

## Illumination Survey in Opencast Mines

<sup>1</sup>Vikram P,

Assistant Professor,  
Department of Mining Engineering,  
Dr. T Thimmaiah Institute of Technology,  
K.G.F, Karnataka-563120,

<sup>2</sup>Arun.E, <sup>3</sup>Surya.A, <sup>4</sup>Venu.K.G, <sup>5</sup>William.K  
Students

**Abstract:** The primary objective of the project was to develop a systematic scientific approach for achieving better illumination standards in the mine and ensuring safe visual working environment in the selected opencast mines with regard towards the statutory standards. The research investigation was carried out with the aim to conduct illumination survey to check if the standards were met with respect to Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) standards at different places of work in the mine and of different HEMMs followed by design of appropriate illumination systems based on illumination requirements. The illumination survey of existing lighting system in various working areas i.e., haul road, coal transport road, dump yard, OB and coal faces, dump road, workshops. The instrument used for the survey was a Metravi-1332 Light meter. The illumination models were redesigned for haul road, coal transport road and dump road using DIALux software and virtual luminaries were used according to the requirement. The illumination models were designed for haulroad, coal transport road and dump road using DIALux software and virtual luminaries were used according to the requirement. The road lighting designs were performed as per CIE EN 13201 standard, which is used internationally for road lighting. The design models satisfied the required minimum lighting as stated by DGMS standards. For OB and coal faces it is better to install a mobile lighting arrangement (tower mounted/truck mounted) as the face moves rapidly and the peripheral lighting provided won't be able to illuminate the face as the face advances.

### I. INTRODUCTION

Illumination plays a critical role in mining for providing a suitable work environment for

the workers which is essential for achieving higher production. Surface mines are sufficiently illuminated by the sun in the day times but needs to be provided with some artificial illumination during the night times for safe operations of various machineries at different work places.

The increased mechanization demands adequate and suitable lighting in order to reduce accidents. Physiological reasonableness of an individual to his workplace is particularly significant from security perspective. It is realized that if a task is performed in poor lighting for long time, sign of strain appear in the individual and if not checked, can lead to physical illness. Good lighting encourages visual performance, improves quality of work, reduces the frequency of errors and prevents fatigue, and improves visual communication with the working environment. In open cast mining wherein production is the primary objective, activities are carried out even during night shifts; it requires effective illumination at workplaces. The productivity and safety of miners is affected due to dark surroundings and low surface reflectance. Therefore it is very difficult to meet the lighting norms specified by various regulatory bodies. Hence for achieving better illumination standards as a systematic scientific approach should be followed in mines. An effective lighting installation is one which has a triobenefit of working with safety, efficiency and reasonable comfort. The lighting design process begins by carefully determining the needs and then practical, technical, and economic factors are considered in establishing an appropriate illumination system design. There are various environmental factors that affect the visibility of the surrounding stone a few like low surface reflectance, suspended dust, and water vapor that cause backscattering

and thereby reduce apparent luminance. An optimized lighting design should take into account these factors along with luminaire design aspects for and effective illumination.

## II. OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT

The primary objectives of the project was to design an effective lighting system at different places of work to ensure safe visual working environment in an open cast mining project with due compliance of statutory standards.

## III. LITERATURE REVIEW

**Yadav et al. (2015)** proposed to introduce a simulation study of designs for the uniform illumination over a rectangular-target surface (underground mine 26m x 4.8 m display) utilizing power LEDs. This financially effective lighting included various arrangements of courses of action of LEDs that give a nearby uniform light dimension for given optimized parameters. The optimized estimations of the factors in the courses of action were acquired by the utilizing of MATLAB capabilities for optimized tool box.

**Lakshmi pathy et al. (2014)** dealt with structure and advancement of ideal lighting parameters for haul roads in Surface Coal Mines utilizing MATLAB. The examination report demonstrates that the design parameters such as spacing and number of poles will differ with the adjustment in standards. In the end the trial study uncovers that tallness of mounting with tilt angle is essential to accomplish all the required lighting measures. Least height of lighting arrangement, as a rule, ought to be administered by HEMM of most extreme tallness moving on the road. Height of pole might be differed from 12 to 16 meters for haul road of around 12 meters width, which is generally predominant in Indian open cast coal mines.

**Tripathy and Chowdhury (2014)** completed an exploratory enlightenment review of the present situation of lighting framework in different working territories of an automated open cast coal mine, the sharp perception yielded the outcome that

current luminance levels were found generally insufficient in the vast majority of the work places and consequently, improvement measures were taken by point by point examination of the overarching issues and planning a legitimate structure which fits the required lighting arrangement of that mine by utilizing DIALux programming.

**Paletal. (2012)** proposed structure arrangement of haul road lighting for an open cast coal mine utilizing efficient green power. A model board was additionally developed and it indicated genuinely consistent lumen yield over fluctuating input voltages.

**Das and Roul (2005)** carried out an illumination study at National Aluminum Company LTD (NALCO), highly automated open cast bauxite mine and the proposed structure included to accommodate 9m lighting pole and 18m adjustable tilt-capable tower. Additionally, plan of Haul road and auxiliary haul road framework was performed.

**Aruna and Jaralika (2012)** gave a structure of a lighting framework for both mineral and overburden benches which depended on the base adequate reflected light and there reflected uniformity ratio. For this situation a stretch of a 1.0 km Haul road was considered for the procedure examination of different sorts of lighting frameworks. The design was attempted with five distinct sorts of lighting arrangements. Light mounting heights were changed at five stages, to be specific, 8, 10, 12, 14, and 16m. Design under wet conditions acquired an abundance cost of 9.4% for mineral bench haul road and half for overburden bench haul road. Design under wet surface conditions guaranteed the base light level even under most exceedingly terrible state of surface reflectivity with minor increment in expense.

## IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF METRAVI 1332 DIGITAL LIGHT METER

For simple lighting installations, an acceptable lighting design can be produced by simple

manual calculations based on the tabular data. For more complex projects mathematical modeling on the computer is viable and for more optimized and larger projects, lighting design software can be put into use.

The lighting layout can be inspected for uniformity and illuminance depending on factors such as positioning, fixture height and photometric characteristics. The location, design parameters and working conditions can be set and the computer uses this information to produce a contour chart overlaid on the project floor plan, providing information about the expected lighting level at the provided height. The amount of artificial light received in an internal space can typically be analyzed by undertaking a daylight factor calculation. Operating costs of the lighting installations can be optimized by including the effect of lights from the luminaires using an advanced program.

- The instrument that is used for the illuminance survey is MetraVi 1332 Digital Light-meter.
- Accuracy: Stated accuracy at 23°C ± 5°C (73°F ± 9°F) < 70% relative humidity.
- Weight: 210g including battery.
- Measurement Range: 2.5 times per second.
- Battery: Standard 9V battery (NEDA 1604, IEC 6F22.006P)
- Battery life: 200 hours typical with carbon zinc battery.
- Display: 3 1/2 digit liquid display (LCD) with a maximum reading of 1999.



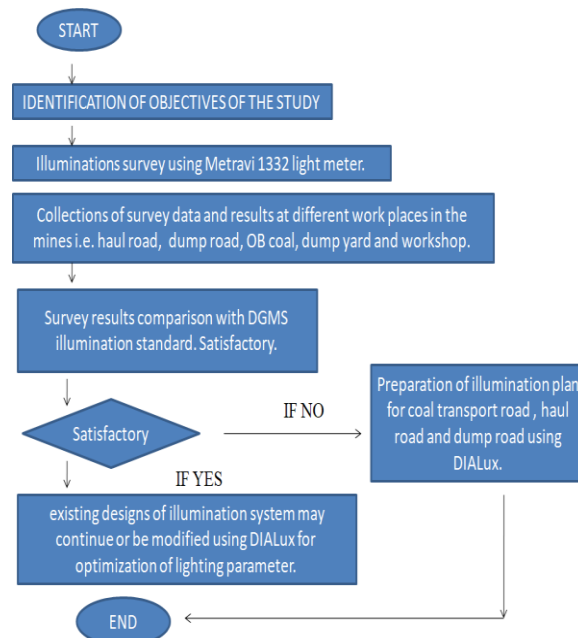
- Battery life: 200 hours typical with carbon zinc battery
  - Dimensions: 190mm(H) x 65.5mm(W) x (D)
  - Weight: 210g including battery
  - Photometric Formulas:  $10.764 \text{ footcandles} = \text{lumens} / \text{foot}^2$   
 $0.0929 \text{ lux} = \text{footcandles} (\text{lumens} / \text{foot}^2)$
- Range: 200lux, 2000lux, 20klux, 200klux,

Fig 1  
(Please refer page 216)

- 200fc, 2000fc, 20kfc, 200kfc
  - Resolution: 0.1lux, 0.1fc
  - Spectral Response: Metraviphotopic (The Metraviphotopic curve is an international standard for the color response of the average human eye)
  - Acceptance Angle:  $\theta < 3^\circ \cos$  corrected (150°)
  - Temperature Coefficient: 0.1x (specified accuracy) / °C (< 18°C or > 28°C), 0.056x (specified accuracy) / °F (< 64.4°F or > 82.4°F)
  - Peak hold response time: > 50ms pulse light.
- If the results are not satisfactory, preparation of illumination plan for coal transport road, haul road and dump road using DIAL

### Flow chart for illumination design Methodology for open cast project

- Start the Analysis.
- We identify the objectives of the Studies.
- Illumination survey using metravi 1332 light meter.
- Collection of Survey data and results.
- Different results at different workplaces.
- Workplaces like Haul road, Dump road, Dump yard etc.
- Survey comparison with DGMS standards.
- If the results are satisfactory, existing designs of illumination system may continue or be modified using DIALUX for optimization of lighting parameter.



### V. RESULTS

- Overall haul road illumination in mines will be satisfactory. There were luminaries tilted in left/right directions mentioned at some of the poles, due to which lux levels were reduced. The effective using of both 60W and 200W LED lighting wherever necessary made the mine illumination better.
- Measurement of road illuminance will be conducted by measuring illuminance between the midpoint of the two adjacent poles and the spread of light was observed. The illuminance measurement will be obtained during the survey for haul road.
- The dumping yard operations were mainly operated in the day shifts. During night shifts machine breakdowns and coal face operations are operated. So there were no lights installed in dump road and dump yard.
- In workshops (in dozer, shovel and dumper section) the illumination levels will be not satisfactory as per DGMS circular. Hence More LED lights must be installed wherever necessary for satisfying DGMS norms.
- In dumper parking area only 2 luminaries will be installed. A tower mounted flood light system can be installed to optimize electricity and efficiency costs.

### VI. CONCLUSION

- For haul road 1 and Coal transport road, lux levels were not satisfactory as per DGMS standards (10 lux). For Haul road 2 though the average lux level is satisfactory but non-uniform light distribution made it appear less illuminated than it should be.
- From dumping yards, it was found that proper illumination was not provided in the dump edges. The luminance levels in the quarry no. 5 dumping yard (2.5H lux and 4.5V lux) and quarry no. 4 dumping yards (2.5H lux and 1V lux) were not satisfactory as per the recommended DGMS standards (15H lux and 15V lux).
- In workshops (in dozer, shovel and dumper section) the illumination levels were not satisfactory as per DGMS circular. The number of HPSV lamps must be increased for satisfying DGMS norms.

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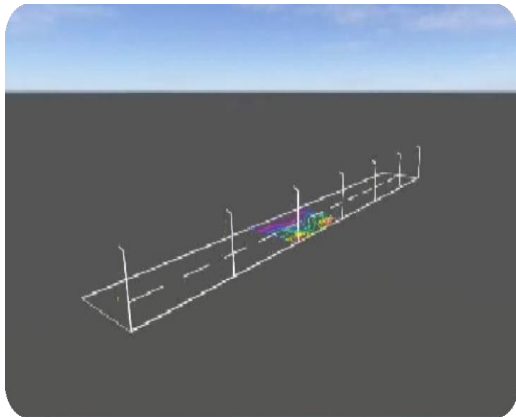
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Fig 1



Schematic Diagram of Coal Transport road:



Main Haul road lighting in mines: