

minds AND mettle

MSPL NEWS BULLETIN

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Mining for Glory

Bhoomi Pooja of Gold Ore
Processing Plant at Gadag



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India is the world's largest consumer and importer of gold, but domestic gold mining has traditionally remained insignificant. Ramgad Minerals and Mining Limited (RMML) is starting a gold mine at Attikatti village, in Mundargi Taluka, Gadag district. For this, the company is setting up a gold ore processing plant of 1000 TPD capacity and the construction job has been entrusted to Promac Engineering Industries Ltd. (PEIL), Bangalore, on turnkey basis.

Bhoomi Pooja for this processing plant under Gadag Gold Project was held on 24th April, 2012 at Attikatti village. Performed with fervour, the pooja was attended by Shri Narendrakumar A. Baldota, CMD of MSPL Ltd., Mr. Rahul Kumar N. Baldota, Executive Director, Mr. Shrenik Kumar N. Baldota, Executive Director, Mr. R. H. Sawkar, Technical Director, Dr. Meda Venkataiah, Executive Director, Mines,

Mr. K. Prabhu, Executive Director, Gases along with other senior officials of Baldota Group. Mr. J. Surendra Reddy, CMD, PEIL was also present with his team. Prominent leaders of Attikatti and eminent personalities of Gadag district also graced the occasion.

The plant is being set up with expertise sourced from various multinational firms like Kemix, South Africa for Time Mining.

The project is slated for completion in May, 2013 and gold production will begin from June, 2013.

The plant will generate direct employment for about 300 people and another 350 people will be indirectly employed. It will become a strong means of livelihood for all the villages around the plant and mine area, thus leading them further on the path of all-round development.

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Pellet Plant Charting a New Path of Progress & Profitability

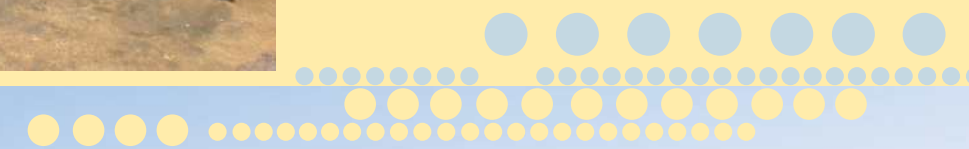


The 1.2 MTA Pellet Plant commissioned under the Baldota Group's flagship company MSPL, in January 2011, is running successfully. Set up to provide direct and indirect employment, uplift the economy and accelerate development in the backward districts of Karnataka; we are happy to announce that the plant has succeeded in fulfilling its purpose.

The availability of quality VIOM ore aided better productivity. The quality of pellets produced was widely accepted as the best in the market, due to its higher iron content as compared to other pellet producing plants in and around Bellary.

During the first quarter (April-June), the plant produced 1,45,603 tonnes and sold 1,59,554 tonnes. In spite of constraint on availability of quality iron ore, good quality pellets were produced.

The plant also added 50KI diesel storage capacity for distribution, required in the internal consumption of vehicles. The water cooling quality of the plant was enhanced by commissioning of the water softening plant supplied by M/S Ion Exchange.



What We Plant Today, They Shall Reap Tomorrow

To increase awareness about the importance of environment in our life, we have been celebrating World Environment Day (WED) since 12 years. This year too was no different, as we celebrated WED with great fervour on 5th June 2012.

The program started with an awareness march where more than 2,500 people, including 1,700 school children and Baldota Group employees took part in a 3 km long walk. It started from Nahar Park, near Baldota Group Corporate Office and culminated at Taluka Ground (VNC College). Accompanied by banners and slogans, the participants delivered the message of taking care of our environment, for our own good. Once they reached the ground, a human chain was formed, representing the concern shared by all.



The formal function started with a speech by Mr. Mahesh D.J., Manager, Environment. He welcomed the guests and outlined the theme and importance of WED. Shri Narendrakumar A. Baldota, Chairman and Managing Director inaugurated the function by watering a sapling. The other dignitaries present on the occasion were Mr. Gopal, RFO, Hospet, Dr. Ashoka, Asst. Commissioner, Hospet, Mr. Vasudev, Environment Officer, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board and Mr. Somannavar, Tehsildar, Hospet.

The dignitaries cheered the children and increased their enthusiasm. In their speeches, they appreciated the initiative taken by the Environment Department for spreading the awareness about environmental issues. They stressed on the significance of these issues for our future and exhorted the children to spread the message to their families and other people.

The program was relayed through the radio channels of Hospet. Fruit-bearing saplings & certificates were issued to all the children, who participated in the march. The top management also decided to give fruit-bearing saplings to all the highschool children of Hospet and nearly 9,000 saplings were distributed free-of-cost, to be planted in their residences.



ENVIRONMENT
SECTION

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY



He who plants a tree, loves others beside himself! Old English Proverb

Creating Wings of Conservation

MSPL has always been in the thick of action whenever nature has been in the spotlight. Expanding its efforts to conserve the wildlife, a book 'Threatened Birds of India' was launched in the presence of Smt. Jayanthi Natarajan, Hon'ble Minister of State for Environment and Forests, Government of India at WWF Auditorium, New Delhi on May 22, 2012. Another function was held at Bangalore on June 06, 2012 where avid bird watchers, wildlife photographers and members of Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) also participated. Shri Narendrakumar A. Baldota, Chairman and Managing Director, MSPL Ltd., released the book and expressed the pride MSPL felt on sponsoring its publication. He also shared the various activities of Abheraj Baldota Foundation pertaining to sanitation, education, environment and medical intervention.



Mr. Asad R. Rahmani, Director of BNHS and the Chief Editor of the book, addressed the gathering to elucidate its contents. The book speaks of 15 critically endangered, 15 endangered, 52 vulnerable, 66 near threatened and two data deficient species. It also illustrates the cause and effect of excessive human activities in the wildlife habitat and their unscientific management resulting in extinction of birds. Mr. Rahmani also expressed his gratitude to MSPL, for its unwavering support to the BNHS in such awareness generating ventures.

Mr. Samad Kottur, President, Society for Wildlife and Nature (SWaN) spoke about the bird life of Bellary and other regions of North Karnataka. He described the various conservation and awareness activities that are

conducted with active support of Abheraj Baldota Foundation. He extended his heartfelt gratitude to the foundation for its efforts in preserving nature and wildlife in the region.

Mr. Ashish Chandola, a noted veteran of the field, senior wildlife photographer and film maker, applauded the activities of BNHS and MSPL, while Mr. Sukumaran, senior scientist at Indian Institute of Science spoke of the powerful role of the book in bringing forth the causes of depletion of the habitats and bird life and solutions for the species recovery. Mr. Sengupta, Deputy Director of Mines Safety, Department of Mines and Geology, also spoke on the occasion and commended the concern and role of MSPL in conservation of wildlife and nature.



Mining Report - The Road Ahead

Mining has traditionally been associated with negative environmental impacts. This does not prevent us from emphasising the point that mining is a necessity towards development. We achieve this by incorporating sustainable techniques armed with best scientific know-how. The environment in which we operate and the communities with which we work are pointers of the responsible mining which is synonymous with us.

In view of rampant illegal mining by mafia, the Supreme Court ordered a stay on all iron ore mining operations until the boundary of each mine is demarcated and a Reclamation & Rehabilitation (R & R) plan is implemented.

In reality, there was no mine production during the last 36 months. The Supreme Court formed committee - CEC (Central Empowerment Committee) carried out the boundary survey and gave suitable recommendations. The Joint Survey (comprising Mines, Geology and Forest department) was conducted and CEC reviewed its findings. The CEC submitted its findings from this survey to the court.

The Supreme Court has asked ICFRE (Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education) to prepare an R & R

plan and demarcate the mining leases as per the CEC findings for all the mines that fall within the districts of Bellary, Chitradurga and Tumkur. The process of demarcation and preparation of R & R plan is under progress. Mines under category A may resume operation during July - August, 2012; while those classified under category B may take three to four more months after implementation of R & R plans.

The cap of total production capacity for mines of Bellary district has been fixed at 25 million tonnes per annum, by the court. This would reduce production capacity of each mine substantially. Meanwhile, the approvals for scheme of mining from Indian Bureau of Mines and approvals for operation from State Pollution Control Board are to be obtained. However, the leases which are under renewal may not start as the process of getting Forest Clearance and Environmental Clearance will take at least 6 to 12 months.

Also, as per the directions of the court, all iron ore products are to be sold through e-auction for next 2 years. This process will be monitored by Monitoring Committee constituted by CEC. As on date most of the stocks available in the mines are already sold. Few stocks of very low grades are available in the sector.



MSPL - Reducing Footprints

Tapping alternative source of energy is the need of the hour and significant harnessing of the wind power is a step towards a clean and better future. After establishing itself as one of the largest investors in wind energy in India with an installed capacity of 215.75 MW, we are upping the ante and taking a step forward in reporting the emission reduction due to the installed capacity and thus being transparent about our green businesses.

Wind energy production tests the science of man against the force of nature. Grid operators perform a sophisticated balancing act using advanced turbine technology, best practices, forecasting techniques, modelling and other tools. This year the average wind across India was good compared to last year resulting in better generation performance across all the wind farms. The detailed bifurcation is shown in the table below.

Location	Installed capacity MW	Registration date	Emission reduction tCO ₂ / Year
G R Halli, Jogimatti, Sogi and Jajikallgudda of Chitradurga, Bellary and Davangere district	—	29th September '06	2,75,129
Dhule, Maharashtra	20	14th March '11	36,564
Harihar, Karnataka	6.6	13th April '10	11,569
Surajbari, Gujarat	30	17th January '11	56,294
Total			3,79,556

As of today, our installed capacity is 215.75 MW and is growing multi-fold. We are also actively evaluating the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) potential of our existing and future wind power projects. We have so far succeeded in an estimated emission reduction of 3,79,556 tCO₂/year resulting in lower carbon footprints which shows our commitment towards attaining clean source of energy.

As a part of our commitment to sustainable development and balancing economic progress with environmental care and social responsibility, MSPL Limited will continue to invest in Wind Energy.



Climbing New Heights

Courage when supported often translates into victories. MSPL has always been a helping hand for those who have the courage to break-free and achieve success. Nandini Cholaraj, a 25 year old with dreams of climbing the Mount Everest, had to overcome societal and monetary hurdles before she could embark on this journey of a lifetime.

We backed her dream by becoming her title sponsors and providing her monetary aid for her expedition. Unfortunately, Nandini had to turn back 848 meters from the summit as she was the only one left in the expedition. She now plans to fulfil her dream in the next season.

She thanks MSPL and Mr. Shrenik N. Baldota for believing in her strength and dream and above all turning it into a reality. She counts the experiences she gained during this adventure as priceless and adds that this wouldn't have been possible without MSPL.



“The experience that I have gained during this adventure is priceless. It wouldn't have been possible without MSPL

Nandini Cholaraj



Acknowledging Excellence in Education

Awarding achievements inspires more efforts. Since past eight years, MSPL has been acknowledging students for outstanding performance in various fields of education. This year also we honoured the academic achievers of PDIT College, Hospet. Gold medals were awarded at the college's Annual Day function.

This year, six students were awarded the gold medals by Mr. Nabaghana Pany, VP – Group HR, on 5th May, 2012.



**Kudligi Hiremath
Vikram**
B.E. - E&CE



Soumya Vaidya
B.E. - CSE



Vijay Uddar
B.E. - IT



Eramma Sangappa
PG - MBA

Special Coaching Classes Help Students of Dhanapur Pass with Flying Colours



16 year old Basavaraj, studying in 10th standard at SMIOR High School, Dhanapur village aimed to be a doctor. Hence, for him scoring exceptionally well was all the more important. Though he gave his 100% towards achieving his goal, what he was missing was proper guidance on critical subjects like Mathematics, Science and English.

This was when MSPL's special coaching classes came to his rescue. Soon he mastered the subjects like Mathematics, Science and English that were once difficult for him. This also built in him a sense of confidence and he swiftly overcame his fear of facing SSLC exams. As a result, he scored 85% in SSLC and fared in Mathematics, Science and English with flying colours, that is 83, 72 & 72 marks respectively.

Just like Basavaraj, 15 other students of Dhanapur are celebrating the joy of good results they attained with the help of the extra coaching classes. Besides establishing free coaching classes in the village, MSPL also supported the students financially by providing free notebooks.



Building the Foundation of Education

Education provides freedom while securing a base for a better life. It becomes all the more important for the underprivileged sections of the society. The Abheraj Baldota Foundation, recognising this need, has been playing the catalyst in enhancing the equation of education in the poor communities of the society.

This year also, on 16th of June, 2012, we conducted a free notebooks distribution program, which was inaugurated by Ma. Ni. Pra. Shivashantvera Shri Gavisiddheshwara Swamiji, Samsthana Shri Govimath, Koppal by lighting a lamp. Other dignitaries present on the stage to take this light of hope forward were Shri Sanganna Karadi – MLA, Koppal and Shri Narendrakumar A. Baldota, Chairman and Managing Director, Baldota Group of companies. A total of 7,200 books were distributed to 1,200 students from three schools of Koppal, Halavarthi and Basapura.



Shri Narendrakumar A. Baldota in his address, shared with audience, the Foundation's activities undertaken to empower the poor students. He talked about enabling initiatives like paying college fees, supporting infrastructure facilities like furniture, drinking water, teaching faculty, teaching materials for local schools and providing computers to improve education in rural areas.

Shri Gavisiddheshwara Swamiji emphasised the importance of offering a portion of one's earnings for the welfare of the local community instead of accumulating wealth. He also resonated the thoughts of Shri Abheraj H. Baldota, by expressing concern for poor and supporting them for development. He appreciated the members of Baldota family for keeping alive the belief of Shri Abheraj H. Baldota by being a source of support for Koppal and surrounding communities in times of need.

Other measures such as support for hospitals to improve the medical facilities, promoting toilets for individual families in large scale to improve overall village sanitation and upliftment of women.

Shri Sanganna Karadi, MLA of Koppal, appreciated MSPL and lauded the efforts of Baldota Group in encouraging education and also acknowledged the company's contribution to the society in improving social lives of the communities.



Weather Report

Month	Avg. Wind Speed (Km/Hr)	Min Temp. (°C)	Max Temp. (°C)	Total Rainfall (mm)
April-12	2.58	23.0	40.0	63.5
May-12	2.75	24.0	43.0	18.0
June-12	3.87	23.0	42.0	57.5



Joy of Giving



Mumtaz the Tailoring Trainer

Before Mumtaz joined the SHG (Self Help Group) the only earning member in her family was her brother who was a driver and earned a mere Rs. 4,000 per month. Now she earns Rs. 4,000 a month and recently bought jewellery worth Rs. 4,500, vessels worth Rs. 2,000 and an LPG connection for her home. With the combined savings the family soon plans to buy a refrigerator, and renovate their house. This transformed standard of living is a result of the self-reliance she has achieved by taking the tailoring training that MSPL bestows to many a women like her. On completion of the training, she also received a sewing machine from MSPL which has become her tool of success. She now provides tailoring training in her village on a chargeable basis. Aiming higher, she is all set to buy three more sewing machines to expand her training classes.

Shaping Today for a Better Tomorrow



Hard work when harnessed with opportunity rises with flying colours. Our Self Help Groups work with the underprivileged communities and provide them with a platform to break free from poverty.

Indramma M. Mallikarjun belongs to a very poor family. Her family consists of four children and her husband. Bound by poverty, it was becoming increasingly difficult for her to make ends meet. Chosen as a part of an animal husbandry initiative, Indramma was given a loan to buy a buffalo, some fodder and get a shed prepared. The buffalo gave birth to a male calf and added to Indramma's profit. She is now able to subsist her family through an income generated from selling milk, curd and dung. Even after deducting the operating cost and the installment amount for her loan, she is still able to show profit by the end of the month.

This year she will have paid her loan taken from MSPL completely, so she can own the buffalo. She thanks MSPL for her financial independence and adds that now her husband will also be working at MSPL, Sujalon. Changing one life at time, we are implementing programs that help people like Indramma live a better life.

Ningamma from Annapurneshwari SHG



Despite owning a piece of land, with no extra income to invest Mrs. Ningamma continued to reside in a rented house for years. It was when she touched base with Annapurneshwari Mahila Sangha - an SHG promoted by MSPL, that she could finally see her wish get fulfilled. With nominal service charge and easy repayment schedule she availed a loan from the SHG and constructed a house of her own on land she had inherited from her mother. Further, as a member of the SHG she also started earning Rs. 1,500-2,000 a month. This extra income helped the family buy a smoke-less stove, construct a toilet and get an LPG connection. Her family that comprises her husband who works as a driver in a private company and two children - a girl and a boy, live a satisfied life. From the rent expense that they are now able to save and from Mrs. Ningamma's supplementary earning they can now afford to pay fees of Rs. 10,000 for the children. In the future, she aspires to buy a cot and refrigerator from her savings and take a loan to buy buffaloes. Pursuing her passion for writing, she also supports the SHG by writing books on a regular basis.

Honours for the Zero Waste Philosophy



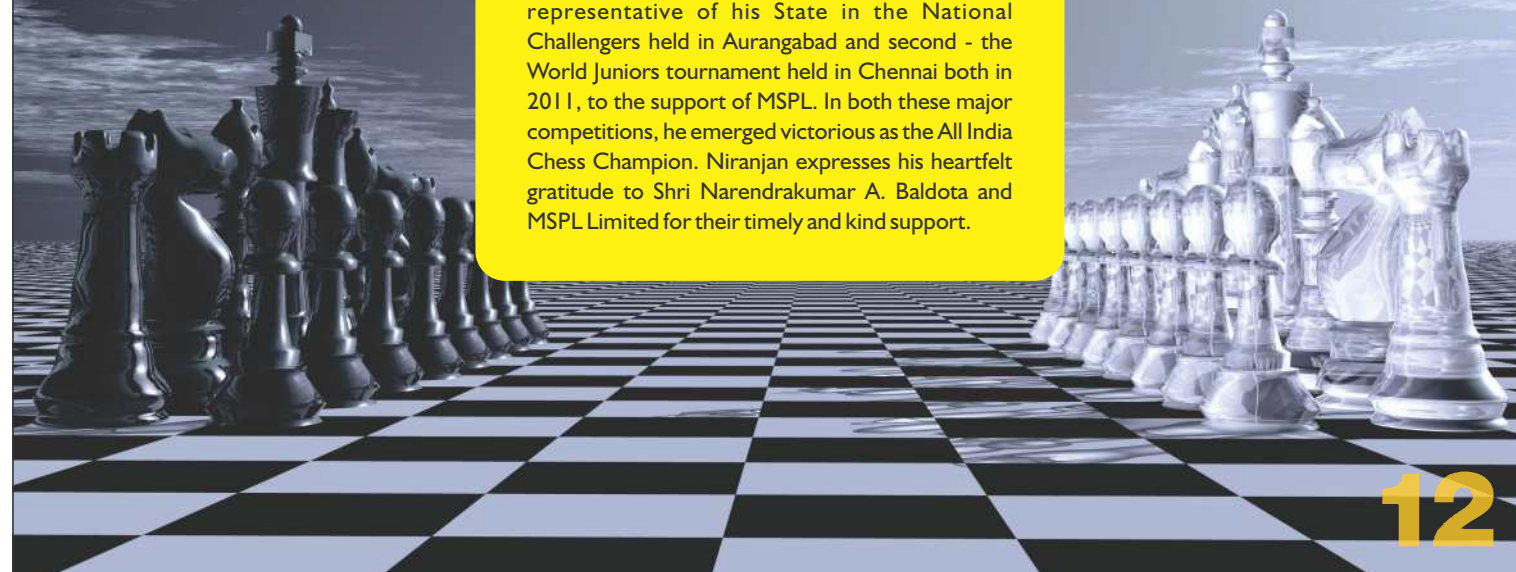
Mr. Meda Venkataiah, Executive Director, Mines, MSPL Limited has been awarded the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Environmental Science & Engineering for his studies on Zero Waste Management in Iron Ore Mines of Bellary District, Karnataka by Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad on 8th July, 2011.

He was conferred the honour in a convocation held at Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad on 6th April, 2012. His studies may lead to active Mining and Beneficiation of Low grade Ores in coming days.

Helping the Grandmaster in his Master Plans

Navalgund Niranjan, a fast emerging Chess champ, hails from Belgaum, Karnataka. His aspiration of expanding the chess scenario of India on world map was realised with support from MSPL Limited.

He credits two of his major achievements, one - as a representative of his State in the National Challengers held in Aurangabad and second - the World Juniors tournament held in Chennai both in 2011, to the support of MSPL. In both these major competitions, he emerged victorious as the All India Chess Champion. Niranjan expresses his heartfelt gratitude to Shri Narendrakumar A. Baldota and MSPL Limited for their timely and kind support.



Fit and Fine

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When health is absent, wisdom cannot reveal itself, art cannot manifest, strength cannot fight, wealth becomes useless, and intelligence cannot be applied.

Herophilus

At MSPL, we believe that pleasure is a part of life as much as work is. 'Stay Fit', our interactive fitness program for employees, is our commitment to a healthy, active and fit lifestyle. An initiative spearheaded by the Directors of MSPL, and formulated by Mr. Shrenik Kumar N. Baldota and the management, 'Stay Fit' is shaped to ensure active participation through fun-filled activities. The fitness activities are devised after taking into account age, gender and body dynamics of different individuals. It also brings the families of the employees under its wings. The focus on physical, mental and social well-being is an on-going initiative with multiple activities conducted throughout the year. These activities encourage employees to pursue their athletic sides and have a field day even at work.

This reporting quarter we organised a basketball tournament and a swimming program called 'Swim For Life'. These activities not only build stamina but also reduce stress levels and activate the enthusiasm levels.



Swim For Life

With the support and guidance of Executive Director Mr. Shrenik Kumar N. Baldota, the 'Swim for Life' program was conducted for all the employees on 22nd April, 2012. The program taught the participants basic swimming strokes and life saving skills. **Theory and practical sessions were conducted by swimming expert Mr. Nihar Kulkarni, swim coach from Pune at the American Swimming Coaches Association (Level 1&2 coach).** More than 40 employees participated in the program along with their family members who also benefited from this unique initiative. After the completion of the program, regular swimming camps will henceforth be held on every Sunday for the employees and their family to make the most of their newly learnt skills.



Basketball Tournament

MSPL Stay-Fit Club conducted a basketball tournament for all units of Baldota Group on 8th April, 2012 at PDIT College Hospet. Mr. K. Prabhu, Executive Director, MSPL Gases inaugurated the tournament by shooting the ball through the basket. He stressed the importance of fitness and recreation activities in daily life especially considering the current passive lifestyles.

The league based matches saw the participation of five high-spirited teams with the Corporate Office team emerging as the champions and the PVS team clinching the second place. Mr. Rahul Kumar N. Baldota was present for the semifinal match where he cheered for the players with great enthusiasm.

Mr. Veerupaksha, Manager, T.B. Dam Sports Club and Mr. Ajith Kumar Singh, DGM - Power were the Chief Guests at the closing ceremony and prize distribution program. Mr. Veerupaksha spoke on how intramural sports are very important to all the employees in order to socialise and to keep fitness as a part of life. Mr. Ajith Kumar Singh emphasized the importance of corporate sports tournaments in reducing the stress level of employees and getting fitness in the form of recreation. To motivate the upcoming players of different teams in the tournament, individual awards were also given.

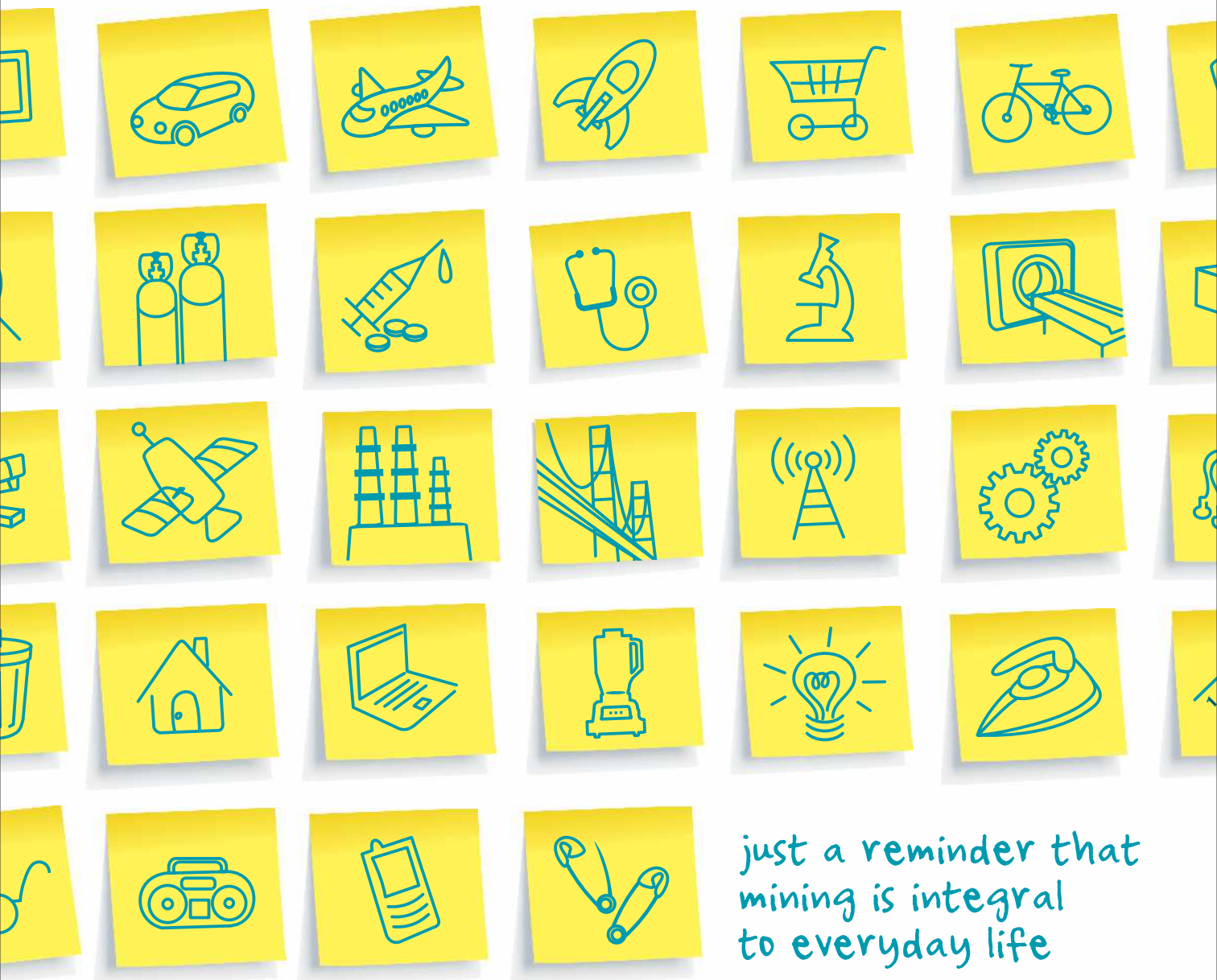


WINNER
Best Attacker
Rakesh Singh

Best
All-rounder
Sabbana

Best Defender
Johny

Best Player of
the Tournament
Satyanarayan



just a reminder that mining is integral to everyday life

Mining is a vital industry. From safety pins to satellites nothing would exist without mining. Mining has made possible many of mankind's giant leaps. It has constantly kept pace with change and changing priorities of the world.

The industry has leveraged modern technology, computers, advances in geochemistry, to embrace responsible mining and established systems to independently verify compliance with environmental, human rights and social standards.

Mining continues to add value to nature's resources in a sustainable way.