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CIL accident rate drops by a third in 2022

Coal India Tuesday said deaths and accidents in its mines decreased by a third in 2022 bringing down the number of accidents to an all-time low of 20 in which 18 fatalities were reported. The reduction of 31 per cent from was the result of laser-like focus on ensuring the safety of its workers, the miner said. There were 29 accidents the previous year in which 27 people had died.

Coal India records 31% decline in fatalities in 2022

Coal India Limited (CIL) recorded 20 fatalities in the year 2022, observing a decline 31% than the previous year. The number of fatalities recorded in the State-owned miner in the year 2021 was 29. “Demonstrating a downward trend, fatal accidents were also reduced by one-third to 18 in 2022. Comparatively, the same were 27 in 2021,” a press statement by CIL said. According to the CIL, the fatality rate per million tonne (MT) of coal produced was 0.028 in 2022 decreasing sizeably by 40% against 0.047 of 2021. CIL produced 688 MTs during the calendar year of 2022 against 617 MTs in the preceding year.

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Coal India converts 30 mined-out areas into eco-tourism destinations

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
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In a unique initiative, Coal India Limited (CIL) is in the process of converting its abandoned mines into eco-parks which have become popular as eco-tourism destinations.

These eco-parks and tourism sites are also proving to be a source of livelihood for the local populace. Thirty such eco-parks are already attracting steady footfalls and plans are afoot for the creation of more eco-parks and eco-restoration sites in CIL's mining areas.

Some of the popular destinations that provide further fillip to coal mine tourism include Gunjanpark, ECL, Gokul eco-cultural park, BCCL, Kenapara eco-tourism site and AnanyaVatika, SECL, Krishnashila eco-restoration site and Mudwani eco-parks, NCL, Ananta medicinal garden, MCL, BalGangadhar Tilak eco-park, WCL and Chandra Sekhar Azad eco-park, CCL.



"No one could have predicted that an abandoned mined-out land could be transformed into a buzzing tourism destination. We are enjoying boating, the beautiful waterbody with the adjoining greenery and having lunch on a floating restaurant," said a visitor at Kenapara eco-tourism site developed by SECL in Surajpur district, Chhattisgarh. "Kenapara has promising tourism potential and is also a good source of

income for the tribal people," the visitor added.

Similarly, the Mudwani eco-parks recently developed by NCL in Jayantarea of Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh has a landscaped waterfront and pathways. "In a remote place like Singrauli, where there isn't much to see, the Mudwani eco-park is seeing a surge in visitors due to its beautiful landscape and other recreational facilities," said a visitor.

Besides this, during 2022-23, CIL has already surpassed its annual plantation target of 1510 hectares by expanding its green cover to 1610 hectares. The company has planted over 30 lakh saplings in the current fiscal. In the last five fiscals till FY '22, 4392 hectares of greening inside the mine lease area has created a carbon sink potential of 2.2 LT/year.

CIL is also using new techniques like seed ball plantation, seed casting through drones and Miyawaki plantation in its various mines. Mined-out areas, overburden dumps, etc are concurrently reclaimed as soon as they get delinked from the active mining zones.

Various species for biological reclamation are selected in consultation with central and state-aided expert agencies. Monitoring of land reclamation and restoration is being done through remote sensing and as of now, around 33% area is under green cover.