

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

PREAMBLE:

About Us

NLC is one of India's most respected Public sector company engaged in lignite mining and power generation. Established in 1956, its operations are spreading throughout the country. In all its 58 years service to the Nation, this brown Coal Company has been a pioneer and trend-setter for breaking its achievements in lignite mining and power generation year by year. Keeping face with the changing business trends, NLC has diversified into renewable energy and coal mining business in India and abroad. NLC has included its commitment to environment protection and Sustainable development as its corporate objective since inception. NLC undertakes wide range of Sustainability development projects and Corporate Social Responsibility measures for the environment protection and community and rural development thus ensuring the sustainable development of the company. Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited, Neyveli is a Navratna Company which believes that "Community is not another entity but it is part and parcel of its very existence."

A successful Green Agenda

NLC does not believe in profit alone as its prime objective but follows the policy of integrating People, Planet and Profit. Corporate Sustainability vision addresses Society, Environment, and Economy for the success of the company and for the well being of the various stakeholders. Its philosophy on sustainability is to contribute for a greener and healthier planet and hand it over to the future generations

NLC maintains a strong focus on sustainable development with conservation of natural resources being integrated into all activities. NLC's strategy is to have minimum impact on environment and fulfil the aspirations of various stakeholders. Thrust areas include environment improvement programme such as eco restoration in mines, massive afforestation programmes, rainwater harvesting, waste utilization, and conservation of bio-diversity, effective water and energy management, pollution control, mitigating the impact of climate change. NLC is proactive in training its employees in Environment Management.

The company also pursues appropriate standards in safety, quality, energy efficiency, clean mining techniques, emission controls and environment management

Further to NLC's implementation of the philosophy on sustainability, NLC also meets the statutory requirement as stipulated by the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) over its Guidelines on Sustainable Development for Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSE).

NLC has its own SD policy: NLC has framed its own Sustainable Development Policy taking into consideration the magnitude and nature of core business activity and fulfilling aspirations of the Stakeholders and protecting the Environment. NLC is undertaking number of sustainability development issues year after year.

During the Financial Year 2013-2014, NLC has completed the following Projects under Sustainability Development.

Ecology: Reclamation and reuse of lands in Mines.

Excavation of soil is a pre-requisite for extraction of lignite. Specialized Mining Equipments are used to mine lignite. Several hectares of land is disturbed every year due to the Mining operation. Even at the Project formulation stage, NLC has planned for refilling and reclamation of mined out area to maintain the productivity of land and to control pollution such as soil erosion, water pollution etc. The concept of reclamation is given due importance in NLC. NLC is reclaiming the mined out area and overburden dumps. Integrated Farming System (IFS), a novel method has been developed in collaboration with Tamilnadu Agricultural University for reclamation of backfilled areas. The external over dumps created during the initial opening of the Mine cuts are being converted into vegetative one making it fit for habitation. NLC has also developed techniques by carrying out a Project named Slope Stabilization of the Mines for afforesting the Over Burden dumps. Every year about 100 hectares of mined out land is reclaimed for afforestation, agricultural and horticulture crops. An orchard has been developed by planting different varieties of fruit bearing trees and also herbal cultivation is undertaken in the reclaimed area to cater to the needs of the Ayurvedic dispensary of NLC and also public. The yield from this reclaimed land is as good as the yield from natural and normal agricultural lands.

This year it was planned to reclaim about 110 hectares of mined out land in all the three operating mines of NLC at Neyveli and about 112.85 hectares of land has been reclaimed.

Training programme on Sustainable Development for women:

This Project resolves to educate the womenfolk on Sustainable Development and aims at disseminating information about environment, environmental protection, the ability to cope with the problems and stressing the importance of a sustainable approach. The main message of this Project is effectively transferred to the women employees and through them to other members of their families and to the society by engaging an Green Path expert faculty in this field.

Women employees were taught about the concept of Green home, Zero waste, water conservation, Rain water harvesting, energy conservation, green house effect and efforts needed to mitigate global warming, Green foods, organic farming, vermin composting etc., wherein they learnt how to collect waste and prepare composts, about noise pollution, and Citizen's social responsibility towards environment protection, conservation of bio diversity and cultural values and heritage. The training was imparted through utilising the services of expert consultant. So far, About 80 Women Employees, Executives and Non Executives of NLC benefited from this programme.