A REVIEW

An overview of mine closure plan for sustainable development of coal mining sectors in India

■ Chandra Sharma

SUMMARY

Mine closure plan is a vital document to meet the legal requirements for a mining company. MOEF&CC guidelines direct the coal mine owners to ensure that the mining area is restored to create a 'self-sustaining system' post mine closure. Mine Closure Plan consists of Progressive or Concurrent Mine Closure Plan, and Final Mine Closure Plan. The Mine closure activities should aim to restore land back to its original as far as practicable or further improved condition. The land should be returned with an added value that provides long-term support for communities and their livelihood. It should be sustainable where all the concerns of the environment, social and economics are addressed.

Key Words: Mine closure plan, Restoration, Reclamation, Sustainable development

How to cite this article: Sharma, Chandra (2023). An overview of mine closure plan for sustainable development of coal mining sectors in India *Internat. J. Plant Sci.*, **18** (2): 162-166, **DOI: 10.15740/HAS/IJPS/18.2/162-166**, Copyright@ 2023:Hind Agri-Horticultural Society.

Article chronicle: Received: 26.03.2023; Accepted: 10.05.2023

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