



Indian Minerals Yearbook 2021

(Part- I : GENERAL REVIEWS)

60th Edition

STATUS OF RECONNAISSANCE PERMITS, PROSPECTING LICENCES AND MINING LEASES

(ADVANCE RELEASE)

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3 Status of Reconnaissance Permits, Prospecting Licences and Mining Leases in India

INTRODUCTION

Under the Mines & Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and the Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydrocarbons Energy Minerals) Concession Rules, 2016, the State Governments would grant mineral concessions. A mineral concession” means either a reconnaissance permit, prospecting licence, mining lease, composite licence or a combination of any of these and the expression “concession” shall be construed accordingly.

A “reconnaissance permit” (for the holder of a reconnaissance permit which was granted prior to January 12, 2015) means a permit granted for the purpose of undertaking reconnaissance operations. Reconnaissance Operations means any operations undertaken for preliminary prospecting of a mineral through regional, aerial, geophysical or geochemical surveys and geological mapping, but does not include pitting, trenching, drilling (except drilling of bore holes on a grid specified from time to time by the Central Government) or sub-surface excavation.

A “prospecting licence”(for the holder of a reconnaissance permit which was granted prior to January 12, 2015) means a licence granted for the purpose of undertaking prospecting operations. Prospecting Operations means any operations undertaken for the purpose of exploring, locating or proving mineral deposit.

A “composite licence” means the prospecting licence-cum-mining lease which is a two stage concession granted for the purpose of undertaking prospecting operations followed by mining operations in a seamless manner.

Also the State Governments are required to submit a copy of every mineral concession granted or renewed under the Act and rules made thereunder within two months of such grant or renewal to the Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines and the Director General, Directorate General of Mines Safety under Rule 59 (1) of Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydrocarbons Energy Minerals) Concession Rules, 2016. Additionally, the State Governments also have to submit a consolidated Annual Return of all mineral concessions granted or renewed under the Act

and rules made thereunder to the Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, in such form as may be specified for the purpose and a copy shall also be supplied to the Director General, Directorate General of Mines Safety under Rule 59 (2) of Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydrocarbons Energy Minerals) Concession Rules, 2016 not later than the 30th day of June following the year to which the return relates.

RECONNAISSANCE PERMITS, PROSPECTING LICENCES AND COMPOSITE LICENCES

No information from the State Governments/ Union Territories is reported regarding grant of reconnaissance permit/ prospecting licence/ composite licence for minerals (other than Atomic Minerals, Coal, Lignite, Petroleum, Natural Gas and Minor Minerals) during the period.

MINING LEASES

Section 3 (c) of the Mines & Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act 1957 defines “Mining Lease” (ML) is a lease granted for the purpose of undertaking mining operations and includes a sub-lease granted for such purpose. The Act defines “mining operations” as any operations undertaken for the purpose of winning any mineral.

The status of mining leases of 40 Metallic and Non-metallic minerals (excluding Atomic Minerals, Coal, Lignite, Petroleum, Natural Gas and Minor Minerals) as on 31.3.2021 (P) indicates that 3,314 mining leases were in force in the country in 23 States covering an area of 3,06,398.76 hectares.

The statewide summary of existing mining leases as on 31st March 2019, 2020 and 2021 is detailed in Table-1. The mineral-wise summary of existing mining leases as on 31.3.2021 (P) is furnished in Table-2 .

Sectorwise distribution of mining leases as on 31.3.2021 (P) is furnished in Table-3. Areawise distribution of Leases (frequency in Hect.) as on 31.03.2021 (P) is furnished in Table-4.

The statewide break up of mining leases as on 31.03.2021 as reflected in Table-1 indicates that Madhya Pradesh was leading with 714 mining leases

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followed by Tamil Nadu (463), Gujarat (415), Andhra Pradesh (400), Karnataka (313), Chhattisgarh (181), Odisha (154), Rajasthan (163), Maharashtra (164), Jharkhand (122) and Telangana (82). These 11 States together accounted for about 96% of the total mining leases in force.

Of the total mining lease area covered by different States, Odisha accounted for 16.18% followed by Karnataka (11.41%), Madhya Pradesh (14.47%), Rajasthan (10.95%), Andhra Pradesh (18.72%), Gujarat (8.98%), Chhattisgarh (8.17%), Jharkhand (6.49%), Maharashtra (4.74%) and Telangana (3.42% each). These Ten States accounted for about 93.53% of the total mining lease area granted and the remaining

6.47% was accounted for by the rest of the 13 States.

During 2020-21, mining leases in force were in both Private and Public Sectors which included Central and State Government Undertakings. Out of the total 3,314 mining leases in force in the country, 3,051 (92%) mining leases with an area of 2,21,043.35 hectares (72%) are in the Private Sector and the remaining 263 (8%) with an area of 85,355.41 hectares (28%) are in the Public Sector.

In the Metallic Minerals, Ferrous group of minerals includes iron ore, manganese ore, chromite, while the Non-ferrous group of minerals comprises bauxite, copper ore, lead & zinc ores, molybdenum, nickel, tin and the noble metals which include gold, silver and platinum group of metals.

**Table-1 : Existing Mining Leases*as on 31st March 2019, 2020 and 2021 (P)
(By States)**

State	as on 31.03.2019		as on 31.03.2020		as on 31.03.2021 (P)	
	No.	Area (ha)	No.	Area (ha)	No.	Area (ha)
India	3527	315986.03	3437	312645.72	3314	306398.76
Andhra Pradesh	453	27703.12	403	27918.98	400	26743.81
Assam	7	889.50	7	889.50	7	889.50
Bihar	1	53.38	1	53.38	1	53.38
Chhattisgarh	183	24565.95	185	24593.89	181	25062.33
Goa	15	2226.19	15	2378.65	11	528.49
Gujarat	432	25829.83	416	26821.10	415	27535.80
Haryana	4	46.85	4	46.85	4	46.85
Himachal Pradesh	43	2468.44	42	2459.78	42	2459.78
Jammu & Kashmir**	37	2020.40	37	1984.12	37	2020.43***
Jharkhand	146	21980.87	146	21980.61	122	19902.95
Karnataka	376	39349.81	379	39116.01	313	34984.36
Kerala	8	1687.40	5	421.65	5	432.40
Madhya Pradesh	727	38246.75	702	40555.40	714	44342.37
Maharashtra	173	13938.08	169	14106.03	164	14540.58
Manipur	1	132.78	-	-	-	-
Meghalaya	22	849.34	21	789.34	21	789.34
Odisha	268	61152.36	172	55108.72	154	49587.23
Rajasthan	180	32507.40	195	33394.21	163	33561.83
Sikkim	3	96.32	3	96.32	3	96.32
Tamil Nadu	540	10048.76	464	9061.66	463	9170.16
Telangana	90	11170.19	84	10887.16	82	10485.40
Uttar Pradesh	5	3397.80	4	2960.19	4	2960.19
Uttarakhand	7	191.79	7	191.79	7	191.79
West Bengal	4	20.88	1	13.47	1	13.47

* Excluding Atomic Minerals, Coal, Lignite, Petroleum and Natural Gas & Minor Minerals

Source: Data received from various State Governments,

Respective State Government (DGMs/DMGs etc).

** formed a new Union Territory to be known as the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir vide Gazette Notification No. 53, New Delhi, the 9th August, 2019/Shravana 18, 1941 (Saka)

*** Including mining lease in Ladakh (U/T).

Note:- The data received from respective regional offices of IBM have also been taken in account wherever necessary.

(P): Provisional

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**Table-2 : Existing Mining Leases*
as on 31.3.2021 (P)
(By Minerals)**

Sl. No.	Mineral	No. of Leases	Lease Area (ha)
1.	Amethyst	2	5.83
2.	Apatite	1	13.47
3.	Aquamarine	1	24.29
4.	Bauxite	352	26082.24
5.	Borax	1	159.00
6.	Chromite	24	7629.79
7.	Copper ore	13	4198.05
8.	Diamond	2	275.96
9.	Emerald	1	46.32
10.	Epidote	1	4.05
11.	Flint stone	2	11.78
12.	Fluorite	10	326.24
13.	Garnet	30	176.95
14.	Gold	10	6934.25
15.	Graphite	38	1557.85
16.	Iolite	5	61.79
17.	Iron ore	359	56020.35
18.	Kyanite	18	635.85
19.	Lead & zinc ore	8	7098.20
20.	Limeshell	22	1719.69
21.	Limestone	1960	171079.05

(Contd)

Table-2 (Concl'd)

Sl. No.	Mineral	No. of Leases	Lease Area (ha)
22.	Magnesite	35	2308.65
23.	Manganese ore	249	14340.48
24.	Marl	5	857.29
25.	Moulding sand	5	28.94
26.	Perlite	1	144.88
27.	Rock phosphate	8	1694.01
28.	Rock salt	1	8.12
29.	Ruby	1	27.66
30.	Sapphire	1	673.40
31.	Semi-precious stones	17	276.85
32.	Siliceous earth	39	271.57
33.	Sillimanite	1	4.64
34.	Stibnite	1	40.47
35.	Tin	15	319.17
36.	Vermiculite	56	892.75
37.	White shale	4	146.18
38.	Wollastonite	15	302.70
Total		3314	306398.76

* Excluding Atomic Minerals, Coal, Lignite, Petroleum and Natural Gas & Minor Minerals

Source: Data received from various State Governments

Note:- The data received from respective regional offices of IBM have also been taken in account wherever necessary.

(P): Provisional

**Table – 3 : Existing Mining Leases* as on 31.3.2021 (P)
(By Sectors)**

Sector	No. of Leases	Percent (%)	Area (ha)	Percent (%)
Total	3314	100	306398.76	100
Public	263	7.94	85355.41	27.86
Private	3051	92.06	221043.35	72.15

*Excluding Atomic Minerals, Coal, Lignite, Petroleum and Natural Gas & Minor Minerals

Source: Data received from various State Governments

STATUS OF RECONNAISSANCE PERMITS, PROSPECTING LICENCES AND MINING LEASES

**Table-4 : Area Wise Status of Lease (Frequency In Hect.)
(Other than Atomic, Hydro Carbons Energy & Minor Minerals)
as on 31.3.2021 (P)
(All India)**

Frequency In (ha)	No. of Leases	Lease Area (ha)
0 to 2	387	506.08
>2 to 5	888	3446.40
>5 to 10	403	2972.81
>10 to 20	369	5456.64
>20 to 50	440	14331.58
>50 to 100	254	18192.10
>100 to 200	186	26796.84
>200 to 500	212	69744.92
Above 500	175	164951.39
Total	3314	306398.76

Source:- Respective State Government (DGMs/DMGs etc).

Note:- The data received from respective regional offices of IBM have also been taken in account wherever necessary.

(P): Provisional