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Unsung mining heroes brave odds to produce coal, keep power plants running

"I don't want that a situation arises when in the absence of coal, the country's power houses come to a standstill, and in the absence of electricity, the hospitals which are treating corona virus patients collapse," Khan told over phone

New Delhi: Undeterred by the fear of death, 57-year-old Asif Khan has kept his nose to the grindstone to dig out coal so that the country's power plants can keep running at a time when people have been forced to stay indoors due to the COVID-19 crisis.

With the country confronted with an unprecedented situation, Khan, who works in the Kamptee open cast mine of Coal India arm WCL, said it was time to serve the nation "the way a soldier fearlessly keeps his life at stake to guard his country against the enemies."

Khan considers the COVID-19 crisis as a "once in a lifetime" opportunity to serve the country by reporting to work amid all the risks.

"If me and many like me don't go to work, who would produce coal," he asked. "I don't want that a situation arises when in the absence of coal, the country's power houses come to a standstill, and in the absence of electricity, the hospitals which are treating corona virus patients collapse," Khan told over phone.

There are many more mine workers like Khan who have braved the risks associated with the pandemic to fulfil their professional duties.

Shiv Kumar Yadav is one such worker. He has been at the frontline since the beginning of crisis, producing coal so that Coal India Ltd (CIL) is able to meet its output target and keep electricity generators well-supplied during summers when the fuel demand shoots up drastically.

Yadav was haunted by the fear of COVID-19 when the countrywide lockdown began.

"My son said 'papa please don't go. God forbid, if you get infected so would we'," Yadav reminisces.

However, Yadav says he did not succumb to the pressure of his family, adding that a sense of duty and urge to serve the nation makes him and his colleagues report to work even in these trying times.

Another coal miner Ranjeet Singh said, "We all are putting our best so that Coal India does not die."

Gopal Singh owes a lot to the Coal India management, particularly his immediate boss Diwakar Gokhale, who is Area General Manager (Nagpur Area) of Western Coalfields Ltd (WCL), for his "never-say-die" spirit.

To motivate the workers, the company undertakes various initiatives.

Recently, under the leadership of Gokhale, the workers were given floral tributes and applauded heartily when they came out of the mine after completing their shift.

A special team of four-five members was flown from Nagpur to the mines, some 40 kms away, for the initiative.

All social distancing norms were followed, Gokhale said, adding that miners have to be motivated in such challenging times.

The company has also taken several steps to ensure safety of its workers.

Beside providing masks, foot-operated wash basins have been installed at vulnerable places in all the mines of the Nagpur area, with the city reporting many [coronavirus](#) cases.

Sanitation of all heavy earth moving machines takes place in all the three working shifts on a daily basis, he added.

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कोल इंडिया ने 32,790 लीटर सेनेटाइजर बांटे

- बीसीसीएल ने 1215 लीटर हैंड सेनेटाइजर बांटे

धनबाद. कोविड-19 वायरस के संक्रमण से बचने के लिए कोल इंडिया व सहायक कंपनियां विभिन्न उपायों के साथ-साथ अपने कर्मचारियों को साबुन से हाथ धोने के लिए प्रोत्साहित कर रही हैं. वहीं कर्मचारियों और आसपास के लोगों के बीच हैंड सेनेटाइजर भी बांटे रही हैं. कोल इंडिया की सहायक कंपनियां अब तक 32,790 लीटर हैंड सेनेटाइजर बांटे चुकी हैं. सर्वाधिक 7163 लीटर हैंड सेनेटाइजर कोल इंडिया की सहायक कंपनी एनसीएल की

ओर से बांटी गयी है. जबकि सीसीएल दूसरे तथा इसीएल तीसरे नंबर पर है. बीसीसीएल की ओर से अब तक 1215 लीटर हैंड सेनेटाइजर का वितरण किया गया है.

किस कंपनी ने कितना हैंड सेनेटाइजर बांटे : बीसीसीएल ने 1215 लीटर, सीसीएल ने 5712 ली., इसीएल ने 5548 ली., एमसीएल ने 4325 ली., एनसीएल ने 7163 ली., एसइसीएल ने 4920 ली., डब्ल्यूसीएस ने 2622 ली., सीएमपीडीआई ने 1271 ली., सीआइएल (मुख्यालय) ने 10 ली., एनइसी ने 04 लीटर सेनेटाइजर बांटे.

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Coal allocation to power cos via e-auction rises

CIL'S COAL ALLOCATION under special-forward e-auction for the power sector registered a 15-fold rise at 5.51 MT in February 2020. CIL had allocated 0.38 MT of coal in February 2019, according to the monthly summary by the coal ministry.

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Edition: Dhanbad

400 करोड़ के हैवी डंपर खरीदेगी कोल इंडिया

जासं, धनबाद : कोल इंडिया लिमिटेड 400 करोड़ रुपये के हैवी डंपर खरीदेगी। इसके लिए कंपनी ने बीईएमएल से करार किया है। 150 टन क्षमता के सात डंपर 150 करोड़ रुपये व 190 टन क्षमता के आठ डंपर 250 करोड़ रुपये में खरीदे जाएंगे। इनका इस्तेमाल ओपन कास्ट कोयला खदानों में किया जाएगा। इससे कोयला और ओवर बर्डन हटाने के काम में तेजी आएगी। 150 टन के डंपरों को दक्षिण पूर्वी कोलफील्ड्स लिमिटेड (एसईसीएल) की गेवरा ओपनकास्ट परियोजना में परीक्षण के आधार पर तैनात किया जाएगा।

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Coal India preparing mines for production

OUR BUREAU

New Delhi, May 3

Coal India Ltd (CIL) has shifted its focus to preparing mines for ramping up production, instead of immediately producing more coal. This shift is needed as power demand has fallen due to the lockdown, directly affecting coal requirement.

A Coal Ministry statement said, “With a reduced domestic demand of coal, CIL has shifted its focus to the enhancement of the overburden removal – the process of removing the top soil and rock to expose coal seams in its open cast mines. Over 95 per cent of CIL’s coal production comes from its 171 open cast mines.”

According to government estimates, as on April 30, there are 50.89 million tonnes (mt) of coal stocked up at the power houses in India, enough to last 31 days. CIL itself has a pit-head stock of about 76 mt.