

ICFAI University, Jharkhand

Major Points discussed during Webinar on

**Career Prospects in Mining Industry
Post COVID-19 Crisis**

29th May 2020

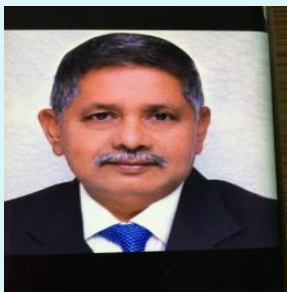
The webinar was moderated by



Prof. O R S Rao

Vice-Chancellor, ICFAI University Jharkhand

Panellists for the discussion



Shri B.R. Reddy

Former CMD, SECL



Shri K. K. Mishra

Director (Technical), CMPDIL

Points Discussed

- Impact of COVID-19 on Operations of Coal Industry
- How is the industry coping with the challenges faced in continuous operation of Coal Mines
- Govt Policy Reforms in Coal Mining Industry and their impact on :
 - Growth of production/Self-sufficiency
 - Automation
 - Competitiveness
 - Employment , particularly fresh graduates
- Career growth opportunities for fresh graduates
- Advice to the students

Impact of COVID-19 on Operations of Coal Industry – Sri B.R.Reddy's views

- Since coal industry comes under an essential services, it has got exemption from guidelines of Lock down.
- All the workers both departmental as well as contractual are engaged and are working.
- With proper care and regular medical check up , workers are allowed at work.
- Social distancing is strictly followed. Proper measures are being taken to make the workers aware of the precaution against COVID-19.
- Coal India along with Singreni is producing about 1.2 to 1.3 million tonnes of production even today.
- However, demand of coal has reduced by about 20%, as most of the coal consuming industries are not in operation.

Impact of COVID-19 on Operations of Coal Industry

Sri K K Mishra's views

- As far as coal industry is concerned general operating procedure such as social distancing, sanitization, use of masks & hand gloves is followed. General environment is also sanitised by mist sprayers.
- Management is motivating the workers and the employee. So there is no any hurdle regarding production and safety aspects.
- Since the demand has gone down, management has taken decision to stress on overburden removal and production has been kept down during this period.
- All coal seams are being exposed and as soon as demand comes, coal production will pick up to meet the desired need of the nation.
- As precautions are taken and proper protocols are followed, there is not even a single case of COVID19 in any mine of Coal India.

Reforms by Govt in Coal mining Industry and their impact

■ Reforms in Coal mining Industry

- 100 % FDI allowed in mining industry.
- Commercial Mining (revenue sharing in stead of fixed price)
- Over 500 New Coal blocks will be auctioned in the next 5 years
- Government to launch auction of 50 coal blocks for commercial mining on 11th June 2020
- Incentives for early completion of projects.

• Impact Expected

- Increased production and make India self-reliant in coal.
- More automation , leading to increased productivity and competitiveness
- Entry of Foreign Players directly or thru Joint Ventures
- More employment

Impact of policies on Coal Gasification - Sri K K Mishra

- India has a vast reserve of coal bed methane about 2.6 trillion m³. It may last for not less than 40 to 50 years.
- New technologies are also invited in surface coal gasification which will give Syn gas, which is further converted to make different chemical products.
- CMPDIL is using 2-D,3-D seismic technology , replacing the need of exploratory drilling.
- Radar technology used in slope monitoring in large capacity mines.
- Deployment of drones for faster survey work and reduction in efforts

Employment opportunities for fresh graduates

- Mining industry has got a lot of scope for employment , especially fresh graduates .
- As more Coal Blocks become operational, employment prospects are higher
- Opportunities in support department like technology, mine planning, automation and other managerial functions
- The students from mechanical, civil, computer science, IT as well as MBA also have scope in mining industry.
- As a lot of senior people will be retiring shortly, good career growth opportunities for the graduates that join now
- There have been many cases where fresh Diploma holders , who joined as junior overman , rose to the level of CMD through sheer performance .
- People should work hard should have passion to work in mining.

Advice to the students – Sri K K Mishra

- There is competition at every level not only at the entry level. Even after getting employment , there will be competition for career growth .
- Students should have a good knowledge of their profession. One should have to develop himself as a good manager, a good leader and a good social person.
- They have to work hard and by having team building spirit and should work professionally.
- Students should inculcate 4D concepts i.e. Determination, Discipline, Devotion and Decision Making .

Concluding Comments by Prof ORS Rao

- Coal Mining Industry offers excellent job opportunities for freshers (both BTech and Diploma (Polytechnic) in Mining as well as other branches like Mechanical and CSE
- Entry Salaries are the highest among all the industries
- Offers excellent career growth path
- Students should work with passion and should continue learning

THANK YOU