



सत्यमेव जयते

MINISTRY OF MINES
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA



MINING SECTOR

Reforms

“ Special focus should be laid on improving our country's self-reliance in the production of minerals and their in-country processing ”

SHRI NARENDRA MODI
Prime Minister



“

India is endowed with rich reserves of mineral resources and effective utilization of these resources is critical to achieving the larger vision of a self-reliant and prosperous nation ”

Shri G. Kishan Reddy

Union Minister of Coal and Mines



“ Mining Sector plays a vital role in the country's GDP, industrial advancement, and job creation. The extraction and utilization of mineral resources should be harmonized with sustainability and social accountability ”

Shri Satish Chandra Dubey
Minister of State for Coal and Mines



PREFACE

Problems plaguing the mining sector pre-2014

- The grant of mineral resources was through 'first come first serve' method. This system of allocation of mineral concession was discretionary and decision making was not transparent. Besides, it was not generating any revenue to the Government other than basic royalty. The process of renewal of mining leases was also acting as an obstacle in attracting large scale investment in the mining sector.
- Moreover, thrust on exploration was lacking and there was no professional private sector participation in exploration activity. Even though large amount of geo-scientific data was available, they remained scattered and inaccessible.
- Due to lack of digitalization, mining supervision became very difficult, often manifesting in illegal mining. There was no framework for regulating sustainable practices in mining operations.
- There has been long-standing demand of local people in mining affected areas for focussed developmental activities beyond R&R. The intent and a mechanism to deliver were lacking.

Reforms post-2014

- The amendment of the MMDR Act, 1957 in 2015 introduced the auction regime for grant of mineral concessions bringing in transparency and removing discretion at all levels in the grant of mineral concessions. The method of auction has also ensured that the State Governments get their fair share of revenue accruing from the auction process. A uniform lease period of 50 years for all leases was introduced in place of the provision of renewal of lease period, paving way for greater continuity in mining operations.
- Impetus to exploration was provided under the MMDR Amendment Act of 2015 through the setting up of the National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) to finance exploration activity. A flagship project using NMET funding is the National Geoscience Data Repository (NGDR) created for collation of geo-scientific data available with various organizations in the country. Now, stakeholders have seamless access to geo-science data. To enhance exploration further, the amendment to the MMDR Act in 2021 provided for notification of private exploration agencies to take up exploration work on behalf of Government using NMET funding. This was followed up with the introduction of Exploration License regime through the MMDR Act amendment in 2023 within the framework of Auction.

- In the spirit of Digital India, digital technology has been leveraged in mine regulation and administration. Drone Survey has been introduced for better mine planning and improved regulations. Mining Tenement System (MTS) has been introduced as a Digital Repository of entire Life Cycle analysis of each Mining Concession granted for major minerals.
- The MMDR Amendment Act of 2015 had also provided for establishing District Mineral Foundation (DMF) by State Government in any district affected by mining related operations, to take care of people and areas affected by mining related activities. The *Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana* (PMKKKY) has been framed to make use of DMF funds to implement the developmental and welfare projects and programs.
- New-age minerals, which are essential for in energy transition system and other strategic uses like defence and aero-space, have become important. The lack of availability of minerals or concentration of extraction or processing in a few geographical locations may lead to supply chain vulnerabilities and even disruption of supplies. Accordingly Central Government created Part D comprising of critical and strategic minerals in schedule 1 to build domestic capacity and supply chain resilience. The MMDR Amendment Act of 2023 has empowered the Central Government to auction 24 critical and strategic minerals.

RESULTS

- Since the amendment in 2015, **244** resource bearing G2/ G3 level Geological Reports (GRs) on various mineral commodities prepared by GSI and MECL has been handed over to the concerned State Governments. Following the amendment in the MMDR Act in 2021, allowing submission of G4-level Geological Memoranda (GM) for auctioning of blocks as composite license, GSI has handed over **324** GMs to the concerned State Governments.
- Since the beginning of the auction regime in 2015, **404** mineral blocks have been auctioned till 29.08.2024 across Centre and **11** States. Revenue amounting to Rs. **2.69** lakh crore has accrued to the States as royalty and auction premium payments, of which Rs. **60,495** crore alone is auction premium.
- A total of **420** projects for funding under NMET have been sanctioned for an amount of Rs. **2,567.21** crores. **221** projects have been completed so far. **23** private exploration agencies have so far been notified.
- DMF has been set up in **645** districts in **23** States. A total of Rs. **96,844** crores have been collected in DMF till June, 2024 of which around Rs. **52,327** crores have been spent wherein **1.93** lakh projects have been completed.
- **48** unique critical mineral blocks have been put up for auction by the Centre in four tranches so far. For the first three tranche, **14** blocks have been successfully auctioned.

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MINING SECTOR INDICATORS



Iron Ore Production (MMT)



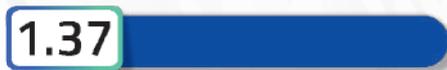
Limestone Production (MMT)



Aluminium Metal Production (MMT)



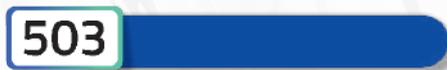
Value of MCDR (Rs. Cr.)



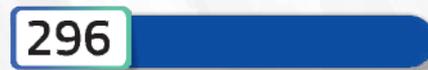
Geo-chem Mapping (lakh sq. km.)



Geo-PhyMapping (lakh sq. km.)



NMET Funding Approved (Rs. Cr.)



NMET Expenditure Incurred (Rs. Cr.)



Year wise Auction



Royalty & Auction Premium (Rs. Cr.)



DMF: Amount Collected (Rs. Cr.)



DMF: Amount Spent (Rs. Cr.)

F.Y. 24

F.Y. 14

F.Y. 18

MINING SECTOR REFORMS

DAWN OF A NEW ERA

To remedy the basic structural defects in the mining sector legislation and to infuse greater ease of doing business, the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957 was amended in 2015.

Salient Features of the MMDR Amendment Act, 2015

- E-Auction was made mandatory for the grant of mineral concession to ensure transparent method of allotments of mineral wealth.
- Need for renewals and prior approvals was removed for ease of doing business and removing discretions.
- Provided for establishing District Mineral Foundation Trust for the welfare of mining affected areas by using contributions from the mining companies.
- National Mineral Exploration Trust was established for regional and detailed mineral exploration in the country.
- Penal provisions were made more stringent to deter illegal mining activities.
- Introduced uniform lease period of 50 years for all leases in place of provision of renewal of lease period to ensure greater continuity in mining operations



Reform initiatives under MMDR Amendment Act, 2015 aimed to-



SUSTAINING MINERAL PRODUCTION

Mineral Laws Amendment Act-2020

MMDR Act, 1957 has been amended through the Mineral Laws (Amendment) Act, 2020 to maintain sustained mineral production in the country. Amendment was carried out keeping in mind the fact that a large number of working mining leases were going to expire in March, 2020 under the provisions of the MMDR Act. The Amendment was an important step to ensure that there is no shortage of mineral availability in the country. It facilitated seamless transfer of all valid rights, approvals, clearances, licences and the like for a period of two years to a new lessee in case of minerals other than coal, lignite and atomic minerals.

In 2020, mining leases of 334 mines were expiring on 31st March, out of which 46 were working non-captive mines. While some of the states initiated action to auction these blocks, mines allocated through auction could have started mining operations only after obtaining as many as twenty three (23) clearances from different Government agencies. This was causing inordinate delay in commencement of mining operations and subsequent production of the minerals. To sustain supply of minerals, the Act was further amended through the Mineral Laws (Amendment) Act, 2020.



Salient Features of the Mineral Laws (Amendment) Act, 2020

A. Advance Action for Auction

Earlier, the government did not have the power to initiate the auction process for the mining lease before the expiry of the lease period.

To ensure continuity in mining operations, this Act allowed State Governments to auction the mining lease before the expiry.

B. Transfer of the Statutory Clearances to New Bidders

The Amendment Act now provides that the approvals, licences and clearances given to the previous bidder shall be extended to the successful bidder in the auction for two years. During these two years, the new lessee can continue the mining activities but has to obtain all the approvals and statutory clearances within these two years.



PROVIDING QUICK BOOST TO MINERAL PRODUCTION

MMDR Amendment Act, 2021

Salient Features of the Amendment-2021

1. Revitalize mineral sector by giving immediate boost to mineral production.

- Removing the distinction between captive and merchant mines: It allows all captive mines to sell upto 50% of the minerals produced during the year after meeting the requirement of attached plant. All future auctions will be without any end use restrictions.
- Resolving pending cases under section 10A (2)(b) by bringing them under new auction regime: Around 500 cases under section 10A (2)(b) of the Act were pending in absence of the sunset clause.



- Substituting 'mining operations' with 'production and dispatch': Since the interpretation of the term mining operations is generic, it was difficult to cancel non-producing leases.
- Reallocation of non-producing blocks of the Government companies as many of the mining blocks reserved for Government companies were not brought into production for many years.

2. To promote ease of doing business

- Validity of statutory clearances of expired mining leases to continue even after expiry or termination of mining lease, and these clearances shall be transferred to next lessee of the mine. This will ensure continuity in mining operations and production despite change in lessee.
- Allow the transfer of all mineral concession without any charges.
- Clarified the scope of the phrase 'without lawful authority' by inserting an explanation in section 21: Now miners can only be penalized under this section for raising, transporting or causing to raise or transport any mineral without prospecting licence, mining lease or composite licence or in contravention of the rules made under section 23C.

3. Other Structural Reforms

- Provided for notification of private exploration agencies to enable professional, private sector participation in exploration.
- Central Government may issue directions regarding composition and utilization of funds by DMF.
- Empowered Central Government to conduct auctions in cases where the States face difficulty in conducting auction or fail to conduct auction in prescribed time fixed in consultation with the State Government.



EXPANDING THE FRONTIERS OF MINING

Amendment in the MMDR Act, 1957 in 2023

- Omitted 6 minerals from the list of atomic minerals specified in Part B of the First Schedule of the Act, and introduced Part-D comprising 24 critical and strategic minerals.
- Empowered Central Government to exclusively auction mineral concessions for critical minerals list in Part-D of First Schedule of the Act. Revenue from these auctions will accrue to concerned State Government.
- Central Govt has notified 20 Critical Mineral Blocks for auction in 1st Tranche on 29th November 2023.
- Exploration licence has been introduced to be granted through auction, which shall permit the licensee to undertake reconnaissance and prospecting operations for critical and deep-seated minerals mentioned in the new Seventh Schedule to the Act.



NEW VISTAS IN OFFSHORE MINING

Amendment in the Offshore Areas Mineral Development and Regulation (OAMDR), Act 2002 in 2023

- Introduced transparent and non-discretionary auction process as methodology for grant of production lease and composite licence in offshore areas of the country.
- Created Offshore Areas Mineral Trust for the benefit of individuals affected by exploration and production activities.
- Ministry of Mines has finalized 4 enabling rules of which three rules viz. Offshore Areas (Existence of Mineral Resources) Rules, 2024; Offshore Areas Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2024; and Offshore Areas Mineral Trust Rules, 2024, have been notified.



OTHER INITIATIVES



EASE OF DOING BUSINESS

50-years' Uniform Lease Period started in place of Renewal of Lease Period

- Greater continuity in Mining Operations

Captive mines allowed to sell up to 50% of the minerals produced during the year

Distinction between captive and merchant mines eliminated

- Future auctions without any end use restrictions

Allowed validity of statutory clearances of expired mining leases to continue and transferred to next lessee

Restriction on transfer of Mineral Concessions removed by eliminating transfer charge

DMF Portal launched

- To maximize socio-economic benefits to the Communities catered by DMF
- To facilitate effective implementation of monitoring of DMF projects



Decriminalization of Rules

49 Rules in Mineral Concession Rules
24 Rules in Mineral Conservation and Development Rules

DIGITALIZATION

Mining Tenement System (MTS) introduced

- as a Digital Repository of entire Life Cycle of each Mining Concession of major Minerals
- to enable Faceless Submission of Returns easing Mine Regulation

1,22,151

Faceless
Submissions

5,900

Mining Companies
Registered

Drone Survey introduced in MCDR

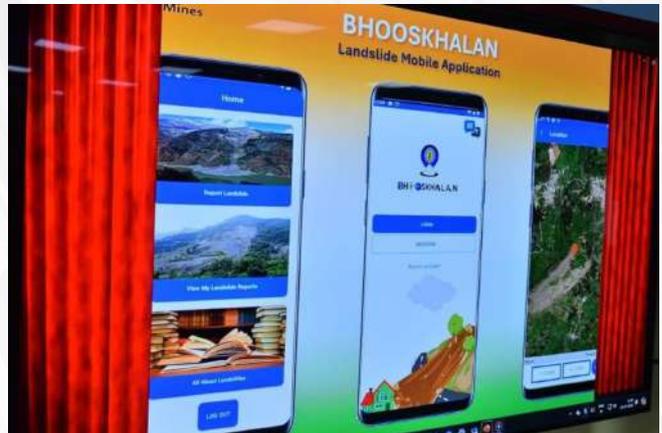
- for better Mine Planning and improved Regulations

National Landslide Forecasting Centre setup in Kolkata

- to implement the Regional Landslide Early Warning System (Region LEWS) for the first time in India

PM GATISHAKTI National Master Plan introduced in Mineral Auction Rules

- for classification of the land for auction of mineral blocks for Composite License



CRITICAL MINERALS

Building Resilience in Supply Chain

India's List of 30 Critical Minerals Identified

Think tank for Critical Minerals being set up

Elimination of Customs Duties on 25 Critical Minerals and Reduction in 2 critical minerals

Leveraging Bilateral Partnerships

- Due diligence with Australia, Argentina and Chile for investment in Mining Assets

Engagement in Multilateral Platforms

- G20 - India's "Voluntary High-Level Principles for Collaboration on Critical Minerals for Energy Transitions"
- Minerals Security Partnership (MSP)
- Supply Chain Resilience Agreement under Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF)

Amendment of MMDR Act in 2023 empowered the Central Government to exclusively auction critical and strategic mineral blocks



UPCOMING INITIATIVES

Critical Mineral Mission

PMU for operationalization of mines

Agreement with International Energy Agency (IEA) on co-operation in critical minerals

Framework for a State Mining Index

SoP for companies viz. OVL, KABIL, NMDC, CIL to acquire critical mineral

Process reforms in the execution of Composite License and Mining Lease

Hackathon event on geo-science data

AI centre for exploration



AUGMENTING MINERAL PRODUCTION FOR FUTURE

**NEW BAUXITE MINE OF
NATIONAL ALUMINIUM COMPANY (NALCO)
AT POTTANGI, ODISHA**



**SURDA MINE OF HINDUSTAN COPPER LIMITED (HCL)
IN JHARKHAND**



OUTCOMES OF THE MINING SECTOR REFORMS

TRANSPARENCY AND FAIRNESS IN GRANT OF MINERAL CONCESSION

Amendment of the MMDR Act, 1957 in 2015

- Removed the discretionary and opaque system of 'first-come-first-served' method
- Introduced the auction regime ushering in transparency and fairness in the process

404 Mineral Blocks Auctioned across Centre and 11 States

Nationwide Mineral Blocks Auctioned since 2015



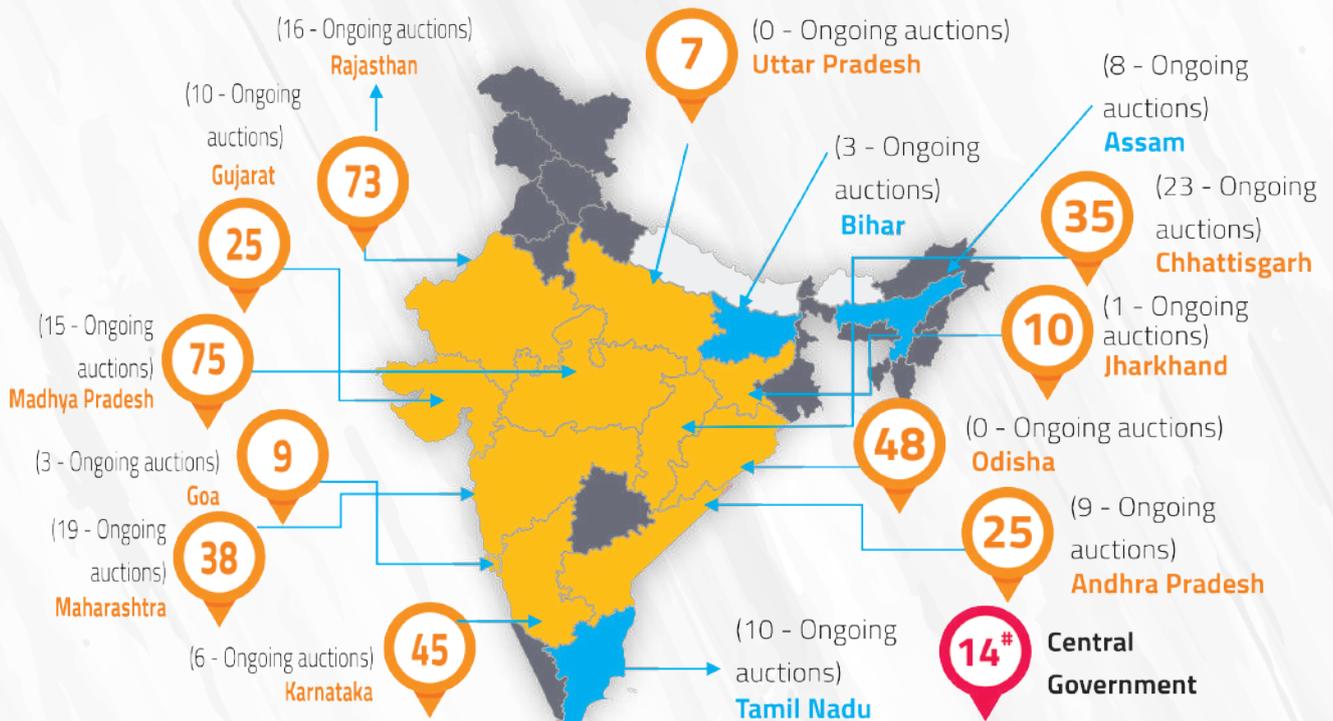
* As on 29.08.2024

EXPANDING THE AUCTION MAP

STATE WISE AUCTION

Successful auction of mineral blocks: 390 major mineral blocks have been auctioned in 11 States and **14** critical mineral blocks have been auctioned by the Centre.

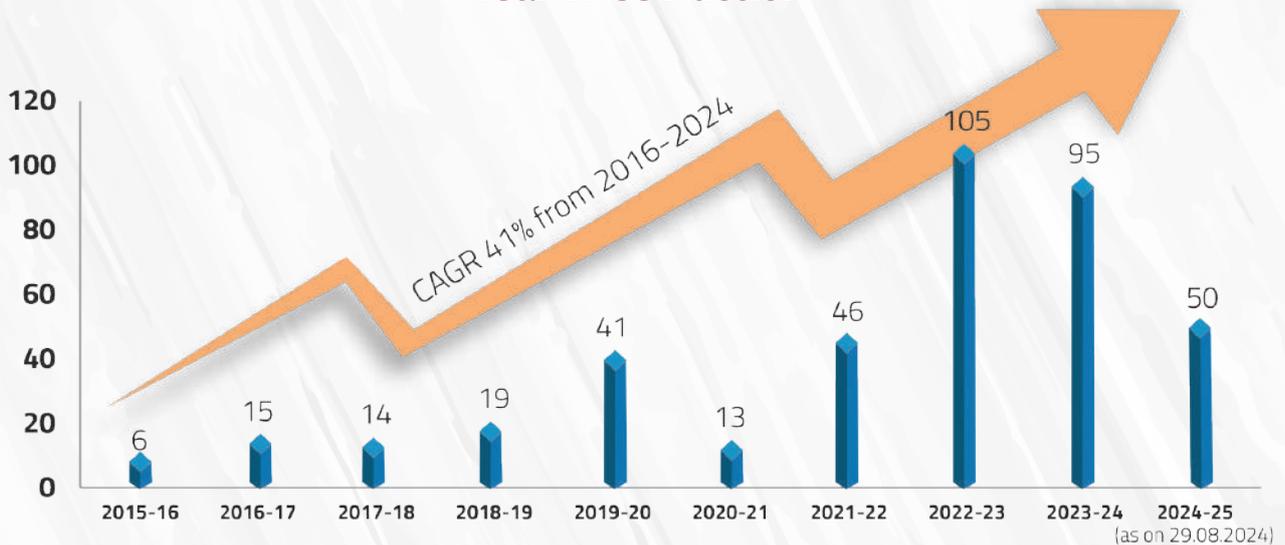
State wise auction summary



*As on 29.08.2024

#After enabling provisions in MMDR Amendment Act, 2023

Year Wise Auction



REVENUES FROM MINING

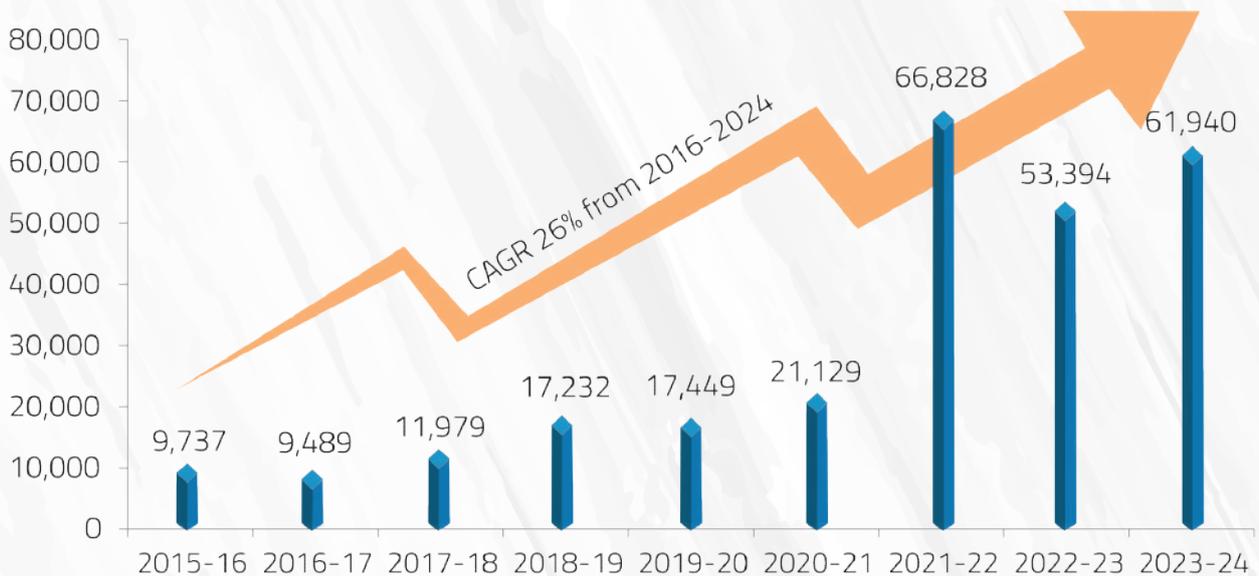
REVENUE ACCRUAL TO STATES FROM MINING

Auction method has ensured higher share of mining revenues to State Governments

Rs. **3.64 Lakh** crore to States,
of which
ROYALTY: RS. 2.08 Lakh CRORE

AUCTION PREMIUM:
Rs. **60,495 Crore**
DMF: Rs. 96,844 Crore

Royalty & Auction Premium (Rs. Cr.)



FINANCIAL INCENTIVES TO STATE GOVERNMENTS

- For making available mineral blocks for auction (Rs. 20 lakh)
- For each successful auction (Rs. 20 lakh)
- 50% reimbursement of Transaction Advisor's fee (up to Rs. 5 lakh) for blocks put up for auction but unsuccessful



THRUST ON MINERAL EXPLORATION

Amendment of MMDR Act in –

2015: National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) set up

- to Finance Exploration Activity

2023: Introduced Exploration Licence

- to permit reconnaissance and prospecting operations for Critical/ Deep-seated Minerals



NMET Funding approved (Rs. Crore)

F.Y. 24

503

F.Y. 18

146

NMET Expenditure Incurred (Rs. Crore)

F.Y. 24

296

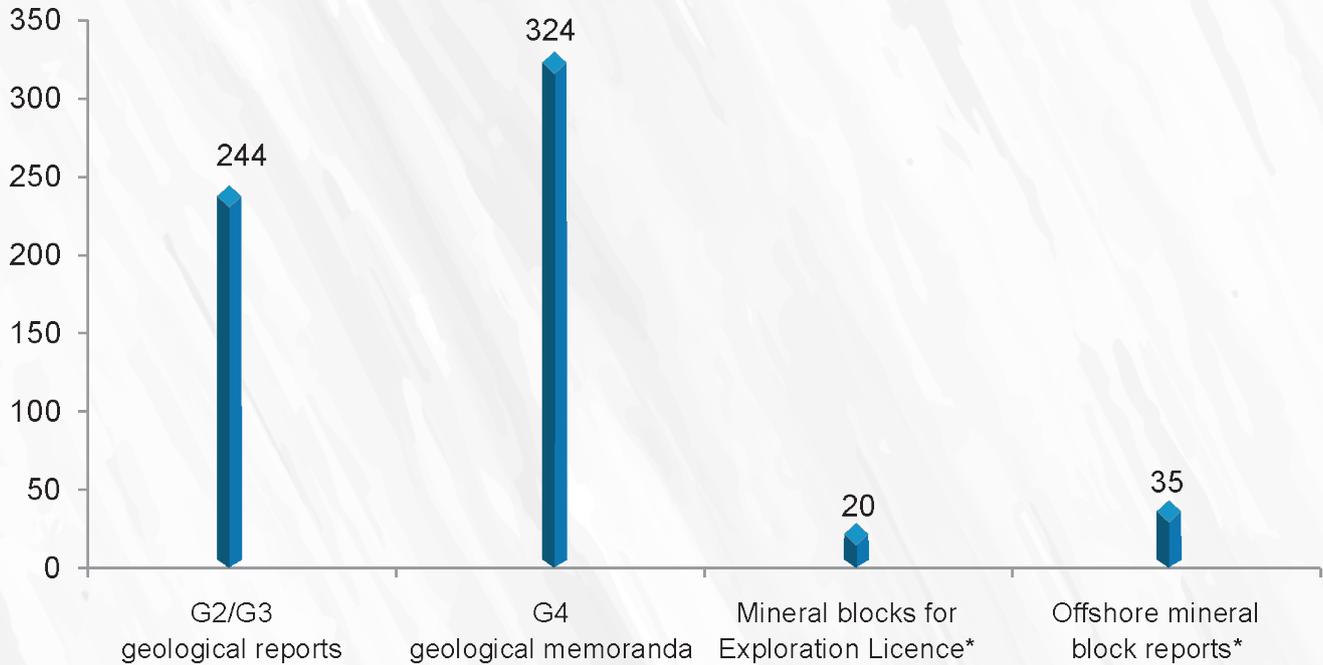
F.Y. 18

80



EXPLORATION PERFORMANCE

Exploration Report Handed Over (No.)



* Handed over on 23.01.2024 for the first time

Number of Private Exploration Agencies notified: 23

NMET Funding of Rs. 42.31 crore approved for 35 Exploration Projects of 8 Notified Private Exploration Agencies so far.

Number of Exploration Licence Blocks handed over to States: 20

Name of Minerals:

REE

05

Base metal

03

PGE

01

Tin & Tungsten

01

Zirconium

01

Diamond

05

Gold

02

Potash

01

Vanadium

01

SEAMLESS ACCESS TO GEO-SCIENTIFIC DATA

National Geoscience Data Repository (NGDR)

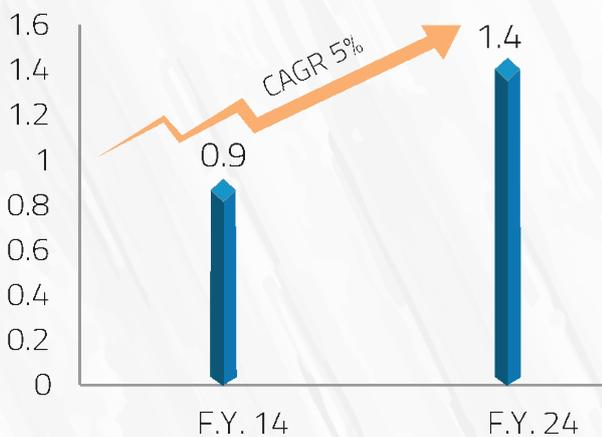
All Geo-Scientific data in the country in public domain through web portal.

**Geo-chem data:
21.39 lakh sq. km.**

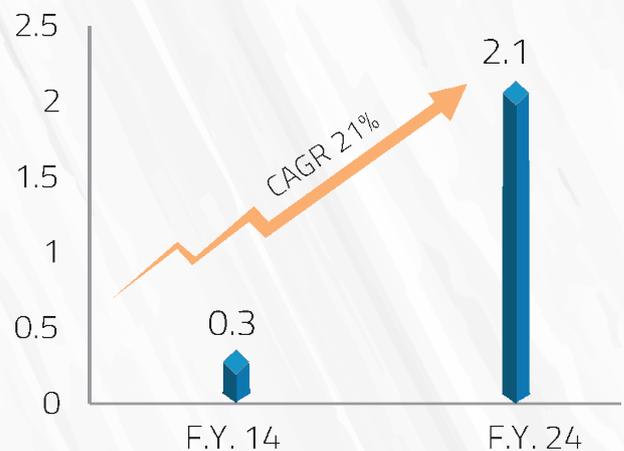
**Geo-physical data:
14.06 lakh sq. km.**



Geo-Chem Mapping (lakh sq. km.)



Geo-Phy Mapping (lakh sq. km.)



FOCUSED DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE

District Mineral Foundation

Amendment of MMDR Act in 2015 provided for –

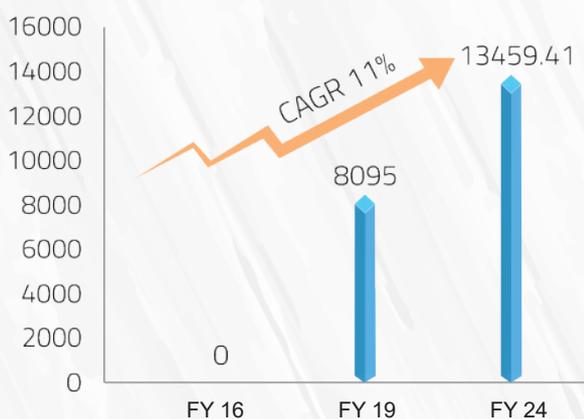
- Establishing **District Mineral Foundation (DMF)** by State Government in any district affected by mining related operations to take care of people and areas affected by mining related activities

PMKKKY makes use of DMF Funds

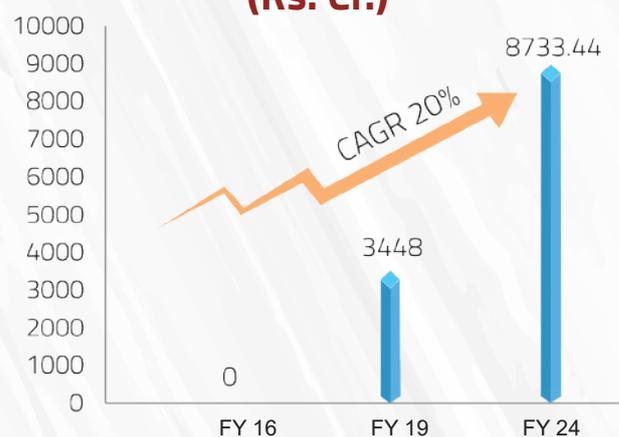
- To implement the developmental and welfare projects and programs on Health, Education, Skilling, Drinking Water, Sanitation, etc.



DMF: Amount Collected (Rs. Cr.)



DMF: Amount Spent (Rs. Cr.)



DMF PERFORMANCE

Since 2015

Rs. 97,813 Cr.	Collected (up to July, 2024)		
Rs. 84,879 Cr.	Allocated for	3.54 lakh	Projects
Rs. 52,360 Cr.	Spent	1.95 lakh	Completed Projects



AUCTION OF CRITICAL & STRATEGIC MINERAL BLOCKS BY CENTRE

Amendment of MMDR Act in 2023 empowered the Central Government to exclusively auction critical and strategic mineral blocks

These are essential minerals for the advancement of many sectors, including high tech electronics, telecommunications, transport, and defence. They are also vital to power the global transition to a low-emission economy, and the renewable energy technologies that will be required to meet the 'Net Zero' commitments of an increasing number of countries around the world.

Auction of Critical and Strategic Mineral blocks have been conducted in 4 tranches till now.

Successful auction of 14 critical and strategic mineral blocks

S. No.	Auction of Critical and Strategic Mineral blocks	Blocks successfully auctioned
1	1 st Tranche vide NIT dated 29 November, 2023	6
2	2 nd Tranche vide NIT dated 29 February 2024	4
3	3 rd Tranche vide NIT dated 14 March 2024	4
4	4 th Tranche vide NIT dated 24 June, 2024	TBA



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO S&T AND START-UPS

The Ministry of Mines, Government of India has been funding research and development projects (R&D Projects) of many research institutions in mining and metallurgy sector since 1978 for safety, economy, speed and efficiency in these sectors, under Science and Technology Programme (S&T program) of Ministry of Mines.



Recently, Ministry of Mines has enlarged the scope of the S&T program by launching S&T-PRISM in November, 2023 to fund research and innovation in start-ups and MSMEs working in the field of mining and mineral sector to bridge the gap between R&D and commercialisation as also to promote the ecosystem for complete value chain in mining and mineral sector. A total of 56 Start-ups/ MSMEs participated out of which 5 were selected for funding a total of Rs. 6 crores based on milestone. Along with financial grants, these selected Start-ups/ MSMEs will be provided mentorship or incubation support and technical advisory support during entire project period by a Facilitation & Mentorship Team under the Implementing Agency.

Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Center, Nagpur, an autonomous body under the administrative control of Ministry of Mines has been made the Implementing Agency for S&T – PRISM.

The letters of financial grants were handed over by Ministry of Mines on 29th February, 2024.

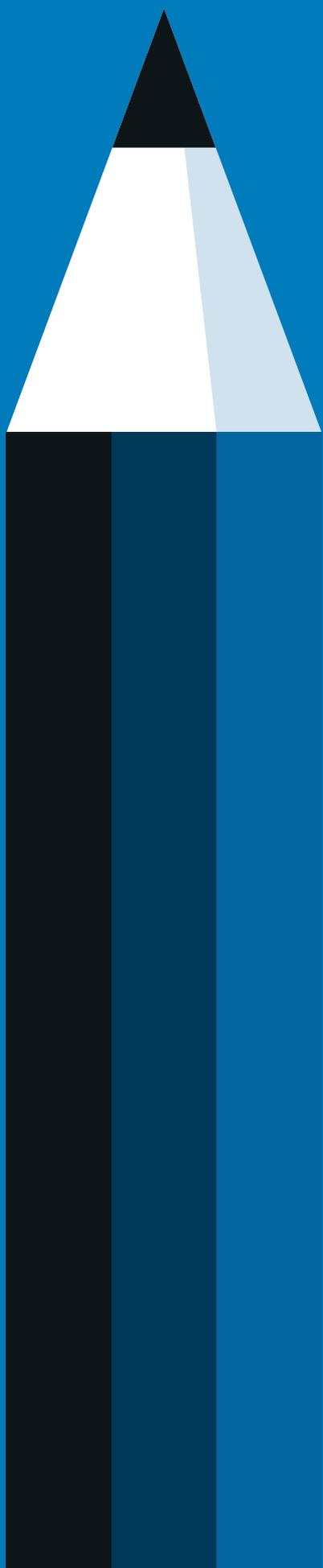


S&T SCHEME IN 2024-25

During the current financial year, support under the S&T scheme was extended to 24 R&D projects (worth Rs. 12.37 crore) and support to 10 Start-ups was extended (worth Rs. 11.26 crore).

To give impetus to R&D and technology support for critical minerals, guidelines are being formulated and are under preparation at present.





TESTIMONIALS

WORDS FROM INDUSTRY LEADERS

“ As India embarks on its journey toward self-reliance, the recent mining reforms and the National Mineral Policy introduced by the Government of India are a testament to the nation’s commitment to sustainable growth and critical mineral security. The forward-looking measures undertaken within the National Mineral Policy enhance the ease of doing business and ensure a robust ecosystem for the exploration & development of essential minerals. The reforms implemented by the Government of India encompass a comprehensive set of guidelines, including stringent environmental norms and sustainable mining practices. These initiatives have been instrumental in boosting domestic mining, attracting investments, and creating jobs. Hindustan Zinc is proud to be a part of this transformative era, contributing to India’s vision of becoming a global leader in the mining sector. ”



Arun Misra

Chief Executive Officer & Wholetime Director,
Hindustan Zinc Limited



Satish Pai

Managing Director, Hindalco Industries Ltd.

“ The future of mining in India is closely linked to the growth story of our country. However, mining has to be carried out responsibly, with least impact on the environment. At Hindalco, caring for the environment and community is at the heart of all that we do. We mine with a vision that our sites and the people living around them continue to flourish long after the last ore is extracted. Our actions are guided by Hindalco’s Sustainable Mining Charter – a blueprint for lasting impact. ”

“ It has been immensely gratifying to see the huge transformative steps that the Ministry of Mines has been undertaking to build the Atmanirbhar Bharat. As an emerging global powerhouse, the identification of critical minerals and the comprehensive approach towards harnessing its potential is a welcome step to fuel India’s growth. International cooperation with nearly 20 countries in exploration and development are bound to bolster the supply chain of these critical minerals in our stride towards self-reliance. ”



Vinay Prakash

CEO, Natural Resources, Adani Group
Managing Director, Kutch Copper Ltd.,
Director, Adani Enterprises Ltd. & ACC Ltd.

WORDS FROM DMF BENEFICIARIES



Special new born care unit funded by DMF Ramgarh

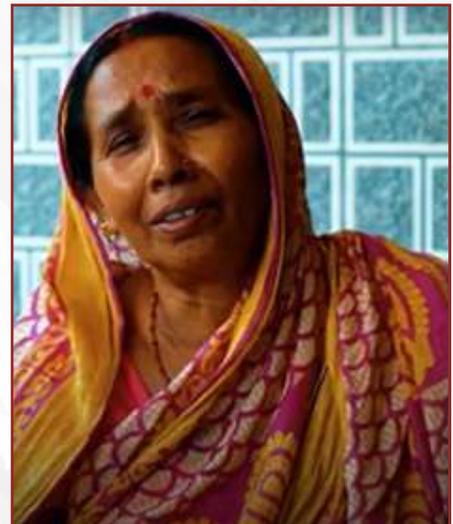
“ We are satisfied because nothing is being spent and if we had gone to private then it would have been such a good care and the expenses would have been very high and the facilities here are very good. ”

Sheela Kumari
Beneficiary Mother

Mega Water Supply Project Dhanbad funded by DMF

“ Previously, we have to toil very hard to fetch the water. Now, after the intervention of DMF we are getting clean drinking water at home. ”

Ahalya Devi
Beneficiary



Tribal Girls Residential School's renovation funded by Chaibasa's DMF

“ Our class was also very broken, the building and the window doors were all broken, now there has been a lot of change, everything seems new. ”

Hira Majhi
Beneficiary

WORDS FROM NMET BENEFICIARIES

Beneficiary- M/s Geovale Services Private Limited

“ The National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET)'s strategy to engage private sector exploration companies as National Private Exploration Agencies (NPEAs) is a pioneering initiative by the Ministry of Mines, setting a global benchmark. This forward thinking approach has significantly accelerated mineral exploration in India, while fostering innovation in the critical minerals domain. ”

Shri Biplob Chatterjee
CEO & Director (Consulting)

Beneficiary- M/s Gemco Kati exploration Private Limited

“ The NMET's strategy to engage M/s Gemco Kati Exploration Pvt. Ltd. as a Notified Private Exploration Agency (NPEA) has successfully advanced geological exploration, transforming geological concepts into mineral resources, particularly in the untapped iron ore-rich Gadchiroli District. NMET funding has enabled auctionable reports, boosted employment, skill development, and socio-economic conditions, and benefited various stakeholders like NABL accredited labs, local traders, etc. ”

Shri Subrata Sarkar
Vice President (P.P)

Beneficiary- M/s Maheshwari Mining Private Limited

“ An unprecedented endeavor by the Ministry of Mines, the National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) has established a global standard by involving private sector exploration companies as Notified Private Exploration Agencies (NPEAs). This creative method has significantly accelerated mineral exploration in India and inspired ingenuity in the field of critical minerals.

We are optimistic that many of these NMET-funded projects will start to provide significant benefits in the coming years, which will be crucial in safeguarding India's vital mineral future. ”

Shri Promit Roy
Geologist







**MINISTRY OF MINES
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**