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## PRESS RELEASE

### NMDC VENTURES INTO STEEL



Honourable Union Minister of Chemicals & Fertilizers and Steel Shri Ram Vilas Paswan and Honourable Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh Dr. Raman Singh jointly laid the foundation stone of 3 MTPA NMDC Integrated Steel Plant at Nagarnar, near Jagadalpura, Chhattisgarh on 03.09.2008. Shri Baliram Kashyap, Member of Parliament, Bastar presided over the function.

Addressing the gathering Shri Paswan said this green field project of NMDC would be a highlight in the progress of Chhattisgarh state by providing infrastructure and employment opportunities in the region. There is a huge gap between supply and demand of steel in the country and he emphasized the need for bridging the gap. NMDC would set up the Steel Plant at an estimated cost of about Rs.14,000 crore with an annual capacity of three million tonnes. The plant will be completed in 36 months after actual construction work commences.

The project is likely to need about 10,000 direct employees and may generate additional indirect employment to about 15,000 people. The local residents will be given the first priority for employment in the plant.

Shri Paswan said, NMDC being a responsible corporate citizen, has been allocating 5% of its retained earnings for extending social benefits under its CSR policy which is the highest by any company in the country. It has planned some of the social welfare facilities like:

- Setting up of a full-time residential school for tribal children for education, including their board and lodging. The education will be oriented to bring up the best in the students and make them professionals. The initial investment would be about Rs.8 crore and the recurring expenses would be to the tune of Rs.2.5 crore per annum.
- A Scholarship Scheme to SC/ST students in Bastar from class-IX to post-graduate level will be introduced on 2nd October 2008. The Scholarship Scheme would help them to pursue higher education without depending much on their parents or others. The proposed expenditure on this score would be about Rs.4 crore per annum.
- NMDC is already running a free dispensary for local people in Nagarnar area. This will be upgraded for improving the quality of the facility. In addition, a mobile Medical Van would move through the nearby areas to provide regular medical service to the people of the area.
- Under a Scheme named *NMDC-ka-adarsh-gaon*, 28 villages will be adopted in addition to the villages in which NMDC has already been working.
- An NGO has been appointed to upgrade the educational stands of 187 schools in Bastar. The scheme will provide for additional tuition to the students, counsel drop-out students and provide mid-day meals to the students. The cost of the programme is about Rs.4 crore per annum.
- A world-class Sports Complex in Bastar would be constructed at an estimated cost of Rs.10 crore. The estimated cost is about Rs.5 crore.
- For improving the technical skills of localities, NMDC is running an ITI at Bhansi for skill development of the people in the area and a polytechnic college is also being set up in the Bastar area.

- NMDC has already laid 200 km of roads, constructed 87 culverts, 41 school buildings, nine community centres and 14 primary health centres.
- The land acquired by NMDC had 302 land oustees. Employment has already been provided to one member from 106 families. One member from among the remaining 45 families would be given employment within the next two months. Out of the remaining 151 land oustees, 119 persons who are unemployable at present are being provided monthly education allowance of Rs.4,500/- each. The allowance will continue till they are employable.

During his address to the public, Dr. Raman Singh has assured the full support and assistance from the State to NMDC for commissioning of the plant. He also projected that this effort of NMDC would improve the quality of life of the people of Bastar.

Shri P.K. Rastogi, Secretary, Ministry of Steel, Government of India said that there is a great need of improving the consumption of Steel in India. He appreciated the efforts of NMDC towards production of iron ore and NMDC CSR activities.

Earlier to this, Shri Rana Som, CMD, NMDC welcomed the dignitaries and gave a detailed report about the Steel Plant and activities of NMDC in Chhattisgarh.

An MoU was signed between NMDC and Chhattisgarh for setting of the Plant and another MoU was signed between NMDC and Chhattisgarh Mineral Development Corporation, Chhattisgarh for development of Deposit-4 in Bailadila sector for providing the raw material for this Steel plant.

Shri Baliram Kashyap, MP, Bastar and Dr. Subhau Ram Kashyap, MLA, Jagdalpur appreciated the efforts of NMDC for setting of this steel plant and CSR activities taken up by NMDC for improving the life of people in Bastar District.