WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT AND EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

17.1 The total strength of Ministry of Coal is 145 as on 31.01.2013. Out of which 20 employees (i.e. about 14%) are women. Out of these 20 employees, 6 are gazetted officers.

17.2 COAL INDIA LIMITED

17.2.1 Coal India Limited provides employment to around 27944 women (31.12.2012). This constitutes about 7.46% of total manpower. The number of women executives is around 607 and skilled/monthly rated women employees are 6107, the rest belong to unskilled/daily rated category. One of the reasons for low ratio of women as compared to men in Coal India is the nature of the profession itself. Coal mining by its intrinsic nature is an arduous and hazardous profession. Moreover there is a regulation preventing women employees from entering the underground mines. Most of the women executives are in administrative disciplines like personnel, finance, etc.

17.2.2 Forum of Women in Public Sector (WIPS)

With the intention of pursuing the objectives of Directive Principle of State Policy, the Forum of Women in Public Sector (WIPS) was formed.

A forum of Women in Public Sector (WIPS) was established on 12th February 1990 under the aegis of Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE). The idea of “WIPS” was conceived when the Bureau of Public Enterprises in collaboration with SCOPE organized a National Convention of women in Public Sector in October 1989, in New Delhi with a view to analyze the problems of women in the Indian context. At this convention, it was decided to create a national network, a support system that would help women employees to harness their full potential and to enhance their contribution in the national development process in general and public enterprises in particular.

This forum operates at a National level through its Central apex body at New Delhi and function through four regional centers at Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and New Delhi. Aims and objectives of this forum are:

To promote growth and development of women in Public Sector.
To assist the Public Undertaking in organizing the full potential in women employees.

To play a catalytic role in improving the status of women in and around Public Undertakings.

With a view to have a well coordinated action at enterprise/regional units and an effective network with the regional chapters and Apex Body, WIPS Cells are set up in each enterprise headed by co-ordinators nominated by respective enterprise. The co-ordinator of each cell keeps liaison with the respective region and apprises them of the activities to mobilize public sector units to become members of the forum, as also to encourage lady employees of their units to create WIPS Cells. The forum celebrates WIPS Day every year in February by organizing a National Meet, which is attended by delegates from all over India, nominated by their respective companies.

In Coal India Limited there is a Forum for Women in Public Sector Cell at Company Headquarter- Kolkata and five subsidiary companies viz. ECL, BCCL, CCL, SECL & CMPDI. Each WIPS Cell is headed by a Coordinator who plans and executes the various activities of the Forum with the help of a duly appointed Executive Committee. The company extends active support to the various activities of WIPS comprising of welfare activities, training & development activities, seminars, cultural programmes, industrial awareness visits, health awareness programme etc for the WIPS members, women workers, their families and society at large.

Coal India Ltd and its subsidiary companies are extending full fledged support and patronage to the National Conference of Forum of WIPS held every year in February at predetermined locations by sponsorship of the event, nomination of maximum number of delegates and also by competing for the BEST ENTERPRISE award. As a matter of fact, in previous years SECL, ECL & BCCL have won the coveted award for outstanding women oriented/gender friendly activities. In recent years the WIPS cell have done commendable work in reaching out to the grass root level women employees, empowering them by suggesting gainful redeployment, training and uplifting their morale by recognizing
outstanding achievement, recognizing and honoring the exceptional talent.

Activities of WIPS, CIL (Hqrs.) during 2012-13

1) Two days Seminars on “Discipline and Disciplinary Proceeding” was held on 23rd and 24th May 2012 at Conference Hall of Coal Bhawan.

About 90 Women employees attended the programme and were enlightened up on the various disciplinary issues.

2) A ‘Clean Drive’ was undertaken at Coal Bhawan on 5th June 2012, on the occasion of World Environment Day, when the Sites were supervised by WIPS Members and special cleaning of the Office premises, since a clean Environment is the abode of a Healthy Body and mind.

3) The Annual Seminar of WIPS CIL(Hqrs.) was held at Bengal Chamber of Commerce on 4th July 2012 where about 150 Women employees from CIL(Hqrs.), Desk Offices at Kolkata and subsidiaries of CIL participated. Women employees doing exceptional job, in unconventional fields at subsidiaries were felicitated at the Seminar.

Eminent Oncologists deliberated on Awareness of cervical and Breast Cancer in Women. There was a lecture on stress management by Professor IISWBM.

4) A Coordinator’s Meet was held on 5th July 2012 at Conference Hall, Coal Bhawan. WIPS coordinators from Subsidiaries and Office Bearers of WIPS, Eastern Chapter, discussed about their activities and shared their views on different issues relating to working women.

5) On 27th August 2012 members of WIPS reached a remote village of South 24-Prgrs. Located at Namkhana to distribute study materials consisting of Dictionary, Pen, Pencil, Colour Crayons, School Bag etc to about 204 underprivileged children of Shibrampur Basic School.

A Health Camp was also organized to provide Free Health Care Facility to the villagers.

6) Before Durgapuja i.e. on 16th October 2012, the WIPS members of CIL(Hq.) gifted a smile to the 50 children of ‘Pratyush’, at Kazipara, Barasat by presenting new Clothes to each one of them.

7) A Debate Competition was held at Conference Hall of Coal Bhawan on 17th Oct. 2012. The topic was – Younger Generation is more worldly
wise than Elder generation. Both junior and Senior WIPS members enthusiastically participated in the debate.

8) To Commemorate Children’s’ Day, the WIPS members of CIL (Hq.) supported the underprivileged children of Satyananda Vidyaniketan, Baruipur, by presenting them with School Bags, Exercise Books, Drawing Copy, Pencil, Pen and Dry Food. About 240 students were benefited by this programme held on 21st November 2012.

9) An ‘Industrial Awareness Visit’ was organized on 1st December 2012 at Durgapur Steel Plant. About 40 WIPS members visited the premises of DSP and gathered knowledge about the construction of various steel items, including wheels of Super-fast Train, from the stage of the raw materials to the ultimate finished product.

10) “She has raised her bar” – was the title of the Regional Meet of Eastern Chapter of WIPS, held at ECCL, Dhanbad on 8th Dec. 2012. Five WIPS members of CIL (Hqrs.) actively participated at the above meet.

11) 7 WIPS Members from CIL (Hqrs.) will take part in the National Meet of WIPS to be held at New Delhi on 12th & 13th February 2013, and share their views with the WIPS members from all over India, including other Public Sector.

17.2.3 Welfare Schemes for Women

The Mines Crèche Rules 1946 aim at providing healthy growth and welfare of children of women employees. There are provisions for special care and protection of children up to the age of six years. The Mines Act and the Mines Crèches Rules prescribe detailed norm of women employees, number of staff, well-ventilated rooms as per specification given, toilets, medical facilities and medical check-up of children, proper drinking water facilities and proper diet for children. Special emphasis has been given on cleanliness to safeguard the health of the children.

The provisions of Maternity Benefit Act and Equal Remuneration Act are being implemented benefiting the women employees of the Company.

17.2.4 Training

A major thrust of the CIL and its subsidiary companies is on the skill up-gradation of female employees. Female employees are given training on jobs like

i. Shovel/Dumper/Excavation/
Pay loader operation

ii. Haulage/Fan/Pump operation

iii. Lathe machine/Moulder/Driller

iv. Switch Board Attendant

v. Armature winding

vi. Security

17.2.5 Others Welfare Measures

a) Female employees are also employed on other jobs, as para-medical staff, doctors, computer professionals, security personnel etc.

b) CIL has established nurses training institutes where training is imparted to the trainee nurses to find opportunity in or around the industry.

c) Mahila Mondals, Mahila Samity and other such forums are working in different units/establishments and coalfield areas to look after the Welfare of female employees and female spouses/female dependents. They organise symposiums, seminars, training programmes and cultural activities from time to time for women.

d) Women employees take active part in the sports events organised by CIL. Ms.Sumita Laha, has won laurels for the country in power lifting in various international meets.

e) As per the Wage Agreement, female dependant of the employee who dies while in service is provided with employment or monetary compensation.

f) Based on the guidelines of National Commission for Women and Government of India a Women’s Cell has been constituted to look into the complaints of women employees against discrimination and sexual harassment.

g) In accordance with the judgment by the Hon’ble Supreme Court in the case of Vishakha and others – vs- State of Rajasthan, CIL and its subsidiaries have made amendment in the service rules/standing orders of employees.

17.3 NEYVELI LIGNITE CORPORATION

17.3.1 Women Employees on Rolls
Total number of women employees on rolls as on 31.12.2012 in NLC is 1315 including 291 executives.

**17.3.2 Action on guidelines by National Commission for women**

A Committee consisting of senior women executives including a Doctor was formed to protect women employees from sexual harassment in work place.

For the benefit of the working women employees “Anbalaya” a well-equipped Creche with trained personnel is in operation.

**17.3.3 Training & Development Activities for Women Employees**

The NLC chapter of WIP’s has organized and conducted several sports, cultural, group discussions for the benefit of women employees.

Women employees’ grievances are redressed by way of skilful counseling.

**17.3.4 Scheme Death Relief Fund**

Out of this scheme 62 dependent of deceased employees got the financial assistance of totaling ₹5.28 crore

**17.3.5 Family Relief**

The family relief is paid to around 25 dependants every year, and the financial outgo on account of the scheme works out to around ₹1.69 lakhs.

**17.4 SINGRANI COLLIARIES COMPANY LIMITED**

**17.4.1 Women Employees Strength:**

As on 31.12.2012, the strength of women employees in SCCL is 2227 out of 65,223 on roll.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eleven Areas of SCCL</th>
<th>1836</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corporate &amp; Hyderabad Offices</td>
<td>391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2227</strong></td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>In Executive cadre</th>
<th>89</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-Executive</td>
<td>2138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2227</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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17.4.2 Welfare Scheme:

a) The provisions of Maternity Benefit Act are being implemented benefiting the Women employees of the Company. Under this Act, Women employees are sanctioned Maternity Benefit Leave.

b) In all the Areas, Women’s Cells have been constituted with the women employees for effective function and to redress problems of women employees relating to their employment in writing to the Convener of Women’s Cell concerned. The Convener of the Women’s Cell of the Area concerned conducts regular meetings with the Committee members for redressal of the grievances of the women employees.

Corporate Women’s Cell have been conducting quiz, cultural programmes etc. in connection with the International Day celebrations of Women on 8th March every year.

c) In order to create awareness about the company as well as of the outside world among workmen and their families about savings habit, health & hygiene, literacy, children’s education, safety, post retirement planning etc, an association called “Singareni Employees Wives Association” (SEWA) has been constituted in all the Areas with the active participation of the Wives of employees.

d) Every year Quiz programmes and elocution competitions are conducted for women employees, spouses of employees and children of employees in each Area and mementos are presented on the occasion of International Day for Women.

17.4.3 Special Development Programmes:

During 2012-13 (April 2012 to Dec. 2012) 475 family planning operations were conducted in SCCL Company hospitals.

This is in addition to the incentive amount given by the Government of Andhra Pradesh

SCCL has been providing educational facilities to the children of its employees.
The following educational institutions are being run by SCCL:

Degree College (only girls) – 01 No.
Junior College (only girls) – 01 No.
Polytechnic College – 01 No.
High Schools & Upper Primary Schools – 11 Nos.

Every year merit scholarships of ₹ 10,000/- per year per student are being sanctioned in the event of the children of SCCL employees getting admission in Engineering and Medical courses with a rank below 2000 in the EAMCET / IIT / AIEEE(NIT) etc.

Financial assistance of ₹ 4000/- to 12000/- is being sanctioned to the children of SCCL employees who qualify for UPSC main exams.

Vocational training is being imparted to the children of SCCL employees and ex-employees by Singareni Seva Samithi (SSS) to make them self employable.

At SRKM College of Nursing, Mancherial, 50% of management quota seats are reserved for admission in B.Sc. Nursing Course for the children of SCCL employees from the year 2008-09.

SCCL has launched a massive literacy programme for its illiterate workmen and their spouses.

Sports and games are being conducted for women employees and wives of employees during the annual day celebrations i.e., 23rd December every year in all the Areas of SCCL.