

Statement of Chairman and CEO

ACC has a history of good governance with generations of distinguished leaders who have guided the company in demonstrating a sincere concern for nature, the planet and its people. Our archives show that community development programmes were initiated more than sixty years ago, when the term corporate social responsibility was not yet coined. ACC practiced environmental protection and pollution control, long before pollution control norms and other regulatory laws came into existence.

The Company is deeply committed to uphold this great tradition. Sustainable development and corporate social responsibility find special place in our organization structure and form an intrinsic part of our business strategy. We believe in the Triple Bottom Line theory and would like to assess our performance on the basis of this framework. We aim to be recognized as a leading champion of sustainable development not only in the cement industry but on a wider plane. We have charted a clear road map for this, comprising a host of comprehensive programmes with distinct milestones, adequate budgets and measurable targets. We are guided in this respect by the outstanding practices of the Holcim Group who are recognized as leaders in sustainability. In the Global Cement Industry.

Occupational Health and Safety has come to occupy overriding priority. Our environment management systems and processes have been strengthened. Backed by a proactive environment policy, we practice regular air quality monitoring, clean mining techniques with effective strategy for rehabilitation of used mines and an aggressive energy conservation programme. As part of the quest for renewable energy sources, the company's first Wind Energy Farm was commissioned in Tamil Nadu to promote clean green energy. We have plans to explore other viable solutions for renewable non-fossil energy.

An important contribution we are now making is in promoting new effective solutions for dealing with hazardous and non hazardous wastes from different industrial processes. We have ambitious plans for this function, guided by the success that the Holcim Group has already demonstrated.

In respect of community development, we are conducting detailed needs assessment studies in the villages around all our plants to help devise appropriate schemes that will visibly improve the quality of life and environment in these communities. Special focus is given to promote self-reliance through capacity-building and sustainable livelihoods. In the process, we are seeking to forge more meaningful partnerships with government agencies, NGOs and social science consultants.

We are pleased to present our first Corporate Sustainable Development Report. It has been compiled using the G3 guidelines of the Global Reporting Initiative. The exercise has helped us identify not only our strengths in processes and expertise but also lacunae in quantitative and qualitative data and the need to formulate clear policies on different aspects of sustainability. We intend to make this report a regular feature and will publish it once in two years. An updated version will be made available on our website every year.



N S Sekhsaria
Chairman

June 5, 2008 - World Environment Day



N S Sekhsaria



Sumit Banerjee



Sumit Banerjee
Managing Director