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Coal India Okays SECL, MCL Stake Sale

Board gives in-principle approval for divestment of up to 25% in each subsidiary via OFS

Our Bureau

New Delhi: The board of Coal India Ltd on Monday gave in-principle approval for divestment of up to 25% of equity shares held by it each in South Eastern Coalfields Ltd (SECL) and Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd (MCL) through 'offer for sale'.

It will also issue fresh equity shares of SECL up to 10% of the post issue paid-up equity share capital, in one or more tranches, through an initial public offer (IPO) or other routes in the domestic market, the company said in a notice to the stock exchanges.

The state-owned miner had given in-principle approval for the listing of SECL and MCL on De-



cember 23, which was notified to the bourses.

The approval for the divestment will be communicated to the Ministry of Coal for onward submission to the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management, the company said.

FREEING RESOURCES

For Coal India, the stake sale could help raise resources for diversification, including investments in clean energy and coal gasification

The proposed listing of SECL remains subject to receipt of requisite regulatory approvals and completion of necessary formalities.

The in-principle approval for divestment of equity shares in MCL is through 'offer for sale' in one or more tranches, through an

IPO or other market routes.

SECL and MCL are among Coal India's largest and most profitable arms, contributing significantly to its overall output.

The move aligns with the government's broader push to deepen capital markets through public listings of state-owned enterprises while retaining majority control.

For Coal India, the stake sale could help raise resources for diversification, including investments in clean energy and coal gasification projects, even as coal continues to anchor India's energy mix.

The company's board also approved to close MJSJ Coal Ltd, a subsidiary of MCL and step-down subsidiary of Coal India.

Coal India to set up 8 coking coal washeries at ₹3,300 crore

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Seeking to improve the quality of coking coal, State-owned miner Coal India Ltd. (CIL) informed it would be setting up eight new coking coal washeries, with a combined washing capacity of 21.5 million tonnes a year, at an estimated capital outlay of ₹3,300 crore.

Of the eight, five would be set up by the Jharkhand-headquartered Central Coalfields Ltd. These would have a cumulative

capacity of 14.5 million tonnes a year. The remaining, to be with Bharat Coking Coal, would account for a cumulative capacity of 7 million tonnes a year.

CIL expects to make the eight washeries operational by FY30.

Additionally, miner would also be spending ₹300 crore in renovation and modernisation of its existing coking coal washeries. At present, CIL operates 10 such washeries that account for a cumulative capacity of 18.35 million tonnes a year.

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कोल इंडिया 3,300 करोड़ का निवेश करेगी

कोल इंडिया लिमिटेड (सीआईएल) अपनी कोकिंग कोयला शोधन क्षमता में विस्तार कर रही है। कोल इंडिया की योजना आठ नई कोकिंग कोल वॉशरीज स्थापित करने की है। इससे घरेलू कोयले की गुणवत्ता बेहतर होगी और इस्पात क्षेत्र की आयात पर निर्भरता घटेगी। कोयले का खनन करने वाली इस सरकारी कंपनी 8 वॉशरीज के लिए 3,300 करोड़ रुपये का निवेश करेगी।

बीएस

'COAL WILL RUN PARALLEL WITH RENEWABLES FOR DECADES'

Coal India Chairman and Managing Director B SAIRAM tells Saurav Anand coal will remain central to India's energy mix for several decades even as renewable capacity grows. Excerpts:

How is Coal India preparing to scale up production as power demand rises?

Our focus is to ensure that no power plant suffers for want of coal. There is adequate in-situ coal exposure at our mines that allows quicker extraction if demand suddenly rises. At present around 60 million tonne of coal is exposed in major mines and available for ready extraction. Scaling up production is, therefore, not a major concern if demand holds up.

Coal India is already a cost-competitive producer and we are working to reduce costs further through fuel-efficient machinery, automation and digitalisation of mining processes.

How is the company integrating sustainability and responsible mining practices?

We are adopting a multi-pronged approach to reduce the carbon footprint of our mining operations. Coal India's combined Scope-1 and Scope-2 emissions intensity remained at about 44,800 tonne of CO₂ equivalent per million tonne of coal output in both FY24 and FY25. In absolute terms, Scope-1 emissions were around 26 million tonne of CO₂ equivalent and Scope-2 emissions about 8 million tonne, taking the total to roughly 34 million



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tonne. About 64% of our opencast output is produced using surface miners that allow blast-free selective extraction, reducing dust and noise pollution. We plan to increase the fleet further.

Coal India is diversifying into new areas. What progress has been made on this front?

Our strategy is to position Coal India as an integrated energy company rather than remain only a coal producer, though coal will continue to be our core business. Diversification is essentially about preparing for the future. In coal gasification, we have partnered with Bhel, Gail and BPCL to produce ammonium nitrate and synthetic natural gas. These projects will help utilise coal in cleaner and more efficient ways.

On renewables, we have already installed around 247 MW of capacity, largely solar, as of December in FY26. We are also working on larger projects through joint ventures. These include an 875 MW solar project with Rajasthan State Genco and a 500 MW project with Uttar Pradesh State Genco that will be implemented in phases.

When do you expect India's coal demand to peak?

India's coal story and its journey to net zero will run in parallel for several decades. India's per capita electricity consumption is currently about 1,360 units, which is roughly 40% of the global average and only about one-fifth of China's level. This shows the large headroom for growth in electricity demand. During this phase, renewables and fossil fuels will complement each other in meeting the country's power requirements. By 2035-2040 India could approach the global average consumption of about 4,000 units per capita. At that point,



OUR STRATEGY IS TO POSITION COAL INDIA AS AN INTEGRATED ENERGY COMPANY RATHER THAN REMAIN ONLY A COAL PRODUCER, THOUGH COAL WILL CONTINUE TO BE OUR CORE BUSINESS

demand for fossil fuels may begin to plateau and most new capacity additions could come from renewables. By 2047, when India aims to reach electricity consumption levels comparable to developed economies, renewable energy will gradually begin

substituting fossil fuels.

How does Coal India see its role in balancing energy transition with affordable power supply?

Coal India has set a net-zero target for itself by FY30 and our renewable energy programme is an important part of that effort. We are targeting about 3 GW of solar capacity by FY28. At the same time, our role as a low-cost coal producer remains critical for the country. Coal is the most affordable energy resource available in abundance in India and it continues to provide the backbone for base-load electricity generation. Our objective is to ensure reliable supply of coal so that electricity can be delivered at an affordable price. In that sense, Coal India will continue to play a central role in balancing the country's energy transition goals with the need for dependable and reasonably priced power.

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CIL bags ₹1,057 crore battery storage project in Telangana

NEW DELHI: Coal India Limited (CIL) on Sunday announced that it has received a Letter of Award (LoA) for setting up a large battery energy storage project in Telangana, marking a further step in its clean energy expansion.

The order has been awarded by Telangana Power Generation Corporation Limited for developing a 750 MWh battery energy storage system (BESS) at Choutuppal.

The project, which will have a capacity of 187.5 MW for four hours, is estimated to cost Rs 1,057.09 crore.

"Coal India Limited has received a Letter of Award (LOA) from Telangana Power Generation Corporation Limited for Setting up of 750 MWh (187.5 MW for 4 hours) BESS Plant at Choutuppal," it said in its regulatory filing.

The company said the project will be completed within 18 months from the signing of the Battery Energy Storage Purchase Agreement (BESPA).

As part of the deal, Coal India will supply power at a tariff of Rs 3.14 lakh per MW per month.

CIL will also need to submit performance bank guarantees and other required documents within 15 days, after which the formal agreement will be signed. -IANS



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Coal India chairman lauds MCL's mining practices during his visit

PBD BUREAU

SAMBALPUR, MAR 29

DURING his three-day maiden visit, B Sairam, Chairman of Coal India Limited, lauded the efficient and environmentally responsible mining practices of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) after inspecting key operations across Talcher and Ib Valley coalfields.

He appreciated MCL's continued focus on such operations and reiterated Coal India's commitment to meeting the nation's energy needs while advancing diversification into renewable energy, critical mineral exploration and coal gasification.

During the visit, he held discussions with key stakeholders with emphasis on employee welfare and collaborative efforts, and reviewed the compa-



ny's operational performance.

At Talcher coalfields, Sairam inspected the Bhubaneswari and Ananta open cast projects, along with the automated truck loading system (ATLS) & SILO at Bhubaneswari area, and commended the team for adopting innovative practices and strengthening sustainable mining operations.

At Ib Valley coalfields, he visited Samaleswari, Lajkura and Integrated Lilari Belpahar Lakhanpur mines, as well as the coal stockyard at Lakhanpur area, assessing production and despatch progress. He

also inspected the Ib Valley Coal Washery and reviewed coal handling processes.

He further reviewed mining operations at Basundhara and Mahalaxmi areas, including Kulda, Siarmal and Garjanbahal open cast projects, along with the railway siding at Sardega, taking stock of production and evacuation arrangements.

During the visit, he also felicitated outstanding performers, including female employees and contractors' workers, in recognition of their contributions at the workplace.

Uday Anant Kaole, CMD, MCL, along with Keshav Rao, Director (HR), AK Behura, Director (Finance), and SK Jha, Director (Technical-Operations/Project & Planning), accompanied him during the visit.