

Indian Minerals Yearbook 2022

(Part-III: MINERAL REVIEWS)

61th Edition

KYANITE, SILLIMANITE AND ANDALUSITE

(ADVANCE 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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17 Kyanite, Sillimanite and Andalusite

Wanite, sillimanite and andalusite are unhydrous aluminosilicate minerals that have the same chemical formula Al_2O_3 but differ in crystal structure and physical properties. When calcined at high temperature around 1,350 °C to 1,380 °C for kyanite and slightly higher for andalusite and sillimanite, these minerals are converted to mullite, (3 $Al_2O_3.2SiO_2$) and silica (SiO₂) which are refractory minerals.

Synthetic mullite is made by heating mixtures of alumina and silica or bauxite and kaolin at around 1,550 °C to 2,000 °C. Refractories are heat resistant materials used in high temperature applications, such as, furnaces, ladles, kilns, in the metallurgical, glass, chemical, cement and other industries.

The aluminosilicates and alusite, kyanite and sillimanite are metamorphic minerals, which formed in aluminium-rich rocks by orogenic or contact metamorphism. And alusite is generally preferred to kyanite, because it can be used without calcination, thus saving energy. Most of the world production of and alusite in 2021 originated from France and South Africa.

RESERVES/RESOURCES

Kyanite

The total reserves/resources of kyanite as per NMI database, based on UNFC system as on 1.4.2020 in the country has been placed at 105.68 million tonnes. Out of these resources, only 0.84 million tonnes are Reserves and 104.83 million tonnes are under Remaining Resources. Out of total resources, high and medium-grade resources together account for merely 1.44%, low-grade 8.17%, mixed-grade 0.52%, quartz kyanite rock, kyanite gneiss rock & kyanite schist 88.21% and granular, others & not-known grades 1.63%.

Statewise, share of Telangana is 45.75% of the total resources followed by Andhra Pradesh with 30.28%, Karnataka 12.46% and Jharkhand 7.83%. The remaining 3.69% resources are in Kerala, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal collectively (Table-1).

Sillimanite

The total reserves/resources of sillimanite as per NMI database, based on UNFC system in the country as on 1.4.2020 has been placed at 72.26 million tonnes. Out of these resources, 8.26 million tonnes are under Reserves Category, while about 64.00 million tonnes are under the Remaining Resources. Out of total resources, more than 73.89% are granular high-grade, while quartz sillimanite rocks and sillimanite-bearing rocks are about 21.03%. Resources of massive sillimanite of all grades are about 4.80%. The resources are located mainly in Odisha (24.49%), Tamil Nadu (24.01%), Uttar Pradesh (15.84%), Andhra Pradesh (15.32%), Kerala (9.58%) and Assam (6.38%). The remaining 4.38% resources are in Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Rajasthan and West Bengal (Table-2).

Andalusite

The total reserves/resources of andalusite in the country as on 1.4.2020 as per NMI database, based on UNFC system has been placed at 12.60 million tonnes. Most of the resources are of Reconnaissance category located in Uttar Pradesh (Table-3).

EXPLORATION & DEVELOPMENT

Details of exploration & development, if any, are covered in the Review of "Exploration & Development" under "General Reviews".

Table – 1: Reserves/Resources of Kyanite as on 1.4.2020 (P) (By Grades/States)

		Re	Reserves					Remainir	Remaining Resources	s			E
	Proved	Pr	Probable	Total	Feasibility		Pre-feasibility	Measured	Indicated	Inferred	Reconnaissance		Resources
Orade/State	SIDIII	STD121	STD122	(A)	S1D211	STD221	STD222	\$10331	S1D332		S1D334	(g)	(A+B)
All India : Total	3933558	331193	122314	846865	1331061	940452	1864398	561680	3577402	96560462	- 10	4835455	104835455 105682321
By Grades													
High grade	•	•	•	•	•	4317	21867	•	297827	114689	1	438700	438700
Medium grade	325113	•	43449	368562	34540	•	276651	•	34410	371144		716745	1085307
Low grade	66562	992	•	67554	691161	29990	1191151	386247	2214900	4063596	1	8577045	8644599
High & medium mixed	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	93640	47750	•	141390	141390
Medium & low mixed	•	•	,	•	•	•	,	•	•	48000	•	48000	48000
High, medium & low mixed		1	1	1	13097	89650	10606	1	45000	210025	,	368378	368378
Granular	1620	1	•	1620	578	117	•	700	167000	79434		247829	249449
Quartz kyanite rock	•	330202	•	330202	•	816378	38000	•	•	81696358	- 8	82550736	82880938
Kyanite gneiss rock	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	5370800	1	5370800	5370800
Kyanite schist	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	724625	4250000	1	4974625	4974625
Unclassified	63	•	•	63		•	•	•	•	•	1	•	63
Others	•	•	78865	78865	591685	•	326123	•	•	73046	1	990854	1069719
Not-known	ı	ı	•	1	•	ı	•	174733	•	235620	ı	410353	410353
By States													
Andhra Pradesh	•	•	•	•		•	399	•	•	32003829	- 3.	32004228	32004228
Jharkhand	•	331193	٠	331193	1017105	920088	523589	•	1754900	3727685		7943367	8274560
Karnataka	181600	٠	•	181600	230660	15930	119368	386247	1610502	10628753	- 1	12991460	13173060
Kerala	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	174733	•	10000	1	184733	184733
Maharashtra	210075	•	122314	332389	69621	4317	1210436	•	45000	1734241	1	3063615	3396004
Rajasthan	•	•	•	1	13097	1	10606	•	1	1	1	23703	23703
Tamil Nadu	1683	•	٠	1683	578	117	•	700	167000	79434		247829	249512
Telangana	•	•	٠	•	•	•	•	•	•	48350000	- 4	48350000	48350000
West Bengal	,	•					•	•		06536		06536	26520

Table – 2: Reserves/Resources of Sillimanite as on 1.4.2020 (P) (By Grades/States)

(In tonnes)

KYANITE, SILLIMANITE AND ANDALUSITE

Figures rounded off

Table – 3: Reserves/ Resources of Andalusite as on 1.4.2020 (By Grades/ States)

(In '000 tonnes)

	Total Reserves		Remaining Resources			Total Resources (A+B)
State	Total (A)	Indicated STD332	Inferred STD333	Reconnaissance STD334	Total (B)	()
All India : Total	-	58040	56210	11800	126050	126050
By Grades						
Low	-	58040	56210	11800	126050	126050
By States						
Jharkhand	-	-	-	11800	11800	11800
Uttar Pradesh	-	58040	56210	-	114250	114250

Figures rounded off

PRODUCTION & STOCKS

Kyanite

The production of kyanite was 9,432 tonnes in 2021-22, which is increased by 92% as compared to 4,925 tonnes in the previous year. There were 5 reporting mines in 2021-22 against 4 reporting mines in the previous year. Three principal producers contributed the entire production of kyanite during the year.

In 2021-22, 9432 tonnes, i.e. total production of kyanite was of grade below 40% Al₂O₃. About 54% of the total production was reported by the Private Sector (Tables - 4 to 6).

Mine-head closing stocks of kyanite for 2021-22 were 13,745 tonnes as against 11,265 tonnes in 2020-21 (Table-7).

The average daily employment of labour was 89 in 2021-22 as against 61 in the preceding year.

Table - 4: Principal Producers of Kyanite, 2021-22

N 0 11 C 1	Location	n of mine
Name & address of producer	State	District
Mohammad Akram Rasheed,	Karnataka	Mysore
3 Marcha Halli, H.D.Kote		
Mysore-571 125. Karnataka		
J S M D C LTD	Jharkhand	East Singhbhum
Khanij Bikash Nigam,		
Nepal House Area		
Doranda, Ranchi- 834 002,		
Jharkhand.		
Maharashtra State Mining Corporation Ltd.,	Maharashtra	Bhandara
Plot No. 7, Ajani Chowk,		
Wardha Road, Nagpur - 440 015,		
Maharashtra.		

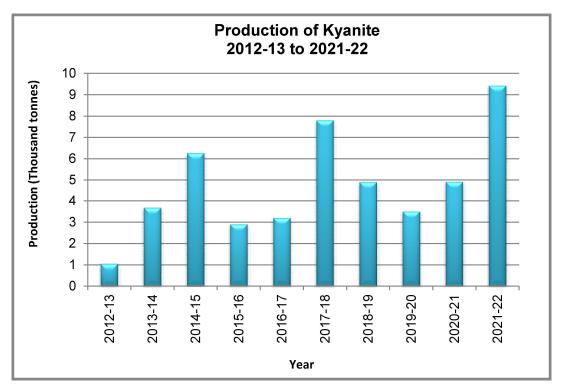


Table – 5 : Production of Kyanite, 2019-20 to 2021-22 (By States)

(Qty in tonnes; Value in ₹'000)

G	2019-	20	2020-	-21	2021-2	22 (P)
State	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
India	3498	12728	4925	9251	9432	17578
Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	2899	5417
Karnataka	400	880	3780	7397	5075	9084
Maharashtra	3098	11848	1145	1854	1458	3077

Table – 6: Production of Kyanite, 2020-21 and 2021-22 (By Sectors/States/Districts/Grades)

(Qty in tonnes; Value in ₹'000)

			2020-21					2021-22	(P)	
			Quantity					Quantity		
State/District	No. of mines	40% Al_2O_3 & above	Below 40% Al ₂ O ₃	Total	Value	No. of mines	40% Al ₂ O ₃ & above	Below 40% Al ₂ O ₃	Total	Value
India	4	605	4320	4925	9251	5	-	9432	9432	17578
Public sector	1	-	540	540	1136	2	-	4357	4357	8494
Private sector	3	605	3780	4385	8115	3	-	5075	5075	9084
Jharkhand	-	-	-	_	-	1	_	2899	2899	5417
Singhbhum East	_	-	_	-	-	1	-	2899	2899	5417
Karnataka	1	-	3780	3780	7397	1	-	5075	5075	9084
Mysuru	1	-	3780	3780	7397	1	-	5075	5075	9084
Maharashtra	3	605	540	1145	1854	3	-	1458	1458	3077
Bhandara	3	605	540	1145	1854	3	-	1458	1458	3077

Table – 7: Mine-head Closing Stocks of Kyanite, 2020-21 & 2021-22 (By States/Grades)

(Qty in tonnes)

G		2020-21			2021-22 (P)	
State	40% Al ₂ O ₃ & above	Below 40% Al ₂ O ₃	Total	40% Al ₂ O ₃ & above	Below 40% Al ₂ O ₃	Total
India	1647	9618	11265	321	13424	13745
Jharkhand	1326	1	1327	-	790	790
Karnataka	-	9440	9440	-	11789	11789
Maharashtra	321	177	498	321	845	1166

Sillimanite

The production of sillimanite at 3,432 tonnes in 2021-22 decreased by 69% as compared to 11,110 tonnes in the previous year. There were 2 mines which reported production of sillimanite as an associated mineral with kyanite during the year 2021-22 (Tables-8, 9 & 10).

The whole production of sillimanite was

reported by Private Sector during the year 2021-22. Maharashtra is the only State which contributed cent per cent production of sillimanite during the year 2021-22.

Mine-head closing stocks for the year 2021-22 were 2,920 tonnes as against 1,463 tonnes in the previous year (Table - 11).

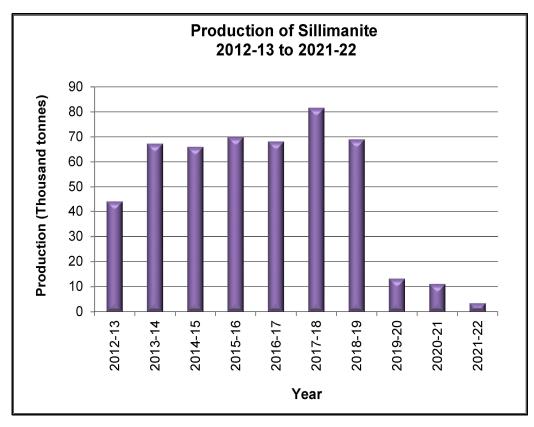


Table - 8: Principal Producers of Sillimanite, 2021-22

Name 0 address of mades on	Location	of mine
Name & address of producer	State	District
*Dighori Kyanite Mine, Apna Nagar, Tkiya Ward, Nagpur Road Bhandara, Bhandara-441 904, Maharashtra.	Maharashtra	Bhandara
*Pavri Kyanite Mines, A/1, Indrasagar, Ravindranath Tagore Road, Civil Lines, Nagpur- 440 001, Maharashtra.	Maharashtra	Bhandara

^{*} Producing as an associated mineral with kyanite

Table – 9: Production of Sillimanite, 2019-20 to 2021-22 (By States)

(Qty in tonnes; Value in ₹'000)

	2019-2	20	2020-	-21	2021-2	2 (P)
State	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
India	13221	37903	11110	13987	3432	7973
Andhra Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kerala	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maharashtra	13221	37903	11110	13987	3432	7973
Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	-
Odisha	-	-	-	-	-	-

Note: The main reason for decrease in number of mines is classification of some sillimanite producing mines, as BSM mines in Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Earlier, these mines were considered under sillimanite mineral as a part of MCDR mineral as there was no separate classification of Beach Sand Minerals (BSM) and Non-Beach Sand Minerals (Non-BSM).

Table – 10: Production of Sillimanite, 2020-21 & 2021-22 (By Sectors/States/Districts)

(Qty in tonnes; Value in ₹'000)

G /D:	2	2020-21			2020-21 (P)	
State/District	No. of mines	Quantity	Value	No. of mines	Quantity	Value
India	1(2)	11110	13987	(2)	3432	7973
Public sector	1	-	-	-	-	_
Private sector	(2)	11110	13987	(2)	3432	7973
Andhra Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	_
Srikakulam	-	-	-	-	-	_
Kerala	-	-	-	-	-	_
Kollam	-	-	_	-	-	_
Maharashtra	1(2)	11110	13987	(2)	3432	7973
Bhandara	1(2)	11110	13987	(2)	3432	7973
Meghalaya	-	_	-	-	-	_
Khasi Hills West	-	_	_	-	_	_
Odisha	-	-	-	-	-	_
Ganjam	_	_	_	-	_	_

Figures in parentheses indicate the number of associated mines with kyanite

Note: The main reason for decrease in number of mines is classification of some sillimanite producing mines as BSM mines in Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Earlier, these mines were considered under sillimanite mineral as a part of MCDR mineral as there was no separate classification of Beach Sand Minerals (BSM) and Non-Beach Sand Minerals (Non-BSM).

Table – 11: Mine-head Closing Stocks of Sillimanite, 2020-21 & 2021-22 (By States)

		(In tonnes)
State	2020-21	2021-22 (P)
India	1463	2920
Andhra Pradesh	-	-
Kerala	-	-
Meghalaya	188	188
Maharashtra	1275	2732
Odisha	-	-

Andalusite

There was no production of andalusite reported since 1988.

MINING & MARKETING

Kyanite

Kyanite mines are worked by opencast manual as well as semi-mechanised methods. Generally, the mineral is marketed under three grades: $60\% \, \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ and above, $50 - 60\% \, \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ and less than $50\% \, \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$. These three grades are used in the manufacture of refractories.

Sillimanite

Sillimanite mines are also worked by opencast method. Pohra mine of Maharashtra State Mining Corporation Ltd is semi-mechanised.

USES

Kyanite, sillimanite and andalusite are mainly used in refractories and ceramic products because

of their ability to form mullite phase at high temperature. Mullite is an essential component of high-alumina refractories forming the inner lining of furnaces and high temperature vessels widely used in the production of metals, ceramics, glass and cement. These are used in manufacturing refractory products like dense bricks, insulating bricks, monolithic & castables. Sillimanite refractory bricks are extensively used in steel and glass industries and also in ceramics, cement kilns, heat treatment furnaces and petrochemical industries.

SPECIFICATIONS

BIS has prescribed IS:14301-1995 (reaffirmed in 2011) for kyanite used in Refractory Industry. There are two grades, i.e., Grade-1 and Grade-2. Composition of kyanite under this specification is Al₂O₃ 58% min. Grade-1 and 54% min. for Grade-2; Fe₂O₃ 1.50% max., K₂O + Na₂O 1% max.; other constituents would be for as agreed between the supplier and purchaser. Pyrometric Cone Equivalent (PCE) specified would have to be not less than 36 for Grade-1 and 35 for Grade-2. Size of the material is 50 to 150 mm or 10 to 50 mm.

BIS has laid down IS:14302-1995 (reaffirmed in 2011) in respect of beach sand sillimanite for use in Refractory Industry, while IS:2045-1962 in respect of natural sillimanite blocks for glass melting tanks furnaces has been withdrawn.

CONSUMPTION

Kyanite & Sillimanite

The apparent availability of kyanite and sillimanite during 2021-22 is 9,445 & 1,113 tonnes, respectively (Table-12).

Table – 12: Apparent Availability of Kyanite and Sillimanite for Domestic Consumption (Based on Production, Imports and Exports)

		(Quantity in tonnes)
Minerals	Kyanite	Sillimanite
	2021-22	2021-22 (P)
I) Total Production	9432	3432
II) Total Imports	1668	801
III) Total Exports	1655	3120
IV) Apparent Availability	9445	1113

WORLD REVIEW

World reserve of kyanite and related minerals is large in the USA. And alusite is limited to only a few countries. The main producer and exporter of and alusite is South Africa and Peru while USA and India are the main producers of kyanite. India is the leading producer of sillimanite. World production of kyanite and related minerals is indicated in Table-13.

The availability of inexpensive refractory-grade bauxite from China served to increase demand for refractories from alternative raw material, such as, andalusite. Demand for refractories in iron and steel production is expected to have larger increases in countries with higher growth rates in steel production. Increased demand also is anticipated for refractories used for producing other metals and in the industrial mineral market because of increasing production of cement, ceramics, glass, and other mineral products.

Table – 13: World Production of Minerals (Kyanite, Sillimanite & Andalusite)
(By Principal Countries)

			(In tonnes)
Country	2019	2020	2021
France			
Andalusite ^(a)	68000	65000	65000
India*			
Kyanite ^(c)	3497	4925	4480
Sillimanite ^(c)	13236	11110	11900
Madagascar	1	-	-
Nepal			
Kyanite ^(d)	1	-	-
South Africa			
Andalusite	190000	180000	190000
USA			
K yanite ^(b)	91300	67100	81000

Source: BGS World Mineral Production, 2017-2021, BGS.

- (a) May Include other sillimanite minerals.
- (b) Including related minerals.
- (c) Years ended 31st March following that stated.
- (d) Years ending 15th July of that stated.
- (e) Estimated.

*India's production during 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 in respect of kyanite is 3,498 tonnes, 4,925 tonnes & 9,320 tonnes respectively and in respect of sillimanite is 13,221 tonnes, 11,110 tonnes & 3,432 tonnes respectively.

FOREIGN TRADE

Exports

Exports of kyanite during 2021-22 at 1,655 tonnes increased manifold by 557% from 252 tonnes in the previous year. Exports were mainly to UAE (82%), Sri Lanka (6%) and Greece & Turkey (3% each). Exports of sillimanite decreased by 38% to 3,120 tonnes in 2021-22 from 4,998 tonnes in the previous year. Sillimanite was exported mainly to China (83%), Japan (10%), Nepal (4%) and Malaysia (3%). Exports of less than 1% were to Thailand, USA and Angola. Exports of andalusite during 2021-22 increased by 100% to 18 tonnes from 9 tonnes in the previous year. Andalusite was exported solely to UAE (100%) (Tables - 14 to 16).

Imports

In 2021-22, imports of kyanite were at 1,668 tonnes as against 1,238 tonnes in the previous year registering an increase of 35%. Imports of sillimanite were at 801 tonnes which also increased by 32% during 2021-22 as compared to 606 tonnes in the previous year. Imports of andalusite at 10,419 tonnes

Table – 14: Exports of Kyanite (By Countries)

Country	2020	2020-21 (R) 2		1-22 (P)	Country	
Country	Qty (t)	Value (₹'000)	Qty (t)	Value (₹'000)	Country	
All Countries	252	9033	1655	15376	All Cou	
UAE	12	404	1353	11164	China	
Sri Lanka	-	-	100	1271	Japan	
Turkey	-	-	46	1234	Malaysi	
Greece	216	4871	48	933	Nepal	
Saudi Arabia	10	153	35	365	Thailan	
Nigeria	-	-	52	195	USA	
Sudan	-	-	2	131	Angola	
Zambia	-	-	4	47	German	
Cameroon	-	-	15	36	Canada	
Bhutan	4	3500	-	-	UK	
Other countries	10	105	_	_	Other c	

Figures rounded off

decreased by 32% during 2021-22 from that of the previous year. The imports of kyanite were mainly from USA (78%) and China (22%). UAE (48%), Hong Kong (26%) & Ukraine (20%), were the main suppliers of sillimanite while South Africa (79%), France (19%) were the main suppliers of andalusite in 2021-22 (Tables - 17 to 19).

Table – 15: Exports of Sillimanite (By Countries)

C	2020	-21 (R)	2021-22 (P)	
Country	Qty (t)	Value (₹'000)	Qty (t)	Value (₹'000)
All Countries	4998	94359	3120	64355
China	4004	72772	2576	50244
Japan	378	12700	314	10405
Malaysia	298	5399	84	1664
Nepal	235	1296	116	1234
Thailand	50	990	25	525
USA	1	62	1	202
Angola	-	-	4	25
Germany	++	2	++	24
Canada	++	10	++	15
UK	++	22	++	9
Other countries	32	1106	++	8

Fgures rounded off

Table – 16: Exports of Andalusite (By Countries)

Country	2020-21 (R)		2021-22 (P)	
	Qty (t)	Value (₹'000)	Qty (t)	Value (₹'000)
All Countries	9	476	18	1233
UAE	9	476	18	1233

Figures rounded off

Table – 17: Imports of Kyanite (By Countries)

Country	2020-21 (R)		2021-22 (P)	
	Qty (t)	Value (₹'000)	Qty (t)	Value (₹'000)
All Countries	1238	42080	1668	53418
USA	985	36136	1298	49554
China	180	3823	370	3864
South Africa	54	1442	-	-
UAE	10	282	-	-
Australia	4	228	-	-
Malaysia	5	169	-	-

Figures rounded off

Table – 18: Imports of Sillimanite (By Countries)

Country	2020-21 (R)		2021-22 (P)	
	Qty (t)	Value (₹'000)	Qty (t)	Value (₹'000)
All Countries	606	11571	801	13972
Hong Kong	200	3890	210	4918
Ukraine	405	7080	160	3518
UAE	-	-	383	3374
USA	++	341	41	946
Spain	-	-	1	687
China	++	80	3	265
Poland	-	-	3	204
Germany	-	-	++	58
Belgium	-	-	++	2
Japan	1	147	-	-
Other countries	++	33	-	-

Figures rounded off

Table – 19: Imports of Andalusite (By Countries)

Country	2020-21 (R)		2021-22 (P)	
	Qty (t)	Value (₹'000)	Qty (t)	Value (₹'000)
All Countries	15217	428831	10419	344730
South Africa	11762	323009	8191	252706
France	3291	100507	1992	81675
USA	150	4534	160	6001
Spain	-	-	48	3657
Ukraine	-	-	28	681
China	++	71	++	10
UAE	14	643	-	-
_UK	++	67	_	_

Figures rounded off

FUTURE OUTLOOK

The demand for high quality raw and calcined sillimanite minerals is closely linked to the need for high performance refractories with increased operational lifespans. As the predominant consumer of refractory products, the Steel Manufacturing Industry provides a reliable market indicator of the demand for sillimanite minerals.

The Asia-Pacific region remains the largest market for refractories. The production of sillimanite is likely to increase in the coming years to meet the demand. China will remain the leading market on global front. Demand for refractory minerals in India is likely to scale up in commensurate with steel production which is also likely to show an increasing trend.