

In a first, Hindustan Zinc deploys India's first ever Battery-Operated Vehicle into underground mining operation

Udaipur: In a first-of-its-kind initiative in the Indian mining sector, Hindustan Zinc, a Vedanta group company, has introduced Normet Agitator SmartDrive EV, into its underground mining operations. The company will soon expand its BEV fleet with Normet's Explosive Charger (CHARMEC MC 605 V SD) and Concrete Sprayer (SPRAYMEC MF 050 VC SD). Hindustan Zinc is the first company among its peers to join the EV revolution, steadily switching to electric vehicles for its underground operations. The company has set a target of converting all diesel-run 900-odd mining vehicles into battery operated ones over the next five years and has earmarked an investment of over USD 1 billion for the same.

Hindustan Zinc, together with the Finnish technology company Normet Group Oy, has inducted battery-powered service equipment and utility vehicles into underground mining to help decarbonize and improve environmental sustainability in the mining industry. Each of the Normet SmartDrive EVs are based on a modular Battery Electric Vehicle (BEV) architecture that is designed to optimise energy consumption and performance in underground mining, including tunnelling applications. The SmartDrive EVs enable higher productivity, lower operating costs, and, most importantly, zero emissions. The BEVs have been inducted at the company's Sindesar Khurd (SK) Mine which is a worldclass silver-rich mine with state-of-the-art infrastructure facilities and best-in-class mechanisation. Commenting on the induction of the EVs, Mr Arun Misra, CEO, Hindustan Zinc, said, "Our aim at Hindustan Zinc is to revolutionise underground mining, boost productivity, raise underground safety standards, and provide sustainable operations solutions. Thanks to our unwavering commitment to environmentally sustainable business and net zero emissions, we've always focused on innovative and environmentally friendly solutions. I believe the introduction of battery-electric vehicles in Hindustan Zinc's underground mining operations will revolutionise the sector and mark a great step forward for India in terms of responsible mining."

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Subhasis Mohanty, Managing Director, Normet India, said, "We are pleased to partner with Hindustan Zinc to solidify our ESG commitment, by bringing into reality the first of our fleet of Normet SmartDrive® BEVs in HZL underground mines. Our association has been valuable to drive common goals on sustainability and decarbonisation in the Indian mining sector, driving transformation in the underground space and building long-term value for all our stakeholders." Hindustan Zinc will gain considerable benefits from the adoption of Normet SmartDrive EVs, including significant HSD savings and vehicle maintenance. These SmartDrive electric vehicles are powered by 90kWh lithium-ion batteries and come equipped with myriad advanced technologies such as energy recuperation technology, hydraulic dual-circuit oil-immersed brakes to provide additional braking power, etc. The vehicles also have the advantage of zero-emission in the operating environments, considerable noise and vibration reduction associated with equipment. In addition to that, BEVs comes with high-efficiency driveline and consumes less kWh/km compared to diesel ones. Hindustan Zinc is a pioneer in the sector, continually deploying transformational and sustainable technologies in pursuit of sustainable mining. The introduction of the EVs serves as yet another decisive step for its sustainable and smart operations goals. Hindustan Zinc's abiding commitment to sustainability and environmental-friendly solutions, then, puts it on the path to achieve its Sustainable Development Goal (SGD) of achieving a 0.5mn tCO₂e reduction by 2025.

Divisional Commissioner Rajendra Bhatt inspected MB Hospital

Udaipur: Divisional Commissioner Rajendra Bhatt has many innovations to his name. He spent the last few days looking at the condition of the Maharana Bhopal Hospital in Udaipur. In a meeting of the officers of the Medical College, Janana Chikitsalya, and General Hospital, he directed that the face and character of this hospital should be changed within a month.

He questioned that when the whole city can be made clean and chalky as part of the preparations for the G-20 conference, then why not the hospital? Mr. Bhatt visited the hos-

pital along with the Hospital superintendent and officials of government departments. He inspected the wards and ordered the officers that the CCTV cameras installed in the hospital should be turned on. During the inspection, seeing the filth in the wards took the class of the doctors and said that the situation should be rectified immediately. He gave instructions on making slips, arranging outdoor seating for patients, and cleaning the ward.

The Divisional Commissioner told the medical officers that they had come to see the bad, not the good so that he could be cured.



When the principal requested him to visit the newly built gleaming MICU complex, he got angry and said we must

see where improvement is necessary. The Divisional Commissioner gave instructions for better cleaning of toi-

angry seeing the wires hanging all over the place; he called the caretaker of the hospital and asked him to arrange

lets and attractive colors. He told the photographer walking with him to take photographs from every corner and send them to me. The commissioner got

The Divisional Commissioner said that MB Hospital had experienced doctors and had all facilities, yet people ran to private hospitals only because of filth and minor defects. This step of the Divisional Commissioner is an innovation. It should be expected that all the Commissioners, Collectors, and Sub-Divisional Officers of the state will inspect the hospital in their way and get the arrangements chalked out.

Women Talent Award- Mahila Pratibha Puraskar 2023 on March 12

Udaipur: Udaipur Women's Chamber of Commerce and Industries UWCCI will honor the city's women with Mahila Pratibha Puraskar 2023 on March 12, who has brought laurels not only to the city but also to the country and abroad through their work in their lives.

UWCCI President Dr. Neeta Mehta said in a press conference held at Howard & Johnson Hotel that the event will honor women who have started their businesses and achieved certain milestones to make their business shine in the world of entrepreneurs. We will reward eminent women who have done the work of breaking the glass ceiling.

This award is a testimony to the achievements of the women of Udaipur. Dr. Mehta pointed out that those women have pushed their boundaries of leadership and paved the way for other women to follow in their footsteps and become future leaders. Such awards aim to recognize talent and encourage other women entrepreneurs. Applications are being invited from such women. The more women apply, the healthier the competition for this award will be. They can use the website of UWCCI.

She said that the Udaipur Mahila Chamber of Commerce



and Industry is the first organization formed under Section 25 of the Companies Act, 1956, which aims to provide a platform for women entrepreneurs to discuss and get solutions to their problems related to their respective businesses. Entrepreneur women can update-upgrade their business skills by sharing their experiences and achievements.

The organization is a platform where the common goals of women can be discussed, and give suggestions to the government and ask them to solve the common problems of women entrepreneurs.

For budding women entrepreneurs and startups, this organization is like a gateway where they can get support from various government agencies, financial institutions, and others.

Program coordinator Dr.

Chitra Laddha said that in the program's first phase, online applications would be invited from all the women applicants on the website of Sangin. In the second phase, the selected women will participate in an open coffee session with the judges and the jury.

She informed me that the organization has so far organized seminars, workshops, and guidance seminars from various renowned business and industrial houses and agencies and will organize similar meetings further. The title sponsor of the program is DP Jewellers.

UWCCI is a premier organization providing opportunities and visibility to women entrepreneurs through relationship development, education, mentorship, partnerships, and alliances. It offers various mentoring programs, cam-

paigns, and industry exposure for women entrepreneurs, which helps them to clarify their doubts and problems.

A woman entrepreneur faces various challenges, from starting the idea to the venture's survival. They have to face challenges like a patriarchal society, marketing problems, family conflicts, shortage of raw materials, high cost of production, the crisis of intermediaries, lack of confidence, lack of training, and lack of entrepreneurial ability. Women face financial issues in their venture, credit facilities, heavy competition, social barriers, lack of information, lack of access to technology.

Late starters find challenges like the high risk of completion of legal formalities that influence them to start an enterprise.

This organization will honor such women who have overcome all these challenges so that women coming into this field of enterprise can change the direction of their lives by being inspired by such women. On this occasion, Rita Mahajan, Meenu Kumbhat, Dr. Reena Rathod, Dr. Khushbu Sharda, Rekharani Jain, Pooja Shah, Bhavna Kavadia, including many office bearers of the organization were present.

Niaz Ahmed Memorial Debate @MLSU

Udaipur: The forty-fourth Niaz Ahmed Memorial Debate was held on 4 Feb 2023 at the Department of English, Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur on the topic- Foreign Universities will Enhance the Quality of Higher Education in India.

The function made a stimulating start with Prof Pradeep Trikha, Head, Department of English welcoming the participants and outlining the history of Niaz Ahmed Memorial debate and its legacy in the department since 1979. Prof. CR Suthar, Dean, UCSS&H Mohanlal Sukhadia University who was the Chairperson, made a thought provoking and engaging remarks during the Inaugural highlighted the role of people in the contemporary Indian scenario; how the foreign universities will be effecting cultural and political atmosphere in present times in so many different ways.

In all there were about forty participants from different institutions of the state of Rajasthan such as B.N. University, Udaipur, RNT Medical College, Udaipur, Faculty of Management Studies, MLS University, BN Girls' College, Udaipur and several other institutions. The first prize was bagged by Mr. Nirlipt Singh, College of Commerce, BN University, the second prize by Ms Sana from RNT Medical College and the third prize by Ms Avadhi Chittora from Gurunank Girls' College.

The running trophy was bagged by the BN University team. Chief Guest, Prof. Sharad Srivastava, formerly Dean of the University College of Humanities and Social Sciences and Head, Department of English, while acknowledging the facts outlined by Prof. CR Suthar, pointed out that there was a greater challenge before the younger generation to look into the political designs of the media, he talked about 'contemporary' relevance of the topic and also commented on as why Indians are fascinated by 'Foreign' and at times devaluing Indian scholarship and academia.

The judges of the debate were Dr Shilpa Seth, Faculty of Law, Dr Shilpa Verdia, Faculty of Commerce, Dr Kavita Parulkar, Department of English, Govt Girls College, Nathadwara.

The Inaugural issue of a Newsletter of the Department of English, 'Literary Forum' was released on the occasion. It showcases the activities of the students and the members of the department. The debate program was convened by Dr. Snehlata Tailor, Dr. Kopal Vats and Dr. Minakshi Jain proposed the vote of thanks.

Vishwa Van : A Great destination for nature lovers to explore the beauty of nature

When we talk about natural beauty, states like Himachal, Uttarakhand and Kashmir come to the mind but now Gujarat can be your first choice as well. Vishwa van of Gujarat has become one such beautiful natural site built where you get to see the flora and fauna of 7 continents of the world. Tourist who loves peace and nature should definitely visit Vishwa Van as it is a great destination for nature lovers. It is a perfect place to explore the beauty of nature and learn about the diversity of the world.

Gujarat is home to many attractive tourist destinations. In the last few years, the state has shown tremendous development in tourism. Of all the tourist destinations in Gujarat, Statue of Unity (SoU) is one of the most praised and visited one. SoU became so famous among national and international travellers that it opened new gates for new destinations in the area to prosper. SoU is surrounded by many other tourist attractions and Vishwa van is one of the most magnificent of these.

One of these attractions is Vishwa van which means Global Forest and it has Plantation from all Seven Continents". This Global Forest offers a charismatic magnificence. Vishwa van offers a natural aesthetic beauty. The thought of Vishwa Van was conceptualized by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, who after guiding the construction of Statue of Unity in just 46 months, envisioned the integrated development of Ekta Nagar on the theme of unity in diversity.

This Global Van or Vishwa van is developed in the area of .75 hectares. It is located between the two bridges next to the Statue of Unity. The splendid design of pathways take you to the glory of nature's play. Anyone can discover the world's diverse bio geography here, which contains herbs, shrubs, and trees native to all the 7 continents signifying the underlying theme of "Unity in Diversity" in the global context. It has a diverse assemblage of flora representing every continent of the world. The vegetation is arranged in a way to resemble the natural forest of that place.

The aim of this Vishwa Van is to educate the tourists about biogeography, the study of the distribution of species and ecosystems in geographic space. Clusters have been developed for maintaining a suitable environment for raising the seedlings of the forest of the world. The inspiration was taken from the five Olympic rings with a distinct color for each continent. The motive for Vishwa Van is to combine the world's forests and gardens.

Structures representing the traditional abodes of dwellers from remotest corners of the world have been created here with a view to introducing visitors with their living.

- Such edifices at the sites are -

Fiji House - Bure: Bure is the Fijian word for a wood-and-straw hut. Traditionally, ethnic Fijians live in two types of houses; a vale was the family house, while men's houses (where circumcised males of the clan met, ate, and slept) were known as Bures.

Bali House: The Balinese traditional house follows a strict ancient architectural guide which is a product of a blend of Hindu and Buddhist beliefs, fused with Austronesian animism, resulting in a house that is "in harmony" with the law of the cosmos of Balinese Hinduism.



African-Louisiana Conference Area: The beauty of the concept lies in the conglomeration of traditional houses in Africa with those of the orthodox designs from Louisiana. It's a blend of aesthetic architectures of both the continents.

Maloca House: This structure is inspired from the traditional house of the indigenous Marubo tribe of Brazil. A Maloca is an ancestral long house used by indigenous people of the Amazon, notably in Colombia and Brazil.

Pagoda: A Pagoda is a tiered tower with multiple eaves, built in traditions originating as Stupa in historic South Asia and further developed in East Asia with respect to those traditions.

A Souvenir shop, to take along the memories, has been set-up. These shops are run by tribal self-help groups, which contribute to their livelihood.

When the Statue of Unity was inaugurated four years back, most people assumed it was only a statue. But PM Modi had a larger vision and grander plans. He aimed at converting it into a hub for tourism with attractions for each age group. Gujarat had limited natural tourist places, specifically only spiritual tourist destination but State Tourism department has developed more destinations which were not known earlier like Kutch, Saputara, Shivrajpur beach and now Statue of Unity.

(Nilesh Shukla)

(Writer is Joint Director in Gujarat Bhawan)

Signify partners with FINISH Society to light up 20 primary health centers in Rajasthan

Udaipur: Signify (Euronext: LIGHT), the world leader in lighting, has illuminated 20 primary health centers (PHC) in Rajasthan using solar lighting, under its Swasthya Kiran CSR program. Under this project, executed in partnership with FINISH Society, the company has installed 2.5KW solar power plants in each health center to enable sustainable and uninterrupted access to lighting, thereby enhancing the healthcare services offered to local residents. These 20 primary health centers are spread across Udaipur, Nagaur, Baran and Sirohi districts in Rajasthan. Applauding the company's efforts in enhancing the healthcare experience at the tertiary level in the district, Shree Peeyush Samariya, IAS, District Magistrate, Nagaur, shared an appreciation letter with the company at the Republic Day event held in the district. Inaugurating the event, Abhijit Banerji, Member Secretary, FINISH Society said, "In smaller districts of Rajasthan, Primary Health Centres (PHCs) like these are the nerve centers as they provide the maximum percentage of out-patient care, including noncommunicable diseases and maternal and child health services. However, erratic electricity supply remains a major challenge that prevents these PHCs from performing to their full potential. Hence, this fortunate partnership between Signify and FINISH Society is a perfect answer to these timeless issues and ensures uninterrupted power supply to maintain quality health services in these districts of Rajasthan."

Natasha Wadhwa, Head -CSR, Signify Innovations India Limited, said, "Our Swasthya Kiran CSR program aims to create safer and well-illuminated healthcare spaces. PHC's are a vital cog in the healthcare infrastructure of the country, delivering last mile healthcare services to the country's heartland. However, the poor electricity supply can really hinder their output. With our latest project, the PHC's get sustained access to electricity using solar power, which in turn significantly enhances the quality of healthcare services offered. The project has also improved the overall environment for the doctors, nurses and patients visiting the center. We are proud to associate with FINISH society for this project to light up 20 PHC's in four districts of Rajasthan".

Annual function organised at Mahatma Gandhi Government School, Barapal

Udaipur: Annual function organized in Mahatma Gandhi Government School, Barapal Annual function and prize distribution ceremony was organized at Mahatma Gandhi Government School, Barapal. The chief guest of the program was Sukhbir Katara, former head of Girwa and Rakesh ji Katara, sarpanch of Barapal village was the special guest.

School Principal Sitaram Sharma, the chairman of the program, honored the guests with great respect and informed the guests and all the people present about the various schemes related to the students, as well as wished them a bright future. Chief guest Sukhbir Katara inspired the students to achieve high position in their career with hard work and dedication.

The students enthralled everyone with their colorful presentations. A surprise pyramid was presented by the Scout students who mesmerized everyone. At the end of the program Students who achieved best results in various fields were awarded. The program was coordinated by Romi Shah and Varsha Sharma and thanks were expressed by Dinesh Agarwal. School staff, Panchayat Samiti member Mohan Katara and villagers were present in the program.