

Chapter - 03

Minerals and Power Resources

- Minerals are naturally occurring substances that have a definite chemical composition.
- Minerals are formed in different types of geological environments, under varying conditions.
- Minerals can be identified on the basis of their physical properties such as colour, density, hardness and chemical property such as solubility.
- Minerals are distributed in rocks and sea bed also.
- Tropical regions are very rich in terms of mineral resources.

Types of Minerals:

- i. On the basis of composition, minerals are classified into metallic and non-metallic types.
- ii. Metallic, minerals contain metals in raw form.
- iii. Metals are hard substances that conduct heat and electricity and have lustre or shine. For example, iron ore and bauxite.
- iv. Metallic minerals are of two types: (a) Ferrous and (b) Non-ferrous.
- v. Ferrous minerals contain iron ore, manganese and chromites. Most of the Iron and steel industries and heavy industries depends on this mineral.
- vi. Non-ferrous minerals do not contain iron but may contain some other metals like gold, silver, copper or lead.
- vii. Non-metallic minerals do not contain metals. For example, limestone, mica, gypsum, coal and petroleum.
- viii. Mining, drilling and quarrying are the three extraction methods of minerals.
- ix. Mining is the process of taking out minerals from rocks buried under the earth's surface.
- x. The process of mining includes two methods: (a) Open cast mining, (b) Shaft mining
- xi. Deep wells are bored to take minerals out and this process is called drilling.
- xii. In the process of quarrying, minerals that lie near the surface are simply dug out.
- xiii. Mineral based industries are the backbone of industrial development of a nation.
- xiv. Mining needs cheap labour and resources to extract it off.

Distribution of Minerals:

- i. Minerals are found in igneous rock, metamorphic rocks and sedimentary rocks.
- ii. Iron ore, nickel, copper minerals are found in igneous and metamorphic rocks.
- iii. Limestone is found in sedimentary rocks.
- iv. Plateau region of India such as Daccan and chota nagpur plateau provides the rich level of mineral distribution.

Uses of Minerals:

- i. Some minerals which are usually hard are used as gems for making jewellery.
- ii. Copper is used in almost everything from coins to pipes.
- iii. Silicon is used in almost everything from coins to pipes.
- iv. Silicon is used in the computer industry which is obtained from quartz.
- v. Aluminium is used in automobile, airplanes, bottling industry, building and in kitchen cookware.
- vi. Mica is used to make electrical appliances and glass making industries.
- vii. Iron and steel is used in every indurstry.

Distribution of Minerals in India:

- i. Iron: Jharkhand, Odisha and Chattisgarh
- ii. Bauxite: Jharkhand, Odisha and Chattisgarh
- iii. Mica: India is the leading producer of mica in the world. Jharkhand, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh are major producing states.
- iv. Gold: Kolar in Karnataka

Conservation of Minerals:

- i. Minerals are the non-renewable resources.
- ii. It is necessary to reduce wastage in process of mining.
- iii. Recycling of metals is the way to conserve mineral resources.
- iv. over exploitation is harmful for environment as well.

· Power Resources:

- i. Power resources are of two types: (a) Conventional Resources, (b) Non-conventional

Resources

- ii. We need power resources for industry, domestic use, agriculture, transport, communication and defence.

Conventional Sources of Minerals:

- i. The energy resources which have been in common use for a long time are known as conventional sources.
- ii. Firewood and fossil fuels are two main conventional energy sources.
- iii. Fossil fuels comprises of Coal(known as buried sunshine), Petroleum (known as black gold), Natural Gas and Hydroelectricity.

Non-Conventional Sources of Minerals:

- i. Non-conventional sources of energy are renewable in nature.
- ii. Solar energy, wind energy, tidal energy, etc. are the examples of non-conventional sources of energy.
- iii. They are more expensive as it needs technological upgradation.
- iv. India has a great potential for Solar energy.