I am happy to learn that L&T is bringing out a special issue of Earthmover News dedicated to the mining segment during IMME 2014. We are extremely happy to be associated with L&T – one of India’s finest engineering companies – which has been distributing Komatsu products in the Indian market.

Komatsu is active in the Indian market for over 4 decades and has built an unassailable reputation with its cutting-edge technology and superior performance. There are many occasions when Komatsu machines have set new productivity standards while operating in open cast mining projects across the vast country.

Given the excellent growth opportunity in India, Komatsu is investing strategically in its manufacturing facilities and support infrastructure. Our Central Warehouse in Nagpur is highly modernized and meets the increased needs of a huge-size site population and to keep the machines uptime high.

Our Chennai plant has one of the most advanced facilities with a synthesis of Japanese concepts and Indian culture. The plant currently rolls out 60 ton and 100 ton off-highway dump trucks which have a good offtake in the mining industry.

We look forward to continuing an excellent relationship with L&T which we have enjoyed all these years. While thanking the customers spread across India for their overwhelming support, we wish to state that we are resolutely committed to taking customer service to newer heights.

We invite you to join us in IMME 2014 in Kolkata as we jointly take up participation to showcase some of our best products – WA900 Wheel Loader and HD785 Dump Truck.

Warm regards,

K. Mizuhara
Managing Director
Komatsu India Pvt. Ltd.

L&T has been at the forefront of the construction and mining industry in India for several decades. From being a pioneer in the manufacture of hydraulic excavators, L&T has consolidated its position in the industry with expertise in marketing and management of heavy earthmoving equipment.

Today, as the distributor of Komatsu and Scania equipment in the Indian market, L&T works closely with customers across user segments to provide them highly-efficient machines that combine technology with quality and reliability to optimize operational costs. To showcase L&T’s strengths and demonstrate the power of Komatsu machines, we are participating in IMME 2014 with a display of mega machines viz., WA900 Wheel Loader and HD785 Rear Dump Truck. WA900 has come to be accepted for its robustness and reliability in the iron ore industry in a record time and HD785 Dumpers have become the mainstay haulage vehicle in major mining projects across the country. Tough and efficient Scania Tipper Trucks are on display and have an important role and carved a niche in the mid-mining segment today.

L&T Earthmover News’ special issue, focuses on L&T’s contribution to mining activity, success stories from the field and its continuing efforts to provide best-in-class customer service. The issue also looks at L&T’s unmatched commitment to customer service which has seen the company sign up and operate FMCs at major sites that have provided the customers with outstanding availability and equipment utilization. We look forward to striking new partnerships even as we continue to provide you with the unique L&T experience that goes far beyond the conventional engagement.

Through this forum, I wish to thank all our esteemed customers for reposing their faith in L&T and confidence in Komatsu and Scania products and look forward to long lasting relationships.

Best regards

Arvind K. Garg
Vice-President & Head
Construction & Mining Machinery Business,
Larsen & Toubro Limited

The Indian mining industry is catching up pace and is expected to grow ten times the current level, to meet the rapidly growing needs of 1.3 billion people in the country. The emerging cities in India will need reformed infrastructure and transportation solutions. Addressing the growth factors it is essential that we opt for sustainable solutions in order to balance and conserve the environment, and this we can achieve by ensuring low fuel consumption, low particulate and CO2 emissions and low lifecycle cost of operation and maintenance.

Scania introduced the concept of TOE (Total Operating Economy) to its customers in India. TOE as concept helps in realizing the principles of sustainability through low fuel consumption, better vehicle up-time and efficient vehicle performance. In a typical mining industry, vehicles ply round the clock carrying the load, it is essential that the vehicles employed in the sector needs to be sturdy and efficient. Scania’s products have proven record of delivering outstanding result in the toughest of the conditions. In addition to the existing P410, we are now launching Scania P460 (8x4) Tipper with a rock body updated with world leading features for the toughest mining conditions. Our offerings in the off-road segment have been time-tested and they prove to be best among available solutions in India.

The other major factor that contributes to the concept of sustainability is our Driver Training program. A good driver is a major factor for better fuel economy, vehicle up-time, and increased safety as well as contributes to social benefits. Scania is set to establish strong grounds in the mining sector with an aim to capture 50% market share in next 5 years. Scania products will lead in changing the Indian transportation industry into sustainability mode while ensuring profitable operations and less cost of overall transportation.

With regards

Anders Grundström
Managing Director
Scania India Pvt. Ltd.
Tata Steel Reposes Faith in L&T

Tata Steel Limited has been a pioneer in steel making in the private sector having established the first steel plant with a sophisticated blast furnace in Jamshedpur. To keep the activity going, the company acquired iron ore and coal mines in Orissa, Jharkhand and West Bengal and developed them efficiently with high mechanization.

In the course of time, Tata Steel became one of the foremost companies to globalize its operations as well.

Its Ore Mines & Quarries Division is responsible for supply of iron ore to its Jamshedpur Plant and the upcoming Kalinganagar Plant. With Jamshedpur Plant in expansion mode, Tata Steel had to increase the capacity of iron ore mines by upgrading and augmenting capacity of the existing fleet of mining machinery. The target was to produce approx 18 Million Tons of iron ore (from the current level of approx 10 Million Tons) to feed 10 Million Tons Steel Plant (after expansion) at Jamshedpur. The ore had to be supplied from Noamundi-Katamati Mines and Joda Mines.

In 2007, Tata Steel initiated the process for selection of large-size mining equipment for Noamundi Mines. Based on technical merits, TSL decided to purchase a fleet of Komatsu machines which constituted WA900 Wheel Loader, D275A Dozer, GD825A Motor Grader and 13 nos. HD785 Rear Dump Trucks. In equipment deployment, Tata Steel established a record for being the first company to have successfully deployed large-size 9 Cu.M Wheel Loaders in the iron ore mines.

The order included supply of equipment alongwith Full Maintenance Contract. The fleet has been working to the fullest satisfaction of the customer. Tata Steel renewed the FMC for a second term. The acquisition and deployment of large-size Wheel Loader by Tata Steel at Naomundi Mines is in itself a milestone in the Indian iron ore mining industry.

Soon after, Tata Steel started the process for upgradation and augmentation of mining machinery deployed in Joda East Mines in 2009. Taking into cognizance Komatsu fleet’s high availability and superb performance in Noamundi, and L&T’s track record in service capability, Tata Steel decided to place order on L&T for Komatsu machines again. Accordingly, L&T signed up Full Maintenance Contract following the fleet delivery comprising WA900, D275, GD825 and 6 nos HD785 machines.

It was time for Tata Steel to push for capacity building of Khondbondh Mines which caters for the new Kalinganagar Project. The target was to increase the mining capacity from the current level of 0.6 Million Ton to a huge 8 Million Ton per year. Once again, after considering all the major manufacturers, Tata Steel reposed its faith and confidence in L&T and Komatsu. L&T received the order for supply and commissioning of a large Komatsu equipment fleet: 2 nos WA900-3E0 Wheel Loader, 3 nos. D275A-5 Ripper Dozer (410HP class), GD825A-2 Motor Grader (280 HP class), 11 nos. HD785-7 Dump Trucks (100T payload capacity), 1 no. WD600-3 Wheel Dozer and 2 nos Water Sprinklers were ordered which are under execution. The fleet will again be supported under Full Maintenance contract by L&T and Komatsu.

The placement of this prestigious order on L&T clearly demonstrates Tata Steel’s immense faith in the product reliability of Komatsu machines and service management of L&T to Indian mining customers. “This also strengthens our relationship with Tata Steel Limited from being a traditional purchaser-supplier to mutual objective-based partnership”, says Mr. Jayanta Kumar Pal, Zonal Manager, MEB-East, L&T.
Thriveni Earthmovers - Mining Success in Iron Ore

A journey of a thousand miles began from a small town in Salem, Tamil Nadu in 1991. From humble beginnings, the family comprising of the father Mr. P. Balasubramanian and his sons, Mr. B. Prabhakaran and Mr. B. Karthikeyan have nurtured Thriveni Earthmovers Pvt. Ltd. to grow and stand tall amongst the mining companies of India. Thriveni Group, which denotes -- You, People and Client -- has always kept pace with challenges.

They started their march to success by taking up small contracts in mining initially. Thriveni proved its mettle while working on the breakwaters for the Project Seabird of Indian Navy, in association with L&T and Hochtief. The shifting to the remote district of Kendujharahar-Odisha proved to be the turning point for their fortunes. The region was rich in iron ore deposits but iron ore mining was not considered lucrative in those days. Contrary to the advice of mining pundits, the promoters held on and eventually paved the way for Thriveni Earthmovers to grow and establish itself as a big player in mining industry.

Thriveni’s presence in the mining industry for over 20 years has been marked by the urge to explore new horizons with a flexibility to adapt to new technology; a strategy that has enabled the company to globalize its operations. Today, Thriveni Earthmovers is one of the largest MDOs (Mine Developer and Operator) in India handling 18 projects amounting to 60 million tonnes. It offers end-to-end solutions in mining with bundled-up services that includes consultancy services to obtaining clearances in mining / forestry / environment, development of mine by deployment of machines/manpower. Besides iron ore, Thriveni is actively engaged in coal and other minerals like limestone, bauxite, graphite, quartzite, copper, lignite and armoured rock.

Another ambitious foray for Thriveni is the facility that is set up near Chennai to manufacture artificial sand (M-SAND) by crushing rocks and another plant near Hosur to churn out blue-metal aggregates as well as M-Sand for infra projects. In its quest for globalization, Thriveni has moved beyond the subcontinent to establish operations in Africa and South East Asia. They have acquired a coal concession in Indonesia and have started mining operations there and loading on to ships by using barges in the mid-sea.

Besides this, they have set up a trading arm for coal and minerals in Dubai and working on a railway restoration and infrastructure project in Mozambique. Thriveni has also obtained stakes in Geomysore India (P) Ltd., and plans to get into gold mining at Jonnagiri village in Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh.

What makes Thriveni different in their work is their unfailing commitment to society. Besides integrating themselves in the local milieu, they have initiated measures that has seen the locals buy and operate trucks, create social projects like cooperative society, old age home and primary schools. Thriveni established a modern pathology lab and diagnostic centre in Joda, which is one of the best in the entire iron ore belt and is frequented by the tribal population from nearby areas.

Their ‘People first’ policy made them establish an employer & employee owned Maa Tarani Logistics Limited by offering equity to employees and the assets of MTLL are engaged in parent company on rental basis.
Holcim India - Cementing a Strong Partnership

Swiss-based cement behemoth Holcim strategically moved into India when it acquired major shareholdings in Ambuja Cement Ltd (ACL) and ACC Ltd (ACC). With the combined installed capacity of both the companies being appx 54 Million Tons, Holcim became the second largest cement producer in India.

L&T’s association with Holcim started with Ambuja Cement – one of the most progressive and profitable companies. ACL was always much ahead of its time in reducing operational costs by opting for higher-size mining equipment. Hitherto, limestone mines in India were using 40-60 Ton Loading Shovels and 35-40 Ton size Rear Dump Trucks.

Based on techno-economic feasibility study, ACL took a strategic decision to buy Komatsu PC1250 Loading Shovel and Komatsu HD465 Dump Truck for its Daralaghat plant, located in the hilly state of Himachal Pradesh. These equipment were acquired by ACL during January 2007. This was the first limestone mines in India to successfully deploy 100 Ton Loading Shovel and 60 Ton Dump Truck.

This combination was a huge success and prompted ACL’s other mines to switch over to large-size mining equipment. No sooner did ACC Ltd (formerly Tata company) became part of Holcim Group, they saw the advantages that ACL had obtained by deploying large-size machines. This paved the way for Holcim’s other mines located in Bhatapara, Galag, Wadi, Chanda, Chaibasa, Kymore, Maratha and Jamul to acquire and deploy Komatsu PC1250 and HD465 machines.

“One of the key deciding factors of these orders coming in L&T’s favour was the high equipment reliability and our capability to live-up to the stringent after-sales and service expectations of customers,” says Mr. Partha Mookherjee, Head-Mining Equipment Business, L&T. ACL/ACC opted to go with L&T for FMC at three sites. The excellent execution of these contracts by L&T’s Product Support team ensured high equipment uptime and has further cemented the customer’s faith in L&T’s abilities.

Seeing the success of PC1250/HD465 combination at ACL and ACC plants, many other leading cement producers in India have decided to opt for this winning combination. As a result, in the last few years, Komatsu has the leading market share of mining equipment supplied to the cement industry. Komatsu equipment at ACL and ACC currently includes 17 nos PC1250/10 nos PC600/3 nos. PC400/ 4 nos. PC200 Hydraulic Excavators; 2 nos. HD785, 47 nos. HD465 Rear Dump Trucks, 4 nos. D275/ 3 nos. D155/ D65 Dozers and WA500 Wheel Loader.

Major cement plants in India are currently in their next phase of transition, wherein, efficiency improvement is a key performance driver. In this regard, L&T is closely associated with Techport – the technical outfit of Holcim. L&T and Holcim have jointly undertaken a series of fleet optimization studies, equipment selection studies based on ‘lowest cost per ton’ criteria and efficiency improvement studies. The implementation of these recommendations over a period of time has resulted in a strong bonding between ACL/ACC and L&T/Komatsu.

JoIFUL Meetings are held periodically between the stakeholders to review the progress of projects and to take stock of the service/parts requirements.

Komatsu machines have crossed a major milestone in Holcim’s mining history by becoming their trusted partners. L&T has been closely working with Holcim Group by supplying best-in-class equipment and unmatched product support with high machine availability and increased productivity.

In perspective, Holcim is one of the most successful cement corporates in the world with close to 150 plants and an installed production capacity of 217 Million Tons. Holcim has interests in building material and aggregates with operations spread in 70 countries and employing over 70,000.

Founded in 1912, Holcim expanded into France and then throughout Europe and the Middle East during the 1920s. They moved into North America/Latin America and added Asian geographies during the 1970s and 1980s. In April 2014, it announced a merger with the largest cement producer in the world, M/s. Lafarge and this merger is expected to be completed by mid-2015.
Shree Cement Limited (SCL), the flagship company of Shree Group promoted by the Bangur family, is one of the most successful and biggest cement brands in India today. Headquartered in Kolkata, SCL operates Asia's biggest single-location limestone mine at Ras, Rajasthan having very large reserves which caters limestone to their Ras Cement Plant, and contributing to 7 per cent of the India's cement requirement.

The company's first footprint in the cement industry commenced with operations in Beawar Unit, near Ajmer, Rajasthan, followed by Ras Cement Unit, and now SCL is in its pursuit to shortly commission a greenfield project in Raipur-Chhattisgarh.

This cement group was founded by Mr. Benu Gopal Bangur, Chairman, who continues to take active interest in the business. His son, Mr. Hari Mohan Bangur, Managing Director, who studied chemical engineering at IIT-Bombay, made use of pioneering technology to build a world-class cement plant in India. Now, the suave Mr. Prashant Bangur from the third-generation, an alumnus of ISB-Hyderabad has been inducted into the management team as a Whole-time Director to provide new dynamism.

The SCL family lead by Bangurs always sets challenging limits for themselves. Under their effective leadership, the group blazed a trail in the cement industry with new initiatives like innovative technology, people empowerment, environment friendly norms, which has enabled the Indian cement industry to get global recognition. The group is involved in end-to-end processing from mining and crushing to cement production and packaging.

SCL today has total installed capacity of more than 17.5 MTPA of cement, with multiple brands like ‘Shree Ultra’, ‘Bangur’, ‘Rockstrong’. The group is also active in power generation with plants spread in Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and Chattisgarh, and having installed capacity of 597 MW, including waste heat recovery plant of 81 MW, making it the largest such capacity in the global cement industry, excluding China.

With annual rock-handling of 19.12 Million Tonnes at Ras Plant and 3.08 Million Tonnes at Raipur, Chattisgarh, SCL deploys 100-Ton class Excavator with 60 Ton payload Dump Truck for limestone mining. In 2009, L&T started partnering SCL with contracts for supply of 3 nos. Komatsu Hydraulic Excavator PC1250-8R (100 Ton class) and 2 nos. Komatsu D155A-6R Dozer (350 HP class). Till such time, SCL was a fleet owner of similar capacity Hydraulic Excavators of another Equipment supplier.

In 2012, SCL went for mines expansion by adding Plants-IX & X in Ras unit, and a greenfield project at Raipur. The exceptional performance and high reliability of Komatsu machines saw L&T bagging more orders for PC1250, D155, and introduction of HD465 Dump Trucks in SCL. L&T team has been providing excellent on-site support, including machine erection and commissioning, and thereafter Full Maintenance Contract (FMC) that have enabled the Komatsu fleet with high uptime. Today, L&T has total fleet of 36 Nos. Komatsu Mining Equipment in various projects of SCL, which includes 8 x PC1250SP-8R, 18 x HD465-7EO, 10 x D155A-6R. Another 1 x PC1250SP-8R and 4 x HD465-7EO shall be added to this fleet within March 2015.

Shree Cement Limited has exciting plans ahead as it hastens to expand its current capacity to 25 Million Tons during FY 2014-15. The bourses too have reacted favourably for Shree Cement with its stock jumping from Rs 45 a decade ago to Rs 6,000 today.
Wonder Cement Poised for Big Growth

Ever wondered where Wonder Cement is from? Well, this is one of the youngest brands in the cement industry and comes from the 'wonderland' of Rajasthan, associated with people known for guts and glory. It is here that Patni Brothers have come together to promote - Wonder Cement Limited. The plant is located in Nimbaheeda of Chittorgarh district. Wonder Cement owes its name to the existing and much popular 'Wonder Marble'.

The brothers -- Mr. Ashok Patni, Mr. Suresh Patni and Mr. Vimal Patni - are part of the illustrious R.K. Marble Group, one of the largest marble mining companies in the world, contributing to nearly 20 per cent of the marble trade in India and an undisputed leader of the marble trade.

Patni Brothers have transformed the face of the marble industry by inducting innovative technology, manpower development and empowerment, use of environment-friendly practices, which has enabled the Indian marble industry to get international recognition.

Besides Rajasmand/Banswara pockets in Rajasthan and Katni (M.P), RK Marble owns marble blocks overseas in Vietnam. The marble blocks are further processed into slabs and tiles at world-class technology plants. It also has mines of Phyllite (a kind of slate stone) and a state-of-the-art facility to process and impart a special finish to the slate, granites and other stones.

With the stupendous success that marble industry gave them, Patni Brothers ventured into the cement industry by setting up a greenfield cement plant with 3.25 MTPA capacity and 40 MW captive power plant. Being new to the industry, the Patni Brothers roped in highly qualified and experienced professionals to help manage the cement division.

The company’s plant located in Nimbaheera, Chittorgarh district produces 3.25 Million Tons per annum. The success of Line-1 operations encouraged Wonder Cement to expand further in the cement industry – from its current capacity to 10 Million Tons in due course by setting up a 2nd and 3rd production line for which land and layouts are ready. Line-1 plant installed capacity is 2.0 MTPA clinker, 3.25 MTPA cement and 3.75 MTPA limestone.

Currently, WCL has started brownfield expansion of Integrated Cement Project with Clinker (2.0 MTPA to 6.0 MTPA), Cement (3.25 MTPA to 8.0 MTPA) and Limestone handling (3.75 MTPA to 9.1 MTPA, ROM) at the same location. This is expected to be commissioned by December 2015 and commercial production by March 2016.

In Nimbaheera, Wonder Cement has an installed capacity of 3.25 MTPA for which 4.50 MTPA ROM (Run-Of-Mine) limestone is required. Wonder Cement has two mining leases in Bhaktotari limestone mines spread over a total area of 7.40 sqkm. The mines have over 330 million tons proved reserves and 25 million tons probable reserves. The total mineable reserves are over 355 million tons. WCL has deployed the highly effective combination of Komatsu PC1250-8R Hydraulic Excavators with HD465-7E0 Rear Dumpers in the opencast mines to extract limestone. Limestone deposits are mainly extracted by bench mining in which holes are charged with ammonium nitrate and fuel oil explosive and blasted.

WCL had deployed the most productive fleet of Komatsu machines comprising 6 Nos. HD465-7E0 Dump Trucks, 02 nos. PC1250-8R Hydraulic Excavators and D155A-6R Dozer at the Nimbaheera mines. WCL opted to standardize the single brand fleet after having evaluated other options and were highly impressed with the productivity parameters and superior technology of Komatsu machines and aided by L&T’s unmatched service support.

To take care of its expansion plans, WCL has placed repeat orders on L&T for the new fleet of Komatsu machines comprising 02 nos. PC1250-8R and 06 nos. HD465-7E0. “After successful completion of supply and excellent service support from L&T, we have again clinched the package deal from Wonder Cement for supply of new mining equipment,” says Mr. Manish Jhamb, Zonal Manager, Mining Equipment Business-North, L&T speaking on behalf of his team.
Emami Diversifies into Cement Business

From personal care to ayurvedic products, Emami has charmed generations of Indian customers with its popular brands that have made it a household name. And now – as a brand extension, Emami has diversified its business into the core area of cement production and would shortly launch its own brand of cement.

Established in 1974 by two friends, Mr. Radhey Shyam Gupta and Mr. Radhey Shyam Agarwal, the Emami Group rapidly expanded over the years and has added varied businesses to its folio. Today, Emami Group has turnover of around USD 1 Billion and has a strong presence in FMCG, ayurvedic products, newsprint, edible oil, bio-diesel, healthcare, retail pharmacy and realty.

With Emami Group deciding to diversify into cement production, work has commenced on its first plant in Chattisgarh - in the limestone belt of Baloda Bazar, about 110 km from Raipur. The plant shall produce 3.3 MTPA of cement and cater to Central and Eastern India. The plant is expected to be commissioned in September 2015.

Since this is a greenfield project, Emami followed a robust process of selection of the right equipment for the mines, fully aware that these equipment are a crucial link in the cement production process. The group had discussions with various suppliers, working out different equipment combinations. The evaluation process – spread over one year period – was rigorous involving site visits, study of customer’s maintenance records and feedback from the existing customers.

To make themselves familiar with the need for critical after-sales support, Emami team visited a few FMC sites in Chattisgarh to collect first-hand information about capacity and capability of different service providers. It was only after this stringent process that Emami finally decided on Komatsu machines, with L&T as its partner and placed orders for 2 nos. Komatsu PC1250-8R Loading Shovels, 6 nos. HD465-7E0 Dump Trucks and 1 no D155A-6R Dozer. The entire fleet is scheduled to be delivered and commissioned by April 2015.

“It was a very satisfying experience to go through the entire process and come out as winners towards the end. We welcome Emami Group to our illustrious club of customers”, says Mr. Anjan Datta, Zonal Manager, Mining Equipment Business-West, L&T.

Moving into Next Level Of Relationship with CCL

Central Coalfields Limited is a highly-active subsidiary of Coal India Limited and a mini-ratna company recognized by Government of India. Headquartered in Ranchi, CCL’s projects and mines are spread over Ramgarh, North/South Karanpura, East/ West Bokaro areas. Some of the prestigious projects operated by CCL include Rajrappa, Piparwar, Argada, Saundra, Giddi, Ashok and Magadh.

In recent years, CCL has stepped up mechanization in its opencast projects through a slew of initiatives aimed at improving efficiency and meeting increased production targets. During the financial year 2013-14, CCL’s coal production reached its highest-ever figure of 50.15 million tons. The coal production target for the FY 2014-15 has been fixed at 55 million tons.

Presently, CCL owns and operates a large fleet of Hydraulic Excavators, a majority of which are L&T 300CK machines. These machines, manufactured by L&T, have been popular in the coal industry for over two decades. Even today, several coal companies’ mines continue to repose their faith in L&T 300 machines.

In a recent development, L&T bagged orders for supply and commissioning of 59 nos. Komatsu HD465-7E0 Dump Trucks through long and consistent efforts. This is the first major order secured from a CIL subsidiary for 60 ton Dump Trucks. These machines will enable CCL to augment its equipment fleet and to meet the additional production of coal. The clinching of this order gives a unique opportunity for both L&T and Komatsu to work closely with CCL in building a long-term relationship to meet the challenge of augmenting additional coal output in future and be a key enabler in the process.

Another key development has been the order for supply of the first 10 Cu.M Komatsu WA800-3E0 Wheel Loader to CCL, which was commissioned at its Piparwar Project recently. This new journey will enable both CCL and L&T to scale new heights tapping the various other unexplored opportunities in future.
VPR – Blazing a Trail in Mining Contracts

Mr. V. Prabhakar Reddy, who promotes VPR Mining Infrastructure, created history in 2008 when he acquired and deployed mammoth size machines viz., Komatsu PC2000 Hydraulic Excavator and HD785 Dump Trucks to handle huge contract for OB removal at SCCL-Ramagundam. Mr. Prabhakar Reddy’s success story is etched with his hard work, gut feeling and bold decisions. The success he met in this project prompted him to sign up for more such mega projects.

VPRMI has strong interests in mining and irrigation. The company has been engaged in overburden removal in coal mines, providing technical services in mining and undertaking excavation for irrigation projects. For over 15 years, the company is actively executing projects for Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd., Andhra Pradesh; Western Coalfields Ltd., Maharashtra and Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd., Orissa.

“Our biggest assets are our people and equipment base”, says Mr. Prabhakar Reddy, who originally started off as an irrigation contractor in 1990. VPRMI was incorporated in January 2008 by enlarging the operations to cover mining segment by acquiring professional expertise and an entire fleet of L&T, Komatsu and Scania machines. VPR has efficiently mustered its resources between the two sectors to bring economic benefit to the company. The company believes that strong infrastructure is essential to achieve a high level of efficiency and productivity. VPRMI has a full-fledged fabrication and workshop facility to take care of all heavy equipments at site.

VPR has many distinctions to its credit – when it comes to deploying equipment for his contracts. In was way back in 2000, he was the first contractor to work with the robust L&T 300CK Hydraulic Excavators. He is also one of the few entrepreneurs to have tried out various L&T supplied machines for his projects. These include – L&T-Komatsu PC300, Komatsu PC400 and Komatsu PC600 machines.

When L&T introduced Scania P380 Tipper Trucks, VPR was the first to have acquired and deployed them to transport ore and material in his project sites. He is in great awe of Scania tippers and found them highly efficient and flexible for his operations.

In recent years, VPRMI has increased its focus on technological excellence to improve productivity and to deliver more value to his clients. In view of this, VPR has implicit faith in Komatsu machines and has partnered with L&T for the supply of best equipment and providing effective after sales support for his projects.

Over the years, VPRMI has developed enormous resources in terms of trained manpower and equipment to handle projects of various size. VPR’s core strength is his team of dedicated and qualified people who enjoy sufficient authority and freedom to plan their activities in advance and act in time to bring operational efficiency and minimize time losses.

In view of strong expansion plans, VPR Mining is emerging as one of the large Indian customers of Komatsu equipment with a potential to grow substantially in future. He been driving his company to newer heights of growth year after year. His company has the proud distinction of having infrastructure ready to excavate 5 million Cu.M. per month and 50 million Cu.M. per year.

True to his reputation of being a leader, VPR has forayed into the global mining space by breaking new grounds on foreign land with projects in Senegal, West Africa and East Kalimantan, Indonesia. In most of these projects, Komatsu Mining Equipment have been deployed and performing to the utmost satisfaction.
BGR – Mining expertise to the fore

Hyderabad-headquartered BGR Mining & Infra Pvt. Ltd., promoted by an astute and dynamic businessman, Mr. B. Girijapathi Reddy, has operational expertise in mining excavation and actively engaged in executing projects for Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd., in various parts of Andhra Pradesh.

The firm was originally established in the year 1988 and subsequently reconstituted. BGR Mining & Infra Pvt. Ltd., was incorporated in 2011. BGR’s aim is to be one among the leading mining/ OB removal/civil contractors in terms of fulfilling the clients’ needs professionally, proactively and within time-scale while providing gainful employment to the people.

Starting off with earthwork excavation, BGR has progressed to accomplishing bigger projects, like coalfield excavation and OB removal contracts. Over the last 20 years, BGR has successfully extracted OB and coal of over 400 million cubic metres. The company has maintained impressive standards of quality and its consistent performance has made it a leader in the Indian mining industry.

In the year 2000, BGR successfully moved to higher-capacity tipper trucks for operating in the opencast mines. BGR is one of the prominent players in the private sector to foray into mega mining by acquiring mammoth machines like Komatsu PC2000 excavator that held sway in the market. BGR’s fleet includes Komatsu D65/D85/D155 Dozers and GD705 Motor Grader. BGR has recently placed orders on L&T for supply of 150 nos Scania Tipper Trucks – which shall be deployed in various mid-mining projects to haul ore and material.

Today, BGR is one of the frontline firms engaged in overburden removal contracts in coal sector in the country. Besides SCCL, BGR has been handling projects for NCL and CCL. Their successful execution and expanding operations have seen BGR own and operate one of the largest equipment fleet in India. BGR aims to embark on new avenues of excavation and extraction of major minerals like iron ore, bauxite and to expand services to clients across the steel, aluminium, sponge iron and cement industries.

Its strategic plans have resulted in the development of virgin mines into coal production within a timeframe of 3-6 months from the assigning of the project. Some of projects include the virgin mines in Western Coalfields Limited in Chandrapur/Nagpur and Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd. that were brought into coal production.

Some of the BGR’s ongoing projects include Blast Hole Drilling, Controlled Blasting with Shock Tube Initiation, Excavation, Loading, Transportation and Dumping of Overburden operations at Singrauli (MP), Sirampur (AP), Khairagura (AP), Hazaribagh (Jharkhand) and Raigarh (Chattisgarh).

BGR has plans to expand his operations in India for which infrastructure has already been put in place and achievable targets identified. Its full-fledged fabrication and workshop facility takes care of the maintenance of all heavy earthmoving equipment. Backed by several years of understanding and expertise, BGR’s team of professionals are gearing up for greater challenges in the future.
EMTA-Baranj: Rejuvenating PC3000 Machines
- L&T's success story

In the year 1997, L&T had created history for being the first company to have successfully erected and commissioned 4 nos Komatsu PC3000 mammoth machines at Karnataka EMTA Coal Mines Limited at its Baranj Opencast Project in Chandrapur, Maharashtra. Built with 15 cum bucket capacity, these 300-ton class machines were the largest size excavators deployed in Indian coal mining industry.

The machines were maintained by L&T under Full Maintenance & Repair Contract (MARC) from its site set-up with support from Service Centre-Nagpur. The machines had gone through the rigours of the mines, spread over the last 6 years and 22,000 hours. And what they needed now was a major overhaul to keep them rejuvenated for a further period.

L&T Service Centre deputed its expert team - to take up the challenge to overhaul the gigantic machines at the job-site. This involved meticulous planning and detailed preparation for manpower, tools, spare parts and infrastructure with adequate attention to safety. The overhauling activity was done at the site despite constraints in environment, tools, tackles and was deftly handled. The overhauling job was carried out from a temporary shed erected for the purpose and was achieved with zero-accident well within the scheduled time.

The machine was stripped off – to show up hydraulic components, mechanical drives, prime-mover, undercarriage, electrical items, air-conditioning units. Different hydraulic and mechanical components were sent to Nagpur for component overhauling and providing a fresh lease of life. The bare turret body and attachment members were inspected thoroughly for any fatigue crack etc.

The components were then replaced with either repaired or new ones. Hydraulic pipeline dressings, new electrical wirings, mechanical drives fitment were carried out with top attention and care. Post assembly of all components, the machine hydraulics was re-calibrated as per Komatsu guidelines. The entire equipment was then tested under load and all parameters were checked as per Komatsu Testing and Adjustment Procedures. This was followed up by a fresh coat of paint of the machine body and affixing new stickers.

The machines, gleaming new, were handed over to the customer for regular operation. The overhauling job of 3 machines was completed in a very short time and the first machine has already clocked over 5000 hrs trouble-free service. The overhauling of the last machine is now in progress.

For optimum utilization of idle time of the machine, the job was taken up during the monsoon season. Even though the under-foot conditions in the project site were restrictive due to rains, the team exhibited specialized skills and passion to overcome all this and to pursue the goal of customer satisfaction.

Komatsu team was closely involved with L&T in the entire activity by providing technical advice and component support. They also facilitated the visit of a global expert to the site during the overhaul activity. This expert guidance helped L&T team in not only executing the overhaul job flawlessly, but enriched the knowledge of engineers in handling mammoth activity of this size and nature.

“In successfully delivering this activity, L&T team has demonstrated its confidence and the ability to carry out overhauling of large-size mining machinery like Excavators, Dumpers, Dozers at site without having to compromise on quality and safety issues as well as to abide by the timelines,” says Mr. Subhasis Das, Head, Service Centre-Nagpur.
Service & Training Centre at Kanchipuram offers world-class facilities

Service & Training Centre - Kanchipuram is the latest in the chain of service centres established by L&T Construction & Mining Machinery as part of its efforts to augment customer service and provide world-class infrastructural facilities. The centre is strategically located on NH4, about 60 km from Chennai and spread over a total area of 33,500 Sq.M.

Exclusive sections provide comprehensive, cost-effective repairs and service solutions for customers’ high-value equipment. This facility is the largest of its kind in South India and conforms to the exacting standards of our Principals, viz Komatsu & Scania. Adequate space is available to handle repairs and overhaul of large-size Dozers, Dump Trucks and Excavators deployed in the tough mining application, to give them a new lease of life.

The building incorporates modern design and layout with epoxy flooring. The workshop area occupies 3680 Sq.M. of which Engine Bay / Hydraulic Bay/Machine Shop/Assembly Shop – 920 Sq.M. each. An exclusive area for Parts Stores has been provided.

Hydraulic Repair & Test Facilities

Complete revamping of Hydraulic Components with dust-free assembly room and well-equipped testing rigs for Hydraulic Pumps, Control Valves, Motors, Cylinders and Transmissions.

Engine Bay

Engine Bay is equipped with modern tools, overhead crane and fixtures to carry out specialized repairs and complete overhauling of all models of Komatsu engines ranging from 60 to 1100HP. Critical component repairs of the engines are carried out in dust-free assembly room. Automated washing facilities of engine sub-parts helps accomplish perfect engine repairs.
Assembly Shop
Assembly Shop is designed with modern facilities to accommodate repairs of large-size mining machinery. Exclusive assembly facilities for small-size construction equipment are also provided. The workspace incorporates high-capacity hoist cranes, heavy-duty hydraulic press, special tools and fixtures to enable proficient refurbishment of aged and accident-damaged machines and deliver them as new ones.

Machine Shop
Machine Shop is equipped with Radial Drilling Machine, MIG Welding Machine, Horizontal Line Boring Machine, Metal Spraying facilities and Lathes for carrying out structural repairs, reconditioning of bush bores, specialized repairs of Control Valve Bank spool bores, salvaging and refurbishing worn out parts and reconditioning of Engine Cylinder Head & Block.

Customer Benefits
All our modern service centres are customer-centric and offer benefits, which include:

- Tailor-made, customer-specific life time maintenance & repair solutions such as full maintenance contracts, annual maintenance contracts, site support or spare parts rate contracts. These help users choose the type of services they need from the service station, depending upon their own capabilities.

- Advanced component repair facilities add & extend another life at a much reduced cost, hence reducing the operating cost of the equipment.

- Complete testing facilities ensure components are sent to the field after undergoing load test.

- RECON components not only help reduce the operating cost, but also provide instant availability of genuine component in exchange, thereby minimising the break down.

- The service stations have some of our most experienced service engineers who help resolve the most intricate issues with advanced & complex technology of current mining equipment.

The Service Centre extends total fleet maintenance solution to customers through Full Maintenance Contract, Annual Maintenance Contract, Site Support Agreements and Spare Parts Rate Contract.

Training Centre
We realise that skill of customers operating personnel and our service team will be the key to future success. Full potential of equipment can be harnessed only if these are handled with adequate care as recommended. Hence, our training centres are developed keeping the future requirement of skill development of construction & mining equipment industry.

Our centralized Training Centre is also housed in the same campus at Kanchipuram. This facility occupies 830 sq.m. with well-designed lecture halls, discussion rooms, simulator labs and e-learning centre. The centre is futuristic in approach and involved in imparting hands-on training to operators, customers and dealers in equipment diagnostics and trouble-shooting -- encompassing the diverse portfolio of models offered by L&T under Komatsu and Scania brands. The centre is equipped with inhouse expertise to understand and interpret the changing trends in construction and mining equipment industry.
Hindustan Zinc Limited is part of the highly successful Vedanta Group with interests in zinc, lead and silver and one of the world’s largest integrated producers of zinc. HZL has a metal production capacity of over one million tonnes per annum in the key lead-zinc mines in Rampura-Agucha (RA). With reserves and resources of 365 million tonnes, RA Mines is the world’s largest zinc mines. It has an ore production capacity of 6.15 million MT per annum with best-in-class zinc-lead reserves grade of 15.4%.

Rampura-Agucha Project consists of opencast mines, commissioned in 1991 and located 230 km north of Udaipur. The mines are highly mechanized with large-size 34 CuM excavator and 240 ton dumpers as the main production equipment for excavation of ore and waste. RA Mines are one of the deepest opencast mines in the country.

In the year 2009, HZL decided to increase the production capacity exponentially at RA Mines (OB handling: 35 MTPA to 90 MTPA, Ore: 5 MTPA to 6.15 MTPA) by deploying large-size 240 ton dump trucks. Given its credibility in equipment performance and reliability, Komatsu machines were the ideal choice.

With HZL acquiring 21 nos of Komatsu 830E-1AC Electric Dump Trucks, L&T deputed its Product Support team to erect and commission these mammoth machines at the site. This was followed by L&T team moving into RA Mines in full strength and commitment to set up site workshop and take care of these giant Komatsu machines, being brought into India for the first time, on Lifecycle Management Contract (namely, Full Maintenance Contract / Site Support Agreement).

These 830 E Dump Trucks were commissioned during Sept’09 and Feb’10 and since then the equipment have almost completed their initial contractual period of 27,500 hrs with an average fleet availability of above 90% in the last 5 years. The ensuing period also saw HZL procuring 23 nos. of other Komatsu equipment like PC2000/PC1250 Hydraulic Excavators, HD785 Dump Trucks, D475/D375 Dozer, WA900 Wheel Loader, WD600 Wheel Dozer and GD825 Motor Grader which are also being directly maintained by L&T under Site Support Agreement. This surely demonstrates HZL’s implicit faith in performance of Komatsu equipment and their supreme confidence on L&T’s site support and service capabilities.

Highly satisfied with the overall performance and productivity of 830E Dump Trucks and backed by L&T’s unmatched support, HZL has decided to operate these mammoth trucks for a further period of 25,000 operating hours -- which will take the age of these dumpers to above 50,000 hrs at the end of the renewed contract.

L&T Product Support team, which is engaged in the maintenance activity of the trucks is elated with this development. Says Mr. N.K.Pal, Head-Service Centre, Bahadurgarh, L&T who coordinates the HZL site activity, “As always, our team is fully committed to repeat the performance benchmark set during the first 5 years. We are highly privileged to partner with HZL in this growth story and its continued success.”

L&T’s Product Support team working at HZL site in Rampura-Agucha
It is a matter of real pride to be associated with L&T in Rampura-Agucha Mines. We have a fleet of high-value mining equipment from Komatsu comprising Dumpers, Excavators, Dozers, Graders – which are supported by L&T fantastically. Our star of the mines has been 830E Electrical Dump Trucks – which are extremely well maintained by L&T. Rampura-Agucha Mines as of now is in 'the top of the world'. We would not have achieved this elevation, without the excellent support of L&T. The equipment availability of 240 ton Dump Trucks has gone up high far beyond our expectations. This has happened only because of the best customer support in after-sales and parts support. L&T's expert team is closely working with HZY officials to ensure higher machine uptime and enhanced production in the mines.

L&T machines were rugged and delivered a superb performance. The excellent support, I got from L&T team, in machine deployment, made things going for me, L&T's core expertise in dealing with large-size mining equipment and managing the assets efficiently on remote basis has to be leveraged to bring in world-class practices and to build multi-product equipment bank.

The main reason, for which I come to L&T is because of its excellent support. I buy Komatsu equipment only because of L&T’s strong support, which is what we need. See, buying any equipment is okay, but after buying it, maintaining this equipment is very difficult and that we find it right with L&T. L&T has got RECON parts which helps in machine availability at site. This is a very crucial activity.

Shree Cement has a very big fleet of Komatsu machines comprising Dozers, Dumpers and Excavators. L&T has been providing us with equipment maintenance and support services. Their team is totally dedicated and focused in equipment uptime and strictly adhere to the maintenance schedules. As a result, we find the premature failures are rare. L&T has a good workshop at Bahadurgarh from where it extends services like engine repairs. So repairs are undertaken well in time at the workshop and despatched to our site. This way, the machine is totally taken care by L&T.

The FMC offered by L&T is highly beneficial to the customer. First, equipment availability has gone up to 95% plus. Secondly, the maintenance cost is determined in advance and fixed. So there are no surprises for us. This is a win-win situation.

We thank our esteemed customers for their unstinted support
MULTIPLE APPLICATIONS. VERSATILE SOLUTIONS.

Whatever the sector you are in, we have a machine that can ensure power, productivity and profits. We have a proven record of performance in: coal, limestone, minerals, power, irrigation, granite/marble, land reclamation, urban development, road construction, tunneling/trenching, slag handling and rock breaking.

The range we offer includes hydraulic excavators rear dump trucks, articulated dump trucks, crawler dozers, wheel loaders, wheeled dozers & motor graders from Komatsu; tipper trucks from Scania and wheel loaders from L&T.

All machines are backed by L&T’s pan-India network of parts depots, service centres and dealers.

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