# Cementing its commitment to creating a sustainable future

JK Lakshmi Cement Limited has taken concrete steps towards sustainability by pioneering green building solutions, harnessing renewable energy and through various CSR projects and ESG initiatives.

K Lakshmi Cement Limited is a part of the prestigious JK Organisation, an eminent business house with a legacy of over a hundred years, running global operations with clear leadership and having its presence in diverse industries - Tyre, cement, paper, power transmissions, sealing solutions, dairy products, and textiles. The Company is a well-established name in the Indian Cement Industry with a formidable presence in Northern, Western and Eastern India. With a combined capacity that stands at 18 million MT Per Annum and growing. the brand enjoys a premium position in the market due to its top-quality products and services. It maintains a broad network across India. comprising over 400 cement dumps, and generated an annual turnover of INR 6,133 crores as of FY 2023.

JK Lakshmi Cement strongly believes that a sustainable business organization must continuously contribute to the improvement of the triple bottom line – the planet, profit and people. The guiding principle for the Company is its belief centered on building a shared and sustainable future, founded on compassion, responsiveness, and inclusivity. The Company's actions are steered towards strengthening not only the organization but also creating positive environmental and social impacts with a focus on consuming less to manufacture more, thus, maximizing net positive environmental and social impacts.

As a responsible corporation, JK Lakshmi Cement is striving to drive its business sustainably through focused action, collaboration, advocacy and thought leadership. Decarbonization; operational and resource efficiency; natural resource optimal utilization and conservation; circularity; unparalleled customer delight and stakeholder experience; empowering human capital; innovation; technology and ethical governance are the foundation of its sustainability programme.

Some of the key sustainability and ESG initiatives of the Company have been highlighted here, which speak volumes about its sustainability commitments.

#### **Reducing Carbon Footprint**

Sustainability lies at the heart of the Company's ethos, permeating all aspects of its business ventures. JK Lakshmi Cement is committed to achieving net-zero targets as its key climate change action and is continuously reducing emissions and working towards carbon neutrality across Scopes 1, 2, and 3. Additionally, it is committed to Science Based Target Initiatives and the target of being net zero by 2047.

JK Lakshmi Cement's primary goal has been



Underscoring JK
Lakshmi Cement's
commitment to
serving society, we
have pioneered and
delivered several
high-impact and
need-based CSR
projects enhancing
the lives of
marginalized
communities near
our plant locations.

— Mrs. Vinita Singhania Vice Chairperson & Managing Director – JK Lakshmi Cement Ltd.

ensuring the manufacture of products with a low-carbon footprint. Under the carbon offset programme, it has migrated over 1,84,000 rural families from traditional cooking to sustainable cooking methods, helping reduce deforestation and air pollution while enhancing the health of the households' women.

Its roadmap for sustainability and climate action delineates the targets aligned with the prioritized strategic areas to build a low-carbon future and high resiliency to climate change. Having taken significant steps towards sustainability and a greener future, the Company has been promoting LNG trucks in its logistics operations to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The rolling out of an LNG fleet of trucks for the Company's logistics operations will reduce 270 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per annum.

Accelerating its pursuit of sustainability, JK Lakshmi Cement has actively engaged with esteemed global agencies and industry associations – UNGC, SBTi, RE100, EP100 and GCCA. Through







these collaborations, it validates and continually reduces its greenhouse gas emissions, ensuring that the Company's operations align with the highest environmental standards. Furthermore, the Company's target is to ensure that its water positivity level, which is currently 4X, reaches 5X by 2025.

### **Harnessing Renewable Energy**

In the context of renewable power, JK Lakshmi Cement's green power share (on a consolidated basis), has increased to 37% of the total power requirement in FY 2022-23, with the installation of floating solar panels – a first in the Indian Cement Industry and the state of Rajasthan. By 2040, the Company aims to meet all its electrical

energy requirements through renewable energy, as committed to

RE100. Moreover, it is committed to doubling its energy productivity by 2040, based on the 2014-15 baseline, as part of EP100.

Honouring its commitment to harnessing the power of renewable energy, JK Lakshmi Cement implemented a 500 KWp solar power plant at Cuttack grinding unit to utilize renewable energy. Additionally, the Company commissioned an 8 MWp solar project at the Sirohi unit, contributing to 44% of the unit's total electricity requirement from renewable sources. Going ahead, it has commissioned a 56 MWp solar project in Open Access Group Captive mode for its Durg unit, which will help the Company meet 80% of its electrical energy through renewable energy.

### **Circular Economy**

To enhance further the circular economy, JK Lakshmi Cement Limited has already executed alternate fuel pre and co-processing capabilities at Jaykaypuram in Rajasthan's Sirohi District. While the Company has reached 11% TSR (thermal substitution rate) at present, it aims to reach 20% TSR level in a phase-wise manner by FY 2029-30.

The Company makes sure that 100% of hazardous waste generated from auxiliary processes is recycled through authorized recyclers approved by the Central/ State Pollution Control Board. Furthermore, solid organic waste is converted into nutrient-rich compost and vermicompost. 100% of domestic wastewater

generated is treated in Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) and the treated water is uti-

lized for plantation and greenbelt development. The fly ash, generated as waste from captive power plants, is utilized in the production of blended cement and the Company's manufacturing facilities are Zero-Liquid-Discharge (ZLD) plants.

### Green and Smart Building Solutions and Products

JK Lakshmi Cement is committed to offering 'SMART' building solutions with contemporary, sustainable, ready-to-use and timesaving products, facilitating faster and cleaner construction.

As a pioneer in the trial and development of LC3 (Limestone calcined clay cement) JK Lakshmi Cement shall be launching it in the market shortly. With the vision to become the best-in-class

construction solutions provider company, JK Lakshmi Cement is also committed to increasing the share of green cement in its product portfolio. The organization prioritizes investing in research and processes that contribute towards better and environment-friendly cement production practices.

#### Digitalization

Over the past years, JK Lakshmi Cement has demonstrated exemplary commitment and leadership in the realm of digitalization. The successful execution of multiple digital projects has enabled the Company to access information at lightning speed and optimize its business processes, resulting in tangible value creation, enhanced operational efficiency and a distinctively superior customer experience.

#### Community Inclusive Development through Effective Corporate Social Responsibility Projects

At its core, JK Lakshmi Cement upholds ethical values and strives for economic development. It believes that the Company's long-term viability and ability to produce value are tied to how much it contributes to the life of the communities in which it operates. With the concept of socially responsible business being deeply ingrained in its corporate DNA from the very beginning, the Company has been at the forefront of pioneering and delivering numerous CSR projects over the years for those in need and vulnerable communities and families.

JK Lakshmi Cement has been enhancing the lives of marginalized communities near its plant locations through high-impact and need-based CSR projects in key areas of nation-building – education, healthcare, skill development, livelihood intervention, water and sanitation, rural development and environmental conservation. Its CSR vision aims to foster strong community relationships and create sustainable, positive change in the quality of life for neighbouring communities through innovative solutions.

Each year, JK Lakshmi Cement — with its commitment to social performance improvement extending across the entire value chain — directly impacts the lives of over 2.25 lakh individuals across its business operations, bringing about positive and meaningful changes. More than 65% of its project beneficiaries are women, girls, children, and other vulnerable groups. Due to its excellent CSR projects, the Company was awarded the "Golden Peacock Award for CSR Excellence".

## Driving Sustainability in Supply Chain and Business Partnerships

Under the purview of its sustainability initiatives, JK Lakshmi Cement has its focus on engaging its customers, employees and supply chain intermediaries as its sustainability initiative



Spearheading many transformative endeavors, we have proactively engaged our customers, employees and supply chain intermediaries as our valued partners for various sustainability initiatives.

— Mr. Arun Shukla President & Director – IK Lakshmi Cement Ltd.

partne

The Company is committed to driving sustainability across the value chain of its operations. To achieve this, it focuses on carbon emissions, energy reduction, water management, waste management, biodiversity management, resource management, community relationship management, occupational health and safety, human rights management, employee well-being and product development.

### Strong Ethical and Responsible Governance

JK Lakshmi Cement's governance performance is grounded in an effective board composition, transparent ownership structure and a commitment to regulatory disclosures. It has implemented a board diversity policy, achieving a board diversity rate of 25%, which is higher than the industry average of 18%. The comprehensive code of conduct policy extends to suppliers, reinforcing ethical practices throughout the supply chain. Additionally, the Company has robust policies addressing biodiversity, sustainable sourcing, water management, climate impact management and a host of other issues related to ESG and sustainability.