



### **Vote of Thanks**

**By Shri Prithul Kumar, Director, Ministry of Mines**

Honorable Minister of Power, Coal, New & Renewable Energy and Mines, Secretary Mines, Special Secretary, Dignitaries & Delegates

It feels privileged to have been given the responsibility to extend vote of thanks on this 2<sup>nd</sup> National Conclave on Mines & Minerals.

I convey sincere regards to Hon'ble Minister. He envisaged this National Conclave. After the 1<sup>st</sup> National Conclave held in July, 2016, there were several new initiatives taken under his guidance. We are greatly encouraged by his inspiring presence and thank him for his vision of a mining sector that is efficient, productive and sustainable. This would further the efforts for 'Ease of doing business' and 'Make in India'. We assure our Hon'ble Minister that we will strive to achieve his vision.

I wish to express our sincere thanks to Secretary Mines, Shri Balvinder Kumar, for his perpetual guidance and encouragement. His vision, commitment and solution oriented approach has culminated in several constructive initiatives in the mining sector. He has been the driving force behind the MSS, Star Rating, Auctions, NMEP, National Aero-Geophysical mapping project, IT implementation projects - MTS of IBM & OCBIS of GSI, and innumerable other initiatives, covering all facets of mining sector, which would not have been possible otherwise in such short span of time. It is to his efforts in the last 1 ½ years, which has led to a notable turn around in the mining sector and also success, in carving out a positive perception of the mining sector. We are still not ready to believe that he would retire at the end of this month. On this occasion of National Conclave, I would request the Hon'ble Minister, to give a memento to Secretary Mines, recognizing his relentless efforts & contributions in improvement of the mining sector and also for the organization of this Conclave.

[Memento] – Secretary Mines is also an accomplished spiritual writer. Man's Spiritual Journey and Awakening of the Thinking Mind are his recent books, besides his inspirational blogs. He is also a brilliant abstract painter.

I convey sincere thanks to Special Secretary, R. Sridharan, who is a source of inspiration and motivation in the Ministry with his vast knowledge and acumen in the subject. I also thank him for chairing the technical session on 'Impetus to Exploration' and co-chairing the technical session on 'Auctions & PMKKKY implementation'. I would request Hon'ble Minister to give memento to Special Secretary.

I express my sincere thanks to Shri Arun Kumar, Special Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and designated Secretary (Mines) for gracing the Conclave with his inspiring presence. I also extend by gratitude for co-chairing the technical session on 'Sustainable Development Framework'.

I also express my sincere thanks to Joint Secretary, Shri Subhash Chandra, without whose constant direction and support, the organization of this conclave would not have been possible. I also thank him for organizing the technical session on 'Sustainable Development Framework' & 'Import Substitution'.

I thank Economic Advisor, Shri Sudhaker Shukla for his unconditional support and for organizing the session on 'Auctions & PMKKKY implementation' and the launch of TAMRA portal.

I wish to thank Joint Secretary, Shri Niranjan Kumar Singh, for the organization of technical session on exploration and immense support in the organization of the conclave.

I also wish to convey my gratitude to Joint Secretary, Shri Nikunj Kumar Dhal for his encouragement and co-operation.

I convey thanks to all distinguished participants from the industry, the State Governments, FIMI, GSI and others, who came from distant places to attend this Conclave. The deliberations throughout the day were enriched by your overwhelming and active participation. The Ministry hopes that this conclave will provide an effective platform to enable intensive interaction of the stakeholders and help in addressing issues of the mining sector.

I also acknowledge the contributions of all those who have presented papers in the conclave.

My sincere thanks to the Print and Electronic media for their presence and their positive coverage of the Conclave.

I thank our sponsors NALCO, HZL, BALCO, HCL & MECL. I also thank HZL for hosting the lunch in the Conclave. I extend my thanks to FIMI for partnering with Ministry in ensuring overwhelming participation. My thanks to Ashoka Hotel for their services and arrangements by Shri Ashish and Shri KP Singh.

I wish also to record our sincere appreciation for CG/IBM – Shri Ranjan Sahay, IBM officials from all over the country, and also, all other members of the Organising Committee – officials from the Government of Chhattisgarh under the leadership of DGM-Chhattisgarh Ms Reena Kangale, officials from NALCO under the leadership of Shri AS Ahluwalia ED, NALCO & officials from Ministry of Mines, for their dedication, team work and untiring efforts which made the conclave a success. Organizing a National Conclave at such short notice is not an easy task, for which they deserve commendations.

At the end, I once again express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Hon'ble Minister and all the distinguished people in this convention center for their august presence on this occasion.

I request all of you to come and join for High Tea.

Thank You.