



- Nakul Arya

## Mining Problems Need to be Solved to Ensure Proper Supply of Raw Materials

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Arya group is involved in Ship-Recycling and Iron and Steel Industry and is pioneer of Ship Breaking in India and has carried out this activity since 1982 at Alang and Mumbai. The group also imports Steel for sale in the domestic market. The organization started out as a small trading unit and has expanded manifold and has established itself as a prominent corporate house. Considering the experience in steel industry, the group has diversified into the Manufacturing industry. Currently Arya Group produces Iron Ore Pellets, Beneficiates Iron Ore, Gasifies Coal and are expanding its facilities.

Arya Group has successfully commissioned Pellet Plant in Orissa in the year 2008 with an installed capacity of 1.2 MTPA. The Project cost of the said plant was approx Rs.180 Cr. Further the group has set up an Iron Ore beneficiation plant which is backward integration of the existing pellet plant with an installed capacity of 1.5 MTPA. The total project cost is approx Rs. 205 Cr. Nakul Arya, aged 33 years, has done his Bachelor of Computer Science from Purdue University, USA in 2003. He is a young aggressive entrepreneur. He looks after project implementation and purchase aspects of the manufacturing arm of the Group. He is independently handling and managing equipment vendors, consultants, contractors and raw material suppliers.

"Mining problems need to be solved to ensure proper supply of raw material though this issue doesn't seem to be getting solved soon. Under these circumstances 2014 will be a tough year. End of 2014 will see a revival of growth and better pricing on raw material" said Nakul Arya, Director Arya Group in an exclusive interview with Steelworld. Excerpt



### How is the current status of Iron and steel industry in India ?

- Iron and Steel industry is at a very low point. There is several cases of defaults and CDR's. The reason for this is the complete stoppage of infrastructure building in India and no respite in terms of mining policy to improve Raw material supply. The Iron Ore scam followed by Coalgate has hampered supply of the most critical materials required for steel making.

### How do you react to global slowdown and its impact on industry in India as



**well as around the world ?**

- The global slowdown has hit many countries and has affected India in a big way. The worldwide slowdown has continued beyond the sustaining period. Slowdown in the first-world countries has completely derailed the growth in the emerging markets. Currently it seems that Europe has a long road to recovery whereas the situation in America has improved greatly due to energy discoveries. American manufacturing has made a comeback. In India, though we have a large domestic population like China that generally could ensure good domestic consumption, the global slowdown and recent political uncertainty has curtailed

**our growth and inflows of foreign investment. How do you see the future prospects of Iron and steel Industry ?**

- Iron and Steel future depends on growth in infrastructure and other industries. Till the new government doesn't take some strong steps towards positive policy making, the consumption of Steel will not grow. Mining problems need to be solved to ensure proper supply of raw material though this issue doesn't seem to be getting solved soon. Under these circumstances, 2014 will be a tough year. End of 2014 will see a revival of growth and positive realisations in Iron and Steel Manufacturing.

**Tell us something about your future plans ?**

- We are cautiously planning our future expansions considering raw material availability. Pellet capacity enhancement and forward integration is planned but yet to be implemented.

**What are the initiatives taken by Arya group to trap the market ?**

- We have always maintained good quality and continue to do so. In the face of additional pellet capacity and competition, we will emerge as a high quality supplier with timely deliveries to ensure our customers have continued supply of raw material.



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