

**High Level Delegation Team lead by Dr. V.K. Bahuguna, IFS, Director General, ICFRE
meeting with the Govt. Officials of Australian Trade Commission, Govt. of Australia,
Sydney on 04-03-2013**

The Director General, ICFRE is leading a delegation of team to Australia for developing capacity building for ICFRE Officers and Scientists and to have long term collaboration with the Australian Officials and Mining Industries which have substantial experience in the field of mining.

A meeting was organized at Australian Trade Commission, Govt. of Australia, Sydney on 04-03-2013. The following officials of Australian Trade Commission was attended the meeting along with the ICFRE delegation:

Australian Trade Commission:

- (1) Mr. David Lawson, State Director, Austrade, Australian Government, NSW
- (2) Mr. David Laurence, Director, The Australian Centre for Sustainable Mining Practices.
- (3) Dr. Greg Davis, Research Program Leader, CSIRO, Land and Water, University of Western Australia.
- (4) Mr. Stephen Barry, Director, Environmental Sustainability and Land Use, Division of Resources and Energy, NSW Govt. Dept. of Trade and Investment.
- (5) Mr. Andrew Garvie, Principal Consultant (Governmental), SRK Consulting
- (6) Mr. Jim Parker, Partner, Allens Linklaters.
- (7) Mr. Anil Misra, Trade advisor-Resources and Infrastructure Opportunities Group

ICFRE Delegation, Dehra Dun, India

- (1) Dr. V.K. Bahuguna, IFS, Director General, ICFRE (Team Leader)
- (2) Mr. Saibal Das Gupta, IFS, Dy. Director General
- (3) Dr. Sudhanshu Gupta, IFS, Secretary
- (4) Mr. Pankaj Agrawal, IFS, ADG (EM)
- (5) Mr. Sudhir Kumar, Scientist-F and Special Director (EM)
- (6) Dr. H.B. Vasistha, Scientist-E
- (7) Dr. N. Rama Rao, Scientist-G
- (8) Dr. V. Mohan, Scientist-F

At the outset of the meeting, the Director General, ICFRE thanked the Govt. Officials of Australian Trade Commission for giving this opportunity to the delegation of ICFRE to have this high level discussion and field visits in Australia.

The following points emerged after the discussion held during the meeting.

- (1) A workshop may be organized at ICFRE Head Quarters, Dehra Dun, inviting experts from Australia and India with the main objectives of sharing the experiences on Reclamation and Rehabilitation of mined out areas and to develop the best practices for various situations. This will ensure development of guidelines for scientific and sustainable mining in India.
- (2) Building capacity of Officers and Scientists of ICFRE to develop multiple teams for future expansion in the field of Reclamation and Rehabilitation of mined out areas. This will involve visit of two selected teams of scientists and officers of ICFRE to the selected mining industries of Australia. This will also ensure long term bilateral cooperation between two countries.
- (3) Exploration and assessment of mineral resources through advances technologies is very essential. We should also use 3 dimensional subsidence analysis for near correct assessment of reserve deposits. This will lead to mapping of mineral deposits throughout the country which is imperative for ensuring sustainable mining in India.
- (4) The Australian Trade Commission has developed and implemented Standard Guidelines for ensuring sustainable mining practices. India should take a cue from these guidelines and formulate similar guidelines for R & R practices and their implementation and monitoring.
- (5) For the successful implementation of Reclamation and Rehabilitation proposals, effective involvement of local communities should be ensured. In addition, scientifically competent organizations like ICFRE should be entrusted with the task of regular monitoring of the implementation of scientific Reclamation and Rehabilitation plan in India.
- (6) To ensure sustainable mining in India it is imperative that the Government and all other stakeholders work in unison for effective implementation of mining operations in India.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks and commitment for long term future collaboration and cooperation between two countries.

