



Kantha Fair in West Bengal | West Bengal | 18 Mar 2025

Why in News?

Coal India Limited (CIL), under [the Ministry of Coal](#), organized a **Kantha Fair** showcasing the embroidery work of **women artisans** from **West Bengal**.

- These artisans benefited from **the Kantha Skill Centre** built under CIL.

Key Points

- **Celebrating Women's Achievements:**
 - CIL and its subsidiaries recognized and celebrated women's achievements by organizing various programs across their offices and operational areas.
 - As the lead company, **Central Coalfields Ltd (CCL), Ranchi, Jharkhand**, hosted a mega event showcasing [tribal art](#), women-led businesses, and technical skills.
- **CIL's Commitment to Sustainable Livelihoods:**
 - It was emphasized that CIL and its subsidiaries are dedicated to implementing **impactful programs that empower women through skill development, [entrepreneurship](#), and [Corporate Social Responsibility \(CSR\)](#) initiatives.**
- **Promoting Self-Reliance Among Women:**
 - CIL's commitment to **uplifting [marginalized communities](#)** and fostering economic and social opportunities for women, contributing to national progress while preserving artistic traditions was highlighted.

Coal India Limited

- **About:** CIL is a **state-owned coal mining corporation** in India, responsible for producing and managing coal resources in the country.
 - It was **1975** and is the **world's largest coal producer**.
- **Organisational Structure:** CIL is classified as a '**Maharatna**' **public sector enterprise** and operates through **8 subsidiaries** like Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL), Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL).
 - **Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL)** is CIL's largest coal-producing subsidiary.
- **Strategic Importance:** Over half of India's **installed power capacity** is coal-based, with **CIL** supplying around **78%** of the country's total coal production.
 - Coal also accounts for **40% of India's primary commercial energy needs**.
- **Mining Capacity:** Across **eight Indian states**, CIL operates in **84 mining areas**, and manages a total of **313 active mines**.