

Union Minister of Coal and Mines Shri G. Kishan Reddy Leads International Yoga Day Celebrations at ECL's Jhanjra Area

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In a remarkable convergence of wellness and environmental consciousness, Union Minister of Coal and Mines, Shri G. Kishan Reddy, led the 11th International Day of Yoga (IDY) celebrations at the Sindoor park in Jhanjra Area of Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL), a subsidiary of Coal India Limited (CIL). The event was aligned with this year's global theme, "Yoga for One Earth, One Health," promoting physical, mental, and ecological well-being.



Shri Reddy was accompanied by Ms. Rupinder Brar, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Shri PM Prasad, Chairman CIL, CMD-ECL, and other senior officers and employees. Over 1,500 participants gathered amidst the lush greenery of the reclaimed eco-park to perform yoga, showcasing a strong commitment to wellness and sustainability.



Addressing the participants, Shri G. Kishan Reddy spoke about the importance of integrating yoga into daily life to enhance physical stamina, mental clarity, and emotional balance values especially significant for those serving in energy and resource sectors. He also exhorted the coal workers to dedicate daily half an hour for yoga which is the sole remedy for good health.



On this occasion, Shri Reddy released the Common Yoga Protocol book, available in both Hindi and English. The book has been developed by Coal India Limited with references from AYUSH Ministry publications.



In a heartfelt gesture on 20th June 2025, a day prior to the celebrations, Shri G. Kishan Reddy inaugurated the newly developed Sindoor Park—a lush green zone created on reclaimed land as part of ECL's environmental sustainability efforts. The park stands as a symbol of ecological transformation and community well-being. He also took part in a tree plantation drive at Jhanjra under the campaign "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam." The Union Minister Shri. G Kishan Reddy planted saplings as a tribute to the nurturing spirit of motherhood and emphasized the importance of environmental stewardship. His participation resonated deeply with the message of reconnecting with nature and preserving it for future generations.



As part of his visit to Eastern Coalfields Limited's Jhanjra Area, Union Minister of Coal and Mines, Shri G. Kishan Reddy, undertook an extensive visit to the underground mines to assess operational practices and safety protocols. Wearing full safety gear, the Minister descended into the depths of the mine, interacting directly with frontline workers and technical staff. He reviewed advanced mining technologies being deployed, including continuous miner operations and longwall equipment, and expressed appreciation for the discipline and dedication of the workforce. The visit underscored the Ministry's proactive approach towards modernising underground mining, improving worker welfare, and ensuring the highest standards of occupational safety. His presence in the challenging work environment served as a strong message of support and motivation for the miners and reinforced the Government's resolve to promote sustainable and technology-driven coal production.



Shri Reddy also distributed fruit-bearing saplings among Project Affected Persons (PAPs) and coal workers, promoting environmental awareness and community well-being and felicitated outstanding performing workers in recognition of their dedication and contribution to coal production, encouraging a culture of excellence and motivation within the workforce.



Following the IDY celebrations, Minister chaired a comprehensive review meeting with senior officials of ECL and the Ministry of Coal. The Discussions focused on production performance, sustainability efforts, expansion of First Mile Connectivity, mine safety, and welfare measures for workers. The Minister stressed the importance of maintaining a balance between energy security and environmental responsibility and urged officials to expedite ongoing reforms and developmental initiatives. discussions focused on production performance, sustainability efforts, expansion of first mile connectivity, mine safety, and welfare measures for coal workers.



Later, Union Minister visited the SonepurBazari Mine of Eastern Coalfields Limited. Emphasizing the strategic importance of the Raniganj coalfield, he called for enhanced coal production from the region to maximize import substitution of non-coking coal. The Minister also visited the Sonepur R&R (Resettlement and Rehabilitation) village, where he interacted with the displaced families and appreciated the quality of common infrastructure developed by ECL. Acknowledging the concerns raised by the residents, he instructed the ECL management to address the gaps in the provision of drinking water and ensure timely implementation of the “Har Ghar Jal” Yojana to benefit every household.



Further, Union Minister of Coal and Mines, Shri G. Kishan Reddy inaugurated the Madhudanga Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R) site, reflecting the Ministry’s commitment to ensuring better living standards for project-affected families.



As part of his community engagement, the Minister visited the Workers' Club, where he distributed 21 tricycles to specially-abled persons from the local community, promoting inclusivity and social welfare. He also handed over 25 appointment letters symbolically to the new employees, out of a total of 101, highlighting the Government's focus on employment generation and youth empowerment in the region.



The Minister's visit and the observance of Yoga Day reflect the Ministry of Coal's unwavering commitment to holistic well-being, environmental sustainability, technological progress, and the welfare of coal-dependent communities. By integrating development with compassion and inclusivity, the Ministry continues to shape a coal sector that not only fuels the nation but also empowers its people and safeguards their future.

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