

Mineral Resource Augmentation FS 2005-06 (October'05 – September'06)

Mineral Resources:

The organisation continued its search and regional exploration for several mineral commodities and has established the following:

Gold

- The investigation of gold at Parasi, Ranchi district, Jharkhand has established a resource of 1.51 million tonnes (m.t.) of gold ore with an average grade of 2.47 g/t gold.
- In Pahardia block, West Singhbhum District, Jharkhand, gold ore resources have been established to 0.58 m.t. with an average grade of 3.65 g/t Au.
- Gold ore resource of 0.293 m.t. with average grade of 2.00 g/t over a width of 1.79m has been estimated in Ajjanahalli East Block, Tumkur District, Karnataka.

Diamond

- Processing of 184 tonnes of weathered material from TK-4 kimberlite pipe, Timasamudram village, Anantapur district, Andhra Pradesh, yielded a total number of 350 gem quality diamonds weighing 82.19 carats. The biggest crystal weighs about 2.035 carats. The pipe, discovered by GSI, is 14 m in length with a maximum width of 6 m. explored upto 35 m till date.
- Two Kimberlite pipes (MNK- 3, 4) were identified near Kottala village and two more suspected bodies (MNK-5, 6) were identified near Chilakaladona and east of Buduru villages in Ibrahimpur – Mantralayam area, eastern Dharwar craton, Kurnool district; in Andhra Pradesh.
- Newly discovered kimberlite body (P-15) is located at about 300m north of P-2 kimberlite body of Wajrakarur – Lattavaram of Andhra Pradesh.

Platinum Group of Elements

- In Karnataka, investigation for Platinum Group Elements (PGE) mineralization at Hanumalapura Block of Tavaregere – Masanikere - Magyathahalli area in the Shimoga schist belt, Davanagere district has established a resource of 0.294 m.t. of PGE ore with average grade of 1.79ppm over a width of 1.43m.

Iron Ore

- Iron ore body of maximum 200m strike length and width varying between 10m to 15m having Fe content from 60.78 % to 65.50% has been located in North-Western part of Tomka-Daitari belt around Pathuriapenth-Patherguda area in Kendujhar district, Orissa.
- In North- western part of Tomka- Daitari belt around Burhipada- Madhyapur, Kendujhar district, Orissa, two massive hard laminated iron ore bands in Burhipada (100m x 8m) and in Pangaposi (300m x 50m) were identified having Fe content varying from 64.88% to 66%.
- Selected free hold areas for Iron ore, in the NMDC blocks, in parts of Sandur schist belt, Bellary district, Karnataka have revealed a BIF band (lateritic and biscuity) of 3.8 km strike length and width varying from 100m to 150m.

Coal and Lignite

- The geological resource of coal of the country stands at 253.30 billion tonnes at the beginning of 2006 and that of lignite at 37.570 billion tonnes till 01.04.2006.

■ Coal and lignite resources have been augmented by 2228.75 million tonnes and 417.59 million tonnes respectively in 2005-06 (upto June 2006).

Limestone

■ In Tamil Nadu exploration for limestone in Vriddhachalam Sub-basin near Patti and Senkurichi: the resource estimated is 13.64m.t. (overburden ratio of 1:1) and without overburden ratio as 48.33m.t.

Graphite

■ In Tamil Nadu in Sivaganga Graphite Belt - a resource of 1.08 m.t. of graphite (Fixed Carbon average 15%) over a strike length of 800m, width of 30m and up to a depth of 30m has been estimated.

Barytes

■ A new potential block for bedded barytes was located about 4-5km SE of Mangampeta mine in Pullampet sub-basin in Cuddapah district, Andhra Pradesh.