

METALS & MINERALS

NEWSLETTER

**Vol 2 No 2**

Welcome to the second edition of our newsletter for the M&M community! Apart from sharing major updates, achievements, and activities from this sector across the world, we invite all members to share news updates from their own companies for it regularly.

Important Update**56 mineral blocks, 11 exploration licence blocks auctioned**

India's push to secure critical minerals essential for clean energy, electric mobility and advanced manufacturing has gained significant momentum, with the Ministry of Mines successfully auctioning 56 critical and strategic mineral blocks and 11 Exploration Licence (EL) blocks under various auction tranches.

The latest milestone comes with the successful completion of the seventh tranche of critical and strategic mineral block auctions, in which 10 mineral blocks were awarded. With this, the total number of critical and strategic mineral blocks successfully auctioned by the Centre has risen to 56 out of 88 unique blocks offered so far, reflecting a success rate of more than 63 per cent.

Details on page 9

Strengthening India's Critical Minerals Ecosystem: PHDCCI Holds First Meeting of Sub-Committee

PHDCCI convened the first virtual meeting of its Sub-Committee on Critical Minerals on 27 May 2026, bringing together industry experts, policy makers, consultants, and stakeholders from across the critical minerals value chain to deliberate on India's resource security and strategic priorities.

Members stressed the need to develop the complete critical minerals value chain — from exploration and mining to beneficiation, refining, manufacturing, recycling, and strategic reserves. Key challenges identified included limited exploration, inadequate processing infrastructure, technology dependence, and the need for stronger downstream manufacturing and recycling ecosystems.

The Sub-Committee identified seven priority areas for future action, including resource mapping, demand forecasting, rare earth processing, urban mining, technology development, strategic stockpiling, and skill development.



Mr. Vijay Sharma

Chair, Metals & Minerals Committee,
PHDCCI & Director- Corporate Affairs,
Jindal Stainless

An industry veteran with over four decades of experience across verticals in stainless steel industry, Mr Vijay Sharma is passionate about making India corrosion-free. In this free-wheeling interview with the M&M Team of PHDCCI, he shares his vision on the road-map to a Viksit Bharat and sustainability. Excerpts from the interview:

Q. India is witnessing rapid growth in infrastructure, renewable energy, and manufacturing. How do you see the role of the stainless steel industry in supporting India's vision of becoming a developed economy by 2047?

India's aspiration of becoming a Viksit Bharat by 2047 is fundamentally about creating infrastructure that endures, manufacturing that is globally competitive, and growth that is sustainable. Stainless steel has a pivotal role to play in each of these dimensions.

Whether it is railways, metro systems, water infrastructure, renewable energy, defence, or advanced manufacturing, India is investing in assets that are expected to perform reliably for decades. In such applications, the choice of material cannot be driven solely by the initial cost; it must be guided by lifecycle value. Stainless steel, with its exceptional durability, corrosion resistance, low maintenance requirements and complete recyclability, offers exactly that advantage.

This assumes even greater significance when studies estimate that corrosion costs India upto 4% of its GDP every year, translating into an economic loss of around USD 125 billion. Investing in corrosion-resistant materials is therefore not merely an engineering decision; it is a sound economic and sustainability imperative.

India is already the world's second-largest consumer of stainless steel, yet our per capita consumption is only about 3.4 kg, compared with the global average of around 6 kg. That gap represents a tremendous opportunity – not just for industry growth, but for building better-quality infrastructure, improving resource efficiency and enhancing national competitiveness.

Ultimately, stainless steel is no longer just a material of construction; it is an enabler of India's long-term development aspirations.

Q. Jindal Stainless has been at the forefront of promoting sustainable and environmentally responsible manufacturing. How do you view the role of stainless steel in India's transition towards a low-carbon and circular economy?

Too often, sustainability is viewed only through the lens of carbon emissions. In reality, it rests on three equally important pillars – people, planet and prosperity – and stainless steel contributes meaningfully to all three.

For people, stainless steel supports healthier lives by enabling safe drinking water, better sanitation, food hygiene and modern healthcare infrastructure.

For the planet, stainless steel is one of the few engineering materials that can be recycled indefinitely without any loss of quality. At Jindal Stainless, a significant proportion of our production is scrap-based through electric arc furnace technology.

CHAIR'S VIEWPOINT Contd...

We are also accelerating renewable energy integration, advancing green hydrogen initiatives, have achieved Zero Waste to Landfill Platinum+ Certification at our Hisar facility, and are committed to reducing our carbon emissions intensity by 50 per cent by FY35.

The third pillar is prosperity. Today, sustainability has become a source of competitive advantage. Customers, investors and global markets increasingly value products with lower carbon footprints, stronger ESG credentials and greater supply chain transparency.

India's transition to a circular economy will require policy support, responsible manufacturing and greater public awareness to move in tandem. We are committed to contributing across all three through sustainable manufacturing practices, industry collaboration through ISSDA, and initiatives that promote wider awareness and adoption of stainless steel.

Ultimately, sustainability is not only about reducing emissions; it is about creating products and infrastructure that last longer, consume fewer resources and deliver greater value throughout their lifecycle.

Q. With increasing emphasis on self-reliance under the 'Make in India' initiative, how can the domestic stainless steel industry contribute to strengthening India's industrial and strategic capabilities?

The true spirit of Make in India lies not only in manufacturing more, but in building domestic capabilities in materials that are strategically important for the nation's future. Stainless steel is one such material.

Achieving genuine self-reliance requires strengthening the entire value chain, from securing critical raw materials such as nickel, chromium and molybdenum, to developing specialised grades, expanding downstream value addition and creating a highly skilled fabrication ecosystem.

At Jindal Stainless, we have successfully developed specialised stainless steel grades for critical applications, demonstrating that Indian manufacturers are fully capable of meeting global quality and performance standards.

Equally important is where stainless steel is used. It is indispensable across defence, nuclear energy, railways, pharmaceuticals, food processing, water infrastructure, process industries and healthcare. Strengthening domestic stainless steel manufacturing therefore directly enhances India's industrial resilience, strategic preparedness and public infrastructure.

Looking ahead, sustained investment in raw material security, technology, research, innovation and skill development – including initiatives such as Stainless Academy – will be essential to building a globally competitive and self-reliant stainless steel ecosystem.

Q. Demand for stainless steel is growing across sectors such as railways, metro projects, renewable energy, hydrogen, and electric mobility. Which emerging sectors do you believe will drive the next phase of growth for the industry?

The sectors you mention will certainly remain important, but I believe the larger story is that India's development priorities are steadily making stainless steel the preferred material wherever durability, safety and lifecycle value matter most.

I see five key growth drivers shaping the next phase of demand.

First is infrastructure and urban development, including railways, metro systems, airports, bridges and smart cities, where long service life and minimal maintenance are becoming increasingly important.

Second is water infrastructure and the blue economy. Programmes such as the Jal Jeevan Mission, wastewater treatment and desalination projects are creating significant opportunities for corrosion-resistant materials that ensure safe and reliable water delivery.

Third is the rapid expansion of renewable energy and the emerging green hydrogen economy, both of which require specialised stainless steel grades capable of operating in demanding environments.

CHAIR'S VIEWPOINT Contd...

Fourth is advanced manufacturing, including defence, aerospace, precision engineering and high-end industrial equipment, where India is steadily moving towards greater technological self-reliance.

Finally, sectors such as kitchenware, food processing, pharmaceuticals, healthcare and electric mobility will continue to drive demand as quality, hygiene and sustainability become increasingly important across manufacturing and public infrastructure.

Together, these sectors reflect a broader shift – from selecting materials based on initial cost to choosing those that deliver superior performance, durability and lifecycle value. That transition will significantly expand the role of stainless steel in India's growth story.

Q. The global supply chain for critical raw materials such as nickel and chromium continues to evolve. How important is resource security for the Indian stainless steel sector, and what measures are needed to ensure long-term competitiveness?

Resource security is one of the most critical strategic priorities for the stainless steel industry. No country can aspire to build a globally competitive stainless steel sector without reliable access to essential raw materials.

India's approach, however, must recognise that chromium and nickel serve distinct but equally critical roles.

Chromium is the defining element that gives stainless steel its corrosion resistance and long service life. Strengthening domestic availability through accelerated exploration and timely auction of chrome ore resources will improve supply security while reducing import dependence.

Nickel, on the other hand, imparts toughness, ductility, weldability, formability and superior corrosion resistance. It is indispensable for the 300 series stainless steel which is widely used in strategic sectors such as oil & gas, petrochemicals, energy, food processing, medical devices, infrastructure, nuclear power, defence and aerospace.

Given India's limited domestic availability, overseas investments, strategic partnerships and long-term resource agreements will remain essential. Our investments in Indonesia, including nickel pig iron production and stainless steel melting capacity, are aligned with this long-term strategy

At the same time, stainless steel scrap deserves far greater policy attention. A well-organised ecosystem for collection, segregation and processing of scrap can simultaneously strengthen resource security, reduce carbon emissions, lower import dependence and reinforce the circular economy.

India's National Critical Mineral Mission is a welcome and forward-looking initiative. We urge the Government to include chromium in it. Going forward, dedicated attention to the specific raw material requirements of the stainless steel sector will be important to fully realise its objectives.

Ultimately, resource security is not merely an industry concern; it is a strategic imperative for India's manufacturing competitiveness and long-term economic resilience.

Q. Digital transformation and Industry 4.0 are reshaping manufacturing worldwide. How is Jindal Stainless leveraging technologies such as artificial intelligence, automation, and data analytics to enhance operational efficiency and sustainability?

Digital transformation is no longer confined to automating individual processes – it is redefining how manufacturing enterprises operate, make decisions and create value. At Jindal Stainless, we see Industry 4.0 as a strategic enabler of operational excellence, customer responsiveness and sustainability.

Through our Smart Factory 4.0 programme, we are integrating artificial intelligence, automation, real-time data analytics and cloud-based platforms across manufacturing, supply chain and commercial operations. This enables faster decision-making, higher process stability and improved product quality.

CHAIR'S VIEWPOINT Contd...

Within our plants, advanced analytics and real-time monitoring help optimise production planning, logistics, maintenance and resource utilisation. Beyond manufacturing, digital platforms provide enhanced customer visibility through personalised dashboards, while automated vendor onboarding, digital procurement and integrated deal management have made our supply chain more agile and efficient.

Digitalisation also strengthens our sustainability agenda. Better visibility of energy, raw material and logistics data enables us to improve resource efficiency, minimise waste and continuously enhance environmental performance.

Ultimately, the manufacturing leaders of tomorrow will be distinguished not only by production capacity but also by digital capability. We are therefore investing in technology and talent with equal commitment to remain future-ready.

Q. Recycling and resource efficiency are becoming increasingly important for the metals industry. How do you see the role of stainless steel scrap recycling in reducing carbon emissions and promoting a circular economy?

Recycling is not merely a sustainability initiative for the stainless steel industry; it is one of its greatest inherent strengths. Stainless steel is among the very few engineering materials that can be recycled repeatedly without any loss of quality or performance, making it a truly circular material.

At Jindal Stainless, over 70 per cent of our production incorporates recycled material, processed through electric arc furnace technology. This significantly reduces dependence on virgin raw materials while lowering energy consumption and carbon emissions.

However, the larger opportunity lies beyond individual manufacturers. India has the potential to build a far more organised ecosystem for collection, segregation, processing and grading of stainless steel scrap. Such an ecosystem would strengthen domestic resource security, improve recycling efficiency, reduce import dependence and support the country's decarbonisation objectives.

As India advances towards a circular economy, stainless steel scrap should increasingly be viewed not as waste, but as a strategic resource that delivers both environmental and economic value.

Q. As global markets increasingly focus on carbon footprints and green products, what opportunities and challenges do you foresee for Indian stainless steel manufacturers in enhancing their international competitiveness?

Global competitiveness is increasingly being shaped by sustainability. Today, customers are evaluating manufacturers not only on product quality and price but also on carbon footprint, resource efficiency and supply chain transparency.

Frameworks such as the EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) clearly indicate that environmental performance is becoming an important determinant of market access. Manufacturers that invest early in cleaner technologies and transparent sustainability practices will be better positioned in global markets.

For Indian stainless steel producers, this transition presents both opportunities and challenges. Companies investing in renewable energy, circular manufacturing and decarbonisation can strengthen their global positioning, while the pace and cost of transition may be particularly demanding for smaller enterprises across the value chain.

At Jindal Stainless, our commitment to Net Zero by 2050, increasing renewable energy adoption and continuous decarbonisation initiatives reflects our belief that sustainability and competitiveness are mutually reinforcing. Looking ahead, success in international ESG markets will increasingly depend on a combination of innovation, responsible manufacturing, transparent ESG practices and the ability to consistently deliver high-value products that meet evolving global expectations.

CHAIR'S VIEWPOINT Contd...

Q. What policy interventions or industry initiatives would you recommend to further strengthen India's stainless-steel ecosystem and accelerate value addition within the country?

The Government has taken several important steps in recent years to strengthen domestic manufacturing through quality standards, Quality Control Orders (QCOs) and initiatives aimed at securing critical raw materials. These measures have laid a strong foundation for the growth of the stainless-steel sector.

The next phase should focus on deepening these reforms through a few targeted interventions. First, rigorous enforcement of BIS standards and QCOs is essential to prevent substandard imports from undermining quality-conscious domestic manufacturers and distorting fair competition.

Second, India needs faster and more effective trade-remedy mechanisms to address dumped and subsidized imports while maintaining a level playing field for responsible domestic industry.

Third, strengthening raw material security through accelerated exploration, overseas resource partnerships and a well-organized stainless steel scrap ecosystem will be critical to long-term competitiveness. Equally important is continued investment in downstream capability through research, innovation, skill development and initiatives such as Stainless Academy, which are helping build a stronger manufacturing ecosystem.

Looking ahead, there is also a compelling case for a dedicated National Stainless-Steel Policy that recognizes stainless steel as a strategic material for India's infrastructure, manufacturing and sustainability ambitions. Complementing this with a National Corrosion Management Policy would encourage lifecycle cost-based decision-making and wider adoption of corrosion-resistant materials in public infrastructure. Together, these measures can help India move beyond volume-led growth towards a globally competitive, innovation-driven and value-added stainless-steel ecosystem.

Q. Looking ahead, what is your vision for Jindal Stainless and the Indian stainless-steel industry over the next decade, particularly in the context of sustainability, innovation, and global leadership?

The coming decade presents a defining opportunity – not only for Jindal Stainless, but for the Indian stainless-steel industry as a whole.

Our priorities are clear. We will continue strengthening our manufacturing capabilities, expanding our portfolio of value-added products, accelerating our journey towards Net Zero, and deepening our presence in high-growth sectors such as clean energy, defense, mobility and advanced manufacturing. Equally important will be continued investment in digital technologies, innovation and people, which together will shape the next phase of industrial leadership.

For the industry, I believe the opportunity extends far beyond increasing production volumes. India has the market, manufacturing capability, entrepreneurial strength and policy momentum to emerge as one of the world's leading centers for high-value stainless steel manufacturing.

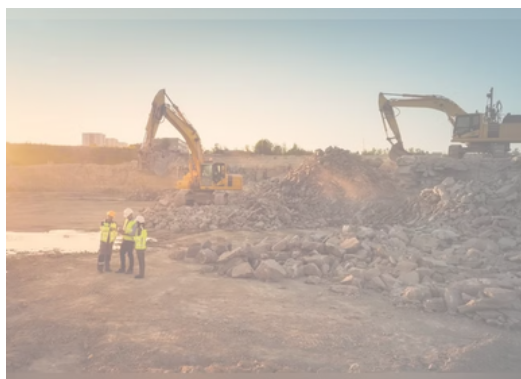
Realizing this vision will require a broader shift in mindset – from focusing on upfront cost to lifecycle value, from replacing assets to preserving them, and from competing primarily on price to competing on quality, innovation and sustainability. A supportive policy framework and a level playing field will be equally important to enable responsible domestic manufacturers to compete fairly against substandard and unfairly traded imports.

NEWS In BRIEF - INDIA

Odisha Mining Corporation plans 1.5 mtpa pellet plant with ₹800 cr outlay

The Odisha Mining Corporation (OMC), a gold-category public-sector undertaking (PSU) under the Odisha government, is planning to set up a 1.5 million tonne per annum (mtpa) pellet manufacturing plant near its Gandhamardan iron ore mines in Keonjhar district, with an estimated investment of ₹800 crore. Unlike private steel and mining companies that generally use high-grade ore or beneficiated concentrates for pellet production, OMC plans to manufacture iron ore pellets primarily from low-grade ore fines and other mineral resources that have so far remained commercially underutilised.

Officials said the proposed pellet plant is part of OMC's broader strategy to move up the mineral value chain while ensuring optimum utilisation of low-grade iron ore, which often remains underused.



Royalty payable at dispatch rate, not contract rate, says Supreme Court

The Supreme Court has held that royalty on minerals is payable at the rate prevailing on the date of their actual dispatch or removal, and not at the rate in force when a contract is executed or payment is made.

The State recovered the differential royalty for ore removed after the amendment by adjusting over Rs 2 crore from the company's security deposit.



NLC India's ₹1 trillion expansion plan takes global route for borrowing



State-owned NLC India plans to raise over ₹1 trillion through a mix of domestic and overseas borrowings over the next four to five years to fund its ₹1.25 trillion expansion programme.

The company has already secured a \$117 million green loan from Germany's KfW (Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau) and is processing green loans from Japanese institutions.

CMD Prasanna Kumar Motupalli recently spoke about NLC's critical mineral strategy, overseas expansion plans, funding road map, proposed NLC India Renewables initial public offering, and mining expansion plans.

Hindustan Copper awards Gujarat project to Lohum

Hindustan Copper Ltd (HCL) has awarded Lohum the rights to restart, upgrade, and maintain the 50,000 tonne-per-annum copper project at Jhagadia, Gujarat, under a 20-year revenue-sharing agreement, potentially extendable by five years. The project aims to produce 99.9997 per cent pure Grade-A copper cathodes, fulfilling India's increasing demand from key sectors such as power, electronics, construction, and electric vehicles.



ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India gets approval for Skilling Initiative Under PM-SETU Scheme



ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India (AM/NS India) has secured the first Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) approval under the Government of India's Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs (PM-SETU) scheme, marking a significant milestone in the rollout of the national vocational training initiative.

AM/NS India has taken a pioneering role as one of the first major Anchor Industry Partners (AIP). Working in collaboration with its academic partner, the New Age Makers' Institute of Technology (Namtech), it is driving the modernisation of Government ITIs in multiple states, including Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh.

It is leading a ₹240.18 crore modernization project over a five-year period for the Surat ITI Cluster using a Hub-and-Spoke model. ITI Surat will serve as the Hub, supporting four Spoke institutes: ITI Surat (Women), ITI Hajira, ITI Bardoli, and ITI Sachin.

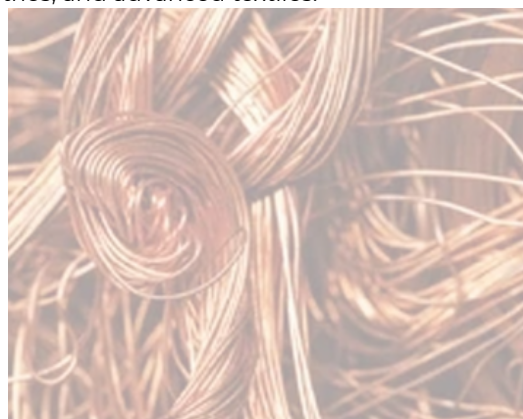
The project aims to benefit over 25,000 youth through training, apprenticeship, and employment pathways while adding 3,528 new training seats.

Curriculum & Tech Upgrades: Upgrading 42 existing trades and introducing 14 new long-term and 20 short-term industry-oriented courses. Focusing on advanced technologies including Industry 4.0, advanced manufacturing, smart manufacturing, automation, process industries, and advanced textiles.

Rise of Indian copper giants

India's copper manufacturers are strengthening industrial growth through rising domestic production and self-reliance initiatives.

India's copper demand rose by 13 per cent to 1,700 kilotonnes in FY24, driven by electric vehicles, smart city projects, and the Atmanirbhar Bharat mission. As industries expand, Indian manufacturers are steadily increasing domestic copper production, helping the country reduce import dependence while supporting key sectors such as power, telecom, transport, and infrastructure.



NEWS In BRIEF - INDIA

Critical minerals, strategic stakes: Inside India's bid to break China's supply chain stranglehold

India and the US have inked a pact to secure critical mineral supplies, bolstering a broader Quad initiative aiming to invest \$20 billion in mining and processing. This move aims to counter China's dominance in rare earths, crucial for clean energy and defense technologies. While India possesses significant reserves, developing its processing capacity remains a key challenge, necessitating international partnerships and sustained investment to achieve strategic self-reliance.



Vedanta group's iron ore mining, steel biz cut 2.5 MT of carbon emissions in five years

Vedanta's iron ore and steel business has significantly cut carbon emissions. Over five years, nearly 2.5 million tonnes of emissions were reduced, avoided, or sequestered. Initiatives include electric vehicles, sustainable logistics, waste heat recovery power, and extensive tree plantation drives. These efforts align with national and global climate goals, showcasing a commitment to a greener future.

Hindustan Zinc plans Rs 50k-crore capex pipeline for next 5 years

Hindustan Zinc will invest ₹40,000-50,000 crore in the next five years. This will double refined metal capacity and ore production. Metal reserves will more than triple. The company has approved new projects costing nearly ₹17,000 crore. This expansion aims to boost production and secure long-term mining operations.

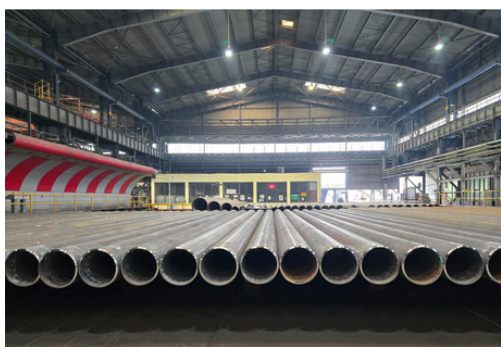
Jindal Stainless facilities in Jajpur and Mundra win British Safety Council awards

Jindal Stainless' Jajpur unit in Odisha received the Distinction Award of British Safety Council, one of the highest levels of recognition under the programme, reflecting the unit's sustained efforts towards strengthening safety systems, fostering a safe work environment, and advancing its goal of zero accidents.

Chromeni Steels Limited, a unit of Jindal Stainless in Mundra, was recognised in the Merit category for demonstrating strong safety practices and commitment towards health, safety, and employee wellbeing across its operations.

STEEL

ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India achieves world-first with API 5L X100 pipes



AM/NS India has become the first steelmaker globally to produce ABS-certified API 5L X100 equivalent welded pipes for offshore applications.

This achievement marks a major advancement in steel engineering, as these highly specialized pipes are designed to withstand extreme marine and offshore environments. The welded pipes have received certification from the American Bureau of Shipping (ABS).

Steel Minister Calls for Faster Adoption of Digital Technologies



Union Steel Minister HD Kumaraswamy has urged the steel industry to accelerate the adoption of advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, industrial IoT, digital twins, robotics, and data analytics to enhance productivity and remain globally competitive.

Speaking at the Chintan Shivir 2026 on Digitalisation in the Steel Sector in New Delhi, the Minister emphasized that the future of the steel industry will depend not only on production capacity but also on intelligent and digitally enabled ecosystems.

Highlighting India's ambitious targets of achieving 300 million tonnes (MT) of steel capacity by 2030 and 400 MT by 2035, he noted that digitalisation will play a crucial role in addressing challenges related to operational efficiency, decarbonisation, modernization, and export competitiveness. He also underscored the importance of automation and predictive maintenance in improving plant safety and reducing downtime.

Steel Secretary Sandeep Poundrik stated that the necessary digital tools are already available, and the industry now needs to integrate and customize them to meet its specific requirements.

STEEL

Govt plans Rs 5,000 crore scheme to promote green technology in steel sector

The Government is planning to introduce a scheme to promote the adoption of clean technologies in steelmaking processes with an outlay of Rs 5,000 crore, according to an official.

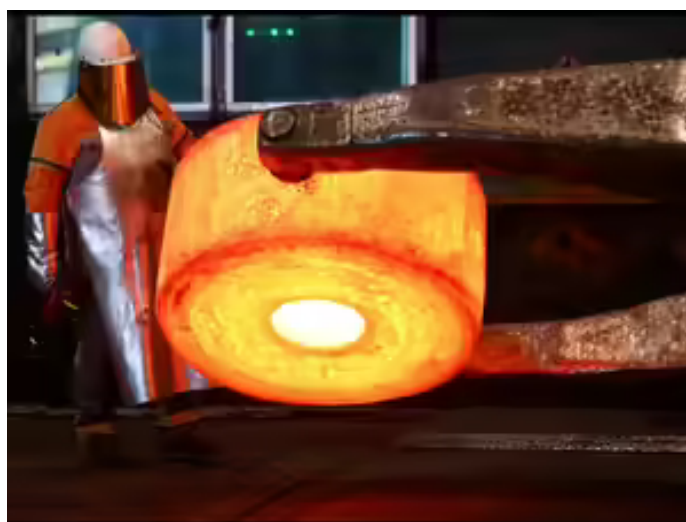
The move is aimed at reducing carbon emissions from the domestic steel industry. The scheme named **National Strategy for Sustainable Secondary Steel** is expected to be **launched in the next three months**, a senior Government official said.

The scheme will cover all steelmakers in the country. However, a major share of the funds will be earmarked for secondary players.

The National Strategy for Sustainable Secondary Steel aims to promote the adoption of clean technologies and alternative materials across various steelmaking processes to reduce carbon emissions from the domestic steel industry.

The move assumes significance as India is a signatory to the Paris Agreement and aims to become a net-zero country.

Steel sector is among the largest carbon-emitting industries. India's steel industry accounts for 10-12 per cent of country's greenhouse gas emissions with an emission intensity of 2.55 tonnes CO₂ per tonne of crude steel, higher than the global average of around 1.9 tonnes Co₂ emissions.



CRITICAL MINERALS

India's critical mineral mission accelerates as 56 mineral blocks, 11 exploration licence blocks successfully auctioned

India has taken another significant step towards securing the raw materials essential for its clean energy transition, electric mobility ambitions, and advanced manufacturing ecosystem. The Ministry of Mines has successfully auctioned 56 critical and strategic mineral blocks along with 11 Exploration Licence (EL) blocks across multiple auction tranches, reinforcing the country's commitment to building a resilient domestic mineral supply chain.

Key Highlights	Details
Total Critical & Strategic Mineral Blocks Auctioned	56 out of 88 blocks offered, achieving a success rate of over 63%.
Latest Achievement	10 mineral blocks awarded under the Seventh Tranche of Critical & Strategic Mineral Block Auctions.
New States Added	Gujarat, Uttarakhand, and Telangana witnessed Central Government auctions for critical minerals for the first time.
Minerals Covered	Graphite, Rare Earth Elements (REEs), Vanadium, Titanium, Glauconite, Rock Phosphate, and associated critical minerals.
Key Sectors Benefited	Electric Vehicles (EVs), Battery Manufacturing, Renewable Energy, Electronics, Semiconductors, Defence, Aerospace, and Advanced Manufacturing.
Exploration Licence (EL) Auctions	11 EL blocks successfully auctioned since the introduction of the EL auction regime.
New EL States	Arunachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Odisha included for the first time.
Strategic Objective	Reduce import dependence and strengthen domestic supply chains for critical minerals.
Policy Alignment	Supports the National Critical Mineral Mission and India's clean energy transition goals.
Industry Response	Strong bidder participation reflects growing confidence in India's transparent and investor-friendly mining sector.

The successful auctions mark a significant milestone in India's efforts to secure critical mineral resources essential for energy security, industrial growth, and technological advancement. Continued reforms and increased private-sector participation are expected to further strengthen the country's mineral ecosystem.



Government to launch scheme to develop critical minerals processing value chain

The Government is operationalizing a ₹1,500-crore incentive scheme to develop the country's critical minerals processing and recycling value chain. Spearheaded by the Ministry of Mines under the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM), it incentivizes actual extraction of 27 critical minerals rather than merely producing intermediate 'black mass'.

The Material Recycling Association of India anticipates a significant rise in e-waste recycling capacity, highlighting recycling as a crucial second pillar for national resource security alongside traditional mining.

It is expected to generate e-waste recycling capacity of approximately 300,000 tonnes annually by 2030, with the potential for significantly higher capacity based on industry interest and investments," the MRAI statement said, quoting Mines Secretary Piyush Goyal.

MRAI President Sanjay Mehta said, "Recycling must become India's second pillar of resource security. Mining alone cannot meet future demand. The second pillar of resource security must be recycling. Urban mines are becoming as important as natural mines."

Mehta also pitched for a centralised nodal authority to address issues in the recycling industry. The Ministry of Mines has completed the eligibility assessment under the Incentive Scheme for Promotion of Critical Mineral Recycling, with 58 companies approved as eligible for participation.

NEWS In BRIEF - GLOBAL

India, Russia deepen rare earth ties amid Quad critical minerals push

India and Russia are joining forces for rare earth extraction and processing. Agreements have been signed for joint research and development. This collaboration aims to produce high-purity metals and compounds. It also includes developing technologies for permanent magnets.



Brazil emerges as major rare earth source for India

Brazil is actively courting foreign investment including from India while pushing to localise the refining and processing value chain. India and Brazil, South America's largest economy, had decided to fast-track collaboration in this sector during President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva's state visit to India in February.

News Round-up

Hindalco expects aluminium to shine bright downstream

Hindalco is one of the largest producers of primary aluminium in India. It has also been investing in downstream capabilities over the last few years, and has outlined a capital expenditure plan of \$5 billion in India for five years, which includes both upstream and downstream projects.

Hindalco eyes ₹1,000 crore as Eternia expands north

Hindalco Industries is accelerating the growth of its engineered aluminium window systems business with the launch of Eternia's flagship experience centre in New Delhi and the expansion of manufacturing capabilities in North India.

Import dependency falls in key sectors despite global shocks: Bank of Baroda

Public sector bank, Bank of Baroda has noted that manufacturing sector is becoming more self-reliant. Import dependence is falling in electricals, chemicals, and capital goods. This trend strengthens domestic production. Policy initiatives like Make in India are driving this shift. The economy is better protected from global supply shocks. Sectors like consumer goods show lower import intensity. Some sectors remain import-dependent and need monitoring.

Rajasthan bets on pre-embedded mineral blocks to boost mining revenue

Rajasthan plans auctions for 10 pre-embedded major mineral blocks this year to accelerate mining activity, jobs and revenue growth.

A warning to critical minerals buyers

Western nations are investing heavily in critical minerals to reduce dependence on China. However, experts warn this could lead to a surplus, similar to past commodity gluts. Governments are providing billions to boost production. While some see potential for oversupply, others believe government stockpiles can balance the market.

India plans to operationalise up to 60 mines in FY27

India is set to launch 50 to 60 new mines this fiscal, building on the 36 operationalized in the previous year. The government is also fast-tracking bids for lithium and nickel processing units within three months. Significant progress is being made in critical mineral extraction and exploration projects, with targets expected to be met ahead of schedule. The private sector is also actively participating in exploration.

Shyam Metalics revenue rises 27 per cent in Q4 FY26

Shyam Metalics and Energy Ltd (SMEL) reported strong financial performance for Q4 FY26, with consolidated revenue of Rs 5,240 crore, a 27 per cent increase year-on-year, and Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation, and Amortization of Rs 756 crore, up by 33 per cent. Profit After Tax rose 42 per cent to Rs 312 crore. For the full year FY26, total revenue reached Rs 18,552 crore, reflecting 22 per cent growth.

Rampura Agucha becomes India's first zinc mark-certified mine

Hindustan Zinc's Rampura Agucha Mine has become India's first Zinc Mark-certified mine, marking a major step for responsible mining in the country. The globally recognised certification confirms that the mine follows strict environmental, social and governance (ESG) standards, while also improving trust among global customers looking for transparent and sustainable supply chains.

News Round-up

Sagar Cements expands Jeerabad capacity to 1.5 MTPA

Sagar Cements (M), a subsidiary of Sagar Cements, has successfully commissioned a new cement grinding capacity of 0.5 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) at its Jeerabad plant in Madhya Pradesh. This expansion increases the Jeerabad facility's total capacity from 1.0 MTPA to 1.5 MTPA, and elevates the overall production capacity of the Sagar Cements Group to 11.0 MTPA.

Hindustan Zinc seals strategic MoU with two firms

Hindustan Zinc has taken a major step towards cleaner mining by signing an MoU with Advantek Associates and Aero Eagle Automobiles to explore green hydrogen solutions. As India's first mining company to assess hydrogen fuel for underground operations, the initiative could reshape how mining reduces emissions in high-energy environments.

Hindustan Zinc launches India's first 250MT electric crane

Hindustan Zinc Ltd has launched India's first 250 Metric Tonne capacity electric crane at its Zinc Smelter in Debari, Rajasthan, marking a significant advance in its decarbonisation efforts. This hybrid crane operates on both diesel and electric power, aligning with the company's sustainability goals. Over the past three years, the company has introduced various clean mobility solutions, including India's first underground battery electric vehicles (BEVs), a large electric bulker fleet in partnership with GreenLine Mobility, and electric buses for employee transit. Additionally, four electric loaders have been deployed at the Rampura Agucha Mine, enhancing the use of electric equipment in its operations.

Technology to be central to Hindustan Zinc's next phase of growth: Chairperson

Hindustan Zinc is pivoting towards becoming a future-ready energy transition company, Chairperson Priya Agarwal Hebbar announced. The firm is significantly investing in technology like AI and automation to boost productivity and safety. Diversifying beyond zinc, the company is exploring critical minerals such as lithium and rare earth elements, essential for the growing electric vehicle market and India's industrial expansion. This strategic shift, dubbed Hindustan Zinc 2.

Metal companies' hot run comes to an end as West Asia cools off

Metal stocks experienced a significant downturn Tuesday, with the Nifty Metal index dropping 3.2% as falling commodity prices, domestic economic slowdown fears, and anticipated US Federal Reserve rate hikes impacted investor confidence. Vedanta led the decline. Analysts suggest a cautious approach, advising a wait-and-watch strategy before re-entering the sector amidst these headwinds.

Vedanta Aluminium Metal to double production capacity to 60 LTPA

Vedanta Aluminium Metal Ltd, now a listed entity, plans to double its production capacity to 60 lakh tonnes per annum. This expansion aims to meet surging demand from infrastructure, automotive, and electrification sectors. With existing facilities in Odisha and Chhattisgarh, and significant captive resources, the company is set to become a global leader in low-cost, high-quality aluminium production, serving over 60 countries.

Corporate giants turn to urban regeneration as redevelopment race intensifies

India's largest corporate houses are focusing more and more on urban regeneration, shifting real estate focus from land acquisition to redevelopment. Giants like Reliance, Adani and JSW are aggressively bidding for projects involving old housing colonies and slum rehabilitation in Mumbai.

Featured Article

Rock rich, magnet poor

India's real rare earth problem

Abhinav Sengupta

Mining Sector Expert

India sits on the world's 5th largest rare earth reserves. Yet every year, it imports almost the entirety of the roughly 900 tonne of rare earth permanent magnets it consumes, from China. That paradox, more than any geological shortfall, defines the most concentrated vulnerability in India's energy transition.

The instinct is to frame this as a mining problem. It is not. The binding constraint sits in the midstream refining, alloying and sintered-magnet manufacturing where China commands close to 90 per cent of global capacity. Beijing's October 2025 export controls, briefly paused after the Busan détente but with the core licensing infrastructure left intact, made the leverage point unmistakable; the chokehold is the refinery, not the mine.

Graphite tells the same story with brutal clarity. India holds an estimated 211.6 million tonne of graphite reserves, yet imports nearly all its battery-grade material not for want of ore, but because it cannot convert flake graphite into spherical purified graphite at the 99.95 per cent purity that battery anodes demand.

The uncomfortable corollary, even if domestic mining doubled tomorrow, the ore would simply travel abroad for refining. New mining licences, without matching midstream capacity, risk becoming stranded assets. If supply were halted, the disruption would follow a predictable sequence. Electric-vehicle traction motors, built on neodymium-iron-boron magnets, would stall first. Manufacturers hold only weeks of inventory.

Direct-drive wind turbines, each needing hundreds of kilograms of magnet material, would follow, threatening 2030 renewable targets. Defence platforms, radar, sonar, guided munitions face the gravest strategic exposure.

India's policy response through 2025 was genuinely dense; a ₹16,300 crore National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) launched in January, a ₹1,500 crore recycling incentive approved in October 2025, and on 26 November 2025 a first of its kind ₹7,280 crore scheme to manufacture sintered rare earth permanent magnets, targeting 6,000 tonne of annual capacity across five units chosen by global competitive bidding.

But the magnet scheme carries a two-year gestation before incentives flow, so commercial output is unlikely before 2027–28. That leaves a multi-year exposure gap, best bridged by a strategic magnet reserve and substitution research into ferrite and rare-earth-free motors for two-and three-wheelers.

Still three tensions remain. Recycling is the only route that bypasses the Chinese midstream entirely, sovereign supply needing no foreign concession. Yet, India's ecosystem is sub-scale and the ₹1,500 crore scheme modest relative to the prize. Further, geopolitics has gone bilateral, with FORGE succeeding the Minerals Security Partnership in February 2026, India's strategic ambiguity preserves optionality but risks irrelevance without financed projects and binding offtake.

And the September 2025 exemption of critical mineral projects from public hearings may shave 12–18 months off clearances, but it exports the cost to tribal communities and the litigation risk to developers. The architecture is in place. What remains is execution within a 24-to-36-month window. India's rare earth security will be decided not at the mine head, but in the refineries, magnet lines and recycling plants that turn rock into capability.

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Decarbonising India's iron ore pellet industry

**Deepak Bhatnagar and
Vijay Dwivedi**

India's steel sector is on a rapid growth trajectory and is expected to play a central role in the country's industrial development and net-zero transition. Recognizing the importance of upstream emissions reduction, Pellet Manufacturers' Association of India (PMAI), in collaboration with The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), undertook a comprehensive study on the decarbonisation of the iron ore pellet manufacturing industry. The study examined the energy and emissions profile of pellet plants, benchmarked industry performance, assessed global best practices, and identified technological and policy interventions required to reduce the carbon footprint of pellet production.

The study highlights that iron ore pellets are not only a value-added product but also a lower-carbon agglomerate compared to sinter. The greenhouse gas (GHG) emission intensity of pellet production in India average of approximately 134 kg CO₂/t pellet. In comparison, sinter production emits 185–246 kg CO₂ per tonne of sinter, demonstrating the environmental advantage of greater pellet utilization in ironmaking.

A detailed assessment of pelletisation technologies reveals significant differences in energy performance. The Straight Travelling Grate (STG) process is the most energy-efficient, with an overall specific energy consumption (SEC) of approximately 0.29 GCal/t pellet and an emission intensity of 127 kg CO₂/t pellet.

The Circular Pelletisation Technology (CPT) records an SEC of 0.34 GCal/t pellet and emissions of 152 kg CO₂/t pellet, while the Grate-Kiln process has the highest SEC of 0.36 GCal/t pellet and emissions of 178 kg CO₂/t pellet. Across the industry, pellet plants consume 0.29–0.36 GCal/t pellet, while beneficiation operations require only 12–22 kWh per tonne of beneficiated ore, with an associated emission intensity of 9–16 kg CO₂/t ore.

The study highlights that pelletisation is a critical link in the steel value chain, particularly as the industry increasingly shifts towards high-quality burden materials for low-emission ironmaking. The analysis identified significant opportunities for reducing emissions through energy-efficient technologies, improved process optimization, greater use of renewable electricity, electrification of thermal processes, adoption of low-carbon fuels, and circular economy practices. The report also emphasizes the importance of resource efficiency through beneficiation of low- and medium-grade iron ore, which can improve ore utilization while reducing waste generation.

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The intervention areas and development stages of key decarbonization technologies for pellet industry are shown in table below.

Intervention area	Commercially available technologies	Commercially available technologies but not at scale	Not yet commercially available
Energy efficiency	· Process automation · Optimization of furnace operation · Energy efficient technologies for electrical auxiliaries	-	-
Switch to low carbon Fuels	-	Natural gas/ CBM as transition fuels	· Pilots for green hydrogen in induration furnace · Pilots for MSW, industrial waste (Organic waste, textiles, papers, pharma, tyres)
Electrification of thermal processes	-	-	Electrification of induration furnace
Switch to green electricity	RE-based captive plants (solar/ wind)	RE – Round the clock (RTC) with energy storage systems	-
Use of mill scale	-	Consistent availability at scale	-
Use of biomass/ biochar	-	Pilots for biomass/ biochar	
Briquetting	-		Pilot plants for iron ore briquetting



Featured Article Contd...

The study also highlights that technological interventions alone will not be sufficient. The transition will require supportive policy measures, incentives for beneficiation and pellet production, expansion of logistics and infrastructure, promotion of pellets in ironmaking, and stronger collaboration among industry, government, and research institutions. The report further notes that challenges such as complex ore mineralogy, water consumption, tailings management, and capital investment requirements must be addressed through coordinated action and long-term planning.

An eye towards the future..

Building on these findings, PMAI and TERI are exploring futuristic technologies on the role of iron ore beneficiation in producing high-grade pellets suitable for hydrogen-based direct reduced iron (H₂-DRI) processes. The study will assess pathways to upgrade India's low-and medium-grade iron ore resources to meet the stringent quality requirements of future green steel technologies.

At the same time, it will examine how enhanced beneficiation can improve domestic resource efficiency, reduce dependence on high-grade ore reserves, and strengthen India's long-term self-sufficiency in iron ore supply for the conventional iron and steel industry. By linking resource beneficiation with the emerging H₂-DRI ecosystem, the initiative aims to support both near-term competitiveness and the long-term decarbonisation of India's steel sector.

Acknowledgements: We acknowledge the TERI team for their valuable technical guidance and coordination throughout the study. We also extend our gratitude to the representative pellet manufacturing units of PMAI for facilitating plant visits and sharing their operational insights.

We also thank all participating industry stakeholders and organizations whose data, expertise, and contributions were instrumental in the successful completion of this study.

Link for the report : <https://teriin.org/files/Technical-Report-on-Decarbonization-of-Iron-Ore-Pellet-Manufacturing-Industry.pdf>



TERI team and the officials of PMAI during site visit to pellet manufacturing units as part of the study

The authors are General Secretary and Deputy Secretary, respectively, at Pellet Manufacturers Association of India

Roundtable of stakeholders

Chintan Research spotlights financing of India's EV transition

India's transition to electric mobility is rapidly evolving from a focus on vehicle adoption to the creation of a robust ecosystem encompassing infrastructure, finance, policy, and technology. Recognising this imperative, the **Chintan Research Foundation** (CRF) organised a Policy Dialogue on **"Financing India's EV Transition: Infrastructure, Capital and Policy Pathways"** on 25 June 2026 at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.

The dialogue brought together senior policymakers, financial institutions, industry leaders, researchers, and infrastructure experts to deliberate on financing strategies and institutional reforms needed to accelerate India's clean mobility ambitions.

In his welcome address, **Dr. Debajit Palit, Centre Head, Centre for Climate Change and Energy Transition, CRF**, highlighted that transport electrification is not only a climate imperative but also a key pillar of India's energy security. He stressed the need for technology-neutral policies, resilient battery supply chains, and integrated financing mechanisms that support vehicles, charging infrastructure, renewable energy, and power distribution.

The first panel discussion focused on **"Building India's EV Infrastructure Ecosystem: Charging, Grid Readiness and Urban Transition."** Experts highlighted that the success of EV adoption depends not merely on increasing the number of charging stations but on ensuring their commercial viability, strategic location, and integration with urban mobility patterns. The discussion also underscored the need for investments in grid modernisation, smart charging technologies, battery manufacturing, recycling, and stronger coordination among transport, urban development, and power sector stakeholders.

The second panel, **"Financing India's EV Transition: Capital Mobilisation, Risk and Regulatory Pathways,"** examined the financing challenges associated with large-scale electrification. Panelists noted that investment requirements extend beyond vehicle financing to charging infrastructure, electricity networks, battery manufacturing, renewable energy integration, and digital platforms. They highlighted the importance of blended finance, credit enhancement mechanisms, risk-sharing facilities, and stable policy frameworks to attract greater private investment while addressing lender concerns over technology, battery life, and residual asset values.

The discussions concluded that achieving India's ambitious electric mobility goals will require an integrated approach combining policy support, infrastructure development, innovative financing, resilient supply chains, and coordinated action among government, industry, financial institutions, and research organisations. The dialogue reinforced that financing and infrastructure are inseparable pillars of India's EV transition and will play a decisive role in building a sustainable, future-ready mobility ecosystem.



Delivering the keynote address, **Mr. Alok Kumar, Director General, All India DISCOMs Association (AIDA) and former Secretary, Ministry of Power**, underscored that affordability, energy security, and sustainability must remain the guiding principles of India's energy transition. He emphasised the importance of policy certainty, commercially viable charging infrastructure, innovative financing models, smart charging systems, and domestic battery manufacturing to build a resilient EV ecosystem.

Project Update

- Jindal Stainless, Government of Haryana renew partnership to boost stainless steel usage.
- UCIL plans uranium recovery project using Hindustan Copper tailings in Jharkhand.
- Vibhor Steel Tubes has approved the formation of a wholly-owned subsidiary to focus on infrastructure steel products.
- Andhra Pradesh CM Naidu to Inaugurate Jonnagiri Gold Mining Project, 24 June 2026
- Adani Group announces ₹1,060+ crore cement grinding unit investment in Madhya Pradesh.
- Navrattan Cement Plans ₹250 crore Punjab facility for green cement manufacturing.
- UltraTech Cement secures major approval as SIPB clears 36 projects worth Rs 1,628.60 crore in Bihar.



Metals, minerals stalwarts laud PHDCCI efforts on raw material securitization

PHDCCI organises conclave on raw material securitization for metals & minerals



The PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) organized the National Conclave on Raw Material Securitization for Metals & Minerals at PHD House, New Delhi on May 14, bringing together industry leaders, policymakers, technology providers, research institutions, and stakeholders from the metals, mining, manufacturing, and recycling sectors.

The conclave focused on the theme of advancing self-reliance, resilience, and resource security amid rising geopolitical conflicts, supply-chain disruptions, and increasing global resource nationalism. Delivering the welcome address, Dr. Ranjeet Mehta, CEO and Secretary General, PHDCCI, stated that raw material security has emerged as a strategic and economic imperative for India amidst rising geopolitical conflicts, supply-chain disruptions, and growing global resource nationalism.

Mr. Vijay Sharma, Chair, Metals & Minerals Committee, PHDCCI and Director, Jindal Stainless Ltd., underscored that India's infrastructure expansion and industrial growth are deeply linked to long-term raw material security and national economic resilience.

He noted that as India advances towards world-class infrastructure development across highways, railways, ports, urban infrastructure, renewable energy, defense manufacturing, and data centers, the demand for steel, stainless steel, critical minerals, and strategic resources is expected to rise significantly.

Events

PHDCCI conclave on raw material securitization for metals & minerals

Speaking in the Opening session, Mr. Sanjay Kumar Singh, IAS (Retd.), Director, Jindal Steel Limited and Former Steel Secretary of India, urged that India must prepare today for the demands of a developed nation by strengthening raw material security, critical mineral access, and industrial self-reliance.

Referring to the steel sector as the backbone of infrastructure and economic development, he noted that India is primarily a consumption-driven steel market with rapidly rising demand and a strong domestic market for steel.

A report giving sectorial overview of steel, aluminum and critical minerals in India was released on this occasion. The report, prepared by PHDCCI in partnership with PwC India, emphasizes that while India possesses significant geological resources, the country continues to face high import dependence on critical minerals such as lithium, cobalt, nickel, copper, and rare earth elements, alongside challenges related to coking coal and midstream processing capacities.

PHDCCI also launched the first edition of its quarterly Newsletter on Metals and Minerals sector on this occasion, highlighting key developments, industry insights, policy perspectives, and emerging trends in the sector.

The session on steel sector was moderated by Dr Pankaj Satija, Executive Vice President, JSW Group and featured distinguished speakers including Mr Alok Sahay, Secretary General & Executive Head, Indian Steel Association; Dr Anil Dhawan, Director General, Alloy Steel Producers Association of India; Mr Gaurab Chowdhury, Vice President, Jindal Stainless and Dr Abhinav Mathur, Advisor, Attero Recycling.

The session on aluminum was steered by Mr Abhinav Sengupta of PwC India. Among the eminent speakers were Mr Vijay Chauhan, Vice President - Mines, Hindalco Industries; Mr Ashim Roy, President, LSI Engineering & Consultants and Mr Ankur Aggarwal, General Secretary, Aluminium Extrusion Manufacturers Association of India.

The session on critical minerals was led by Mr Subhajit Chatterjee, PwC India and featured Dr Sukanya Chakraborti, CTO, Khanij Bidesh India Limited (Kabil); Dr Debajit Palit, Head, Centre for Climate Change & Energy Transition, Chintan Research Foundation; Mr Aditya Menon, Head, Public Policy & Strategy, Vedanta Limited - Sterlite Copper and Dr Tuasha Majumder, Senior Project Manager, Geovale Services.

The recycling session was moderated by Mr Ritesh Maheshwari, Director, Material Recycling Association of India & Executive Director, Shabro International. The speakers included Mr Vivek Prasad, Head – Partnerships & Supply Chain, Tata Steel and Mr Vikrant Singh, Co-Founder & CTO, BatX Energies.

The conclave witnessed participation from more than 150 delegates representing industry, associations, technology companies, institutions, policymakers, metals and mining companies, steel and aluminum industries, power and manufacturing sectors, exploration and mining technology providers, circular economy experts, research institutions, and academia.

The conclave was supported by Jindal Stainless Ltd. as the Stainless Partner, Jindal Steel as the Steel Partner, and Rashmi Group as the Associate Partner.

Partner associations included Indian Institute of Metals (Delhi Chapter); Pellet Manufacturers Association of India (PMAI); Alloy Steel Producers Association of India (ASPA); Indian Stainless Steel Development Association (ISSDA) & Material Recycling Association of India (MRAI).

Events

Call on Meeting with Union Minister for Coal and Mines On 1st May 2026



Mr Vijay Sharma, Chair, Minerals and Metals Committee along with Ms Shalini S Sharma, Assistant Secretary General, PHDCCI, called on Mr G Kishan Reddy, Hon'ble Union Minister for Coal and Mines, Government of India, on 1 May at his residence. They briefed him about the activities of the Minerals and Metals Committee of PHDCCI and invited him to the National Conclave organised by the Committee on "Raw Material Securitisation for Metals & Minerals: खनिज से सुरक्षा तक" on 13 May 2026, at PHD House, New Delhi. The theme of the Conclave was "Advancing Self-Reliance, Resilience & Resource Security". The Conclave deliberated on Raw Material Securitisation for steel, aluminum, critical / rare earth minerals segments and circular metal economy.

PHDCCI Metals & Minerals B2B Desk

With the aim of giving an opportunity to members to explore national and international business opportunities, the Power, RE and Metals & Minerals Committees have set up B2B Meeting Desks. The activities of the Desks will be - organizing sector focused International Business Delegations, B2B meetings for creating new market opportunities, connecting businesses with potential suppliers, distributors, and technology partners across different geographies as also reducing raw material costs and diversifying supply chains. It will also focus on promoting innovations and technology tie-ups.

The first meeting in the series was organised on 5 June 2026 at Jindal Steel Ltd, Gurgaon, between Mr Vikas Nahar, GM (International Business), Jindal Steel Ltd and Mr Mikio Tanuma, Dy MD, Nakagawa Special Steel India which has its headquarter in Tokyo.



Events

PHDCCI @ Ministry of Coal roadshow on coal gasification

Senior members from PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) attended the **Roadshow on the Coal / Lignite Gasification Financial Incentive Scheme**, organised by the Ministry of Coal, Government of India, on **28 May 2026 at Hotel Oberoi, New Delhi**.

The roadshow highlighted the Government's commitment to advancing clean coal technologies through the launch of the Coal/Lignite Gasification Financial Incentive Scheme, which has been introduced with a total outlay of ₹37,500 crore. The initiative is aimed at accelerating the establishment of coal and lignite gasification projects across the country and promoting the efficient utilisation of India's abundant coal resources.

The Scheme seeks to encourage the adoption of advanced gasification technologies, reduce India's dependence on imported feedstock and natural gas, strengthen domestic manufacturing capabilities, and support the production of high-value downstream products such as urea, ammonium nitrate, synthetic natural gas (SNG), methanol, and other value-added chemicals.

During the roadshow, officials from the Ministry of Coal outlined the key features of the Scheme, eligibility criteria, financial assistance mechanisms, and the significant opportunities it presents for industry stakeholders. The initiative is expected to catalyse investments in clean coal technologies, enhance energy security, create new avenues for industrial growth, and contribute to the country's vision of building a self-reliant and sustainable energy ecosystem.

The interactive session also provided a platform for industry participants to engage with policymakers, seek clarifications on the Scheme, and discuss the roadmap for implementation. The event underscored the Government's focus on fostering innovation, promoting cleaner utilisation of domestic coal resources, and strengthening India's industrial competitiveness while supporting sustainable economic development.



Events



Bathinda B2B Marketing Linkage Forum

The Metals & Minerals Committee along with Punjab Chapter of PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, in association with L&T-SuFin and Bathinda Chamber of Commerce and Industry, organised the Bathinda B2B Market Linkage Forum 2026 – Exploring Bathinda as a Sourcing Destination at Hotel Sapphire, Bathinda on 5 August 2026. The forum deliberated on how B2B industrial e-commerce can support entrepreneurs from Punjab by strengthening MSME supply chains across sectors including engineering, electrical and mechanical machinery, metals and alloys, industrial supplies, solar power, building materials, plastics, and packaging.

Mr. Ram Prakash Jindal, President, Bathinda Chamber of Commerce & Industry, in his speech shared insights on ground-level industry issues and emphasized the need for enhanced collaboration between industry associations. He invited SMEs to give their suggestions which could be sent to Government bodies for the growth of SMEs in Bathinda.

In a detailed presentation, Mr Saurabh Natu, Head - Strategy, SuFin Limited, said L&T-SuFin, launched by engineering major Larsen & Toubro, connects MSME buyers and sellers through a digital marketplace hosting 50+ product categories and over 8.5 lakh SKUs linked to infrastructure supply chains—ranging from wires, cables, TMT steel and structural materials to other construction and industrial inputs. The platform operates on a request-for-quotation (RFQ) model, enabling buyers to receive competitive quotes from multiple suppliers, while Trusted sellers carrying the L&T-SuFin Trust seal, integrated payment gateways, and pan-India logistics partnership support secure transactions. Mr Natu said their marketplace also offers working-capital solutions such as invoice discounting and buy-now- Pay -later financing through banks and NBFCs, helping MSMEs manage procurement liquidity. Dedicated buyer and seller mobile applications enable digital sourcing, while private labels Solido and Gravis supply products such as industrial safety equipment, concrete admixtures, wall-care materials and tiles. He noted that such platforms can enhance transparency, price discovery and efficiency in sectors linked to India's infrastructure ecosystem.

Mr Mukesh Jindal , Patron, Bathinda Chamber of Commerce & Industry, spoke about GST issues being faced by SMEs.

Welcoming participants, Punit Chaudhry, Senior Secretary, PHDCCI, talked about the benefits of B2B e-commerce and advised entrepreneurs from Bathinda to utilise this technology to grow their businesses.

Events



Chandigarh B2B Marketing Linkage Forum for Solar Power Sector

The Renewable Energy Committee along with Punjab Chapter of PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, in association with L&T-SuFin, organised the Chandigarh B2B Market Linkage Forum 2026 for Solar Power Sector – Exploring Chandigarh as a Sourcing Destination at PHD House, Chandigarh on 12 August 2026. The forum deliberated on how B2B industrial e-commerce can support entrepreneurs from solar power sector by strengthening MSME supply chains.

Mr. Parv Arora, Convener, Regional Renewable Energy & Power Committee, PHDCCI, in his speech said that e-commerce can become an important enabler of the solar revolution in India. B2B ecommerce digital platforms can improve access to solar panels, inverters, batteries, mounting structures and other components, particularly for smaller businesses. They can also facilitate price discovery, wider market reach, transparent product information, after-sales services and connections between manufacturers, distributors, installers and customers.

In a detailed presentation, Ms Soumya Pathak, Regional Lead - North, SuFin Limited, highlighted how SuFin Limited, a group company of Larsen & Toubro, which is a B2B digital marketplace is enabling businesses to digitally discover, source and transact across a wide range of solar power sector, industrial and construction-related products. She also highlighted L&T-SuFin's focus on supporting the broader industrial ecosystem in solar power sector by combining product discovery, competitive price discovery, financing, logistics and digital transaction capabilities on a single B2B platform. She emphasised that such digital solutions can help MSMEs in solar power sector improve procurement transparency, access a wider supplier base and enhance operational efficiency as they participate in India's growing solarisation. L&T-SuFin's financial solutions for MSMEs in solar sector, through multiple banks and NBFC partners can help businesses manage working capital and procurement liquidity more effectively.

Mr Sukhpal Singh, President, Solar Energy Vendors' Association, stated that B2B e-commerce is significantly important for solar power businesses as it streamlines operations, enhances efficiency, and fosters growth. Mr Parminder Singh, General Secretary, Renewable Energy Members' Welfare Association, said that SMEs in solar power sector should adopt e-commerce and digital procurement platforms to accelerate market growth and improve supply-chain efficiency.

Welcoming participants, Punit Chaudhry, Senior Secretary, PHDCCI, spoke about the services being given by PHDCCI for solving problems of MSMEs in Punjab and various initiatives of PHDCCI like forthcoming Business Delegation to China during 11-17 October 2026 for companies in solar power sector and electric vehicles. He also talked about the benefits of B2B e-commerce and advised entrepreneurs to utilise this technology to grow their businesses.

Mr Naveen Chaudhary, Resident Manager, PHDCCI, coordinated the program in Chandigarh. 80 entrepreneurs exclusively from solar power sector from all over Punjab participated in the Session.

Up coming Events



**RENEWABLE ENERGY & EV SECTOR
BUSINESS DELEGATION TO
CHINA
(CANTON FAIR - AUTUMN EDITION)**

Dates: 11th - 17th October 2026



Shenzhen Dongguan Guangzhou

Engage • Partner • Innovate • Unlock Global Business Opportunities

Core Industry Segments

Energy Storage | Battery Energy Systems | Clean Technology
Wind Energy | EV Charging Infrastructure | Smart Mobility Solutions | Green Hydrogen |
Waste Management | Recycling Technologies | Power Electronics | Solar Inverters

Translation assistance will be provided to ensure a smooth experience for all delegates

FOR MORE DETAILS, PLEASE CONTACT:

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PHDCCI invites industry leaders and senior representatives from the renewable energy, energy storage and electric vehicle ecosystem to join its second Business Delegation to China from 11–17 October 2026 ending with a visit to the Canton Fair (Autumn Edition).

The upcoming delegation will cover key industrial and innovation hubs in China, including Shenzhen, Dongguan and Guangzhou, providing participants with valuable exposure to advanced manufacturing ecosystems, emerging technologies, strategic collaborations and business opportunities in the renewable energy and electric vehicle sectors within one of the world's most advanced manufacturing and innovation ecosystems.

Also included in the visit will be exposure to latest in recycling facilities in China. Services of expert translators will be available for the delegates. Last date to pay the delegation fee is August 31. Contact Pankhuri.srivastava@phdcci.in (9958610850) for details.

About PHDCCI

PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) has been working as a catalyst for the promotion of Indian industry, trade, and entrepreneurship for over 121 years. It is a forward-looking, proactive, and dynamic PAN-India apex organization. As a partner in progress with industry and government, PHDCCI works at the grassroots level with strong national and international linkages to promote inclusive growth and integrated development of the Indian economy. Acting as the “Voice of Industry & Trade”, PHDCCI represents a strong membership base of over 1,50,000 direct and indirect members, and comprising large, medium, and small enterprises across sectors. At the global level, PHDCCI works closely with Embassies and High Commissions in India to bring international best practices and business opportunities to Indian industry.

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