



Government of Jammu & Kashmir

## Department of Geology & Mining



Lithium  
📍Slal



Ochre  
📍Ratasar



Rhyolite  
📍Kupwara



Gypsum  
📍Uri

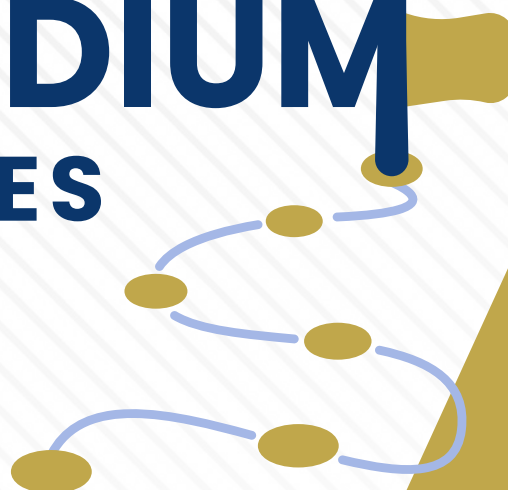


Fossils  
📍Kutsoo

# COMPENDIUM OF MILESTONES

Nov 2019 to 31 Oct 2023

[www.geominjk.nic.in](http://www.geominjk.nic.in)



## MANDATE OF THE DEPARTMENT

Geology & Mining, a Geoscientific Department was established in the year 1960 with the mandate of Mineral Explorations, Geoscientific studies, Groundwater Ex- ploration, besides implementation of Mines & Minerals (Development & Regu- lation) Act 1957 and Rules made thereunder.

## MINERAL EXPLORATION AND MINERAL CONCESSION

- » Department by way of detailed & systematic Geological explorations through its Annual Geological field Programmes have identified/established about 8,500 million tones resource of various minerals i.e; Limestone, Gypsum, Granite, Mar- ble, Lignite, Bauxite, Coal, Magnesite, Sapphire, Quartzite, Bo-rax, China clay and Dolomite.
- » The establishment of these industrial minerals enabled the Government to grant about 64 captive and non-captive Mining leases to private and public sec- tor undertakings which led to the establishment of various mineral based indus- tries i.e, Cement, POP, Fertilizer, Decorative/ Cutting & Polishing Stones etc.



# MILESTONES OF THE DEPARTMENT SINCE OCTOBER, 2019

## Switch over from open auction to e-auction

The Department of Mining, in a smooth and subtle manner switched over from first cum first serve basis/open auction to e-auctioning in the year 2019-20 and e-auctioned 384 Minor mineral Blocks for grant of Mineral Concessions till October, 2023.

This generated a record revenue to the Govt exchequer, besides ushering of transparency and accountability in the system of allocation, monitoring and ensuring proper environmental safeguards due to which there was a quantum jump of over 500% in revenue figures from previous years, wherein revenue realization had remained of around Rs. 50 Crores per year.

### TABLE SHOWING DETAILS OF MINOR MINERAL BLOCKS E-AUCTIONED AND REVENUE REALIZED THEREOF

1.	No. of Minor Mineral Blocks e-auctioned after 2020-21 & 2021-22	384
2.	Revenue realized from e-auction as bid amount for holding of the said blocks for a period of 5 years.	Rs. 231 Cr.

### THE REVENUE REALIZED ON ACCOUNT OF ROYALTY, COMPOUNDING, E-AUCTION & OTHER APPLICABLE CHARGES ON EXTRACTION OF MINERALS.

Year	Revenue (Rs. In lacs)	Remarks
2020-21	21974.062	Including bid amount for holding of the said blocks for a period of 5 years.
2021-22	13252.137	
2022-23	10116.710	Including Geo-scientific consultancy fee received
2023-24 (ending September, 2023)	9450.06	

The routine revenue realization of account of royalty, compounding and other applicable charges excluding e-auction bid amounts used to be about **50 crores** upto year 2019-20 which now has gone to more than **100 crores** per annum.

In the Year 2023, the Department identified 17 Minor Minerals Blocks in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and has successfully e-auctioned 13 Blocks so far and rest are also in advanced stages of auctioning.

## STATUS OF NEWLY

## IDENTIFIED MAJOR/ MINOR MINERAL BLOCKS:

» **Limestone:** The Department has identified 10 blocks of limestone (major mineral) in the Districts of Rajouri, Poonch, Anantnag and Pulwama in the UT which will be put to e-auction soon.

The Geological Survey of India (GSI) has also provided detailed reports of 02 Limestone blocks at District Rajouri. This development will play a crucial role in the economic growth of the region.

Further to ensure timely auctioning of major mineral blocks, the department has proposed to engage the services of SBI-CAP as a Transactional Advisor and utilizing the portal of MSTC, the said proposal is in advanced stages of finalization.



» **Gypsum Blocks:** The Department has obtained Single Window Clearance in respect of 02 blocks of Gypsum in District Ramban and e-auction process of these blocks is under way.

## REVIVAL OF PREVIOUSLY UNATTENDED/ ABANDONED VITAL PROJECTS

### **Sapphire deposits at Sumcham, Kishtwar:**

The world-famous blue Sapphire deposits of Sumcham Padder remained virtual-



ly unattended and unexploited since independence though the area was under the mining lease to the J&K Minerals Limited, it could not be systematically explored and developed.

Taking note of the fact that **Gem / Precious Stones** contribute about **7 to 8 % to the National GDP**, the department in the year 2022 got the area surrendered by the said corporation and detailed exploration of this important gem-stone bearing entire area has been taken up during the year 2023-24 through Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL).

An amount of Rs **56 crore** have been got approved/allocated from National Mineral Exploration Trust for the said exploration likely to be concluded within next nine months. Department of Geology & Mining is actively associated with the

said Geological exploration by providing all logistics including available technical human resources (Geologists). The gemstone bearing block so established shall be put to e-auction for its systematic exploitation which will be a game changer for socio-economic development of the area besides contributing to the government exchequer.

## Auction of Sapphire stones:

The Mining Department, through Jammu and Kashmir Minerals Ltd. Corporation is going to global e-auction the sapphire bearing stones collected during the past few years which are lying in the chest of the corporation at Jammu for the last about 10 to 15 years. In this connection, the department is organising a consultative meeting/ special display of Sapphire at Gem and Jewellery Exports Promotions Council of India (GJEPC) convention centre at Jaipur on 3rd November 2023. The Administrative Secretary and other Senior Officers of the Department shall be attending the said meet with the aim to dissemination information/ wider publicity about Sapphire bearing corundum stones available with the Corporation, in order to maximize the participation of buyers in the forthcoming global e- Auction.

## Revival of Lignite deposits:



Occurrence of lignite deposits has been known at Nichama and adjoining areas of District Kupwara since long, however could't be explored and exploited even after 75 years of Independence. A half-baked attempt for detailed exploration was made in the past which was subsequently abandoned midway.

The Govt. accknowledging the importance this **fuel mineral** has started the revival process of detailed exploration of these **Lignite** deposits during current financial year through

Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL) and Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited (CMPDI) a subsidiary of coal Indian limited. The joint field visit with MECL for re-appraisal of the ground position is being organised in the 3rd week of November 2023.

## Revival of Kalakote Coal Mines:

The Officers of Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited (CMPDI) recently visited the Ka-lakote Coal Mines and the Department is in touch with the officers of CMPDI for revival of the Kalakote Coal Mines (as also exploring other reserves).

The Department of Geology and Mining has also engaged Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL) for exploration of Sapphire in Neelam Khan areas of District, Kishtwar.

## NEW PROJECTS

### Lithium Deposits:

In District Reasi have been explored by Geological Survey of India upto G3 level and after MM (D&R) Act Amendment 2023, the Central Govt. is going to auction



this block in near future for which transaction advisor has been appointed. The Department of Geology & Mining is actively associated with Geological Survey of India for all logistics required on ground for carving out of the feasible Lithium bearing Blocks.

Upon successful completion of the auction, the Central Government shall intimate the details of the pre-ferred bidder in the auction to the UT Government and the UT Government shall grant mining lease or composite licence for such area, to such preferred bidder, in such manner, as may be prescribed by the Central Government.

The royalty, dead rent, applicable amount quoted in the auction and any other statutory payment in relation to the mining lease or composite licence auctioned by the Central Government shall accrue to the UT Government, as if the auction has been conducted by the UT Government.

## Biogenic Gas:

During the period 1965-1976, the ONGC carried out the Geophysical survey of Kashmir Basin and drilled 09 wells for Gas & oil Prospects. Several of the wells encountered gas in the Karewa succession, but the volumes were not considered sufficient for commercial development at that time and further exploration was abandoned.





However no efforts were made to explore the biogenic gas potential in the area thereafter. Though the Department of G&M had been observing incidences of gas emissions in Karewa Basin (Kashmir) encountered during the Groundwater exploration studies

The Geologists of the department also during field trips with various National & International Geoscientists had been observing the gas emissions at various places like Saderkoot in District Bandipora.

Having regard to the fact that there are good prospects for exploration and development of Biogenic gas in Kashmir during the year 2022-23 the data generated by the Department was shared with the Oil and National Gas Commission (ONGC) and in the month of July 2023, an interactive meet was held in Srinagar on Prospects of Exploration for Biogenic Gas in Karewa Basin. This was followed by joint field visit to various sites of occurrences of Gas identified by the G&M Department.



Based on the above data sharing, the ONGC is taking up the project wherein all sort of assistance for exploration and development of Shallow biogenic gas in Karewa Basin shall be rendered by G&M Department including deployment of technical human resource (Geologists) available with the department during the field exploration. In the second fortnight of November 2023, a detailed field trip is being undertaken by ONGC and G&M in this regard

# COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION WITH CENTRAL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS/ AGENCIES FOR REGULATION OF MINING ACTIVITIES:

## After November 2019

The Department started working closely in association with Central Departments like Geological Survey of India, Indian Bureau of Mines, Directorate General of Mines Safety and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India for systematic exploration, conservation & development of minerals on scientific lines. Regular joint field visits to the areas of minerals and mining are



conducted with the officers of these Central Govt. Departments since 2021-22.

## Ease of Doing Business:

The Department of Mining in the past year and a half has laid a lot of focus on facilitating business within the UT of Jammu and Kashmir. Many measures have been initiated and culminated to improve working conditions under Ease of Doing Business. Some of the mile-stones in terms of policy decisions taken followed with amendment in the existing Rules governing the subject are as follows:

### **SMALL SCALE INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMARY/TRADITIONAL MINING ACTIVITY FRIENDLY STEPS:**

#### **STONE CRUSHERS/HOT AND WET MIXING PLANTS.**

The Government had notified J&K Minor Mineral Exploitation and Processing Rules 2017 vide SRO 302 dated 19-07-2017 for regulation of Minor Mineral based

Units/Stone Crushers, Hot/Wet Mix Plants, wherein a license from Directorate of Geology and Mining for establishing/operating these plants was mandatory. For ease of doing business and overall interest of public at large, the said rules were **repealed vide S.O-60 dated 23.02.2021 thereby exempting the Stone Crusher Units/Hot Wet Mixing unit holders from requirement of License** from Geology and Mining Department.

### **RELIEF TO BRICK KILNS PLANT HOLDERS**

Extraction of Clay by the Brick Kiln operators was declared as **non-mining activity** upto 2mts depth Vide **S.O-138 dated 19.04.2021** thereby giving relief to local brick kilns spread out in the UT of J&K.

### **CUSTOMARY MINING**

With the implementation of J&K Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016, the traditional customary extractors of sand, bajri, masonry stone became jobless thereby effecting the livelihood of thousand of families in the UT.



Having concern towards the plight of these people ancestrally engaged with the extraction of minor minerals to earn their livelihood, the **Govt in a land mark decision notified S.O 599 providing a provision for costmary extraction from nalla river beds to the ancestrally local Hanjis and Khanias.**

### **CONSTITUTION OF SINGLE WINDOW CLEARANCE COMMITTEE**

For improving Ease of Doing Business, a decision to constitute a District Level Single Window Clearance Committee was taken under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner concerned for facilitating the execution of mining leases of e-auction for project proponents where clearance/NOC applications have not been re-ceived or/are under process.

### **FACILITATING IN SECURING CLEARANCES BEFORE PUTTING MINOR MINERAL BLOCKS TO E-AUCTION**

With an aim to reduce unnecessary burden on the successful bidders of e-auction for execution of future Mining leases, the Department of Mining, in one of the major reforms, took upon itself to obtain prior clearances/NOCs from all the stakeholder depart-ments before putting up Minor Mineral Blocks for e-auction.

### **PROVIDING ASSURED AND CONSTANT KEY-CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL TO THE PROJECTS OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE:**

The projects of National Importance like National Highways, Railway connectivity from Udhampur to Baramulla, AIIMS, IITs, etc require assured and constant source of key construction material. The department of Mining has taken many steps to make the material readily available to these projects. Some of the reforms made are as under:



» **Reserving Minor Mineral Blocks for PSUs**

In the year 2020, 13 Minor Mineral Blocks have been reserved in the Union Territory of J&K for Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), i.e 08 to M/s J&K Minerals Limited and 05 to M/s JK PCC for providing construction material to the Government projects.

» **Issuance of Short Term/Disposal permits**

The department in the recent past, in a regulated manner has extended the Short Term Permits to the Principal Executing agencies of Indian Railways, National Highway Authority of India (NHAI), Airports Authority of India (AAI), IRCON, KRCL and NHIDCL as well to mitigate the scarcity of key construction material within the UT of J&K.

In this regard, the Government has again extended the validity of Short Term Permits up-to 30.06.2024 vide S.O No. 369 dated 17.07.2023, in respect of Ordinary Earth.

» **Grant of Quarry Licenses for Construction of Semi-Ring Road Srinagar.**

In the year **2021**, the Department also reserved **03 Minor Mineral Blocks** with subsequent grant of quarry licences in favour of NHAI through their executing agency in order for assured availability of construction material for timely construction of **Semi-Ring Road Srinagar**.

## GEOSCIENTIFIC STUDIES:

Department has been conducting Geotechnical investigations for various engineering projects such as roads, dam sites, tunnels, bridges etc. on requisition basis.

» As a part of Disaster Management Plan of J&K UT, the Department has carried out the Land slide Hazard Zonation Mapping of District Baramulla, Budgam and Bandipora, the detailed reports have been submitted to District Administration for proper planning and execution of Developmental works in the respective Districts.

» Department is also assisting the District Administrations and other Departments off and on in respect of post disaster assessment of landslides/subsidence with submission of Geological reports envisaging the causes and mitigation measures thereof.

- » Since **November 2019**, the Department has carried out post disaster studies (landslides/subsidence) of about 42 locations and submitted the reports with causes and mitigation measures to the Administration.
- » Groundwater feasibility studies at 68 locations.
- » Replenishment studies of various minor mineral blocks in the rivers/nallas of UT in the **year 2022**.
- » During the period **08 Geo-Scientific publications in the international and national journals** have been by the Geologists of the Department.

## SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT THROUGH E-SERVICES PORTAL:

The department has launched e-services web portal (i.e. <https://www.geologyminingjk.com>) for facilitating the applicants for grant of following services:-

1. Grant and renewal of Mineral Dealer License (MD1)
2. Grant/renewal of Quarry license for Private land (QL1)
3. Grant of Mining Lease for Private Land i.e. In case the minerals are not deposited in State land (ML1)
4. Short-Term Permit / Disposal Permit (STP1)
5. Modal Form for Monthly Return (ML8)
6. Annual Return to be furnished by the Mining Lessee
7. Monthly Return to be submitted by Mineral Dealer Licensee

## Introduction of e-Challan and e-Market Web Portal:

### E-MARKET WEB PORTAL

The Department of Mining took a landmark decision by way of developing e-Market portal (<http://geologymining.jk.gov.in>) for sale of Minor Minerals at the

rates notified by the Government. The said portal was launched by the Chief Secretary on 24.08.2022.

By implementing this unique G2B2C services, the general masses are now purchasing Minor Minerals through this portal through online mode. This initiative has brought more transparency and accountability and reduced the scarcity of construction material.

### **E-CHALLAN**

The department has successfully operationalized e-Challan system and dispensed off usage of manual Challan for transportation of minerals from source to its destination. All the payments are being made securely through online mode including Royalty collection and other applicable charges.

The introduction of e-Challan System has reduced the scope of overcharging, duplicacy and illegal mining in the UT of J&K.

## **ESTABLISHMENT OF A GEO SCIENCE MUSEUM:**

Geologists of the Department have been collecting the rock, mineral, fossil samples during various Geological field investigations for the lab analyses, correlation and interpretation studies. All these samples were housed in the Geo-Science museum established and inaugurated by Chief Secretary of J&KUT in presence



of Administrative Secretary Mining on **2th October, 2023 at Ompora Budgam.**



» The museum showcases the diverse Geo-environmental history of J&K UT besides serving as a valuable resource centre for Geo-scientific research and educational purposes.







- » The museum is housing around 150 samples of rocks, minerals, industrial minerals and fossils entirely collected by the Geologists of the Department during various field seasons.
- » The uniqueness of the museum is its collection belonging to the complete stratigraphic succession of J&K UT.





» Since the inauguration and opening of Geo-science Museum for students and researchers two days a week, about 200 students from different schools of Higher Secondary level have visited to this museum and gained valuable Geo-environmental knowledge of the J&KUT.



» Geo-Scientists from various organizations like GSI, ONGC, Educational Institutions besides other interested dignitaries are also regularly visiting the museum and recording their words of appreciation in the visitors book.





**INITIATIVES TAKEN BY THE DEPARTMENT  
FOR MONITORING AND SUR-VEILLANCE OF  
ILLEGAL EXTRACTION/ TRANSPORTATION OF  
MINERALS:**

**MINING SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM:**

Automatic software leveraging image processing technology detects suspicious activities (Illegal Mining) within a range of 500m outside the mining lease boundary. This technology generates automatic triggers of unauthorized activities or any discrepancy, if found, is flagged-off as a trigger.

**ESTABLISHMENT OF HI- TECH MINERAL CHECK POSTS (CCTV CAMERAS)**

To continuously monitor illegal extraction and transportation of Minor minerals from the leased out areas, the department has so far established 22 Hi-Tech Mineral check posts which are being provided with CCTVs to ensure real time monitoring and surveillance. There are 89 more such posts in the process of being made operational.

**INSTALLATION OF I-CHECK GATES IN THE UT OF J&K.**

The Department has initiated a proposal for installation of Mining i-Check Gates (40 units) 02 in each District in the UT of J&K for keeping 24\*7 vigil on mining and mineral transportation without manual intervention, tracking suspicious vehicle movement to prevent pilferage/leakage of mineral, raise an alert notification to the Decision Support System and for monitoring and supervision of mining activities.

**ON-SPOT IMPOSITION/ REALIZATION OF PENALTIES ON VIOLATORS:**

The Department is in process of initiating a proposal regarding on-spot imposition/ realization of penalties on violators involved in illegal mining through Point of Sale (POS) machines.

**VEHICLE TRACKING SYSTEM (VTS):**

The Department has also initiated a proposal for installation of Vehicle Tracking Devices with Load Sensors on the vehicles engaged in transportation of minor minerals.

# DISTRICT MINERAL

## FOUNDATION TRUST & PMKKKY:

Section 9B of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 empowers the State Government to establish District Mineral Foundation Trust in all the Districts with an object to work for the interest and benefit of persons and areas affected by mining activities as outlined in Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY).

The Jammu and Kashmir Govt. notified the District Mineral Foundation (Composition, Contribution Function, Funding and Trust) Rules, 2017, vide SRO-3 dated: 11.01.2017 and accordingly established the Mineral Foundation Trust in every District of the UT.

However, no welfare scheme in the mining affected areas could be executed till 2019-20, with the active persuasion by the department the execution of PMKKKY Schemes through the funds of District Mineral Foundation Trust took off from the **year 2020-21 and as on date i.e. 31 Oct 2023** an amount of **50.92 crores** towards the Trust in the J&K has been contributed since its inception out of which **20.15 crores** were released for execution of **331 PMKKKY schemes**. The thrust of the UT is now to further strengthen an outcome based approach, and achieve a more balanced representation of projects across all sectors prescribed under PMKKKY.



Establishment of Mushroom Village at Khunmoh, Srinagar

From the said funds, Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY) welfare schemes are executed successfully in the mining affected areas wherein till date, 195 welfare schemes in the sectors of Health, Education, Drinking & Irrigation Water, Skill Development, Infrastructure etc. stand completed through various Departments/Executing agencies involving an expenditure of Rs 20.15 crores.



Providing of Digital X-Ray Machine at Khanmoh, Srinagar





Honey Processing cum Bottling Unit at DCTC Achabal



Repair and Renovation of Govt Girls High School, Anantnag

# POSITIVE CHANGES

## IN THE WORKING OF J&K MINERALS:

The overall financial performance of the Corporation has improved as can be seen in the following income & Expenditure Account (cash basis)

Rs. in Crores

<b>FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	<b>INCOME</b>	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>DEFICIT(-) / SURPLUS (+)</b>
2017-18	22.47	20.62	(+) 1.85
2018-19	25.49	25.38	(+) 0.11
2019-20	29.27	26.96	(+) 2.31
2020-21	32.19	29.67	(+) 2.51
2021-22	50.22	48.78	(+)1.46
2022-23	47.68	44.49	(+) 3.19

- » The Production of Gypsum has increased from targeted production of 10,000 MTS to 52,000 MTS per Month and is further expected to increase in FY 2023-24 after renewal of lease of additional Gypsum blocks
- » Four Minor mineral blocks have been put to operation which has led to the Minor mineral extraction of 69487.77MT during the financial Year 2022-23 (till 28thFeb 2023). This has generated revenue to the tune of Rs. 67,11,017.88.
- » The Contribution of Corporation to government Exchequer: -
- » Approximately Rs. 20 Lacs per month is being deposited by the Corporation on account of GST
- » Approximately Rs. 25 Lacs per month is being deposited by the Corporation on account of Royalty.
- » Corporation has recently received the approval from Ministry of Mines Govt. of In-dia for reservation of Limestone Quarry Khrew. Exploratory drilling of bore-holes has been entrusted to Directorate of Geology & Mining and the work is under process.

# Proper Utilization & Rationalization of Available Technical Human Resource

In order to utilize technical human resource and fill the gaps the department took the following steps in the year 2022

On the requisition of Housing & Urban Development Department Services of 07 Mechanical Engineers of the Drilling wing were spared by Geology & Mining Department for their deputation to LCMA. The said officers are working in the said authority for conservation of Lakes and their pay is drawn from the department of Geology & Mining.

Having shortage of geologists the Department got 07 Geological Assistants deputed to Geology & Mining from JKPDC filling the gaps in Mineral Exploration and other Geo-Scientific Activities.

Government posted 10 timescale JKAS officers in the department as District Mineral Officer for proper regularization and monitoring of Mining Activities in the district.