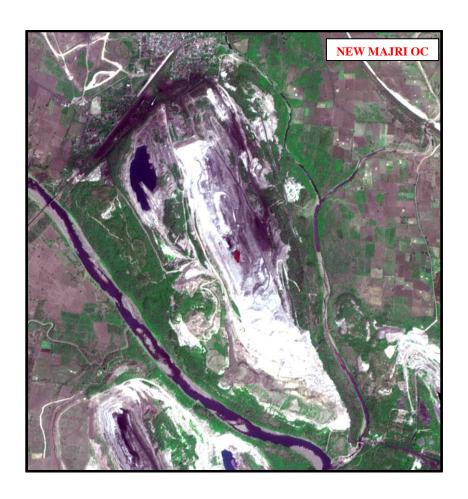
Land Restoration/Reclamation Monitoring of more than 5 million cu.m. (Coal+OB) Capacity Opencast Coal Mines of Western Coalfields Limited based on Satellite Data of the Year 2019



Submitted to
Western Coalfields Limited



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March 2020



Remote Sensing Cell Geomatics Division CMPDI, Ranchi

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Executive Summary

1.0 Project

Land restoration / reclamation monitoring of 10 opencast coal mines of Western Coalfields Ltd. (WCL) producing 5 million cu.m. and more (Coal+OB) per year based on satellite data, regularly on annual basis.

2.0 Objective

Objective of the land restoration / reclamation monitoring is to assess the area of backfilled, plantation, social forestry, active mining area, water bodies, and distribution of wasteland, agricultural land and forest in the leasehold area of the project. This will help in assessing the progressive status of mined land reclamation and to take up remedial measures, if any, required for environmental protection.

3.0 Salient Findings

- Out of the total mine leasehold area of 117.19 Km² of the 10 opencast projects of WCL viz. Sasti, Padmapur, Durgapur, Mugoli, Umrer, Ukni, Niljai, New Majri, Makardhokra-III and Penganga considered for monitoring during 2019-20; total excavated area is 29.27 Km² out of which 2.98 Km² area (10.18%) has been planted, 8.19 Km² area (27.98%) has been backfilled and 18.10 Km² area (61.84%) is under active mining. It is evident from the analysis that 38.16% areas of the OC projects has been reclaimed (biological and technical) and balance 61.84% area is under active mining. Project wise details are given in Table-1 & Fig-1. (For comparison purpose, refer Table-1.)
- On comparing the status of land reclamation for the year 2019 with respect
 to the year 2018 in different projects, it is evident from the analysis that area
 under land reclamation has increased from 9.47 Km² (Yr. 2018) to 11.17 Km²
 (Yr.2019). Out of 10 projects of WCL, Sasti OC ranks on top for land
 reclamation (76.34%) followed by Umrer OC (63.00%) and Mugoli OC
 (36.03%).
- Area of biological reclamation (plantation) has decreased marginally from 3.23 Km² (Yr.2018) to 2.98 Km² (Yr.2019) whereas area of technical reclamation (area under backfilling) has increased from 6.24 Km² (Yr. 2018) to 8.19 Km² (Yr.2019) in WCL. The total increase of 1.70 Km² under reclamation is the result of the efforts of the Western Coalfields Ltd. taken up towards environmental protection.
- It is important to note that from the year of 2018-19, Makardhokra-III OC and Penganga OC, each having the capacity > 5 mcm (Coal+OB), are included for annual satellite monitoring in place of GhugusOC and Pimpalgaon OC which are in the process of final closure and is falling under < 5 mcm (Coal+OB) capacity

Table-1 Projectwise Land Reclamation Status in Opencast Projects of WCL

(>5 Million cu. M coal+OB) based on Satellite Data of the year 2019

(Area in Sq. Kms.)

		Total Leasehold Area				Plantation											Total Area under		,	
Sl.	Duo io at			Technical Reclamation Area under Backfilling		Biological Reclamation			Other P	lantations	ntations		Area under		Total Excavated		Plantation		Total Area under	
No.	Project					Plantation on Excavated / Backfilled Area		Plantation on External Over Burden Dumps		Social Forestry, Avanue Plantation Etc.		Active Mining		Area		(% Green Cover Generated in Leasehold)		Reclamation		
1	2	3		4		5		6		7		8		9 (=4+5+8)		10 (=5+6+7)		11(=4+5)		
		2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	
1	Sasti	9.20	9.20	2.19	2.26	0.54	0.58	1.66	1.64	0.57	0.62	0.95	0.88	3.68	3.72	2.77	2.84	2.73	2.84	
				59.51%	60.75%	14.67%	15.59%					25.82%	23.66%			30.11%	30.87%	74.18%	76.34%	
2	Padmapur	8.29	8.29	0.18	0.48	0.17	0.18	1.60	1.80	0.71	0.76	1.54	1.27	1.89	1.93	2.48	2.74	0.35	0.66	
				9.52%	24.87%	8.99%	9.33%					81.48%	65.80%			29.92%	33.05%	18.52%	34.20%	
3	Durgapur	11.86	15.50	0.31	0.76	0.54	0.63	2.33	2.39	1.09	1.12	3.71	3.17	4.56	4.56	3.96	4.14	0.85	1.39	
				6.80%	16.67%	11.84%	13.82%					81.36%	69.52%			33.39%	26.71%	18.64%	30.48%	
4	Mugoli	7.88	12.55	0.58	0.86	0.12	0.12	1.36	1.52	0.26	0.32	2.02	1.74	2.72	2.72	1.74	1.96	0.70	0.98	
				21.32%	31.62%	4.41%	4.41%					74.26%	63.97%			22.08%	15.62%	25.74%	36.03%	
5	Umrer	9.45	9.45	1.88	1.78	1.59	1.20	1.32	1.44	2.42	2.42	1.26	1.75	4.73	4.73	5.33	5.06	3.47	2.98	
				39.75%	37.63%	33.62%	25.37%					26.64%	37.00%			56.40%	53.54%	73.36%	63.00%	
6	Ukni	9.74	12.85	0.00	0.21	0.00	0.00	1.42	1.52	0.68	0.65	2.25	2.13	2.25	2.34	2.10	2.17	0.00	0.21	
				0.00%	8.97%	0.00%	0.00%					100.00%	91.03%			21.56%	16.89%	0.00%	8.97%	
7	Niljai	13.63	17.61	0.48	0.79	0.10	0.10	1.19	1.37	1.31	1.29	3.02	2.98	3.60	3.87	2.60	2.76	0.58	0.89	
				13.33%	20.41%	2.78%	2.58%					83.89%	77.00%			19.08%	15.67%	16.11%	23.00%	
8	New Majri	7.74	7.74	0.62	0.98	0.17	0.17	1.67	1.67	1.35	1.35	2.85	2.54	3.64	3.69	3.19	3.19	0.79	1.15	
				17.03%	26.56%	4.67%	4.61%					78.30%	68.83%			41.21%	41.21%	21.70%	31.17%	
9	Makardhokra-III	16.37	16.37	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.05	0.65	0.75	0.65	0.82	0.02	0.05	0.00	0.07	
				0.00%	8.54%	0.00%	0.00%					100.00%	91.46%			0.12%	0.31%	0.00%	8.54%	
10	Penganga	7.43	7.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.13	0.30	0.57	0.89	0.57	0.89	0.13	0.30	0.00	0.00	
				0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%					100.00%	100.00%			1.75%	3.93%	0.00%	0.00%	
		101.59	117.19	6.24	8.19	3.23	2.98	12.55	13.35	8.54	8.88	18.82	18.10	28.29	29.27	24.32	25.21	9.47	11.17	
				22.06%	27.98%	11.42%	10.18%					66.53%	61.84%			23.94%	21.51%	33.47%	38.16%	

Note: In reference of the above Table-1, different parameters are classified as follows

- 1 Area under Biological Reclamation includes area under plantation done on backfilled area only.
- 2 Area under Technical Reclamation includes areas under barren backfill only.
- 3 Area under Active Mining includes coal quarry, advance quarry & quarry filled with water etc.
- 4 Social forestry and plantation on external OB dump are not included in biological reclamation and are put under other plantation.
- 5 % claculated in respect to total excaveted area except for "Total area under plantation" where % is in terms of leasehold area.
- 6 Leasehold Boundaries of Durgapur, Mugoli, Ukni and Niljai Opencast Projects have been modified as per lated ECs.

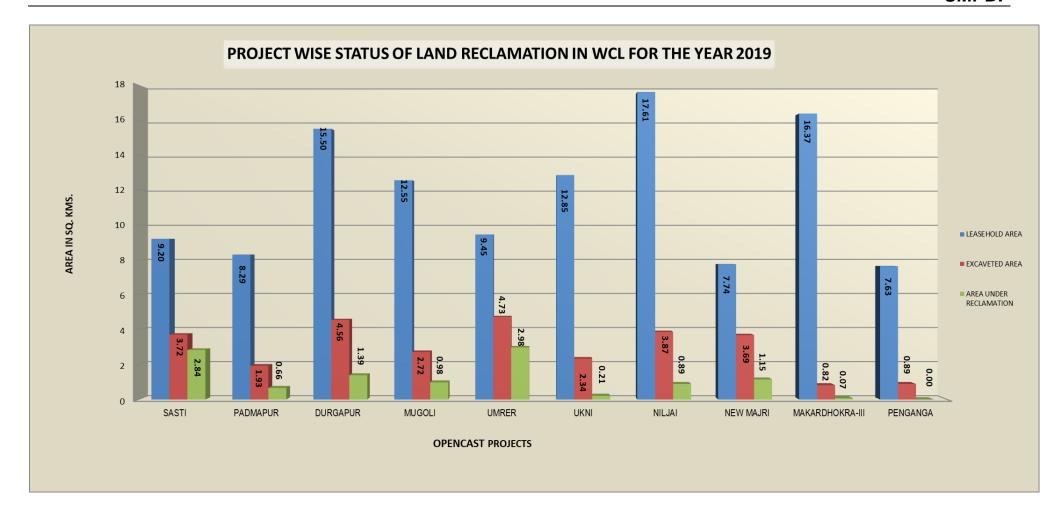


Fig.1: Land reclamation status in OC projects of WCL for the year 2019

Job No 561410027/(WCL) vii

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Land is the most important natural resource which embodies soil, water, flora, fauna and total ecosystem. All human activities are based on the land which is the most scarce natural resource in our country. Mining is a site specific industry and it could not be shifted anywhere else from the location where mineral occurs. It is a fact that surface mining activities do effect the land environment due to ground breaking. Therefore, there is an urgent need to reclaim and restore the mined out land for its productive use for sustainable development of mining. This will not only mitigate environmental degradation, but would also help in creating a more congenial environment for land acquisition by coal companies in future.
- Keeping above in view, Coal India Ltd. (CIL) issued a work order vide letter no. CIL/WBP/Env/2009/2428 dated 29.12.2009 to Central Mine Planning & Design Institute (CMPDI), Ranchi, for monitoring land reclamation. status of all the opencast coal mines having production of more than 5 million m³ per annum (coal + OB taken together per annum) based on remote sensing satellite data, regularly on annual basis for sustainable development of mining. Further, another work order vide letter no. CIL/WBP/ENV./2011 dated23/08/11 was issued by CIL for monitoring of less than 5 million m³ per annum capacity (Coal +OB) projects from the year 2011 at interval of three years. This order has been renewed in CIL letter no. CIL/WBP/Env/2011/4706 dated 12.10.2012 for the next five years. Again this work order has been renewed vide letter no. CIL/WBP/Env/2017/DP/8391 dated 22.06.2017 for a period next five years starting from 2017-18 to 2021-22. The result of land reclamation status of all such mines will be uploaded on the website of the concerned coal companies in public domain. Detail report to be submitted to Coal India and respective subsidiaries.
- 1.3 Land reclamation monitoring of all opencast coal mining projects would also comply the statutory requirements of Ministry of Environment & Forest (MoEF). Such monitoring would not only facilitate in taking timely mitigation measures against environmental

degradation, but would also enable coal companies to utilize the reclaimed land for larger socio-economic benefits in a planned way.

1.4 Present report is embodying the finding of the study based on satellite data of the year 2019 carried out for all the OC projects producing more than 5 mcm (Coal+OB) for Western Coalfields Ltd.

2.0 Objective

Objective of the land reclamation/restoration monitoring is to assess the area of backfilled, plantation, OB dumps, social forestry, active mining area, settlements and water bodies, distribution of wasteland, agricultural land and forest land in the leasehold area of the project. This is an important step taken up for assessing the progressive status of mined land reclamation and for taking up remedial measures, if any, required for environmental protection.

3.0 Methodology

There are number of steps involved between raw satellite data procurement and preparation of final map. National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) Hyderabad, being the nodal agency for satellite data supply in India, provides only raw digital satellite data, which needs further digital image processing for extracting the information and map preparation before uploading the same in the website. Methodology for land reclamation monitoring is given in Fig 2. Following steps are involved in land reclamation /restoration monitoring:

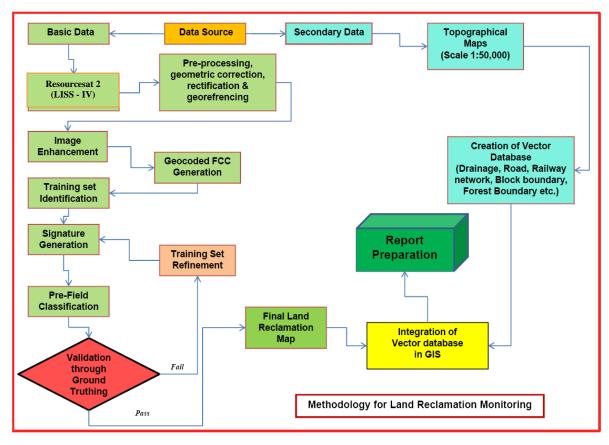


Figure: 2 - Methodology for Land Reclamation Monitoring

- **3.1 Data Procurement:** After browsing the data quality and date of pass on internet, supply order for data is placed to NRSC. Secondary data like leasehold boundary, topo sheets are procured for creation of vector database.
- **3.2 Satellite Data Processing:** Satellite data are processed using ERDAS IMAGINE 2014 digital image processing s/w. Methodology involves the following major steps:
 - Rectification & Georeferencing: Inaccuracies in digital imagery may occur due to 'systematic errors' attributed to earth curvature and rotation as well as 'non-systematic errors' attributed to satellite receiving station itself. Raw digital images contain geometric distortions, which make them unusable as maps. Therefore, georeferencing is required for correction of image data using ground control points (GCP) to make it compatible to Sol toposheet.

Image enhancement:

To improve the interpretability of the raw data, image enhancement is necessary. Local operations modify the value of each pixel based on brightness value of neighbouring pixels using ERDAS IMAGINE 2014 s/w. and enhance the image quality for interpretation.

Training set selection

Training set requires to be selected, so that software can classify the image data accurately. The image data are analysed based on the interpretation keys. These keys are evolved from certain fundamental image-elements such as tone/colour, size, shape, texture, pattern, location, association and shadow. Based on the image-elements and other geo-technical elements like land form, drainage pattern and physiography; training sets were selected/identified for each land use/cover class. Field survey was carried out by taking selective traverses in order to collect the ground information (or reference data) so that training sets are selected accurately in the image. This was intended to serve as an aid for classification.

Classification and Accuracy assessment

Image classification is carried out using the maximum likelihood algorithm. The classification proceeds through the following steps: (a) calculation of statistics [i.e. signature generation] for the identified training areas, and (b) the decision boundary of maximum probability based on the mean vector, variance, covariance and correlation matrix of the pixels. After evaluating the statistical parameters of the training sets, reliability test of training sets is conducted by measuring the statistical separation between the classes that resulted from computing divergence matrix. The overall accuracy of the classification was finally assessed with reference to ground truth data.

Area calculation

The area of each land use class in the leasehold is determined using ERDAS IMAGINE v.2014 software.

Overlay of Vector data base

Vector data base created based on secondary data. Vector layer like drainage, railway line, leasehold boundary, forest boundary etc. are superimposed on the image as vector layer in the Arc GIS 10.2 database.

Pre-field map preparation

Pre-field map is prepared for validation of the classification result

3.3 Ground Truthing:

Selective ground verification of the land use classes are carried out in the field and necessary corrections if required, are incorporated before map finalization.

3.4 Land reclamation database on GIS:

Land reclamation database is created on GIS platform to identify the temporal changes identified from satellite data of different cut-of dates.

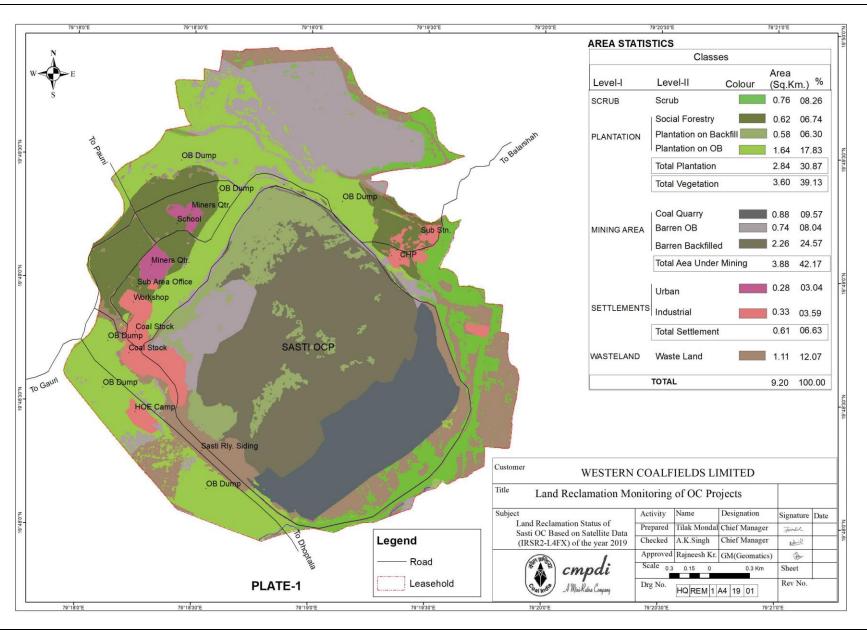
4.0 Land Reclamation Status in Western Coalfields Limited

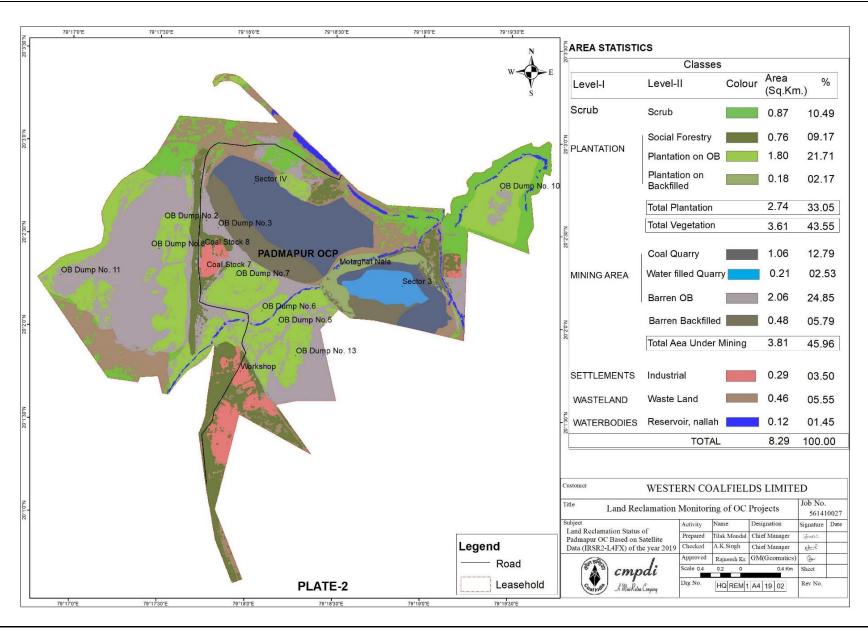
- **4.1** Following 10 OC projects producing more than 5 million cubic m. (Coal + OB together) of Western Coalfields Ltd. have been taken up for land reclamation monitoring based on Satellite Data of the year 2019:
 - Sasti
 - Padmapur
 - Durgapur
 - Mugoli
 - Umrer
 - Ukni
 - Niljai
 - New Mairi
 - Makardhokra-III
 - Penganga
- 4.2 Project wise Land Reclamation status in WCL for the year 2019 is given in Table 1 and also shown graphically in Fig 1. Area statistics of different land use class present in the mine leasehold of the above projects for the year 2019 are shown in the Table 2. It is important to mention here that leasehold boundaries of Durgapur, Mugoli, Ukni and Niljai projects have been modified as per latest EC. Land use maps derived from satellite data are shown in Plate 1-10. Year wise changes in the different land use classes based on satellite data are depicted in Bar Charts in Fig. 3–12 for the last three years only. Monitoring of land reclamation of Makardhokra-III and Penganga OCPs has been started from 2018 on annual basis.
- 4.3 Study reveals that 11.17 Km² (38.16%) of excavated area has been under reclamation in the above mentioned mines of WCL out of which 2.98 Km² (10.18%) area has been revegetated and 8.19 Km² (27.98%) area is under backfilling. There is an overall increase of 1.70 Km² in area under reclamation in WCL in the year 2019

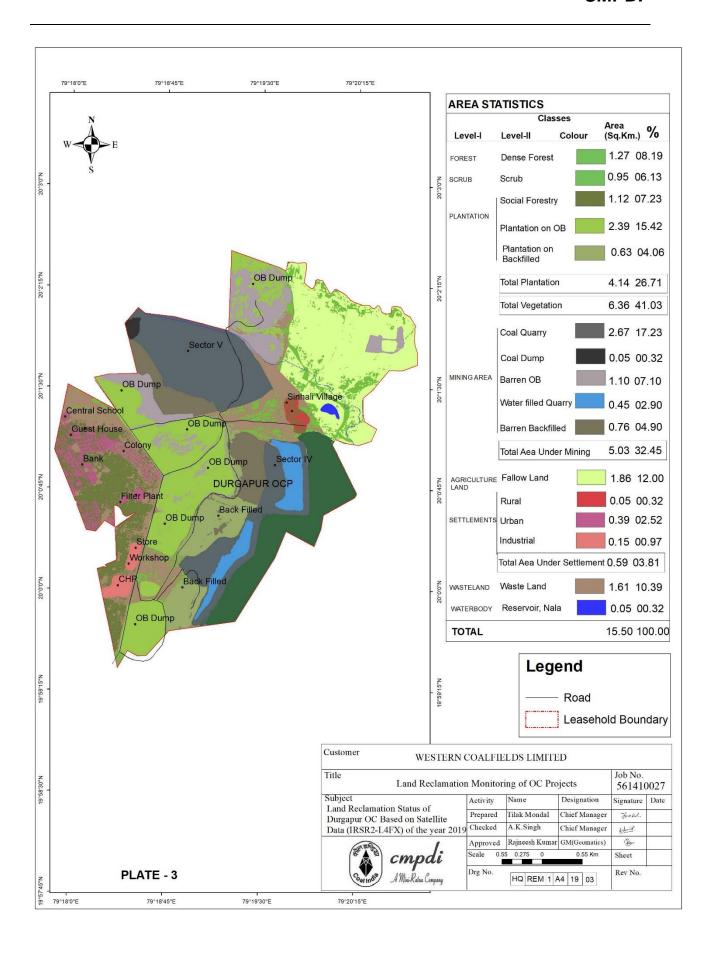
- with respect to the year 2018, out of which there is a an increase of 1.95 Km² in area under technical reclamation (Barren Backfilling) and a decrease of 0.25 Km² in area under biological reclamation (Plantation on Backfilled Areas) (Refer Table-1).
- 4.4 Analysis of satellite data also indicates that total area under plantation (Green Cover) has increased from 24.32 Km² (2018) to 25.21 Km² (2019). The increase of 0.89 Km² area under Green Cover areas may be attributed to continuous effort of WCL towards environmental protection.
- 4.5 After comparing the satellite data of year 2019 vs. 2018, it is evident that total area under plantation (Green Cover) in Sasti, Padmapur, Durgapur, Mugoli, Niljai, New Majri, Makardhokra-III and Penganga Opencast Projects has either increased or remained static whereas there is a marginal decrease in area under plantation / natural vegetation (Green Cover) in Umrer opencast project because of the OB dumping on vegetated backfilled / OB Dump area due to constrain of dumping space. It has been also observed in some of the projects natural vegetation has also started growing on stabilized old backfilled areas and overburden dumps due to high soil fertility.
- 4.6 On comparing the status of land reclamation for the year 2019 with respect to the year 2018 in different projects, it is evident that the total area under reclamation has increased from 9.47 Km² (Yr. 2018) to 11.17 Km² (Yr. 2018). It is observed that in Umrer open cast project there is a decrease of 0.49 Km² in total area under reclamation on account of rehandling of Quarry 2.
- 4.7 Out of 10 projects of WCL, maximum area under reclamation is in Sasti Opencast Project (76.34%) followed by Umrer OC (63.00%) and Mugoli OC (36.03%).

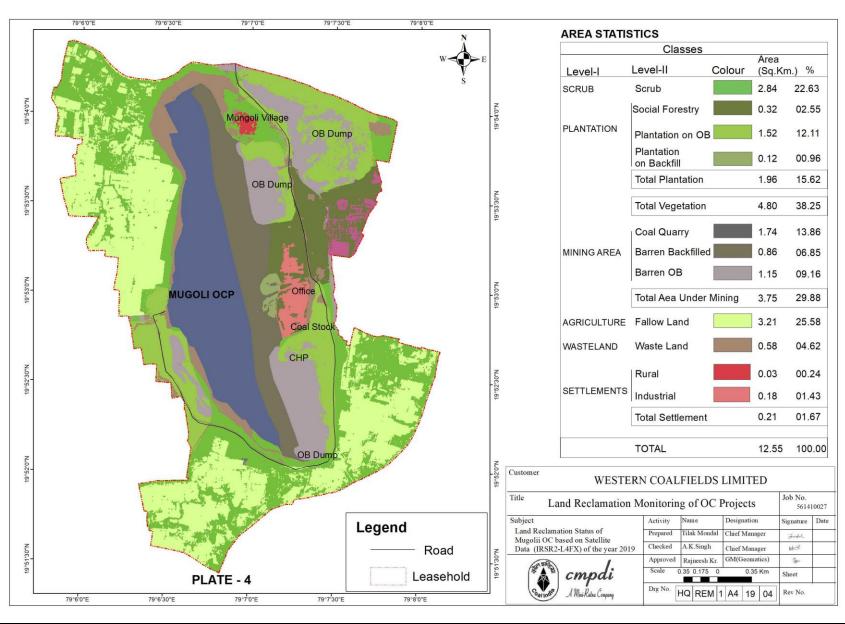
Table-2
STATUS OF LAND USE/ RECLAMATION IN OC MINES (>5mcu.m) OF WESTERN COALFIELDS LTD BASED ON SATELLITE DATA OF THE YEAR 2019

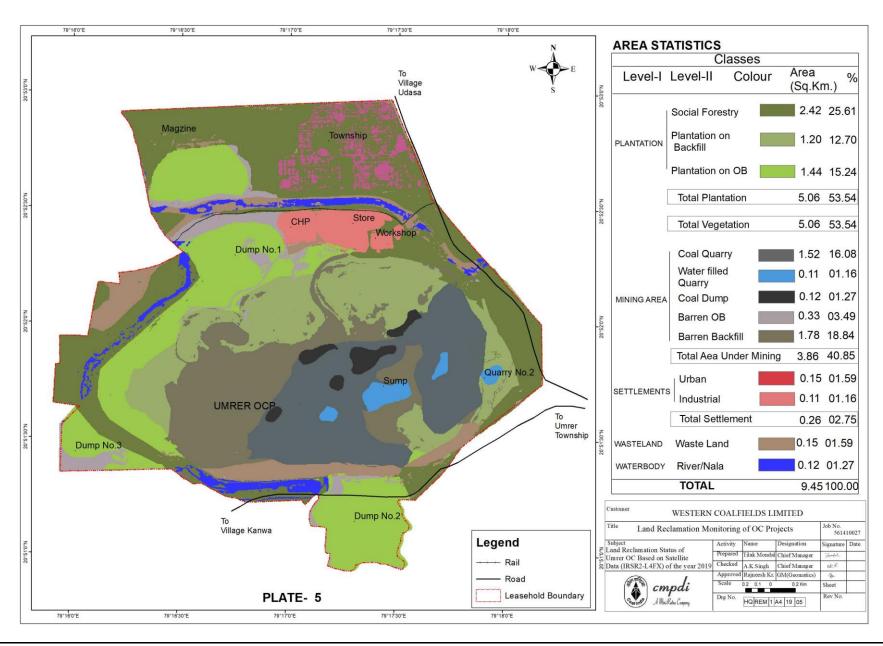
(Area in Sq Km) MUGOLI MAKARDHOKRA-III PENGANGA TOTAL SASTI PADMAPUR DURGAPUR NEW MAJRI Area Area Area Area Area Area Area Dense Forest 0.00 0.00 0.00 1.27 8.19 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 1.27 1.08 0.00 Open Forest 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 1.27 Total Forest 0.00 0.00 0.00 1.27 8.19 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 1.08 2.24 1.29 3.48 0.76 8.26 0.87 10.49 0.95 6.13 2.84 22.63 0.00 0.00 2.24 17.43 12.72 0.10 0.57 1.79 23.46 12.36 10.55 Social Forestry 0.62 6.74 0.76 9.17 1.12 7.23 0.32 2.55 2.42 25.61 0.65 5.06 1.29 7.33 1.35 17.44 0.05 0.31 0.30 3.93 8.88 7.58 Plantation on OB Dump 1.64 17.83 1.80 21.71 2.39 15.42 1.52 12.11 1.44 15.24 1.52 11.83 1.37 7.78 1.67 21.58 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 13.35 11.39 Plantation on Backfill (Biological Reclamation) 0.58 6.30 0.18 2.17 0.63 4.06 0.12 0.96 1.20 12.70 0.00 0.00 0.10 0.57 0.17 2 20 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 2.98 2 54 2.84 30.87 2.74 33.05 4.14 26.71 1.96 15.62 5.06 53.54 2.17 16.89 2.76 15.67 3.19 41.21 0.05 0.31 0.30 3.93 25.21 21.51 Total Plantation 3.60 39.13 3.61 43.55 6.36 41.03 4.80 38.25 53.54 34.32 5.00 28.39 3.29 42.51 2.09 27.39 38.84 **Total Vegetation** 5.06 4.41 0.62 3.79 33.14 Coal Quarry 0.88 9.57 1.06 12.79 2.67 17.23 1.74 13.86 1.52 16.08 1.97 15.33 2.84 16.13 2.42 31.27 0.75 4.58 0.72 16.57 14.14 Advance Quarry Site 0.00 Quarry Filled With Water 0.00 0.21 2.53 0.45 2.90 0.00 0.00 0.06 0.47 0.00 0.00 0.12 0.00 0.00 Coal Dump 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.05 0.32 0.00 0.00 0.12 1.27 0.10 0.78 0.14 0.80 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.17 2.23 0.58 0.49 Total Area Under Active Mining 0.88 1.27 15.32 3.17 20.45 2.98 32.82 0.75 2.26 24.57 0.48 5.79 0.76 4.90 0.86 6.85 1.78 18.84 0.21 1.63 0.79 4.49 0.98 12.66 0.07 0.43 0.00 0.00 8.19 6.99 Area under Backfilling (Technical Reclamation) 0.74 8.04 24.85 1.10 7.10 1.15 0.33 3.49 2.85 22.18 2.97 16.87 0.12 1.55 9.59 1.16 15.20 14.05 11 99 Barren OB Dump 2.06 9.16 1.57 Total Area Under Mine Operation 3.88 42.17 3.81 45.96 5.03 32.45 3.75 29.88 3.86 40.85 5.19 40.39 6.74 38.27 3.64 47.03 2.39 14.60 2.05 26.87 40.34 34.42 10.39 4.62 0.15 1.59 8.87 2.17 12.32 0.37 4.78 0.30 1.83 27.00 9.95 1.11 12.07 0.46 5.55 1.61 0.58 1.14 2.06 8.49 Waste Lands 0.00 Sand Body 0.37 Total Wasteland 1.11 12.07 0.46 5.55 1.61 10.39 0.58 4.62 0.15 1.59 1.14 8.87 2.17 12.32 4.78 0.30 1.83 2.06 27.00 9.95 8.49 0.00 0.00 0.12 1.45 0.05 0.32 0.00 0.00 0.12 1.27 0.00 0.00 0.03 0.17 0.10 1.29 0.00 0.00 0.06 0.79 0.48 0.41 Reservoir, nallah, ponds 0.03 0.17 1.29 0.79 Total Waterbodies 0.00 0.00 0.12 1.45 0.05 0.32 0.00 0.00 0.12 1.27 0.00 0.00 0.10 0.00 0.00 0.06 0.48 0.41 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 3.72 22.72 Crop Lands 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 1.86 12.00 3.21 25.58 0.00 0.00 1.93 15.02 2.64 14.99 0.00 0.00 9.20 56.20 1.22 15.99 20.06 17.12 Fallow Lands 0.00 0.00 0.00 1.86 12.00 3.21 25.58 0.00 0.00 1.93 15.02 2.64 14.99 0.00 0.00 12.92 78.92 1.22 15.99 23.78 20.29 Total Agriculture 0.00 1.59 0.00 0.00 0.34 Urban Settlement 0.28 3.04 0.00 0.00 0.39 2.52 0.00 0.00 0.15 1.93 0.34 4.39 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 1.50 1.28 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.05 0.32 0.03 0.24 0.00 0.00 0.02 0.16 0.20 1.14 0.00 0.00 0.08 0.49 0.03 0.39 0.41 0.35 Rural Settlement 1.16 0.16 1.25 0.00 0.06 0.37 0.12 1.57 1.89 1.61 0.33 3.59 0.29 3.50 0.15 0.97 0.18 1.43 0.11 0.49 2.78 0.00 Industrial Settlement Total Settlement 0.61 6.63 0.29 3.50 0.59 3.81 0.21 1.67 0.26 2.75 0.18 1.40 1.03 5.85 0.34 4.39 0.14 0.86 0.15 1.97 3.80 3.24 **Grand Total** 9.20 100.0 8.29 100.0 15.50 100.0 12.55 100.0 9.45 100.0 12.85 100.0 17.61 100.0 7.74 100.0 16.37 100.0 7.63 100.0 117.19 100.00

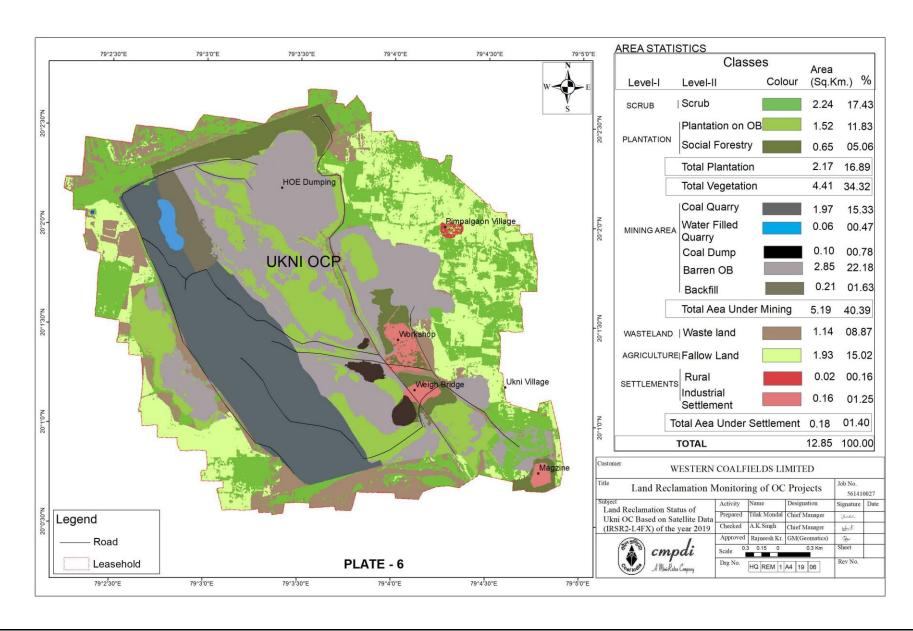


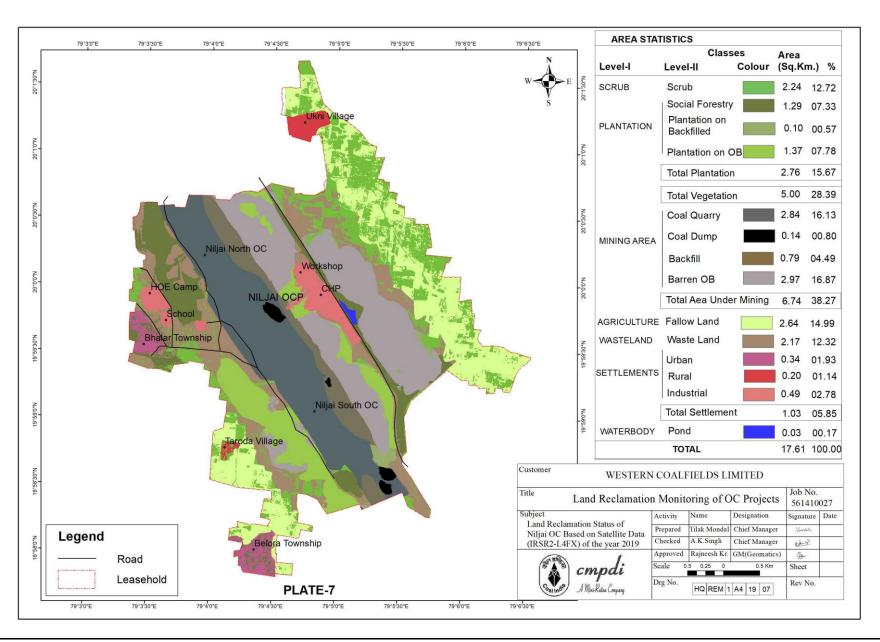




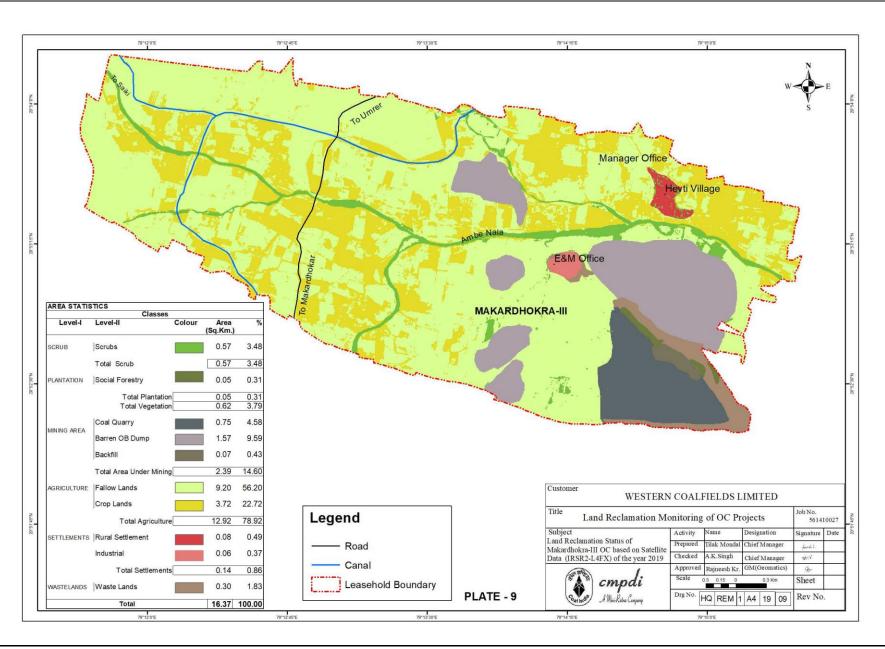


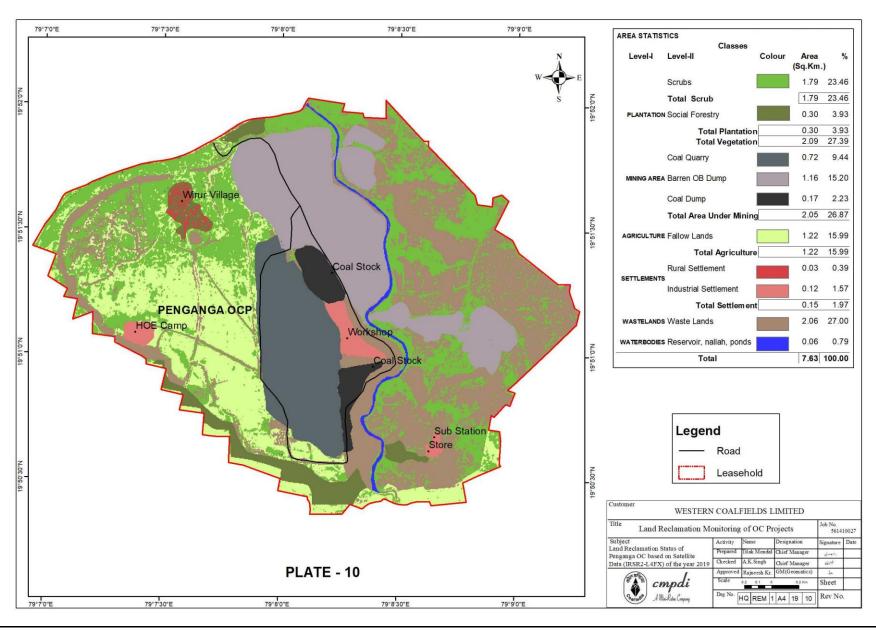












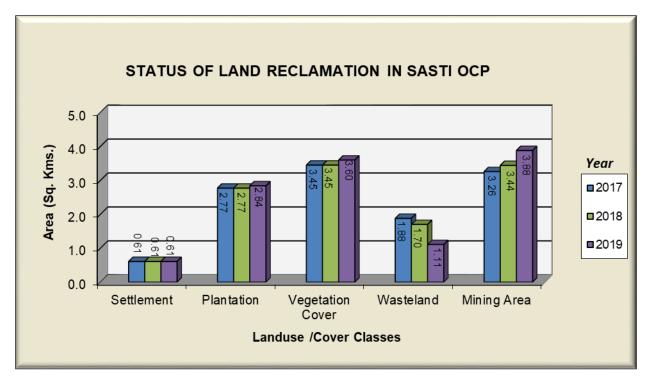


Figure 3

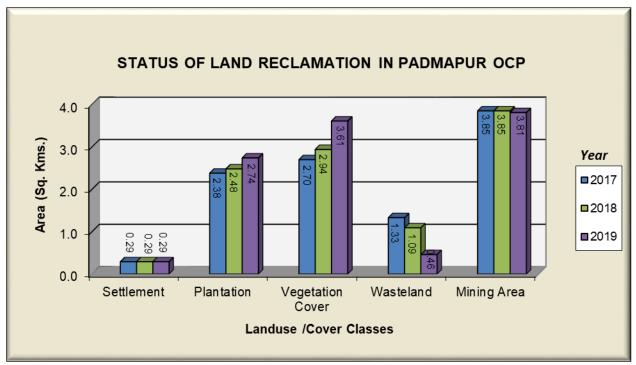


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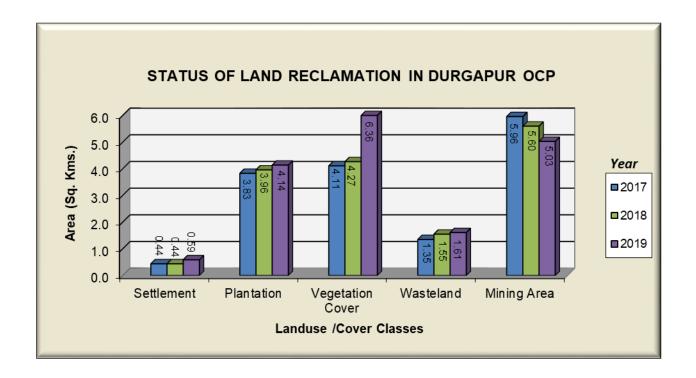


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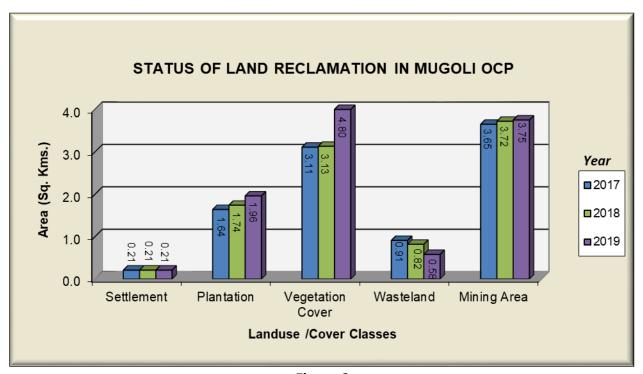


Figure 6

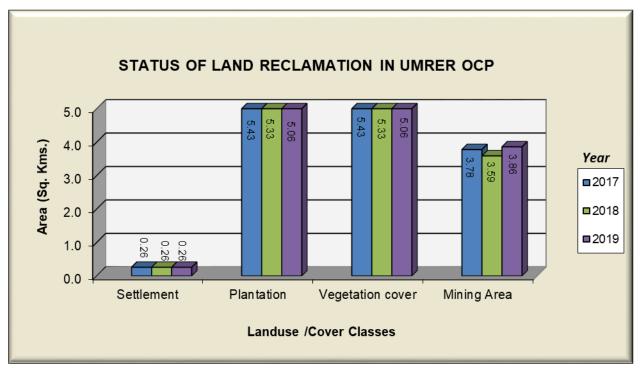


Figure 7

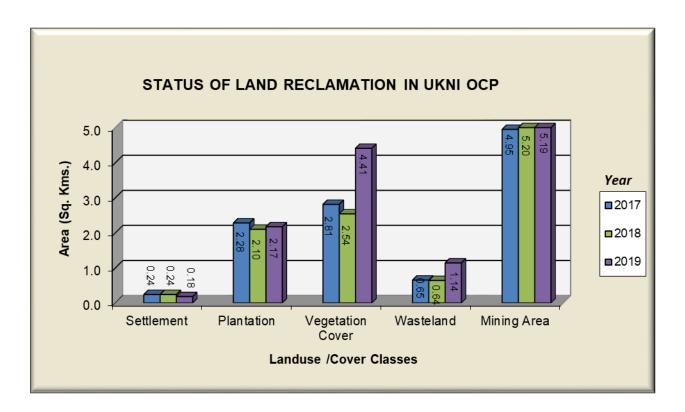


Figure 8

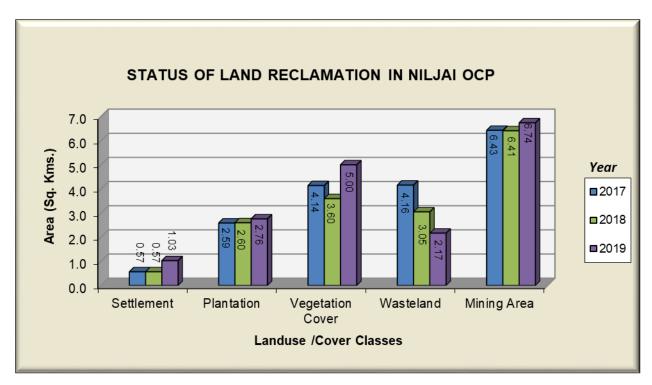


Figure 9

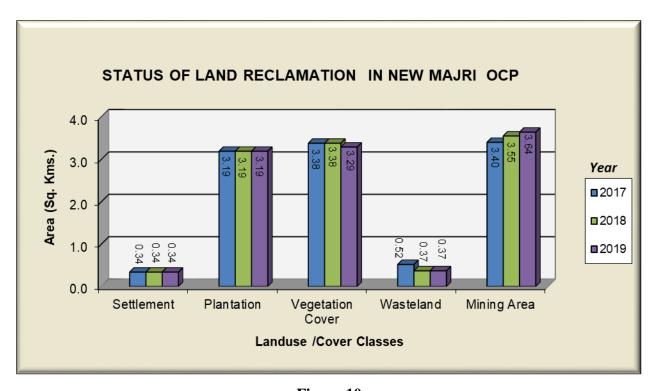


Figure 10

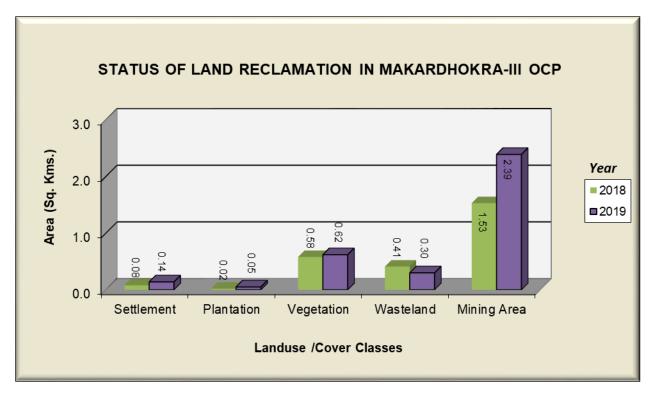


Figure 11

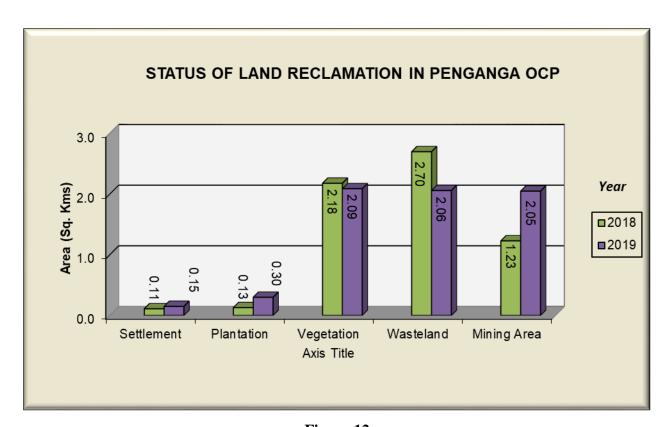
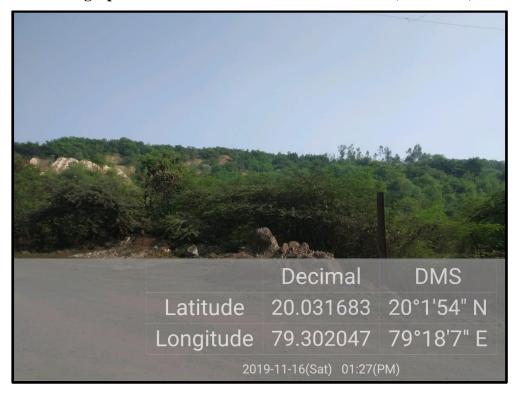


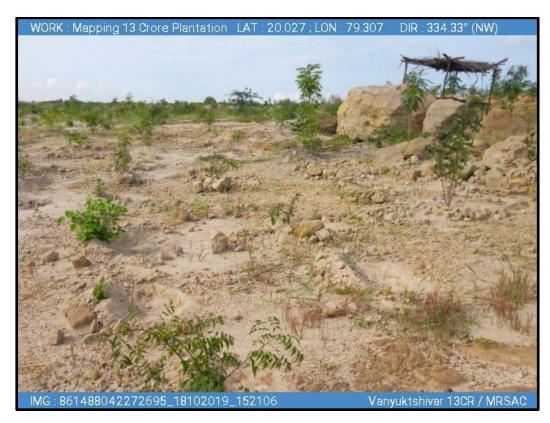
Figure 12



Photograph-1: Plantation on Internal OB/Backfill (Sasti OCP)



Photograph-2: Plantation on External OB dump (Padmapur OCP)



Photograph-3: Plantation on External OB dump of (Durgapur OCP)



Photograph-4: Plantation on External OB dump (Mugoli OCP)



Photograph-5: Plantation on External OB dump (Umrer OCP)



Photograph-6: Plantation on External OB dump (Ukni OCP)



Photograph-7: Plantation OB Dump (Niljai OCP)



Photograph-8: Plantation on OB Dump (New Majri OCP)



Photograph-9: Avenue Plantation (Penganga OCP)



Photograph-10: Avenue Plantation (Penganga OCP)



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