

NMDC working on iron ore evacuation via slurry pipeline

National Steel Policy sets output target of 300 MTPA by 2030

OUR BUREAU

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To achieve the projected target of 300 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) of steel by 2030-31 under the National Steel Policy, iron ore miner NMDC has identified the need to develop a more efficient, cost-effective and environment-friendly iron ore evacuation infrastructure.

NMDC's presentations about iron ore transportation and complications of reserve estimation of iron ore were appreciated by the mining fraternity at the 25th World Mining Congress in Astana, Kazakhstan.

Narendra K Nanda, Director (Technical), and PK Satpathy, Director (Production), presented technical papers on 'Alternate transport system for Indian iron ore mining industry' and 'Re-



The National Steel Policy's aim to enhance production will raise the projected requirement of iron ore to 437 MTPA

serve estimation complications in a heterogeneous iron ore body and its mitigation' respectively.

Nanda said the National Steel Policy of India aims to enhance production to 300 MTPA by 2030-31 for which the projected requirement of iron ore will be around 437 MTPA. This calls for more thrust on evacuation of iron ore from the mines to the steel plant in a cost-effective, safe and environment-friendly manner. He emphasised the advantages of evacuation of iron ore fines through slurry pipeline against the conventional evacu-

ation methods through railways, roads and ports.

With increased fines ratio and depleting quality, beneficiation and agglomeration are the way forward for the Indian steel industry.

The details of NMDC's initiative for laying of a slurry pipeline from its Bailadila mines to Visakhapatnam were also part of the presentation in the World Mining Congress.

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