



Skill India
कौशल भारत-कुशल भारत



SKILL MINING

News Update

For Limited Circulation

Volume VII

No. 8-9

August - September, 2021



SKILL COUNCIL FOR MINING SECTOR

(Promoted by Federation of Indian Mineral Industries)

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The Governing Board and entire team of Skill Council for Mining Sector extends a warm welcome to our visionary leaders into skilling ecosystem

MINING & EXPLORATION

Global copper mining output likely to increase by 7.8%

Global copper mining production is forecast to increase by 7.8 percent this year due to a slew of new projects coming online and low base effects due to Covid pandemic lockdowns resulting in lower output last year, according to Fitch Solutions Country Risk and Industry Research (FSCRIR). In a commentary on “Global Copper Mining Outlook”, FSCRIR said the new projects that go on stream this year would keep production strong the next few years, supported by rising copper prices and demand.

Copper prices have gained over 21 percent this year, though they are off from the record highs seen in May. On the London Metal Exchange, copper's three-month contract ended at \$9,405 a tonne on Wednesday, with the metal's cash price being \$9,385. On May 6, copper three-month contracts surged to a record \$10,724.5 a tonne before paring gains on slowing profit growth in Chinese industrial firms. Costlier raw materials have squeezed profits for these companies.

FSCRIR said that Australia and Canada would see most new projects being launched, followed by the US, Peru and Chile. In addition, Chile will see most of the expansion in the copper projects. Regarding the rise in production, Peru's mine output is forecast to increase by 20 percent this year due to the new projects and last year's low base effect. Last year, its production declined 12.5 percent compared with the 2.5 million tonnes (mt) output in 2019.

The Fitch Solutions research body said that multinational miners will continue investing in Peru, which has 10 percent of the known reserves, due to ample mine reserves, lower costs, and a favourable regulatory environment. “We believe there is still room for growth through further exploration... Based on Peru's geography, we believe that there is further upside left in Peru for years to come,” FSCRIR said.

China will continue to play “an increasingly important role” in the Peru copper sector. Chinese firms will make up 17.2 percent of the total investment in that country over the next decade. However, copper mines ran the risk of “elevated levels of unrest” resulting from the political risk that might have an indirect impact on mining, it said. One of the features of the rise in mining production is that China's output would be lower at 1.3 percent per year during the decade to 2030 compared with 6.9 percent in the last decade.

This will be due to the closure of low-grade copper mines in the Communist nation and delay in planned capacity expansions, FSCRIR said, adding that new projects would continue to come online. Congo will be another country that will attract significant Chinese investment, particularly after joining Beijing's belt and road initiative in December last year. China would also look at investing in Zambian mines, the research body said.

FSCRIR said that Chile has attracted a considerable amount of investments in copper mining in recent years and will begin to pay off in the next few years. However, the South American nation faces a long-term risk of decline in average ore grades, which would necessitate mining a higher amount of ores. Though Chile faced unrest due to protests, it added that stability was expected to return to the nation in the long-term.

(The Hindu Business Line, New Delhi – 1 July, 2021)

India's second mining school in Ballari

Ballari, the mining hub of Karnataka, is all set to get another feather in its cap, with the country's second School of Mining to be established outside the city soon. The Department of Mines and Geology

will be implementing the project in an area of 50 acres and will train the employees attached to the mining companies operating in Karnataka and other parts of India.

The institute will also conduct short-term training courses for owners and other employees attached to mining firms on legal clauses, best practices in transport and exporting and other such related work. "There is only one such institute in Dhanbad of Jharkhand. We are awaiting final approval from the government, and it is expected to be announced by Minister Murugesh Nirani," said an official from the district administration.

"The institute will help mining firm owners. Engineering students can visit or serve as interns and learn about the mining field. Field works will be organised for students. Interactions with experts in the field, mining company owners in other parts of India, and abroad will also be held," the official explained. Ballari and Vijayanagara districts are known as mining hubs of Karnataka. There are 32 major mining companies operating in these two districts and lakhs of people are directly or indirectly attached to the mining business in this region.

(The New Indian Express, Bellari – 9 July, 2021)

ALLIED INDUSTRY

Demerger of NMDC Steel approved

State-owned miner National Mineral Development Corporation or NMDC Ltd. has kickstarted the process to carve out its steel unit, aiming to list it separately on the bourses, even as the government plans to augment production, to take advantage of the high metal prices. The board of directors of the country's largest iron ore miner, on Tuesday approved the "scheme of arrangement for demerger" between NMDC and NMDC Steel Ltd., according to a regulatory filing.

"The Demerged Undertaking would be vested with NMDC Steel Limited pursuant to the demerger. The entire share capital of the NMDC Steel Limited held by the NMDC Limited would be cancelled and new equity shares of NMDC Steel Limited (in a manner as elucidated in the Scheme) would be issued to all the shareholders of NMDC Limited in the same proportion," NMDC said in an exchange filing.

The scheme, however, is subject to necessary statutory and regulatory approvals, including the approval of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi), stock exchanges, the Union ministry of corporate affairs as well as respective shareholders and creditors.

(Livemint, New Delhi – 13 July, 2021)

GENERAL

Skill development policy to be reviewed to match global standards

The government may revamp its umbrella framework for skilling in India, after undertaking a review of the National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship launched in 2015 with a focus on improving productivity to match global standards.

The plan is to create a pool of skilled workforce to cater to new investments being made under the government's production-linked incentive scheme for over a dozen sectors. The review due in 2020 was postponed in the wake of the pandemic.

The skills development ministry will set up a committee of experts to consider the evaluation study report of the 2015 policy to make necessary recommendations. Besides, a national-level institution with expertise on skilling will be appointed to undertake the impact assessment and recommend changes to the existing policy or the formulation of a new policy to ensure better outcomes over the next five years.

A decision to this effect was made at the recently held second steering committee meeting of the National Skills Development Mission, a senior government official told ET.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had launched the initiative in July 2015 with an aim to make India the skills capital of the world. **(Business Standard, New Delhi – 4 July, 2021)**

Skills for Atmanirbhartha

Merging formal education with vocational is welcome

Most innovations are products of human labour, genius, and sacrifice. Nothing characterises this than the Covid-19 vaccines produced successfully by the medical community, which surmounted immense challenges in terms of time constraints, and lack of knowledge about the new virus. The success is an interplay of capital, collaboration, regulatory mechanisms, and mostly importantly the scientific and technological know-how, put simply, skills.

To the credit of the governments in the last decade, many initiatives have been undertaken in the skills sector. Despite, many efforts, desirable outcome is still elusive. The primary reason for this is lack of cohesion within policy actions, absence of holistic approach and working in silos. There is an acute need for a stronger institutional framework for imparting skills and a supporting ecosystem.

For years, the governments have made piecemeal efforts to empower youth with skills. For instance, Rs.3,000 crore has been allocated in the Union Budget 2021-22 to “realign the existing scheme of National Apprenticeship Training Scheme (NATS) for providing post-education apprenticeship, training of graduates and diploma holders in Engineering.” This piecemeal approach restricts apprenticeship to only engineering stream and not to others.

Further, the Union Ministry of Skills Development and Entrepreneurship has launched the third version of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana recently to impart skills development to over 8 lakh persons in 2020-21 and allocated Rs.948.9 crore. One lacuna of the scheme is its excessive reliance on District Skills Development Committee, chaired by District Collector, who would not be able to prioritise this role, given other assignments.

The National Skill Development Agency (NSDA), created in 2013, essentially for resolving the inter-ministerial and inter-departmental issues and avoiding duplications of skills development efforts of the Union Government, has been now subsumed as part of the National Council for Vocational Training (NCVT). This reflects not only discontinuity in policy process, but also obfuscation among policy makers.

The UN’s Human Development Report-2020 found that in India only 21.1 percent of the labour force was skilled in 2010-2019. According to a 2019 study by the National Skills Development Corporation (NSDC), 7 crore additional people in 15-59 age-group are expected to enter the labour force by 2023, of which 5.9 crore or 84.3 percent will be in the age group 15-30 years, and half of this are expected to come from the age cohort of 15-20 years.

The number of expected entrants is projected to peak to 1.29 crore in 2023 alone. Six States alone (Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka) account for 50 percent (about 3

crores) of the new youth entrants (15-30 years). Given the sheer magnitude of youth to be skilled, it is paramount that the policy efforts are adequate in all respects.

The New Education Policy emphasises on integration of vocational and formal education both at school and higher education levels. A pilot 'hub-n-spoke' model is being implemented in two States where an ITI will become a 'hub' for providing training to 5-7 adjoining schools. This is a good beginning which should mark the end of the artificial separation between the formal and vocational.

Hence, we really need to start working at school level, be it private or government, and create an institutional framework with holistic approach towards of development skills and competences. For achieving an Atmanirbhar Bharat, all the skilling efforts need to be brought under one platform to eliminate silos and duplications. A sturdy institutional framework with practical and real pathways to change course between mainstream and vocational programmes needs to be made.

(The Hindu Business Line, New Delhi –12 August, 2021)

Skilling overdrive needed to cash in on demographic dividend

India has a skilling paradox, which has flummoxed employers for years. It has a burgeoning younger inhabitant, but firms battle to discover employable expertise. Since 2018, India's working-age inhabitants (individuals between 15 and 64 years of age) has grown bigger than the dependent inhabitants — youngsters aged 14 or beneath in addition to individuals above 65 years of age. This bulge in the working-age inhabitants goes to final until 2055, or 37 years from its starting, in accordance to a UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund) examine.

However, the 'age bulge' doesn't basically translate right into a demographic dividend; India dangers squandering this demographic benefit due to its ever-widening abilities hole. Experts say skilling in the present day is essentially misaligned to the market due to the dynamic nature of abilities. Pandemic-driven digitalisation has accelerated the tempo of latest abilities rising and a few older abilities turning into out of date. "The biggest demographic challenge is raising the productivity of our regions, sectors, firms and individuals. All four are connected," says Manish Sabharwal, chairman.

A skilling setting that's versatile and agile and responsive to market necessities is vital.

The pandemic has exacerbated the skilling disaster additional. According to the India Skills Report 2021, the youth employability stood at 45.9% consisting of extremely employable assets, from pre-Covid 46.2%. The pandemic has additionally slowed down the tempo of skilling initiatives throughout the nation, says Anjan Chakraborty, partner-advisory, PwC India.

To get the specified demographic dividend, what needs to be the highest priorities of India's policymakers? According to Sabharwal, an important supply-side intervention is bringing the glide path for NEP (National Education Policy) implementation from 15 years down to 5 years. "Twenty-five percent of the world's new workers in the next 10 years will be Indian, and we need to ensure their skills and productivity," says Sabharwal. India Inc has an important function to play. "Industries, specifically during these times, have a larger role to play by way of paying wage premium, absorbing apprentices, widely participating in skilling amongst many other initiatives," says Chakraborty. Among the largest demographic challenges for India is the unemployment fee that has elevated considerably.

Some like Sabharwal say the largest problem is wages, not jobs. "Our unemployment rates are a poor indicator of labour markets because they have roughly bounced between 4-9% since 1947 because of three shameful shock market absorbers; farm employment (42% of the labour force-generating 15% of GDP), self-employment (50% of the labour force that is largely self-exploiting) and labour force withdrawal (particularly women)."

(The Economic Times, New Delhi – 13 August, 2021)

FLASHES FROM OVERSEAS

Mining will help build more Indigenous skills, jobs & wealth creation

The significant and valued contribution made by Indigenous Australian employees, businesses and partners to Australia's minerals industry will help create a stronger National Roadmap on Indigenous Skills, Jobs and Wealth Creation. I am honoured to be appointed an Industry Champion and will work to support greater recognition by Australian businesses of the untapped potential of the Indigenous workforce and business sector.

Mining, Traditional Owners and First Nations communities have worked together for decades to support community aspirations for tailored local employment, training, and business opportunities. Opportunities for young people, for people in remote communities and to work on country are key community priorities. As a result, Indigenous Australians make up a higher proportion of the minerals workforce than any other sector.

Between 2011 and 2016 mining became the largest employer of Indigenous men in remote areas. Nationally, about 10 per cent of all mining apprentices and trainees are Indigenous Australians. There is also a strong relationship between mining and Indigenous business sector growth. First Nations business excellence has made the Indigenous mining, equipment and technology and equipment sector an integral part of the mining value chain.

These outcomes don't just benefit communities. Mining also benefits from a committed and diverse workforce and being able to access key skills and accessing diverse goods and services, while working with Traditional Owners and Indigenous organisations to provide tailored employment, training, and business pathways. Mining will share with other sectors its lessons and successes over decades of collaboration such as developing tailored work readiness, apprenticeship and traineeship, cadetship, and recruitment pathways.

The minerals industry is also working to strengthen First Nations partnerships, better support the economic aspirations of Indigenous Australians and attract more First Nations professionals, including executives and engineers, to the mining workforce. MCA member companies such as the Gulkula bauxite mine and the Winchelsea Mining manganese projects are leading the emergence of First Nations-owned mining projects.

Actions taken by Australian mining to boost First Nations skills, jobs and wealth creation include:

- Release of the new Minerals Industry Statement on First Nations Partnerships, setting a new benchmark for how industry aims to engage with Traditional Owners and communities
- Contributing to important research to improve the effective of Indigenous Preferential Procurement Programs by coordinating industry data and perspectives
- Undertaking early research on new exploration investment partnerships
- Delivering the Mining Skills Organisation Pilot, which is reshaping the national training system for the needs of the future minerals workforce
- Continuing partnerships with the Clontarf Foundation, Stars Foundation, and the Indigenous Australian Engineering School.

(minerals.org.au – 24 August, 2021)

GLEANINGS FROM

MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Shri Dharmendra Pradhan assumes charge of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship will now work under the leadership of Shri Dharmendra Pradhan. Shri Pradhan assumed charge of the ministry as Cabinet Minister and Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, from Karnataka, took office as the Minister of State (MoS) of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. Dr. Mahendra Nath Pandey, who was Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship before yesterday's Cabinet reshuffle, was also present on the occasion and extended his best wishes to both ministers on taking office.

Shri Dharmendra Pradhan said he was committed to strengthen the skilling efforts of the ministry and equipping the youth with necessary skills to prepare them for Future of Work and creating linkages between skilling and employment. He also extended his wishes to Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar on his assuming charge as MoS, and said he was looking forward to work together to give impetus to entrepreneurship and fulfil Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of making India the skill capital of the world.

Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar said he was privileged and honoured to serve as MoS in the Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Ministry, adding he would work hard to realise the Prime Minister's vision of a Digital, Skilled and New India.

(Skill Reporter, New Delhi – 9 July, 2021)

Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship organized webinar on Skills, Entrepreneurship Development and Employability: Challenges & Opportunities

On the first anniversary of National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, mapping a vital shift in India's education system, a webinar on the theme 'Skills, Entrepreneurship Development and Employability: Challenges & Opportunities' was organized today by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE). Minister of State, MSDE Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar delivered his keynote address on the occasion as a chief guest. The occasion was also graced by the presence of notable speakers including Mr. Raj Nehru, Vice Chancellor, Vishwakarma Skill Development University, Government of Haryana; Dr. Nirmaljeet Singh Kalsi, Chairperson, NCVET; Shri Manoj Ahuja, Chairman, CBSE; Ms. Jahnabi Phookan, involved in Entrepreneurship Advocacy in Northeast and Ms. Anuradha Vemuri, Joint Secretary, MSDE.

Addressing the participants Shri Chandrasekhar said that as we celebrate the one year of NEP 2020, five years of Skill Development and 75 years of Independence, the Government is committed to ensure the academic welfare and bright future of the students. The Minister said that in line with the vision of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, National Education Policy is transformational and with the curricular integration of vocational training, it will create attractive career platforms for students. He informed that Skill ministry is closely working with Ministry of Education to make PM's vision of skilling, reskilling and upskilling for our youth a success.

Speaking on the occasion Shri Ravi Mittal, Secretary, MSDE, said that the implementation of National Education Policy 2020 is crucial in integrating vocational and formal education. The policy provides us a roadmap to introduce steady reforms, he added. Shri Mittal hoped that with this vision document, the more fundamental reforms will take place in our education system.

The discussion focused on the alignment of NEP 2020 with the skill and entrepreneurship initiatives of MSDE with an aim to make vocational education aspirational. MSDE seeks to provide skill training to facilitate employability of youth and equip them to take up market driven employment options. Towards this, the ministry is implementing various schemes and programs for creating a necessary ecosystem for skill development and entrepreneurship promotion through short-term and long-term skill trainings.

Skill development and entrepreneurial policies have been developed within the context of India's unique demographic profile and nature of workforce. India is home to the second largest population in the world, with over 50% of India's population below the age of 25. As per available data, by 2030, the country will have the world's youngest and largest workforce, exceeding one billion. With almost 80% of the workforce informally employed, it is important to improve employment opportunities through targeted skilling and employment generation initiatives.

(Skill Reporter, New Delhi – 3 August, 2021)

SKILLS IN PARLIAMENT

Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 162 answered on 19.07.2021

Board for Skill Development

162. Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal:

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

- (a) whether the Government is planning to set targets for percentage of people skilled as it is there in the case of literacy.
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor.
- (c) 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.
- (d) 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 Dharmendra Pradhan)**

(a) & (b): Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) is the flagship skill training scheme of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE). Under PMKVY 2.0 (2016-2020), a target to train one crore individuals was set. The number of candidates trained is 1.09 crore. Under PMKVY 3.0 (2020-2022), which was launched on 15.01.2021, a target to train 8 lakh individuals has been set. The number of candidates trained so far is 1.2 lakh.

(c): MSDE, vide notification dated 5th December 2018, has set up National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET) as an overarching regulatory body for the skill eco-system. 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. Rojgar Melas are conducted for placement of youth by industry. MSDE has launched Aatmanirbhar Skilled Employees Employer Mapping (ASEEM) 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 – 19 July, 2021)**

Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 995 answered on 26.07.2021

Skill Development Centres

995. Shri Jayant Sinha:

Shri Ranjeetsingh Hindurao Naik Nimbalkar:

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

- (a) the number of people likely to be skilled during the next five years.
- (b) the amount of budget allocated for the said purpose.
- (c) the number of Skill Development Centres in the country along with the details of average capacity of a centre.
- (d) whether the Government proposes to develop some of the Skill Development Centres with the collaboration of public, private and in a public-private partnership; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of such centres planned??

Answer

**Minister of State in the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
(Shri Dharmendra Pradhan)**

(a) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship has launched the National Skill Development Mission (NSDM) to provide the overall institutional framework to rapidly implement and scale up the skill development efforts across India. NSDM envisages to train a minimum of 300 million skilled people by the year 2022.

(b) No specific funds have been allocated for the training of candidates in upcoming five years. However, scheme-wise yearly funds are being allocated to the Ministry.

(c) Under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), short term training (STT) is being imparted through empaneled training centres (TCs) including PMKKs. As on 10.07.2021, 3,415 TCs are operational across the country that includes 721 PMKKs. Targets to TCs are being allocated for approved job roles as per extant guidelines of the scheme and training is being imparted in batch size of maximum 30 candidates.

(d) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship promotes establishment of model and aspirational skill centres known as Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra (PMKK) in every district for imparting skill training throughout the country in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode.

(e) As on 30.06.2021, 812 PMKKs have been allocated across the country, out of which 721 PMKKs have been established. **(Lok Sabha, New Delhi – 26 July, 2021)**

Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1433 answered on 30.07.2021

Awareness for Skill Development

1433. Shri Surendra Singh Nagar:

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

- (a)** whether Government proposes to introduce any communication mechanism to be adopted at various levels to create awareness at various levels to create awareness regarding the need for skill development at local, State, district, and village level.
- (b)** whether Government is mulling over adopting SSDM (State Skill Development Mission) for conducting advertisement campaign in vernaculars via electronic and print medium.
- (c)** whether any steps are being taken at school level for creation of awareness regarding vocational education apprenticeship, etc., if so, details thereof; and
- (d)** whether Government has entered into any partnership with international agencies for vocational training opportunities and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

**Minister of State in the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
(Shri Dharmendra Pradhan)**

(a) Skill India Mission aims to empower the Indian youth through skill development. Significance awareness has been generated about the schemes under Skill India Mission through various means and continue to do so through an effective media communication viz. advertisement through local media, electronic and social media, hoardings, posters, banners etc.

(b) Central Government in partnership with State governments promotes skilling and entrepreneurship to develop the required training and skilling programs of youth. There is no plan by the Centre to adopt SSDM. All implementation agencies are empowered to leverage a wide network of media including the Press Information Bureau, All India Radio, Doordarshan including campaign in vernaculars via electronic, print, social media etc.

(c) The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 also envisages curriculum integration of essential subjects and skills in all schools and higher education institutions in a phased manner to provide necessary vocational skills for variety of occupations along with awareness about the benefits of vocational education.

(d) The National Skill Development Corporation under the Ministry has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) with 8 countries viz; Japan, UAE, Sweden, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Russia, Finland and Morocco for cooperation in the field of vocational education and training. NSDC has partnered with the Finnish National Agency for Education (EDUFI), Finland to promote and facilitate the exchange of knowledge of new innovations and connect the providers within the vocational education and training sector between the two countries. **(Rajya Sabha, New Delhi – 30 July, 2021)**

SCMS IN ACTION

Webinar on ‘Technology Innovation in Indian Mining’

A webinar on ‘Technology Innovation in Indian Mining’ was jointly hosted by SCMS and RDSD&E, Chhattisgarh, DGT, MSDE, Govt of India on 2nd July, 2021. Sh. Ravi Arora, Head marketing & CSR, Sandvik Mining and Rock Technology India Pvt Ltd, Bangalore was the key speaker who shared many products, new technology and innovation in the mining sector. Ravi also showcased the lead taken by one of their prestigious client M/s Hindustan Zinc Ltd. In the beginning, Mr. M C Kardam, Director, Regional Directorate of Skill Dev. & Entrepreneurship, GoI, Chhattisgarh set the Context and need of new technologies in mining sector vis -a-vis preparing skilled manpower. Whereas Mr. Sanjay Sharma, CEO, SCMS shared the expectations from OEM- thoughts and need of the hour. Around 55 delegates across mining sector joined the session which ended with many Q & A from the participants.

Aadhaar Authentication Compliance

A meeting was convened by National Skill Development Corporation on 6th July, 2021 to discuss on the Candidate Aadhaar Authentication compliance rate on the day of assessment under PMKVY CSCM STT with Sector Skill Councils. Ms. Silky Sharma, Head-Assessment & Certification attended the meeting to understand the process.

World Youth Skills Day 2021

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the nation on 15th July, 2021 on the occasion of World Youth Skills Day. He said that skill development is a national requirement and a major foundation for Aatmanirbhar Bharat. He added that the youth of this country will help in the development for next 100 years as it is also the 6th anniversary of Skill India Mission. During the address, Prime Minister Modi also announced about 75 newly sanctioned Jan Shikshan Sansthan.

PM Modi also mentioned that the COVID-19 pandemic has increased the importance of World Youth Skills Day 2021. The newly announced Jan Shikshan Sansthan, JSSs help in imparting vocational skill training programs to several beneficiaries at minimum cost and infrastructure. Along with the announcement of 75 newly sanctioned JSSs, there was also virtual launch of a portal made specifically for JSS. It was followed by signing of Memorandum of Understanding, MoU between Jan Shikshan Sansthan and National Institute of Open Schooling, NIOS.

Aiming at the Youth of the country, this address today also saw an announcement of Blended Learning Courses through the launch of a booklet. This will be followed by a curriculum launch of 57 industry new courses by Directorate General of Training (DGT) and felicitation of Toppers from DGT academic session 2018-20.

A lot of these initiatives are being done as collaborative efforts. Apart from and MoU between JSSs and NIOS, there was a signing of another MoU between National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVT) and Digi Locker. Many dignitaries have graced this occasion like A M Naik, Chairman,

National Skill Development Corporation & Group Chairman, Larsen & Toubro Ltd; Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Minister of State in the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship; Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Education and video messages from State Skill Ministers.

About Skill India Mission and Jan Shikshan Sansthan

Skill India Mission is an initiative launched by the Government in order to train over 40 crore Indians in different industry-related jobs. The vision is to create an empowered workforce by 2022 with the help of various schemes and training courses. Jan Shiksha Sansthan aim to provide vocational training to non-literates, neo-literates as well as school dropouts in rural areas, by identifying skills that might be relevant to the market of that region. Team members of Skill Council for Mining Sector have also participated in the event.

Connecting with District Mineral Foundation Trusts (DMFT)

Mr. Sanjay Sharma, CEO-SCMS visited Office of Collector and Chairperson of DMFT in 5 major mining districts Ajmer, Bhilwara, Chittorgarh, Rajsamand, Udaipur in Rajasthan from 22nd -25th July, 2021. He also met various Mining engineers in the DMG office of respective districts. The agenda of the meetings was to discuss the skilling potential in respective districts and understand the skilled manpower gap/ requirement in these districts. The officials of Ajmer and Chittorgarh submitted immediate requirements with SCMS and the proposal against the same has been submitted. All the skilling activities in these districts is being planned under the DMF fund. All the meetings proved to be fruitful and productive. The district and mining officials appreciated the initiatives and efforts being put by SCMS in the direction.

31st Meeting of the Governing Board

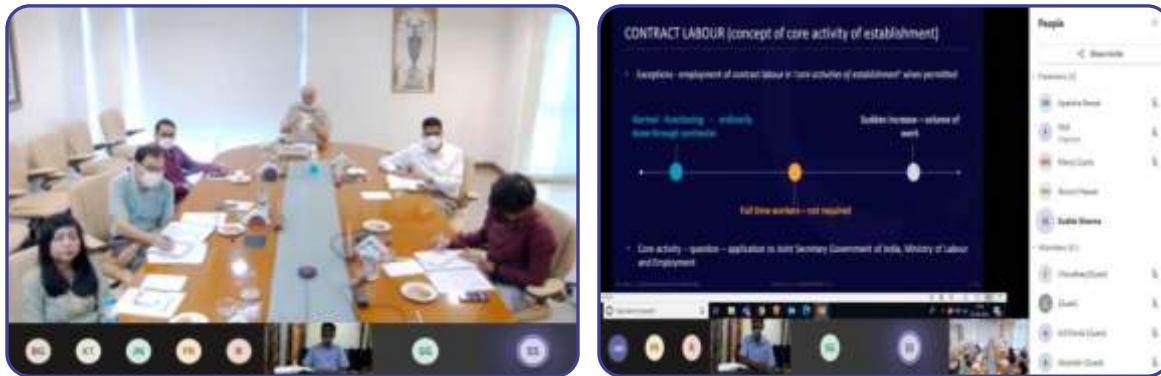
The 31st meeting of the Governing Board of Skill Council for Mining Sector was held on 27th July, 2021 through Video Conferencing under the Chairmanship of Shri Arvind Singhal, Managing Director Wolkem India Limited as nominated by Shri PK Satpathy due to his other unavoidable engagement.

After the opening remarks, Shri Arvind Singhal requested Mr Sanjay Sharma, CEO-SCMS to take forward the meeting as per the agenda. Mr Sharma welcomed the Board members to the meeting and presented the agenda.

De-Coding the Labour Codes and Rules

FIMI along with knowledge partner Lakshmikumaran & Sridharan (L&S) organized a Webinar on 5th August, 2021 on “De-Coding the Labour Codes and Rules” with an aim to address the key challenges and deliberate the possible solutions. With a view to simplify and for ease of understanding, Government has subsumed 29 labour laws in 4 labour codes which have been passed by Parliament and subsequently have been notified. These codes are: Code on Wages 2019; Code on Social Security, 2020; Industrial Relations Code, 2020 and Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020. The corresponding draft

Rules of these Codes have also been notified and are under finalization. Mr. Sanjay Sharma, CEO-SCMS participated in the webinar.



Glimpses of Webinar

Integration of Skill Development & Vocational Education with School Education

Mr. Sanjay Sharma, CEO-SCMS attended webinar on “Integration of Skill Development & Vocational Education with School Education” organized National Council for Vocational Education & Training (NCVET) on 6th August, 2021. The meeting was Chaired by Dr. NL Kalsi.

Rajasthan Mining Summit

Mr. Sanjay Sharma, CEO-SCMS attended “RAJASTHAN MINING SUMMIT” (virtual mode) organized by PHD Chamber in association with Mining Engineers Association of India - Jaipur & Federation of Mining Association of Rajasthan (FMAR) on 27th August, 2021. The speakers deliberated on the various issues with different stakeholders for taking mining sector in Rajasthan to a new growth orbit including possibilities of promotion of new technologies, equipment & best mining practices. Key panelists were Mr.Rakesh Kumar Gupta-Resident Director -Jaipur PHDCCI, Mr Digvijay Dhabriya-Chairman, Mr.Yogesh Shrivastava, Mr.Sanjay Agrawal-president, Mr.Akshaydeep Mathur-Jaipur, Mr.Anil Sood Exec. Director-South West Mining Ltd (Kapurdi-Jalipa Lignite Mining), Ms.Sunita Mantri- ENKAY, Mr.ML Gupta, Mr.Sunil Dutt Goel, Mr.Ravi Dhabai—(dealer of mine equipment with expertise in making special attachments).

NCL- SCMS MINING SKILL CENTER

The basic training and assessment is completed for the flagship skill development training program at Northern Coalfields Limited, Singrauli for which SCMS had received over 39,000 online applications at the beginning of the training program. The second Covid wave and subsequent lockdown created some challenges, but SCMS converted the training program into Hybrid mode where all possible trainees were

engaged in online mode of training on a daily basis. Various online sessions for financial literacy, domain, online assessments, soft skills, guest lectures, etc. were introduced to keep the trainees engaged.

After the successfully completion of training the final assessment was carried out in July 2021. Certified assessors took the assessments as per the guidelines. Covid safety protocols were followed throughout the assessment process. NCL authorities visited the center during the assessment process and were found to be extremely satisfied with the health safety protocols, discipline and the assessment process.



This was an apprenticeship linked training program where as against target of 480 candidates, 478 have been successfully engaged as paid apprenticeship program in various mines and offices of NCL under the Apprenticeship Act 1961. This initiative is in line with the vision of our government to increase the number of apprenticeship training. The trainees will undergo one year of apprenticeship at NCL, and placement support will be provided to the candidates post successful completion of the apprenticeship.

A brief data of the overall performance is appended below:

NCL - SCMS Mining Skill Center									
Overall Job Role Wise Performance									
Sl. No.	Job Role	Total Enrolled		Total Assessed		Total Certified		Engaged as apprentices with NCL	
1	Data Entry Operator	144	59(F)	135	57(F)	125	56(F)	119	56(F)
2	Mine Welder	144	15(F)	129	15(F)	126	15(F)	120	15(F)
3	Mine Electrician	144	24(F)	136	21(F)	123	18(F)	120	18(F)
4	HEMM Mechanic	144	7 (F)	126	5(F)	122	5(F)	119	5(F)
Total		576	105(F)	526	98(F)	496	94(F)	478	94(F)

*(F) denotes female candidates (included)

Media Coverage: Time and again the training program has got media coverage in the local newspaper. The coverage included appreciation for the SCMS initiatives to tackle the Covid lockdown challenges to change the training module and keep the trainees engaged. Coal Minister Shri Prahlad Joshi and Coal India Limited tweeted regarding this training program.



75th Independence Day Celebration: The trainees participated in the 75th Independence of India as “Bharat ka Amrut Mahotsav” in collaboration with NCL. Cultural programs were performed in front of the Chief Guest **Shri Prabhat Kumar Sinha (CMD, NCL)**. The tableau and the skit on ‘Sapno ka Center’ based on Skill India Mission received appreciation from the dignitaries.



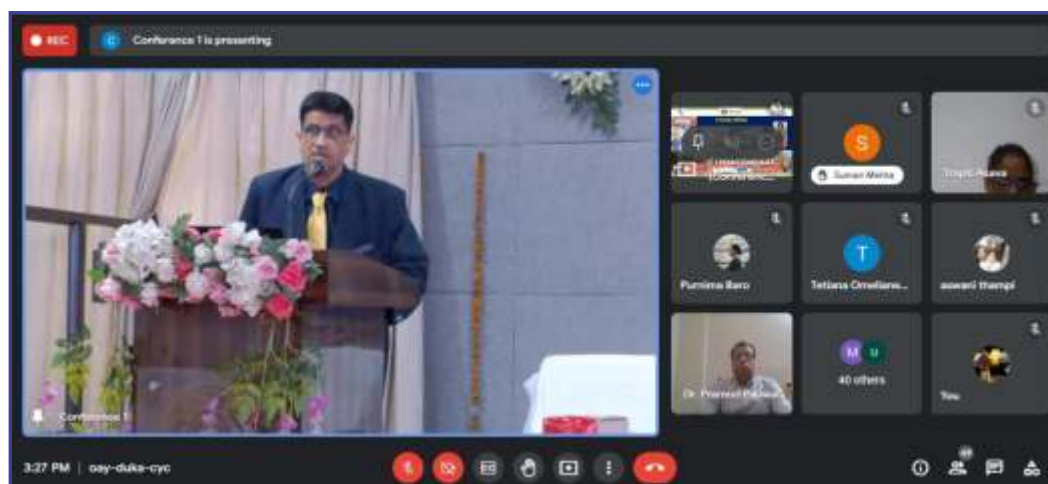
NCL SCMS Skill Centre participation in 75th Independence Day celebration at NCL.

Visit to VBRI-Udaipur

As recommended by Shri Arvind Singhal (GB Member), Mr. Sanjay Sharma, CEO-SCMS visited Mechatronics Lab established (By Wolkem Group) in Vidya Bhawan Polytechnic College Badgaon Road, V.B.R.I. Campus, Udaipur on 12th August, 2021 and interacted extensively on how to make them partner organization with Mining Skill Sector Council. Shri Anil Mehta, Tejendraji and all other faculty members explained in detail about the Centre and Courses available. In the list of courses of SCMS, Mechatronics course is mentioned. A state of art lab set up. SCMS is exploring opportunities for further collaboration.

International Conference on “Standardizing Management Practices: Challenges & opportunities” ICSMP-2021

Mr. Sanjay Sharma, CEO-SCMS presented paper on “Production & Operations Management- Sub theme: Mine Operations & Production Management at International Conference on “Standardizing Management Practices: Challenges & opportunities” ICSMP-2021 Organized by Faculty of Management Studies, Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur from 12 -14th August, 2021. The conference was wonderfully organized with many global participants. A new learning and connect with many academicians & researchers.



International Conference

Interactive Session at Balaji University-Pune

On 25th August, 2021, Mr. Sanjay Sharma CEO-SCMS addressed around 300+ freshers of Balaji University-Pune covering their institutes viz. BIMM, BITM, BIIB & BIMHRD from the specializations of Marketing, Finance, HR, Telecom, Systems, Business Analytics, International Business and Operations. Shared success stories to inspire and motivate the students under the theme ‘My journey from campus to this far, The Ups and Downs’.

Networking Meetings

1. On 4th August, 2021, Sanjay Sharma, CEO-SCMS had a courtesy meeting with Mr. Shakil Alam, EA, Ministry of Mines. Briefed about SCMS and support required for setting up CoE at NALCO, support from DGMS in respect of statutory qualifications Mining Mate/ Driller blaster etc.
2. Mr. Sanjay Sharma CEO-SCMS, attended a virtual meeting with Shri Balwant Singh, MD- OMC, Ms Jaya Singh Panda- Head L&D, JNTVTI and other colleagues on 14th July, 2021 to explore possible collaboration to set up Mining Skill Academy through ITI Koira.



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- Skill Council for Mining Sector (SCMS) for PAN India assessments
- Healthcare Sector Skill Council (HSSC) for PAN India assessments
- Power Sector Skill Council (PSSC) for PAN India assessments
- Retailers Association's Skill Council of India (RASCI) for PAN India assessments
- Management & Entrepreneurship and Professional Skills Council (MEPSC) for PAN India assessments
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