

- ✓ The World Coal Association (WCA) has recently published a series of country-specific factsheets titled "Coal in key economies" looking at the countries that recognised a role for high efficiency low emissions (HELE) coal in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). The World Coal Association published an additional factsheet with basic information on what is carbon capture use and storage, how it is linked to global climate goals and why policy parity is important.
- ✓ Adani Group has floated a wholly owned subsidiary, Korba Clean Coal Pvt Limited, to exclusively focus on investing in washeries across the country.
- ✓ Australian Mining reported that Komatsu Australia has released the 980E-4 electric drive haul truck. With a payload capacity of 362 tonnes, the 980E-4 is powered by a Komatsu SSDA18V170 Tier 2 engine, rated at 2611 kW which in combination with GE Mining's dual IGBT electric drive system provides a top speed of 64 kilometre per hour.
- ✓ NTPC Limited will not import any coal this fiscal. The premier power producer in India will source its entire coal requirement of 155 mt for the fiscal from Coal India Limited to run its 18 coal-based power plants. NTPC is the largest power company in India that accounts for around 25% of the total power generation in the country.
- ✓ Financial Express reported that over a decade after India began allocating coal-bed methane (CBM) blocks to investors, the country is nowhere near what the US, Canada and Australia have achieved in developing this energy resource - while 17 of the 33 CBM blocks allocated since 2001 have already been relinquished by the firms concerned, the total gas production from the remaining blocks is languishing at an abysmal 1.38 mmscmd/day.
- ✓ In order to seek views of all stakeholders Ministry of Coal organised a Workshop on Coal Beneficiation at Kolkata on 20th August 2016. Over 60 senior representatives of coal companies, power gencons, and railways, CEA, Ministry of Power and CPSI participated in this workshop. Special Secretary MoC was the Chief Guest and Chairman CIL presided over the meeting in which President, CPSI had also participated.
- ✓ The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) and the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration announced a \$38.8 million investment to revive the economies in communities impacted by closure of coal mines in the region by creating jobs in agriculture, technology, entrepreneurship, manufacturing, and other varied areas in communities affiliated with coal.
- ✓ Ministry of Coal is working on formulation of a policy for disposal of 'rejects' generated by merchant coal washeries. Ministry has asked for comments from all stake holders by 7th September 2016.
- ✓ Using data from satellites and on-ground surveys, scientists have created maps that show how the impacts of human activities on the environment (or human footprint) have changed over a 16-year period, between 1993 and 2009. The team found that while human population increased by 23% and the world economy grew by 153% during this period, human footprint increased by only 9%. "Seeing that our impacts have expanded at a rate that is slower than the rate of economic and population growth is encouraging," lead author Oscar Venter of the University of Northern British Columbia, said in a statement. "It means we are becoming more efficient in how we use natural resources."
Source : Nature Communication.
- ✓ Economic Times has reported that the government has approved Reliance Power's request to mortgage coal blocks attached to Sasan ultra mega power project (UMPP) in Madhya Pradesh to foreign lenders of the plant that include banks from the US, China and Singapore, official sources said.
- ✓ In order to meet the objective 'power of all', Government of India aims at adding 261 GW to existing 303 GW capacity taking total generating capacity to 564 GW. The addition plan includes 100 GW of solar, 75 GW other renewable and 86 GW thermal.
- ✓ The power ministry is preparing plans to set up two funds of \$1 billion each to enable alternative financing of for stressed power assets and renewable energy projects. It has been that the government was working on mega investment plan for power sector that includes an investment support of over Rs. one lakh crore to states under DDUGJY and IPD Schemes. One lakh crore investment is likely to materialise through four UMPPs of 4000 capacity each.
Source : Economic Times.
- ✓ Coal India will sign an agreement with African Exploration Mining & Finance Corporation (AEMFC), a company owned by the South African state, for the acquisition of coal mines in that country, reports CNBC. The deal allows Coal India to proceed to the "identification, acquisition, exploration, development and operation of coal assets in South Africa". The deal was already approved by Coal India's board of directors. A date and place will be set to the final signing of the deal.
- ✓ The Ministry of Steel wants to ensure a larger supply of domestic coking coal to the steel plants of the Steel Authority of India and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam. It also wants to reduce India's dependence on imports of this commodity. During the fiscal year 2015-16, Coal India produced 53.8 million tonnes of coking coal. The company plans to expand production to 71.77 million tonnes per annum until 2019-20.