

minds AND **mettle**

MSPL NEWS BULLETIN

VOLUME 13 • NO.4
OCT-DEC 2009



The Baldota School of Thought

Gets Awarded at 3rd International GCA India Conference

Education helps flower an individual's capabilities and has the power to change the future of not only an individual but of an entire nation. At the Baldota Group, it has been our unwavering endeavour to help education percolate right down to the grass roots.



Education has the power to change life,
not only of the individual but also of his / her
entire family.

Shri Narendrakumar A. Baldota CMD, MSPL Limited



2009 was a year where India came on the anvil of sweeping reforms ranging from the elimination of CBSE's Class X board exams to the enactment of Right to Education Act. We, at the Baldota Group, too continued to play our part in encouraging education.

2009 was another year where we awarded Baldota fellowships, gave gold medals to top rankers, provided financial support to engineering and medical students, distributed notebooks among school students, installed computers & furniture in schools and organized special classes for rural students, to name a few.

This year long endeavour was recognized at the 3rd International GCA India Conference held in Bangalore, wherein the Baldota Group was conferred a special award for its contribution in the field of education.

Mr. Rahulkumar N. Baldota, Executive Director, MSPL Limited received the coveted award on behalf of the Baldota Group from His Excellency, Shri H.R. Bhardwaj, the Honourable Governor of Karnataka. The conference was jointly held

by Global Communication Association (GCA) and the Public Relations Council of India (PRCI) on November 26, 2009.

"I am delighted to receive this coveted award and it is an ideal recognition from GCA and PRCI. I accept the same with utmost humility," Mr. Rahulkumar N. Baldota asserted while receiving the award. "It is also a true recognition of our consistent contribution to education along with our other CSR initiatives."

The theme for the conference, 'Global Village - Are we there yet?', focused on how the advancement in digital communication has changed the world into a global village. Academicians, policy makers, corporate executives, representatives from NGOs and research scholars presented papers on the same.

Mr. Raghavendra Rao, AGM (Corporate Communications), MSPL Ltd. presented a paper on MSPL's CSR initiatives. His presentation was chaired by Mr. Bhupendra Chaubey, National Bureau Chief - CNN IBN. The social initiatives taken up by MSPL were greatly appreciated by the audience.

Public Relations Council of India (PRCI) is a non-political organization that provides opportunity to serve their community by encouraging high ethical standards in their respective areas of work.

Global Communication Association (GCA) was established with an aim to foster and promote academic research in global studies, academic collaboration among major universities around the world.



Our children will never know they can have a better life if they don't receive education. With proper education and support, we believe that we are shaping the growth of youth who are pillars of societal growth.

Mr. H.K. Ramesh AGM - CSR, MSPL Limited

Snapshot of Educational Endeavours

→ Baldota fellowships

We awarded five fellowships of Rs. 3 lac each to promising students looking to pursue M. Tech in mineral exploration at the University of Hyderabad (U&H). Laptops were also sponsored for these talented fellows.

→ Special school for children of mineworkers

We have provided a school building to impart free primary education for the children of our mine workers. We also provide textbooks, notebooks and other stationery for the students.

→ Encouraging higher studies

We supported 24 poor but talented students to pursue higher studies in the fields of engineering, medicine and management.

→ Empowering female education

Motivated 13 school drop-outs to rejoin school by financially supporting their families.

→ Teachers training

A computer training program was conducted for teachers.

We sponsored workshop kits for 1,200 teachers of Koppal district undergoing a training program.

→ Classroom infrastructure

We donated furniture viz. desks, tables and chairs to six schools and 15 Anganwadis.

Arranged special classes for 10th standard students to improve their competency level.

→ Gold for rankers

Since 1991, every year the ABF has been awarding gold medals to outstanding students of R.A. Podar College - Mumbai, PDIT College - Hospet and Deepayana School - Hospet.

→ Distributing tools of learning

Approximately 1,20,000 notebooks were distributed to 21,024 students across 88 schools in Hospet Taluka and seven schools in Koppal Taluka.

Learning tools viz. microscope, geometry kits, globe, charts, science materials, mathematics kit, maps etc. were provided for six schools and 15 anganwadis.

→ Beyond classrooms

We organized a science exhibition in Hospet that witnessed a participation by 24 schools.

Kitchen utensils were provided for mid-day meals.

We are also promoting and rewarding sports talent and facilitating music training in schools especially for the poor and physically challenged students.



At Baldota Group, we stay committed to the Prime Minister's goal to bring about a revolution in modern education. By providing means and opportunities for primary and higher education to the economically challenged in the rural hinterlands, we strive to leap over the economic & social pitfalls of illiteracy.



On the
anvil of
a new
beginning



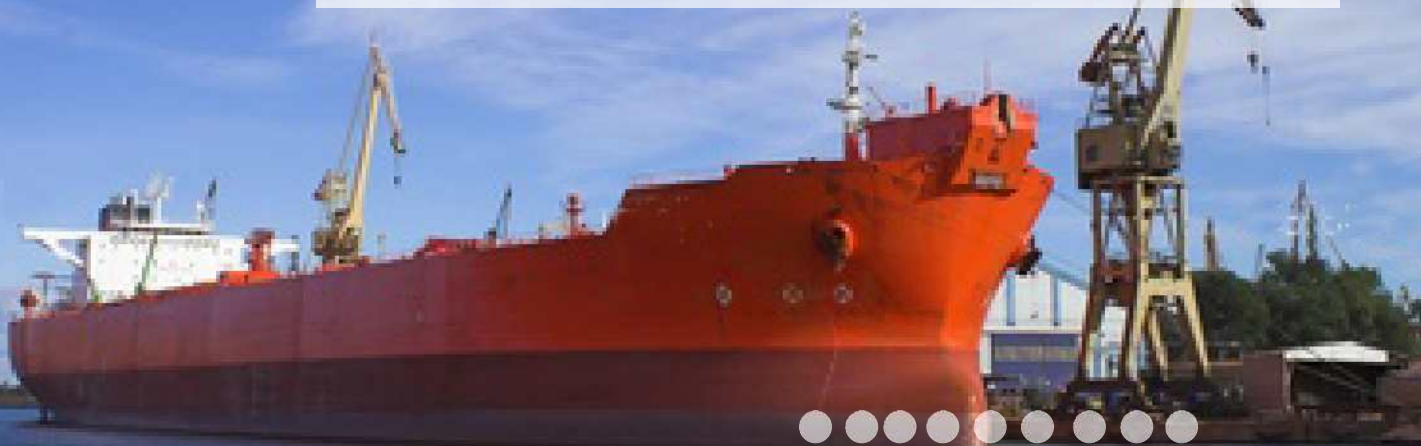
The First Ship Steel Cutting Ceremony at China

For us sustainable business is at the heart of being a sustainable organization. Our foray into the shipping business is a strategic decision to pursue new shores of success. Hence our focus is on becoming a self-sufficient organization that can handle entire iron ore supply chain from raw material production to end use. This will consolidate our present position in the resource market and reinforce the Group's diversification in trading and manufacturing.

Our wholly-owned subsidiary in Singapore namely MSPL Diamond Pte. Ltd. has already contracted the construction of four new dry bulk ships to Taizhou Sanfu Ship Engineering Co. Ltd., China.

The steel cutting ceremony for the first ship was held on October 20, 2009 at a shipyard in China and was inaugurated by Shri Narendrakumar A. Baldota, CMD, MSPL Limited.

These ships have already been registered in advance with the Singapore Registry and are slated for delivery beginning January 2011. Furthermore, the ships have been christened as - Indus Prosperity, Indus Fortune, Indus Triumph & Indus Victory. The names are an amalgam of 'Indus' - derived from Indus valley, the prosperous civilization and flourishing maritime port of ancient times and the four respective suffixes are all synonyms of the word 'success'.





A Fight for Human Rights

Contributions for Anti-trafficking organization – Prajwala

Human trafficking is one of the gravest violations of human rights. The Constitution of India prohibits trafficking in all forms, yet in the name of love, marriage, employment and fame thousands of girls and children are lured into the clutches of this organized crime day in and day out.

Today, however the scenario is changing. Across the country, voices are being raised to address human rights. The growing momentum against human trafficking is visible from the fact that more individuals and organizations are vouching to eliminate human trafficking. One such dedicated organization is

Prajwala that envisions a trafficking-free society wherein no woman or child is sexually exploited.

Abheraj Baldota Foundation is in consonance with the vision of Prajwala and recognizes the role it is playing in the fight for human rights. To encourage the organization's initiatives, we contributed Rs. 5 Lac, which the organization will plough in to rehabilitate 600 survivors.

The ABF is especially compassionate towards such human interest endeavours and will continue to support those willing to fight for human rights.



For its efforts Prajwala has been recognized by various national and international bodies like Govt. of India, World of Children, UNFPA & Ashoka Innovators.



Weather Station



Month	Avg. Wind Speed (Km/Hr)	Min. Temp. (°C)	Max. Temp. (°C)	Total Rainfall (mm)
Oct-09	3.60	23.0	35.5	285.5
Nov-09	3.14	24.0	35.5	60.0
Dec-09	4.06	25.5	37.0	60.0



Mission: Vision

Free eye check-up camp for Hanumanahalli residents

Eyes are the window to the world and good eyesight is indispensable to live a fulfilling life. At MSPL, our aim is to see a society free from eyesight issues. Towards this we regularly organize free eye check-up camps for our neighbouring communities.

On December 5, 2009, MSPL organized an eye check-up camp at Hanumanahalli school campus in association with Ashwini Eye Hospital - a cataract surgery centre located in Hospet, providing state-of-the-art eye care treatments. The camp undertook a thorough vision check-up to prevent avoidable blindness caused due to cataract.

The camp was inaugurated by Dr. Srinivas V. Deshpande, Ashwini Eye Hospital and witnessed a registration of 200 patients. All of them were screened for eye diseases and 65 patients suffering from cataract were identified. MSPL will ensure that these 65 patients undergo free cataract operation.



Smoke-free Cooking

LPG connection for 72 families of Hanumanahalli and Danapur

Many families in the rural hinterlands continue to depend on wood as a primary source of fuel to cook meals. This not only adds to the problem of deforestation, but also poses a health risk to women of that family.

In the reporting quarter, MSPL provided LPG connection to 72 families in Hanumanahalli and Danapur with the help of Women Self Help Groups. This will be a great boon for the families and ensure a more modern and consistent supply of cooking fuel. It will also ensure that women don't have to go looking for firewood, especially during wet seasons and do not suffer harmful side effects of inhaling smoke during traditional cooking.





The Power of Self-Reliance

By definition self reliance is - dependence on one's own capabilities, judgment or resources. MSPL believes that a progressive and successful society is where women are self-reliant and confident of their capabilities, judgment and ability to garner resources.

The purpose behind the formation of Self Help Groups (SHGs) in our adopted villages was to empower the women with the power of self-reliance.

During the quarter, six SHGs were given financial assistance on a revolving fund basis to further the goals of village development and improve the economic status of women by creating income generation programs.



Helping Women Help Themselves

Empowering women by providing them with income opportunities has also been a part of MSPL's ongoing mission. The route take for this has been through tailoring training. Our six training centres established in six different villages aspire to provide tailoring training for women so that their talent and potential can be realized to the fullest extent; in turn achieving better economic and social development for them. The training program is a comprehensive one, set out to touch upon all aspects of tailoring.

During the quarter, 115 women successfully completed this 6-month training and a further 120 women enrolled for the same. We have also provided free sewing machines to those who have completed their training so that they can practice their learning and make it a profitable profession.

This tailoring training initiative undertaken by MSPL has already started accruing results. The trained women have started earning approx. Rs. 50 to Rs. 200 every day.

Special Classes for our Future Custodians

10th standard exams are a crucial milestone in a student's life, as it determines the course of his or her higher studies. Last year, MSPL organized special classes for 10th standard students to enable them score better and compete with students from urban areas. The feedback was very positive and reassuring. Inspired by the same we organized special classes for 65, 10th standard students at Hanumanahalli and Danapur villages. These classes focused on improving their grasp on English, Maths and Science subjects.



Green Education is in the AIR

'MSPL's Hasire Usiru' radio program to create environmental awareness

In association with All India Radio (AIR) - Hospet, MSPL initiated the broadcast of 'Hasire Usiru', an infotainment program a few years ago to propagate environmental awareness among school children across the taluka.

This program soon became popular as 'MSPL's Hasire Usiru' and succeeded in orienting young minds to their responsibilities towards mother earth and motivating them to harmonize with nature. To further strengthen the interaction with the children various competitions like drama, essay writing etc are also organized. We continue to assist this program, which has been well-received by people of all age groups in the region.

Supporting the Spirit of Sports



In our continuing endeavour to encourage sports among the rural youth, MSPL sponsored prizes and certificates for the sports meet held at Jaisingpura. This sports meet, organized every year by the villagers, aims to promote rural sports and create unity among the neighbouring villages.

MSPL is committed to encourage sports and will continue to support spirited sportspersons who are determined to make a mark.

Shining during the Safety Week



At the Baldota Group mines, we truly believe in the fundament of 'Safety First', as we seek to regulate safe & healthy working conditions for all our employees. From procedures, awareness training, to best of breed equipment the focus on safety practices is omnipresent. A case in point is VIOM, one of the largest private sector iron ore mine in the Bellary-Hospet region of Karnataka, with an immaculate record of zero fatal mining accidents in last eight years.

At the recently concluded Mines Safety Week - 2009, we continued to excel in the inspections and trade test competitions proving that Baldota Group mines are the safest mines in the region.

This year the Mines Safety Association Karnataka observed its 40th Mines Safety Week between November 31 and December 26, 2009 across three zones of Karnataka.

Mines Safety Association Karnataka (MSAK) is one of the oldest mining associations in the state of Karnataka. Its primary objective is to propagate best practices and inculcate safety awareness among workers and supervisory staff.

Safety Week Celebrations at a glance

Baldota Group

40 prizes in trade test competitions

VIOM

- Stood 1st winning maximum number of trade test competitions
- Best Overall Performance in Mechanized Group A

Iyli

Best Overall Performance Prize in Mechanized Group A3



Mines Inspection & Safety Awards

During the safety week various mines of Bellary-Sandur-Hospet sector were inspected by the team nominated by Director of Mines Safety & Dy. Director of Mines Safety, Bellary. Our Baldota Group mines won the below safety awards:

Iyli Gurunath Iron Ore Mines (Mechanized Group A3 Hospet)

Over All Performance	1st prize
Standard of Working	1st Prize
Operation & Maintenance of Machinery	2nd Prize
Human Resource Development	1st Prize
Propaganda & Innovation	1st Prize



Vyasankere Iron Ore Mines (Mechanized Group A)

Over All Performance	1st Prize
Operation & Maintenance of machinery	1st Prize
Welfare Amenities	1st Prize
Propaganda & Innovation	1st Prize
Standard of Working	2nd Prize
Human Resource Development	2nd Prize

Sachidananda Iron Ore Mines (Mechanized Group A3 Hospet)

Welfare Amenities	1st Prize
Hazard Identification & Risk Management	1st Prize
Human Resources Development	2nd Prize



Trade Test Competitions

Baldota Group won 40 prizes out of 169 prizes in different trade test competitions. In all 60 mines participated wherein VIOM stood 1st on account of winning maximum number of prizes.

Vyasankere Iron Ore Mines

Winners	Category	Zonal Level	State Level
B. Lakshminarayana	Diesel Mechanic	1st	1st
M. Adhinarayana	Electrician (ITI)	1st	
S.R. Basavaraj	Welder	1st	1st
R. Sreerama Shastry	First Aid	1st	1st
Rajashekar			
K. Ramu			
R. Venkatesh			
Y. Rayappa	Plant Maintenance Crew	1st	-
G.S. Manjunath			
K. Yallappa	Tug of War (Hospet)	1st	-
C. Chand Basha			
G. Sathyanarayana			
Raja Hussain			
Hussain Sab			
Revanappa	Best Male (Hospet) Con.	1st	-
Y.M. Nataraj	English Songs	2nd	-
Y.M. Nataraj	Hindi Songs	2nd	-
Bhaktaraj	Hy. Excavator (3 Cum)	2nd	2nd
K.H. Manjunath	Kannada Slogans	2nd	-
Y.M. Nataraj	Magazine Clerk	2nd	2nd
Chandrashekar G.B	Mechanical Fitter	2nd	2nd
S. Rammohan	Mine Mate	2nd	-
Servakka	Best Female (Hospet)	3rd	-

Sachidananda Iron Ore Mines

Winners	Category	Zonal Level	State Level
H. Hanumantha	Mine Mate	1st	2nd
Mallikarjuna	Best Male (Hospet) Con.	2nd	-
Y. Ratnamma	Best Female (Hospet) Con.	3rd	-

Iyali Gurunath Iron Ore Mines

Winners	Category	Zonal Level
Jeelan Basha	Wheel Loader Operator	1st
S. Satish	English Slogans	1st
Laxmikanth	Quiz	1st
Sanjay Mygeri		
Anjappa. K		
Obulesu. M		
G. Jagadish	Electrical Diploma	3rd

Pathikonda Iron Ore Mines

Winners	Category	Zonal Level
Gudusalamma	Best Female (Hospet) Con.	1st
M.S. Suresh	Tug of War (Hospet)	2nd
K.M. Srinivasa		
T. Kirankumar		
V. Ramanjini		
T. Santhosh		
Budan Samad	Mechanical Foreman	3rd





Advancing New Knowledge



New advancements harbour new challenges. The advent of internet made the need to protect Intellectual Property (IP) Rights all the more pertinent.

At MSPL, we have staunchly stood by the development of a balanced IP system which rewards creativity, stimulates innovation and contributes to economic development while safeguarding public interest.

Mr. Shrinivas Devadiga, Associate Manager (Secretarial) - MSPL Limited, articulated a comprehensive report on 'Intellectual Property Rights and the role of World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)', which got published in ICSI newsletter, Mysore Chapter.

The Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) is a vibrant organization undertaking various initiatives for the development of the profession. Its Mysore chapter also publishes a newsletter.

The article focused on major initiatives of WIPO like encouraging the use of IP for economic development, promoting a better understanding of IP, delivering global IP protection services, developing international IP laws and standards, providing a forum for debate, etc.

At MSPL, we continually seek to encourage employees to participate in external forums. This not only boosts self-confidence, but expands knowledge horizon.

The first batch of medical oxygen containers were installed at S.S. Hospital by MSPL Gases. The inauguration ceremony was held on December 1, 2009 wherein Dr. Kanthirao Balasaraswathi, Dean, performed a pooja. MSPL Gases has won a 5-year contract from S.S. Hospital, Davanagere for the supply of medical oxygen containers.



The Baldota Group, Moving Ahead. Proving Its Mettle



The steel industry in India is on an upswing because of strong global and domestic demand. The Baldota Group being the leader in iron ore production has a ready base for producing sufficient amount of steel.

Therefore to expand our business footprint and enhance our profitability, the Group strategically decided to move towards related businesses that sustain growth - the Pellet and Steel production.

Steel Plant



We forayed in to steel production through the launch of Aaress Iron and Steel Limited (AISL). The foundation stone for the greenfield plant was laid on 7th May, 2008 as we decided to set up a 1.2 MTPA Integrated Steel Plant across an area of 1,034 acres at Halavarthi village, Koppal District.

The site development is already underway as we aim to commission the plant by July, 2012. AISL will produce alloy and special long steel products viz. bar and wire rods and has already received offers from various plant units suppliers.

Pellet Plant



We are also setting up a 1.2 MTPA pellet plant under the Group's flagship company MSPL at an investment of Rs. 250 crore. The execution of which has already been initiated in May, 2009.

On the site, the civil work and structural fabrication is near completion and erection of core equipment is under progress.

We aim to procure the remaining equipment by Jan., 2010 and complete the erection work by Feb., 2010. The commissioning of the plant is scheduled by the end of March, 2010.

The steel plant and pellet plant are expected to create direct employment opportunities to close to 1,400 people and indirect employment for many more. These projects will also boost the economy and accelerate development in the backward districts of the state of Karnataka.

Both these business forays will inherit the responsible and sustainable practices that are associated with our Group companies.

Shri Narendrakumar A. Baldota CMD MSPL Limited



Sowing a Greener Future

Afforestation Initiatives at MSPL

Once distributed over half the planet, forests now cover only a quarter of its land surface, upsetting nature's natural equilibrium. To reestablish this balance we need to go green and plant for our planet. Lest we want our children to face the dire consequences of living on a deforested planet.

At MSPL, the seeds of a greener future were sown way back in 1976, as we initiated our tree plantation campaign even when no stringent laws existed. Since then, we have planted over 1.76 million trees, transforming 240 hectares of harsh mining terrain in to a lush landscape.

We kept up a sustained afforestation campaign throughout the year as we planted over 50,000 trees.

As we seek to plant more and more trees, we also emphasize on choosing the right species of trees - ones that can collaborate and enhance the local ecosystem. A few of these species are Gulmohar, Neem, Honge, Agaves and Seemthangadi.

We also regularly distribute seeds for kitchen gardens and fruit plant saplings to families in the adopted villages.



Period	Trees Planted
June	1,500
July	20,000
Aug.	25,000
Sept.	5,000

We organized a mass plantation drive involving school children as we celebrated World Environment Day on 5th June, 2009.



Employee of the Month



VIOM



OCTOBER 2009

Dodda Balasab,
Sr. Technician - Plants Department,
merits recognition for excellent
performance in repairing telephone
base sets, wireless handsets chargers,
EPBX telephone device etc. He
repaired four telephone base sets of
dumper section and four wireless
handset chargers in the month of
October by incurring a minimal cost
of Rs. 100. In the year 2009-10,
he saved approximately Rs. 36,000.

IYLI



OCTOBER 2009

Milind Metri,
Supervisor,
merits recognition for adhering to
high quality standards and practices.
His contribution towards the
optimum utilization of resources is
commendable. He also possesses
excellent communication and
supervision skills.

SIOM



OCTOBER 2009

K. Krishna,
Asst. Technician,
merits recognition for
designing ventilator and
maintaining waste oil storage
room. He also takes keen
interest in housekeeping job
and is actively involved in
environmental initiatives.



NOVEMBER 2009

Gudusab,
Bus Driver - Transportation Dept.,
merits recognition for skillful driving
and maintaining bus in an excellent
condition. He has maintained an
impeccable zero accident record and
adheres to the traffic rules. He has
gained respect for honesty, sincerity
and punctuality.



NOVEMBER 2009

B. Hanumantha,
Spotter,
merits recognition for efficient and
safe operation of dumping activities.
He can well manage the tipping /
dumping of trucks even in a limited
space. He is sincere and regular in
attending to his duties.



NOVEMBER 2009

Sridhargowda,
Asst. Technician,
merits recognition for being
safety conscious that resulted
in reduced breakdown hours.
Furthermore he is also
involved in housekeeping job.
He is sincere, obedient and
hard-working.



DECEMBER 2009

Koteswara,
Helper (stores),
merits recognition for excellence in
segregation of inward material,
stacking, coding and identifying.
He is experienced to issue materials
as per user department indents and
follows all safety measures during
material handling.



DECEMBER 2009

K. Hanumanthappa,
L M V Driver,
merits recognition for safe &
efficient driving skills that reduced
the maintenance cost. He is an
excellent caretaker of the vehicle.
He is sincere and maintains good
relations with the team members.



DECEMBER 2009

N. Shekar,
Supervisor
merits recognition for his
commitment towards his job.
He voluntarily took up the
responsibility of housekeeping
and environment related jobs.
He is also conscious towards
cost effectiveness.







hand in hand



At the Baldota Group, responsibility walks hand-in-hand with capability and it has been ingrained in our ethos that we are not owners of wealth but privileged trustees to serve the community with it. We are staunch believers in protecting and preserving mother earth and approach our responsibilities towards the community with the same thoroughness and commitment as any other aspect of business.

Our ultimate aim is to make the community self-sufficient so that it can support itself and in extreme conditions always depend on us for immediate relief. Way back in 1976, we formed the Abheraj Baldota Foundation to ensure that the benefits of the wealth generated by us percolates to the societal grassroots.

Healthcare	Education	Community	Environment
 Abheraj Baldota Cancer Detection Centre Smt. Vasantidevi Baldota Blood Bank Cardiac Camps Eye Camps Cardiac Ambulance	 Notebook Distribution School Infrastructure Scholarships & Awards Computers Sports Facilities	 Village Adoption Women Self Help Groups Children's Park Drinking Water Sanitation Facilities	 17 Lakh Trees Planted Soil & Water Conservation Zero Waste Management Waste Water Disposal Conserving Biodiversity



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