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Coal India okays 32 projects worth ₹47,000 crore in FY21



Coal India (CIL) has said that it has approved of 32 new coal mining projects this financial year, with an estimated cost of ₹47,000 crore. Of these, 24 are expansion of existing ones and the rest are greenfield projects. The combined incremental peak capacity of these projects is estimated at 193 million tonnes per annum (mtpa). This will be in addition to the already sanctioned capacity of 303.5 mtpa, said the company. The incremental production by FY24 from these 32 expansions and the new greenfield projects would be of around 81 MTPA. CIL said this was a record capacity addition in its history. "Such high number, either in terms of projects or capacity addition, has not been cleared in a single financial year so far," said a senior official of the company.

SHREYA JAI

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ON A ROLL IN FY21

CIL Okays ₹47.3kcr Investment in Record 32 Projects

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New Delhi: Coal India (CIL) has approved a record 32 mining projects this fiscal at an investment of ₹47,300 crore. While 24 of the 32 are expansion of the existing projects, eight are new greenfield projects. Combined peak capacity of these projects is projected at 193 million tonnes a year. This will be in addition to the sanctioned capacity of 303.5 million tonnes (mtpa) a year.

Coal India chairman Pramod Agrawal in an interview last week told ET that the company will not start new coal mines which require handing out large scale



Combined peak capacity of projects likely to be 193 mtpa; 8 greenfield projects on the list

employment against land acquisition. "Presently, we have to give employment to one labour per two acres acquired. In the past year, we have done tenders for a lot of high-end equipment and these equipment wherever we have installed, the productivity has increased tremendously. We are closing down mines which are not efficient," he said. CIL board and boards of the respective subsidiary companies have given their nod for the move, a company official said.

Incremental production by FY24 from the 32 projects would be to the tune of around 81 million tonnes a year. "Such high number, either in terms of projects or capacity addition, has not been cleared in a single financial year so far," said a senior company official.

Of the 193 million tonnes capacity of the 32 projects, the three subsidiaries of CIL—South Eastern Coalfields (SECL), Central Coalfields (CCL) and Mahanadi Coalfields (MCL)—at 167 million tonnes a year, form the bulk at 86.5%. SECL with six projects at an investment of ₹18,657 crore accounts for 63.5 mt per annum followed by CCL at an investment of ₹7,520 crore for 10 projects of 56.6 million tonnes a year. MCL with three project would add up to 47 MT per year at an investment of ₹14,057 crore.

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कोल इंडिया का बड़ा फैसला 32 माइनिंग प्रोजेक्ट्स मंजूर

एजेंसियां नयी दिल्ली

सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की कंपनी कोल इंडिया लिमिटेड (सीआइएल) के निदेशक मंडल ने चालू वित्त में जनवरी तक 32 कोयला खनन परियोजनाओं को मंजूरी दी है। इन परियोजनाओं पर 47,300 करोड़ रुपये का बढ़ा हुआ निवेश करने की जरूरत होगी। कंपनी ने सोमवार को एक बयान में कहा कि इन 32 में से 24 परियोजनाएं मौजूदा परियोजनाओं का विस्तार है। शेष नयी परियोजनाएं हैं। यह एक रिकॉर्ड है। इन परियोजनाओं की बढ़ी हुई या अतिरिक्त अधिकतम



क्षमता 19.3 करोड़ टन सालाना होगी। यह पहले से मंजूर 30.35 करोड़ टन की क्षमता के अतिरिक्त है। इन परियोजनाओं को मंजूरी के बाद कोल इंडिया की अनुषंगी इकाइयों आने वाले वर्षों में अपना उत्पादन बढ़ा सकेंगी। सीआइएल के निदेशक मंडल तथा संबंधित अनुषंगी कंपनियों के बोर्ड ने इस कदम को मंजूरी दे दी है। कंपनी ने कहा कि इन 32 परियोजनाओं से 2023-24 तक करीब 8.1 करोड़ टन सालाना का अतिरिक्त उत्पादन होगा। कोल इंडिया अपने खुद के कोयले के जरिये आयात को रोकना चाहती है।

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Coal India logs improvement in quality coal supplies

PNS ■ RANCHI

Coal India's (CIL) underpinning for better quality coal supplies reflected a positive jump in the third party sample analysis as the grade conformity during Apr-Feb'21 improved to 65 per cent from 59 per cent compared to the same period last year.

Grade slippage during the third quarter of FY'21 was down to 34 per cent compared to 41 per cent the same period year ago. During the first two months of the current fiscal's fourth quarter, Jan'21 to Feb'r21, grade slippages declined further to 23 per cent compared to 42 per cent of last year's same period.

The notion that customers are billed for higher grade coal than one actually supplied is misconceived. CIL initially bills customers based on the declared grade of coal supplied. Such provisional bills are later adjusted, once the actual quality of coal is tested and established by an authorized Third Party Sampling agency, which are Central Institute of Mining & Fuel Research and Quality Council of India. This mutually agreed system of sampling is in vogue since 2016. CIL is further inducting two more globally reputed agencies for its third party sampling ini-

tiatives.

"No consumer suffers financial loss arising out of quality variation between the declared grade and the actual tested grade" said a senior executive of the company.

Contrary to losing out on quality front CIL, till January'21, stands to receive Rs.571 Crores as net quality bonus for providing better coal than declared grade. This is expected to go up to around Rs.660 Crores considering the trend of referee results received during the ongoing FY.

Primary reason for grade variations is the inherent heterogeneous nature of Indian coal itself meaning, calorific value of coal extracted within the same seam at different points tends to vary. The gradation of mines is determined by Coal Controller's Office annually which is a statutory body under GoI, and not by coal companies.

The analysis between weighted average of declared Gross Calorific Value (GCV) and analyzed GCV during April-January'21 shows the variation to be 26 K.cal/Kg which is lesser than one-tenth of a grade band, compared to the same period last year. The difference between two bands of a grade is 300 K.Cal/Kg.

Further, there is a provision in the agreement for challenging the result of the Third Party Sampling either by consumers or the coal company based on the analysis results obtained at their ends. In case of challenge, the part of coal samples preserved is sent to the designated government referee laboratory for re-analysis, as well.

CIL's use of surface miners entail blast free selective mining leading to better quality coal output with the added advantage of consistent sized coal. Surface miner output logged 5.8 per cent growth at 220 MTs during April'20-February'21 compared to 208 MTs extracted through these machines in the same period last year. CIL is confident of surpassing last year's output of 269 MTs achieved through surface miners.

CIL is also pushing ahead for utilization of mechanical scraping to remove extraneous material, use of mobile crushers for supply of sized coal, transportation of coal from mines to loading points in first mile connectivity. In a first, online ash analyzers are being procured for the mines of NCL and MCL for real time coal quality assessment. The slew of measures will further help CIL in consolidating its quality supplies.

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CIL to get ₹660 cr as net quality bonus this fiscal

INDRONIL ROYCHOWDHURY

Kolkata, March 10

STATE-RUN COAL India (CIL) is likely to receive ₹660 crore this fiscal as a net quality bonus for supplying better coal than the declared grade as it already stands to receive ₹571 crore on this account as of January this year.

The company's third-party analysis conforming grade quality during April-February this fiscal improved to 65% against 59% compared to the same period last fiscal. The grade slippage during the third quarter was down to 34% compared with 41% the same period a year ago.

During the first two months of the current fiscal's fourth quarter, grade slippages declined further to 23% against 42% during the same period last fiscal. CIL's coal is divided into 17 grades.

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CIL says coal grade slippage in Q3 down to 34%

State-owned Coal India (CIL) on Wednesday said coal grade slippage in the third quarter of the ongoing fiscal was down to 34 per cent and clarified that provisional bills of customers later get adjusted once the actual quality of coal is tested. Grade slippage implies that the fuel's grade during the sampling is found inferior than the declared grade.

PTI

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To enhance coal output govt identifies 15 new projs: Joshi

NEW DELHI, MAR 10

TO enhance coal production and reduce imports, Coal India Ltd (CIL) has identified 15 new projects with a capacity to produce 160 million tonnes per annum, Parliament was informed on Wednesday.

Coal India Ltd (CIL) aims to achieve 1 billion tonnes of coal production by 2023-24.

"The focus of the government is on increasing domestic production of coal and to achieve these targets through the allocation of more coal blocks, pursuing with the state government for assistance in land acquisition and co-ordinated efforts with railways for movement of coal... 15 green-field projects identified with a capacity of about 160 MTPA (Million Tonnes per Annum) to be operated by mine developer cum operator mode," Coal and Mines Minister Pralhad Joshi told Lok Sabha.

In order to enhance domestic production, 25 per cent of coal production has been allowed for the sale of coal for the newly-allocated captive coal blocks, he



said and added that commercial mining, with a provision for 100 per cent foreign direct investment, has been allowed by the government.

In order to enhance coal production and achieve coal production targets, CIL has initiated a number of steps, including introduction of mass production technology in underground coal mines.

Another coal producing company Singareni Collieries Company Ltd (SCCL) is planning to open 11 new mines, including two in Talcher in Odisha, the minister said.

He said an Inter-Ministerial

Committee (IMC) has been constituted in the Ministry of Coal for the purpose of coal import substitution with representatives from the Ministry of Power (MoP), Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Shipping, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Steel, Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), Department for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade (DPIIT), Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Coal Companies and Ports as its members.

"This committee provides a platform for discussions on a larger forum with the adminis-

trative ministries so as to guide them to encourage the coal consumers of their respective sector to eliminate imports of coal. Nine meetings of the IMC have been held so far.

"IMC has also directed for development of an import data system by the Ministry of Coal to enable the ministry to track the imports of coal. CIL has also started an online portal to register the requests of coal consumers willing for import substitution of coal," the minister said.

To reduce coal imports, the Annual Contracted Quantity (ACQ) of the power plants have been increased up to 100 per cent of the normative requirement in those cases where the ACQ was earlier reduced to 90 per cent of normative.

"CIL has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) under import substitution for about 12 MTPA coal with the power plants linked with CIL. Accordingly, CIL has allocated 9.53 MT coal to the power plants till February 2021 under import substitution," the coal minister said. – PTI