

Central Coalfields Limited reopens Rajhara coal mine in Jharkhand

Mine operations were suspended since October 2010 as they were found unsafe.

Necessary environmental clearance was issued on 14.02.2019 and on 25.02.2019, Rajhara coal mine was reopened, in the presence of Sri V.D.Ram, Member of Parliament and Sri Gopal Singh, CMD, Central Coalfields Limited.

More such closed mines are planned to make operational in order to generate employment and produce more coal for the country .

Rajhara mine situated in Palamu district of Jharkhand has been one of the oldest coal mines in the country. It was started in 19th century in the year 1842 by M/S Bengal Coal Company. The ownership of mine was transferred to M/S Ram Sharan Das and Brothers in 1969 and subsequently, the mine was nationalised in 1973 for which Rs Six lakh and sixty seven thousand was paid.

The mine was initially worked by underground method but after nationalisation it was converted to an opencast mine to recover good quality reserves of coal which otherwise would have been lost. The mine is situated close to Sadabah river, a tributary of North Koel. Since mining operations were below the high flood level (HFL) of river, they were found unsafe and mine production was suspended in October 2010 for safety reasons. Additionally, there were issues related to environmental clearance also.

The management of Central Coalfields Limited, a subsidiary of Coal India Limited, took several corrective and precautionary measures for the safety of mine and its environmental clearance. Finally environmental clearance was issued on 14.02.2019, and in the presence of Sri V.D.Ram, Member of Parliament and Sri Gopal Singh, CMD, Central Coalfields Limited, mining began on 25.02.2019.

The grade of coal is G9 having a calorific value in the range of 4601 to 4900 Kcal/Kg. The balance coal reserve in the mine is approx. 5.0 million tonne. With a capacity to extract 3.0 lakh tonne of coal per year, the life of mine is ascertained at 18 years.

CCL plans to work on reopening more such mines which were closed earlier because of safety & economic reasons. This will generate employment for local populace and produce more coal for the country which will help in furthering our PM's vision of providing affordable electricity for all and generating employment for youths of the Nation.