

**ONE DAY BRAIN STORMING TECHNICAL SESSION ON
"RESPIRABLE MINE DUST - ASSESSMENT & MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IN MINES".**

- 1.0 With unprecedented and unparalleled energy/infrastructure needs steering the country, poised to be the Future Global Leader, the heat is directly on the current day mining sector which is growing in leaps and bounds. This growth has triggered intense mechanization in mines producing a wide spectrum of minerals in large volumes, be it the road metal produced from small time quarries in the unorganized sector to large mines of the organized sector. However, this growth has few major impediments still to be addressed effectively, with "Occupational Safety and Health" of persons employed occupying the centre stage. Consequently, mineral output is not the only one on rise but also generation and propagation of airborne respirable dust in very alarming proportions within in mines and also adjoining areas. Sadly, it is also an acknowledged fact that not much has been done to mitigate the associated hazards of airborne respirable dust in mines on health, leading to National as well as State Human Rights Commissions, assuming greater role on the matter. The irony of the matter is that the existing statutory provisions in this regard can immensely contribute to reversing the trend if only followed more proactively by all stake holders.

- 2.0 With this backdrop, a brain storming technical session titled "Respirable Mine Dust - Assessment & Management System In Mines", was organized in the newly renovated 50 seater Conference Hall of Bhubaneswar Region of DGMS between 09.30 hrs and 14.00 hrs on the 20th instant, for the benefit of around 36 field level mining professionals of the rank of Manager/Agent drawn from coal and non-coal sectors. The event was inaugurated by Shri P.Ranganatheeshwar – Deputy Director General of Mines Safety(HQ & SEZ) in the presence of Shri A.K.Tiwari - Director/Technical(Operations) of M/s MCL, Shri V.Balasubramanyam – Director(Production) of M/s NALCO, Shri S.N.Padhi – Retd DG, Shri Netranand Mishra – Retd DDG(Mining) and Shri C.B.Prasad – Retd. DMS(Mining), and all the participants from coal and non-coal sectors.

- 3.0 Shri R.Subramanian – Director of Mines Safety, Bhubaneswar Region welcomed all dignitaries and highlighted the current poor status of affairs and the gross inadequacies in existing infrastructure in terms of both required policy/equipments and the organization. He apprised the gathering of the recent recommendations made by Rajasthan State Human Rights Commission in this connection many of which were with far reaching consequences, thereby clearly focussing on the urgency to address the matter.

- 4.0 Shri P.Ranganatheeshwar, Deputy Director General of Mines Safety(HQ & SEZ), in his address, conveyed the blessings of Shri Rahul Guha, Director General of Mines Safety for the event. He urged the higher management of M/s MCL, M/s NALCO, M/s OMC and all other mining companies present on the occasion to immediately take appropriate actions for effective control of respirable dust in mines, specially to strengthening the sampling and analysis aspects which are commensurate to employment in the mines for arriving at representative understanding on the matter, rather than the cursory arrangements existing presently. He also cautioned that any leniency on the matter would not be appreciated either by the Government or by the society involved.

- 5.0 In the technical session, presentations covering a variety of related subjects like the statutory stipulations, impact of dust on health of persons, recent trends in dust control, etc., were made by Shri Arvind Kumar – Deputy Director of Mines Safety jointly with Shri K.N.Sriram – Deputy Director of Mines Safety - both of Bhubaneswar Region, Prof. A.K.Mishra of Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, Shri C.B.Prasad – Retd Director of Mines Safety and Shri Sujit Roy Chaudhury – General Manager(safety & Rescue) of M/s MCL.

- 6.0 The technical session ended with an overwhelming consensus to immediately overhaul the current dust measurement and control regimes in place and to follow statutory stipulations in letter and spirit and to build a realistic and trust worthy data bank.

BANNER OUTSIDE THE BHUBANESWAR R.O.



CONFERENCE ROOM.



CONFERENCE ROOM INAUGURATED BY DDG(HQ&SEZ) & DIGNITARIES.



WELCOME BY SH R.SUBRAMANIAN, DMS,



PRESENTATION OF BOUQUET AND MEMENTO TO DIGNITARIES.



LIGHTING OF LAMP BY DIGNITARIES.



ADDRESS BY SH.S.ROY CHAUDHURY, MCL



ADDRESS BY SH C.B.PRASAD, RETD.DMS.



ADDRESS BY SH.V.BALASUBRAMANYAM, NALCO



ADDRESS BY SH. A.K.TIWARI, MCL.



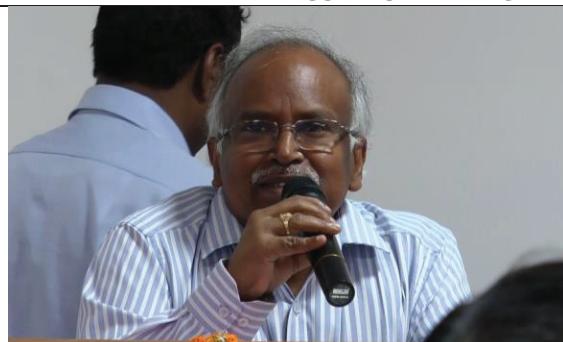
ADDRESS BY SH N.MISHRA, RETD DDG.



ADDRESS BY SH S.N.PADHI, RETD DG.



ADDRESS BY SH P.RANGANATHEESHWAR, DDG(HQ & SEZ).



PARTICIPANTS.



LECTURE BY SH. ARVIND KR, DY.DMS.



LECTURE BY PROF A.K.MISHRA, ISM.



CAPTIVATED AUDIENCE.



DR. B.N.MOHAPATRA – OH EXPERT, SHARING HIS VIEWS.



PARTICIPANTS GIVING FEED BACK.

