# minds and mettle



### **Opening the Windows of** Knowledge



The evolution of digital technologies has changed the complete business scenario, banking operations and how people communicate to one another. Specifically after demonetization, Government of India has put major thrust on cashless transactions and mobile apps for the communications with banks as well as government departments. Also the world is shrinking and career opportunities are separating younger generations from their elders. It becomes very difficult for elders back home to keep in touch with their children or grandchildren or keeping pace with new technologies to do all transactions.

Through its stakeholder engagement process, MSPL identified this need amongst senior members of the community. We realised that most of the senior citizens in Hosapete and in surrounding villages did not have awareness of new technologies. As MSPL was already running various computer training centers for youth in rural areas, we decided to extend it to senior citizens with more thrust on the social media and cashless economy.

MSPL's initial communication itself got tremendous response and capacity was not sufficient to train extra batches. Hence MSPL decided to launch employee volunteering programme in which interested employees would invest some time every week over and above their duty times to train these senior citizens.

Till Now, MSPL has trained 200 senior citizens, conducting an ongoing batch of 70 senior citizens and already have more than 200 interested senior citizens on waiting list. This programme has enabled grand parents to start using mobile phones to do video chatting with their family members, use mobile apps like whatsapp, facebook, BHIM etc. and do their day to day bank transactions.

#### **Health for all**



During the quarter, we organised two General Health Camps at Kidadhal and Belavinal respectively and one Gynaecology Camp at Kidadhal. 275 patients screened, treated and were prescribed the medicines. During the Gynecology Camp held at Kidhadal village, we also distributed free medicines to 120 women patients who were treated.

### **Tailoring Training**



Baldota Group has identified women as key contributors for the upliftment of the society and has formed 145 SHGs in 16 villages to empower them. During the quarter, tailoring & stitching training programme for 6 months were organised at Hanumanahally, Kidadhal, MJ Nagar, Main bazaar and weavers colony, Hosapete. 162 members of the SHGs participated and got benefited from these programme.

### **Cashless Village**



We organised Cashless Village Workshop at Hanumanahalli and Danapura village to make the village citizens capable of doing digital transactions. We conducted a survey of all the families in these villages whether they are having bank accounts. We have assisted villagers to open bank account and get cards in collaboration with Pragathi Krishna Gramin Bank. There are 1004 families with 3657 people above 14 years and we have assisted 3048 people out of them to open their bank accounts in these villages. We aim to complete account opening process for the remaining 609 people within next two months to declare these villages as cashless villages.

### **DARE Reaching Everywhere**



DARE is a nationwide movement for women's safety initiated by MSPL to train women for defending themselves in any situation and take charge of their own safety. We have initiated this programme with the objective of empowering women to exercise their right of self-defence.

As of now, we have trained around 86242 girls in 652 schools and colleges across Mumbai, Delhi, Bengaluru, Pune, Nasik, Hyderabad and all districts of Karnataka including 14226 girls in last quarter.

The DARE program has been well accepted and recognized by the girls and education Institutions who have benefited from this program. Based on the feedback and demand, we are extending the programme to Goa, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh in 2017-18.

#### **Free Tuition Centres**

Like past years this year too, Free Tuition Centres were organised to benefit poor students studying in the tenth standard in government school of Danapur. 137 students enrolled and attended the training in these centres. This programme helped rural students to secure more marks and compete with urban students. In addition, it also saved their travelling time to go to town for tuitions and reduce the economical burden of their parents.

### **Good Health Brings Wealth**

### **Fitness Boot Camp**

MSPL Stay Fit Club conducted Fitness Boot Camp for the employees to build strength and fitness. These programmes are designed to strengthen physical strength through a variety of intense group intervals over a period of 1-hour. Fitness boot camps, generally a military style of training have evolved over last few years.

Boot Camps not only help in physical fitness but also contributes for mental health. Aerobic exercise specifically help to reduce hypertension and help combat stress as it helps in release of endorphin, which act as a mood elevator.[

The participants in the camp were trained by Mr. Thomas M A ,CFT and the camp is expected to contribute to the employees' health and fitness averting major health risks.



### **Folk Fitness Camp**

A Folk Fitness Camp was organised for the group employees by the MSPL Stay Fit Club at Corporate Office. The aim of the program was to keep employees active and fit.

Folk Fitness is scientifically tested workout style. It is a fusion of culture, science and art and helps in holistic development of the person who follows it as a health routine.

These exercises are beneficial to the people of all ages, backgrounds, and fitness levels increasing their strength, endurance and agility.

The workshop was well accepted and highly appreciated by the participants as they found it as a novice and rejuvenating experience for their health routine.





# Diversity. Equality. Recognition

If one has to list out the most diligent and efficient employees, the list would not be complete without the names of women employees. Even though mining and exploration have been considered as male-driven due to hardships, the representation and contribution of the female employees is quite significant at Baldota Group.

To recognize the role played by women and their contributions, a formal event was organized at the corporate office on 8th March, 2017 - the day celebrated as Womens' Day across the world. The function was attended by all the female employees of Baldota Enclave and the members of Baldota Ladies Club.

Dr. Meda Venkataiah, ED-Mining, Mr.Nabaghana Pany, VP-HR, Mr. H K Ramesh, DGM-CSR and Mrs.Uma, PS to CMD were present on the dais. Dr. Meda Venkataiah applauded the contributions of the women and told that he felt contented for being instrumental in the implementation of equal wages for men and women decided by the Management.

Mr. Nabaghana Pany stressed upon the empowering of women for the development of communities and the nation and cited many anecdotes of the hidden talents of the women.

Mr. H K Ramesh told that nature has made men and women both as equal and to complement each other. Hence our outlook of seeing the women should be more positive.

The participants enjoyed the games and the winners were awarded the prizes during the prize distribution ceremony.





# **Engulfing in the Aura of Mothers**



Mothers Day was celebrated by the Baldota Group on 2<sup>nd</sup> February'2017 - the birth anniversary of Smt.Vasantidevi A. Baldota. Mothers Day is celebrated by the group to recognize the silent contributions of mothers in the society. On this emotionally charged day, all the guests present at Baldota Enclave paid tribute to the unselfish love, affection and care given by mothers to nurture their children. The venue was engulfed in the aura of Mothers and all the guests and dignitaries were musing over their memories of the life enjoyed under the motherhood bestowed by Smt. Vasantidevi A. Baldota.

The guests were welcomed by Ms. Saumyashree, followed by the prayers recited by Ms. Shravani. During her introductory speech on motherhood, Smt.Pallavi Amarnath said that "The moment the child is born, the woman becomes the mother. But motherhood exists in her much before the child is born and will remain till her lifetime in all situations for the welfare of society which is seen all along the life of our great mother Smt. Vasantidevi A. Baldota."



Keeping in the tradition of Mothers Day celebrations, the formal ceremony was graced and lamp lighting ritual was performed by the senior most mothers of the Baldota Group. Smt. Chitradevi N. Baldota presided over the ceremony and she was accompanied by Smt. Saumya Prabhu, Dr. Sulochana and Smt. Rekha Madhusudhana on the dais. Mr.Narendrakumar A. Baldota, Chairman & Managing Director, Mr. Rahul Kumar N. Baldota, Jt. Managing Director and Mr. Karmaditya S. Baldota also joined the audience and encouraged the performers.

During her oration to the august audience, Smt.Chitradevi Narendrakumar Baldota shared her memories of Smt. Vasantidevi A. Baldota and said that "my mother-in-law to whom we call Bai, has always nurtured me as a daughter and never made me realise that I am her daughter-in-law. When I came to this family, I was very young. Bai fulfilled all my wishes, educated me and made me capable. I never felt that I am away from my parents. My Bai was very noble-hearted. She used to take care of all."



A Life without mother is not possible. We cannot compare our mother with anybody else. Mother takes care of entire family with tolerance, unstinted love and selflessness. I am grateful to almighty for giving such a noble and humble person as my mother.

-Smt. Chitradevi N. Baldota,





Everybody acknowledges that Smt. Vasantidevi Baldota Blood Bank contributes greatly for the lives of mothers and children. I feel proud and honoured for working for this institution and Dadima will also feel proud for us wherever she is.
-Dr. Sulochana, CMO,

Smt. Vasantidevi Baldota Blood Bank

Dignitaries on the dais, Dr. Sulochana, CMO, Smt. Vasantidevi Baldota Blood Bank and Mrs.Rekha Madhusudhana addressed the August audience and expressed that "Dadima's" values that she imbibed in the family and her care for each and everyone has reflected in the organisation structure and practices and makes us feel proud to be associated with such a personality and the organisation.

Following the formal ceremony, the audience was enthralled by grand entertainment event. While the impressive dance numbers by the kids of Baldota Junior Club on popular numbers gripped the audience, the music performance by the famous Kannada Singers Hamsini and Atishay Jain mesmerized the audience. Mr.Chandrasekhar from Corporate Communications Team compered the entertainment ceremony. The event was followed by a dinner and get together for all the guests.

# **Aligning Capabilities**

Reduction of the Specific consumption of HSD Increase in the Productivity

Increase OMS

Improved Environmental conditions Reduction in the usage of water

During 2016-17, Mining Division aligned its capabilities and competencies with our corporate strategy to achieve the continued growth. Group had taken the strategic initiatives illustrated above to increase the operational efficiency and achieve cost reduction.

We achieved all the parameters set in above initiatives through proper utilization of human resources, better co-ordination, innovative practices, proper & consistent daily planning, effective application of machinery and proper allocation for necessities.

The production of Run of Mines (ROM) was regulated at the level of 1.675 MT for the year 2016-17 by the monitoring committee against our permitted capacity of 2.12 MT in VIOM & IGIOM.

# **Rising Winds**



Business performance of Wind Division was quite satisfactory during the year 2016-17 owing to the consistent Wind regime across the Country.

Performance of all the Wind Parks was satisfactory during the period and we achieved 94.27% of our estimated targets. This is the result of the close monitoring of operation and maintenance of all our turbines for achieving maximum utilisation from installed capacity. Furthermore, progress on land clearance of much awaited Hosapete Wind Project is in the advanced stage and we target to commission the project by 31st October, 2017.

We initiated efforts to streamline the operations at Surajbari by pursuing the sub-station transformer issue with the concerned authorities. The new transformer of 50 MVA has been already operational since April 2016.

# **Pelletizing Progress**



Market dynamics and industry structure pose a big challenge to optimize production costs. Energy efficient technologies and practices meet this challenge and have become cost-effective in recent years due to high and uncertain energy prices. We conducted energy audit in Pellet Plant in association with TERI in 2013. Post-audit implementations have started yielding returns and the pellet plant has started showing consistent business growth.

# **Averting Impacts**



During the year 2016-17, we saw a considerable rise in the diesel prices severely affecting our logistics cost. The hike in liquid sourcing prices has also affected the gas business adversely, resulting in additional monthly cash outflow The BOO plant located at SAIL has been operating only at 20% capacity, due to periodic disruptions caused by the prevailing raw material issues. To make matters tough, the entry of multiple, small, unorganised players into the market has also paved way for unhealthy competition. With the leading steel manufacturer in Bellary sector stalling expansion plans and relocating to a new region, fabrication jobs at site have been reduced to almost 10%. A rise in power cost at Maharashtra has also impacted the cost of production drastically.

However, a number of measures have been taken to reduce logistics cost and curb expenses so as to pull the business out of the ongoing financial turmoil. Distance covered by trucks for local deliveries are being monitored, and steps have been taken to limit avoidable expenditure. In spite of the rise in competition, we have marginally increased the prices to selective customers and adopted measures to eliminate those sales which fail to contribute to the operating profits. The Company is making efforts to enhance the on-site plant business.

# Innovating Waste to Wealth



GECPL carried out Numerous initiatives and new installations during the year 2016-17. Our commitment to quality and innovation has enabled us to serve a number of prestigious clients across the nation in the area of waste water and solid waste management.

GECPL has successfully secured order from the Southern Western Railways, Hubli for the development of a 50 KLD Effluent Treatment Plant to treat wastewater upto reusable water quality. GECPL is also entrusted for sewage treatment plant of 60 KLD capacity for the MSPL Pellet plant. Further, repeat order from Akshayapatra Foundation has been received for a 58 KLD capacity Effluent Treatment Plant for achieving reusable water quality. All the projects are under different stages of development.

GECPL is working on foraying into municipal solid waste management and is actively pursuing various opportunities. GECPL waste management solutions aim at reduction of odour, production of compost / manure from green waste and recovery of material for recycling. These solutions not only address the municipal solid waste management issues of cities and towns but also help in improving environmental quality.

GECPL has successfully developed solutions for removal of colour from lignin bearing wastewater generated by paper industries and cellulose manufacturing industries. Extensive trials have been conducted at these industries and the results are highly promising.

GECPL is working on developing solutions for lake and river water quality improvement. GECPL has been supplying odour treatment chemicals to food processing, tannery, dairy, garment, hotel and sea food processing industries.





The Republic Day was celebrated at Baldota Enclave and Pellet Plant and group employees paid their respect to the tri-colour with pride and patriotism.



At Baldota Enclave, the tri-colour was hoisted by Mr. Rana Lal Mukherjee, Chief Financial Officer, MSPL Limited. The national flag was hoisted at the Pellet Plant by Mr. Mruthunjaya, DGM-Administration.

The flag hoisting ceremony was followed by the patriotic song recitation by employees and sweet distribution.

### **Facilitating the Easy Loans**



Baldota Group is known as a responsible corporate citizen and an employer of choice in iron ore mining sector and it gives utmost attention to employees' welfare.

To facilitate the employees to get easy access of financial loans, Baldota Group hosted a Society Connect Programme initiated by the State Bank of India, Hosapete on 22nd March' 2017 at Baldota Enclave. The programme was aimed at providing the Housing Loan, Car Loans, and other financial products to the Group Employees under Express Credit Facilities from the Bank.

Mr. K T Pampapathi, Chief Manager – City Branch, SBI, Hosapete explained the services and products with express Credit Facilities to the Group Employees. Mr. N.Pany, Group VP-HR handed over the loan documents sanctioned by the bank to the respective employees during the event.

# Augmenting Green Practices

Mines Environment & Mineral Conservation Week
Celebration at VIOM - 2016





Vyasanakere Iron Ore Mines celebrated the Mines Environment and Mineral Conservation Week from 20<sup>th</sup> March to 25<sup>th</sup> March'2017. The celebration for the year 2016-17 was the joint initiative of Mines Environment and Minerals Conservation Association and Indian Bureau of Mines in which MEMCA inspected the operational mines.

The team of experienced industry professionals that inspected the Vyasanakere Iron Ore Mine on 20.03.2017 consisted of Mr. B.A. Ganesh, DGM-Mines, M/s. CCCL, Mr. Ramesh, Sr. Geologist, M/s. HGML, Hutti and Mr. Devraj. K, Asst. Manager – Mines, M/s. Vedanta Limited.

The inspection team members facilitated by MSPL Team headed by Mr. K. Madhusudhana, VP – Mining visited all the Departments and Environment Sites of the entire mine lease area. The team appreciated MSPL's efforts to maintain a clean environment even in the times of peak summer when extreme heat and winds make it a tough task.

The mines' inspection was followed by the formal function, cultural activities and prize distribution ceremony at the VIOM Conference Hall. Dr. Meda Venkataiah, Executive Director - Mining, Mt. K. Madhusudhana, Vice President-Mines and Mr. Venkateswara Rao, Asst. General Manager - Mines were also present on the dais along with the Inspection team members. They briefed about the management's philosophy and actions since the inception of the company to protect the environment. The function was attended by all the mines employees, workers and

representatives from Corporate Office.

The function started on the welcome note by Mr. H. Pujar, Asst. Manager-P&A, was addressed by the inspection team members. The guests expressed their satisfaction on the Environment protection measures taken by the MSPL Limited and suggested some more initiatives to augment it.





During the ceremony, the employees from all the departments with outstanding performance in mineral conservation and environment care were given the recognition as environment friends. The event was concluded with a vote of thanks by Mr. Venkateswara Rao, Asst. General Manager-Mines, VIOM. The programme was followed by a play titled "Mallappana Pawada" which highlighted the environment conservation initiatives of MSPL and narrated a story of Mallapa, a foreman of MSPL who transforms the life of an environmental offender by giving him inspirational examples of initiatives that MSPL takes for the conservation of environment. The play was written and directed by Mr. H. Pujar.

Later during the day, the inspection team visited Smt. Vasantidevi Baldota Blood Bank, Baldota Parks, adopted villages etc. to see our CSR activities along with Mr.H.K.Ramesh, DGM-CSR & his team. The inspection team was overwhelmed by MSPL's efforts to maintain the high service standards at the blood bank and well-maintained parks and also took note of the employees' proactive involvement in the group's CSR activities.

# Mines Environment & Mineral Conservation Week Celebration at IGIOM - 2016



Mines Environment & Mineral Conservation week was celebrated at IGIOM mine from 20th March'17 to 25th March'17 Under the aegis of MEMCA and Indian Bureau of Mines. During this week long celebrations, various Environment and Mineral Conservation related activities were undertaken and all the mine employees actively participated in it. At the outset, the program was kicked off by Mr. M.Sathya Prakash, AGM(mining) by hoisting the Environment and Mineral Conservation flag and he welcomed all the staff to the celebrations and congratulated them for continuing impeccable ecofriendly mining activities. This was followed by oath taking for Environment and Mineral Conservation which was administered by Mr. K. Ramachari, Senior Foreman of the mine. The inaugural speech was given by Mr. A. Latheef, Assistant Mines Manager. Mr. K. Galeppa, Foreman gave a talk on Environment and Mineral Conservation Practices in Mining.

During the final day of celebrations at mine, MEMCA inspection team headed by Mr. Mahendra Kumar Sahu, M/S NMDC limited and represented by the team members Mr. R.Manjunath, M/S VISAIL and Mr. Chiddananda, M/S Ultratech Cements inspected various MEMC aspects at the mine. The visiting team appreciated the implementation of Environment and Mineral Conservation followed at the mine. Later, Environment and Mineral Conservation Week was concluded at the mine and the function was presided over by Mr. K. Madhusudhana, Vice President (Mining). Prizes were awarded to all the winners at MSAK Zonal Trade Test, followed by entertainment programme delivered by Mr. Ashok Deshpande, Admin officer, IGIOM and his team.

Safety Practices at Work

46th National Safety Day and Annual Safety Week Event was held at Pellet Plant from 4th March to 10th March 2017. On this occasion of National Safety Week various activities and programmes were organised.

Mr. V. Krishna Moorthy, Vice President – Pellet Plant formally inaugurated the event by hoisting the flag which was followed by the Safety Pledge taken by all employees. Mr. V Krishna Moorthy during his inaugural speech emphasized upon the importance of adhering to safety standard while working and use of PPE's is essential for each and everyone. Mr. Taradevaiah, DGM – Material Management, Mr. Veeresh Koppal, Sr. Manager-Operations also gave tips on safety awareness to the employees.

During the celebrations, various competitions were organised and employees shown great enthusiasm and interest by participating in the programmes and activities.

The formal closing and award distribution ceremony took place at canteen on 10th March'17. The winners were felicitated and prizes were given during the function. During this week long celebration at various levels, MSPL Pellet Plant team participated and represented Company.

Mr. Basavaraja from Material Management Dept. won consolation prize in Safety Essay Competition (English) and Mr. Veeresh Katralli, Operations Dept. won consolation prize in Safety Slogan (Kannada) in State Level (BKRISE) Competition held by the M/s. JSW Steels Ltd., Toranagallu and received award during the celebrations.







Sr.No.	Date	Events	No. of Participants
1.	05-Mar-17	Safety Slogan Competition	51
2.	06-Mar-17	Safety Posters Competition	10
3.	07-Mar-17	Spot the Hazard Competition	21
4.	08-Mar-17	Safety Essay Competition	15
5.	09-Mar-17	Safety Quiz Competition Safely	28
6.	10-Mar-17	Song Competition	05
7.	10-Mar-17	Safely Skit Competition	24

Sr.No.	Event	Name of Winners	Donartmont	Prize
Sr.IVU.	LVGIIL	Ivallie of vviillers	Department	Pilze
1.	Safety Slogan Competition	Mr. Mahendra M	Mechanical	1st
		Mr. Amresh	Operations	2nd
	Cofety Postore Commentition	Mr. Siddalinga VH	Operations	3rd
2.	Safety Posters Competition	Mr. Shasihkant Mr. Hanumesh	Operations Kenchappa	1st 2nd
		IVII. Hallulliesii	Contractor	2110
		Mr. Anil Kumar	E&A	3rd
3.	Spot the Hazard Competition	Mr.U Maruthi	Vishal	1st
			Contractor	
		Mr. Basavaraj	Kamanna	2nd
			Contractor	
		Mr. Lakshman	Vishal	3rd
4.	Safety Essay Competition	Mr. Harish Y	Contractor E&A	1st
4.	Carety Essay Competition	Mr. Oblesh	Vishal	2nd
			Contractor	
		Mr. Amarish	Operations	3rd
5.	Safety Quiz Competition	Mr. Gavisiddappa		
		Mr. Prutvi	E&A	1st
		Mr. Anil Kumar		
		Mr. Raju Mr. Veeresh K		
		Mr. Amarish	Operations	2nd
		Mr. Geerish	Operations	2110
		Mr. Dyamanna	Vishal	
		Mr. Shrikant	Contract	
		Mr. Shashidara		3rd
		Mr. Jagadish	MRSS	
6.	Safely Song Competition	Mr. Shidayya Mr. Gavisiddappa		1st
0.	Calcry Cong Competition	Mr. Shasihkant	E&A	2nd
		Mr. Anil Kumar	Operations	3rd
7.	Safely Skit Competition	Mr. Huligesh &	E&A	1st
		Team	Operations	
		Mr.Siddalingappa		2nd
		& Team	Mechanical	
		Mr. D. Pradhan &	Droposa I als	3rd
		Team	Process Lab	



Month	Jan.'17	Feb.'17	Mar.'17
Avg. Wind Speed (Km. / Hr.)	3.86	3.68	4.23
Min. Temp. (°C)	23.5	25.5	28.32
Max. Temp. (°C)	32.58	34.8	35.44
Total Rainfall (mm)	0	0	0

