



minds AND mettle

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CSR: The wind
of change

Corporate Social Responsibility: **An engine for social change**

Since its inception, MSPL took the conscious decision to implement Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) as a mainstream function. The aim was to enable a more equitable and inclusive society so as to lay the foundation for a better and brighter future. The company was driven by this philanthropic spirit much before the Indian government enacted laws related to CSR. This forward thinking led to several achievements by the company in the CSR sphere, keeping it a step ahead of others.

At MSPL, we have been led by the belief that 'giving is a way of life'. Our response to the suffering and hardships faced by the underprivileged in our society has been without any expectations in return. Our commitment to help the less fortunate has been fueled by our scientific approach to life coupled with the feeling of empathy. It has helped us to galvanise the resources for this purpose and to sustain the motivation to do more.

It gives us great joy to find solutions for social problems to enable affirmative action. We believe in applying managerial skills, entrepreneurial insights, innovative thinking and other resources to make CSR a powerful instrument for social transformation. However, like any ambitious venture, the implementation of CSR programmes comes with its own set of challenges. The key challenge is to find solutions that help accomplish sustainable social actions.

In this issue of Minds and Mettle, we focus on our recent CSR programmes and achievements.



CSR in the media

New CSR rules come into effect from April 1, 2014

Schedule VII to the Companies Act, 2013, that provides the list of activities which may be undertaken as Corporate Social Responsibility under section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013, came into force from April 1, 2014. This will apply to companies with at least Rs. 5 crore net profit, or Rs. 1,000 crore turnover, or Rs. 500 crore net worth. Such companies will need to spend 2 per cent of their three-year average annual net profit on CSR activities in each financial year, beginning from the fiscal year 2014-2015. Hence, as per this Act, companies with sizable businesses will have to spend a minimum of 2 per cent of the net profit for the benefit of society.

The CSR activities will have to be within India, and the new rules will also apply to foreign companies registered here. Funds given to political parties and the money spent for the benefit of the company's own employees (and their families) will not count as CSR.

The permitted CSR activities include those undertaken as per the approval of the company's board in accordance with its CSR policy and the decision of its CSR Committee. "The CSR activities shall be undertaken by the company, as per its stated CSR policy, as projects or programmes or activities (either new or ongoing), excluding activities undertaken in pursuance of its normal course of business", according to the notification by the Corporate Affairs Ministry. A wide range of activities have been brought under the CSR ambit. Among others, livelihood enhancement projects, steps for the benefit of the armed forces, rural development projects, promoting preventive health care and sanitation, and making safe drinking water available, would be considered as CSR activities.

"The CSR activities shall be undertaken by the company, as per its stated CSR policy, as projects or programmes or activities (either new or ongoing), excluding activities undertaken in pursuance of its normal course of business."

The CSR policy of a company will have to specify that "the surplus arising out of the CSR projects or programmes or activities shall not form part of the business profit of a company."

A company can also carry out CSR works through a registered trust or society or a separate company. As regards the manpower for CSR works, companies can spend only up to 5 per cent of the total CSR expenditure for them in a single financial year. This would be applicable for the company's own personnel as well as for those of its implementing agencies.

Ensuring healthy bodies for a healthier future

Health is wealth. However, a large proportion of the Indian population, particularly the underprivileged section which is unable to access or afford medical treatment, suffers from various health issues. MSPL believes in playing a role in bringing about a healthier future. We held a number of health camps for screening, diagnosing and treating the underprivileged people in neighbouring areas.



Enabling a clearer vision

MSPL believes in a society that is free from vision problems. So, we regularly organise free eye-screening camps in our neighbouring communities. From January to March 2014, MSPL conducted **eye camps** at Jaishingpura, Danapura, Basapura, Kidadhal, Kanvihally and Srungarathota villages for providing screening and surgical services. Of the 458 people who were screened, some were provided the required treatment, and 131 were selected for cataract surgery. 66 patients underwent the free-of-cost surgery that we provided. We made it easier for them to undergo surgery by taking care of their food and travel. The beneficiaries were empowered with a clearer vision, a better quality of life and enhanced self-confidence.

*Helping people to
see better, live better*



Enabling better ENT and reproductive health

At Jaishingpura, Kanvihally, Basapura and Danapura villages, we held **gynaecology and general health camps** in February and March 2014 with the support of company doctors. 306 persons were screened and treated for a host of health issues, including a number of women who were given medical help for their reproductive problems.

We also held an **ENT camp** at Kanvihally where 89 people were screened for ear, nose and throat problems, and some of them were referred for further treatment.



Improving all-round health for better fitness

Enabling a new lease of life through blood donation

The demand for blood being always higher than its supply, MSPL encourages and supports blood donation. The Smt. Vasantidevi Baldota Blood Bank is dedicated to this cause. It also provides management and infrastructure support to external bodies to facilitate blood donation camps. One such camp was organised with the Vasavi Mahila Mandali, Hospet, and 24 units of blood was collected.



A blood donation drive to help save lives

Cancer Detection Camp at Hospet helps to keep cancer at bay



Inaugurating the defeat of cancer

Senior citizen Maremma from Hospet has recently been cured of the deadly disease, cancer. And she did the honour of inaugurating the Free **Cancer Detection Camp** organised by MSPL and **Mumbai-based Indian Cancer Society** at Hospet's Vivekananda Government Higher Primary School. This 3-day camp was held on March 28-30, 2014, to create awareness about cancer and to screen men above 45 and women above 30 for cancer. Mobile buses equipped with mammography, x-ray system, pathology and other diagnostic kits from the Indian Cancer Society, Mumbai, facilitated the screening.

Mr. Narendrakumar A. Baldota, Chairman and Managing Director, MSPL Limited, said that this programme was brought to Hospet citizens as part of the Group's social commitment. He appealed to the public to benefit from the camp, which was conducted by a team of **22 expert doctors and specialists from Mumbai**.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Ramesh Kadam, a senior General Surgeon from Mumbai, said that it is extremely important to detect cancer at an early stage for effective treatment. Men are prone to prostate cancer and women to breast cancer, in addition to increasing cases of oral cancer due to the use of tobacco. Many other cancers like that of the ovary, uterus, colon, thyroid and kidney are required to be detected early, so that lives can be saved. There are thousands of success stories, wherein people have been completely cured of cancer.

At this camp, 649 people were registered and 438 people were screened, including 232 men and 206 women. Most of them expressed happiness and requested for more such camps to be held in the future.

Enabling better health through yoga

The physical, mental and spiritual benefits of yoga are numerous and well-known. MSPL organised a 5-day yoga session for the inhabitants of **Hanumanahally village** with the support of Patanjali Yoga Samiti, Hospet. More than 150 people attended the session each day and learnt some important yoga practices, helping them to become fitter than before.



Yoga – the traditional way to a great body, mind and soul

Facilitating mid-day meals for school children

Mid-day meals for underprivileged school children in India have had proven dual benefits: improving the nutritional status of the children, and improving their attendance rate and literacy levels.

The mid-day meals programme run by the State Government for school children in Koppal has done exactly that. However, MSPL identified a gap in the programme: the shortage of utensils for cooking and storage. So, we extended our support to the Jadeswamy Primary School, Halavarthi, and Higher Primary School, Kidadal, by providing them with utensils to cook, serve and store food grains and clean drinking water. 719 students benefitted from our help.

During the distribution of utensils, Mr. K. S. Bhat (VP-Pellet Plant), Mr. Krishnamurthi (GM-Pellet Plant), Swamiji of Jadeswamy Math (Halavarthi) as well as the Gram Panchayat President, members and village leaders were present.



Good nutrition and good education go hand-in-hand

Providing clean water for good health

Clean drinking water is the most important requirement for human beings, the lack of which causes serious health problems.

To address this critical need, the Baldota Group established an RO (Reverse Osmosis) plant at Chitwadgi, Hospet, in collaboration with Eswara temple committee, Chitwadgi. Inaugurated by Mr. Narendrakumar A. Baldota, along with Shri Maheshwara Swamiji of Sri Nandipura Kshetra (Hagaribommanahalli Taluk) and the leaders of Chitwadgi, the plant provides 1,000 litres per hour of purified water to the underprivileged who cannot afford packaged drinking water. The RO facility serves more than 500 families in and around the plant in Chitwadgi.



Ensuring clean drinking water - Mr. Narendrakumar A. Baldota switches on the RO machine

Empowering women through new skills and better nutrition

Empowered women are truly equal citizens of a country. In India, this is the need of the hour.

Enhancing independence and self-esteem with beautician courses

Under our women's empowerment programme, we set up a **beautician training centre** at Hanumanahally village. A 3 months' training programme trained 34 rural women for beautician skills, including facials, manicures, pedicures, hair cutting, hair removing, and nail art. The programme enhanced their beauty-consciousness as much as their confidence. They could now meet their own as well as their family's beauty requirements. Another happy consequence was the setting up of two more training centres at Danapura and Hospet.



It feels beautiful to look beautiful!

Improving nutrition through healthier cooking

We organised a programme called '**Cooking – Health and Awareness**' for self-help group members at Hanumanahally and Danapura. It emphasised upon the importance of nutrition and a balanced diet for a healthy life. Dr. Sulochana demonstrated how balanced food could be created with local ingredients, and addressed vital questions related to the right quantity of food for good health. A cooking competition was also held at both places and a number of women took part. The cooked items prepared by the participants were attractively displayed and the best ones were rewarded.



Learning to cook healthy and tasty meals

Self-help group members have fun with games

We organised games for 48 members of four self-help groups in Galamanagudi village. The games included lemon & spoon, running race, bangle wearing, bucket & ball, sticking of stickers and musical chair. The participants had a lot of fun playing the games along with their daughters-in-law, while remembering their childhood and school days. Prizes were distributed to the winners.

With 'Jaipur Foot' they walk again

In association with Bhagwan Mahaveer Vikalang Sahayata Samiti, MSPL organised a free **Jaipur Foot – Limb and Calipers Camp** at Hospet from February 10 to 13, 2014, to help the disabled persons in and around Hospet and Koppal. This was the third time that this camp was organised in Hospet.

The Jaipur Foot is famous as one of the best examples of Indian innovation and barefoot engineering. Its unique and well-designed moulds have helped lakhs of accident victims across the world to walk again. At the camp, it was indeed heartening to see physically-challenged people walk like normal people without any supports. In fact, they would also be able to ride a bicycle and work in fields, factories, shops and offices.

At the event, Mr. P. Sunil Kumar, Asst. Commissioner (Hospet), Mr. C. P. Prakash, Asst. Conservator of Forests (Hospet), Mr. D. D. Malagi, Dy. Superintendent of Police (Hospet) distributed the Jaipur foot, calipers, crutches, wheel chairs and tricycles to more than 347 people, while lauding MSPL for its active social engagement and exhorting other companies to emulate its example.

At this 4-day camp, a total of 434 people were registered out of which 347 were selected as the beneficiaries. This brings the total number of people who have benefitted from the three camps, held in 2012, 2013 and 2014, to 862.

Spearheading these camps, Mr. Narendrakumar A. Baldota, Chairman & Managing Director of MSPL Limited, mentioned that the Baldota Group pioneered the implementation of CSR fifty years ago, when CSR was not a familiar concept with the private sector in India. He expressed great joy and satisfaction at seeing dignity and self-respect being restored to the differently-abled. He also noted that the Baldota Group had contributed greatly in the fields of education, healthcare & sanitation, women's empowerment, environment protection and public infrastructure.



To be physically independent is to be really free

Performance Highlights of the Group

Mining Highlights

Vyasanakare Iron Ore Mines of MSPL (2013-14)

A significant achievement of Vyasanakare Iron Ore Mines (VIOM) has been the production of quality products as per the production schedule in a systematic and scientific manner.

Important achievements in reclamation and rehabilitation programmes

These include the successful completion of R&R works as per the prescription of ICFRE in full satisfaction of the Monitoring Committee, and acquiring the approval for the resumption of mining on May 17, 2013. In 2013, more than 50,000 saplings were planted.

Mines Safety Week and MEMC Week

VIOM Mines were declared the overall winners in the A-1 Group (highly mechanised category). VIOM employees won 5 first prizes, 9 second prizes and 4 third prizes in the Zonal Level Trade Test Competitions under Zone-1 (Bellary-

Hospet) Mines Safety Week celebrations 2013-14. Also, VIOM employees also got 2 first prizes & 4 second prizes in State Level Trade Test Competitions.

In the Inter-Mine Competitions held during the Mines Safety Week 2013-2014 celebrations, VIOM won the first prize for Drilling & Blasting, Crusher & Electrical Installations, Loading & Transportation, and Safety Management System, and the second prize for Occupational Health.

In the Mines Environment & Mineral Conservation Week 2013-14 celebrations, VIOM won the first prize in Community Development and Afforestation, the second prize for Overall Performance; and a special prize for Energy Conservation.



Iyali Gurunath Iron Ore Mines of M/S RMML (2013-14)

A significant achievement of Iyali Gurunath Iron Ore Mines of M/S RMML has been production of quality products as per the production schedule in a systematic and scientific manner. R&R works were successfully completed as per the prescription of ICFRE in full satisfaction of the Monitoring Committee, and approval for resumption of mining was acquired in July 2013. Also, in 2013-14, 16,000 saplings were planted.

Mines Safety Week and MEMC Week

Iyali Mines was the second rank holder in the overall tally. Our employees got 5 first prizes, 3 second prizes and 4 third prizes in Zonal Level Trade Test Competitions under

Zone-1 (Bellary-Hospet) Mines Safety Week celebrations 2013-14. They also got 2 first prizes in State Level Trade Test Competitions.

In the Inter-Mine Competitions in the Mines Safety Week 2013-2014, Iyali Mines won the first prize for Operation & Maintenance of Machinery and for Occupational Health, Welfare Amenities & Safety Cards; and the second prize for Crushing & Electrical Installation, for Publicity, Propaganda & Risk Management, and for Overall Performance.

Iyali Mines won the first prize in Publicity Propaganda (Semi-Mechanised) under the Mechanised A-2 category of the Mines Environment & Mineral Conservation Week 2013-14 Awards.

Pellet Plant: Performance Highlights

Achievements of MSPL Pellet Plant in FY 2013-14

The MSPL Pellet Plant, under the Baldota Group, has improved its performance in terms of production, sales volume, turnover, and operating profits, despite tough competition and recession prevailing in the industry. The company believes in the philosophy of meeting customer requirements, and it has set up high standards for its product quality which has become a benchmark in the market.

To cut production costs, the Pellet Plant has installed and commissioned the new Burner Management System (BMS) which reduces furnace oil consumption and helps prevent the depletion of refined fuels. The company has also installed VF

(Variable Frequency) drives for its major equipment, resulting in substantial savings in electricity costs.

The MSPL Pellet Plant is the host for BKRISE (Bellary-Koppal Regional Industry Safety Event) for FY 2013-14 to create safety awareness amongst the employees of various organisations and the public. To develop a green belt in the factory and surrounding areas, many tree saplings were planted.

MSPL Pellet Plant: Setting quality and production standards



Report on Wind Power: Performance Highlights

Key initiatives that accelerate the Wind Energy Division's growth and create business value

The Union Budget of 2013 announced the revival of generation-based incentive (GBI) for wind power projects in India to boost capacity addition in the sector, and the allocation of Rs. 800 crores to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy to support the incentive. India has an ambitious target of acquiring 15% of its power needs from renewable sources by 2020. Wind Energy is pegged as a key growth driver, with the sector targeting 15,000 MW of new capacity in the next five years.

Re-introduction of GBI came as a breather for all wind power developers, who witnessed a fall of nearly 1500 MW in wind power installation in 2012-13 after the benefit was withdrawn. The government is still considering the reinstatement of accelerated depreciation benefits. Big wind energy players are also trying hard to urge the government to take a speedy decision on the same, as it would be crucial for the ailing

renewable energy sector in India. The central government's conducive policy, along with the regulatory framework, has been instrumental in the growth of the Wind Power sector in India.



Progress on CDM Front

Our progress so far on the CDM front has been very encouraging. As on December 31, 2012, the MSPL Group has been able to register 7 Wind Projects as CDM activity with The **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**. These are:

- 1) 125 MW Wind Power Project in Karnataka, India
- 2) Green Energy to Grid at Dhule, Maharashtra, India
- 3) Emission-free Electricity Generation at Harihar, Karnataka, India
- 4) 30 MW Wind Power Project at Surajbari, Gujarat, India
- 5) 10.4 MW Wind Power Project at Tiwari site of Jodhpur district in Rajasthan, India
- 6) 13.75 MW Wind Power Project at Bellary & Davangere districts in Karnataka, India
- 7) Renewable Energy Project at Amravathi, India

Our Wind Projects generate electricity every year equivalent to 4,28,347 MT of CO₂ without any atmospheric emissions. This is a major contribution of the Baldota Group towards the protection of the environment from climate change and the reduction of greenhouse gas emission, which is a major challenge facing society today.

The UNFCCC has issued CERs for the first 5 CDM projects from 2004 to 2012 after annual verification of the generation data.



Performance Report of Industrial Gases Division and Environment Division

Highlights of the Group's Gas Division for FY 2013-14

The Gas Business vertical of the Baldota Group of Companies has maintained its previous year's performance in terms of sales volumes, turnover, and operating profits, despite the persistent industrial recession prevailing in South India. In keeping with its philosophy of meeting the customer requirements directly, the company has opened retail outlets at Raichur, Tumkur, and Belur (near Dharwad) during FY 2013-14.

To improve customer service, the company has commissioned a CO₂ filling station at Hosahalli plant. The company signed contracts with reputed hospitals, like Navodaya Hospital, for supplying medical oxygen for 5 years, and Sahakari Rugunalaya Hospital, Solapur, for supplying liquid medical oxygen for 5 years. To ensure better safety standards, the company has commissioned hydraulic cylinder testing stations at all its plants.

Environmental Business of the Group

Good Earth Chemicals Pvt. Ltd., a company in the Baldota Group, has achieved a breakthrough in waste water treatment solutions. The 'PSS' innovative technology developed by them has helped to make the concept of odourless sewerage treatment plants a reality. In a pilot project, Good Earth removed the 'odour' from tannery effluent at the 2 MLD CETP of Ranitec at Ranipet, Tamil Nadu. The company has signed a contract for a 100 KLD sewerage treatment plant using 'PSS' technology with L&W Builders, Bangalore. They installed and commissioned the plant which is operating to the full

satisfaction of the customer, ensuring that the treated water quality falls well within the committed parameters.

The company has also signed a contract with the Akshaya Patra Foundation run by ISKCON, to set up a 75 KLD sewerage treatment plant for their kitchen waste at Lucknow and to modernise their 100 KLD plant at Hubli. The company has signed another contract with Sea Foods, Goa, to modernise their present 150 & 50 KLD effluent treatment plants.

MSPL's Gas Division: Doing well despite recession



Staying fit the **sporting way**

A refreshing walk to Joladarasi Hill

On Sunday, November 31, 2013, the MSPL Stay Fit Club organised a nature-cum-health walk for MSPL employees and their family members. The 35 participants started the walk at around 6:30 am and made their way to the mountain top with lots of excitement and joy. Accompanying them was lots of greenery and a cool breeze. On reaching the top, the participants carried out fitness routines and played fitness games. The walk ended at around 9:30 am.



Walking with Nature – man's best friend

A joyful trek to Anjanadri Hill

On December 8, 2013, the MSPL Stay Fit Club organised a 'Nature Walk' to Anjanadri Hill near Anegundi, which is on the banks of the Tungabhadra River. The Baldota Group employees, their spouses and their kids participated in the nature walk, taking the total number of trekkers to 40. Even though the climb to the Hill involved about 570 steps, the high enthusiasm levels of the participants overrode the fatigue factor! The group took photographs to capture the good memories, and enjoyed a hearty breakfast on completing the trek. All in all, it proved to be a refreshing experience for the group.

Trekking to bond with nature and with each other



District-level Athletic Meet held at Sandur

On December 14, 2013, Ms. Veda Baldota represented the SGR School at the Sandur Residential School district-level Athletic Meet. A total of 12 schools participated in the various events at the Meet. Veda faced tough competition in the 400 metres and 800 metres races, but she defeated all opponents to bag the gold medal in both. In 4x100 metres relay race, the SGR school team won the 2nd place, and Veda was the first runner of the team.

Veda's athletic career started in 2012 at the same grounds, where she won two prizes. With her latest victories, the Stay Fit Club wished her a bright future and encouraged her to participate and win in future athletic events. The MSPL Stay Fit Junior Club had a hearty congratulatory message: Bhag VEDA Bhag!



Bettering her best

11th State-level School Athletic Meet held at Bangalore

The Star Track Athletic Club organised the 11th state-level interschool athletic meet at Kanteerava Stadium, Bangalore, on November 23, 2013. It was an opportunity for the MSPL Stay Fit Junior Club members to display their talents and achieve greater heights in sports.

The Meet comprised a total of 8 events with the participants being divided into age-wise segments: under-13 Junior Boys and Junior Girls, and under-16 Senior Boys and Senior Girls. The participants of the Deepayan School included Karmaditya Baldota, Jyothirmay Baldota, Pavan R. and Akash C. S.; from the NDM School, it was Akhilesh; and from SGR it was Veda Baldota and Sonia.

Karmaditya Baldota threw the shotput to a distance of 6.3 metres in 3 trials. He earned the 5th place in 100 metres in heats, and also took part in 4x100 metres relay race in which the team stood in the 8th position.

Jyothirmay Baldota got the 8th position in the 4x100 metres relay and the 6th position in the 400 metres heats.

Akash C. S. participated in the 100 metres running race in heats as well as in the 400 metres in heats, and he took the 7th place in both the events. He also took part in the long

jump and covered a distance of 3.4 metres with 2 fouls.

Pavan R. participated in the 100 metres running race in heats as well as in 4x100 metres relay race. He took the 7th and 8th position respectively. In long jump, he covered a distance of 3.3 metres.

Akhilesh held the 5th place in the 400 metres running race heats. He also gained 8th position in the relay race, where he covered a distance of 4 metres.

Sonia Sharma participated in the 100 and 200 metres running race, gaining 7th position in both. She participated in long jump covering a distance of 3.3 metres.

Veda Baldota achieved an amiable 2nd position in 1,500 metres Senior Girls (under-16) category with the timing of 5 minutes and 58 seconds. In the 400 metres running race, Veda won the 3rd place in heats, and made a qualifying entry to the finals of the 400 metres race.

At the Meet, Mr. Thomas (Coach), Ms. Uma C. S., Mr. Sreenath, Mr. and Mrs. Rajkumar Sharma, and Mr. Tambi Rajan were present to witness the active participation of the MSPL Stay Fit Junior Club members.



Getting a head start in sports

Badminton Tournament 2013 held at the corporate office

MSPL 'Stay Fit' Badminton Tournament was held from December 2 to 13, 2013. The categories included men's doubles and mixed doubles. 42 teams featuring 84 members participated in the matches.

In the men's doubles team, Mr. Satish and Mr. Ramraju (IT) stood in the first place, while Mr. Ravi S. Patil and Mr. Rakesh Pawar won the second place. In the mixed doubles, Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Shilpa Thomas won the first place, while Mr. Asis Mishra and Ms. Soumya H. secured the second place. Many new players participated in the tournament with great zeal and displayed the spirit of true sportsmanship.



That winning feeling

'Cycle to Work' Campaign is a running success

MSPL Hospet is well-known for its wide-ranging CSR activities for which it has won various awards. MSPL also cares deeply for the environment. In order to contribute to environment protection, it has taken a small step to reduce pollution through an innovative programme called 'Green Saturday'. It encourages employees to come to office every Saturday either by walking or by cycling.

Cycling results in zero fuel emission, zero pollution, and 100% fuel-saving. An equally important benefit of cycling is that it boosts fitness and health. It improves blood circulation, sleep, water absorption, brain power and immunity. According to research, cyclists have a lower risk of cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, high BP, obesity and impotence.

We found that employees who participated in this campaign improved their time and workload management, motivation, their ability to deal with stress, and interpersonal performance. The programme has been highly successful and has received huge support from all the employees.



Cycling their way to better health and a cleaner environment

*Mr. Rahul Kumar Baldota,
Executive Director, cycling
to work*



MSPL Basketball Team stands first

The MSPL Basketball Team won the first place in the Dasara district-level Basketball Tournament conducted at Koppal. The team was selected to participate in the divisional-level basketball tournament, which was held at Gulbarga in October 2013.



We are all winners

Dance, ladies, dance

The MSPL Stay Fit Ladies Club members participated in a dance programme conducted by the Kirloskar Officers Club at Hospet.



All dressed up to dance!

Learning to stay fit in a boot camp

The MSPL Stay Fit Club conducted a Fitness Boot Camp from January 16 to 23, 2014. 26 employees attended the camp, which featured many fitness trainings like Interval training, Cardio training, Weight training, High-intensity Interval training, Total Body workout, Methods of stretching, Warm-up and Cool-down, Corrective and Core workouts, Plyometrics and Agility drills. Challenging fitness games were also conducted. The importance of fitness and exercise and a scientific approach to the same was communicated to the participants.



Booting up health and fitness with workouts



Training for better minds

Reinforcing personal effectiveness

Ms. Queeny, a soft skills trainer from Corpex Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore, conducted a 2-day training programme on soft skills for our employees on October 18 and 19, 2013. The participants found the training very effective, and requested for more such programmes in the future.

Learning to shine always

Mr. G. N. Sheshadri, a soft skills trainer of SHINE (Shandilya Institute of Nurturing Excellence), Bangalore, conducted a special soft skills training programme at the Corporate Office on December 13 and 14, 2013, and also on January 17 and 18, 2014. Its essence was the blend of modern methods and traditional yoga for better managerial skills and stress management, as well as the usefulness of yoga in day-to-day life. The training was much appreciated by the employees.

Improving the way we communicate

Mr. Gururaja Rao of Parimala Consultancy, Bangalore, conducted a 1-day training programme on barriers to communication, the drafting of letters, presentation skills and stress management on February 17, 2014, at the Corporate Office. It was highly appreciated by the participants.

Training for modern technology and a better environment at IIT Kharagpur

Mr. K. Madhusudhan, Vice-President - Mines, Mr. Sathya Prakash M., Manager - Mines and Mr. P. Nagaraj, Manager - Mines were deputed for a 1-day training programme on modern mining technology and environment management at Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur.

Training for strategic sourcing and SCM at IIM Bangalore

Mr. Asis Mishra was deputed for a 4-day training programme on Strategic Sourcing and Supply Chain Management at IIM Bangalore.

Many more trainings on both technical and non-technical aspects were conducted for the employees of MSPL Ltd.

Strengthening soft skills at IIM Kolkata

Mr. G. Seshasai, Manager - Corporate Communication and Mr. Shivamadaiah C., Deputy General Manager - Corporate Communication were deputed for a 5-day training programme on communication and presentation skills at Indian Institute of Management, Kolkata.



Raising EQ and IQ through training



Sitting Row (L to R): Ms. Hetal Thaker, Mrs. Sudha Kapur, Prof. Vidyanand Jha (Jt. Programme Director), Prof. Leena Chatterjee (Jt. Programme Director), Mrs. Barsha Dey, Mr. Chandra Dev Singh, Mr. Sudeep Shrivastava

Standing Row (L to R): Mr. G. Seshasai, Mr. Shashikant Nalawade, Mr. Panchapakesan Iyer, Mr. Deepak Kr. Choudhary, Mr. Alike Mohan Sai Krishna, Mr. Mainul Hossain (Tamim), Mr. Dinesh P. V., Mr. Shivamadaiah C., Mr. Jadab Datta (Programme Secretary)

Commemorating what matters

Saluting India on Republic Day

MSPL Limited observed with great enthusiasm the nation's 65th Republic Day on January 26, 2014. Mr. Narendrakumar A. Baldota, our beloved Chairman & Managing Director, hoisted the flag at 9:00 am. Then, Mr. Chandrashekhar sang a patriotic song describing the richness of India, followed by the distribution of certificates to the members of the boot camp held by our CMD to encourage greater participation.

A delightful event was the fancy dress competition in which small kids, dressed up as freedom fighters, delivered patriotic messages in their innocent voices. Next was the prize distribution for the winners of the badminton tournament, the drawing competition, the fancy dress competition and for the Ethnic Day.



Jai Hind! A salute to the motherland

Celebrating women on Women's Day

On March 8, 2014, International Women's Day was celebrated by the Ladies Club members and staff. The chief guests for the function were Mrs. Baghya B., a lecturer at Theosophical College, and Mrs. Rehka Madusudan. Games like pick and speak, pass the ball and skipping were played wholeheartedly by more than 34 members.



A world without women is a world without happiness

Sponsorships

Industrial Safety Day 2014 observed at Bellary



Bellary-Koppal Regional Industrial Safety Day Events (BKRISL) was commenced in 2002 under the initiation of Deputy Director of the Department of Factories, Bellary. From then on, the industries in and around Bellary-Koppal region have hosted the Regional Industrial Safety Day events to promote safety awareness amongst industries in general and workmen in particular.

This year, M/s. MSPL Pellet Plant in Halavarthi village took the responsibility to host the Bellary-Koppal Regional Industrial Safety Day Events 2014. To start with, a one-day training programme on health, safety and legislation for the contractors of the Bellary-Koppal region was organised at Hotel Krishna Palace, Hospet, on November 27, 2013. A total of 113 contractors participated.

At BKRISL 2014, various competitions like safety quiz, skit, essay, songs, slogan-and poster-making were conducted in January at MSPL Pellet Plant for the workmen of BKRISL member industries. The workmen actively participated in all these events and won prizes.

This year, the 43rd National Safety Day was observed along with State-level National Safety Day and the Bellary-Koppal Regional Industrial Safety Day Events (BKRISL) Safety Day function at Joladrashi Rangamandira, Bellary. It commenced with a safety walk followed by flag-hoisting and administering the safety oath by Mr. M. B. Dyaberi, IAS (Secretary to Govt. Labour Department), Mr. B. S. Ramchandra (Director of Factories and Boilers, Bangalore) and Mr. A. S. Lakshmanan, Chairman, National Safety Council (Karnataka Chapter). Later, Mr. P. T. Parameshwara Naik, Hon'ble Minister for Labour, Govt. of Karnataka, and District Incharge Minister, Bellary, inaugurated the main function, and presented the Safety Awards and the prizes for the BKRISL 2014 competitions to the winners.

MSPL Pellet Plant, in consultation with the Deputy Director of Factories, Bellary, released a Handbook on Industrial Safety on the occasion. The safety celebrations concluded with handing over of the BKRISL Baton/Flag to ACC Limited, Kudtini, for hosting BKRISL 2015.



A responsible organisation cares for the safety of its workers

VIOM celebrates Mines Safety Week 2014 the fun way

The Mines Safety Week for the year 2013-2014 was celebrated with a number of competitions from February 2 to 8, 2014, for which the mines were grouped into zones on the basis of production and mechanisation. Vyasankere iron-ore mines were grouped into Zone 1 as the highly-mechanised category. Our employees participated actively in the zonal-level trade competitions and won several prizes. Those who stood first and second at this level were sent to the state-level competitions, in which, again, our employees won several prizes.

The final day celebrations of the Mines Safety Week were held in Sandur, and Vyasankere iron-ore mines won top honours in the Mechanised A-1 category: the first prize for Drilling & Blasting, for Crusher & Electrical Installation, for Loading & Transportation, and for Safety Management System; and the second prize for Occupational Health. VIOM was also declared the overall joint winner in Zone A-1 category.



VIOM observes Mines Environment and Mineral Conservation Week 2014

The MEMC Week was celebrated at Vyasankere iron-ore mines from February 16 to 22, 2014. The mine was inspected by an IBM-nominated team, comprising Mr. Abraham Tigga, Manager (Mines) - NMDC Donimalai, Mr. Shivram G. Revanaki, Dy. Mines Manager - Chettinad Cements, and Mr. Jagdish Madival, Geologist - ACC Wadi, for various activities including care for the environment.

VIOM won several awards on the final day function held at Gulbarga: the first prize for Community Development and for Afforestation; the second prize for Overall Performance; and a special prize for Energy Conservation.

Iyli Mines celebrates Mines Safety Week 2014 with fanfare

Iyli Mines organised a function on February 4, 2014, to celebrate the Mines Safety Week. Mr. Tapas Chattopadhyay, Vice-President (Mines) was the Chief Guest. Mr. Meda Venkataiah, Executive Director (Mines) - M/s. MSPL Ltd., Mr. K. Madhusudhan, Vice-President (Mines) - MSPL Ltd., and Mr. Sathyaprakash, Mines Manager - Iyli Mines, presided over the function.

An inspection team comprising Mr. K. Ramani (TMPL - Conveyer), Mr. L. D. Babu (MEL - Mining Team Member), and Mr. Haroon Rashid (Sesa Sterlite - Mechanical) inspected all the mine operations and expressed their appreciation for

the safety culture at IGIOM.

Iyli Mines won a number of MSAK awards in 2014 under Mechanised A-2 category: the first prize for Operation & Maintenance of Machinery and for Occupational Health, Welfare Amenities & Safety Cards; and the second prize for Crushing & Electrical Installation, for Publicity, Propaganda & Risk Management, and for Overall Performance.

Iyli employees presented colourful cultural programmes, and the inspection team members planted saplings.



Safety comes first

Iyli Mines observes Mines Environment and Mineral Conservation Week 2014

Iyli Mines organised a function on February 18, 2014, to observe the Mines Environment and Mineral Conservation (MEMC) Week. Mr. K. Madhusudhan, Vice-President (Mines) - MSPL Ltd., and Mr. Sathyaprakash, Mines Manager - Iyli Mines, presided over this function.

An inspection team comprising Mr. Abraham Tigga, Manager (Mines) - NMDC Donimalai, Mr. Shivram G. Revanaki, Dy. Mines Manager - Chettinad Cements, and Mr. Jagdish Madival, Geologist - ACC Wadi, observed the various R & R works like coir-matting, plantation, toe wall, garland drain, check dams, gully plugs, etc.

Iyli Mines won the first prize in Publicity Propaganda (Semi-Mechanised) under the Mechanised A-2 category of the MEMC 2014 Awards.

Iyli employees presented a skit on environment awareness along with other cultural programmes, while the inspection team members planted saplings.



Reconstructed bridge on Toranagallu-Hospet Road is inaugurated

As part of Public-Private Partnership for infrastructure development, MSPL Limited played an active role, in collaboration with other industries, in the reconstruction of a bridge near Vaddu village, Toranagallu. It had collapsed on September 8, 2013, and was repaired at the cost of Rs. 2.30 crore, part of which was contributed by MSPL Limited.

The reconstructed bridge, christened 'Vishwas Sethu' (Bridge of Trust), was inaugurated on March 19, 2014, in the presence of Bellary District Administration officials and representatives from other industries in the region. Mr. K. Prabhudevappa, Executive Director (Gases) - MSPL Limited, represented the company at the function.

The reconstruction of the bridge has helped to resume vehicular movement on National Highway 63.



MSPL Geoscientists bag National Awards

Two top-notch MSPL scientists, Dr. Shibban Kumar Bhushan, Executive Director - Exploration, Hospet, and Mr. Ashish Kumar, Senior Geologist of the Group in Rajasthan, have been awarded the prestigious National Geosciences Awards for their outstanding contribution to the discovery and exploration of minerals in the country.

The Awards, previously known as National Mineral Awards, are given every year by the Ministry of Mines, Government of India, for outstanding achievements in Earth Science. There are two awards for mineral discovery and exploration; one award each for coal,

oil and natural gas, ground water, mining technology, mineral beneficiation, basic geosciences, geo-environmental studies and ocean development. One award is given to scientists below 35 years of age as the Young Researcher Award.

For 2012, Dr. Shibban Kumar Bhushan and Mr. Ashish Kumar have won awards in the category of mineral discovery and exploration. This reflects the strength of Baldota Group in the field of exploration for rare earth minerals, iron ore, potash and base metals. Incidentally, Dr. Shibban Kumar Bhushan is the oldest and Mr. Ashish Kumar is the youngest award winner for the National Geosciences Awards.



From Left to Right: Mr. D. S. Mishra, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Mines; Mr. Dinsha J. Patel, Cabinet Minister, Ministry of Mines; Mr. Rejen Habib Khwaja, Secretary, Ministry of Mines; and, Mr. S. K. Wadhwan, Director-General, Geological Survey of India. Dr. Shibban Kumar Bhushan (top) and Mr. Ashish Kumar (above) receiving the awards.

POWERING LIVES WITH THE POWER OF NATURE

Nature is elemental to the Baldota Group. Since beginning our journey as an iron ore mining company in 1962, we have diversified and transformed our activities to encompass the five basic elements of nature.



All Baldota Group Companies operate with the philosophy of adding more to these elements than what they take. Be it adhering to stringent air pollution norms, responsible mining practices, ensuring optimised water usage or encouraging energy conservation.

For us, the fifth element, Soul is an intrinsic force that resides within us. We constantly strive to enrich the soul of every individual that we touch by spearheading initiatives focused on women empowerment, education, healthcare, water & sanitation, infrastructure enhancement and livelihood opportunities.

We believe that the power of nature can be sustained and amplified to empower the lives of our generation and the generations to come; and we are determined to make it happen.

BALDOTA GROUP

MSPL Ltd. | MSPL Gases Ltd. | Ramgad Minerals and Mining Ltd. | MSPL Diamond Pte. Ltd.
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