

PIB NEWS ANALYSIS

Quality Council of India celebrates World Accreditation Day in more than 20 cities across India

Quality Council of India (QCI) celebrated World Accreditation Day today across more than 20 cities in India. The event held in New Delhi, with the theme “Accreditation: Empowering Tomorrow and Shaping the Future,” was inaugurated by Secretary, DPIIT, Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh. The event was graced by the presence of Director, AIIMS, New Delhi, Dr. M. Srinivas; Chairperson, Quality Council of India, Shri Jaxay Shah along with several industry leaders, government officials, and company heads, who discussed the role of accreditation in shaping the quality of life in all spheres.

Addressing the event, Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh emphasised the need to go beyond standard practices and develop processes that make us stand out from the crowd. He mentioned that strengthening the accreditation body and the entire quality system is not just a necessity but a strategic move towards excellence.

Both NABL and NABCB constitute the accreditation infrastructure in India and are signatories to the Multilateral Recognition Arrangements of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC). NABL has over 8000 accredited labs and NABCB has over 260 accredited CABs (Conformity Assessment Bodies).’

The Quality Council of India, established in 1997 by the Government of India and the Indian industry, is the apex organisation in India responsible for establishing and operating the third-party national accreditation system, improving quality across sectors and advising the government and other stakeholders on all matters concerning quality.

Coal Ministry Conducts Workshop on Environmental and Forest Clearances for Coal Mining

Coal ministry today conducted a day-long workshop on Environmental and Forest Clearances for coal mining. The event, held in New Delhi, in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), was attended by over 175 officials from the Ministry of Coal, MoEFCC, Coal India Ltd, SECL, BCCL, ECL, NLCIL, SCCL, NTPC, Coal Controller Organisation, private coal companies, and other experts from the coal mining sectors.

Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Shri Amrit Lal Meena was the Chief Guest and Additional Secretary & Nominated Authority, Ministry of Coal, Shri M. Nagaraju was the Guest of Honor at the event.

In his opening remark, Shri M. Nagaraju emphasized the vital balance between economic benefits and environmental protection and stressed the need for securing clearances to ensure environmental sustainability. Shri Amrit Lal Meena, in his keynote address, underscored the coal ministry's commitment to sustainability. He highlighted efforts on land restoration and extensive afforestation programs that surpass the areas used for mining activities. The coal companies presented videos on the best practices by their respective organizations in the inaugural session.

Speakers from the ministry of environment, forest and climate change shared their comprehensive insights into the regulatory framework, procedural requirements, policy updates, compliance strategies and best practices for obtaining environmental and forest clearance for coal mining projects featuring a series of informative sessions, and interactive discussions.

Thorough presentations were also made for Forest Clearance, Environment Clearance, Wildlife Clearance, Accredited Compensatory Afforestation (ACA), Green Credits & Ground Water Clearance etc, by the officials of MoEFCC & CGWA Board.

Ministry of Coal addressed the challenges being faced in obtaining Environmental and Forest Clearances and demonstrated successful navigation of the clearance processes, emphasizing lessons learned and innovative approaches. The interactive Q&A session provided a platform for the coal companies to have insights and expert views on the challenges being faced in obtaining the clearances. The Interactive panels addressed critical issues such as balancing development and environmental sustainability.

The event concluded with remarks by senior officials, outlining the key takeaways and way forward to further simplify clearance procedures while upholding environmental safeguards.