



Development Alternatives Group Partners with JK Lakshmi Cement for Carbon Neutrality

JK Lakshmi Cement Ltd. (JKL) and Technology and Action for Rural Advancement (TARA, DA Group) signed a long-term memorandum of understanding (MoU) on 3 May, 2022 at JKL's Sirohi Plant in Rajasthan to introduce the process of decarbonisation in cement production. To launch a counter offensive against the impending adverse effects of climate change and in complete support towards India's Nationally Determined Contributions made at COP 26 by the Honourable Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, JK Lakshmi Cement Ltd., Sirohi, Rajasthan has set a target to reach carbon neutrality by 2047 through the production of Limestone Calcined Clay Cement (LC³) and other technologies.

LC³ is one of the major innovations in the last decade by a consortium of EPFL Switzerland, IIT Delhi, IIT Madras, CIDEM Cuba, and TARA, supported by Swiss Development and Cooperation (SDC), India to reduce the clinker factor in cement production by addition of calcined clay and, waste limestone. It thus, reduces up to 40% of CO₂ emissions from the production process. The MoU was signed in the presence of Dr Jonathan Demenge, the Country Head of Swiss Development Corporation, Embassy of Switzerland, Mr Arun Kumar Shukla, President, JK Lakshmi Cement Ltd, Dr Arun Kumar, President, Development Alternatives Group, and other senior officials from JKL, TARA, IIT Delhi, and SDC.

It has been reported that under this association, specific project-based MoUs will be signed as and when needed. Talking about the new partnership with TARA, Dr S. K. Saxena, Sr Vice President, Works, Jaykaypuram, JKL said, "TARA works on a vision to build prosperous communities through long-term partnerships. As our organisation takes this as a moral responsibility to build a better society through contributing towards mitigating climate change in cement production, our new partnership will further support us to drive impactful initiatives and enhance our already existing activities."

The team from SDC, IIT Delhi, and TARA also visited the cement plant followed by the MoU event.