

4.3. Mining and Metallurgical Industries

Minerals are important raw materials for an industry and they richly contribute to the economy. India is well endowed with remarkable mineral resources. Metallic and non-metallic are the 2 broad categories of minerals. The important metallic minerals are iron-ore, copper, chromite, manganese, bauxite and lead. Limestone, Magnesite, Barytes, Gypsum, Phosphorite and Fluorite are the important non-metallic minerals. Tamil Nadu is rich in lignite, granite and limestone. Since minerals are non-renewable and wasting assets, a judicious and scientific exploitation has become imperative for the present and future needs.

Mineral Exploration and Evaluation in the State

The Department of Geology and Mining is engaged in the assessment of iron-ore and limestone for the Salem steel plant, bauxite resource for aluminum plant at Mettur and limestone resource for cement plant, etc.,

Tamil Nadu Minerals (TAMIN) Ltd., is being involved in the exploration, processing and marketing of minerals such as lime stone, Quartz and Granite. It exports granite, building slabs and wall panels. TAMIN has an excellent international market presence and a number of reputed international clients.

Geo-Technical Cell

The Geo-Technical Cells in Nilgiris and Kodaikanal have been identifying areas prone to land slides. These cells also suggest appropriate measures for construction of check dams, industrial sites and housing sites in order to safeguard the human lives and properties in hill areas. It has issued clearance for 704 sites in the year 2007-08.

Plan Outlay for 2009-10

The approved outlay for 2009-10 for Mining and Metallurgy sector is Rs.0.87 crore.