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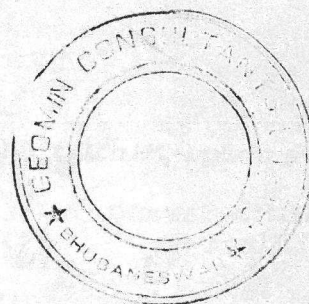
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(Revised Edition)

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PREFACE

The Monograph on Bauxite is the fourteenth in the series, -"Mineral Facts and Problems"- brought out by this Department. This is a revised edition of the first edition published in 1977.

India is favourably endowed with rich and almost inexhaustible reserves of bauxite which is the main raw material for the production of aluminium. In fact, in bauxite resources India is one of the top ranking countries in the world and holds the fifth place. Besides abundant reserves, it has a large potential for power and a large internal market supported with four decades of expertise in field of production of aluminium.

Aluminium is a key metal which has a special relevance to the Indian economy with plenty of scope for applications in power-transmission, transportation and building sectors.

Reserves of bauxite are mainly in the Eastern part of India covering the states of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Bihar. These are also the areas with good potential for development of electric power, i.e. hydel, thermal or gas-based. Of all non-ferrous metals, aluminium is the only metal whose production in India can, in foreseeable future, be large enough to meet the growing demand and also have a surplus for export. During the year 1991-92, about Rs.440 crores of foreign exchange was earned by the country through export of bauxite, alumina and aluminium.

In view of potential for the growth of aluminium industry in India, this monograph on bauxite has been updated. It covers aspects of geology, reserves potential, mining technology, production - Indian & World, Uses & Specifications, Environmental aspects, Problems & Prospects, etc.

I am hopeful that the monograph will serve as a useful reference publication for geologists, mining engineers, technologists, producers, consuming industries as well as educational and research institutions.

N A G P U R,
Dated: 20th November, 1992.

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(S.K. CHOUDHURI 20.11.92)
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- Aluminium Association of India, Bangalore.
- National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO).
- Hindalco Industries Limited (HINDALCO).
- Indian Aluminium Company Limited (INDAL).
- Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO).
- Madras Aluminium Company (MALCO).

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