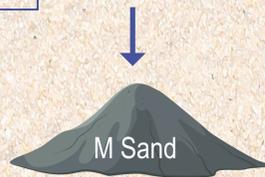
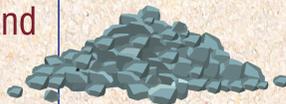


M-SANDS PROJECTS

Context:

Coal India Ltd is gearing up to Launch M-Sand Projects in a big way.



About M Sand:

- M Sand is artificial sand made from the crushing of rock or granite for construction purposes in cement or concrete
- It is used as a substitute for river sand. M sand differs from natural river sand in its physical and mineralogical properties.

Finding Alternative Sand: What was the need?

1. Sand is classified as a “minor mineral”, under The **Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulations) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act)**.
2. Administrative control over minor minerals vests with the State Governments.
3. Accordingly, these minerals are **regulated through State specific rules**.
4. Due to high demand, regulated supply and a **complete ban of sand mining during monsoon to protect river ecosystem**, finding alternative to river sand became necessary.



M-Sand from Overburden (OB) of coal mines



Sand Mining Framework (2018) prepared by Ministry of Mines envisages alternative sources of sand in the form of **Manufactured Sand (M-Sand)** from crushed rock fines (crusher dust), sand from Overburden (OB) of coal mines.



Basically, during Opencast mining the overlying soil and rocks are removed as waste to extract coal and the fragmented rock (Overburden or OB) is heaped in dumps.



To expedite Overburden to Sand utilization initiative, Coal India Limited has prepared a Model Bid Document for installing more such plants across subsidiaries.

Benefits of manufacturing M- Sand from Overburden Coal Mines:



Cost-effectiveness:

Using manufactured sand can be more cost-effective than using natural sand, as it can be produced in large quantities at a lower cost.



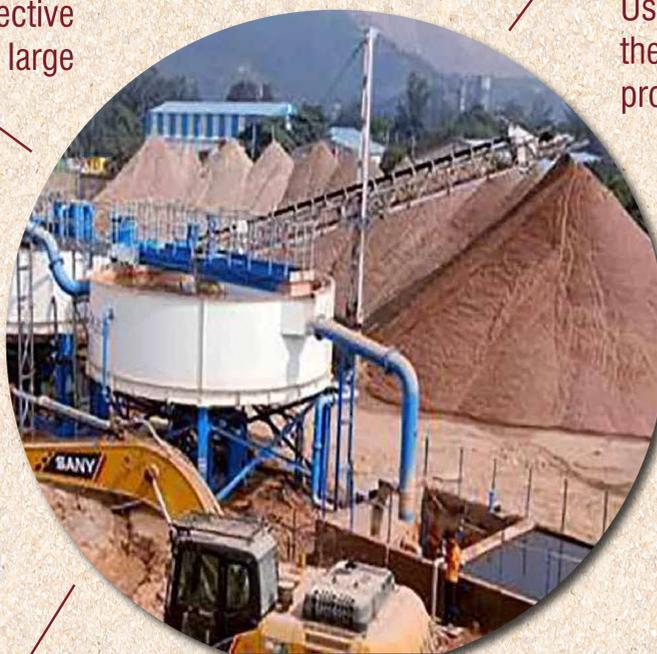
Consistency:

Manufactured sand can have a consistent grain size and shape, which can be beneficial for construction projects that require a specific type of sand.



Environmental benefits:

Using manufactured sand can help to reduce the need for mining natural sand, which can have negative environmental impacts.



Reduced water consumption:

Using manufactured sand can help to reduce the amount of water required for construction projects, as it does not require washing before use.



Better workability:

Manufactured sand is more angular and has a rougher surface, which makes it more workable for construction projects.



Land occupied by OB dumps can be freed for alternative useful purposes.

