#### **Burnpur Cement Limited**





# VICE CHAIRMAN & MANAGING DIRECTOR'S SPEECH

### 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual General

16<sup>th</sup> September, 2009

Dear fellow Shareholders,

It is a pleasure to welcome you on the occasion of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Company.

Financial year 2008-09 began under challenging environment of rising energy cost and commodity prices. The global financial meltdown compounded this crisis further with acute liquidity or unch, high credit cost and sharp fall in capital market. Faced with the tough economic challenges, the Govt. of India responded with measures to restrain the run away inflation. I welcome, the measure introduced by the Govt. to promote housing & infrastructure and inject liquidity to the system.

Coupled with sagging economic confidence, uncertainty in the job market, high inflation rate and constrained availability of housing finance due to high interest rates the housing sector turned sluggish leading to an adverse effect on the demand for cement.

The Govt. at the Centre presented its 1<sup>st</sup> Budget after the election which signals stability & continuity. Govt's thrust on improving infrastructure & housing is evident from the Budget and all these measures are expected to give rise to increased demand for cement.'

#### **Operations:**

I would now like to share with you the highlights of your Company's performance for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009 and shall briefly touch upon these & the current operations and future plans of the Company.

During this year of Global financial melt-down, your company has also not escaped unscathed. There were unavoidable consequences like falling demand for cement, pilling up of inventories, unaltered fixed overheads and lower realization price for cement etc. All these badly affected the margins of your company. Notwithstanding the handicap, I am pleased to inform you that your company had managed to survive with a marginal loss.

We have been able to improve the situation in the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of the very next year. i.e. financial year 2009-2010. Sales volume of your company grew by 19.34 % to Rs. 10.23 crores and your company has posted a net profit of Rs. 30.69 Lakhs during this quarter.

Your company is concentrating on modernizing & restructuring its existing Plant at Asansol so as to achieve substantial increase in capacity and thereby increasing the turnover and profitability.

The project at Patratu faced some unforeseen bottlenecks due to non availability of fund from the bankers. The main cause of this is, procedural delay in getting registration of lease deed of Land situated at Patratu in order to create equitable mortgage in favour of the Bankers. The Project was delayed for other technical reasons too. However, the land has been registered in the name of the company. The project at Patratu is scheduled to be completed by end of June, 2010.

## **Corporate Social Responsibility and Corporate Governance**

Corporate Social Responsibility as form of Corporate Self-Regulation integrated into the business model of the Company. Your company is well aware of its responsibility at large and we are committed to drive this initiative with enhanced focus and in a more inclusive way in the future.

Your Board and Management has always practiced the highest principals of corporate governance in an endeavor to create value for Stakeholder. I would like to reiterate that your company would continue to uphold these traditions and act in the best interest of all stakeholders.

I express my gratitude to you, dear Shareholders for your continued trust & faith in the Company's destiny. I assure you on behalf of the management that we will continue striving to give you the best performance in the years to come. Last but not the least; I convey my sincere thanks to all the Employees and my fellow Board members for their continued support and co-operation.

Thanking You,

Ashok Gutgutia

#### BURNPUR CEMENT LIMITED

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