

# MINING

Chhattisgarh is a rich State in terms of mineral wealth, with so far known 28 varieties of minerals, including diamonds.

Chhattisgarh, has substantial coal deposits, which led to its 'power hub' strategy. The tin ore which is a rare metal in India is found in Chhattisgarh. The best quality iron ore deposits in the world are found in the Bailadila mines of Dantewara district in Chhattisgarh. Rich deposits of Bauxite, Limestone, Dolomite and Corundum are also found in the State. The State is lucky to have large deposits of coal, iron ore and limestone in close proximity, which makes it an ideal location for the low cost of production of power, steel and cement.

There is great opportunity for private participation in the mining sector in Chhattisgarh. Procedures for investment have been simplified and there is complete transparency in decision-making. The additional advantage is availability of trained personnel in geology, geochemistry, mineral beneficiation, mining engineering and environmental science in sufficient number.

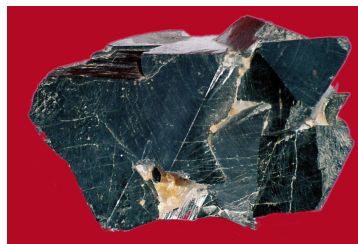
Chhattisgarh has the right geological set up to host a number of economic mineral deposits. It comprises parts of the Bastar and Singhbhum cratons, these are surrounded by the Middle Proterozoic circum mobile belts and major rifts. The other intra-craonic supra-crustal belts include rocks of the Middle to Upper Proterozoic, Carboniferous, Permian, Cretaceous and sub-Recent to Recent periods. The area has observed multiple major tectonic and thermal events of various episodes. The rock types of principal metallogenic and mineralogenic episodes are prevailing in the State, which confirms the high potentials for the search of new mineral deposits. Simply put, such geological environment is conducive for the formation of various mineral deposits of excellence.

Placer diamonds in the State led to the discovery of presumably Proterozoic diamondiferous kimberlites in Mainpur area of Raipur district, which has attracted global attention. Incidence of occurrence of gold and diamonds is also known from Ib River in Raigarh district.

Deposits of Alexandrite, one of the rarest gemstones is found in Deobhog area of Raipur district. Workable deposits of corundum are widespread in Dantewara district in southern Chhattisgarh. Corundum includes semi-precious varieties of Ruby and Blue Sapphire is known and possibilities of finding precious varieties as well exist. Other semi-precious minerals like Beryl, Garnet, Amethyst and Rock Crystal are also found in parts of the State.

A few major mineral deposits are: (all figures in million tones)

- Coal : 41442
- Iron Ore : 2731
- Limestone : 9038
- Dolomite : 847
- Bauxite : 148



Chhattisgarh Mineral Development Corporation (CMDC) a Govt. of Chhattisgarh undertaking, undertakes commercial exploitation and trading on minerals in the State. CMDC welcomes partnerships with public and private sector companies, so that the natural wealth of the State is translated more efficiently into prosperity of the populace. Investors, who come into the State with a plan to add value with downstream industries, are given priority for sanctioning of Prospecting License and Mining Lease.

The Raipur-based Directorate of Geology and Mining, Chhattisgarh is best knowledge and resource centers in mining of Chhattisgarh's minerals. All are welcome to utilize the expertise of the Directorate.

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