



# **minds** AND **mettle**

MSPL NEWS BULLETIN

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India emerged as a net importer of steel for the first time in 2007-08 and the situation could worsen in the next two to three years. Shri R.S. Pandey, India's former Steel Secretary, recently expressed concern over lagging steel production in India against rising consumption. He said that all estimates regarding consumption and production had gone haywire, pointing out that while consumption was estimated to grow at 3% and production at 7%, it had been seen that consumption growth had outstripped supply.

Steel is the backbone of a fast developing nation where infrastructure development is on an overdrive. Add to this a consistently growing economy and therefore an ever rising secondary demand for steel. In a nutshell, just like clean power, steel too is a core need of the nation and if we don't augment production it could become a growth bottleneck.

## The Baldota Group inaugurates **Aaress Iron and Steel Limited**

The Baldota Group, leaders in iron ore and wind energy production, thus decided to forward, integrate and foray into steel production through the inauguration of Aaress Iron and Steel Limited (AISL).



The foundation stone for the greenfield plant coming up in an area of 1000 acres was laid on 7th May, 2008 by the Chairman and Managing Director, Shri Narendrakumar A. Baldota.

"AISL launch is in tune with the increasing demand for the production of steel globally and in India. There is a projected demand for about 200 MMTPA by 2020 as per the National Steel Policy," asserted Shri Narendrakumar A. Baldota during the Bhoomi Pooja.

AISL will initially set-up an integrated steel plant of one million ton capacity at an investment of Rs. 4,469 crore. The plant will use Blast Furnace, Basic Oxygen Furnace, Ladle Furnace and Continuous Casting route.

"We aim to start commercial production by the end of 2010," said Mr. Rahulkumar Baldota, Director, Aaress Iron and Steel Limited. "We will produce alloy and special steel in the first phase, then ramp up to manufacture flat products in the second phase," he added.

The plant will also host its own Captive Power Plant with a capacity of 70 MW, which will be enhanced to 340 MW to keep in step with the increase in capacity of the steel plant.

The Baldota Group is also setting up a pellet plant of 1.2 million ton capacity under the group's flagship company MSPL at an investment of Rs. 200 crore.

The steel plant and pellet plant are expected to create direct employment opportunities for nearly 1400 people and indirect employment for many more. This project is set to boost the economy and accelerate development in the backward districts of Karnataka.

*Seen here from left to right are Smt. Chitra N. Baldota, Mrs. Lavina R. Baldota, Mr. Rahulkumar N. Baldota, Shri Narendrakumar A. Baldota, Mrs. Rashmi S. Baldota and Mr. Shrenikkumar N. Baldota performing the Bhoomi Pooja.*







The roots of our Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives are deep and strong and we nourish them periodically by ingraining best practices from across the globe, so that the fruits of our efforts can be reaped by generations to come.

## Enhancing CSR Know-how

Towards this objective, Senior Managers from MSPL attended a two-day management development programme on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). The programme was organised by the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) in collaboration with the Business and Community Foundation (BCF).

Organised at the IIFT campus, the faculty was an active mix of both seasoned hands in industry as well as academicians. It provided a unique platform for social scientists, industry implementers and companies involved in CSR activities to come together and explore new dimensions in this growing area.

Historical evolution of philanthropy and foundations, Tata index, Corporate sustainability protocol, Carbon credits, Kyoto protocol, Extractive industries and Mining were among the wide range of issues discussed.

The two-day programme commenced with the valedictory address by Mr. S.K. Roongta, Chairman, Steel Authority of India. The Director, IIFT, Mr. K.T. Chacko also stepped in to stress the need to facilitate, design, develop and deliver a contemporary CSR curriculum.

“Corporates are increasingly realising the significance of socially responsible business

practices and as a result, a large number of companies are evolving institutional mechanisms to promote CSR,” commented Dr. Rakesh Mohan Joshi, Chairperson, Management Development Programme, IIFT.

Participating organisations included Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd., Ballarpur Industries Limited (BILT), Lafarge, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, Ericsson India Pvt. Limited, ONGC Ltd., Planning Commission, HSBC, Helpage India, NTPC Limited, Grant Thornton, National Foundation of India, CMS, Research House, Maruti Suzuki, SAIL, Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited etc.





# The SHINE of Confidence



In the quest for professional excellence, technical know-how and functional knowledge are no longer the only things that matter. In today's age of collaborative working, where interactivity and communication are vital, the importance of soft skills cannot be overemphasised.

One such ongoing soft skill training programme at MSPL is the SHINE Personality Development wherein each participant is personally trained, made to practice both in sessions and in work, family and social situations. The programme is conducted by Mr. G.N. Seshadri, Director, Shandilya Institute of Nurturing Excellence (SHINE).

Till date over 120 employees have successfully undergone training

and another 500 employees to be further given this training.

This training is based on the Maha Mantra - "Knowing is not Doing, Doing is Doing." The focus is on ensuring that knowledge imparted during the training is practiced in personal, professional and social lives and review trainings have also been scheduled to enhance the internalisation of the learnings. At the end of the programme, a valedictory function is organised to enhance motivation.

Deserving participants are honoured with Human Relation Awards, Effective Communication Awards and Memory Awards. Certificates of participation are presented to all delegates.

**The training programme covers:**

**Developing positive attitude.**  
**Setting goals:**  
**Personal, Professional and Social.**  
**Developing self-confidence and determination.**  
**Daily self introspection.**  
**Effective communication.**  
**Understanding and overcoming communication barriers.**  
**Overcoming stress.**  
**Decision making and problem solving.**  
**Pranayama and Meditation.**  
**Improving human relations.**  
**Gaining peace and happiness.**  
**How to organise, delegate and supervise functions.**  
**Improving memory.**







Mr. Srikar S. Bhattbhatt, Vice President - Corporate Affairs & Company Secretary, MSPL Limited, receiving the Certificate of Recognition from Shri P. Chidambaram, Hon'ble Finance Minister of India.

Below: Mr. Shrenikkumar N. Baldota, ED, MSPL Limited, making a presentation to the jury members at the Business World - FICCI - SEDF CSR Award meet.



## MSPL - A Responsible Corporate Citizen

In the words of the legendary Henry Ford, "Any business that makes only money is a poor business." Corporate Social Responsibility is ingrained in MSPL and is integral to our business practice. MSPL has always walked hand-in-hand with the community. We are in constant dialogue and proactively address their concerns. It is our ongoing endeavour to put into place mechanisms which make local communities self-reliant.

As sustainability becomes mainstream in business, our social and environmental initiatives are increasingly being recognised across diverse platforms. Recently MSPL was awarded the prestigious Certificate of recognition at the

Business World - FICCI - SEDF CSR Award 2007.

The Certificate of recognition was awarded to MSPL Limited by Shri P. Chidambaram, Hon'ble Finance Minister of India. Speaking at the award function, Shri Chidambaram referred to the Prime Minister's 10-point social charter for companies and drew the attention of corporate honchos to the sixth point in the charter that calls for desisting from 'non-competitive and cartel-type behaviour'.

He also urged the industry captains to employ one lakh differently-abled people for which the Government would foot the ESI and EFP bill for the first three years.

Business World, FICCI & SEDF instituted the Corporate Social Responsibility Award 2007 to recognise and value the efforts of companies in integrating and internalising CSR in their core business operations and corporate strategies.

The awards were the first of its kind in India with a unique three-tier selection process which included thorough scrutiny by Grant Thornton, field visit by representatives of Business and Community Foundation and presentations before a jury of eminent personalities.

Other winners included Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd., Tata Tea Ltd., NTPC Ltd., Apollo Tyres Ltd. and ONGC Ltd.

**We realise that innovation is the key to business sustainability in this complex and competitive environment. We have constantly tried to expand our horizons and venture into new territories, while contributing to sustainable development of our surroundings.**



MSPL Limited was honoured with the D&B – ECGC Indian Exporters' Excellence Awards for the year 2006-07 as the best exporter in Minerals and Metals – Large Category. Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) in unison with Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) initiated these awards in India this year to recognise Indian companies taking a lead in augmenting Indian exports.

# EXPORT Excellence Award for MSPL



Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) is a leading financial services company offering credit reports and various other business information of companies in India and abroad. D&B's global commercial database contains more than 100 million business records.

Shri G.K. Pillai, IAS, Commerce Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India was the Chief Guest. "These awards and the publication are a tribute to the resilience that Indian exporters have displayed in the last few years. It is through the efforts of exporters that the brand 'Made in India' is popularised all over the world," he asserted.

On behalf of MSPL Limited the award was received by Mr. K.K. Kumar, Vice President, M&L.



# MSPL Gases Expands

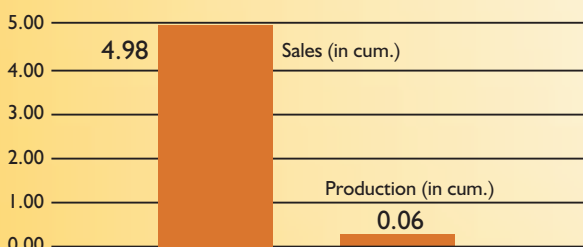
A new oxygen refilling plant of MSPL Gases was inaugurated at Kudatini on 18th April, 2008 by Mr. R.L. Mukherjee, CFO, MSPL Limited. The plant is dedicated to the community of Kudatini and Toranagallu, and shall facilitate better services to contractors and companies like JSW Steels Ltd. & BTPCL.


Seen here at the inauguration from left to right:  
Shri GVR Raju, Vastu Pandit, Mr. R.L. Mukherjee, CFO, MSPL Limited,  
Mr. K. Prabhu, Vice President, Group Gas Division, Mr. Siddalingaiah,  
AGM, Treasury and Mr. M. Ravi Raj, DGM, Production & Technical.



## Group Gas Division Performance

The Group Gas Business has showcased consistent growth in the 1st quarter of 2008-09. It has recorded a growth of 4.98% in Sales (in cum.) and a 0.06% increase in Production (in cum.) during the first half of 2008-09 as compared to the same period during 2007-08.



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Weather Station				
Month	Avg. Wind Speed (Km/Hr)	Min Temp. (°C)	Max Temp. (°C)	Total Rainfall (mm)
April 2008	2.09	17.0	39.0	0.0
May 2008	3.66	18.0	41.0	44.0
June 2008	5.92	17.0	38.0	6.0





# China – India Iron Ore Summit



The China - India Iron Ore Summit held on 28th and 29th April, 2008 at Beijing, China provided a much needed interaction platform for Indian iron ore producers and various stakeholders of the Chinese Steel Industry. The summit was conjointly organised by Federation of Indian Mineral Industries (FIMI) and China Iron & Steel Association (CISA) to boost bilateral trade relations among both the countries.

Leading national and international mining companies, mineral trading companies, policy makers in government, technologists, investors and financial institutions, environmental and safety experts and mining equipment manufacturers were all present at the summit.

Among other issues, the spot trade market was one of the most discussed one. Mr. Luo Bingsheng, Vice Chairman and Secretary General of the China Iron & Steel Association, said that spot trading was hurting both parties.

Mr. Wu Jianchang, Vice Chairman of China Iron & Steel Association and honorary Chairman of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, suggested at the summit that India should discuss with China as soon as possible a new trading model between the two parties.

MSPL Limited as a leading iron ore producer and India's largest exporter of high-grade iron ore from the private sector, was an important member at the summit. Mr. K.K. Kumar, Vice President, M&L put across MSPL's point of view through a paper: "Evolving long term price for Indian Iron Ore - Framework and Modelling".



Mr. Rahulkumar N. Baldota, ED, MSPL Limited, at the China-India Iron Ore Summit with other delegates.

**The Summit  
focused on various  
issues such as:**

**Forecast for  
Chinese Steel  
Production**

**Demand Supply  
Scenario of  
Iron Ore from:**

**Australia, India  
Brazil, South Africa  
and Others**

**Annual requirement  
of iron ore**

**Import of iron ore  
from India**

**Technological  
upgradation in  
utilising  
low-grade ores**

**Bilateral Trade:  
Long-term  
Relationship  
Expected**





"While spot price sales of Indian iron ore to China are justified by market conditions, India needs to move towards more contract sales," said Mr. K.K. Kumar. "India should develop a benchmark, long-term pricing plan with China that would follow annual contract prices," he added.

He acknowledged that Indian spot sales to China, which unlike contract prices don't lock in shipping rates for

a long period, present sharp price differentials when compared with Australian and Brazilian exports to China.

"Last month, Indian freight rates to China averaged USD 77 per ton, compared with USD 30 from Western Australia. The increase in demand and a ship shortage have caused high-orbit freight rates," Kumar told.

But he defended India's favoured practice of selling at the spot rate to China, saying it "fills supply-demand gaps in China," and is a "fair indication" of market prices for the commodity.

Kumar said that Indian iron ore was more expensive than the Australian and Brazilian products because of unique conditions in the country. He shared that getting the product from

mine to port was nearly six times more costly in India.

"In India, iron ore transport costs USD 6 per 100 kilometers, compared to an average of just USD 1.10 in Australia and Brazil. Therefore, it's just not possible for Indian iron ore sector to use a similar pricing structure. It is necessary to develop a benchmark price which is unique to India," Kumar said.

He proposed working toward a long-term benchmark contract price for Indian iron ore in China of around USD 140 per ton for high quality material – iron ore with at least 65% iron content.

He added that India's landed price in China should take into consideration the fact that shipping time to China is only around 12 days, versus over 40 days from Brazil.



## An Encore at the FKCCI Awards



*Mr. Sivaraj, Assistant General Manager, Marketing, MSPL Limited, receiving the FKCCI Award from the FKCCI President, Mr. S.S. Patil.*

MSPL Limited won the Best Manufacturer Exporter Gold Award for the year 2007-08 in the Mineral Category of the FKCCI Export Excellence Awards second year in a row. The Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FKCCI) organises these awards annually to recognise and honour top export performers.

Rajesh Exports Ltd., a jewellery company, won the Star Exporter Award and Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) won the Best Services Exporter Award. Sami Labs, Kunigal, Karnataka, which processes herbal extracts and exports to L'oreal, France, was the first exporter from a backward taluka to win an award.

Shri Venkatramanappa, Hon'ble Minister of Small Scale Industries & Sericulture, Karnataka was the Chief Guest and 42 organisations were recognised with awards in various categories. The President of FKCCI, Mr. S.S. Patil shared that these 42 organisations between them contributed an export of Rs. 48,000 crore in the year 2007-08.

# 52nd Rashtriya Adhiveshan of Bharat Jain Mahamandal

Bharat Jain Mahamandal (BJM), an organisation which collectively represents all the sects of the Jain community, recently celebrated its 52nd Rashtriya Adhiveshan in a grand manner in the presence of august priests and illustrious dignitaries.

Shri Narendrakumar A. Baldota was the Chief Guest at the event.

Shri Champaklal Vardhan, President, BJM and Shri R.K. Jain, former President, BJM on behalf of the community expressed gratitude and thanked him for his guidance and co-operation. Also seen in the picture are Mr. Uddhav Thackeray and Mr. Gujrati.



**NEWS  
MAKERS**

## Man of the Moment

Mr. Meda Venkataiah, Executive Director, Mines, was honoured as 'Mining Engineer of the Year – 2007' by Mining Engineers' Association of India during its Annual General Body Meeting held at Raipur on 29th June, 2008.

The award recognises professionals who have contributed substantially to the mining or mineral industries in the areas of management performance, production / productivity, mining technology, human resource development, protection of environment, mineral conservation and beneficiation.

Seen here is Shri R.P. Gupta, President, MEAI presenting the Medal and Certificate of merit to Mr. Meda Venkataiah, ED, Mines.





# Meeting of Minds

## Shanghai-Mumbai Hand in Hand

India China Chamber of Commerce and Industries (ICCCI) as part of its ongoing endeavour to promote mutually beneficial trade, commerce, investment, economic co-operation and people to people friendship between India and China organised 'Shanghai-Mumbai Hand in Hand'.

Mr. H.K. Ramesh, AGM-CSR, MSPL Limited, made a presentation on Corporate Community Service in India and walked the audience through its evolution from Merchant Charity to Corporate Philanthropy and from the currently practiced Corporate Citizenship to the emerging focus on Sustainability.

Mr. Ramesh also shared with the august audience the CSR activities undertaken by the Baldota Group and the conglomerate's commitment towards social and environmental causes. Attendees were delighted to know about the company's comprehensive Corporate Social Responsibility Program and inquired in-depth about the organisation's extensive tree plantation program.

Ms. Yin Yicui, Deputy Secretary, Shanghai Municipal Committee, CPC, Mr. R.A. Rajeev, Additional Municipal Commissioner, Mumbai and Mr. Kashi Deora, President, ICCCI were amongst the dignitaries who participated in 'Shanghai-Mumbai Hand in Hand'.





# Encouraging Education

Education is a cause dear to the Baldota Group. There is no tool as strong as education to create a self-reliant society and enhance the quality of life of each individual. It is our strong belief that education holds the key to social, economic and environmental transformation. We actively support education at primary, secondary and graduate levels, across socio-economic segments and beyond geographies.

This quarter too we carried forward this zeal through notebook distribution to rural students, gold medals for engineering toppers and contribution to individuals for pursuance of their educational dreams.

## Gold for Academic Achievers

In continuation of its tradition, MSPL this year too honoured the academic achievers of the Proudhavevaraya Institute of Technology. Gold medals were awarded on the occasion of the College Annual Day, 'Parikrama 2008', by Shri M.M. Patil, VP, Aarss Iron and Steel Limited to six top rankers in different branches of engineering.





## Writing a Better Future



### Notebooks distributed to students on inauguration day

Education opens up new income streams for families and allows them to live with fulfillment and dignity. Despite being keen to educate their children, the poor are unable to afford school fees, uniforms, notebooks and other items. Distributing notebooks is a part of MSPL's endeavour to empower children from every strata of the society and motivate their parents to send them to school.

The Abheraj Baldota Foundation has been distributing free notebooks in schools in and around Hospet for the past three years. This year the distribution program was held at Venkateswara Kalyana Mandapa on 30th June and was inaugurated by Capt. Dr. Rajendra, Asst. Commissioner, Hospet.

Shri Narendrakumar A. Baldota, CMD, MSPL Limited, shared with the audience the various initiatives undertaken by the Abheraj Baldota Foundation for the empowerment

of the community. He updated the audience regarding the foundation's activities like developing infrastructure facilities in local schools, aiding local hospitals to improve healthcare facilities and lending support to poor patients for life-altering diseases like heart operations, cancer treatments etc.





Shri Narendrakumar A. Baldota also shared details regarding the Abheraj Baldota Foundation's special program which supports ten academically brilliant but economically constrained students every year to pursue college education and carve out a career in engineering or medicine. He requested students facing financial hurdles to avail this benefit from the foundation.

Speaking at the occasion, Mr. Gonnibasappa, Manager of Education Department appreciated the social initiative of the Abheraj Baldota Foundation especially in the education arena.

Among the other guests present were Mr. Shrenikkumar N. Baldota, ED, MSPL Limited, Mrs. Prathibha Patil and Mrs. Suma Mukherjee from Baldota Women's Association, Mr. Kalidas, President, Sai Daya Samaja Seva Kendra and Mr. Veerabadraiah, Principal, Girls Junior College, Hospet.

The programme was anchored by Ms. Nagavasuda, welcome speech was delivered by Mrs. Nirupama Shenoy and Mrs. Roopa Ramesh concluded the programme with a vote of thanks. The students of Govt. Junior College presented a short play 'Donation for education is better than any other donation'.

## Encouraging Individuals to Scale Educational Heights



The Abheraj Baldota Foundation consistently supports and encourages deserving students who have the ambition and ability, but are economically constrained. The foundation contributed Rs. 60,000 this quarter to Ms. Pallavi K. for pursuing Masters in Pharmacy.

## Music for Everyone

Equal access to opportunity and enhancing quality of life are two of the objectives that the foundation pursues. Towards these objectives, the Abheraj Baldota Foundation contributed Rs. 1,00,000 to the Gurukrupa Music Training School for initiating and training the poor and physically challenged students. The Foundation aims to inject a new perspective in their personality and enhance their confidence through this endeavour.





## Touching Lives

Medical costs of major operations and surgeries can be quite killing even for individuals who are reasonably well-off. They can derail the economic condition of a family and add to the trauma.

At MSPL Limited, we are sensitive to this predicament and lend financial support to needy patients. In this

quarter, MSPL Limited supported the following patients:

- Financial assistance of Rs. 50,000 was given to Ms. Marakka, a widow, suffering from Uterus Cancer for the past 2 years, to get operated at the Karnataka Cancer Therapy & Research Institute.

The assistance amount covered hospital, surgery and medication charges.

- Baby Jameer was provided Rs. 85,000 for his heart surgery while Mr. Veerabadraiah, from T.B. Dam was given Rs. 42,120 for his angioplasty.



## Shuttling across the Globe



Sports are an integral part of human life and essential for individual development. At the Abheraj Baldota Foundation, we believe in facilitating talented sportspersons to perform at their true potential.

Vinay Kumar Reddy, a national level Badminton Player ranked 28th by the Badminton Association of India, nurtured a dream to become an international player. The Abheraj Baldota Foundation provided financial assistance of Rs. 50,000 to assist his participation in the international tournaments which were hosted in Nepal, Thailand and Vietnam. These tournaments helped him gain invaluable experience of competing with global players and helped him grow as a sportsperson.

The Abheraj Baldota Foundation is committed to encourage sports and will continue to support spirited young sportsmen who are determined to make a mark.



To create awareness about the Environmental Preservation and Pollution Prevention, MSPL organised drawing and essay competitions and tree plantation programs where over 5000 saplings were planted by over 650 students from all the major schools of Hospet, Kariganur, Ingaligi, Hanumanahalli and Dhanapur.

The World Environment Day (WED) was celebrated at Vysanakere Iron Ore Mines on 5th June, MSPL EOU-II, Ingaligi on 6th June, Sachidananda Iron Ore Mines and Iyali Gurunath Iron Ore Mines on 7th June and Pathikonda Iron Ore Mines and Banashankari Iron Mines on 9th June.

## Celebrating a

**It is time to reflect and ponder upon the Earth's environment, the threats facing it, and what we can do to alleviate some of the negative affects our society has had on our Planet. To create awareness among the internal and external stakeholders and the community at large, MSPL has been celebrating the World Environment Day since last 9 years. The tradition of caring for the environment has been a part of MSPL's DNA.**

# 15





The theme for this year's drawing and essay competition was 'CO<sub>2</sub> - Kick the habit, towards a low carbon economy'. The theme emphasised on the resources and initiatives that encourage low carbon economies, alternative energy sources, improved energy efficiency, forest conservation and eco-friendly consumptions. It focused on the need for the government, communities, and each of us to take immediate actions to mitigate the release of CO<sub>2</sub> and other greenhouse gases and ameliorate the problem of global warming and climate change.

Mr. Tapas C., CGM, Mr. Madhusudhana K., DGM, Mr. Sitaram K., AGM, Mr. Nagesh Shenoy, AGM, Mr. A. Soloman, Mr. Muragaiah - Mines Managers, Mr. Sudheendra K., Manager Purchase, Mr. Mahesh, Environment Officer along with the students and teachers of government schools and the employees of MSPL Limited participated enthusiastically in the celebrations and made the occasion a grand success.

# Clean and Green Future







A variety of programs were presented by the school children as part of the World Environment Day celebrations at Sachidananda Iron Ore Mines. Two of the students, namely Kumari Shivaleela of 7th standard and Master Ramesh N. of 8th standard spoke on the importance of WED celebrations.

To commemorate the occasion, caps with Environment Day logo and certificates of participation were distributed to the school children for their enthusiastic participation in the extensive plantation drive.







# Conserving Wildlife, Nurturing Nature



The Indian subcontinent is a vibrant collage of exotic wildlife species. More than 4% of India's land is under forest cover and there are at least 90 national parks and 482 wildlife sanctuaries. This rich national panorama of birds and wild animals makes India one of the 12 mega diversity areas in the world. But in recent years, the mad race for development and urbanisation has put many of these species under the shadow of extinction.

It is thus imperative that children and youth, the future custodians of our nation, are motivated to protect this treasure. At MSPL, we realised the best way to do this was by getting them to experience the wonders of Mother Nature and invoke in them pride, passion and ownership for this natural treasure.

Towards this objective the Society for Wildlife and Nature (SWaN) was instituted under the aegis of MSPL. The society has formed 20 nature clubs in and around Hospet taluka and conducts various conservation awareness and action programs.





This year too, SWaN undertook various activities as detailed below:

## Creating Awareness among the Youth

Various awareness programs such as wildlife photography exhibition, slide shows, film shows, identification of birds and their calls, importance of birds in nature, protection of wildlife etc. were conducted. Over 1300

students and more than 50 teachers from various schools participated in these activities.

## Bird Watching

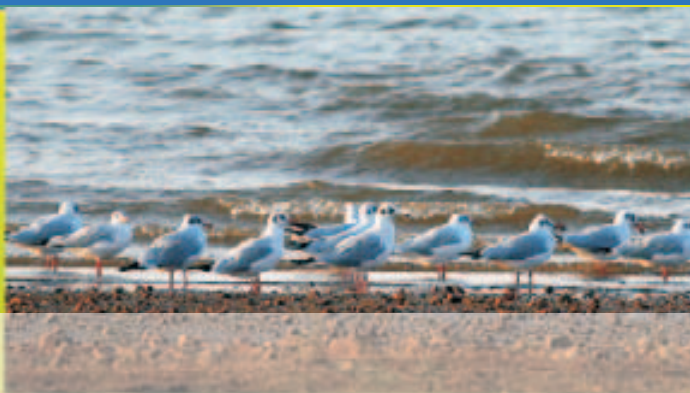
SWaN organised bird watching sessions in nearby forests for students. The sessions were informative and engaging as expert field guides helped students identify and document various birds. Over 200 students of various schools attended these sessions.

Name of the School	No of Students
Sree Maatha Degree College, Amravathi	200
Jindal Vijayanagar Photographers and Nature Lovers Meet	25
Jindal High School, Vidyanagar, Toranagallu	450
National D.Ed College, Hospet	120
Govt P.U. College, Mariyammanahalli	500
TMAE Society's Polytechnic College, Hospet	50

Name of the School	No of Students
Bachigondanahalli, H.B.Halli Taluka	50
Sree Maatha Degree College, Hospet	40
GPU College, T.B. Dam (High school students)	60
GPU College, T.B. Dam (College students)	50
Govt PU College, Mariyammanahalli (High school students)	35







## Avifauna Documentation

The President of SWaN, Mr. K.S.A. Samad is also the Chairman of North Karnataka Birders Network (NKBN), an informal organisation of birdwatchers that covers 12 districts of North Karnataka. SWaN, jointly with NKBN, organised bird watching camps to document the Avifauna in the regions of North Karnataka.

### Dandeli Meet:

A meet was held at Kulgi Nature Camp, Dandeli wherein 16 members participated to document the Avifauna of the Western Ghats.

### Sandur Meet:

The forests of the Sandur Mountain Ranges which are flourishing with flora and fauna are still largely unexplored. SWaN organised an 8 member special meet to explore the beauty of these forests.

Many birds which are rarely found in Karnataka like Spotted Dove, White-Eye, Paradise Flycatcher, Red Whiskered Bulbul, and Little Green Barbet were seen in large numbers.

Encouraged by these sightings SWaN has decided to regularly conduct such bird watching programs in this region.

## Campaign against Ritual Hunting

After last year's resounding success, this year too, the organisation took systematic measures to prevent ritual hunting during Ugadi festival.

SWaN representatives submitted a memorandum to the Honb'le Deputy Commissioner of Bellary, Shri Arvind Srivastava to issue a notice against ritual hunting during Ugadi festival. They also requested Mr. Biswajith Mishra, DCF, Bellary and Mr. V. Doraiswamy, DCF (mobile squad) to patrol the entire forest area of Hospet taluka during the Ugadi festival.

Pamphlets and posters were distributed among the villagers to create awareness about the conservation of wild animals and eliminate the brutal practice of ritual hunting.

## Protecting the Great Indian Bustard

Out of the 1,228 species of birds found in India, approximately 82 species have been listed in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Animals (IUCN 2006). The Great Indian Bustard (GIB) is on the red list and faces extinction. According to estimates, only 300 GIBs are said to be remaining in India.



In 2006, SWaN discovered 9 Great Indian Bustards in Hachchholli, Siruguppa taluka, in Bellary district. Since then SWaN has been creating awareness among the students and villagers about this rare and highly endangered bird. SWaN has also created a trackers network in this area to get regular information on the sighting and movement of the bird.

In December 2007, SWaN trackers found a GIB nest with a lone pink coloured egg in the middle of a sunflower field in Siruguppa taluka. SWaN appointed trackers, kept a watch on the nesting area so as to protect the bird from people and predators for a month till the egg hatched.

SWaN has also published and distributed posters of GIBs in Siruguppa taluka and Koppal district.

### **Protection of Migratory Birds**

SWaN distributed pamphlets in villages surrounding the Tungabhadra reservoir to control the ill practices of sowing crop seeds with poisonous fungicides and discourage the use of nylon noose to trap birds and ducks as it very often kills the bird. Over and above sharing knowledge on protection of migratory and water birds, this effort also created awareness about the importance of these birds.

**We at MSPL Limited encourage and applaud the activities undertaken by SWaN and are proud to be associated with this organisation to conserve and nurture the rich wildlife in Karnataka.**



# Employees of the Month

## BIOM



APRIL 2008  
**MR. GOPAL RAO,**  
Foreman,  
merits recognition for taking up the responsibility of BIOM. His efforts helped in reducing the distance of Haul Road from section A-2 to section A-3 (nearly 1 km). This helped in increasing the number of trips per hour and improved the productivity of the machinery.



MAY 2008  
**MR. MAILAR D. KALWAD,**  
Excavator Operator,  
merits recognition for operating the machine in the targeted hours without any breakdown. He is also sincere and punctual in attending to his duties.



JUNE 2008  
**MR. MANJUNATH A.,**  
Weighbridge Clerk,  
merits recognition for being quick in picking up the art of maintaining official documents and records related to mining, even though it was his first time and had no prior experience.

## PVS



APRIL 2008  
**MR. S. THIMMAPPA,**  
Helper,  
merits recognition for his hard work in survey of the mine's lease area and also for his commendable contribution in marking the points around the mine, fixing the boundary pillars and painting them.



MAY 2008  
**MR. G. VENKATESH,**  
Excavator Operator,  
merits recognition for his contribution in maintaining the Wheel Loader (FEL) transmission within the stipulated time period. His multi-skilled personality and hard work are great assets.



JUNE 2008  
**MR. SHANKARAPPA,**  
Drilling Helper,  
merits recognition for his excellent job performance. His efforts made a commendable contribution to improve the drill rate. He is also very punctual and obedient in attending to his duties.

## IYLI



APRIL 2008  
**MR. K. G. NAVEEN KUMAR,** Electrician,  
merits recognition for his commendable contribution in installing and setting up of the new 25 KVA DG room. Sincere and obedient, he is diligent in attending auto electrical problems.



MAY 2008  
**MR. CHAND BHASHA P,**  
Compressor Operator,  
merits recognition for his sincerity and commitment. He is multi-skilled and is diligent in the maintenance and upkeep of machines.



JUNE 2008  
**MR. MAHESH K.,**  
Mines Foreman,  
merits recognition for his contribution towards the safety and supervision of work in the maintenance department. He is sincere, punctual, hard working and possesses excellent leadership qualities.

## VIOM




APRIL 2008  
**MR. YAMUNAPPA,**  
Asst. Technician (Crushing Plant),  
merits recognition for his extraordinary contribution in making the EOU-I 475TPH C&S plant free from honeybee hives. He cleared nearly 98 bee hives and his contribution resulted in savings of Rs. 50,745.



MAY 2008  
**MR. K. BARMAPPA,**  
Sr. Operator (Heavy Machinery),  
merits recognition for suggesting ramps to reduce the distance. He on his own prepared the ramps with proper gradients. Apart from this he also ensures that the machinery has taken proper load and is always well maintained.

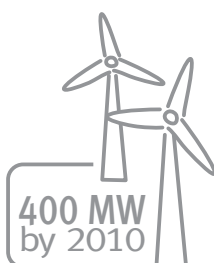


JUNE 2008  
**MR. G. KOTRABASAIHAH,**  
System Engineer (IT),  
merits recognition for his excellent repair and upkeep of computers at four weigh bridges and at all Departments of Vysanakere Iron Ore Mines. He always takes the lead to ensure that weigh bridges, SAP and Outlook Express are on-line. He has even assembled a computer from spares and saved about Rs. 25,000. He works hard, is sincere and obedient.



My tomorrow depends  
on what you do today

Decisions of today will shape the world of tomorrow.



Representing future generations and their interests in today's decision-making processes is ingrained in the ethos of MSPL. Our approach therefore transcends regulatory, programmatic and jurisdictional constraints, and emphasizes on synergizing ecology and economy.

It is this responsibility towards mother earth and its future residents that has led us to invest in wind energy. An initiative which shall ensure availability of much-needed power for accelerated progress, at a minimal environmental footprint. Today with an installed generation capacity of 191.6 MW we are the largest producer of wind energy in the country and we are on course to double this capacity by 2010.

At MSPL, we want to make a difference and it is our endeavour to gift our children a more sustainable world than the one we inherited.



**MSPL LIMITED**

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