Ministry of Mines is responsible for survey and exploration of all minerals, other than natural gases, petroleum and atomic minerals; for mining and metallurgy of non-ferrous metals like aluminium, copper, zinc, lead, gold, nickel etc. and for administration of the Mines and Minerals [Regulation & Development] Act, 1957 in respect of all mines and minerals other than coal, natural gas and petroleum. Following works have been allocated to Ministry of Mines under Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules:

(a) Legislation for regulation of mines and development of minerals within the territory of India, including mines and minerals underlying the ocean within the territorial waters or the continental shelf, or the exclusive economic zone and other maritime zones of India as may be specified, from time to time by or under any law made by Parliament.

(b) Regulation of mines and development of minerals other than coal, lignite and sand for stowing and any other mineral declared as prescribed substances for the purpose of the Atomic Energy Act, 1962 (33 of 1962) under the control of the Union as declared by law, including questions concerning regulation and development of minerals in various States and the matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(c) All other metals and minerals not specifically allotted to any other Ministry/Department, such as aluminium, zinc, copper, gold, diamonds lead and nickel.

(d) Planning, development and control of, and assistance to, all industries dealt with by the Ministry.
(e) Geological Survey of India
(f) Indian Bureau of Mines
(g) Metallurgical Grade Silicon

Ministry of Mines is headed by a Secretary and includes the following officers; an Additional Secretary, three Joint Secretaries and one are Economic Adviser, one Joint Secretary and Financial Adviser common for Ministries of Coal and Mines, nine Directors / Deputy Secretaries, five Under Secretaries, three Principal Private Secretaries, twenty five Section Officers, twelve Private Secretaries, and Information Officer in addition to a Joint Director and Assistant Director each for official language. Besides this, the Ministry has a technical wing comprising the two posts for Development Officers each.

The Ministry has two subordinate offices namely-Geological Survey of India and Indian Bureau of Mines and three public sector undertakings namely:

- National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO), Bhubaneswar
- Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL), Kolkata
- Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL), Nagpur
RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS

There are three Research Institutions, which are Autonomous Bodies of this Ministry namely:

- Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Centre, (JNARDDC) Nagpur;
- National Institute of Rock Mechanics, (NIRM) Kolar; and
- National Institute of Miners' Health (NIMH), Nagpur