades through a network of 13000+ centers including institutions of national importance and schools.



Plays a pivotal role in promoting economic growth by fostering self-employment and entrepreneurship



1.5 crore candidates have been trained under the scheme.



Our endeavor is that our youth should be flexible and can adapt to the fast-changing nature of job. Today, Skilling, Reskilling and Upskilling is the greatest need of the hour.

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

PMKVY 4.0



Designed to make the skilling ecosystem more flexible, inclusive, and technology-driven, to improve employability in a rapidly evolving market.



Lays special focus on re-skilling and up-skilling through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) with improved assessment methods.



Promotes digital and blended learning, ensuring greater outreach and accessibility.



Emphasizes stronger Industry connections through On-the-Job Training (OJT) and encourages Industry participation in skilling efforts.



Introduction on new-age skills like AI, Industry 4.0, Web 3.0, and the Green Economy, aligning with future workforce demands.

TRAINING MODELS:



SHORT-TERM TRAINING:

- NSQF-aligned courses
- Spanning 300-600 hours
- Customised courses as per industry requirement
- Accredited and affiliated training centres
- Inherent component of On-the-job training



RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING:



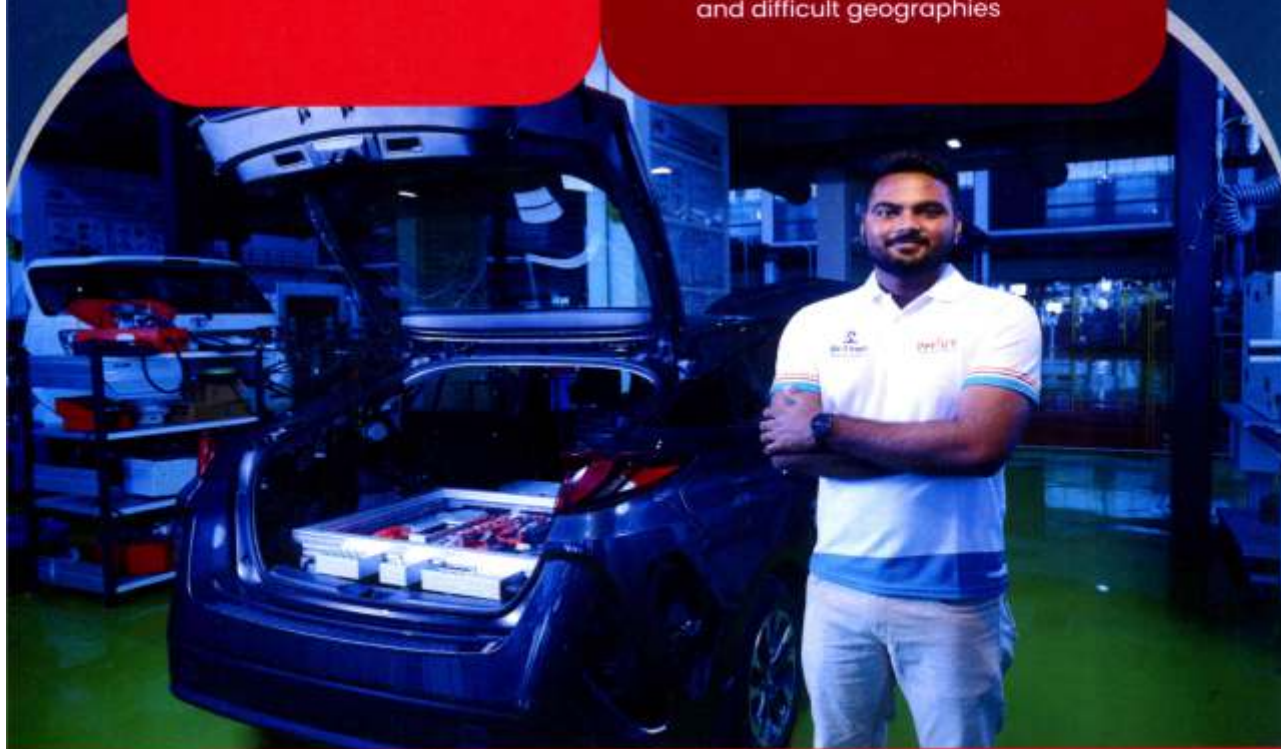
- Certification of candidates with prior learning experience through assessment
- Enabling youth with prior learning to obtain industry relevant skill certification
- Emphasis on upskilling



SPECIAL PROJECTS:



- Project-based short-term skilling initiatives
- Customizable Projects
- Lay focus on marginalised and difficult geographies



SCOPE OF INDUSTRY PARTICIPATION:



Becoming Awarding Bodies: Industry can earn the recognition of Awarding Bodies under the scheme to certify the workforce, they train, with NSQF certification. Microsoft, HCL Technologies, Bajaj Finserv, IBM, Flipkart and HAL are few industry partners who have been recognised as awarding bodies by National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET).



Becoming Assessment Bodies: Industry can collaborate in assessments of training to ensure that the skills acquired by the candidates are in accordance with industry standards. Pearson VUE and TCS iON have been recognised by NCVET and assessment agencies.



Enabling project implementation: Industry partners can enable training of the workforce on tools and equipment relevant to today's day and age to develop a workforce suited to their needs.



Providing platform for entrepreneurship: Industry partners in the ecommerce space can provide platform for entrepreneurship for budding artisans and craftsmen trained under the scheme.



Placement opportunities: The industry can provide placement opportunities for the workforce trained under the scheme by clearly aligning on a process of selection and providing prior assurance.



Enabling upskilling of existing workforce: Organizations can enable upskilling opportunities for their workforce in select job roles as per the need.



Providing on-the-job training: An important aspect of PMKVY 4.0 is the integration of on-the-job training. Industries can collaborate with the scheme to provide on-the-job training to the candidates and create a workforce that is familiar with the organization's processes. These candidates trained by the organization become a pool of talent that it can engage post completion of training.

INDUSTRY PARTNERS UNDER SCHEMES OF MSDE:



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बोकारो के बहादुरपुर में खनन कौशल केंद्र का हुआ उद्घाटन,

Big Bharat 30/09/2024



बोकारो: दिनांक 29-सितंबर-2024 को बोकारो जिले के बहादुरपुर, कमलापुर में बोकारो के पहले खनन कौशल केंद्र का उद्घाटन किया गया। यह पहला खनन कौशल केंद्र है जिसे जिला प्रशासन बोकारो (डीएमएफटी), झारखंड द्वारा सुविधा और निगरानी दी जाती है और खनन क्षेत्र के लिए कौशल परिषद द्वारा संचालित किया जाता है। इस कार्यक्रम का Training Partner (TP) CUatCREST अकादमी प्राइवेट लिमिटेड है।

[Big Bharat](#) टीटर को फॉलो करें

केंद्र प्रबंधन द्वारा दी गई जानकारी के अनुसार डीएमएफटी और एससीएमएस के बीच 29 फरवरी-2024 को अनुबंध पर हस्ताक्षर किया गया। यह प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम स्कूल छोड़ने वाले और बेरोजगार युवाओं के लिए है। जिला योजना पदाधिकारी श्री राज कुमार शर्मा एवं अनुमण्डल अधिकारी बेरमो श्री मुकेश मल्लुआ ने केंद्र का उद्घाटन कर अभ्यर्थियों से बातचीत की। उन दोनों ने इस पहल और इस कार्यक्रम के उद्देश्य की सराहना की है और विशेष रूप से डीएमएफटी बोकारो की सराहना की।

इस प्रतिष्ठित अवसर पर श्री नवनीत कुमार (सीओओ) एस.सी.एम.एस, श्री मृत्युंजय सिंह (सीईओ) CUatCREST अकादमी प्राइवेट लिमिटेड, श्री ऋषिकेश कुमार मणि (परियोजना प्रबंधक), श्री अमरदीप महाराज (जिला परिषद सदस्य) बोकारो, श्री अमरकान्त मिश्र और अन्य गणमान्य उपस्थित रहे।

[स्मार्ट मीटर और जमीन सर्वे के नाम पर लूट खसोट मामले में 1 अक्टूबर को राजद का धरना प्रदर्शन](#)

इस प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम में माइन इलेक्ट्रीशियन, माइन वैल्डर, एच.ई.एम.एम मैकेनिक, लोडर ऑपरेटर, एक्सकेवेटर ऑपरेटर, डम्पर/टिपर ऑपरेटर का प्रशिक्षण प्रदान किया जाएगा। यह प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम पूर्णतः निःशुल्क है तथा इसमें आवासीय एवं भोजन की निःशुल्क सुविधा भी उपलब्ध करायी जाती है। गौरतलब है की अबतक लगभग 100 से अधिक बच्चों का पंजीकरण भी हो चुका है।।



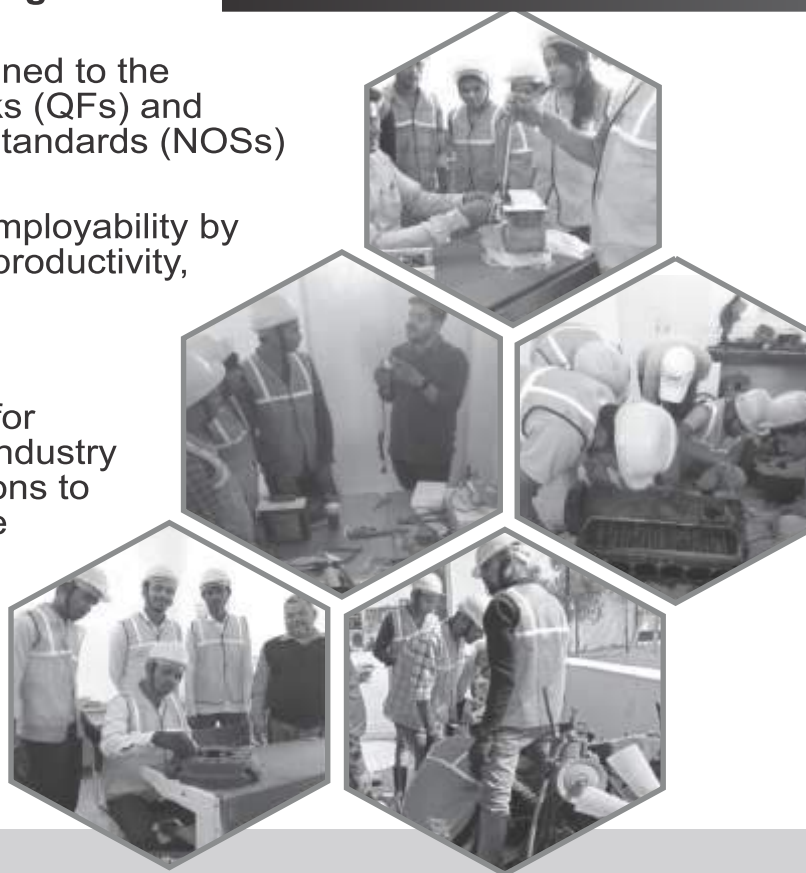
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- Skilling to increase its employability by emphasising on safety, productivity, quality assurance, mechanization & waste management.
- Providing opportunities for domain training to fulfil industry demands and expectations to maintain the chain of the domain market.
- Creating a pool of certified trainees according to the industry demands of the mining sector.

Glimpses of ongoing training for mining trainees in Singrauli (MP) under SANKALP project



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- JIM ROHN

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DOORS TO OPPORTUNITY



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We have gathered a team of experienced experts from academia that help our clients in field of higher education segment to get various Accreditations like NAAC, NBA etc.

The secret of our success is to walk that extra mile to delight our clients CU@CREST has strong expertise and capabilities to align with various departments and ministries under central and state government to help our clients get impaneled and get work orders for skill development projects. We also help our clients execute skill development and vocational training projects across India to provide employment and livelihood to unemployed Indian youth. CU@CREST is in the business of empowering people and enlightening the lives of socially and economically underprivileged people. Our area of operations includes the remotest of villages, where we interact with local stakeholders and mobilize unemployed rural youth.

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