



Minds & Mettle

MSPL NEWS BULLETIN

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July - September 2000

KARNATAKA MINERAL MEET- CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES



The Karnataka Mineral Meet was held on 13th and 14th September 2000 at Bangalore. The Honourable Chief Minister of Karnataka, Shri S.M. Krishna inaugurated the meet.

The Conference brought to the fore various problems faced by the Mining Industry in Karnataka. The impetus was laid on development of safe and scientific mining practices. On the occasion, the Chief Minister presented ten Reconnaissance Licenses for equal number of region in Karnataka.

More than twenty four technical papers on diverse issues concerning the Mining industry were presented. Mr Rahul N. Baldota presented the paper on need for Iron Ore Mining and export infrastructure in Karnataka as new port is need of the hour to handle bulk cargo in Karnataka.

Dear Friends,

MSPL has seen herself through the back breaking recessionary phase in the Mining Industry and has emerged victorious by touching the production figures of 1.5 million tons and the sale of 1.16 million tons during 1999-2000. For the future, MSPL has set even higher targets to achieve.

higher, climb higher".

"Those who see higher, climb higher".

We plan to achieve a production of 2 million tons for the year 2000-2001 and sales of 2.5 million tons for the same period from our group mining companies.

VP Baligar's commendation
- A green Letter day for MSPL

environmental efforts receive, for the

inspiration it offers. The letter of

appreciation from the desk of

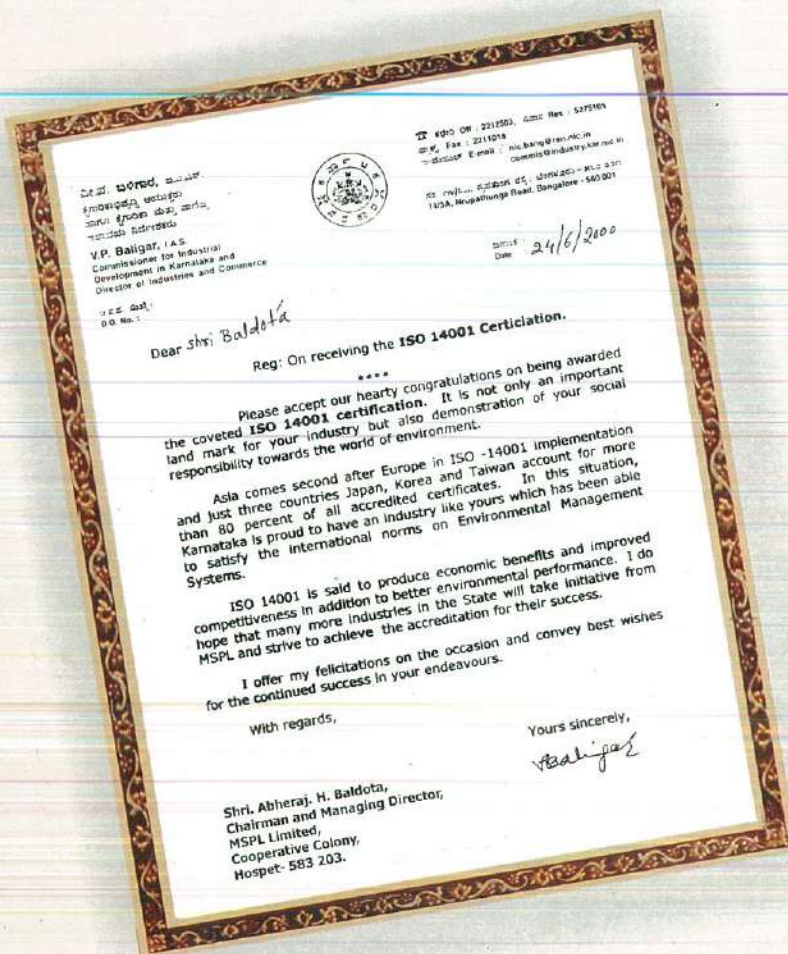
Mr. V.P. Baligar, IAS (Commissioner for

Industrial Development in Karnataka and

Director of Industries), commending

MSPL's environment preservation

efforts is an inspiring high note.



Superior customer satisfaction is a moving target.

1.5 million tons production celebration - A triumph of minds and mettle



Minds and mettle are the strengths that have shaped MSPL's transformation into a major leader in the mining industry. The achievement of the 1.5 million ton production mark by MSPL's Vysanakere Iron Ore Mines bears testimony to the sense of purpose and steel will that characterizes the MSPL team.

To celebrate this milestone, a function was organized at the mine premises on 14th April 2000. The function was presided by

Shri Abheraj H. Baldota, Chairman and MD (MSPL), the Directors and Shri Meda Venkataiah, General Manager (Mines). Shri Venkataiah was adjudged the "Man of the Year" for his commitment and leadership.

The MSPL team was felicitated for the collective contribution to this milestone achievement. Speaking at the occasion, the Chairman stated that "...the achievements of 1 million tons in 1998-99 and then 1.5 million tons in 1999-2000, even though commendable, are still far from the potential of our people." As a token of appreciation, the chairman complimented the team and declared one month's additional salary to all employees.



MSPL makes a solid commitment to a new gas plant

MSPL, which acquired the Vijaya Oxygen Co. Ltd., expanded its production capacity recently by commissioning a new, state-of-the-art gas plant, producing oxygen and nitrogen.

The expansion is a strategic initiative to enhance technological competence in the face of stiff competition from MNCs.

The gas industry is a capital-intensive industry, where survival of the technologically fittest is the order of the day. The expansion would give MSPL a leading edge to compete, while securing sustainable future growth.

To ensure a solid presence country-wide, gas depots were recently opened at Kolhapur and Sangli, while depots at Goa and Belgaum will open shortly.



ISO 140001 award ceremony - A global endorsement of MSPL's environment efforts

MSPL's environmental concern takes root from a profound realization of the need to preserve the ecological balance. In fact, MSPL's plantation initiatives began way back in 1976 even before it was mandatory by law.

Today, MSPL is acknowledged as a major contributor for its substantial afforestation efforts, while spreading awareness about the need to enrich the environment.



Shri. K.C. Kondaiah, Member of Rajyasabha, Shri. K.H. Ranganath, Minister for Forest & Environment, Karnataka, Shri. Abheraj H. Baldota, CMD, MSPL Limited, Shri. Basavanagoud, MP

To give its environmental vision a clearer focus, MSPL initiated the idea to implement and achieve the Environment Management System Certification.

In October 1999, the labour of love bore fruit. MSPL was ISO 14001 certified by BVQI Netherland.

The coveted certificate was presented on July 17th 2000 at the ISO 14001 ceremony by the Karnataka Minister for Forests and Environment, Shri K.H. Ranganath. The Chairman of MSPL Limited Sri Abheraj Baldota received the award.

The wheels of efficiency roll faster with 8 new Volvos



To keep pace with enhanced targets and improve efficiency, MSPL has pressed another batch of five 30 ton capacity Volvo tippers into service, complementing the first batch of 3 tippers.

The satisfied customer is our best business strategy.

Highest rake movement

MSPL achieved the highest railment ever during the month of August 2000. With a total quantity of 1.38 lakh tons supplied by rakes, MSPL has provided a revenue of Rs 5.26 crores to the railways. The track-record breaking performance would not have been possible, but for the support of the railways to whom MSPL remains thankful, while continuing on the trail blazing track.

RMMPL registers the highest production

One more milestone was accomplished by the sister concern of MSPL - Ramgad Minerals and Mining Pvt. Ltd., recording the highest production in September of 38,574 tons, while producing 2080 tons on a single day on the 28th August 2000.

Ganesha festival celebrations



Apart from mining activities, tradition and culture hold a special place at MSPL. Like the previous years, this year too, Lord Ganesha's festival was celebrated in grandeur at the Vysanakere mines. On the Ganesh Chaturthi day, a special pooja with homa was conducted in respect to the elephant head Diety. Over 5000 people from the neighbourhood participated enthusiastically in the event. A feast was also served on the occasion for all employees of MSPL and those from the surrounding villages.



A new canteen inaugurated.



From Left Shri A.K. Sur, DDMS with Mr. P.N. Krishnamurthy Mines Manager and Mr. Meda Venkataiah GM Mines while inaugurating the Canteen

MSPL canteen is now equipped with a highly hygienic kitchen with modern cooking equipment. Sri. A.K. Sur, DDMS Bellary inaugurated the kitchen.

World environment day celebration - A Time to commemorate A Time to act.

The World Environment Day celebrated on 5th June of every year had the theme as "2000 - The Environment Millennium - Time to Act" for this years celebrations.

On 5th June 2000 plantation of various kinds of tree saplings was organized at Vysanakere Iron Ore Mines. The students of Deepayan School of Hospet together planted about 1500 saplings.

The function was presided by MSPL Chairman Shri Abheraj H. Baldota, who spoke about the need for preserving and maintaining a healthy environment for future generation.

To commemorate the occasion of "World Environment Day" MSPL decided to organize thought provoking events for the children, who are also the future torchbearers of Human Civilization. MSPL organized a drawing and painting competition at Deepayan School for all standards on theme of "Environment". A debate competition on "Man and Environment" was also conducted.



Vanamahotsava celebrated at VIOM



Shri H. L. Rangaraj, ACF planting a sapling

Commitment to the environment never ceases at MSPL. At a Vanamahotsava function organized by MSPL at the Vysanakere Iron Ore Mines the seeds of a greener, cleaner future were sown. Over 2000 saplings of fruit and flowering trees were planted, including Mango, Custard Apple, Tamarind and Gulmohar. The event witnessed the active participation of MSPL staff.



Shri H.L. Rangaraj, Assistant Conservator of Forest, who presided as the Chief Guest, observed "it is the general opinion of public that mines will not contribute to forest development. But MSPL has proven them wrong. MSPL has contributed a lot for the development of forest by involving all workers and employees in planting innumerable plants and taking full care in bringing them up. This is a living example for public to accept the sincere efforts of MSPL." He also suggested that all the workers to plant and grow fruit bearing trees at their quarters and vicinities.

Research and Development Lab



Shri Abheraj H. Baldota, the Chairman inaugurated MSPL's state-of-the-art R&D facility. The facility includes an Atomic Absorption Spectrometer for complete chemical analysis of the ore. The system is capable of analysing various trace elements present in iron ore or other rocks. The facility also includes an UV Spectrometer apart from other equipment.



The lab is committed to achieve zero waste mining practices apart from the commitment to supply only quality materials to the buyers.

Accurate weather forecast - A full-fledged weather station established

MSPL recently established a weather station at the Vysanakere Iron Ore Mines. The facility incorporates a self-recording rain gauge, Cup Counter Anemometer, Thermograph and Hygrograph. The data generated and recorded by these state-of-the-art instruments will be utilised to study, understand and accurately predict weather patterns and conditions. This capability will aid enhancement of the Environment Management System.



The average weather for the month of July, August and September is shown in the table below:

	Avg. Wind Speed	Avg. Temperature	Total Rainfall
July 00	7.36 Kmph	26.71° c	68 . 15 mm
August 00	4.91 Kmph	27.10° c	165 . 20 mm
September 00	3.90 Kmph	29.00° c	84 . 80 mm

Creativity for Organizational Transformation



Programme on Creativity for Organizational Transformation conducted by the Administrative Staff College of India

The power of creativity is a potent and proven tool in breaking existing mind-sets and ushering a sea change. We are a growing company in a rapidly changing environment. To change with the changing times, a workshop on "Creativity for Organizational Transformation" was organized from 30th

May to 1st June 2000. Dr. Matthew J. Manimala and Dr. Prabhati Pati of Administrative Staff College of India conducted the workshop. The Directors and about 30 executives of MSPL attended the programme. The participation was free and frank and brought out many issues faced by the executives in the line of duty. The workshop further helped in the development of personal rapport among all.

Man of the Year

Mr. Meda Venkataiah - General Manager (Mines)

Mr. Meda Venkataiah was declared the Man of the Year 1999-2000 for his dedication and contribution towards leading the company in achieving higher production at the Vysanakere Iron ore Mines. Mr. & Mrs. Meda Venkataiah were sponsored a trip to Western Europe as a token of appreciation.



Man of the Month



For the month of April 2000
Mr. N. Nagaraju - Mines Foreman

Mr. N. Nagaraju merits recognition for better management of machinery and tipper logistics at the mines. His active involvement, increased the number of trips per hour by the tippers. His co-ordination with other departments has been good.



For the month of May 2000
Mr. K. Durgappa - Driller (SS Plant)

Mr. K. Durgappa has been involved in the maintenance of slurry pipeline. He brought down the leakages from the pipeline with proper and timely communication.



For the month of June 2000
Mr. V. Veerabhadrappa
Blacksmith

Mr. V. Veerabhadrappa employed his skills in reconditioning the old tipper leaf springs and enabled substantial savings in spare consumption. His active interest in tinkering works and reconditioning of old spares merits recognition.



For the month of July 2000
Mr. Erappa
Messenger, NCS Plant

Mr. Erappa is responsible for greasing the NCS plant. Owing to his sincere and committed work, the consumption of bearings by NCS plant has reduced.



For the month of August 2000
Mr. Srinivas Murthy
Canteen Incharge

Mr. Srinivas Murthy has been instrumental in construction of the new canteen building, installation of the steam system, besides improving awareness among employees towards maintaining cleanliness in the canteen.



For the month of September 2000
Mr. Ghouse Nadaf
Lab Assistant

Mr. Ghouse Nadaf is responsible for drawing samples and maintaining analysis records up to date. He has been chosen as Man of the Month for his sincere performance.

Personal Column

Daughter of our Senior Accountant Mr. B. S. Chandra Shekhar did her parents proud by securing 83% marks in her PUC examination. She stood first in commerce section of the SMIORE Junior Composite College. She broke all past records by securing highest marks, since inception of commerce department in her college.

Advantage India. Advantage Megha Vakharia - budding Tennis talent



MSPL views it as a privilege to encourage sporting talent who do the nation proud. Ms. Megha Vakharia, the 15 year old daughter of Mr. Dilip Vakaria, and a rising young ace in the national tennis circuit, merits sponsorship from MSPL. She has been a national champion, both in singles and doubles, numerous times under various categories. She has also done the country proud by leading the Indian challenge in a string of international tennis events. In the Southern Asian Circuit held at Rajshahi, Bangladesh during December 1998, she was ranked No.1 in the the under 13 category in South Asia. She was also ranked No.5 in South Asia during the Asian Satellite Championship held in April 1998 in Brunei. Currently she is ranked No.1 in India in the girls under 16 category. She is being trained at Maharashtra State Lawn Tennis Association, Mumbai, under the expert tutelage of Mr. Praveen Kumar and Chief Coach Mr. Manoj Kumar.

To boost the career of this promising tennis talent, MSPL has sponsored Megha for the National and International circuit during the year 2000.

District Level Sports



Nearly 70% of India's population and human resource resides in the rural belts of India. Committed to bringing this immense hidden potential to the fore and to foster the spirit of sportsmanship, MSPL sponsored the recently held Bellary district level sports meet for secondary schools.

MSPL speaks a language the Chinese appreciate

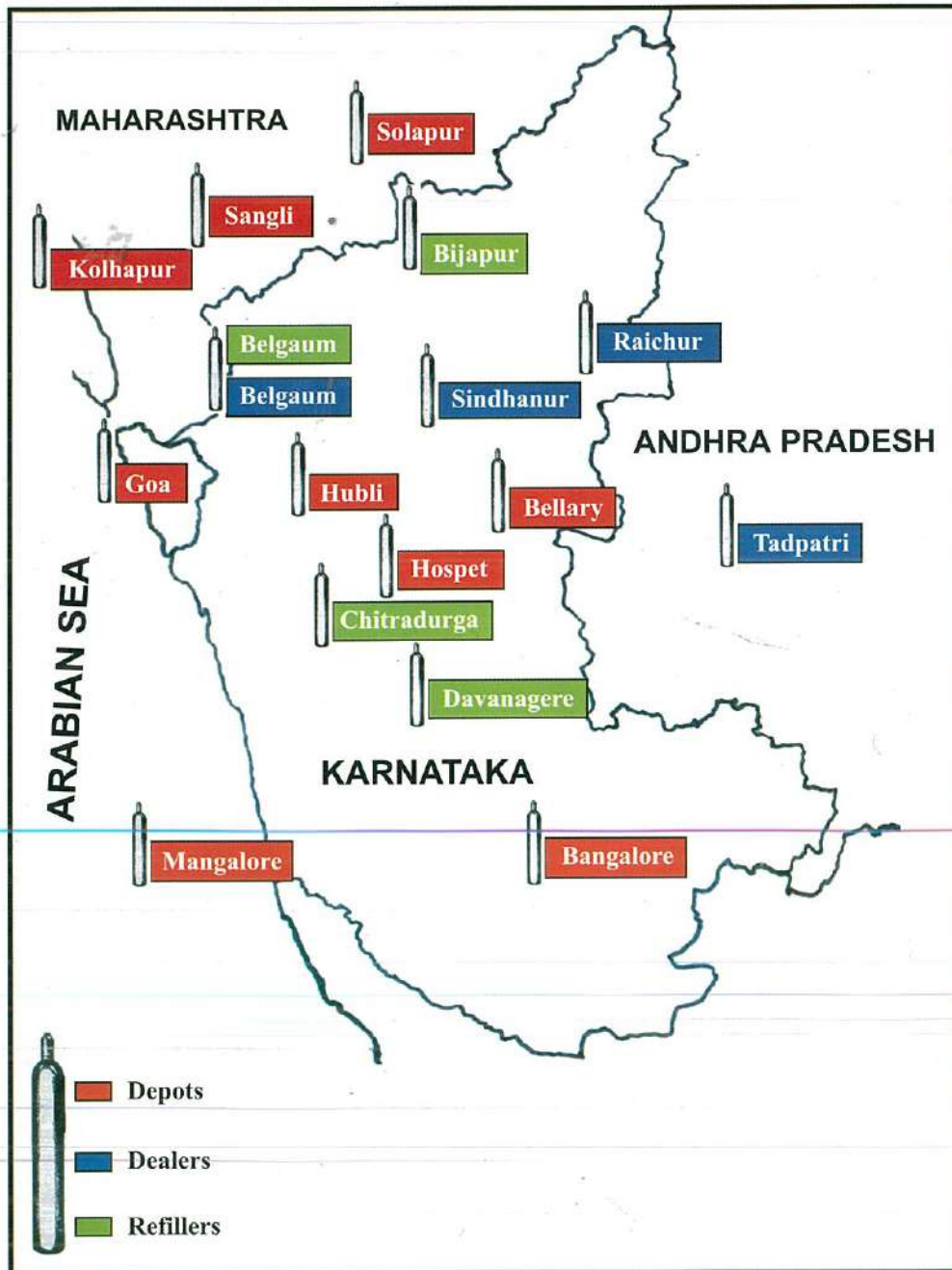
The language of excellence is well understood and received in any part of the globe.

The recent visit of our Director Shri Rahul N. Baldota was a mutually rewarding venture in developing one-to-one ties with the buyers. MSPL's consistent quality has been well appreciated by the Chinese and further orders for iron ore are lined up.

China is the second largest importer of Iron Ore in the world and imports increasing volumes. As compared to the total import of 55.3 million tons during the calendar year 1999, China has already imported a total of 40.13 million tons during a period of January-July 2000. This marks a quantum jump in comparison to 28.72 million tons imported during the same period in 1999.

Spreading our wings

Network of MSPL LIMITED (Unit: Vijaya Oxygen)



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