

Ambuja Cement, the leading Cement manufacturer of India, proudly announces completion of its Sankrail expansion project.

- The capacity of the grinding unit now becomes 2.4MPTA
- The investment plan for the additional expansion project is Rs 338 crore

Mr. Martin Kriegner, Head of LafargeHolcim - India Operations and Board of Director for Ambuja Cements today inaugurated the augmented Sankrail Grinding Unit in Howrah, West Bengal.

Sankrail Grinding unit is strategically located about 25 kms from Kolkata and was commissioned in the year 2001 with a grinding capacity of 1.2 million tonne per annum. This included 2 ball mills of capacity 92 tonnes per hour, 2 packers of capacity 180 tonnes per hour, and a manual wagon loading system.

Due to the plants proximity to prime markets and increasing demands of higher despatches over the years the plant capacity was increased to 1.5 million tonne per annum in the year 2010. With the recent modification the capacity has touched 2.4 million tonne per annum.

While inaugurating the expanded project **Mr. Martin Kriegner, Head of LafargeHolcim - India Operations and Board of Director for Ambuja Cements** said *"To meet the demand of the eastern market and better customer orientation in the competitive market of West Bengal and increasing supply to the nearby States of Orissa & Jharkhand by optimising the overall regional logistics cost, a capacity addition of 0.90 million tonne per annum of PPC cement at Sankrail was envisaged. I am sure this will address the expectation of the customer in the eastern markets in India"*.

The Sankrail plant's expansion unfolded as a brown field project in November 2012 with an investment plan of 338 Crore. The project included installation of Thyssenkrupp Roller pressure of capacity 140 tonnes per hour in Cement mill 1 increasing the capacity to 235 tonnes per hour in combo grinding, 2 additional Packers of capacity 240 tonnes per hour mechanised cement rake loading system and an additional Railway line network.

Ambuja Cement is recently launched their super speciality cement Ambuja Plus –the Roof special in the specialised segment of the market. Ambuja Plus -Roof Special is a special quality PPC cement with advanced SPE technology. It extracts 100% of silicate gel from cement that helps in making the concrete stronger, denser and leak proof, resulting in strengthening of the roof.

Speaking on the occasion, **Ajay Kapur, MD & CEO – Ambuja Cements Limited** said, *"I am sure that the unit with additional capacity will help us to cater to our customers faster, resulting in higher value proposition combined with the unbreakable strength of the Ambuja brand."*

About Ambuja Cement

Ambuja Cements Ltd, a part of the global conglomerate LafargeHolcim, is one of the leading cement companies in the Indian cement industry.

Operating for over 25 years, Ambuja has proved to be the best cement for construction and the best cement manufacturing company in India with its uniquely sustainable development projects. Its environment friendly initiatives have played a key role in India's efforts to become a green state. The sustainable constructions and renewable energy projects undertaken by it have a lion's share in creating a blueprint for sustainable development in India's bright future. Currently, Ambuja has a cement capacity of 29.65 million tonnes with five integrated cement manufacturing plants and eight cement grinding units across the country.

For queries, contact:

***Doris Rao - Corporate Communication, Ambuja Cement: 9820923330,
doris.rao@ambujacement.com.***

***Sucheta Ghosh, Ketchum Sampark:09831957375
sucheta.ghosh@ketchumsampark.com***