



Dear Readers,

I am glad to hand over volume IV of year 4 of AIACE TODAY to the readers. The coal sector's contribution to the growth of the economy is powering the rise of **India**. The year 2022-23 has been very satisfying for the country as well as for Coal India Limited as it produced 703 MT of coal out of total 892 MT of the country surpassing its assigned target for the year and SCCL produced 67 MT of Coal. The govt has implemented a number of steps including revenue sharing mechanism, rolling auction, single widow clearance etc for increasing domestic coal production and reducing import.

CIL targets to produce 780 Mt of coal in FY 2023-24 and for this, massive land acquisition, first mile connectivity projects are underway. India's power output soars to a 33-year high driven by coal-fuelled plants. The intense summer heat waves, a colder-than-usual winter in northern India, and an economic recovery compelled India to increase its power output from coal plants for preventing power cuts. The fossil-fuel-based plants witnessed an 11.2% growth, the highest in over 30 years, with coal-fired plants recording a 12.4% surge in electricity production. An analysis of daily load data from regulator Grid-India showed that power generation in India increased by 11.5% to 1,591.11 billion kilowatt-hours (kWh) in the fiscal year ending in March 2023. Total power supplied during the last fiscal year was 1509.15 billion kWh, 8.4% higher than a year earlier but still 6.69 billion units short of demand, the widest deficit in six years. electricity generated from coal rose to 1,162.91 billion kWh, the data showed, with its share in overall output rising to 73.1% - the highest level since the year ending March 2019.

In the last quarter, we lost 2 of our members, namely Late V D Manjrekar and Late C M Singh Rashmi. As per prevailing Benevolent Fund Scheme, a sum of Rs 10000/- each was given to the spouses of Late Manjrekar and Late Singh Rashmi. We pray to GOD for peace and tranquillity of the departed soul and giving courage to his family members to bear this untimely loss.

For entertainment of members, our association has formed coal clubs at Bilaspur, Asansol-Raniganj, Kolkata, Patna, Varanasi, Bengaluru, Ranchi and by the end of this month, we will start coal clubs at Nagpur and Delhi-NCR too. For highlighting our day to day activities, an Youtube channel has been started by the association and through it ,we will keep remain connected with our members and entire coal family.

The globalization has created such a situation that for want of better life, young generations are moving abroad as well as to metro cities in the country. They are unable to live with their parents and at the same time parents feel it difficult to adjust with their sons/daughters at unknown places and in unfamiliar culture. We have seen many circumstances in which old parents are living alone and even die without seeing their relatives at the time of death. AIACE is experimenting to create a new social order in the form of joint family system of outside blood relatives. We are in the process of establishing Creche Old Home for retired AIACE members who will live with dignity and enjoy honoured life at the place of their choice with all the necessary facility. The Creche Old Age Home will provide care to the senior citizens like children who need special care. We are searching land in Bilaspur, Durgapur, Kolkata, Pune, Patna, NCR Delhi, Bengaluru, Vrindwan, Haridwar, Varanasi, Amarkantak and at other different places as per choice given by members for constructing 1 BHK cottages/flats for allotment to the members. It is a very ambitious project of AIACE.

On the front of pension revision and simplification of spouse pension in case of death of beneficiaries, our association in close contact with All India Coal Pensioners Association (AICPA) has organised very successful dharna in Varanasi, the parliamentary constituency of honourable Prime- Minister, Sri Narendra Modi to draw his attention to the plight of the pensioners. The process of strengthening the CMPS fund has already been started by the government and we are sure that in coming days, the pensioners may be getting enhanced pension.

With these words, I hand over the magazine to the readers. We shall be glad to receive comments for the improvement of quality and content of the magazine.

Regards,

P. K. Singh Rathor