

Unit III

Chapter 7



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MINERAL AND ENERGY RESOURCES



India is endowed with a rich variety of mineral resources due to its varied geological structure. Bulk of the valuable minerals are products of pre-palaezoic age (Refer: Chapter 2 of Class XI, Textbook: “*Fundamentals of Physical Geography*” and are mainly associated with metamorphic and igneous rocks of the peninsular India. The vast alluvial plain tract of north India is devoid of minerals of economic use. The mineral resources provide the country with the necessary base for industrial development. In this chapter, we shall discuss the availability of various types of mineral and energy resources in the country.

A mineral is a natural substance of organic or inorganic origin with definite chemical and physical properties.

Types of Mineral Resources

On the basis of chemical and physical properties, minerals may be grouped under two main categories of metallics and non-metallics which may further be classified as follows :

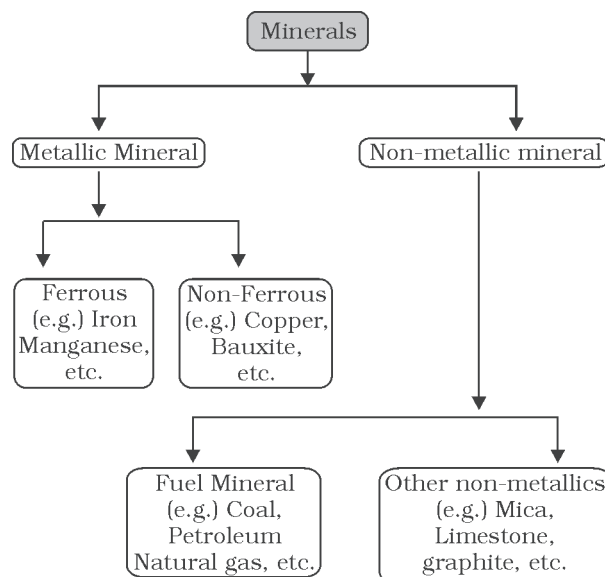


Fig. 7.1 : Classification of Minerals

As, it is clear from the Fig. 7.1 metallic minerals are the sources of metals. Iron ore, copper, gold produce metal and are included in this category. Metallic minerals are further divided into ferrous and non-ferrous metallic minerals. Ferrous, as you know, refers to iron. All those minerals which have iron content are ferrous such as iron ore itself and those which do not have iron content are non-ferrous such as copper, bauxite, etc.

Non-metallic minerals are either organic in origin such as fossil fuels also known as mineral fuels which are derived from the buried animal and plant life such as coal and petroleum. Other type of non-metallic minerals are inorganic in origin such as mica, limestone and graphite, etc.

Minerals have certain characteristics. These are unevenly distributed over space. There is inverse relationship in quality and quantity of minerals i.e. good quality minerals are less in quantity as compared to low quality minerals. The third main characteristic is that all minerals are exhaustible over time. These take long to develop geologically and they cannot be replenished immediately at the time of need. Thus, they have to be conserved and not misused as they do not have the second crop.

Distribution of Minerals in India

Most of the metallic minerals in India occur in the peninsular plateau region in the old crystalline rocks. Over 97 per cent of coal reserves occur in the valleys of Damodar, Sone, Mahanadi and Godavari. Petroleum reserves are located in the sedimentary basins of Assam, Gujarat and Mumbai High i.e. off-shore region in the Arabian Sea. New reserves have been located in the Krishna-Godavari and Kaveri basins. Most of the major mineral resources occur to the east of a line linking Mangaluru and Kanpur.

Minerals are generally concentrated in three broad belts in India. There may be some sporadic occurrences here and there in isolated pockets. These belts are :

The North-Eastern Plateau Region

This belt covers Chhotanagpur (Jharkhand), Odisha Plateau, West Bengal and parts of Chhattisgarh. Have you ever thought about the reason of major iron and steel industry being located in this region? It has variety of minerals viz. iron ore coal, manganese, bauxite, mica.

Find out the specific region where these minerals are being extracted.

The South-Western Plateau Region

This belt extends over Karnataka, Goa and contiguous Tamil Nadu uplands and Kerala. This belt is rich in ferrous metals and bauxite. It also contains high grade iron ore, manganese and limestone. This belt lacks in coal deposits except Neyveli lignite.

This belt does not have as diversified mineral deposits as the north-eastern belt. Kerala has deposits of monazite and thorium, bauxite clay. Goa has iron ore deposits.

The North-Western Region

This belt extends along Aravali in Rajasthan and part of Gujarat and minerals are associated with Dharwar system of rocks. Copper, zinc have been major minerals. Rajasthan is rich in building stones i.e. sandstone, granite, marble. Gypsum and Fuller's earth deposits are also extensive. Dolomite and limestone provide raw materials for cement industry. Gujarat is known for its petroleum deposits. You may be knowing that Gujarat and Rajasthan both have rich sources of salt.

Why and where Dandi March was organised by Mahatma Gandhi?

The Himalayan belt is another mineral belt where copper, lead, zinc, cobalt and tungsten are known to occur. They occur on both the eastern and western parts. Assam valley has



mineral oil deposits. Besides oil resources are also found in off-shore-areas near Mumbai Coast (Mumbai High).

In the following pages you will find the spatial pattern of some of the important minerals.

Ferrous Mineral

Ferrous minerals such as iron ore, manganese, chromite, etc., provide a strong base for the development of metallurgical industries. Our country is well-placed in respect of ferrous minerals both in reserves and production.

Iron Ore

India is endowed with fairly abundant resources of iron ore. It has the largest reserve of iron ore in Asia. The two main types of ore found in our country are *haematite* and *magnetite*. It has great demand in international market due to its superior quality. The iron ore mines occur in close proximity to the coal fields in the north-eastern plateau region of the country which adds to their advantage.

About 95 per cent of total reserves of iron ore is located in the States of Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Goa, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. In Odisha, iron ore occurs in a series of hill ranges in Sundergarh, Mayurbhanj and Jhar. The important mines are Gurumahisani, Sulaipet, Badampahar (Mayurbhaji), Kiruburu (Kendujhar) and Bonai (Sundergarh). Similar hill ranges, Jharkhand has some of the oldest iron ore mines and most of the iron and steel plants are located around them. Most of the important mines such as Noamundi and Gua are located in Poorbi and Pashchimi Singhbhum districts. This belt further extends to Durg, Dantewara and Bailadila. Dalli, and Rajhara in Durg are the important mines of iron ore in the country. In Karnataka, iron ore deposits occur in Sandur-Hospet area of Ballari district, Baba Budan hills and Kudremukh in Chikkamagaluru district and

Iron ore mining gets a boost

The iron ore mining industry in India is attracting several new players, both large and small

Any industrialised nation requires vast quantities of iron ore, which is the basic raw material from which iron and steel are made. India is no exception, and its development over the past few decades has necessitated huge reserves of iron and steel. Iron ore is produced in approximately 45 countries, and world resources are estimated to exceed 800 billion tons of crude ore containing more than 230 billion tons of iron. While Brazil and China are world leaders in iron ore production and consumption, India ranks sixth in terms of iron ore deposits. Interestingly however, India's per capita mineral consumption is one of the lowest in the world.



the best-known private sector companies in the country. Companies like SAIL and TISCO have their own captive mines. The other or secondary producers include re-rollers and stand alone producers in the organised and unorganised segments, and account for the remaining 58% of India's steel production. Producers are also classified on the basis of the production process and the type of products (long or flat) manufactured by the producers. Steel alone producers produce sponge iron and pig iron to be used by the main producers.

India is the largest producer of coal based sponge iron in the world, and accounts for 15% of the global output. India Steel & Power Ltd. is the largest producer of coal based sponge iron in India. It is also the second largest in the world - with a capacity of 660,000 TPA. KIOCL, Sesa Goa and Ultra Inpat are the major producers of pig iron. Integrated steel plants like SAIL and RINL also produce a significant amount of pig iron.

While iron ore is a major component of the steel manufacturing process, scrap is often used to supplement it, though it is in relatively low levels. As a result, the iron ore industry is often referred to as the 'backbone' of the steel industry.

met indicators of iron ore consumption than crude steel. However, imports of iron ore are not a direct indicator of a change in iron ore consumption in any country that produces iron ore. The Government of India has taken several steps to promote the growth of the mineral sector under the overall framework of the National Mineral Policy, 1993. The amended Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act (MMDRA Act) is aimed at attracting private investment and foreign direct investment (FDI) into the sector. It is estimated that the production of iron ore during the tenure year of the Tenth Plan (2008-09) will touch 110 mt, with around 40 mt exported annually during the Plan period. The Government also regulates the amount of iron ore to be extracted to counter pollution. Modern excavation heavy blasting techniques have been developed which help minimise damage to the environment.

Export of high grade iron ore has been so far channelled through the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation Ltd. (MMTC), and quantitative restrictions were imposed by the Government to ensure that indigenous demand was met before any surplus could be exported. However a shift in this policy is expected.

With the number of end user industries in India growing at a significant rate, the production of steel based products is in prospect, drawing a large amount of iron ore. The iron ore industry is expected to grow at a rapid pace in the coming years.

Can you find out its reason?

parts of Shivamogga, Chitradurg and Tumakuru districts. The districts of Chandrapur, Bhandara and Ratnagiri in Maharashtra, Karimnagar and Warangal district of Telangana, Kurnool, Cuddapah and Anantapur districts of Andhra Pradesh, Salem and Nilgiris districts of Tamil Nadu are other iron mining regions. Goa has also emerged as an important producer of iron ore.

Manganese

Manganese is an important raw material for smelting of iron ore and also used for manufacturing ferro alloys. Manganese deposits are found in almost all geological formations, however, it is mainly associated with Dharwar system.

Odisha is the leading producer of Manganese. Major mines in Odisha are located in the central part of the iron ore belt of India, particularly in Bonai, Kendujhar, Sundergarh, Gangpur, Koraput, Kalahandi and Bolangir.



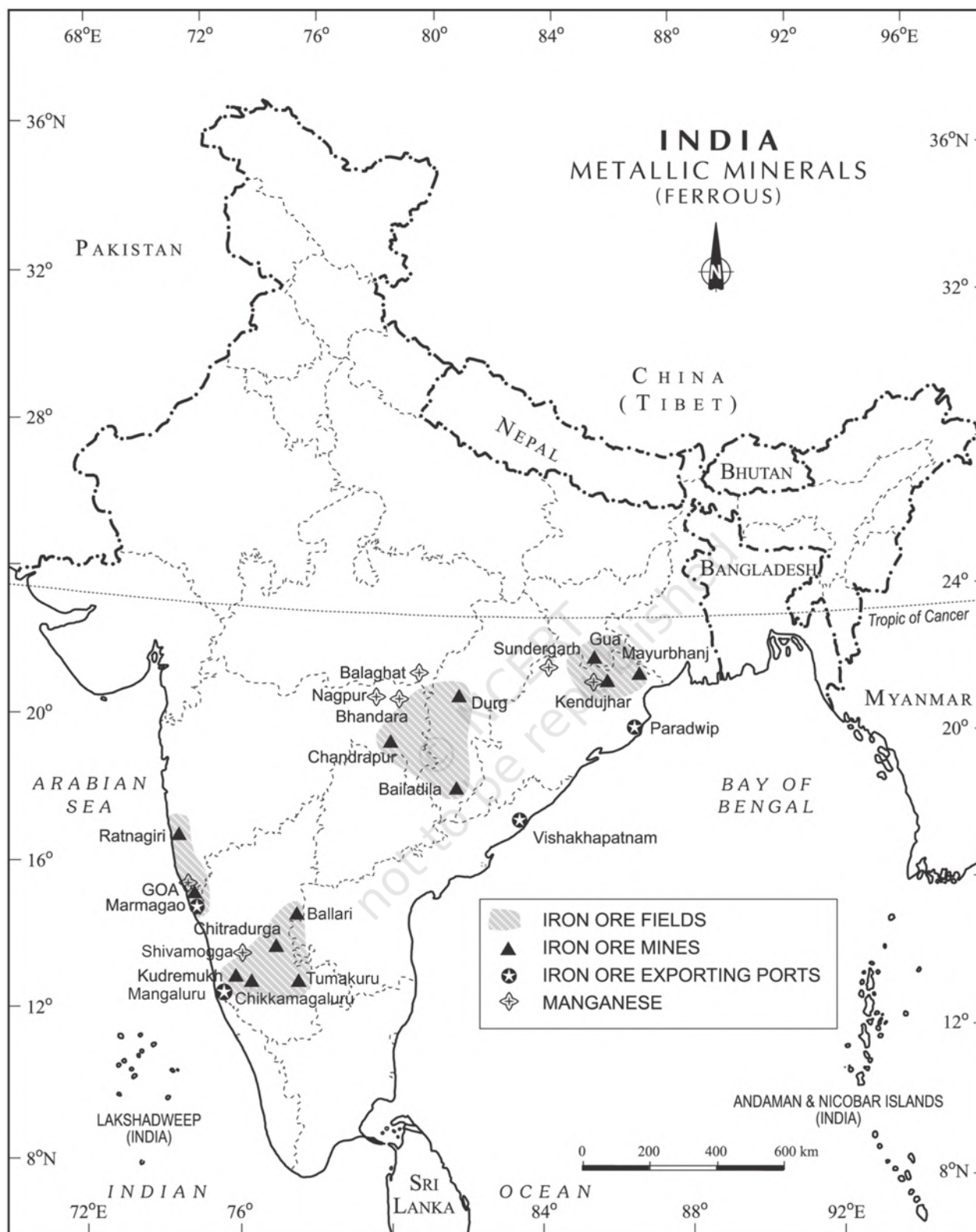


Fig. 7.2 : India – Metallic Minerals (Ferrous)

Karnataka is another major producer and here the mines are located in Dharwar, Ballari, Belagavi, North Canara, Chikmagalur, Shivamogga, Chitradurg and Tumakuru. Maharashtra is also an important producer of manganese, which is mined in Nagpur, Bhandara and Ratnagiri districts. The disadvantage to these mines is that they are located far from steel plants. The manganese belt of Madhya Pradesh extends in a belt in Balaghat-Chhindwara-Nimar-Mandla and Jabua districts.

Telangana, Goa, and Jharkhand are other minor producers of manganese.

Non-Ferrous Minerals

India is poorly endowed with non-ferrous metallic minerals except bauxite.

Bauxite

Bauxite is the ore, which is used in manufacturing of aluminium. Bauxite is found mainly in tertiary deposits and is associated with laterite rocks occurring extensively either on the plateau or hill ranges of peninsular India and also in the coastal tracts of the country.

Odisha happens to be the largest producer of Bauxite. Kalahandi and Sambalpur are the leading producers. The other two areas which have been increasing their production are Bolangir and Koraput. The patlands of Lohardaga in Jharkhand have rich deposits. Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra are other major producers. Bhavanagar, and Jamnagar in Gujarat have the major deposits. Chhattisgarh has bauxite deposits in Amarkantak plateau while Katni-Jabalpur area and Balaghat in M.P. have important deposits of bauxite. Kolaba, Thane, Ratnagiri, Satara, Pune and Kolhapur in Maharashtra are important producers. Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Goa are minor producers of bauxite.

Copper

Copper is an indispensable metal in the electrical industry for making wires, electric motors, transformers and generators. It is

alloyable, malleable and ductile. It is also mixed with gold to provide strength to jewellery.

The Copper deposits mainly occur in Singhbhum district in Jharkhand, Balaghat district in Madhya Pradesh and Jhunjhunu and Alwar districts in Rajasthan.

Minor producers of Copper are Agnigundala in Guntur District (Andhra Pradesh), Chitradurg and Hasan districts (Karnataka) and South Arcot district (Tamil Nadu).

Non-metallic Minerals

Among the non-metallic minerals produced in India, mica is the important one. The other minerals extracted for local consumption are limestone, dolomite and phosphate.

Mica

Mica is mainly used in the electrical and electronic industries. It can be split into very thin sheets which are tough and flexible. Mica in India is produced in Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Rajasthan followed by Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh. In Jharkhand, high quality mica is obtained in a belt extending over a distance of about 150 km, in length and about 22 km, in width in lower Hazaribagh plateau. In Andhra Pradesh, Nellore district produces the best quality mica. In Rajasthan, mica belt extends for about 320 kms from Jaipur to Bhilwara and around Udaipur. Mica deposits also occur in Mysuru and Hasan districts of Karnataka, Coimbatore, Tiruchirapalli, Madurai and Kanniyakumari in Tamil Nadu, Alleppey in Kerala, Ratnagiri in Maharashtra, Purulia and Bankura in West Bengal.

Energy Resources

Mineral fuels are essential for generation of power, required by agriculture, industry, transport and other sectors of the economy. Mineral fuels like coal, petroleum and natural gas (known as fossil fuels), nuclear energy minerals, are the conventional sources of energy. These conventional sources are exhaustible resources.





Fig. 7.3 : India – Minerals (Non-Ferrous)

Coal

Coal is one of the important minerals which is mainly used in the generation of thermal power and smelting of iron ore. Coal occurs in rock sequences mainly of two geological ages, namely Gondwana and tertiary deposits.

About 80 per cent of the coal deposits in India is of bituminous type and is of non-coking grade. The most important Gondwana coal fields of India are located in Damodar Valley. They lie in Jharkhand-Bengal coal belt and the

important coal fields in this region are Raniganj, Jharia, Bokaro, Giridih, Karanpura.

Jharia is the largest coal field followed by Raniganj. The other river valleys associated with coal are Godavari, Mahanadi and Sone. The most important coal mining centres are Singrauli in Madhya Pradesh (part of Singrauli coal field lies in Uttar Pradesh), Korba in Chhattisgarh, Talcher and Rampur in Odisha, Chanda-Wardha, Kamptee and Bander in Maharashtra and Singareni in Telangana and Pandur in Andhra Pradesh.

At Singareni, Canaries to miners' rescue

Singareni collieries, the country's premier coal production company, still uses canaries to detect the presence of deadly carbon monoxide in underground mines. Miners collapse and often die even if small quantities of the highly poisonous CO are present in the air. Though, miners speak lovingly of the canaries, the underground experience is not at all pleasant for the birds. When lowered into mines with CO presence, the birds show distress symptoms such as ruffling of feathers, pronounced chirping and loss of life. These reactions occur even if 0.15 per cent of CO is present in the air. If the content is 0.3 per cent the bird shows immediate distress and falls off its perch in two to three minutes. A cage of birds is a good indicator in air containing more than 0.15 per cent CO, said a coal miner.

The sophisticated hand held CO detectors introduced by the company can detect CO concentrations from as low as 10 ppm to as high as 1,000 ppm. But despite this, the miners trust the birds, who have saved the lives of several of their predecessors.

Deccan Chronicle, 26.08.2006

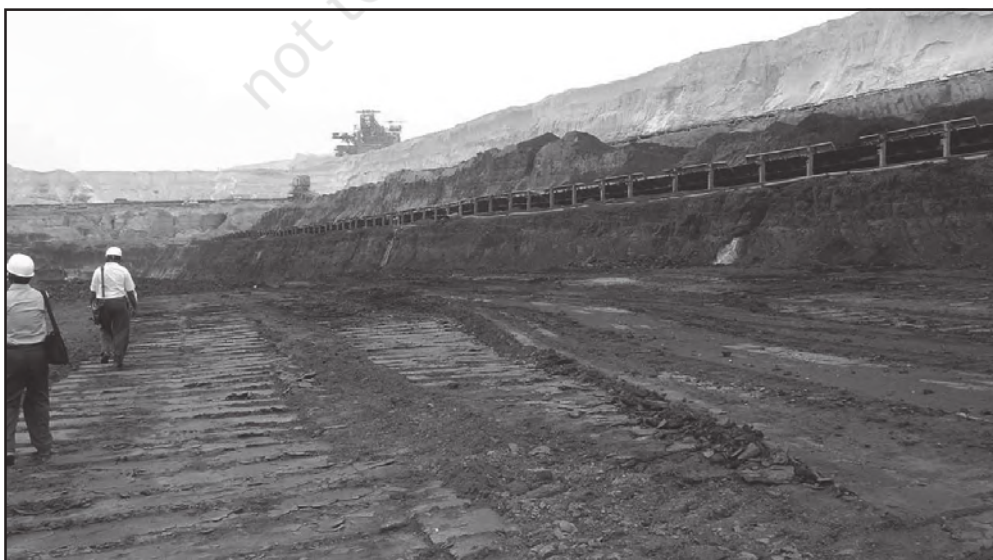


Fig.7.4 : Neyveli Coalfield



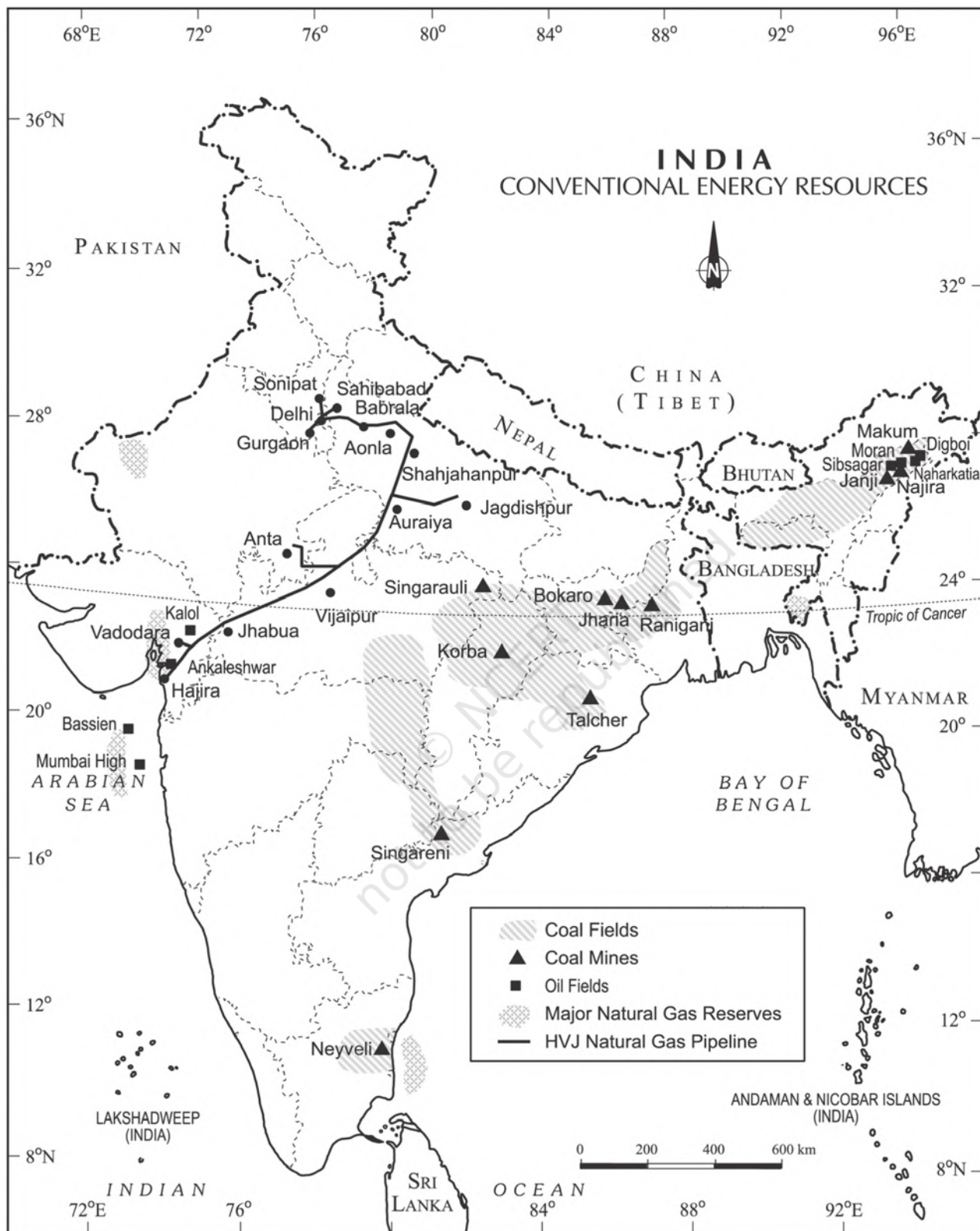


Fig. 7.5 : India – Conventional Energy Resources

Tertiary coals occur in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Nagaland. It is extracted from Darangiri, Cherrapunji, Mewlong and Langrin (Meghalaya); Makum, Jaipur and Nazira in upper Assam, Namchik – Namphuk (Arunachal Pradesh) and Kalakot (Jammu and Kashmir).

Besides, the brown coal or lignite occur in the coastal areas of Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Gujarat and Jammu and Kashmir.

Petroleum

Crude petroleum consists of hydrocarbons of liquid and gaseous states varying in chemical composition, colour and specific gravity. It is an essential source of energy for all internal combustion engines in automobiles, railways and aircraft. Its numerous by-products are processed in petrochemical industries, such as fertiliser, synthetic rubber, synthetic fibre, medicines, vaseline, lubricants, wax, soap and cosmetics.

DO YOU KNOW ?

Petroleum is referred to as liquid gold because of its scarcity and diversified uses.

Kalol, Mehsana, Nawagam, Kosamba and Lunej. Mumbai High which lies 160 km off Mumbai was discovered in 1973 and production commenced in 1976. Oil and natural gas have been found in exploratory wells in Krishna-Godavari and Kaveri basin on the east coast.

Oil extracted from the wells is crude oil and contains many impurities. It cannot be used directly. It needs to be refined. There are two types of refineries in India: (a) field-based and (b) market-based. Digboi is an example of field-based and Barauni is an example of market-based refinery.

Natural Gas

The Gas Authority of India Limited was set up in 1984 as a public sector undertaking to transport and market natural gas. It is obtained alongwith oil in all the oilfields but exclusive reserves have been located along the eastern coast as well as (Tamil Nadu, Odisha and Andhra Pradesh), Tripura, Rajasthan and off-shore wells in Gujarat and Maharashtra.

Indications of huge gas reserves in Ramanathapuram (Tamil Nadu)

According to a newspaper report (*The Hindu*, 05.09.2006) the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has found potential zones of natural gas reserves in Ramanathapuram district. The survey is still in the initial stages. The exact quantity of gas reserves will be known only after the completion of the survey. But the results are encouraging.

Crude petroleum occurs in sedimentary rocks of the tertiary period. Oil exploration and production was systematically taken up after the Oil and Natural Gas Commission was set up in 1956. Till then, Digboi in Assam was the only oil producing region but the scenario changed after 1956. In recent years, new oil deposits have been found at the extreme western and eastern parts of the country. In Assam, Digboi, Naharkatiya and Moran are important oil producing areas. The major oilfields of Gujarat are Ankaleshwar,

Non-Conventional Energy Sources

Fossil fuel sources, such as coal, petroleum, natural gas and nuclear energy use exhaustible raw materials. Sustainable energy resources are only the renewable energy sources like solar, wind, hydro-geothermal and biomass. These energy sources are more equitably distributed and environment-friendly. The non-conventional energy sources will provide more sustained, eco-friendly cheaper energy after the initial cost is taken care of.





Fig. 7.6 : India – Oil Refineries

GEOGRAPHY'S CREATING HISTORY



RIL Seeks GI Status For Jamnagar Petrogoods, KG Basin Gas

G Ganapathy Subramaniam & Soma Banerjee
NEW DELHI

WHAT Darjeeling is to tea, is Jamnagar to diesel? Well, Reliance Industries certainly thinks so. The company has filed an application with the Geographical Indications (GI) Registry under the commerce and industries ministry for GI status to diesel produced from its Jamnagar refinery. The company also claims that the gas tapped from its KG basin is of a distinct status.

distinct status" of Jamnagar diesel and KG Gas in its filing, the ministry is not

applications could vitiate the very concept of GIs. While the legal and technical

अपारंपरिक स्रोतों से 2000 मे.वा. बिजली पैदा होगी

एस पी सैनी

नई दिल्ली

उत्पादन को बढ़ा कर 10वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के अंत तक 11,000 मेगावाट कर दिया जाएगा जो कि वर्ष 2002-07 के लिए निर्धारित लक्ष्य से 67 प्रतिशत है। यह जानकारी बुधवार को यहां अपारंपरिक ऊर्जा स्रोत मंत्रालय में सचिव जी सुब्रामनियम ने एक विशेष भेंट में दी। इसके अलावा मंत्रालय द्वारा अपारंपरिक ऊर्जा स्रोत से विद्युत उत्पादन के लिए तैयार की गई दीर्घकालिक योजना में वर्ष 2032 के अंत तक देश में कुल विद्युत उत्पादन में से अपारंपरिक ऊर्जा स्रोतों से विद्युत बिजली का हिस्सा 20 से लेकर 30 तक होगा। अपारंपरिक ऊर्जा स्रोतों से उत्पादन की वर्तमान स्थिति यह है कि देश वाले कुल विद्युत उत्पादन अपारंपरिक स्रोतों से विद्युत बिजली का हिस्सा केवल 7 प्रतिशत है। किन्तु मंत्रालय के प्रयासों से अक्षय ऊर्जा स्रोतों की दिलचस्पी बढ़ती जा रही है और

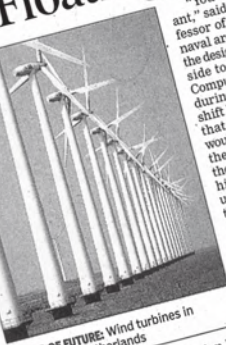
10वीं योजना के अंत तक अक्षय ऊर्जा उत्पादन बढ़ कर 11,000 मेगावाट हो जाएगा

भी अधिक है। श्री सुब्रामनियम का मानना है कि अपारंपरिक ऊर्जा के क्षेत्र में भारत में लघु पनबिजली परियोजनाओं में कोई विशेष उत्पादकता बढ़क परिणाम देखने में नहीं आए हैं लेकिन विंड एनर्जी, (पवन ऊर्जा) बायोमास, कोजोनेशन अर्थात् चीनी मिलों के बग़ास से अथवा कूड़े कचरे से पिछले चार सालों में बिजली उत्पादन में वृद्धि के अच्छे परिणाम देखने में आए हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि यह और भी अच्छी बात है कि पवन ऊर्जा के क्षेत्र में विद्युत उत्पादन में निजी क्षेत्र की पार्टियों द्वारा अधिक निवेश किया गया है। बायोमास

Powerful idea: Floating windmills

The ocean and the wind may both come to our aid, in an effort to generate more power. Windpower is seen as nature's answer to man's growing need for power. But the columns that windmills are thought of as eyesores that spoil the beauty of a picturesque place. However, windmills that would float hundreds of miles out at sea could one day help satisfy our energy needs without being eyesores from land, say scientists, reports a lifescience.com.

Offshore wind turbines are not new, but they typically stand on towers that have to be driven deep into the ocean water depths of about 50 feet or less. This arrangement only works in close enough to shore that they are still visible. Researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) have designed a wind turbine that can be attached to a floating platform. The platform would be a steel structure that can be attached to a floating system on the ocean.



POWER OF FUTURE: Wind turbines in Dronten, the Netherlands

chor: The setup is called a "tension leg platform," or TLP, and would be cheaper than fixed towers.

"You don't pay anything to be buoyant," said Paul Schlavounos, an MIT professor of mechanical engineering and naval architecture who was involved in the design. The floating platforms to sway side to side but not bob up and down. Computer simulations suggest that even during hurricanes, the platforms would shift by only about three to six feet. The bottom of the turbine blades would revolve well above the peak of even the highest wave. Dampers similar to those used to steady skyscrapers during high winds and earthquakes could be used to further reduce sideways motion, the researchers say.

Like the offshore windmills currently in use, the TLP's would use undersea cables to shuttle the electricity to land. The researchers estimate their floating-mounted turbines could work in water depths ranging from about 100 to 650 feet. This means that in the northeastern US, they could be placed about 30 to 100 miles out at sea. Because winds are stronger farther offshore, the floating windmill could also generate more energy.

How are the developed countries of the world utilising non-conventional energy resources? Discuss.

Nuclear Energy Resources

Nuclear energy has emerged as a viable source in recent times. Important minerals used for the generation of nuclear energy are uranium and thorium. Uranium deposits occur in the Dharwar rocks. Geographically, uranium ores are known to occur in several locations along the Singhbhum Copper belt. It is also found in Udaipur, Alwar and Jhunjhunu districts of Rajasthan, Durg district of Chhattisgarh, Bhandara district of Maharashtra and Kullu district of Himachal Pradesh. Thorium is mainly obtained from monazite and ilmenite in the beach sands along the coast of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. World's richest monazite deposits occur in Palakkad and Kollam districts of Kerala, near Vishakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh and Mahanadi river delta in Odisha.

Atomic Energy Commission was established in 1948, progress could be made only after the establishment of the Atomic Energy Institute at Trombay in 1954 which was

renamed as the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre in 1967. The important nuclear power projects are Tarapur (Maharashtra), Rawatbhata near Kota (Rajasthan), Kalpakkam (Tamil Nadu), Narora (Uttar Pradesh), Kaiga (Karnataka) and Kakrapar (Gujarat).

Solar Energy

Sun rays tapped in photovoltaic cells can be converted into energy, known as solar energy. The two effective processes considered to be very effective to tap solar energy are photovoltaics and solar thermal technology. Solar thermal technology has some relative advantages over all other non-renewable energy sources. It is cost competitive, environment friendly and easy to construct. Solar energy is 7 per cent more effective than coal or oil based plants and 10 per cent more effective than nuclear plants. It is generally used more in appliances like heaters, crop dryers, cookers, etc. The western part of India



has greater potential for the development of solar energy in Gujarat and Rajasthan.

Wind Energy

Wind energy is absolutely pollution free, inexhaustible source of energy. The mechanism of energy conversion from blowing wind is simple. The kinetic energy of wind, through turbines is converted into electrical energy. The permanent wind systems such the trade winds, westerlies and seasonal wind like monsoon have been used as source of energy. Besides these, local winds, land and sea breezes can also be used to produce electricity.

India, already has started generating wind energy. In Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Karnataka, favourable conditions for wind energy exist.

Tidal and Wave Energy

Ocean currents are the store-house of infinite energy. Since the beginning of seventeenth and eighteenth century, persistent efforts were made to create a more efficient energy system from the ceaseless tidal waves and ocean current.

Large tidal waves are known to occur along the west coast of India. Hence, India has great potential for the development of tidal energy along the coasts but so far these have not yet been utilised.

Geothermal Energy

When the magma from the interior of earth, comes out on the surface, tremendous heat is released. This heat energy can successfully be tapped and converted to electrical energy. Apart from this, the hot water that gushes out through the geyser wells is also used in the generation of thermal energy. It is popularly known as Geothermal energy. This energy is now considered to be one of the key energy sources which can be developed as an alternate source. The hot springs and geysers are being used since medieval period. In India, a geothermal energy plant has been commissioned at Manikaran in Himachal Pradesh.

The first successful (1890) attempt to tap the underground heat was made in the city of Boise, Idaho (U.S.A.), where a hot water pipe network was built to give heat to the surrounding buildings. This plant is still working.

Bio-energy

Bio-energy refers to energy derived from biological products which includes agricultural residues, municipal, industrial and other wastes. Bio-energy is a potential source of energy conversion. It can be converted into electrical energy, heat energy or gas for cooking. It will also process the waste and garbage and produce energy. This will improve economic life of rural areas in developing countries, reduce environmental pollution, enhance self-reliance and reduce pressure on fuel wood. One such project converting municipal waste into energy is Okhla in Delhi.

Conservation of Mineral Resources

The challenge of sustainable development requires integration of quest for economic development with environmental concerns. Traditional methods of resource use result into generating enormous quantity of waste as well as create other environmental problems. Hence, for sustainable development calls for the protection of resources for the future generations. There is an urgent need to conserve the resources. The alternative energy sources like solar power, wind, wave, geothermal energy are inexhaustible resource. These should be developed to replace the exhaustible resources. In case of metallic minerals, use of scrap metals will enable recycling of metals. Use of scrap is specially significant in metals like copper, lead and zinc in which India's reserves are meagre. Use of substitutes for scarce metals may also reduce their consumption. Export of strategic and scarce minerals must be reduced, so that the existing reserve may be used for a longer period.





EXERCISES

1. Choose the right answers of the following from the given options.
 - (i) In which one of the following States are the major oil fields located?
 - (a) Assam
 - (b) Bihar
 - (c) Rajasthan
 - (d) Tamil Nadu
 - (ii) At which one of the following places was the first atomic power station started?
 - (a) Kalpakkam
 - (b) Narora
 - (c) Rana Pratap Sagar
 - (d) Tarapur
 - (iii) Which one of the following minerals is known as brown diamond?
 - (a) Iron
 - (b) Lignite
 - (c) Manganese
 - (d) Mica
 - (iv) Which one of the following is non-renewable source of energy?
 - (a) Hydel
 - (b) Solar
 - (c) Thermal
 - (d) Wind power
2. Answer the following questions in about 30 words.
 - (i) Give an account of the distribution of mica in India.
 - (ii) What is nuclear power? Mention the important nuclear power stations in India.
 - (iii) Name non-ferrous metal. Discuss their spatial distribution.
 - (vi) What are non-conventional sources of energy?
3. Answer the following questions in about 150 words.
 - (i) Write a detailed note on the Petroleum resources of India.
 - (ii) Write an essay on hydel power in India.

