

'The Pioneer' Dt. 26/11/09 Page: 3

# Essel Mining stands out as responsible operator

PNS ■ Bhubaneswar

**E**ssel Mining & Industries Ltd (EMIL) of the Aditya Birla Group, operating three iron ore mines in Keonjhar and Sundargarh districts, has stood out as a responsible corporate citizen amid the ongoing mining scam in the State as its activities have been found by the State authorities to be well within the parameters of legal framework.

The Deputy Director of Mines (DDM) had inspected EMIL's Koira mine on October 29 and found some equipment and piles of ore on a piece of land, over which he felt the company had no surface right. He sought clarifi-

cation within a week and directed the company to stop all activities in the mine. After the company explained that it had purchased this land, for which RoR was issued in its favour, and it had applied for surface right over the land, the DDM on November 11 accorded permission to resume mining operation.

Similarly, on October 30, the DDM had asked EMIL to make available copies of many essential clearances like surface right permission, mining lease plan and copy of order on consent to operate and suspend mining forthwith. The company made available all the documents at the earliest opportunity, on November 7, and the suspension order was revoked.

The company's performances have brought in rewards for it, with its Jilling-Langalota iron ore and manganese mines received the most prestigious Balagulshan Tandon Excellence Award for 2008-09. Each mine has clearances from the Ministry of Environment and Forest and State Pollution Control Board. Mining is done within the lease boundary marked through pillars.

Company sources said royalty and other Government dues like taxes have been paid. Returns to all the statutory authorities like DDM and IBM are submitted on time, reporting the production and dispatch made. The enforcement authorities have been inspecting mines regularly.