

Union Minister of State for Coal and Mines, Shri Satish Chandra Dubey Visits Eastern Coalfields Limited

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Union Minister of State for Coal and Mines, Shri Satish Chandra Dubey, visited Eastern Coalfields Limited on 13th May 2026. The visit was focused on reviewing the company's operational achievements, ongoing initiatives, and strategic roadmap for future growth. Discussions were held on key aspects relating to production, dispatch, mine safety, operational efficiency, and sustainable development initiatives undertaken by ECL.

As part of the programme, the Minister visited the Kunustoria Area of ECL, where he was welcomed by Shri Satish Jha, CMD, ECL in the presence of Md. Anzar Alam, Director (Finance), Shri Gunjan Kumar Sinha, Director (HR), Shri Girish Gopinathan Nair, Director (Technical), senior executives, General Managers, and Heads of Departments. A ceremonial Guard of Honour was presented to the Minister during the visit.



During the review meeting, Shri Dubey emphasized the need for balancing coal production with environmental responsibility and encouraged the adoption of modern, sustainable, and eco-conscious mining practices. He highlighted the importance of technological advancement, efficient resource utilization, and continuous improvement in safety standards to strengthen ECL's operational capabilities.

Shri Satish Chandra Dubey appreciated the efforts of Eastern Coalfields Limited and congratulated Team ECL for its commendable performance during the financial year 2025–26 despite several operational challenges.

The Minister particularly appreciated ECL's forward-looking and sustainable initiatives aimed at promoting environmentally responsible mining practices and long-term community development. He noted that such innovative approaches would play an important role in enhancing energy efficiency while reducing the environmental footprint of mining operations.



He also commended the scientific mine closure activities being undertaken by ECL for the systematic reclamation and repurposing of mined-out land. These initiatives, he observed, contribute significantly towards ecological restoration, sustainable land use, environmental conservation, and the socio-economic development of local communities residing in and around mining areas. The Minister emphasized that responsible mine closure practices are essential for ensuring long-term sustainability and creating opportunities for future community-oriented infrastructure and green development projects.

Further appreciating ECL's efforts toward cleaner and more efficient coal transportation systems, Shri Dubey highlighted the implementation and expansion of First Mile Connectivity (FMC) projects across various operational areas. He stated that these projects are instrumental in minimizing air pollution, reducing dependence on road transportation, improving logistical efficiency, and enabling faster, safer, and more environment-friendly evacuation of coal.

The Minister also acknowledged the company's initiatives for expanding solar energy installations and promoting renewable energy integration within mining operations. He remarked that such efforts reflect ECL's commitment towards transition to sustainable energy practices while simultaneously optimizing operational efficiency and reducing carbon emissions.

He further advised that systematic and periodic stock verification measures need to be adopted for ensuring accuracy of declared coal stock. Referring to the prevailing global scenario due to developments in West Asia and emerging energy challenges worldwide, the Minister emphasized the crucial role of ECL in strengthening the nation's energy security and maintaining operational resilience while maintaining optimum utilization of resources. He expressed confidence that ECL would achieve even greater milestones across all operational and developmental parameters.

Shri Dubey also shared valuable policy guidance and strategic inputs aimed at enhancing productivity and supporting the long-term growth of the company. Reiterating the Government's commitment towards strengthening India's energy security, he expressed appreciation for the dedication and collective efforts of Team ECL.

Recognizing ECL as one of the oldest and prominent subsidiaries of Coal India Limited, Shri Dubey conveyed confidence in the company's future prospects and appreciated its continued contribution towards meeting the nation's coal and energy requirements.

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