

**Indian Institute of Mineral Engineers-North East Chapter (IIME-NEC),
CSIR-NEIST, Jorhat, Assam**

North Eastern Region (NER) of India bears a significant amount of mineral resources lying untapped and needs to be mapped in details, characterized, beneficiated and utilized for socio-economic development of the region in particular and the country in general. The diverse geological conditions call for integrated geo-scientific studies to identify and address the gaps of the target areas for best possible sustainable utilization. The Indian Institute of Mineral Engineers is the best platform to address such gaps. Therefore, an **Indian Institute of Mineral Engineers-North East Chapter (IIME-NE Chapter)** has been formed on the eve of 30th October, 2014, in Jorhat to promote study, practice and disseminate knowledgebase amongst the stakeholders, agencies (Govt./Non-Govt.) for gainful utilization of coal and mineral resources towards sustainable development of the region. The Executive council elected for IIME-NE Chapter is being provided in Annexure-I. To mark the occasion, CSIR-NEIST, Jorhat, Assam and IIME-NE Chapter have organized jointly a two-day Symposium-cum-Workshop on “**NER Coals & Minerals: Issues, Challenges and Opportunities (NECMICO-2014)**” during 30th-31st October 2014. The Symposium-cum-Workshop was organized to disseminate knowledgebase in modern technologies, prospects and challenges in terms of coal utilization and mineral beneficiation of the region expecting to bring out the most promising issues and pathways for sustainable development. The event also had an **Industry-Academia-R&D** interaction for optimum utilization of resources of the region and framed out the gaps among **resource-technology-policy-market products**. It also had deliberations from eminent personalities of international standing, and experts from industrial sector having vast expertise in coal and mineral sector.

In the event, the eminent personalities from the region and across the country deliberated the issues, challenges and opportunities in these sectors. Altogether 13 numbers of technical lectures were delivered by eminent scientists, professors, and experts in the field of coal and mineral characterization, beneficiation, utilization and environmental issues. The symposium was followed by panel discussion which brought out an agenda and formulated action points for future course of action to address these gaps. The symposium also had exhibition of scientific posters/papers to disseminate knowledgebase to the students and faculties. The event was supported by a number of industries, institutes and ministries. A souvenir was released during the symposium. About 135 participants from various educational institutes, industries and experts from Govt., ministries were present in the proceedings.

Annexure I

**Executive Council of IIME-North East Chapter (IIME-NEC)
CSIR-NEIST, Jorhat (Assam)**

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