

Slope study of benches and dumps for the Rajmahal OCL.

The monitoring of strata displacement was done by Shri Nandakumar and also by supervisors of ECL in the shifts, while re-handling of OB dump by M/S MIPCL. On 09.8.2016, there was partial collapse of formed OB benches in loose OB dump and about 2.3 lakh cubic meter of OB mass was slid down by about 7-8m. These benches had failed and slid in its position. This was reported to Ho/ECL and ECL Ho. team of experts (GM-Safety, GM-CHS & GM-PP) visited in the month of Aug/Sept. 2016 and they inspected the affected/slided area of OB dump (benched). Then another proposal for re-handling of OB dump of quantum of 17.3 lakh cub. meter OB was initiated and sent to Ho/ECL. The wo was pending but the job was started by M/S MIPCL-NIKAS (JV).

Previous to this the job of 13.44 lakh cu. m OB removal job was completed (within period of allotted 90 days) from 06.8.2016 to 05.11.2016. Then final survey measurement of this job execution was done on 05-11-2016 (by joint survey team).

On 29-12-2016, the CMPDIL Survey team had visited the Rajmahal OCL for initial measurement of a 5.2 lakh cu. m OBR from departmental patch (west of Daharnaup 20 million OB patch) and which is left out area of departmental patch. In this patch, contract for coal extraction had already been awarded to M/S MIPCL-NIKAS in the year 2015.

The geological conditions changed when the work in 20 million patch progressed. The fault, 2 nos. were existing as per plan but it further gave indication that faults were more than anticipated number. The general condition in the mine workings did not match with geological plan e.g. "Stratum contour & fault and thickness of seam".



N. K. Singh
13/01/2017

contd on 16

The proposal of 20 million OBL & 7 million tonne coal was not given to me for checking at Area level. I have not seen the file of proposal sent to Ho/ECL regarding 20 million patch.


Last I visited the Rajmahal ocp on 26/12/2016 when CMD of DT (op.) had visited the mine. I stayed back on top of the workings near the present view point. I did not see the condition of OB, re-handling area at top of the north side OB dump and also I did not see the condition of OB & Coal benches.

I am assisted by two survey trainees and assistants in my various other jobs.

On 29/11/2016 at about 09:00 pm, when I was in my quarters, I was informed about this accident by Supt. ~~SRP~~ SRP Verma, Area Safety Officer and instructed me to go to Control room, set at the Rajmahal House (guest house), R.O.P./ECL. At 12:00 midnight I went along with other mine officials to ~~the~~ View point. It was foggy and illumination was not sufficient but could see the profile of Slided OB and other sides were also viewed. The Slided OB was ~~4~~ ² broken OB mass had touched Southern ~~side~~ side high wall at the bottom of pit. I returned back to control room. I saw that rescue & recovery work had commenced and HORM were being directed to move towards bottom, near Slided area.

I have not seen any noting of 'UNCONSOLIDATED DEPOSITS' or Abandoned dc workings on the statutory plans of Rajmahal ocp.

The opencast workings' plan are maintained & updated by the Colliery Surveyor (Survey office) and his 3 Surveyors. The proposals etc are also sent / forwarded to Ho/ECL based on the attached Survey plans of the mine, signed by the Colliery Surveyor.

 Through the Contd. on 1-7.
13/01/2017

I don't know what the parting left was in O.B. & coal seam, against the faults and in particular F-8 fault on the day of accident i.e. 29/12/2016. I was not given any instruction to ascertain the condition of barrier left against the fault.

In my opinion, the accident was caused due failure of O.B. ^{rocks} & coal strata, left against the fault (F-8) on the dip side i.e. towards South side; resulting sliding down of loose benches formed in O.B. and the loose O.B. material in the top side.

I am not responsible for the accident as I am not associated with day-to-day mine workings and survey work there at. A separate colliery surveyor is appointed at the mine & he is assisted by three qualified surveyors who report to the mine manager of ROC/EC.

~~Scientific~~ Scientific studies by experts should have been done in the initial stage/planning stage of the project for working near/across the fault planes; There are nos. of fault planes running in strike direction and a few faults traversing across & joining with main faults. Also, there should be proper study for formation of benches against the fault plane, If there would have been done, this accident could have been avoided.

Total 23 persons are involved in this accident and 18 bodies of the deceased have been recovered.

My statement is over.

I have made the statement above given by me and accept it correct & true

I recorded this statement,
Shri. Sadhan Dhibar read this
statement & signed it

[Signature]
13/01/2017

[Signature]
(Sadhan Dhibar)
13/01/2017

Statement of Shri. Dr. Md. Naved Akhtar, S/o Shri. Md. Siddique Ahamed, Age about 30 years, Designation Medical officer of M/s. Sadar Hospital, Godda, in connection with failure/collapse of OB/Coal benches during 2nd shift on dated 29.12.2016 at about 19.00 hrs. at M/s MIPL - NKS (JV), Contractual (Dahernangi) Patch in Rajmahal OCP of M/s Eastern Coalfields Limited.

Permanent Address:-

Village :- Gorgawan
Post :- Narayani
Police Station :- Mahaganga Godda
District :- Godda, Jharkhand
Pin Code :-
Contact No :- 9981591821

I, Dr. Md. Naved Akhtar, Medical Officer at Sadar Hospital, Godda, Govt. of Jharkhand since June-2016. In addition to the regular duties, I also do the post mortem examination as and when directed.

I was on duty on dtd 31.12.2016, 01.01.2017 & 02.01.2017 and was the one of the members of Post mortem board formed on above noted dates. The board was consisting three doctors in each board on the above dates for the post mortem of dead bodies recovered from Rajmahal OCP, Lalmatia, M/s ECL. The dead bodies on these dates i.e. on 30/31.12.2016 (16 bodies), on 01.01.2017 (02 bodies) were received from Lalmatia police station.

On dated 31.12.2016, total 16 (Sixteen) bodies were autopsied by the team of doctors namely Dr. D.K. Choudhary, 2> Dr. Juned Alam, 3> Dr. D.K. Thakur, 4> Dr. Arvind Kumar, 5> Dr. Naved Akhtar, 6> Dr. T.S. Jha, 7> Dr. N.K. Tekriwal 8> Dr. A.P. Singh.

The dead bodies after autopsy were handed over to Lalmatia Police. The post mortem examination reports giving the cause of death were prepared & signed.

A copy of which are available at Sadar Hospital, Godda (JH).

Then, On dated 01.01.2017, post mortem of one dead body was carried out by Dr. C.L. Vaidya, Dr. Arvind Kumar and Dr. Naved Akhtar. The body was then handed over to Lalmatia Police.

Sumit
13.01.17

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Contd. from page ① Statement of Dr. Naved Akhtar

Again on dated 02-01-2017, post mortem on one body was carried out by Dr. T.S. Jha, Dr. Naved Akhtar and Dr. M.K. Tekriwal of Sadar Hospital, Godda. The body was then handed over to the Lalmatia Police. The post mortem examination reports of both these bodies giving the cause of death were prepared & signed. A copy of which are available at Sadar Hospital, Godda.

The common cause of death was asphyxia in all the eighteen dead bodies.

The names of dead deceased as reported by the Lalmatia Police are as below:

- 1> Md. Jufikar, 2> Md. Jamir, 3> Samjit Vishwakarma,
- 4> Nageshwar Paswan, 5> Javed Akhtar, 6> Hari Krishan Jadhav,
- 7> Md. Nasir, 8> Rajendra Yada, 9> Bagjesh Kumar Yada,
- 10> Jai prakash Ram, 11> Sanjay Kumar Sahi,
- 12> Ajit Patel, 13> Vikas Patel, 14> Shakeel Ahmad,
- 15> Kaleshwar Kumar, 16> Sunil Bengra,
- 17> Raj. Kunal Gaswami, 18> Laddu.

A sample of blood, hair and a piece of bone of each dead body are preserved in sealed containers & handed over to the Lalmatia Police for DNA examination.

During the recording of my statement board member of autopsy were present & their names are

- 1> Dr. D.K. Choudhary, 2> Dr. C.L. Vaidya, 3> Dr. T.S. Jha
- 4> Dr. Juned Alam, 5> Dr. M.K. Tekriwal.

My statement ends here.

The above statement was recorded by me.

Dr. Md. Naved Akhtar

Medical Officer, Sadar Hospital Godda.

S.G. Bhaisare, DD (mech)

The above statement was recorded in my presence

Niranjan Sharma
13/01/2017
DMS, R-3.

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Date. 01.01.2017

To,
The Manager,
Rajmahal OCP.

Sub: Information regarding the accident on 29.12.2016.

Dear Sir,

This is to inform you that on 29.12.2016 in second shift an accident has occurred in my working patch which 12 nos. of tippers namely 171, 172, 173, 193, 362, 364, 365, 367, 368, 386, 387, 391 and five nos. of Volvo machines bearing no. 70, 33, 39, 48, 84 and one no. dozer (Catter Piller make) are missing. Rest of the tippers and machines are available in camp and are in my custody. In the second shift following 23 out of the deployed person with their designation are missing. Rest of the person deployed in the mine have been accounted for.

Details of deceased employees of M/s. MIPL-NKAS(JV)

Sl No.	Name of deceased	Designation	Fathers name	Date of Body recovered	Address:-
1 ✓	Hari Kishore Yadav	Excavator Opnr.	Dadan Yadav	30.12.2016	Vill+Po- Jalalpur, Thana- Daranda, Dist- Siwan(Bihar)
2 ✓	Javed Akhtar	Excavator Opnr.	Jasmuddin Ansari	30.12.2016	Vill- Parihara, Post- Nildam/Tildam, Thana+Dist- Garwa(Jharkhand)
3 ✓	Rajendra Yadav alias Bonal	Excavator Opnr.	Ram Naresh Yadav	30.12.2016	Vill- Patdi, Post- Maharajganj, Dist- Siwan(Bihar)
4 ✓	Brijesh Yadav	Excavator Opnr.	Kamaldeo Yadav	30.12.2016	Vill- Chitoura, Post+ Thana- Sahanwar. Dist Balia(U.P.)
5 ✓	Sanjay Kr.Sahi	Tipper Driver	Sujit Sahi	30.12.2016	Vill. Deoria, Dist. Lohardagga, Jharkhand
6 ✓	Md. Nurul	Tipper Driver	Md. Raffique	30.12.2016	Vill & PO. Pahari, Thana- Sahapur, Tahsil- Bhogani, Dist. Riwa(MP)
7 ✓	Jai Prakash Rai	Tipper Driver	Tola Rai	30.12.2016	Vill. Lal Jhapra, Dist. Muzaffarpur (Bihar)
8 ✓	Nageshwar Paswan	Tipper Driver	Sakhichand Paswan	30.12.2016	Vill. Barun, Thana- Paru, Dist. Muzaffarpur(Bihar)
9 ✓	Ajit Patel	Excavator Opnr.	Dinesh Prasad Patel	30.12.2016	Vill. Lilna, P.O. Bamuji, Thana- Amliya, Dist. Siddhi, M.P.
10 ✓	Sakil Khan	Tipper Driver	Yunush Khan	30.12.2016	Vill - Mandar, Distt- Ranchi, Jharkhand
11 ✓	Vikas Patel	Tipper Driver	K P Patel	30.12.2016	Vill - Dadjir, Post - Sonbarsha, Siddhi, M.P.
12 ✓	Sunil Bhengra	Tipper Driver	Laxman Bhengra	31.12.2016	Vill + Post - Koira, District - Odisha
13 ✓	Ajay / Kuleswar	Dozer Opnr.	Baleswar Mahto	31.12.2016	Vill - Goriyakarma, Post - Barhi, District - Hazaribag, Jharkhand
14 ✓	Md.Julfiqar	Tipper Driver	Saffi Mahommad	31.12.2016	Vill - Baldhi, PS - Chitarangi, District - Singrauli, M.P.

MIPL - NKAS (JV)
Authorized Signatory

15	Md. Jamir	Tipper Driver	Lal Mohammad	31.12.2016	Vill - Kunjhun, Post - Nagjhar, Dist - Siddhi, M.P.
16	Raj Kamal Goswami	Tipper Driver	Sudama Goswami	31.12.2016	Vill - Bathaya, Post - Chitoria P.S- Amelia, Dist. - Siddhi, M.P.
17	Sanjit Viswakarma	Tipper Driver	Ram Patik Viswakarma	01.01.2017	Vill - Kodihar, Post - Sombarsha, District - Siddhi, M.P.
18	Laddu Yadav	Excavator Opti	Yogeshwar Yadav	01.01.2017	Vill - Bisanda, Thana - Chandi, District - Nalanda, Bihar

19	Lalu Khan	Incharge	Sattar Khan		Vill - Lilkar, Post- Basuri, Thana - Avilia, Dist- Siddi, M.P.
20	Madhur Shyam Patel	Supervisor	Karamshi Patel		Vill - Mayapur, Thana - Nakhatrana, Dist - Bhuj, Gujrat
21	Gagan Singh	Supervisor	Ashish Singh		Vill - Dungachi, Post- Tadrash, Thana - Sanhaura, Dist - Bhagalpur, Bihar
22	Parvez Alam	Driver	Samuddin		Vill - Hehal, Post - Chasigada, P.S. Patratu, Dist - Ramgarh (Jharkhand)
23	Bheem Ram	Driver	Antu Ram		Vill + Post - Bhitashibag, Thana - Karamchak, Dt.- Koimur (Bihar)

This is for your kind information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

Authorised signatory.

MIPL - NKAS (JV)
13/8/17
 Authorized Signatory

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Statement of Shri. Damodar Ram S/o Shri. Neelkant Ram, Age about 52 years, Designation Colliery Surveyor of M/s. ECL in connection with failure/collapse of OB/Coal benches during 2nd shift on dated 29.12.2016 at about 19.00 hrs. at M/s MIPL - NKS (JV), Contractual (Dahernangi) Patch in Rajamahal OCP of M/s Eastern Coalfields Limited. resulting in fatal accident to 23 persons.

Permanent Address:-

Village :- Tilakari
Post :- Sarmatand
Police Station :- Jaynagar
District :- Koderma, Jharkhand
Pin Code :-
Contact No :- 9771447303

I, Damodar Ram, Surveyor employed with M/s ECL since 1996 and appointed as Colliery Surveyor at Rajmahal OCP from 19.10.2016.

I was on Casual leave from 28.12.2016 to 31.12.2016 and Sri. S.D. Pandit, Sr. Surveyor was given charge during my absence.

My duties includes as per regulation of S.M.R. 1.154, conducting surveys, preparation of plans and sections, providing information and instructions to the mining personals i.e. managers, Asst. Managers, overman and sidemen and also carry out the special survey and measurements for certifying the volumes in OB and coal and also prepare plans and sections for proposals for obtaining D.G.Ns. Permission and also preparing plans and sections for contract award and the patch Demarcations for decision making at the top level.

In the recent past i.e. I had visited the OB and coal benches along with patch incharge Surveyor Sri. Rander Kumar and mine manager Sri. Pramod Kumar. The area was surveyed to know that How much coal is available for extraction and the OB in situ How much has to be removed at the

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K1-MH/ROD

OB benches above the coal benches. i.e. to say that in the up coming three months what could be the coal production can be planned. The idea was to target and produce 20,000 - 25,000 t coal per day in the next three months from the M/L M.I.P.L. - N.K.A.S. (J.V.) patch on the down throw side of F-8 fault. He also told that correspondingly insitu (O.B.) benches should also advance on the north direction to expose the coal for extraction.

There were cracks in insitu (O.B.) benches along the high wall and also there were significant bulging of OB (Consolidated) at the top in rehandling benches in OB dumps and these things were shown on plan and also shown to manager in the field.

The design and fixing of plant with scale was prepared by Sri. Nandan Kumar Sengupta as per the instruction of G.M (O.P.) i.e. but and it was in place before my joining at Rajmehal o.p. The monitoring of which was done by mining sirdar, overman and Asst. managers of M/L M.I.P.L. - N.K.A.S. (J.V.) patch. No daily information was given to me. As reported by the surveyor in-charge it was fully around the clock was monitored in each shift my mining supervisors and the same was being communicated to the agent manager.

I have no knowledge whether notice of standstill/discontinuation was given to D.M.S., when the workings of a particular section of open cast mine which was submerged in water in monsoon. ~~before~~ ~~seen~~ further about the notice of resumption of work at the particular part of workings after de-watering and normal OB (insitu) removal and coal extraction started.

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MI-MH/ROD

Earlier to me Sri. B.P. Das was Colliery Surveyor who had not demarcated the permitted boundary for carrying out normal open cast operations as per the DMS permission. I had recently joined and was in relocation of my family could not fully concentrate about this. Further there is a separate Surveyor in charge for the designated Pater workings by M/s MRL - NKAS (JV) and one more Surveyor namely Sri. S.D. Pandit in charge for entire M/s RMC and dept patches.

It is a very big mine in segments in different operational areas. I am only two months old in this place after taking charge of Colliery Surveyor. I was not up to date with the locations of exact dumps, old workings and the old dumps when these dumps were created and other details. I was slowly acquiring the working by gathering the information available at survey office and interacting with other Surveyors, who have long stay over here.

To my knowledge OB dumps were very old and were started in year 2007 and as such there is no permission obtained from DMS for re handling the OB dumps, by the management, this is certain. That if the proposal had to be submitted to DMS, the plans will be prepared by Survey section. As per the records and information available no such proposal was made and submitted to DMS for getting the permission of OB re handling.

I was on leave and came to know about the occurrence of the accident at M/s MRL - NKAS (JV) Pater while watching TV news and news paper on 30.12.2016 and on the same day I returned back to Regional OCP in the evening from Chikra mines.

GRM
13/11/17

Continued Page (4)

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KI-MIN/ROCP
13/11/17

O.B. (re-handling) consolidated was started against the work order of 17.30 L and 3 in the last week of November and continued regularly in the month of December at the same time given O.B. was also being removed and cost is also being executed in the same zone i.e. M/L MIPL-NKAS (IV) patch.

As per my knowledge there are 23 persons involved in the accident who had lost their valuable lives and 18 bodies were recovered so far and still 5 persons are missing.

I submit that there is a major lapse at the top level planning and execution of M-20 M/L MIPL-NKAS (IV) Patch by the management. I agree that future and advance planning is very much essential for the conduct of safe mining operations with due proposal submitting to D.M.S. and following the granted permissions by D.M.S. while conducting the mining operations at the mine.

I corroborate the statement given by Sri. Damodar Kumar, Surveyor and further submit that all the information provided in his statement in which I have signed as witness is true. My statement is also the same as Peter Surveyor about the contents pertinent to survey.

For Damodar Kumar
accepted his statement correctly
recorded and signed in my presence
13.01.17
XI-MH/POC

I have gone through my above statement understood and fully agree and put my signature below

D.M.S.
13/1/17
DAMODAR-RAM.

I have recorded the statement of Sri. Damodare Ram, Colliery Surveyor, and he accepted it as true.

[Signature]
13/01/2017.

STATEMENT OF SHRI SUSHANTA BANERJEE, GENERAL MANAGER (SAFETY & RESCUE), M/s EASTERN COALFIELDS LTD IN CONNECTION WITH SLIDING OF OLD DUMP & IN-SITU BENCHES ON 29.12.2016 AT DEHAR NAGI PATCH OF RAJMAHAL OCP OF M/s ECL

I, Sushanta Banerjee, S/o Late Sudhakar Banerjee, Mahima Enclave, Apar Garden, Asansol – 713304, P.S. Asansol (South), West Bengal, joined as General Manager (Safety) on 16.08.2016. Prior to my joining as General Manager (Safety) I have been working as General Manager (Rescue), since 04.07.2016 and from 16.08.2016, I was re-designated as General Manager (Safety & Rescue) ECL, and till date I have been working in this capacity.

On 29.12.2016 I was informed over mobile phone at about 8.15 pm by Director (Tech) OP, ECL that an incident of over burden (OB) dump failure occurred at Rajmahal OC and Rescue team should be sent immediately.

I was on leave and out of station from forenoon of 27.12.2016. Immediately on receipt of the information from Director (Tech.) OP, ECL, I, over telephone, from Puri, Orissa, arranged to send Rescue teams from Mines Rescue Station, Sitarampur, ECL along with Superintendent (Rescue), MRS, Sitarampur, with necessary rescue aids. The Rescue teams of ECL started Rescue and Recovery operation at the site of incident at DeharNangi Patch of Rajmahal OC at about 5:00 am of 30.12.2016.

Sri J.K Chakarvarty, Chief Manager (Mining), authorized as General Manager (Safety) from 27.12.2016, was sent to the site of incident along with Superintendent (Rescue) ECL. Sri Chakarvarty was all along present during the rescue/recovery operation from 5:00 am of 30.12.2016. Also, in the meantime, I informed the incidence to ED (S&R), CIL and GM (S&R), CIL through SMS on mobile phone.

In due course, more Rescue teams from ECL reached the site for Rescue/Recovery operation. First 11 (eleven) bodies were recovered under direct Rescue Cover of ECL & later on NDRF team joined rescue operation at the site.

On prima-facie investigation, it is understood that extraction of Coal and Over Burden had been continuing at DeharNangi Patch of Rajmahal OC by hiring of HEMM since April 2015 by M/s MIPL-NKAS (JV).

It was brought to the knowledge of the undersigned that, SMP was prepared by Mine Officials and Risk Assessed while preparing SMP involves OB dump stability. Re-handling of OB for reducing the load over in-situ OB benches at North side of DeharNangi patch was completed once for 13.44 Lakh m³ (Approximate) and for the second time 17 Lakh m³ (Approximate) had been started after 30.11.2016.

No proposal for scientific study of stability of OB dump/ Pit slope stability was received in the office of ISO after my joining as GM (Safety), ECL.

On 23.08.2016 General Manager /TS to D(T)OP issued an order regarding formation of a committee comprising 1. Shri B. Prasad, Chief Manager (Mining), Safety dept. 2. Shri N. Mishra, Sr. Manager (Mining), P&P dept. 3. Shri A. K. Banerjee, Sr. Manager (Mining), CMC dept. 4. Shri Pradip Kumar, Asst. Manager (Survey), Survey Dept, to visit Rajmahal OC in connection with a dump failure/ slide occurred on 09.08.2016 and provide report for the status of the same and measures to be taken.

The committee submitted their report to GM/TS to D(T)OP on 06.09.2016 after visiting Rajmahal OC.

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A proposal for re-handling of 17.30 lakh m³ of OB from top down wards at DeharNangi Patch was initiated by Rajmahal OC mine on 31.10.2016. It was agreed by Safety Department for re-handling of OB from top down wards to form benches to ensure stability of the dump and safe extraction of OB & Coal from Dehar Nangi patch.

On the proposal ISO recommended that, OB & Coal below the adjacent unsafe zone of the slided OB dump shall be extracted after completion of proposed re-handling and formation of benches. On interrogation it is understood that, OB re-handling operation had been continuing at the time of incident at 7:30 PM on 29.12.2016 at Dehar Nangi patch.

The proposal was then vetted by different departments and finally agreed by Competent Authority of ECL and placed before ECL Board of Directors on 30.11.2016. As information received, it was approved. The job of re-handling of OB was started accordingly. It has also come to our knowledge that, similar re-handling of OB for a quantity of 13.44 Lakh m³ (approximately) had been continuing for decreasing the load of the dump and formation of benches in OB dump. No further information from Rajmahal OC mine or from any other corner was received by the under signed regarding any further development of unsafe situation while re-handling of OB at Dehar Nangi Patch.

I visited the spot of incident at Dahar Nangi Patch on and from 03.01.2017 to 11.01.2017 several times. During my first inspection following observations were made:

1. About 600 m length of North side dump from West to East came down over the slided OB benches.
2. Few tippers/ dumpers, excavators and parts of tippers/ dumpers were observed half-buried on the slided OB dump.
3. Some prominent cracks were observed on the slided benches approaching to the dump failure site from West to East.
4. Some horizontal cracks at the top three benches of the slided OB dump were observed and monitoring of the cracks had been taken up by mine officials by manual measurement.
5. Rescue & Recovery work had been continuing at places wherever the contractual Agency representatives desired, considering Safety at the place.

During further inspections, it was understood that, rest of the 05 (five) persons may be lying much below the reachable level of excavators for which removal of slided OB & formation of benches will be required.

On 05.01.2017, while inspecting with Director of Mines Safety, Sri Laxminarayana, some signs of instability of the slided dump noted and Rescue/ Recovery operations could not be continued. Accordingly, expertise team comprising representatives from CIMFR, ISM and BIT –Mesra (already present as High Power Committee members constituted by Chairman, CIL) were asked by ECL authorities to provide their suggestions as to how Rescue/ Recovery operation can be taken up safely.

As per information provided by mine officials, 23 persons of the contractual agency got missing in the incident. 18 bodies were recovered till 01.01.2017 and after that no further bodies could be recovered due to signs of movement of slided OB dump. Details of deceased employees of M/S MIPL-NKAS (JV) are enclosed here with. List of missing 5 persons are also noted there-under from serial no.19 to 23 (copy enclosed).

The team of Academic and Scientific experts examined the slided zone and the area where from Rescue and Recovery work can be taken up to search out missing persons remaining, at higher depth of slided OB. As per their recommendation, cleaning/re-handling of OB from top down wards was proposed.

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17/01/17

A special Safety Committee meeting of Rajmahal OC mine was arranged after inspection by the Committee members, of the Dehar Nangi patch including slided area of the OB dump site on 06.01.2017, where GM (S&R), ECL and Director of Mines Safety & Dy. Director of Mines Safety were invited as Observers. The members of the Safety Committee also recommended for de-capping of the noted OB dump from top downwards before starting Rescue/ Recovery operation further.

A proposal for the further recovery operation was initiated accordingly, by the Area authority, and with detailed manner of re-handling it was referred to the expertise team, who further asked for certain modifications. Accordingly CMPDIL team was engaged with colliery/Area survey team. Survey work is reported to be completed and CMPDIL is on the job of finalization of mode of re-handling procedure. On receipt of same, it will further be referred to the expertise team for vetting and taking up further needful action by Colliery/Area authorities for re-handling of OB.

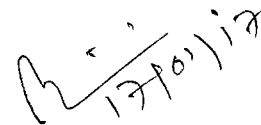
Stand-by Rescue & Recovery teams of ECL have been deployed at Dehar Nangi Patch of Rajmahal OC till date.

Enquiry by Internal Safety Organization ECL has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri Amrendra Kumar, Chief Manager (Mining), Safety Department, ECL, HQ and the process of inquiry has been continuing.

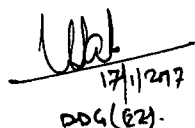
On visual inspection it was understood that the Over Burden benches at North side of the Dehar Nangi Patch slided down followed by sliding of OB Dump, where machinery and manpower of the hiring agency were deployed in 2nd shift at about 7.30 pm of 29.12.2016 for re-handling of OB from OB dump. Excessive load of OB dump at the North up-throw side of F8(60 m throw) fault of Dehar Nangi patch partly resting over the OB benches and instability of the in-situ strata along 60 meter throw fault zone followed by a parallel fault (F10) and another local fault within the in-situ rock weakened by blasting of in-situ OB & coal while operating Dehar Nangi patch at deep mining zone may have resulted into failure at North side of the patch of OB benches followed by OB dump failure.

In my opinion, if continuous slope monitoring of OB benches and OB dump would have been taken up, failure of OB benches might be known before occurrence and deployment of men and machineries at the influence zone of OB re-handling would have been withdrawn.

Date: 17.01.2017



SUSHANTA BANERJEE
GENERAL MANAGER (SAFETY&RESCUE)
ECL



17/1/2017
DCG (624)

Statement of Shri. Ashwan Kumar Rao S/o Shri. Shiv Kumar Rao, Age about 24 years, Designation Office Clerk of M/s. MIPL - NKS JV in connection with failure/collapse of OB/Coal benches during 2nd shift on dated 29.12.2016 at about 19.00 hrs. at M/s MIPL - NKS (JV), Contractual (Dahernangi) Patch in Rajamahall OCP of M/s Eastern Coalfields Limited. in connection with the accident to 23 persons.

Permanent Address:-

Village :- Tarkulua
Post :- Kushi Nagar
Police Station :- Kushi Nagar
District :- Kushi Nagar, Uttar Pradesh
Pin Code :-
Contact No :- 9475061834

I, Ashwan Kumar Rao, office/attendant clerk of M/s MIPL - NKS (JV) employed with the company for the last one year. On 29.12.2016 I was on duty and I have booked attendance

in Form E Register Form E General Register As per the bookings of attendance in Form E out of 47 persons on roll, 38 persons have reported for duty at 9 am and booked their shift end attendance at 5 pm. Remaining 07 persons were on day off rest and 02 persons were absent from duty.

As per the attendance bookings in Form E General Register out of 13 persons on roll, 08 persons have reported for duty at 9 am on 29.12.2016 and booked their shift end attendance at 5 pm. Remaining 02 persons were on day off rest and 03 persons were absent from duty.

As per my knowledge as I maintained these Form E & Form E General register no persons listed in these registers were involved in the accident on 29.12.2016. All these persons have worked in general shift at Camp, workshop & office on surface and not in mine.

I fully understood my above statement and accept it is true and his statement was truly recorded and recorded by me in presence I agree and put my sign. of Shri. Akshay Ramani

Accepted his statement correctly
recorded & signed in my presence.

Shri Ashwan Kumar Rao had
Demari (Akshay viwendad Ramani), MIPL

18/01/2017
Ashwan Kumar Rao

18/01/2017

266/270

Statement of Shri. Sanjay Kumar Singh S/o Shri. Indradeo Prasad Singh Age about 53 years, Designation General Manager of M/s. E.C.L. in connection with failure/collapse of OB/Coal benches during 2nd shift on dated 29.12.2016 at about 19.00 hrs. at M/s MIPL - NKS (JV), Contractual (Dahernangi) Patch in Rajmahal OCP of M/s Eastern Coalfields Limited.

Permanent Address:-

Village :- L-28, Jagat Vihar
Post :- Ashiana Nagar
Police Station :-
District :- Patna, Bihar
Pin Code :- 800 025
Contact No :- 9434 331658 / 977 1447176

I Sanjay Kumar Singh S/o Sri Indradeo Prasad Singh General Manager (Mining) joined Rajmahal Area on 6th July 2016 and assumed the charge of Area General Manager of Rajmahal Group of Mines. The area consisted of three mines namely Rajmahal o.c.p; Simlong o.c.p and Hurre C. My primary duty was to look after General administration of the area; Liaisoning with State, central and local authorities; ECL, H.Q. Production and despatch of the area, future planning etc. Sri D.K. Nayak - General Manager is working as agent of Rajmahal o.c.p and Sri Pramod Kumar as ~~Manager~~ ^{Manager} of Rajmahal o.c.p.

The area of Rajmahal o.c.p is 1974 hectre. The mine is being worked in two portions namely REML patch and Dahernangi patch. The REML patch is worked both by departmentally and by out sourcing, where as Dahernangi patch is exclusive worked by M/s MIPL - NKS (JV).

The place where accident took place was being worked by hiring HEMM at present operated by M/s MIPL - NKS (JV) as per the contract awarded to them vide work order No. ECL/HQ/cmc/WO/Dahernangi patch/502 dt. 10.6.2015. The contractors was operating this patch from April 2015 onward. This patch is also known as Dahernangi - 20m patch. The scope of the contract was for extraction of 200 L cu.m of o.b and extraction and transportation of 70 L tonne of coal. The executed quantity against this work order upto 31st Dec'2016 was 14.71 M. cu.m ob and 3.31 M Tonne

Sanjay
Kumar
GM, Rajmahal

Ubb
12/1/2017 Contd - 2

of coal (approx).

On the northern side of Dahunangi patch i.e. Rise side there was a huge old consolidated dump lying. Sufficient working space on the Rise side about 200m. was available for working Dahunangi 20m patch. However with the progress of workings in Dahunangi 20m patch this space would have been insufficient for proper benching. Thus a contract to rehandle the consolidated O.B. in the tune of 13.44 L. cu.m was awarded to M/S MIPL vide work order no. EEL/HQ/cme/NO/RJML 13.44 L. cu.m/864 dt. 27.9.2016. The letter of acceptance was issued to them on letter no. EEL/HQ/cme/LOA/RJML 13.44 L. cu.m/718 dt. 5.8.2016. Thus the work of rehandling was going on. ~~It~~ It was reported to me on 9.8.2016 that few cracks had developed in the consolidated O.B. dump. I inspected the place/site along with concerned officials and observed some cut marks as a result of heavy rain and due to this there was slight movement of O.B. dump at that point. An area of 100m. long and 0.25m. wide was subsided. However there was no collapse of side or bench. This matter was reported to EEL; HQ. A team of EEL; HQ inspected this place on 24.8.2016 and 25.8.2016 and called for some plans from colliery to ascertain the facts. consequent upon my inspection dt. 9.8.2016, it was decided that further rehandling will be required to make the area more safe for future workings. Thereafter, a proposal to rehandle another 17.0 L. cu.m of O.B. was prepared and moved. Concern officials were instructed to make proper benches and monitor the place for further movement if any detected. As stated above, HQ team after their inspection on 24.8.2016 also suggested similar benching as was going on.

In the mean time work at 20 million cu.m patch was carried out which was about 300m. away from the place where cracks were observed in O.B. rehandling. Coal extraction was done in Aunt Zone and place was away from rehandling area. This place was about 200m. away from F8 fault and was on the dip side of F8 fault.

Sd/-
M. Rajmeh
12/11/16

Ubb
12/11/2017 cont-3 → (3)

The proposal for rehandling 17.01 cu.m O.B rehandling was approved on 30.11.2016 by ECL board and the same contractor namely M/S. MPL-NKAS(JV) was asked to do the job. The work of 17.01 cu.m O.B rehandling started on 04.12.2016 since the previous contract of 13.44 L cu.m rehandling got expired. The O.B rehandling and coal removal was limited upto Sump area and interband in this seam.

On 29.12.2016, I received a message at about 8.00 P.M. from manager Raimahal O.E.P. regarding sliding of O.B benches at Dahernangi 20m patch. Information was then given by me to D.T (OP) and D.T (PLP); State administration, including D.C. Gode and to S.P. Gode and to D.G.M.s also.

Thereafter, I visited the site of accident ^{at} about 11.00 P.M. in the company of mine manager. I made arrangement for lighting at the place since all lights got off due to land slide. Rescue and recovery operation started at about 11.30 P.M. with the help of departmental equipment. The operation of rescue & recovery was done under my supervision. Senior officials of ECL, H.Q. arrived at the accident site at about 2.00 A.M. and started supervising rescue and recovery job. Rescue team from MRS, Sitarampur also arrived to the site of accident by 5.00 A.M.

Contractual excavators were also deployed in search operation. Some of the entrapped equipments could be seen by 6.30 A.M.

I left the place of rescue & recovery when rescue team from Sitarampur arrived, also with the expectation of violence.

Further, it was initially reported to me that as many as 31 persons of contractors were working on that shift and eight could be located alive and as many as 23 persons were feared to be entrapped in the slide O.B. All departmental workers were located alive.

I have read the above
statement and understood
and do accept it.

Recorded by me

Ulab

12/1/2017

DDG (E2).

Signature of
Mr. Raimahal
M.L.S.

Supplementary Statement of Sri S.K. Singh - G.M.; Rajmahal Area

Q:- What is the cause of accident?

A:- Sri Sanjay Kumar Singh said that the failure seems to be unprecedented which needs further investigation but prima facie it seems that solid benches in situ have failed. Further, it may be due to geological disturbances unseen reacting with F8 fault which was indicated in plan.

Q:- What precautions you have taken while working near F8 fault?

A:- It was ~~insufficient~~ ^{sufficient} that adequate ~~work~~ barrier is left against the fault by the agent and manager as per the requirement of Statute.

Q:- What was that value or thickness of barrier?

A:- It was more than 100m. as per plan available to me.

Q:- Have you ever ensured this value or thickness of barrier?

A:- There was no obvious reason as per Statute or permission to be specific in this regard.

Q:- Whether any danger was apprehended by

A:- No danger was apprehended for the workings before 29.12.2016.

Q:- When did you visit the site last?

A:- I have visited the site on 26.12.2016.

Q:- What was your observations?

A:- There was nothing unusual ^{by} and as observed ^{by} me.

S. K. Singh
G.M., Rajmahal

Utkal 25/12/2017 Contd → P2

Supplementary Statement of Sri S.K. Singh - G.M. (I/c) was discontinued due to his mother's demise on 12.1.2017. Recording further done on 25.1.2017. Utkal 25/12/2017

and work of O.b. re handling was going on.

Q:- Have you submitted any report in writing?

A:- No and as such it is not required.

Q:- Contractor's said that from 3rd shift of 23.12.2016 to 27.12.2016 they have stopped O.b. production. Was this fact known to you?

A:- I was on leave ^{from} 22.12.2016 to 24.12.2016 and deployment of men and machines were being looked after by Agent and manager.

Q:- What is your mobile telephone no.?

A:- 9771447176.

Q:- Did you receive any message of land slide/dump slide in your mobile no. from contractor?

A:- Yes I have received and I confirmed it from manager and agent who said that it is in the O.b. re handling area. They said all precautions have been taken in O.b. dump.

Q:- Did you inspect the site after getting message of dump slide.

A:- I have inspected the site along with CMO & D.T-etc on 26.12.2016.

Q:- Whom do you think responsible for this accident?

A:- Accident is a unprecedented matter and to blame somebody will be premature.

Seenu
Verma
Gen. Manager

Ulab
25/12/2016
DDG (E2)
contd → 3

Q:- Why You still not be held responsible for the accident being deemed Agent of the mine.

A:- I have performed all my duties and responsibilities as deemed agent as the accident is unprecedented. I do not ^{hold} myself responsible.

Q:- Why ^{monitoring of} strata movement in O.B. dump was being done?

A:- It was being done by the colliery officials in order to carry out operations in safe manner and to predict any major slide.

Q:- Are You not colliery authority?

A:- Yes, I am the head of area.

Q:- Do You have knowledge on strata movement/side collapse which occurred on 9-8-2016? Had BCL, HA team visited the patch thereafter.

A:- Yes. The side collapse was caused due to heavy rain fall. A team from BCL, HA also visited the patch on 24 and 25th Aug 2016.

Q:- Did You receive any recommendations of the committee about their observation made during inspection on 24/25.08.2016.

A:- A letter from G.M (PRP) was received by me asking for some details which was arranged.

Q:- What was the recommendation of the committee.

A:- This was not received by me. However further action was initiated by HA on recommendations.

seam
201/10
um, Rajasthan A&S

Web 25/11/2017
Doc (62)
P-4

Q:- What was that further action?

A:- A contract to rehandle 17.0 L. cu.m o.b dust was awarded in order to reduce the load in the insitu benches and to bring down the Slope angle so that when the working patch approached this area safe working condition shall exist.

Q:- Had Mr. D. Ram - Surveyor of Raimahal o.c.p by noting Sheet No. ECL/RJML/COZ/030 dt. 31.10.2016 brought to your knowledge about danger at Dahumarsi patch and rehandling of o.b dust. He also stated that sliding was taking place frequently.

A:- Yes, a noting sheet was initiated by him where it was stated that in order to safely export coal from Dahumarsi patch in future o.b rehandling is required to maintain safe slope else the coal will be lost. I fully agree with Sri D. Ram - Surveyor of Raimahal o.c.p that rehandling of 17.0 L. cu.m was must for safe operation to prevent further slide.

Q:- Have you reported the bench slide on 9.8.2016 to DGMS as a case of dangerous occurrence.

A:- This report is given by Agent and manager. I have no knowledge of it.

Q:- Who allowed dumping of o.b over in situ o.b having coal seam beneath in dip mining zone.

A:- It was being done since long and upto 2014.

Q:- Why sincere measures were not taken to acquire land on South side of mine having huge property?

A:- All sincere efforts are being made regarding land acquisition. This matter has been raised on PMG portal.

Scanned by Uda 25/11/2017 contd. → ⑤
2017/11/25 Uda, Rajmahal Area
DG (23)

Q. Why rehandling of O.B, excavation in in situ O.B and excavation in coal was being done simultaneously in close proximity.

A. Excavation in in situ O.B and coal was being done at a distance which was at least 300m. from place where rehandling O.B was being done. Excavation was done to create a dump and to take out a drill which was extracted six months back.

Q. What was the ^{minimum} distance between O.B rehandling face and in situ O.B face on 29.12.2016

A:- It would be about 250m.

Q:- In the general permission one of the clause specify that any dump exceeding 30m. in height ~~it~~ shall be kept benched so that no bench exceed 30m. in height where as the height of dump at Dahernandi patch was about 60m. Why and what is your comment.

A:- Contracts in two stages one in Aug'2016 and other in 1st week Dec'2016 was given to form benches in O.B dump.

Q:- In the general permission, a condition was imposed to take special care when any geological disturbance exist to prevent danger to work persons. What measures were taken by you while working near F& fault?

A:- All precautionary measures were taken by concern officials in this respect.

I have read the question Recorded by me and answer and have understood Ulab and accept it

25/12/2017
DDG (B2)

201.112
um, Rajmahal Area

Statement of Bhola Nath Shukla, DT(OP), ECL

I, Bhola Nath Shukla, S/o Late Kamta Prasad Shukla, resident of village - Nagwasi, PO-Dugauli, Mirzapur, UP joined Eastern Coalfields Limited as Director (Technical) on 17th August 2016 on transfer from CMPDI, Ranchi. I was appointed as owner of all the mines of Eastern Coalfields Limited (61 UG, 17 OC and 10 mixed mines). Subsequent to joining of Sri AK Singh as Director (Tech/ P&P) and nominated owner of mines of P&P division, I was nominated owner of OP division (30 UG, 10 OC and 5 mixed mines). I am nominated owner of Rajmahal OCP.

On receipt of a letter from GM, Rajmahal dated 21.8.2016 regarding OB dump slide near OB Rehandling working, a committee was constituted dated 23.8.2016 consisting of GM(Safety), Representative from CMC , P&P deptt. and HOD(Survey). The Committee submitted its report on 6th Sep 2016 and recommended to offload OB from the OB dump to make it safe and further study of slope stability of old dump. Detail survey was conducted to calculate the volume to bring it to the safe angle of 36° after duly recommended by GM(Safety), GM(P&P) and GM(CMC), it was approved on 30th Nov 2016.

Being the owner of mines, during meeting, thrust is given on safety issues and if any issue is brought to our knowledge same is addressed. Whenever any violation pointed out by ISO or DGMS or Bipartite safety Committee members and any other agency on any specific safety issue, it is addressed with due importance and necessary instructions to related officials for rectification and compliance. For maintaining safety in mines, it is ensured that sufficient Safety Budget is available for compliance of Statutory provisions in mine. It is also ensured that requisite statutory manpower is posted in all mines. Disciplinary action is taken in case of gross negligence, serious violations etc.

On 26th Nov 2016, I visited Rajmahal OCP and inspected Departmental OB patch, RCML Patch and Dahernangi Patch where machines were deployed to make approach road to rehandle OB dump. GM, Rajmahal requested for getting approval of the Board for offloading the OB to make OB dump safe. In Departmental OB and RCML patch, it was informed by Sri D K Nayak, GM(Operation) that about 7.9 million tonne coal will be exposed by removing about 11 million cum OB and about 3 million tonne coal will remain exposed for next year production.

On 26th Dec 2016, I visited Rajmahal OCP with CMD, ECL where CMD inaugurated a Crusher near RCML Coal handling Plant and inspected coal bench of Dahernangi patch, RCML Patch, Departmental OB Patch. During inspection, nothing unusual was observed or was reported / brought to our knowledge. CMD instructed GM, Rajmahal for expediting Land Acquisition work, CSR work and ensuring safety at all work places. A power point presentation was also made, wherein no threat was reflected.

On 29th Dec 2016 at around 8:15 pm, GM , Rajmahal informed that an incidence has taken place at Dahernangi OB rehandling patch due to OB bench slide and he apprehended that some persons and machines engaged there for Rehandling of OB might have entrapped. I

Signature

instructed GM, Rajmahal to inform DGMS, Dy Commissioner, Godda; Supdt of Police, Godda and make all necessary arrangement for Resue and Recovery of entrapped persons. I instructed GM(Safety), ECL to immediately send Rescue teams to Rajmahal. I informed CMD, ECL about the incidence at Rajmahal over phone.

At about 9 PM, GM, Rajmahal informed that villagers have gathered and started stone pelting on ECL team, Police and CISF has been called to maintain Law and Order. He also informed that since lighting line has been disrupted due to slide, portable lights has to be arranged at the site for rescue operation by making approach roads.

At about 10 PM, I rushed for Rajmahal OCP alongwith Sri A K Singh, Director (Tech/P&P) and we reached site at around 2:30 AM same night. I took stock of the situation and found officials were carrying out jobs related to Rescue operation. Portable lights were there at the site. Team of Doctors and Ambulances were kept ready at site. Meanwhile, Rescue team from Mine Rescue Station, Sitarampur reached the site. Search Operation was going on to find out trapped persons. At around 5:30 AM, Rescue team reached the top of spot and located a body.

At around 6AM villagers started gathering near the site and sensing the grave situation, we came to Experts Hostel and met DC, Godda who was camping there after the incidence and appraised the situation to him and requested to strengthen police force.

On 30th Dec 2016, 11 bodies were receovered alongwith 8 tippers and 3 Excavators. NDRF team with sniffer Dog reached the site in the night. On 31st Dec 2016, 5 more bodies were recovered alongwith 1 Excavator, 1 Tipper and 1 Dozer. A Geophysics team of CMPDI reached on 30th Dec 2016 with Magnetometer to locate machines buried inside and spotted the place. On 1st Jan 2017, 2 more bodies were recovered. On 2nd Jan 2017, sniffer dog was deployed to search whole of debris for any possibility of human body but could not locate any. From 2nd to 4th Jan 2017, Rescue & Recovery work was continued but no further body was found. On 5th Jan 2017, starata movement was observed due to which Rescue operation came to a halt. Till date, 18 no of bodies have been receovered and there is possibility of 5 more.

It has been reported that postmortem of all the 18 recovered bodies have been done at State Government Hospital, Godda and taken to their home town by the relatives for their Last Rites.

One Expert Committee has been formed by Chairman, CIL headed by Sri Shekhar Saran, CMD, CMPDIL, Ranchi and three Technical Experts from different Institutions/ Scientific Organisation. Sri P K Sarkar, Dy. Director General Mines Safety (HQ) visited site on 30th Dec 2016 and instructed for taking advice of Experts regarding stability of dump and to ensure safety of persons in Rescue and Recovery operations alongwith monitoring of cracks and strata movement with proper communication for withdrawal of persons through walky-talky. The Expert Committee members visited the site and gave its recomendadion, same was put up to DMS, who asked for preparation of action plan duly vetted by ISO and Experts.



Accordingly, survey has been conducted for north side dump area for unloading to make it safe, so that rescue & recovery can be conducted there. This detail plan was vetted by ISO and Experts. Further it was observed that there are cracks on western side also, hence, similar exercise for western side is also required. CMPDIL team called for preparation of details. Survey completed on 12th Jan 2017 and after detail action plan is prepared by CMPDIL, the same will be vetted by ISO and Expert Committee for further discussion with DGMS.

Possible cause of accident – It appears that benches below the place where machines were deployed for OB dump rehandling got slid, pulling down the men and machine alongwith it and further sliding of OB dump on the highwall side. Prima-facie, it also appears that solid benches (in-situ) having about 110-150 meter width have failed which is unique in this accident. Normally, upper side benches slides, but in-situ solid lower bench having sufficient width might have been slid down / triggered due to some other forces like horizontal stress etc. in the area. I have requested Expert Committee to find out the horizontal stress in the area. However Expert Committee will find out the real cause of Accident.

Compensation : ECL will pay a compensation of Rs 5 Lakh to the next of kin in addition to workmen compensation ranging from 7.58 lakh to Rs 8.96 lakh and Jharkhand State Government has also declared a compensation of Rs 2 lakh. Rs 16000 has been given to the family member of each deceased for their last rites and a vehicle was provided to family of each deceased to take the body to their home town. Workmen Compensation amount has been deposited to Employee's Compensation Commissioner-cum-Presiding Officer, Labour Court, Deoghar.

Bhola Nath Shukla
24/1/17

(Bhola Nath Shukla)

Director (Technical) Operations/ Nominated Owner
Eastern Coalfields Limited

CROSS EXAMINATION :-

- Q. The contractor has reported that they had started production of O.B from 3rd Shift of 23.12.2016 to 27.12.2016. Do you have anything to say on this account since they have claimed that there was indications of ground and sliding took place.
- A. No. and nobody reported any such thing and when I visited on 26.12.2016 contractor was also present (Mr. Jagesh - of MPEL) but did not report anything regarding slide. We also went to coal face which was lowermost bench. Mr. Jagesh was also present during review meeting and he was asked to say about their difficulties to be sorted out.

Bhola Nath Shukla
24/1/17
DTCOP
BCL

Recorded by me

Urb
24/1/2017
DDG (E2)

Cross examination of Sri B. N. Shukla - D.T (OP):-

Q. What about the status of recovery of other 5 persons buried under the debris and future plan of action.

A. The future action plan for recovery of 5 persons is under process by EMPDI, Asansol and the moment it is accepted by all concerns it will start and put in operation.

Q. Whether the recommendations made by EEL's, HA team/ committee after their visit to Raimahal ocl on 24.8.2016 and 25.8.2016 in connection with O.b dump slide between grid 188925E to 189025E of Dahmanagipatch and appearance of cracks on top of O.b dump.

A. Since I joined EEL as D.T (Tech) on 17.08.2016, I constituted a committee and acted according to their recommendations.

Q. Whether the observations of committee as stated in paragraph No. 8 of Note Sheet/committee report No. EEL/safety/Raimahal O.b dump/135 dt 8.9.2016 which stated that plying of dumps on haul road and deployment of loading machines will be risky if operation extends towards old O.b

A. It must have been followed by the persons who control the operations.

Q. Was slope monitoring i.e. slope movement being done?

A. I was not aware of any slope movement.

Q. Majority of persons adduced evidence that simultaneous operations in inside O.b; coal and handling consolidated O.b ~~near~~ faulted zone has caused this accident.

A. The matter is under study by expert committee and it can be commented upon thereafter.

Recorded by me

Shukla
DT(OP)
B.N.

Wahga
24/11/2017
DSG (EEL)

Statement of Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, CMD, ECL

I, Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, S/o Late J N Mishra took over additional charge of Chairman-cum-Managing Director of ECL on 23rd Nov 2016.

As Chairman of Board of Directors of ECL, I have got overall responsibility of accomplishing the Mission of the company, which reads as under—

‘To produce and market the planned quantity of coal and coal products efficiently and economically in an eco-friendly manner with due regard to safety, quality and conservation’.

Regarding safety, we ensure that there is no shortage of fund for compliance of statutory provisions and also delegate the necessary powers to concerned authorities. It is ensured that posting of requisite statutory personnel at all the palces is done and we thrust upon to ensure Safety at work places for which we have ISO (Internal Safety Organisation), Safety Committee, Bipartite Safety committee and Tripartite Safety Committee.

During my 1st visit to Rajmahal Area on 26th Dec 2016 after taking additional charge of CMD, ECL, I inaugurated one crusher near CHP of RCML and visited the mine. During my visit neither any untoward happening was observed nor something of that sort was reported / brought to my knowledge. I instructed GM, Rajmahal for expediting Land Acquisition work, CSR work and ensuring safety at all work places. After the mine visit, a power point presentation was also made, wherein no threat was reflected.

On receiving the information from Director (Tech) Operations regarding accident at Rajmahal in the evening of 29th Dec 2016, I immediately informed Chairman, CIL & Ministry of Coal. I instructed Director (Technical) Operations and Director (Technical) Project & Planning, ECL for making all necessary arrangements for Rescue and Recovery operations and asked them to rush to the spot. I was at Nagpur when I got the information and rushed to Rajmahal on 30th Dec 2016 via Bhagalpur. I took the stock of Rescue, Recovery, Law & order situation. I also instructed Director (Personnel), ECL to get completed the formalities regarding payment of compensation etc.

It has been reported that 18 no of bodies have been recovered and there is possibility of 5 more. So far equipment are concerned, 12 Tippers, 5 Excavators and 1 dozer of contractor have been reported to be lost. About 2 million Cu.m. of mass has been slided. For recovery of 5 possible bodies, as per directive of DGMS, survey has been conducted, action plan is under process by CMPDIL team which will be vetted by ISO, Expert Committee and accepted by DGMS. This action plan will be put into operation to recover 5 possible bodies.

It has been reported that postmortem of all the 18 recovered bodies were done at State Hospital Godda and taken to their home town by the relatives for their last rites.


Workmen Compensation amount ranging from 7.58 lakh to Rs 8.96 lakh has been deposited to Employee's Compensation Commissioner-cum-Presiding Officer, Labour Court, Deoghar. ECL will pay a compensation of Rs 5 Lakh to the next of kin in addition to workmen compensation and Jharkhand State Government has also declared a compensation of Rs 2 lakh.

Help from District administration, Local authorities were provided and also 3 batallion of NDRF were engaged in Rescue & Recovery work with ECL team.

I continued to stay at Rajmahal till 2nd Jan 2017, monitoring the situation and returned back to ECL HQ on 2nd Jan night.

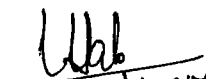
A High Power Committee has been constituted by Chairman, CIL under Chairmanship of Sri Shekar Saran, CMD CMPDI/ DT CIL consisting of experts in the field of Slope Stability from Scientific / Academic Institutions. The committee has been assigned the job of finding out the cause of such mishap and also to receomend preventive measures for avoiding such occurance in future. The recommendation given by the Committee shall be implemented.

Inquiry is going on by DGMS as well as ISO Officials besides the Expert Committee. Action will be taken in accordance with the findings of enquiry report.



Rajiv Ranjan Mishra
Chairman-cum- Managing Director
Eastern Coalfields Limited

Received on 30/1/2017 through DAK


30/1/2017
DDG (B2).