

National Mineral Policy 2019 - Formulated after Supreme Court Judgement

National Mineral Policy 2019, replaces the earlier National Mineral Policy 2008. The order for review and change of Mineral Policy came as a direction from Supreme Court judgement in the Common Cause versus Union of India case. In compliance with the Supreme Court Order, a committee was formed under the chairmanship of Dr K Rajeswara Rao.

National Mineral Policy 2019 - Major Objectives

1. Increase exploration activities with increased participation from the private sector.
2. Maximize the sectoral contribution to the Indian Economy.
3. Reduce Imports
4. Feed into Make in India initiative.

National Mineral Policy 2019 - Major Features

India's Mining sector has faced a multitude of problems due to illegal mining, unscientific mining, violation of environment laws and lack of investments in the sector.

Below table gives details on the major features of the National Mineral Policy 2019

Features	Details
Regulation of Minerals	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. In order to improve Ease of Doing Business, procedures for grant of mineral concessions will be made more transparent2. Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) and State Directorates of Mining & Geology will be strengthened and upgraded3. Emphasis on E-governance, satellite and remote sensing applications.
Role of States in Mineral Development	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. States have to come up with a road map for the development of the mineral sector.
Prospecting and Exploration	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Making use of state of the art technologies including 2D/3D interpenetrative systems.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Special emphasis will be given to exploration for energy-critical minerals, precious metals, strategic minerals and other minerals for which the country is mainly dependent on imports 3. Increase co-operation between Geological Survey of India and the Ministry of Earth Sciences to ensure maximum exploration and extraction in Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)
Database of Mineral Resources and Tenements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The resource inventory will be maintained as per globally accepted standards 2. Using IT for increased automation. 3. Increased collaboration between universities, research institutes
Mining and Mineral Development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mining technology will be upgraded to meet the demands of Make in India initiative 2. Mergers and Acquisitions of mining entities will be encouraged
Conservation and Mineral Development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promoting zero-waste mining
Mining machinery and Mineral Beneficiation Equipment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage domestic manufacture of mining machinery and mineral beneficiation equipment 2. Availability of equipment and machinery which increases productivity and safety of health of persons will be incentivized
Human Resource Development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Making sure that there is adequately trained manpower at all levels.
Infrastructure Development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dedicated mineral corridors shall be developed to transport mineral from mining areas 2. Use of coastal waterways and inland waterways
FDI	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Measures will be taken to attract foreign investments in the mining sector.

There were reduced employment opportunities due to mine closures and curbs in states like Karnataka, Goa, Odisha, Jharkhand. Moreover, there was a heavy trade deficit to the tune of Rs 3 Lakh crores in 2018, due to import of important commodities like coal, iron ore, manganese and gold. National Mineral Policy 2019 aims to solve the above problems of the Indian economy.

