

## **ACTIVITY REPORT FOR FY 2023-24**

Biju Patnaik National Steel Institute with its objective to emerge as a Centre of Excellence/World Class Institute that will provide skilled manpower in green and emerging technology to the steel industry, with emphasis on the MSME sector, has started its second innings of turnaround phase, in the right earnest.

The status of activities of the Institute for 2023-24 are as under:

### **1. Infrastructure (Temporary Campus/Office Premises)**

- a) The Institute has been provided with 1 (one) room and 6 (six) cabins measuring 956 sq. ft. at Ispat Bhawan, 271, Vidyut Marg, Unit 4, Bhubaneswar-751001 by SAIL, Rourkela Steel Plant at a token charge of Rs.1/- towards monthly rent for starting its Academic Co-ordination and Administrative Office, with support of Ministry of Steel, Govt. of India and it was occupied w.e.f 28/06/2023.
- b) Efforts are on to take on lease the temporary campus space available in Mancheswar area of Bhubaneswar belonging to Skill Development Institute (SDI) of MoPNG, presently not in use by SDI, after their shifting to SDI's permanent campus (Letter written by Secretary (Steel), GOI to Secretary (MoPNG), GOI on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023 in this regard)
- c) The existing leased site-office premises at Kalinga Nagar (Jajpur), in a dilapidated state, is in the process of repairs & minimal renovation, after taking up with Industrial Development Corporation of Odisha (IDCO), the owner of the property.

### **2. Infrastructure (Permanent Campus/Office Premises)**

*In line with the strategy to spread the wings of BPNSI in its turnaround and transformational phase, the presence of BPNSI would be maintained at Bhubaneswar and Kalinga Nagar (Jajpur), to keep in touch with stakeholders, corporates, industry, academia, student fraternity, government, government institutions. Accordingly, a strategy paper has been submitted to the Ministry of Steel on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023, prepared after discussions with Ministry. The status, as of now, is as under:*

- a) Two land parcels (25acres each) in Kalinga Nagar, Jajpur have been identified and intimated to IDCO, Govt of Odisha, for ultimately leasing out of one of them in favour of BPNSI. This is under process.
- b) Chief Secretary, Odisha has advised to find an alternative land measuring 2 (two) acres, inside Bhubaneswar city, in lieu of the 5 (five) acres land parcel (currently with BPNSI) at

Balianta (on the outskirts of, but at a distance from Bhubaneswar) during a meeting on the sidelines of the NGMC 2024 Conference, on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024, where Additional Secretary (Steel), Govt of India, was also present. (it may be mentioned here that a similar proposal had been discussed by Secretary (Steel), GoI with the former Chief Secretary, Odisha). In this regard, Director, BPNSI has been advised by the Chief Secretary to take up this issue immediately with Principal Secretary Industry, who is also holding the charge of Chairman, IDCO.

3. **Skill Development Programs (Workshops/Familiarity Modules)**

a) The Institute, ***having kickstarted operations after a gap of 6-7years, has held 2 (two) Programmes in the CAMPUS TO CORPORATE CONNECT (3C) SERIES, and 3 (three) Student Outreach Webinars (SOW), and 1 (one) on-campus knowledge programme as under:***

- i. On 21-22<sup>nd</sup> July 2023, for a group of 20 BTech students at SCTEVT-Odisha premises, on ***“Different routes of Iron & Steel making”***, with a one-day industrial visit to Aarti Steels Ltd, Athagarh, Cuttack.
- ii. On 23-24<sup>nd</sup> November 2023, for a group of 20 Diploma Engineering students, at SCTEVT-Odisha premises on ***“Different routes of Iron & Steel making”***, where Secretary, Steel, GoI was the Chief Guest. This was followed by a one-day industrial visit to Tata Steels Ltd, Kalinganagar, Jajpur.
- iii. A knowledge sharing on-campus workshop on ***“Energy Management Scenario”*** was conducted for Diploma students at a local Engg. College on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2023, where around 80 students and faculty members had participated.
- iv. 3 (three) Webinars have been conducted on ***“Energy Management”*** for diploma engineering students of Government Polytechnics, in the remote districts of Mayurbhanj, Anugul and Phulbani, as part of BPNSI’s student outreach on-line programme, where 412 students and their faculty have participated in the three programmes.
- v. Talk by Thought Leader and Management Expert Shri Sandip Dash on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2023 on Emotional Intelligence in the Workplace, for SAIL and BPNSI employees

b) BPNSI has held **2 (two) Professional Pre-Programmes (3P programme)** held for the following organizations.

- i. AM/NS India on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at Paradeep

ii. MGM Minerals Ltd (Steel Division) on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at Dhenkanal

**These are pre-cursor courses conducted before the start of regular courses in identified focus areas. They have been held at the Corporate Premises**

***Therefore, as on date, 9 (nine) short term programmes, in various formats, have been conducted by BPNSI. More are in the pipe-line.***

**4. Skill Development Programs (Short/Medium/Long term)**

*The Academic Council of the Institute (reconstituted after 18 years, the last formed in 2006)* has identified five focus areas where skill gap exists in the steel sector, along the value chain, namely –

- *Advanced Maintenance Management*
- *Sustainability – Energy and Environment Management*
- *AI, IOT applications in Steel Sector etc, in line with Industry 4.0*
- *Familiarization with BIS and HS codes*
- *Soft skills for Work place adaptability*

Course content work and other modalities such as collaboration with SAIL, IIT-Bhubaneswar and other leading Institutes for skilling programs in the above areas are at an advanced stage and the Institute expects to start the courses in regular mode from **July-Aug 2024**, with pre-cursor programs having started already before the scheduled commencement of the programmes. The pre-cursor programmes are for wider acceptance by the fresher students and working professionals for whom these courses are intended, as also positioning BPNSI in the India Steel Landscape.

**5. Internal Revenue Generation**

Transparency Audit work under RTI 2005 received from seven Govt. of India undertaking organizations' amounting **Rs.3.21 lakhs**. The Institute has also generated revenue of **Rs 1.85 lakhs** from the 3C and 3P workshops conducted till now.

**6. Administrative Initiatives**

- a) The Institute has got itself registered with Income Tax Authorities for 80G and with Ministry of Company Affairs (MCA) for CSR-1, to be eligible for CSR funds allocation by Corporate Sector.
- b) GST Registration for the Institute done in Nov 2023
- c) ESIC registration of the Institute done for medical benefit to the contractual employees of the Institute, for the first time since inception
- d) Mediclaim of Rs.6 lakhs done for 17 permanent employees from Rs 3/4 lakhs to take care of the rising medical costs.
- e) Voluntary Group Personal Accident Insurance Scheme of Rs 50 Lakhs, per insured head, done for all employees of BPNSI
- f) Employees upto Class-III have been re-designated in line with existing practices in SAIL and JPC
- g) *Accrued arrears of tax + cess pf more than Rs 1 (one) Crore wrt land parcel at Baliana, on the outskirts of Bhubaneswar has been waived by the Revenue Department, after follow-up with the Odisha State Government. This is a substantial savings, which otherwise would have been a drag on BPNSI's limited resources*
- h) As a measure to include interested professionals ready to offer their expertise/services, for the transformational & turnaround phase of BPNSI, pro-bono, the Chairperson has vested the Director with powers to engage such persons as per his discretion. This step will help to avail such services at minimal cost, as only reimbursements towards expenses viz travel by suitable mode, hotel/guest house charges, mobile-phone's calling expenses, client-meetings expenses, daily allowances and such similar expenses would be the out-go. This would help to get a lot of varied deliverables at minimal expenditure to BPNSI, thereby saving resources for the Organization, which is crucial at this juncture.

### ***Swachh Bharat Abhiyan***

***On 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023, the employees of BPNSI have taken part in various related activities in office, as also neighbourhoods of their respective residences.***

### **7. HR Initiatives**

- a) One-to-one meet with all the employees of the Institute, held on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2023, to have a better understanding about the skill sets available with the employees vis-à-vis the job responsibilities needed to strategize the plan of operationalizing the Institute.

- b) Talk by Thought Leader and Management Expert Shri Sandip Dash on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2023 on Emotional Intelligence in Workplace, as an HR intervention done.
- c) 4 (four) Young Professionals (YPs) have been engaged in January 2024 in the areas of Steel Technology, Maintenance Engineering, IT and Finance.  
(it may be mentioned here the YPs have been engaged @ Rs 60000/- per month with approval of Chairperson, since the initial advertisement with Rs 50000/- per month as remuneration did not elicit good response)

#### **8. Collaborations**

Initiatives have been taken for associating with various Institutions of standing, in the journey of making BPNSI a Centre of Excellence.

BPNSI has reached understanding with SAIL and IISSEC for its various academic activities. The collaboration with IIT Bhubaneswar is at an advanced stage. Talks are on with IIM Sambalpur and XIM University, Bhubaneswar for suitable tie-up for its programmes.

#### **9. Other major activities**

A National Level Conference on De-carbonisation (National Green Metal Conference 2024) was held from 6<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024 in collaboration with the State Pollution Control Board (SPCB), Odisha at Hotel Swosti premium, Bhubaneswar in which around 400 participants/stakeholders participated. There was also an Exhibition held simultaneously to showcase equipments and technology on Pollution, Clean Environment and Green Technology. A Knowledge Paper – Sustainable green metals: A catalyst for decarbonisation in the face of climate change, has been released on the occasion. 110 industrial entities from the metals space participated in the mega event.

Amongst the dignitaries attending the Event were Secretary (Steel), Govt of India [through VC], Chief Secretary, Odisha, Additional Chief Secretary, Odisha, Additional Secretary (Steel), Govt of India, Principal Secretary-Skill Development & Technical Education and Transport & Commerce, Secretary-Labour& ESI, Member Secretary-Pollution Control Board Odisha.

#### **10. Publicity to improve the visibility of BPNSI**

All workshops, conferences and major activities are widely publicised through local & national level print media, electronic media, social media. A Corporate Film of BPNSI has been made for promoting the Organization. The website of the Organization is being improved continuously.

And all employees have been sensitized to spread the word around regarding the re-starting of the Institute and its various activities. The Director participates in various forums/platforms/events as an invited Speaker, which helps to spread the word about BPNSI.

**11. Member of the Govt of India, Ministry of Steel Taskforce on Decarbonization**

The Director is a Member of the Ministry of Steel Taskforce on Skill Development, which deals with on-going and emerging technological trends of the Steel industry, and resultant skilling/reskilling/upskilling requirements of the workforce.