



Indian Minerals Yearbook 2017

(Part- III : Mineral Reviews)

56th Edition

GRAPHITE

(FINAL RELEASE)

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
INDIAN BUREAU OF MINES**

Indira Bhavan, Civil Lines,
NAGPUR – 440 001

PHONE/FAX NO. (0712) 2565471
PBX : (0712) 2562649, 2560544, 2560648
E-MAIL : cme@ibm.gov.in
Website: www.ibm.gov.in

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14 Graphite

Graphite, also known as plumbago or blacklead or mineral carbon, is a stable form of naturally occurring carbon. Structurally, graphite is known to crystallise in hexagonal system and occurs in layered & lamellar form with grey-to-black metallic lustre and a greasy feel. Natural graphite is categorised into two commercial varieties (i) crystalline (flaky) graphite and (ii) amorphous graphite. Both flaky and amorphous varieties of graphite are produced in India. The quality of graphite depends upon its physical qualities and carbon content. Besides natural graphite, there is synthetic or artificial graphite which is manufactured on a large-scale in electric furnaces, using anthracite or petroleum coke as raw feed.

RESERVES/RESOURCES

Graphite occurrences are reported from various States but the deposits of economic importance are located in Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha and Tamil Nadu.

As per NMI database, based on the UNFC system, the total reserves resources of graphite as on 1.4.2015 have been placed at about 194.89 million tonnes, out of which 7.96 million tonnes are in the Reserves category and 186.92 million tonnes are placed under Remaining Resources category. Resources containing +40% fixed carbon constitute about 2.91 million tonnes and resources analysing 10-40% fixed carbon constitute 40.65 million tonnes. The balance 151.31 million tonnes fall under 'Others', 'Unclassified' and 'Not-known' grades. Arunachal Pradesh accounts for 37% of the total resources which is followed by Jammu & Kashmir (32%), Odisha (9.7%), Jharkhand (9%) and Tamil Nadu (4%). However, in terms of reserve, Jharkhand has the leading share of about (52%) followed by Tamil Nadu (42%) and Odisha (6%) fall under 'Others', 'Unclassified' and 'Not-known' grades (Table-1).

EXPLORATION & DEVELOPMENT

The exploration and development details, if any, are given in the review on Exploration & Development in "General Review".

PRODUCTION & STOCKS

Production of graphite at about 122 thousand tonnes in 2016-17 decreased by 10% as compared to that of the preceding year. The output of graphite is mostly reported in terms of run-of-mine (ROM) which contains varying carbon content.

In all, there were 9 reporting mines in 2016-17 as against 11 in the previous year. Four principal producers accounted for 96% of the total output during the year. The share of the Public Sector in the total output was 76% in 2016-17 as compared to 67% in the previous year.

About 96% of the total production in 2016-17 was produced from four mines, each reported more than 5,000 tonnes of annual production, while 2% was contributed by one mine in the production range of 2,000 to 5,000 tonnes per annum. Marginal production was reported by 4 mines that produced below 2000 tonnes annually.

Tamil Nadu was the leading producing State that contributed a major share of about 76% to the total output during 2016-17 followed by Odisha (13%). The remaining 11% was contributed by Jharkhand and Kerala (Tables-2 to 5).

Mine-head closing stock for the year 2016-17 was 186 thousand tonnes as against 140 thousand tonnes in the previous year (Table - 6).

The average daily employment of labour during 2016-17 was 125 against 253 in the preceding year.

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**Table – 1 : Reserves/Resources of Graphite as on 1.4.2015
(By Grades/States)**

Grade/State	Reserves			Remaining Resources				Total Resources (A+B)					
	Proved STD111	Probable	Total (A)	Feasibility STD211	Pre-feasibility	Measured STD331	Indicated STD332		Inferred STD333	Reconnaissance STD334	Total (B)		
All India : Total	4229675	1204423	2526694	7960793	9571933	3825575	3593404	741377	7368340	22361229	139464128	186925987	194886779
By Grades													
+ 40% F.C.	178846	1121513	502465	1802824	-	188968	79358	338686	263391	242528	-	1112931	2915755
10-40% F.C.	3621958	82910	1732350	5437219	9004058	3327566	3138724	353765	2703478	13586597	3106244	35220432	40657651
Others	258346	-	57000	315346	92188	117148	68752	-	3323906	3451194	-	7053188	7368534
Unclassified	170525	-	234879	405404	444415	191893	301706	9090	7253	3856995	63439569	68250921	68656325
Not-known	-	-	-	-	31272	-	4864	39836	1070312	1223915	72918315	75288514	75288514
By States													
Andhra Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	1195	1135	-	1122	697575	-	701027	701027
Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	72758257	72758257	72758257
Chhattisgarh	6111	-	-	6111	1230	-	-	-	-	-	-	1230	7341
Gujarat	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2520805	835000	-	3355805	3355805
Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1059520	61681035	62740555	62740555
Jharkhand	1518581	1204423	1450550	4173555	39262	445703	1959747	5520	1856563	6639828	2440208	13386831	17560386
Karnataka	-	-	-	-	140827	18750	48821	-	41605	149403	-	399406	399406
Kerala	-	-	16518	16518	-	8376	-	-	1088550	322606	-	1419532	1436050
Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3456660	2280000	5736660	5736660
Maharashtra	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1160000	-	1160000	1160000
Odisha	209795	-	249176	458971	9314306	3312065	1415295	696021	838559	2628394	304628	18509268	18968239
Rajasthan	-	-	-	-	47600	-	165920	-	250000	1450034	-	1913554	1913554
Tamil Nadu	2495188	-	810450	3305638	28708	39486	2486	29136	647500	3866390	-	4613707	7919345
Telangana	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	123636	95818	-	219455	219455
Uttarakhand	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10700	-	-	-	10700	10700

Figures rounded off.

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Table – 2: Principal Producers of Graphite, 2016-17

Name & address of producer	Location of mine	
	State	District
Tamil Nadu Minerals Ltd, 31, Kamarajar Salaitwad House, Chepauk, Chennai-600 005 Tamil Nadu.	Tamil Nadu	Sivaganga
Shishir Kumar Poddar, 4L, Shree Gopal Complex, Court Road, Ranchi-834 001 Jharkhand.	Jharkhand	Palamu
Pramod Kumar Agrawal, Shantikunj, Farm Road, Modipara, Sambalpur-768 002 Odisha.	Odisha	Nawapura
Prabhas Chandra Agrawal, Shantikunj, Farm Road, Modipara, Sambalpur-768 002 Odisha.	Odisha	Nawapura

**Table – 3: Production of Graphite, 2014-15 to 2016-17
(By States)**

(Qty in tonnes; Value in `'000)

State	2014-15		2015-16		2016-17 (P)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
India	116712	83996	135528	106487	122437	85054
Jharkhand	41424	22733	36270	22914	10343	11410
Kerala	250	2000	650	5200	660	5280
Odisha	2082	1301	7783	4865	16373	10682
Tamil Nadu	72956	57962	90825	73508	95061	57682

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**Table – 4: Production of Graphite, 2014-15 and 2016-17
(By Sectors/States/Districts)**

(Qty in tonnes; Value in ` '000)

State/District	2015-16			2016-17 (P)		
	No. of mines	Quantity	Value	No. of mines	Quantity	Value
India	11	135528	106487	9	122437	85054
Public sector	1	90275	73123	1	92901	56117
Private sector	10	45253	33364	8	29536	28937
Chhattisgarh	1*	-	-	-	-	-
Surguja	1*	-	-	-	-	-
Jharkhand	2	36270	22914	1	10343	11410
Palamu	2	36270	22914	1	10343	11410
Karnataka	1*	-	-	1*	-	-
Mysuru	1*	-	-	1*	-	-
Kerala	1	650	5200	1	660	5280
Ernakulam	1	650	5200	1	660	5280
Odisha	4	7783	4865	4	16373	10682
Balangir	1	4830	3019	-	-	-
Nuapada	3	2953	1846	4	16373	10682
Tamil Nadu	2	90825	73508	2	95061	57682
Madurai	1	550	385	1	2160	1565
Sivaganga	1	90275	73123	1	92901	56117

* : Only labour reported during the year.

**Table – 5: Production of Graphite, 2015-16 & 2016-17
(By Frequency Groups)**

(Qty in tonnes)

Production group	No. of mines		Production for the group		Percentage in total production		Cumulative percentage	
	2015-16	2016-17 (P)	2015-16	2016-17 (P)	2015-16	2016-17 (P)	2015-16	2016-17 (P)
	India	11	9	135528	122437	100.00	100.00	-
Up to 1000	6	3	1200	660	0.89	0.54	0.89	0.54
1001-2000	-	1	-	1805	-	1.47	0.89	2.01
2001-5000	2	1	7783	2160	5.74	1.76	6.63	3.77
5001- 10000	-	2	-	14568	-	11.91	6.63	15.68
Above 10000	3	2	126545	103244	93.37	84.32	100.00	100.00

**Table – 6: Mine-head Closing Stocks of Graphite, 2015-16 & 2016-17
(By States)**

(In tonnes)

State	2015-16	2016-17 (P)
India	139590	186361
Chhattisgarh	3942	3942
Jharkhand	7281	7318
Karnataka	8186	8186
Kerala	210	110
Odisha	4846	4567
Tamil Nadu	115125	162238

MINING & MARKETING

Graphite mines, barring a few underground mines are mostly small and opencast.

Active mining centres of graphite are in Palamu district in Jharkhand; Nuapada & Balangir districts in Odisha; and Madurai & Sivaganga districts in Tamil Nadu. Disseminated deposits of flaky graphite containing 5 to 20% Fixed Carbon (F.C.) are found in Palamu district of Jharkhand. In Odisha, areas in and around Balangir are the chief mining centres where several graphite grades are produced. At Balangir, a few opencast workings are deeper than 45 m from surface and the r.o.m. from such mines generally contains 10 to 20% F.C. Sargipalli underground mine in Sambalpur district, operated by M/s T.P. Mineral Industries (TPMI), produced graphite that analysed up to 40% F.C. in the past. Water seepage beyond 6 m depth is the main problem faced by almost all mine owners in Odisha.

Graphite of Balangir district is utilised mostly by the Graphite Crucible Industry. The technological changes in recent years have considerably reduced the use of graphite as a lubricant. However, recycled graphite is still used in production of clay bonded graphite crucibles.

The Sivaganga graphite is of flaky variety with 14% average Fixed Carbon (F.C.) used in the manufacture of refractory bricks, expanded graphite, crucibles and carbon brushes. It is being mined by opencast mining method. The mined graphite is subjected to size reduction by crushing, grinding, flotation and dewatering to upgrade the graphite concentrate from other gangue minerals.

Mining is considered to be easy and safe as regards graphite deposits in view of their comparatively soft nature and presence of hard rocks on either side. In order to expose graphite deposit, thickness of 1 to 2 meters of top lateritic soil is dozed out using dozer or removed by excavator and loaded through dumper and transported to separate dump yard located in non-mineralised zone in the lease area. The graphite ore obtained usually is transported to stock yard for blending. In stock yard, both high-grade and low-grade ores are stacked separately. Depending on plant requirements, blending work is carried out and blended ore is despatched for consumption.

Tamil Nadu Minerals Ltd. (TAMIN) has over 600 acres of graphite-bearing areas in Pudupatti, Kumaripatti and Senthidayanathapuram of Sivaganga District, Tamil Nadu.

BENEFICIATION

Graphite occurs generally admixed with country rocks, and hence, it requires beneficiation for obtaining desired grade for various end-uses. Processes for graphite beneficiation depend upon nature and association of gangue minerals present. The common processes adopted are washing, sorting, tabling, acid leaching and froth flotation. Amongst these, froth flotation process is used widely as it helps in producing a fairly high-grade graphite concentrate. Sometimes, beneficiated concentrate is further enriched by chemical treatment (acid leaching, chlorination, etc.) to obtain a very high-grade concentrate containing 98 to 99% F.C.

Prominent beneficiation plants for graphite in India are Chota Nagpur Graphite Industries and Carbon & Graphite Products, Daltonganj; Agrawal Graphite Industries, Gandhamardhan Graphite Udyog and T. P. Minerals Private Limited, Sambalpur; Tamil Nadu Minerals Ltd (TAMIN), Sivaganga, etc.

The ROM, containing an average of about 10% F.C. has to be invariably beneficiated before marketing. Indigenously fabricated equipment is used generally to upgrade the ROM to produce marketable grade graphite which contains normally 70 to 80% F.C. About 92% F.C. product has been obtained by many producers after repeated cycles of beneficiation. A few plant owners have claimed to have obtained product containing as high as 95% F.C.

Beneficiation plants in Odisha seem to have been designed for treating +10% F.C. graphite (ROM). In practice, it is seen that lower grade graphite having +5% F.C. is blended with higher grades to meet the requirements of beneficiation plant, i.e., +10% F.C. Thus, low-grade ore analysing +5% F.C. also gets used.

Tamil Nadu Minerals Ltd (TAMIN) produces flaky graphite from a mine in Sivaganga district in Tamil Nadu. The beneficiation plant located adjacent to the mine site is designed to produce 8,400 tpy of natural graphite concentrate containing 96% F.C. with 92% recovery from ROM.

USES & SPECIFICATIONS

Traditional uses of graphite are in crucibles, foundries, pencils, etc. More sophisticated applications of graphite are in refractories that are used in the manufacture of steel, cement and glass, expanded graphite-based sealing gaskets, graphitised grease, braid, brushes, brake lining, etc. It is also used for speciality applications such as in the Nuclear Industry, soil conditioners and graphite foils, which is used for sealing in the Chemical and Petrochemical industries as well as in the Energy, Engineering and Automotive industries. It is also used in minor amounts as a vital additive for producing foundry coatings to prevent fusion of liquid metal with sand at the mould or core face. Such coatings are either applied by spraying or painting in the form of suspension or by dusting or by rubbing as dry powders. Graphite used for coating is of high quality which does not peel off as flakes on drying and imparts a smooth surface to the casting. Graphite, a major additive to many coating systems, is known for its multifarious functions, such as, refractory, lubricant, thermal conductor, electrical conductor, UV shield, electromagnetic pulse shield, corrosion shield and pigment. It is also used as moderator in nuclear reactors and in Lithium-ion (Li-ion) batteries which is used in the electric vehicles, that require high purity flake graphite in their anode material.

The BIS has prescribed the following specifications of graphite for use in various industries:

IS: 1132-1985 (Reaffirmed 2008) - graphite for use in Graphite Crucible Industry;

IS: 1305-1984 (Reaffirmed 2012) - graphite for use in foundry coatings;

IS: 14852-2000 (Reaffirmed 2010) - flaky graphite for Refractory Industry;

IS: 495-1967 (First Revision, Reaffirmed 2007) - graphite flakes for lubricants;

IS: 62-2006 (First Revision, Reaffirmed 2011) - graphite for paints; and

IS: 2079-1982 (First Revision, Reaffirmed 2010) - graphite for pencil slips.

The specifications of graphite adopted for various industrial purposes are detailed as below:

Specifications of Graphite

End product	Percentage of graphite used	Quality of the graphite used	
		Fixed Carbon (F.C.)	Size (micron)
Mag-Carb refractories	12	87-90%	150-710
Alumina-Carb (graphitised) alumina refractories	8-1085%	min.	150-500
Clay-bonded crucibles	60-65	+80%	-20 to +100 mesh
Silicon carbide crucibles	35	80-89%	+150
Expanded (or flexible) graphite foils and products based thereon (e.g. sealing gaskets in refineries, fuel pumps, automobiles)	100	90% min. (preferably +99%)	250-1800
Pencils	50-60	+95-98%	50 max.
Brake-linings	1-15	98% min.	75 max.
Foundry	–	40-70%	53-75
Batteries			
a) Dry cells	–	88% min.	75 max.
b) Alkaline	–	98% min.	5-75
Brushes	–	Usually 99%	Usually less than 53
Lubricants	–	98-99%	53-106
Sintered products (e.g. clog wheels)	–	98-99%	5
Paint	Up to 75	50-55% 75% min.	Amorphous powder flake
Braid used for sealing (e.g. in ship)	40-50	95% min.	–
Graphitised grease (used in seamless steel tube manufacturing)	–	+99%	38 max.
<u>Colloidal graphite</u>	100	99.9%	<u>Colloidal</u>

CONSUMPTION

As per the information received from various graphite consuming units and estimates, the consumption of various grades of graphite during 2016-17 was 63,500 tonnes which was increased by about 9% as compared to preceding year. Out of the total consumption in 2016-17, graphite products (Crucible/Pencil Industry) accounted for 48,500 tonnes (76%), Chemical Industry 10,100 tonnes (16%), Refractory Industry for 3,000 tonnes (5%) and remaining by Alloy Steel & Foundry Industry. Industry wise consumption data are provided in Table - 7.

**Table - 7: Consumption* of Graphite
2014-15 to 2016-17
(By Industries)**

Industry	(In tonnes)		
	2014-15	2015-16 (R)	2016-17(P)
All Industries	61300	58000	63500
Alloy Steel	500	500	500
Chemicals	21300	17800	10100
Electrode	600	600	++
Foundry	1100	1300	400
Graphite products (Crucible, Pencil, etc)	29200	29300	48500
Refractory	7700	7000	3000
Others (Dry cell battery, cement, Iron & steel, paint, paper, etc.)	900	1500	1000

Figures rounded off.

**Includes actual reported consumption and/or estimates made wherever required and due to paucity of data, consumption may not be complete.*

Apparent consumption of Graphite is about 1,59,077 tonnes during 2016-17.

SUBSTITUTION

In principle, it is possible to substitute graphite by either its synthetic graphite, produced primarily from high carbon precursors such as petroleum coke and coal tar pitch. (e.g. in batteries or for increasing the carbon in steel) or by replacing the product as in the case of pencils or by other compounds as in high temperature applications (e.g. refractories). In the later case, it is difficult to fully substitute graphite as it is tough to replicate the same level of performance that graphite provides.

WORLD REVIEW

The world resources of graphite are believed to exceed 800 million tonnes of recoverable reserves. However, world reserves of graphite have been placed at 270 million tonnes of which Turkey accounts for 33% followed by Brazil 26%, China 20%, Mozambique & Tanzania (6% each) and India 3% (Table-8).

World production of graphite was 2.10 million tonnes in 2016. China continued to be the leading producer, with a share of about 86% which is followed by India (6%) and Brazil (4%) (Table-9).

Canada was the leading country for natural graphite development with a favourable outlook for new mines. Eight companies reportedly were exploring for graphite.

Brazil was the second leading country providing new natural graphite supply with a new 40,000 tonnes per year mine being considered by Magnesite Refractories SA.

**Table – 8: World Reserves of Graphite (Natural)
(By Principal Countries)**

(In '000 tonnes)	
Country	Reserves
World : Total (rounded off)	270000
Brazil	70000
China	55000
India*	8000
Madagascar	1600
Mexico	3100
Mozambique	17000
Tanzania	17000
Turkey	90000

Source: Mineral Commodity Summaries, 2018.

Reserves in Canada, Korea, Dem P.R., Russia, Norway, Sri Lanka, Ukraine and Zimbabwe, etc, are included in the World total.

**India's reserves of graphite as per NMI database, based on UNFC system as on 1.4.2015 have been placed at about 7960 thousand tonnes.*

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**Table – 9: World Production of Graphite (Natural)
(By Principal Countries)**

(In '000 tonnes)			
Country	2014	2015	2016
World Total (rounded)	2200	2200	2100
Austria ^a	23	22	21 ^e
Brazil ^e	87	75	82
Canada ^e	30	30	21
China ^{ed}	1800	1800	1800
India ^a	117	136	122
Korea, Dem. P.R. ^e	10	10	10
Russia	14 ^e	16	19
Turkey ^e	29	32	32
Ukraine	14	15	15
Other countries	43	35	25

Source:- World Mineral Production, 2012-16, BGS.

e:- Estimated

a:- Crude

c:- Including beneficiated and directly shipped material

d:-Including flake graphite

FOREIGN TRADE

Exports

In 2016-17, exports of graphite (natural) drastically increased to 402 tonnes as compared to 286 tonnes in the previous year. Graphite (natural) was exported mainly to UAE (25%), Tanzania (24%), Kuwait (22%) and Sudan & Qatar (5% each).

The exports of graphite (artificial) marginally increased to 18,181 tonnes in 2016-17 from 17,874 tonnes in the previous year. Graphite (artificial) was exported mainly to Germany (23%), Bhutan (15%), Iran (13%), USA (12%), Oman (9%), Saudi Arabia (7%) and Kuwait (5%).

The exports of graphite crucibles decreased to 12 tonnes in 2016-17 from 60 tonnes in the preceding year, while those of silicon carbide crucibles increased marginally to 5,083 tonnes in 2016-17 from 3,415 tonnes in the previous year. Silicon carbide crucibles were exported mainly to Iran (12%), Germany, South Africa, Korea & UK (4% each) and UK (7%). Exports of Graphite Bricks and Shapes also decreased to 88 tonnes in 2016-17 from 219 tonnes in the preceding year. Graphite Bricks and Shapes were mainly exported to Tanzania (59%), Saudi Arabia (9%) and Japan, Uganda & Nepal (7% each) (Tables -10 to 14).

Imports

Imports of graphite (natural) increased marginally to 37,046 tonnes in 2016-17 from 26,160 tonnes in the preceding year. Graphite (natural) was imported mainly from China (85%), Madagascar (7%) and Brazil (6%).

Imports of Graphite (artificial) increased substantially to 43,786 tonnes in 2016-17 from 27,696 tonnes in the previous year. Imports of graphite (artificial) were mainly from China (45%), Poland (21%), France (10%), Norway (8%) and Germany & Malaysia (5% each).

Imports of Graphite Bricks and Shapes substantially decreased to 46 tonnes in 2016-17 from 155 tonnes in the preceding year. Almost all the imports were mainly from China (99.9%). Imports of graphite crucibles increased to 71 tonnes in 2016-17 from 58 tonnes in the preceding year. Italy was the main supplier with 90% share. Imports of silicon carbide crucibles decreased marginally to 161 tonnes in 2016-17 from 179 tonnes in the previous year. Imports were mainly from USA (48%), China (30%), Germany (14%) and UK (27%) (Tables - 15 to 19).

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**Table – 10: Exports of Graphite (Natural)
(By Countries)**

Country	2015-16 (R)		2016-17 (P)	
	Qty (t)	Value (` '000)	Qty (t)	Value (` '000)
All Countries	286	17070	402	30315
UAE	1	101	101	8255
Kuwait	84	4809	88	6089
Tanzania	++	6	95	3754
Canada	-	-	3	1753
Qatar	-	-	21	1748
Turkey	++	81	2	1111
Sudan	-	-	22	992
Indonesia	1	106	4	855
Bangladesh	9	1120	8	770
Kenya	8	571	16	740
Other countries	183	10276	42	4248

**Table – 11: Exports of Graphite (Artificial)
(By Countries)**

Country	2015-16 (R)		2016-17 (P)	
	Qty (t)	Value (` '000)	Qty (t)	Value (` '000)
All Countries	17874	1773019	18181	1600571
Germany	5085	651624	4125	528758
USA	1455	170913	2106	292010
Saudi Arabia	1795	184362	1275	135486
Iran	2057	86226	2440	79177
Belgium	244	53966	215	75969
Bhutan	514	23120	2653	68676
Oman	1668	64314	1637	51799
Spain	267	27841	56	43052
Kuwait	538	36153	924	32050
UK	901	74930	179	30049
Other countries	3350	399570	2571	263545

**Table – 12: Exports of Graphite Bricks & Shapes
(By Countries)**

Country	2015-16 (R)		2016-17 (P)	
	Qty (t)	Value (` '000)	Qty (t)	Value (` '000)
All Countries	219	2774	88	4713
Japan	-	-	6	2502
Saudi Arabia	70	593	8	1429
Tanzania Rep	-	-	52	274
Iran	-	-	1	215
Uganda	-	-	6	92
Nepal	-	-	6	86
Nigeria	25	374	5	80
Singapore	-	-	4	35
South Africa	72	1634	-	-
UAE	51	101	-	-
Other countries	1	72	-	-

**Table – 13: Exports of Graphite Crucibles
(By Countries)**

Country	2015-16 (R)		2016-17 (P)	
	Qty (t)	Value (` '000)	Qty (t)	Value (` '000)
All Countries	60	2534	12	1478
Bangladesh	36	686	9	1082
Sri Lanka	-	-	1	299
Nepal	21	585	1	77
Russia	-	-	1	20
China	1	1190	-	-
Saudi Arabia	1	72	-	-
UAE	1	1	-	-

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**Table – 14: Exports of Silicon Carbide Crucibles
(By Countries)**

Country	2015-16 (R)		2016-17 (P)	
	Qty (t)	Value (` '000)	Qty (t)	Value (` '000)
All Countries	3415	610773	5083	639444
Iran	444	73546	600	91527
South Africa	139	44543	211	58936
Turkey	260	46310	472	53161
Korea, Rep. of	295	51042	196	52655
USA	287	69360	179	49485
Egypt	181	40061	186	42434
Germany	234	39626	220	41102
UAE	219	40265	160	31634
Thailand	108	21832	140	28940
UK	249	27722	195	23246
Other countries	999	156466	2524	166324

**Table – 15: Imports of Graphite (Natural)
(By Countries)**

Country	2015-16 (R)		2016-17 (P)	
	Qty (t)	Value (` '000)	Qty (t)	Value (` '000)
All Countries	26160	1213354	37046	1391091
China	20605	795194	31388	993095
Madagascar	2068	115864	2408	132084
Brazil	1973	140919	2277	126442
USA	830	76494	372	51073
Germany	167	37073	237	43229
Austria	95	7286	145	10422
Sri Lanka	27	3840	54	7606
Japan	23	8314	17	6218
Canada	13	2526	21	5012
Belgium	20	3126	37	4802
Other countries	339	22718	90	11108

**Table – 16: Imports of Graphite (Artificial)
(By Countries)**

Country	2015-16 (R)		2016-17 (P)	
	Qty (t)	Value (` '000)	Qty (t)	Value (` '000)
All Countries	27696	2818434	43768	4137126
China	12609	759915	19581	1235071
Poland	6131	651376	8978	1074443
France	1470	212031	4553	612806
Germany	630	318255	2172	409896
Japan	2041	396551	1034	268129
Norway	2065	120907	3488	172072
USA	697	116536	549	118696
Netherlands	571	80884	559	73500
Malaysia	702	11229	2159	41926
UK	402	38205	363	31962
Other countries	378	112545	332	98625

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**Table – 17: Imports of Graphite Bricks & Shapes
(By Countries)**

Country	2015-16 (R)		2016-17 (P)	
	Qty (t)	Value (` '000)	Qty (t)	Value (` '000)
All Countries	155	66981	46	17165
China	125	63447	44	17145
USA	1	217	1	13
Belgium	1	13	1	7
Japan	26	2194	-	-
France	1	785	-	-
Germany	1	325	-	-

**Table – 18: Imports of Graphite Crucibles
(By Countries)**

Country	2015-16 (R)		2016-17 (P)	
	Qty (t)	Value (` '000)	Qty (t)	Value (` '000)
All Countries	58	4879	71	2005
Japan	1	62	2	627
Italy	2	756	64	600
Germany	1	317	2	426
UK	-	-	1	257
Belgium	-	-	1	78
Bulgaria	-	-	1	17
China	50	2776	-	-
USA	1	635	-	-
France	3	333	-	-

**Table – 19: Imports of Silicon Carbide Crucibles
(By Countries)**

Country	2015-16 (R)		2016-17 (P)	
	Qty (t)	Value (` '000)	Qty (t)	Value (` '000)
All Countries	179	17688	161	10432
USA	42	4289	78	3165
Germany	59	5039	22	2244
China	1	349	48	1921
UK	48	4968	10	1849
Switzerland	-	-	2	1052
Spain	1	377	1	201
Japan	17	1571	-	-
St Pierre	8	907	-	-
Malaysia	2	146	-	-
Italy	1	42	-	-

FUTURE OUTLOOK

Worldwide demand for combined natural and synthetic graphite is expected to rise along with improvements in the global economic conditions. Demand is also expected to augment further with the development of non-carbon energy applications such as batteries used in electric vehicles, electric devices and energy storage devices that use graphite. The graphite reserves

having +40% Fixed Carbon are rather limited in the country. Detailed exploration of graphite deposits in Odisha, Jharkhand, Jammu & Kashmir and Kerala should be carried out. Cost-effective beneficiation technologies for low-grade graphite ore need to be developed. Silicon carbide-graphite crucibles are being diversified and manufactured to improve upon the use of inferior grade material with less quantity and at the same time ensuring longer life of crucible. The

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domestic demand of graphite ROM was estimated to touch 2,08,000 tonnes by 2016-17 at 9% growth rate by the Working Group for the 12th Plan, Planning Commission of India.

Of late, a few emerging & important specialised applications of exfoliated graphite have been reported especially in the manufacture of sealings, gaskets, braids and brushes. New products of synthetic graphite, such as, graphite fibres/ropes and graphite insulation blankets have been introduced. In the world scenario, there seems to be a rapid diversification in respect of potential large-volume end-use for natural graphite, such as, in heat sinks, also called spreader shield, which is a graphite foil material that conducts heat only in two directions. It has thermal conductivity above aluminium and almost

equal to copper. These are used for dissipating heat in laptop computers, flat-panel displays, wireless phones, digital video cameras, etc. Such emerging & high growth applications of graphite are certainly causing noticeable impacts on the demand & consumption patterns within the country & globally as well.

Global demand for natural graphite has been forecasted to increase by 37% by 2020. Demand for graphite in lithium-ion batteries for application in electric/hybrid vehicles, laptops, smartphones, home/business applications and traditional uses for expanded graphite foils, are the potential areas that are expected to be major drivers in the market. It represents 23% of global flake graphite demand. Battery demand for graphite is forecasted to double in the next six years.