

OBITUARY



1. 5th of April, 2017 is a very sad day for the entire mining industry of the country when we lost a VERY GREAT & EMINENT MINING ENGINEER and more so, A VERY COMPASSIONATE HUMAN BEING IN THE FORM OF SHRI SURENDRA NATH PADHI – aged about 77 years, to the call of the ALMIGHTY.
2. Shri Surendra Nath Padhi – affectionately referred to as ‘Padhi Sab’ in the entire mining profession, retired as Director General of Mines Safety with a devoted service spanning 33 years for the cause of safety in mines. He is an eminent alumnus of the prestigious Indian School of Mines - Dhanbad, having graduated in the year 1960.
3. During initial periods of service, he worked in very challenging deep gassy coal mines of reputed mining companies and gained experience in mechanized winning with continuous miner technology, mechanized shaft sinking, solving complicated ventilation problems, etc.
4. Subsequently, Shri Padhi joined DGMS as a Deputy Director in the year 1967 and rose upto the position of the highest statutory authority in the mining profession on 1st January 1998 as the Director General which he

served for 2 years and 7 months before finally superannuating on 31st July, 2000.

5. 'Padhi Sab' has many FIRSTs to his credit like FIRST position in India in the First Class Mine Managers (Coal) Certificate Examination, 'Preparation of a Mica album – the FIRST and only mineral album in India', 'Organizing the FIRST and only seminar exclusively for mica mining industry', 'Establishing FIRST group vocational training centre for small mines', 'Preparation of Training Modules for the FIRST time for workers of coal, Metalliferrous and all mines', 'Organizing for the FIRST time a workshop on Occupational Health and Safety jointly by DGMS and International Labour Organization', etc. Incidentally, he is the FIRST retired Officer of DGMS to be inducted as an independent Director in the Board of any Public Sector Undertakings.
6. An expert in the field of Mine Planning, Mines Safety Engineering, Legislation, Training and Human Resource Development, Innovative Mining Systems, Slope Stability, Mine Environment & Pollution Control, Blasting, Strata Control, Disaster Control and Management, Mechanisation of Opencast and Underground mines etc., Shri Padhi has authored about 50 technical papers presented in National and International meets and also published in prestigious journals. He had been honoured with many awards of Excellence and Lifetime Achievement Awards by many institutions and organizations like World Mining Congress, Institutions of Engineer, Mining Engineering Association of India, Society of Geo-Scientists and Allied Technologists, Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. etc.
7. A widely travelled luminary, 'Padhi Sab' had visited a number of countries like United Kingdom, France,

Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Australia and South Africa on various assignments.

8. In a very rare coincidence, Shri Surendra Nath Padhi who happened to be the first 'Son of the Soil' from the highly mineral rich State of 'Odisha', was conferred the 'LFIE TIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD' in the year 2014 by the Odisha Metalliferous Mines Safety Week Celebrations Committee of Bhubaneswar Region.
9. His penchant for the mining industry and the uplifting of the working standards of millions of mine workers can be amply understood when he took the pains to personally inaugurate a newly developed mobile based application called 'OMMSAPP' on the 20th of March 2017 in a function organized at Bhubaneswar despite suffering a major health issue just before.
10. His sudden demise has left a huge vacuum in the mining industry of the country for he was not only an eminent mining engineer but also a visionary with compassion. He has not only left behind a Legendry Legacy in the Mining industry but also a bereaving Wife, Two married daughters and their entire family members.
11. Odisha Metalliferous Mines Safety Week Celebrations Committee of Bhubaneswar Region joins the entire mining industry of the country in condoling the sad and untimely demise of Shri Surendra Nath Padhi and prays to the ALMIGHTY to Rest His Soul in Peace and to give enough strength to his family members to bear the loss.