

Central univ to train mine workers on ways to earn alternative livelihoods

CUJ Signed MoU With Nat'l Body Last Week

Jaideep.Deogharia
@timesgroup.com

Ranchi: The innovation, incubation and entrepreneurship council (IIEC) and the energy engineering department of Central University of Jharkhand (CUJ) will lead a mission to train people to work on IIEC's renewable energy projects. The move is aimed at providing training mainly to the thousands of workers at various coal mines who may face job loss when there is a phasing down on the usage of coal.

PM Narendra Modi had announced a coal phase down at the COP26 climate summit in Glasgow last year when he assured of achieving net zero emissions by 2070.

In order to carry out the training programme, CUJ has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD), which is an autonomous institution under the Union ministry of skill development and entrepreneurship.

The MoU was signed last week between NIESBUD director Poonam Sinha, CUJ's vice-chancellor Kshiti



Representative Image

The move is aimed at providing training to the thousands of workers at various coal mines who may face job loss when there is a phase-down on coal usage

Bhusan Das and the head of energy engineering department and IIEC chairman, Dr D B Laata, in the presence of secretary, ministry of skill development and entrepreneurship, Rajesh Aggarwal.

Speaking about CUJ's work in the field of renewable energy, Dr Laata said, "The university has been working on establishing micro hydel plants on various waterfalls in Jharkhand and is leading a number of research projects on finding an alternative to photo-voltaic cells for storage of solar power. Once we start

working on these projects, we will require trained manpower to work on them."

He added that the since the scope of the MoU is beyond the ambit of the energy engineering department, IIEC is going to play a vital role in acting as a hub for the upskilling project. "CUJ would act as the hub and engage various educational institutions in Jharkhand to chalk out skill-based programmes as per the needs of the society," he said.

As per a statement by CUJ, both NIESBUD and the varsity will work

CUJ would act as the hub and engage various educational institutions in Jharkhand to chalk out skill-based programmes as per the needs of the society

Dr D B Laata | CUJ STAFF MEMBER

together to boost Jharkhand's entrepreneurship ecosystem. Both institutions will float proposals and set up a training programme for The Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) countries. Joint events, such as seminars/workshops/outreach programmes, will also be organised to encourage students to understand the intricacies of entrepreneurship.

Dr Laata said that a team from NIESBUD would visit the university campus in June and chalk out a detailed roadmap in this regard. "We are going to identify the industry's requirements and also provide technological support to start-ups so that new areas for employment could be generated. The present initiative is of five years, which is likely to be extended depending on the role this skilling hub is going to play in course of energy transition in the country," he added.