Five Singareni (SCCL) mines receive Coal Ministry's national '5-Star Rating' awards for 2024–25 at Raipur ceremony

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News

The Coal Ministry's Star Rating Awards for coal and lignite mines for assessment year 2024–25 were held at Raipur, capital of Chhattisgarh, on 2 Nov 2026. Union Minister of State for Coal and Mines Satish Chandra Dubey presented 5-star awards for five mines of Telangana's Singareni Collieries Company Ltd (SCCL) to SCCL Chairman & MD Dr Buddhaprakash Jyoti. The mines: RKNT and RK-6 Incline (Srirampur Area), JVR OC-2 (Sattupalli), Khairigura OC (Bellampalli) and RGOC-1 (Ramagundam-3). In the previous round (2023–24) four SCCL mines had got 5 stars. At the same event NCL's Krishnashila mine was ranked first among opencast mines in the country.

Key facts

Ceremony	2 Nov 2026 – Raipur, Chhattisgarh (Ministry of Coal); awards presented by MoS Satish Chandra Dubey
Assessment year	2024–25 (coal and lignite mines)
Criteria	Operational efficiency, technology, occupational health & safety, environment, sustainable development, R&R, community welfare
Assessed by	Reviewers appointed by the Coal Controller's Organisation (CCO)

SCCL mines	RKNT, RK-6 (Srirampur); JVR OC-2 (Sattupalli); Khairigura OC (Bellampalli); RGOC-1 (Ramagundam-3)
SCCL	HQ – Kothagudem; equity – Telangana 51%, Centre 49%; Godavari Valley coalfield

Background

- History: in 1871 Dr William King of the Geological Survey of India (GSI) found coal near Yellandu in Khammam district (a coal seam is named after him). In 1886 the Hyderabad (Deccan) Company, registered in England, got mining rights; Singareni Collieries Company was incorporated on 23 Dec 1920; Hyderabad State bought most of its shares in 1945; since 1960 it has been jointly owned by the State and the Centre.
- Geography: the Godavari Valley (Pranhita–Godavari) coalfield – 'the only repository of coal in South India'; Lower Gondwana formations (Talchir, Barakar, Kamthi). SCCL works in six districts: Kumuram Bheem, Mancherial, Peddapalli, Jayashankar-Bhupalpally, Bhadradri-Kothagudem and Khammam.
- Economy: SCCL has 40 mines (18 opencast, 22 underground) and about 9.2% of India's domestic coal output. Star rating is the Coal Ministry's annual assessment that rewards mines for scientific mining, safety, environment, mine closure and community welfare.

Tamil Nadu link: in the previous (2023–24) star rating, NLC India's Lignite Mine-IA at Neyveli, Cuddalore district, got five stars and won first prize among the country's opencast mines (ceremony – Mumbai, 4 Sept 2025). NLC's Talabira II & III and Barsingsar mines also got 5 stars that year.

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