



SHAPING THE FUTURE: INSIGHTS AND STRATEGIES FROM THE EC/FC/WL/GW CLEARANCE WORKSHOP FOR COAL MINING PROPOSALS HELD ON JUNE 10, 2024, NEW DELHI



**MINISTRY OF COAL
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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACA	Accredited Compensatory Afforestation
APCCF	Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forest
BCCL	Bharat Coking Coal Limited
BT	Billion Tonne
CA	Compensatory Afforestation
CCO	Coal Controllers Organisation
CGWA	Central Ground Water Authority
CGWB	Central Ground Water Board
CIL	Coal India Limited
CMD	Chairman & Managing Director
CMPDIL	Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited
COP	Conference of the Parties
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
DG	Director General
DM	District Magistrate
DVC	Damodar Vallery Corporation
EAC	Expert Appraisal Committee
EC	Environmental Clearance
ECL	Eastern Coalfields Limited
EDS	Essential Details Sought
EIA	Environment Impact Assessment
EMP	Environment Management Plan
EPA	Environment Protection Act
ESZ	Eco Sensitive Zone
FAC	Forest Advisory Committee
FC	Forest Clearance
GCP	Green Credit Program
GW	Ground Water
GWM	Ground Water Management
IG	Inspector General
KLD	Kilo Liters per day
KML	Key Markup Language
LNG	Liquefied natural gas
MCL	Mahanadi Coalfields Limited
MoEF&CC	Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
MS	Member Secretary
MT	Million Tonne
NBWL	National Board for Wildlife
NCL	Northern Coalfields Limited
NGT	National Green Tribunal
NITI	National Institution for Transforming India

NLCL	Neyveli Lignite Corporation India Limited
NOC	No Objection Certificate
NOCAP	Know Your Ground Water Abstraction / Restoration Charges
NTPC	National Thermal Power Corporation
OB	Overburden
PARIVESH	Pro-Active and Responsive facilitation by Interactive, Virtuous and Environmental Single-window Hub
PCCF	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
PH	Public Hearing
PP	Project Proponent
PRC	Peak Rated Capacity
PSC	Project Screening Committee
PSU	Public Sector Undertaking
SCCL	Singareni Collieries Company Limited
SDM	Sub-Divisional Magistrate
SECL	South Eastern Coalfields Limited
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SWCS	Single Window Clearance System
TOR	Terms of Reference
UT	Union Territory
WBPDCCL	West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
WCL	Western Coalfields Limited

1 INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of Coal, Government of India, in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), conducted a workshop on Environmental Clearance, Forest Clearance, Wildlife Clearance, and Central Ground Water clearances for Coal Mining Proposals on 10th June 2024 in New Delhi. Shri Amrit Lal Meena, Secretary, Ministry of Coal, was the Chief Guest, and Shri M. Nagaraju, Additional Secretary & Nominated Authority, Ministry of Coal, was the Guest of Honour for the event.



Guests sitting from (L-R) - Shri. Sunil Kumar Ambast, Chairman, CGWA, Shri. M. Nagaraju, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Shri. Amrit Lal Meena, Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Shri. Jitendra Kumar, DG (Forests), MoEF&CC, and Shri. P.M Prasad, CMD, Coal India Ltd

The event witnessed the presence of senior officials from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, as well as officials from CIL, NTPC, MCL, BCCL, WCL, ECL, SECL, SCCL, CMPDIL, and CCO, along with allottees of captive/commercial coal blocks.

The primary objective of this workshop was to provide a comprehensive understanding and clarification on the processes involved in obtaining the necessary clearances for coal mining proposals. These clearances, including Environmental Clearance, Forest Clearance, Wildlife Clearance, and Central Ground Water clearances, are critical for ensuring the sustainable and responsible development of coal mining projects while mitigating potential environmental impacts. By bringing together key stakeholders, such as senior officials from both ministries, representatives from coal companies, and allottees of captive and commercial coal blocks, the workshop aimed to facilitate an open dialogue and disseminate detailed

guidelines, regulations, and best practices for navigating the clearance procedures effectively. Additionally, it served as a platform for addressing any concerns, queries, or challenges faced by the industry, enabling a collaborative approach to streamlining the clearance processes and promoting responsible coal mining practices in the country.

Environmental Clearance, Forest Clearance, Wildlife Clearance, and Central Ground Water clearances are crucial regulatory approvals required for coal mining proposals in India. These clearances aim to ensure that the proposed mining activities are conducted in an environmentally sustainable manner, minimizing the adverse impact on forests, wildlife habitats, and groundwater resources. Environmental Clearance evaluates the potential environmental consequences of the project and mandates appropriate mitigation measures. Forest Clearance regulates the diversion of forestland for non-forestry purposes, safeguarding precious forest reserves. Wildlife Clearance assesses the impact on protected areas and wildlife corridors, ensuring the preservation of biodiversity. Central Ground Water clearance regulates the extraction of groundwater, preventing depletion and contamination of this vital resource. These clearances play a pivotal role in striking a balance between the nation's energy needs and environmental conservation, upholding the principles of sustainable development in the coal mining sector.

2 INAUGURAL SESSION

The event commenced with a warm welcome extended to the esteemed guests, followed by the auspicious lighting of the ceremonial lamp by Shri. Amrit Lal Meena, Secretary, Ministry of Coal symbolizing the enlightenment and progress that the workshop aimed to bring forth.



Shri. Amrit Lal Meena, Secretary, Ministry of Coal inaugurating the workshop.

i. **Shri M. Nagaraju, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal**

delivered the opening remarks. He welcomed the esteemed Secretary (Coal) Shri Amrit Lal Meena, DG Forests Shri Jitendra Kumar, Chairman of Coal India Limited Shri P.M. Prasad, Chairman of Ground Water Board Shri Sunil Kumar Ambast, CMDs, PCCFs, MoEF&CC officials, and coal block allottees. He highlighted that Coal is vital for the nation's development and energy



Shri. M. Nagaraju, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal, speaking at the Inaugural Session.

security, powering key industries. However, following proper procedures and guidelines of MoEF&CC for obtaining clearances is crucial to avoid delays in operationalizing coal blocks while ensuring sustainable mining practices. The PARIVESH and SWCS portals, along with monthly coordination meetings between the ministries, have streamlined processes and expedited clearances. He reiterated that allottees must submit accurate and complete proposals to prevent queries and project delays. Both ministries acknowledge their collaborative efforts in increasing

clearances over the years and remain committed to balancing energy needs with environmental conservation through two sessions being conducted today, by guiding on clearances, common mistakes, and mitigation strategies, highlighting the significance of the workshop and the collaborative efforts undertaken by the Ministry of Coal and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. He emphasized the importance of striking a balance between meeting the nation's energy demands and preserving the environment.

- ii. **Shri. Sunil Kumar Ambast, Chairman of the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB)** addressed the gathering, shedding light on the critical role of groundwater resources in sustaining life and the need for responsible management and conservation of this invaluable resource. He outlined that with almost 70% of water used in the coal industry is fresh water, and recent water crises across cities, it is crucial to conserve and economize water usage, especially in coal mining operations. While conventional water reduction and recycling methods are practiced, it is time to explore innovative alternatives.

In coal washeries, using centrifuges after hydro cyclones can potentially save 15-20% water, and deploying filter belt presses for sludge can reduce water content by 5-7%. At transfer points generating coal dust, stack tubes can minimize fugitive dust without water usage, instead of using rain guns.

There is significant potential in every sector and sub-sector of coal mining to minimize water consumption and improve efficiency through systematic identification and implementation of such water-saving measures. He mentioned that the CGWB colleague will provide a detailed presentation addressing specific challenges and clarifying points on obtaining NOC's for coal mining projects. The Board thanks the Ministry for this opportunity to discuss these crucial water conservation issues in the coal industry.

iii. **Shri. P. M Prasad, Chairman of Coal India Limited (CIL)**, the largest coal producer in the country, shared insights into the company's commitment to sustainable mining practices and its efforts to minimize the environmental impact of its operations. He highlighted that such platform allows us to clarify doubts and address issues across groundwater, wildlife, environment, and forest clearances, which will prove invaluable in ramping up coal production. Last year, India narrowly missed its 1 BT production



Shri. P.M Prasad, CMD, Coal India Ltd speaking on the occasion

target, but this year, Coal India, NTPC, SCCL, DVC, WBPDC, and other private players are committed to achieving 1100 million tons of coal production in the country. The interactive sessions will help tackle challenges like water scarcity, a pressing concern highlighted by the Chairman of the Groundwater Board. He mentioned that this year's World Environment Day theme, hosted by Saudi Arabia, focuses on land restoration, desertification, and drought resilience. With droughts increasing by 29% since 2000, and only 26% of the Earth's surface being land while 74-75% is covered by water, of which 99% is oceanic water, conserving freshwater resources has become critical for sustainable development and ecosystem health. He stressed that key points given by Chairman, CGWA, Coal India's water usage has been noted, and the same is being monitored as per NITI Aayog guidelines. He mentioned that all companies must focus on this and should plan dry washeries while exploring best solutions for existing plants. Coal India is committed to the plantation and Green Credit Program introduced by the MoEF&CC. Accordingly, In July/ August of 2024, a nationwide plantation drive will be carried out, with the inauguration of around 100 sites across the country. This initiative aims to cover an area of approximately 5,000 hectares, focusing on planting trees and restoring green cover. The plantation drive is a significant step towards promoting environmental sustainability, combating climate

change, and enhancing biodiversity in various regions of the nation. Reducing carbon emissions has been a significant topic at COP meetings over the last decade and a half. As part of our first-mile connectivity efforts, we are reducing dumper transportation and cutting down on diesel use. Currently, we are dispatching around 300-350 million tonnes using silo loading, aiming to increase this to 900-950 million tonnes in the next 3-4 years. Similarly, in other practices, we ensure to use best available practices towards responsible mining and a sustainable future.

- iv. **Shri Jitendra Kumar, Director General of Forests, MoEF&CC**, during his address, mentioned that the workshop is being held on an important topic linked to the expeditious implementation of planned projects while maintaining ecological stability. It was directed by the MoEF&CC that coal projects should also be reviewed at regional and state levels, like linear projects, to resolve issues locally. This was important as, in some cases, the clearance process was taking over two years, which was a major concern that needed to be addressed collectively. A suggestion was made to consult Forest Officers and Regional Offices while preparing mining plans and DPRs, simplifying the process.



Shri. Jitendra Kumar, DG (Forests), MoEF&CC speaking on the occasion

Additionally, it was informed that there were several projects awaiting Forest Stage II clearances after receiving Forest Stage I in-principal approval, and it was necessary to work together to expedite these.

It was informed by him that during the technical session, officers dealing with Forest and Wildlife clearances would make detailed presentations, and attendees should get all necessary clarifications. It was reiterated that areas for greening as a better solution should be explored. Considering the shared concern for carbon balance and neutrality, all coal sector officials were urged to plant community forests wherever vacant spaces

were available, dedicating them to Mother Earth. By working collectively, the process could be streamlined within the prescribed 150 days maximum timeframe for obtaining final forest clearances, as these projects are for public benefit. It was emphasized that solutions should be found together.

- v. **Shri. Amri Lal Meena, Secretary, Ministry of Coal** delivered the keynote address, expressing pleasure at the attendance of key stakeholders. He emphasized the necessity of such a brainstorming session to foster collaboration among various agencies, including the Forest Department, Central Groundwater Board, State Government, Coal companies, and private coal companies. The primary objective was to understand and respect each other's concerns, ensuring compliance with environmental and regulatory requirements to the satisfaction of all parties involved.

He acknowledged the challenges being faced due to special regulatory conditions, which are often difficult to meet within the prescribed timelines. He highlighted the



Shri. Amrit Lal Meena, Secretary (Coal) delivering Keynote Address

importance of practical compliance and expressed satisfaction with the leadership of Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal in bringing the stakeholders together. The Secretary emphasized the need for mutual understanding and capacity building, anticipating that the workshop would yield recommendations to be compiled into a reference report.

The Secretary, Coal commended the MoEF&CC for their support, noting a significant increase in EC and FC clearances received in 2023-24 compared to previous years. This support, alongside contributions from state governments, has facilitated major growth in coal production. Despite this growth, he pointed out the ongoing challenge of coal

imports, which amounted to 268 million tons in FY24. He stressed the importance of increasing domestic production to reduce imports, aligning with the Prime Minister's vision of self-reliance in coal.

He addressed common issues which require special attention, particularly concerning special EC conditions imposed that require extensive infrastructure with impractical timelines to comply. He called for standardized and practical timelines to avoid unusual extensions imposed. Additionally, he pointed out the imposition of special conditions related to EC, such as setting up additional hospitals or EC labs, which are often unnecessary and costly for low-capacity mines.

The Secretary raised concerns about the mandatory deployment of LNG trucks due to their limited availability and high costs, suggesting a review of such conditions. He emphasized the need for sensitivity in proposing forest land diversion, citing an example where an OB diversion proposal for 600 hectares was reduced to zero hectares through careful review. He urged all officers to ensure minimal diversion of forest land.

Highlighting environmental sustainability efforts, he noted that the Ministry of Coal has identified 12 relevant action items under the Prime Minister's Gati Shakti initiative, with substantial progress being monitored against these targets. He mentioned that measures for eco-friendly coal transportation, aiming for 90% mechanized transport of coal from mines having PRC of 2 MT or more may be adopted. He also outlined plans for achieving net-zero emissions, with SCCL already achieving net-zero liability and Coal India is set to follow within two years, contributing more than 10 gigawatts of renewable energy capacity.

The Secretary detailed afforestation efforts, with a target of 3000 hectares for the current year and a total of 22,000 hectares afforested in unsuitable mining areas. He discussed successful pilots in converting overburden to sand and the utilization of mine water in about 900 villages for irrigation and drinking purposes.

He expressed confidence that under the Green Credit program, Coal India would lead in developing areas for future diversion requirements. The Secretary reiterated the shift from road to rail for coal transportation, aiming for 80% rail transport in the future. He concluded by wishing the conference success, emphasizing the importance of learning from each other's experiences, and fostering clear communication among all stakeholders.

3 SESSION ON FOREST & WILDLIFE CLEARANCE - PRESENTATIONS

A session on Forest and Wildlife Clearance was conducted to provide project proponents with insights into the Forest Clearance procedure, Wildlife Clearance, Green Credits, and the challenges involved in obtaining Forest Clearance.

The panellist to the session included, (i) Shri. Ramesh Kumar Pandey, IG (Forests), MoEF&CC, (ii) Shri. R. Raghu Prasad, IG (Wildlife), MoEF&CC, (iii) Shri. Mohan Chandra Pargaian, PCCF (Wildlife), Telangana, (iv) Shri. S. P. Yadav, Additional PCCF, West Bengal, (v) Shri. Naresh Zurmure, Additional PCCF, Maharashtra, and (vi) Shri. P. M. Prasad, CMD, CIL.

3.1 Forest Clearance Procedure and ACA

Shri. Ramesh Kumar Pandey, IG (Forest), MoEF&CC highlighted key aspects of the Forest Clearance Procedure and Accredited Compensatory Afforestation (ACA) during the workshop. The brief highlights are mentioned below:

- i. **Background of the FC Act, 1980:** He explained the historical context and significance of the Forest Conservation Act, including its evolution from state to concurrent list and key provisions regarding the diversion of forest land.
- ii. **Amendments and Milestones:** He highlighted the notable amendments, such as those in 1988 and the landmark Godavarman Judgment of 1996, which expanded the definition of "forest" and strengthened regulations.
- iii. **Forest (Conservation) Amendment Act, 2023:** He addressed issues like eliminating ambiguities, exemptions for linear projects and public utility projects, and aligning with carbon neutrality targets.
- iv. **Implementation Framework:** He emphasized the importance of understanding the Act, Rules, and Guidelines, and the need for alignment between coal companies and regulatory authorities to expedite proposals.

- v. **Systemic Reforms and Parivesh 2.0:** Discussed reforms undertaken to streamline processes and the introduction of Parivesh 2.0, an end-to-end portal for proposal registration and validation.

Overall, IG (Forests) urged coal companies to adhere to timelines, engage with nodal officers, and utilize tools like Parivesh 2.0 for smoother navigation of the FC process.

3.2 Wildlife Clearance Procedure

- i. **Shri. R. Raghu Prasad, IG (Wildlife), MoEF&CC,** provided insights into the wildlife clearance process under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. The brief of the presentation is mentioned below:
 - a) **National Board of Wildlife (NBWL):** He gave an overview of the NBWL by mentioning that it oversees wildlife conservation and grants clearances for development projects in protected areas like national parks, sanctuaries, tiger reserves, and corridors. He mentioned that the obtaining wildlife clearance is applicable in the cases of notified wildlife sanctuaries, tiger reserves, national parks, and tiger corridors, , community reserves, conservation reserves, and projects in eco-sensitive zones.
 - b) **Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZ):** He informed that Eco-Sensitive zones are regulated areas surrounding protected zones and regulations apply within specified distances from the sanctuary or national park boundaries.
 - c) **Supreme Court Orders:** The Supreme Court has imposed a ban on mining activities within a one-kilometer radius of wildlife sanctuaries and national parks, even if the Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) around these protected areas is less than one kilometer. Furthermore, any mining proposals within the default 10-kilometer ESZ, and beyond the one-kilometer ban on mining, the same require clearance from the wildlife authorities.
 - d) **Proposal Process:** A detailed information was deliberated on the process of obtaining wildlife clearances which involves submission of the proposal, review of the proposal by Wildlife Warden, Chief Wildlife Warden, State Board

for Wildlife, evaluation by the relevant Ministry, and assessment by NBWL's Standing Committee.

- e) **Compliance Importance:** He emphasized that delays in the approval process for mining projects often occur due to incomplete application forms and the applicants' failure to comply with the conditions set forth in previous approvals. To avoid such delays, it is crucial for mining companies to thoroughly comply with the approved mining plans and provide detailed information about the proposed extraction activities.
- f) **Efficient Processing:** He stressed on the importance of compliance with regulations and guidelines to ensure a smoother processing of mining proposals. He highlighted that proposals are now tracked online through platforms like PARIVESH, which not only streamlines the approval process but also demonstrates the stakeholders' commitment to fulfilling their environmental responsibilities.

ii. **Shri. Rakesh Mohan Dobriyal, PCCF Telangana,** Government of Telangana, highlighted key issues affecting project proposal processing:

- a) **Challenges in Proposal Processing-** He mentioned that the processing of mining proposals becomes complex when there are multiple leases involved, each with its own set of varying conditions. These differences in lease conditions can lead to complications in the approval process, often resulting in compromises that may not fully address the concerns of all stakeholders.
- b) **Importance of Compliances-** He highlighted that to reduce the processing time of mining proposals, it is crucial for all stakeholders to ensure timely compliance with the required regulations and guidelines. Furthermore, intensive capacity building and training programs should be conducted at both the district and director levels to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the approval process.
- c) **Enhanced Awareness-** It was emphasized that it is essential for officials to understand the significance of compliance not only during the approval

process but also after the mining proposal has been approved, as continued adherence to regulations and guidelines is necessary to streamline operations and ensure the project's long-term sustainability.

He shared his insights regarding aspects of wildlife clearance:

- i. **Priority for Wildlife Clearances-** Proposals in protected areas should receive due importance due to the rigorous and time-consuming clearance process.
- ii. **Parallel Processing-** Wildlife clearance proposals should be prioritized alongside other approvals to avoid delays.
- iii. **Equal Attention to Compliance-** Each condition must be addressed efficiently to prevent delays and improve project processing.

He emphasized that equal attention should be given to post-clearance actions, such as the notification of non-forest land as reserve forest, in addition to the focus on the approval process itself. By prioritizing these measures, the overall project processing can be streamlined, leading to a reduction in delays.

3.3 Challenges in obtaining Forest Clearance

- i. **Shri. Venkateshwarlu Marapally, Director (Technical), Ministry of Coal**, made a detailed presentation before the forum on the challenges in obtaining the Forest Clearance. He addressed various concerns and proposed solutions for the coal sector.

He highlighted issues faced by project proponents, emphasizing the need for consistency in proposal details submission and document uploads on PARIVESH. He recommended that mining companies and authorities must prioritize the timely getting & granting respectively forest clearances to ensure that exploration activities can be carried out according to the planned timelines. This is particularly crucial in states like Jharkhand, where a significant portion of the mining projects are located in forest areas. Additionally, he pointed out discrepancies in forest clearance proposals, suggesting validation at the initial level to prevent delays.

Furthermore, he expressed concerns about the costs associated with implementing soil moisture conservation and wildlife management plans in mining projects. He suggested that these costs should be proportionate to the extent of forest land diverted for the project, to ensure a fair and reasonable financial burden on the mining companies. He also requested for a review of the conditions imposed on coal mining projects during the approval process. He specifically suggested that the requirement for tree translocation, which involves moving trees from the mining site to another location, should be exempted in certain cases to facilitate the timely execution of the projects.

In terms of procedural improvements, firstly he suggested implementing an auto-forwarding system for proposals, which would ensure that applications move smoothly through the various stages of review without delays. Secondly, he emphasized the importance of timely disposal of the minutes of FAC meetings, as this would help expedite decision-making and provide clarity to all stakeholders.

Additionally, he addressed the challenges associated with compensatory afforestation, a mandatory requirement for mining projects involving the diversion of forest land. To streamline the process and reduce delays in project approvals, he advocated for the establishment of a Compensatory Afforestation (CA) Land Bank, which would serve as a repository of non-forest land suitable for afforestation purposes. Furthermore, he called for the simplification of the inspection processes related to compensatory afforestation, as the current time-consuming and cumbersome procedures lead to delays in the completion of afforestation activities. By simplifying these processes and making them more efficient, the overall effectiveness of compensatory afforestation can be improved, ensuring that mining projects can proceed more smoothly while still meeting environmental obligations.

Finally, he emphasized the critical importance of post-forest clearance (FC) activities in the timely commencement of mining operations, urging state governments to prioritize the handing over of FC letters and the transfer of forest

land to mining companies once the necessary approvals have been obtained. By expediting these processes, state governments can play a crucial role in reducing delays and ensuring that mining projects can begin without unnecessary hindrances.

- ii. **Shri. S. P. Yadav, Additional PCCF, West Bengal** highlighted key challenges and proposed solutions during the session.

He stressed the importance of meticulous project planning to expedite approval processes, suggesting a six-month timeline for clearance. Regarding Compensatory Afforestation (CA), he proposed simplifying the process by providing large chunks of CA land adjacent to forests and offering early incentives. Additionally, he emphasized the shared responsibility of returning mined land to its natural state through proper consultation on plantation establishment and maintenance. He highlighted past challenges in West Bengal with CA land allocations and requested clear and suitable land allocation to resolve existing issues and facilitate future plantation efforts.

- iii. **Shri. Naresh Zurmure, Additional PCCF, Maharashtra** emphasized the importance of accurate documentation and planning in the coal mining approval process.

He urged the coal companies to submit Form 1, a checklist, and accurate information to avoid discrepancies. He informed that clear KML file and accurate documentation, including mining and transportation plans, are essential for the Projects Screening Committee (PSC) submission.

He stressed the simultaneous submission of wildlife clearance and forest clearance proposals, considering both forest and non-forest areas involved, and informed that timelines in the submission are vital, as timely proposals have received quick approvals.

Understanding the need for equivalent non-forest land in return for forest land provided, he highlighted recent guidelines, including the ACA component. Proposals should be reviewed by senior officers before submission to address queries raised by the PSC promptly. Shri. Zurmure assured expedited approval within one to fifteen days if all necessary information and documents are provided.

3.4 Green Credits

- i. **Shri. R. Raghu Prasad, IG (Wildlife), MoEF&CC** made a detailed presentation on the Green Credit Program (GCP), emphasizing its significance as a priority initiative which was launched by the Ministry in 2023 as part of the 100-day package. It was highlighted that the GCP encourages environmentally friendly actions by businesses, including tree plantations, water management, sustainable agriculture, waste management, and more. He mentioned that the detailed guidelines rolled out recently, focus on the tree plantation component under the GCP. The program aims at the restoration of degraded forest lands, which are identified by state forest departments and listed on an online portal. Central and state PSUs can fund the restoration activities through their CSR funding or environmental commitments. Upon completion, green credits are awarded to the PSU. Many PSUs have already shown interest, with significant uptake observed in several states including Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, and Madhya Pradesh, with around 82 land parcels covering 1700 ha area. He urged PSUs and the State Forest Department to participate in the program and emphasized the importance of restoring degraded lands for environmental sustainability.
- ii. **Shri. P. M. Prasad, Chairman, CIL** summarized the session and suggested state-level meetings for better coordination among stakeholders including the coal block allocattees, and State Forest Department officials. He highlighted the amendments in 1988, 1996, and 2023 underscoring the evolution's impact, especially notable in cases like Govardhan's judgement. He mentioned that the Green Credit program and land acquisition issues, particularly in West Bengal and Jharkhand, require

attention. He urges a focus on mining plan lifespans, transportation, and wildlife mitigation plans. He highlighted challenges faced by various project proponents, including acquiring land even after Forest Stage II clearance.

4 SESSION ON ENVIRONMENT & GROUND WATER CLEARANCE - PRESENTATIONS

A second session on Environmental and Ground Water Clearance was also conducted to provide project proponents with insights into Environmental Clearance and Central Ground Water Clearance, and the challenges involved in obtaining these clearances.

The panellist to the session included, (i) Shri Amit Vashishtha, Scientist-E, MoEF&CC, (ii) Shri TBN Singh, Member Secretary, Central Groundwater Board, (iii) Shri Ashish Verma, CCO, (iv) Shri Anandji Prasad, Advisor (Projects), Ministry of Coal, (v) Shri B Veera Reddy, Director (T), Coal India Limited, and (vi) Shri Shankar Nagachari, Director, CMPDIL.

4.1 Environmental Clearance Procedure

Shri Amit Vashishtha, Member Secretary, MoEF&CC, commenced his presentation on the Environmental Clearance procedure and major observations by expressing gratitude to the Ministry of Coal for organizing the workshop and providing the opportunity for presenting.

His brief presentation was started with enlistment of seven major acts administered by the MoEF&CC, which the NGT enforces for violation cases.

The history of the EPA, 1986, and MoEF&CC was briefly outlined, along with the evolution of the EIA Notification. Information was given on the projects/activities covered, the categorization of projects, and their appraisal committees. The comprehensive EC process was explained, detailing the stages of the EC process and the scoping for Category A and B1 projects.

The importance of specific conditions for mining projects was discussed, with references to certain Office Memorandums (OMs) considered by MoEF&CC and the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) for mining proposals. The types and processes of public consultation were also explained, including provisions for postponing the Public Hearing (PH). A recent development was highlighted, granting the power to

chair the PH to officers at the level of SDM, nominated by the DM, to prevent delays when the DM is unavailable.

He emphasized that the draft EIA report must clearly detail the project, with no information undisclosed or incorrect, as it may be used as a reason for filing cases for violation in later stages. After completion of the public consultation, the applicant must address all environmental concerns raised and make appropriate changes to the EIA/EMP report.

Systemic reforms in EC application for coal production expansion, preparation of EIA-EMP reports, and baseline data collection were discussed. SOPs for handling violation cases, decentralization and delegation of power in the mining sector were mentioned, referencing respective OMs.

A brief analysis of Environmental Clearances, amendments, and transfers granted by MoEF&CC from January 2020 to April 2024 was also presented using bar graph representations.

The status of non-compliances noted by MoEF&CC, reasons for EC amendments delays, EDSs, and litigations were also highlighted. MS noted that Project Proponents (PP) need to amend the EC if contradictory conditions are given in an approved mining plan without operationalizing based on the mining plan, as it would constitute a violation of EC. Several court orders and judgments considered in granting Environmental Clearance were also discussed.

4.2 Ground Water Clearance Procedure

Shri TBN Singh, Member Secretary (MS), CGWB began his session with a deliberation on the importance of groundwater (GW) resources. It was noted that while India had a surplus of groundwater at the time of independence, over time, extensive exploitation has led to the country becoming water stressed.

He also bifurcated the categorization of approximately 6,500 blocks across the country which has been classified into safe blocks (<70% extraction), semi-critical blocks (70%-90%), critical blocks (90%-100%), and over-exploited blocks (>100%) based on the extent of GW extraction. NOCs for groundwater extraction are granted based on these categorizations.

A brief overview of the Central Groundwater Authority (CGWA) was provided, including its background, formation on January 14, 1997, and subsequent evolution in terms of guidelines and amendments. He also discussed the powers, functions, and composition of CGWA, which regulates 19 states, and SGWA, which regulates 17 states and UTs.

The session was also highlighted by NOC application categories, emphasizing that all existing and new mining projects must obtain NOC for groundwater abstraction. Given that mining projects are site-specific, there is no ban on granting NOCs even in over-exploited areas. Compact slides outlined the specific conditions for NOC, required documents for new and renewal applications, groundwater abstraction/restoration charges based on the area category and withdrawal quantum, and general compliance conditions.

He highlighted that the SOPs are available on the website required while applications and reports preparation. The five stages of application processing were described, along with the types of Expert Appraisal Committees (EAC) based on the area category and withdrawal quantum. The EAC procedures for reviewing Comprehensive Hydrogeological Reports, modelling reports, and mitigation measures were also detailed. Conditions for the renewal and extension of NOC were outlined.

The session also covered environmental compensation conditions, compensation rates, and deterrent factor rates through various tables and charts. Non-compliance

with NOC conditions issued by CGWA can lead to penalties ranging from ₹50,000 to ₹10,00,000, categorized into 15 types.

The presentation also addressed the levels of application processing, approvals, and the validity of NOC (2 years for mining projects), categorizing approval authority into three levels: Administrator level (up to 500 KLD), Member (up to 1000 KLD), and Chairman (>1000 KLD).

He concluded the session sharing a snapshot of the NOCAP portal, which offers guidelines, instructions, forms, orders, public notices, eligibility criteria, and a user manual, all accessible to user agencies and project proponents.

4.3 Challenges in Mining Plan Approval

Shri Ashish Verma, CCO, greeted all the members attending the workshop. He delivered a point-wise presentation highlighting the non-conformities observed in the uploaded mining plans and how to comply with statutes, guidelines, and current practices.

A list of common mistakes made by project proponents during the formulation and uploading of mining plans on the Single Window Clearance System (SWCS) was discussed, as these errors often cause delays. A total of 18 points were outlined, detailing the mistakes, which included variations in cardinal points, overlapping project boundaries, liquidation of geological blocks, proposing external dumping on coal-bearing areas, safety barriers, base date/uploading issues, improper disclosure of facts, lack of planning, and the quality of plans.

It was also highlighted by him that many proposals are submitted under the pretext of "minor change" as per Para 1.3 (B) of the OM of MoC dated 29.05.2020. However, comparisons with earlier approved mining plans often reveal significant major changes, which should be avoided.

In conclusion, it was advised that if the provisions of laws are incorporated into the mining plan and highlighted in the first meeting, it would save considerable time and improve the quality of the mine plan.

4.4 Challenges in obtaining Environmental Clearance

- i. **Shri Anandji Prasad, Advisor (Projects), Ministry of Coal** began his session addressing previously identified issues from the workshop, along with additional concerns that need to be brought to the attention of MoEF&CC. Some of these issues were highlighted to prevent their recurrence.

He categorized the issues into three groups: Issues Requiring Attention of Project Proponents, Issues Requiring Attention of MoEF&CC, and Other Issues.

The foremost issue discussed was the uploading of incorrect details in the online form, supported by snapshots of examples. Project proponents were advised to review their details before submitting proposals. The second issue highlighted was the wrong or incomplete uploading of documents, with a recommendation for project proponents to reverify their documents after uploading and before submission.

The third issue was about the proper selection of the application form according to project requirements. A list of application forms with their respective specifications was displayed for support.

He presented a list of points/conditions, including the non-feasibility of TOR/EC conditions and feasible conditions requiring extended timelines, were brought to MoEF&CC's attention for consideration while granting EC.

Additionally, it was suggested that MoEF&CC should consider delinking the present EC from prior ECs by removing the condition for “compliance of all terms and conditions of earlier ECs,” as some conditions may contradict those of previous ECs.

He lastly concluded his presentation by addressing some issues and glitches with PARIVESH 2.0 during the uploading of EC applications.

- ii. **Shri B Veera Reddy, Director (T), CIL** began his session with a vote of thanks to MoEF&CC for the timely granting of environmental clearances. Additional thanks were extended to the Secretary and Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Coal for their efforts in conducting meetings with all stakeholders, discussing issues, and ensuring their timely resolution.

He highlighted that CIL did not suffer any loss of production concerning EC, and in alignment with the goal of 1.5 BT by 2029-2030, CIL prepared an action plan, which is regularly discussed with MoEF&CC.

The presentation started by highlighting general issues with PARIVESH 2.0 and requested MoEF&CC to provide options for changing the proponent's name, uploading larger files for reports/replies/KML files, increasing the word limit under the "project location" section, extending the timeline to 72 hours from 24 hours after relisting, etc. These requests were made to MoEF&CC for their respective solutions.

A brief justification was presented, stating that although underground mining operations have minimal environmental concerns compared to opencast mining, still the same processing and issuance procedures for EC are applied to both. It was requested that MoEF&CC consider different processing such as non-conduct of PH, etc. for underground mining.

Another request was made to MoEF&CC to allow the issuance of EC for 50% expansion in one go, rather than in three installments (20% + 20% + 10%) as per MoEF&CC's OM dated 11.04.2022, to avoid procedural delays.

He also highlighted issues related to the non-feasibility of certain conditions or conditions with constrained timelines imposed in EC, which require the attention of EAC and MoEF&CC.

Additionally, he requested MoEF&CC to allow the amalgamation of inter-cluster mines with revisions in the boundaries of the involved clusters. This is necessary for operational efficiency, fire management, and conservation purposes, as the mines are contiguous and rearranging the boundaries becomes essential.

The session was concluded by him by elaborating the other issues, including delinking of TOR from FC applications, issues related to fly ash, non-flexibility in the EC process for underground mining in old mines, and other EC and FC conditions that require reconsideration.

4.5 Challenges in obtaining Groundwater Clearance

Shri Shankar Nagachari, Director, CMPDIL commenced his session by sharing the snapshot of the NOCAP portal, which is designed for groundwater clearance. It was highlighted that the portal states that “In case of mine dewatering, all project proponents have to consider rainfall quantum in groundwater dewatering.” However, the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the Impact Assessment Report and comprehensive hydrogeological report (CHR) does not provide a format for estimating the rainwater quantum in mine-dewatering.

He also mentioned that the SOP does not specify the validity period for baseline data. Therefore, he requested that the validity of baseline data for preparing CHR and GWM reports be considered as two years, aligning with the two-year NOC renewal frequency from CGWA for mining projects.

Additionally, he requested an exemption from charges for mine water used in domestic, drinking, and irrigation activities, as these activities are categorized under exemptions for obtaining groundwater NOC.

He concluded his session with a proposal to consider allowing more than one time extension of the NOC. This request was made in reference to the clause in the Gazette Notification S.O. 3289(E) dated 24.09.2020, which states, “Extension of NOC will be

granted for a maximum period of 02 years. No further extension will be granted after expiry of the extended period.

5 INTERACTIVE SESSION & PANEL DISCUSSIONS

During the workshop, an interactive Q&A session was held to facilitate meaningful discussions between project proponents and panel members. This session provided an opportunity for project proponents to seek clarifications regarding forest and environment clearances, fostering a better understanding of the processes and requirements involved.

Several project proponents raised pertinent queries related to Environment Clearance (EC) and Forest Clearance (FC) during the session. These questions aimed to address specific concerns and uncertainties faced by the proponents in navigating the clearance procedures.

The panel members, comprising experts and officials from relevant government departments, provided detailed responses and guidance to the project proponents. They shared valuable insights based on their experience and knowledge of the EC and FC frameworks, helping to clarify doubts and offer practical solutions to the challenges raised.

6 CONCLUSION

The workshop concluded with the delivery of concluding remarks by Shri M. Nagaraju, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal, and vote of thanks by Shri. Shri V. Marapally, Director, Technical, Ministry of Coal. With this, the workshop was formally brought to a close, marking the end of a productive and informative gathering of industry experts and policymakers.

6.1 Concluding remarks by Shri. M. Nagaraju, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal

Shri. M. Nagaraju concluded the session by thanking the audiences for their presence and explained that the platform provided an excellent opportunity to exchange concerns between the coal sector and the EC & FC division of the MoEF&CC, and vice versa, which helped to learn a lot that will make the respective job easier.

He advised project proponents to avoid making unnecessary mistakes and ensure that experienced individuals fill out the form on the online PARIVESH portal, or at least verify it thoroughly, as minor mistakes often result in EDS's.

He humbly requested the MoEF&CC, not to impose the special conditions that are not viable for mines as far as EC is concerned. He also requested MoEF&CC to review the minutes of EAC meeting and avoid imposing special conditions before grant of EC. In this regard, he proposed to hold a meeting with the new ministers of MoEF&CC, along with other issues that require attention.

He advised all stakeholders to go beyond the conditions stipulated by MoEF&CC as far as environmental protection is concerned, such as plantation and other mitigation measures, to ensure sustainable mining practices. As MoEF&CC has introduced the Green Credit Programme (GCP), he mentioned that CIL has already started acting and encouraged private companies to participate in the GCP as well.

In his concluding remarks, he advised private sector entities, especially those new to the mining sector, to identify experienced personnel and build a competent team to

ensure that applications for EC, FC, and other requirements are properly compiled, and that mining operations adhere to the highest standards. He also recommended identifying the best and most experienced agencies for conducting studies and preparing reports.

6.2 Vote of thanks by Shri. V. Marapally, Director, Technical, Ministry of Coal

He, on behalf of the Ministry of Coal, concluded the workshop with a vote of thanks to all who attended, contributed, and made the event lively. He extended his heartfelt thanks to the team of MoEF&CC, led by Ms. Leena Nandan (Secretary) and Shri Jitendra Kumar (DG, Forest), without whose support the event couldn't have been successful. He also thanked all the PCCFs, APCCFs, and other officers from the state forest department for making it convenient to attend the meeting and share their insights with the coal fraternity. He extended his thanks to IG, Forest and IG, Wildlife, and Scientists from MoEF&CC for making valuable presentations to enlighten the coal sector regarding obtaining the EC, FC & WLC. He thanked the Chairman, CGWB, and the team for participating and providing insight into the procedures for GWC regarding mining proposals.

He extended his thanks to the beloved Shri Amrit Lal Meena, Secretary, Ministry of Coal, for being the catalyst who stimulated various measures, including the conduct of this workshop, aimed towards the growth of the coal sector.

He also thanked Shri M. Nagaraju, Additional Secretary, Nominated Authority, Ministry of Coal. He thanked the Chairman and Director (T) of Coal India Limited for making it convenient to attend the meeting and sharing their valuable feedback for the consideration of MoEF&CC.

He thanked CCO and officers from CCO, the technology division headed by Advisors (Projects) with a special mention to the Project Monitoring teams, SBICAP & Invest India, who have contributed a lot to the conduct of the event in a lively manner. He

also thanked the Coal India Limited (Delhi Team) for making every arrangement useful and contributing to the event's success.

He also thanked all the participants from the various coal companies for participating in the event and putting forward the concerns with respect to EC, FC, WLC, GWC.

7 APPENDICES

7.1 List of Participants from the Ministry of Coal

S. No	Name	Designation
1.	Shri. Amrit Lal Meena	Secretary
2.	Shri. M. Nagaraju	Additional Secretary
3.	Shri. Anand Ji Prasad	Advisor, Projects
4.	Shri. V. Marapally	Director, Technical
5.	Shri. Ajitesh Kumar	Director, Nominated Authority
6.	Shri. Jitendra Kumar	Chief Manager, O/o NA
7.	Shri. Hitlar Singh	Under Secretary
8.	Shri. Anjani Kumar Singh	Manager
9.	Shri. Abhishek Singh	Deputy Executive Engineer
10.	Miss. Soumya Consul	Consultant
11.	Miss Urwashi Saxena	Consultant
12.	Miss. Deepali Sharma	Consultant
13.	Shri. Dipankar Mohanty	Consultant
14.	Shri. Annurag Khemka	PMU
15.	Shri. Bijay Sinha	PMU
16.	Shri. Bharath Parameswaran	PMU
17.	Shri. Tanmay Talreja	PMU
18.	Miss. Deepika Pokhariya	PMU
19.	Miss. Aanchal Sharma	PMU

7.2 List of Participants from the MoEF&CC

S. No	Name	Designation
1.	Shri Jitendra Kumar	DG, Forest, and Special Secretary
2.	Shri. R. Raghu Prasad	IG, Wildlife
3.	Shri. Ramesh Kumar Pandey	IG, Forest
4.	Shri. Charanjeet Singh	Scientist- D
5.	Shri. Amit Vashishtha	Scientist- E
6.	Shri. Mohit Saxena	Scientist- D
7.	Shri. Mohan Chandra Pargaen	PCCF (Wildlife), Telangana
8.	Shri. Naresh Zurmure	Additional PCCF, Maharashtra
9.	Shri. S. P. Yadav	Additional PCCF, West Bengal

7.3 List of Participants from CIL & Its Subsidiaries/CGWA

S. No	Company/ Subsidiary	Name	Designation
1.	CIL	Shri P M Prasad	CMD
		Shri B. Veera Reddy	Director (Technical)

S. No	Company/ Subsidiary	Name	Designation
		C Jayadev	General Manager Environment
		Shri. R.P. Dash	Chief Manager, Mining
		Shri. Kumar Sanu	Manager, Environment
2.	CCL	RAJ KUMAR	H.O.D, Environment
		C.S TIWARI	H.O.D, Forest
3.	SECL	N Franklin Jaykumar	Director, Technical
		B.K Jena	General Manager, Environment
		Amrit Kumar Tiwari	Assistant Manager
4.	ECL	Shri Mrityunjay Kumar	General Manager, Environment
		Shri. Soumabha Chakraborty	Manager, Environment
5.	BCCL	Shri Samiran Dutta	CMD
		Kumar Ranjeev	General Manager, Environment
6.	MCL	Shri. Kumar Partha Sarathi Das	Assistant Manager, Environment
		Shri. Debjyoti Debnath	Assistant Manager, Environment
7.	NCL	Shri Sanjeev Kumar	General Manager, Environment & Forest
8.	WCL	DIXIT AK	General Manager, Environment
		Shri. S K Jena	General Manager, Forest
9.	CMPDIL	Shankar Nagachari	Director, (T/CRD)
		Shri V.K. Pandey	General Manager, Environment
		Shri D. Bandyopadhyay	Sr. Manager, Geology
10.	NLCIL	Ashok Dattatreya Keote	Executive Director, Mine Planning SME & Conveyor
		Bezwada Midhun Gowd	EE/ Mining, DM Secretariat
		GOKUL D	EE/ Environmental, Mine Planning
		VINOTH B	EE/ Mechanical, PSCB
		Goete Ramesh	General Manager, Mining

S. No	Company/ Subsidiary	Name	Designation
		SUDARSHAN KUMAR SHARMA	DCE/ Geology,
11.	SCCL	Shri J V L Ganapathi	General Manager, Environment
		Shri. B Venkataih	General Manager, Estates
		Shri. G Suresh	Additional Manager
12.	CGWA	Chairman	Dr. Sunil Kumar Ambast
		Member Secretary, CGWA	Shri T B N Singh

7.4 List of Participants from Allottees of Commercial/Captive Coal Blocks

S.No	Company	Participants
1.	Adani Enterprises Ltd	1. Mr. Raj Kishore Singh, GM (EC) 2. Mr. Pramod Kumar, GM (FC)
2.	APMDCL	1. Mr. Satyanarayan, CGM (EC)
3.	Assam Mineral Development Corporation Limited	1. Shri N. Anand (Managing Director) 2. Mr. Amit Kumar (Mining Engineer)
4.	Birla Corp. Ltd	1. Mr. Tamal Pal, Joint President (FC&WL) 2. Mr. B. S. Chowdhury, Sr. VP (EC&GWC)
5.	Chowgule and Company Private Limited	1. Mr. Nelson Carvalho (Deputy Manager Legal & Corporate Affairs) 2. Mr. Ashutosh Pandey (Site Incharge)
6.	Coal Pulz Private Limited	1. Mr. Atique Rahman Barbhuiya (Director) 2. Pallav Phukan (Advisor)
7.	JSW	Shantanu Dubey - Senior Manager
8.	DVC	1. Shri Kumar Saurav (Manager, Mining) 2. Shri Pratik Lama (Manager, Mining)
9.	EMIL Mines and Mineral Resources Limited	1. Mr. Bimal Baral (Senior Vice President) 2. Mr. Vinoth Balasubramanian (Senior General Manager)
10.	Fairmine Carbons Private Limited	1. Mr. Anand Kumar (Assistant Manager)
11.	Gangaramchak Mining Private Limited	1. Mr. Naveen Gaur (AGM) 2. Mr Rajiv Thakur
12.	GMDC	1. Mr Swagat Ray, General Manager 2. Mr Chirag Shah - General Manager (Environment)

S.No	Company	Participants
13.	Hindalco Industries Limited	1. Mr. Mukesh Jha (VP, Operation) 2. Mr. Deepak Lenka (GM, Operation)
14.	Jaiprakash Power Ventures Limited	1. Shri Mukti Nath Jha (Advisor) 2. Shri S. N. Chawla (DGM)
15.	JK Cement	1. Bhaskar Singh, DGM 2. Saurabh Bhola, Consultant 3. Shivam Kalra, Manager 4. Anwesh Pagalkar, Consultant
16.	JMS Mining Private Limited	1. Mr. Nilay Ghosh, GM (Mining)
17.	JSW Steel Limited	1. Mr. Mayank Shekhar (Sr. VP- Coal Mining) 2. Mr. Rajeev Raman (GM-Coal Mining) 3. Mr. Sanjay Sagar (Resident Director) 4. 2. Mr. Rohit Chadha (VP, Corporate Affairs)
18.	KPCL	1. Satyanarayan Sharma (Resident Engineer)
19.	Mahagenco	Amit Parol
20.	Maharashtra State Power Generation Co Ltd	1. Mr. Shailesh Padol, Superintending Engineer 2. Mr. Amit Patil, Assistant Engineer
21.	Nilkanth Coal Mining Private Limited	1. Mr. Dhimant Chauhan (Corporate Coordinator)
22.	NMDC	1. Sh. M Jayapal Reddy, ED (RP, ENV & RED) 2. Sh. Swaminathan S, AGM(Geology) coal
23.	NTPC Mining Limited	1. Sh. Animesh Jain, CEO 2. Dr. Vijay Prakash, ED 3. Sh. Birendra Kumar, GM (Environment) 4. Sh. Raju N, DGM (Mining)
24.	OCL Iron and Steel Pvt Ltd	1. Mr. Ramesh Hamirwasia (Sr. Consultant) 2. Mr. Saket Singal (Sr. Consultant) or 3. Mr. Ramakant Agarwal (Manager)
25.	Odisha Coal & Power Limited	1. Lella Ramachandra Reddy (Head of Mines)
26.	Prakash Industries Ltd	1. AK Chaturvedi (Director) 2. Dr. Anurag Garg (Advisor)

S.No	Company	Participants
27.	Punjab State Power Corp Ltd	1. Er. Mandeep Singh (Additional Superintending Er.)
28.	PVUNL	1. Sh. M. Chandra Segar, AGM(Mining), 2. Sh. Jibanendu Mohapatra, DGM (Mining)
29.	RRUVNL	1. Mr. Pawan Kumar Somani (Head of Projects) 2. Dr. Pramod Kumar (Head of Environment)
30.	Rama Cement Industries Private Limited	1. Suresh Wadichar- GM (Project & Planning) 2. Ajit Singh Sodha - GM (Liaison & Operation)
31.	Rungta Metals Private Limited	1. G.S. Bhati – Head Coal Project 2. Ankoor Garg
32.	Samlok Industries Private Limited	1. Rajesh Deoliya (Sr Vice President)
33.	Shree Cement Limited	1. Sh. Upendra Kumar (Head of Coal mines) 2. Sh. Sunil Deshmukh (Head, Environment)
34.	Shri Bajrang Power and Ispat Limited	1. Shri Shravan Kumar Goyal (Director) 2. Mr. Shashidhar Dwivedi (General Manager)
35.	Sobhagya Mercantile Ltd	1. Nana Tukaramji Agade, Chief Officer Mining,
36.	Southwest Pinnacle Exploration Ltd	1. Govind Aggarwal (Dy Manager-Business Development) 2. Rahul Sharma (Dy. Manager-Geophysics)
37.	Sunflag Iron and Steel Company Limited	1. Mr. Pawan Kumar (Section Head-corporate Affairs) 2. Mr. Shubham Arora (Executive Corporate Affairs)
38.	Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corp. Ltd.	1. Er. R.Sridharan (Special Officer / Coal) 2. Er. C.N. Muthumeenakshi (Executive Engineer /Mines)
39.	Terri Mining Pvt Ltd	1. Ritesh Kumar Tiwari (General Manager) 2. Mohammed Vaseem (Associate Manager)

S.No	Company	Participants
40.	THDC	1. Mr. Rajpal Negi (Engineer, Environment)
41.	Twenty First Century Mining Pvt. Ltd.	1. Mr. Prabhat Kumar Sinha (Executive Director) 2. Mr. Rewati Raman Srivastava (CEO)
42.	Vedanta Ltd	1. Shri Ramkrushna Mishra (AGM, Head)
43.	West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited	1. Mr. Priyant Prudhvi (Manager, PS)
44.	West Bengal Mineral Development Corporation Limited	1. Shri Arun Acharya (GM, Project) 2. Shri Dipen Mukherjee (Director)

7.5 Agenda of the workshop

Time	Session	Program
10:00 – 10:45 am	Inaugural Session 1. Secretary Coal 2. DG, Forests 3. AS MN, Coal 4. Chaiman, CGWB 5. Chairman, CIL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inviting the guests and lighting lamp Opening remarks by Shri M. Nagaraju, Addl. Secretary (Coal) Speech by Chairman, CGWB Speech by Chairman, CIL Speech by DG F, MoEF&CC Keynote Address by Secretary Coal Video on good works by coal sector Vote of Thanks by Advisor Projects, Ministry of Coal
10:45 – 11:15 am	Tea Break	
11:15 – 01:30 pm	Session I: Forest and Wildlife Clearance 1. IG, Forest 2. IG, Wild Life 3. PCCF, TG 4. PCCF, Odisha 5. APCCF, MP 6. APCCF, CG 7. APCCF, WB 8. APCCF, MH 9. Chairman, CIL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation by MoEF&CC on Forest Clearance Procedure and ACA. Presentation by MoEF&CC on Wildlife Clearance Procedure Presentation by MoC on challenges in obtaining Forest Clearances Presentation on Green Credits by MoEF&CC Speech by Panelist Interactive session (Q&A)

Time	Session	Program
01:30 – 02:30 pm	Lunch Break	
02:30 – 04:30 pm	Session II: Environmental and Ground Water Clearance 1. Shri M. Nagaraju, AS, MoC 2. MoEF&CC 3. CGWB 4. DT, CIL 5. Advisor (P)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentation by MoEF&CC on EC Procedure and major observations ▪ Presentation by Central Ground water Board on GWC Procedure ▪ Presentation by MoC & CIL on challenges in obtaining EC ▪ Challenges in GWC - CMPDIL ▪ Observation in Mine Plan - CCO ▪ Interactive session (Q&A) ▪ Interactive session on challenges in Mining Plan Approval ▪ Concluding remarks by Shri M. Nagaraju, Addl. Secretary (Coal) ▪ Vote of Thanks by Director (T), Ministry of Coal
04:30 pm	High Tea	
