

INVESTIGATION AND EXPLORATION

A. Iron Ore:

- ❖ As per Section 93 of AP Reorganization Act, 2014 read with Thirteenth Schedule, the Central Govt. under infrastructure development shall examine the feasibility of establishing an Integrated Steel Plant in Khammam, Telangana State.
- ❖ In order to have Iron Ore deposits source for the proposed ISP, the State Govt. proposed for reservation of all the Iron Ore blocks to TSMDC for sustainable supply to the ISP to be established by SAIL.
- ❖ The Dept. and GSI taken-up collaborative investigation under "Re-assessment of Iron Ore deposits in and around Bayyaram area and Khammam and Warangal Districts" by entering into an MoU.
- ❖ GSI carried-out Iron Ore investigation in Bayyaram area (G3) level in FSP 2015-16 and in 11 Blocks (G4) level as 5 items in the FSP 2016-17.
- ❖ The State Govt. decided to reserve Iron Ore bearing areas to M/s TSMDC Ltd. Therefore, further upgraded exploration shall be taken-up by TSMDC Ltd.
- ❖ Iron ore resources position in Telangana State :

GSI Item No.	Block Name	Reserves in Million Tonnes	Grade (% of Fe)
84/2015	Bayyaram, Mahabubabad Dist.	70.53	25 to 60
100	Yerraballi, Warangal (U) Dist.	13.30	39 to 43
101	Gurimella-Yerragunta		
	(i) Yettagunta sub-block	3.03	21 to 48
	(ii) Kamballapalle sub-block	1.48	25 to 40
	(iii) Nalla Gutta sub-block	0.92	25 to 40
	Total (101)	5.43	
103	Sitanagaram Macherla, Mahabubabad Dist.	2.312	20 to 40
	Lachapuram, Kothagudem Dist.		
104	Rebbanapalli, Mancherla Dist.	39.50	27 to 32
	Chandoli-Ambaripet, Jagityal Dist.	30.99	
	Total (104)	70.49	
GRAND TOTAL		162.062	

B. Limestone:

- ❖ The Dept. on priority proposed exploration for allotment of (3) gap area Limestone blocks viz. (1) Pasupulabodu RF Block (2) Saidulnama RF Block and (3) Sultanpur RF Block in Suryapet District of Telangana.
- ❖ The GSI & MECL completed G3 level exploration work in all (3) blocks and the State Govt. sought relaxation under Rule (8) of M(EMC) Rules, 2015 for allotment as mining lease through auction from the Central Govt. with due justification. However, the Central Govt. clarified to take-up G2 level exploration or to go for a Composite License.

- ❖ Owing to location of blocks in the Reserve Forest no scope to conduct drilling as per M(EMC) Rules, 2015. Therefore, State Govt. sought relaxation by MoM, GoI for allotment of the blocks as Composite License and awaiting Permission.
- ❖ As part of preparation, the Dept. already entered into MoU with SBI Capitals Ltd. to act as Transaction Advisor and MSTC for making available the e-auction platform.
- ❖ In addition, the Ministry of Mines, Govt. of India in May, 2018 accorded permission for G4-G3-G2 exploration in 15 Limestone blocks in Telangana State at an estimated cost of Rs 29.58 Crores through NMET.
- ❖ The State Govt. allotted 15 Limestone blocks in 8 clusters for exploration to TSMDC Ltd. being empanelled by the MoM, GoI under Section 4(1) of MMDR Act, 1957.
- ❖ TSMDC Ltd. completed G4 Level and conducting G3/G2 Level exploration with the approval of TCC, NMET.
- ❖ The Dept. is in the process of identification and demarcation of more blocks in future and approach TCC, NMET for exploration through NMET.

C. Other Mineral Exploration:

❖ Gold & REE, Precious and Base Metals:

G4 projects for investigation of primary source of Diamond in Mahabubnagar, Gadwal, Wanaparthy, Nagarkurnool Districts.

Reconnoiter survey for Diamondiferous Kimberlite pipes in Suryapet District by NMDC.

GSI proposed G4 level exploration in Gadwal Schist Belt for Gold, REE, Tin & Tungsten in Atkur area of Jogulamba-Gadwal and Wanaparthy Districts and another one in Dharur-Dornala Block in Jogulamba-Gadwal District.

GSI to carry-out G4 exploration for Base Metal in Vutkur Block and Atmakur Block of Gadwal Schist Belt in Jogulamba-Gadwal District.

GSI to carry-out Coal exploration (G2 Stage) in Durgam Gutta of Manuguru, Bhadradri-Kothagudem District.

State Govt. is proposing reservation of areas to NMDC for exploration of Diamond in Telangana State.

Regional survey for Phosphate, Apatite, Potash, Pyrite, Glauconite & Associated minerals over an extent of 1357.08 Sq.KM in Warangal Urban District.

Exploration of Notified Minerals viz., Limestone, Manganese, Iron Ore and other major minerals.