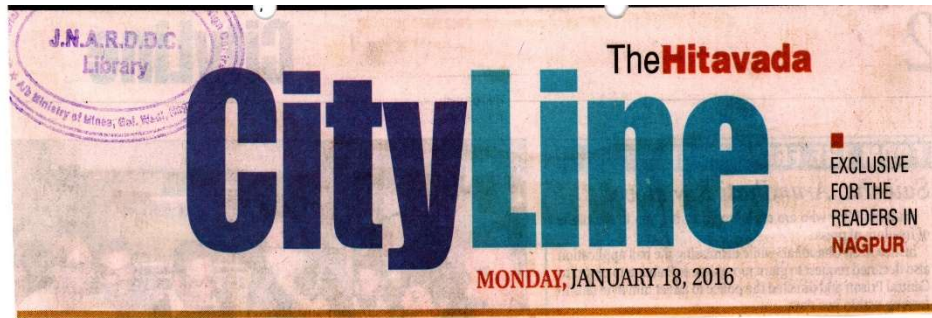


2015-16



JNARDDC research helps DRDO save Rs 75 lakh per missile

■ Dr Anupam Agnihotri, Director of Nagpur-based JNARDDC, says that the Centre is involved in various research projects of vital importance for the nation

■ By Kaushik Bhattacharya

VERY few know that the highly reputed Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Centre (JNARDDC) located in the vicinity of Nagpur city, is contributing immensely to the country's economy and Defense research. In a latest, JNARDDC has completed a research that is helping Defence Research and

Development Organisation (DRDO) save Rs 75 lakh per missile.

"The work is a part of indigenisation process and we have developed wrought aluminium alloys that will help reduce the production cost of aluminium for DRDO," Dr Anupam Agnihotri, Director of JNARDDC, told 'The Hitavada'. According to him, the research was done specifically for production of Brahmos Missiles. This research has helped DRDO in saving Rs 75 lakh per missile, which is a great reduction of production cost, he added.

JNARDDC is an autonomous body of Ministry of Mines, Government of India, which was established in Nagpur in 1989. It has constantly retained its adher-

ence to its objectives of serving the aluminium industry in India by providing them research and development support system. Some of the services rendered by JNARDDC are geological evaluation of ore deposits, technological evaluation of bauxite, up-gradation of laterite, and research on alloy development, management of industrial wastes, process control and mathematical modeling.

Blessed with impressive personality and glow of a researcher, Dr Agnihotri himself is associated with DRDO's ambitious proj-



Dr Anupam Agnihotri

ect on indigenisation of Aluminium Alloys. He has got an impressive profile. He is a member of various significant bodies including Core Committee of Aluminium Mission Plan for Ministry of Mines for 2012-2022; Sector Expert (Aluminium), Bureau of Energy Efficiency, Ministry of Power, Government of India; and Board Member, Aluminium Association of India.

Talking exclusively to 'The Hitavada', Dr Agnihotri said that JNARDDC was working on different projects to utilise aluminium industries' waste in con-



struction industry. "We have developed Red Mud from residue after extraction of bauxite, for making hard bricks and foam bricks," he said shedding light on the research activities of the Centre. Similarly, the Centre has developed dross (a scum formed

on the surface of molten metal) to make tiles for construction industry. These tiles are equivalent to marbles, he informed. "Recently, we have finished a research work on dross and found that this waste can be utilised for

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JNARDDC research helps DRDO...

water treatment. It is a good initiative by us wherein we can utilise this produce for cleaning of contaminated water," he added.

Apart from research and development, JNARDDC is actively engaged in academics. It recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with VIT-Visvesvaraya Institute of Technology (VIT) for joint research work in aluminium. While telling this, Dr Agnihotri's face revealed immense pride in his heart. For, he did his M.Tech. (Metallurgy) from VIT-Nagpur.

Let it be Defence or mining or construction sector, JNARDDC is contributing meaningfully everywhere. It has finished a research and development work on development of portable analytical kit for field analysis of Bauxite.

This project focussed on Alumina and Silica at the mining site for rapid and cost-effective determination of their concentration in Bauxite and Laterite, Dr Agnihotri said. The principal user segment in India for aluminium is electrical and electronics sector, followed by automotive and transportation; building and construction, packaging, consumer durables, industrial, and other applications including Defense. "We are currently working on many projects concerning all these segments," added Dr Agnihotri.

Of course, JNARDDC is an institution that is concerned about environment. "Environmental sustainability and minimum use of natural resources are the biggest concerns for aluminium industry nowadays. Already, various research institutes are working in this direction," JNARDDC Director said.

JNARDDC plays a key role for Indian aluminium industry. It is working to develop technologies, and provide services to aluminium industry with a special emphasis on environmental sustenance by reusing industrial waste. Recently, it celebrated Silver Jubilee of its foundation. And, it has utilised the occasion to raise the bar of excellence for itself.

"In 25 successful years in service of the aluminium industry, we have had the satisfaction of having put our best foot forward. A number of technical programmes were organised jointly by JNARDDC and other organisations to promote the cause of aluminium. We will continue to excel," Dr Anupam Agnihotri added with a smile.