

JNARDDC–NALCO One-Day Conference Highlights Sustainable Solutions for Metallurgical Waste Valorisation

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A One-Day Conference on “Transforming Metallurgical Industry Waste Streams into Valuable Resources” was jointly organised by the Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Centre (JNARDDC) and National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) on December 12, 2025, at JNARDDC, Nagpur. The conference underscored the pressing environmental challenges posed by metallurgical waste generation and showcased science-driven solutions for converting industrial by-products into valuable resources, in alignment with the principles of sustainability and the circular economy.



The conference was inaugurated by Shri Brijendra Pratap Singh, Chairman-cum-Managing Director, NALCO, in the presence of Shri Jagdish Arora, Director (Production & Technical), NALCO, and Dr. Ramanuj Narayan, Director, CSIR–Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology (IMMT), Bhubaneswar, as Guests of Honour.

Addressing the gathering, Dr. Anupam Agnihotri, Director, JNARDDC, emphasised the need for strong industry support to enable the commercialisation of several environmentally beneficial technologies that have already been successfully demonstrated at the pilot scale. He highlighted that focused collaboration is essential for advancing technologies aimed at waste reduction, resource recovery, and pollution mitigation.

The deliberations focused on advancing sustainable practices in the metallurgical sector through waste minimisation, improved resource efficiency, and circular economy approaches. Experts noted that systematic utilisation of waste streams generated across upstream and downstream metallurgical operations can significantly reduce environmental footprints, conserve natural resources, and support climate-resilient industrial growth.

A key outcome of the conference was the emphasis on strengthening industry–research collaboration to accelerate the deployment of green and resource-efficient technologies. The inauguration of a state-of-the-art GF-AAS Laboratory during the event further reinforced the importance of advanced analytical and monitoring capabilities in enabling environmentally compliant, data-driven waste valorisation and cleaner production practices.

The technical sessions covered critical themes including recovery of mineral values from metallurgical wastes, sustainable and commercially viable utilisation pathways, innovative processing technologies, and circular economy solutions aimed at reducing landfill dependency and promoting secondary resource generation. The conference also facilitated the exchange of knowledge on best practices and emerging opportunities for scaling up environmentally responsible technologies.

The event brought together stakeholders from industry, R&D organisations, start-ups, and academic institutions, providing a collaborative platform to support the transition of the metallurgical industry towards environmentally sustainable, resource-efficient, and low-waste operations.

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