Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited
Visakhapatnam Steel Plant
Visakhapatnam
Corporate Communications Department

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE 28.12.2011

REFRACTORIES PLAY VITAL ROLE IN STEEL MAKING

Sri Umesh Chandra, Director (Operations), RINL/Visakhapatnam Steel Plant said that Steel Industry has to strike a balance between quality of refractory in terms of weight i.e. cost in order to be globally competitive. The growth of refractory industry is directionally proportionate to the growth of steel industry and Steel Industry is the greatest user of refractory which accounts for 70% of world refractory production, he added.

Sri Umesh Chandra was the Chief Guest at the “56th Refractory Operating Committee Meeting” hosted by RINL in Ukkunagaram today. While delivering the inaugural address, Sri Umesh Chandra said that RINL achieved a specific refractory consumption of 9.8 kg/ton/Crude Steel as against 8-14 kg/ton/Crude Steel in most of the Indian Steel plants. RINL is striving hard further for focusing on increasing the lining life of Convertor ladle and increasing the Tundish sequence. This will lead to reduction of specific refractory consumption which in turn help reduces cost of production, he said. He said that best refractory operating practices to be adopted for improving the productivity and production performance. He called upon the technologists, researchers and refractory industrialists to enhance the quality of refractory as per the global standards. While mentioning the current and future expansion of RINL, Sri Umesh Chandra said that production of superior grades of refractory with low cost is the need of the hour for improving the performance.

Sri A P Choudhary, CMD, RINL conveyed his greetings for the success of the seminar and hoped that the seminar would come out with fruitful deliberations and recommendations as far as refractory management is concerned.

Sri P C Mohapatra, ED (Maint) & I/c Works, RINL said that the two day seminar would provide a platform to identify technological problems and finding solutions for improving steel making process. Sri P N Rao, GM (Steel), RINL opined that the seminar would enrich RINL for strengthen the refractory management.
Dr D Mukherjee, DGM, R&D Centre for irons & Steel (RDCIS) Ranchi, said that refractory requirement is growing fast since the main steel producers are increasing their production capacity in the country and refractory industry has to be reoriented towards technological upgradation in view of the competition.

Sri S K Garai, DGM, RDCIS read out the Secretary’s report and said that the seminar aimed to discuss technological problems and find remedial measures in refractory management. He thanked RINL management for hosting the seminar. Delegates from RINL, SAIL, Tata Steel, JSW, Essar, Mecon participated.

**Photo Captions:** 1) Sri Umesh Chandra, Director (Operations) RINL addressing the delegates at the seminar.
2) Sri Umesh Chandra lighting the lamp to mark the inauguration of the seminar as other dignitaries are looking on.

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