

STATE REVIEWS



Indian Minerals Yearbook 2012

(Part- I)

51st Edition

STATE REVIEWS
(Sikkim)

(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

May, 2014

SIKKIM

Mineral Resources

The important mineral resources of the State are **copper-lead-zinc** and **silver** reported in Bhotang, Rangpo and Dikchu in East Sikkim district. Occurrences of other minerals reported in the State include **dolomite**, **quartzite** and **talcs/steatite/soapstone** in West Sikkim district; **limestone** in North Sikkim district and **marble** in East Sikkim and North Sikkim districts (Table -1).

Production

No mineral production (except minor minerals) was reported in 2011-12. The value of minor mineral production was estimated at ₹ 188 lakh for the year 2011-12.

Mineral-based Industry

SMC, a joint venture of Government of Sikkim and Government of India, was established for the purpose of development of Bhotang

polymetal ore deposit at Rangpo. The copper, lead and zinc concentrates produced after treatment of ores at its beneficiation plant at Rangpo are sold to HCL, Ghatsila and HZL, Visakhapatnam for processing. The trials carried out by HZL for the utilisation of SMC's lead concentrates have not been successful. The lead concentrates remained unsold due to high bismuth content and presence of other impurities. A talc/silica powder unit is reported to be working in East Sikkim district. The Sikkim Mining Corp. is also reportedly involved in exploitation of lower Pacheykhani Copper deposit to supplement production of concentrates in its Bhotang mine. Sikkim's Mines & Geology Department has set up a pilot dimension rock cutting unit and pilot lime making unit to ascertain the feasibility of setting up of commercial lime plant and dimension rock cutting plant in the State. A ferro alloys plant, namely, Akshay Ispat & Ferro Alloys Ltd with an installed capacity of 6,000 tpy is located at Mamring, South Sikkim district.

Table – 1: Reserves/Resources of Minerals as on 1-04-2010 : Sikkim

Mineral	Unit	Reserves										Total resources (A+B)		
		Proved		Probable		Total Feasibility		Remaining resources					Total resources (B)	
		STD 111	STD 112	STD 121	STD 122	(A)	STD 211	Pre-feasibility	Measured	Indicated	Inferred			Reconnaissance
					STD 211	STD 221	STD 222	STD 331	STD 332	STD 333	STD 334			
STATE REVIEWS														
Copper														
Ore	000 tonnes	-	8	-	8	-	437	63	300	-	150	-	950	958
Metal	000 tonnes	-	0.09	-	0.09	-	7.77	0.91	8.47	-	4.23	-	21.38	21.47
Dolomite	000 tonnes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2756	-	2756	2756
Lead-Zinc														
Ore	000 tonnes	-	436	64	500	-	-	-	300	-	150	-	450	950
Lead metal	000 tonnes	-	6.9	1.68	8.58	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8.58
Zinc metal	000 tonnes	-	12.88	3.14	16.02	-	-	-	3	-	1.05	-	4.05	20.07
Limestone	000 tonnes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2380	-	2380	2380
Marble	000 tonnes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2382	-	2382	2382
Quartzite	000 tonnes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	675	16444	-	17119	17119
Silver														
Ore	tonne	-	435843	63780	499623	-	-	-	300000	-	150000	-	450000	949623
Metal	tonne	-	15.25	0.04	15.29	-	-	-	27.6	-	13.8	-	41.4	56.69
Talc-steatite-soapstone	000 tonnes	-	-	-	-	-	-	60	-	-	-	-	60	60

Figures rounded off.