

Mineral and Non-Ferrous Metal Production on Growth Track in FY 2025-26

Robust Growth in Production of Key Minerals and Non-Ferrous Metals

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Production of some key minerals in the country continue to witness growth during FY 2025-26, after reaching record production levels in FY 2024-25. Iron ore accounts for 70% of the total MCDR mineral production by value. Production of iron ore was 289 million metric tonne (MMT) in FY 2024-25. As per provisional data, production of iron ore has increased from 52.7 MMT in FY 2024-25 (April- May) to 53.0 MMT in FY 2025-26 (April- May), showing a 0.6% growth.

Production of manganese ore has risen by 1.4% to 0.70 MMT in FY 2025-26 (April- May) from 0.69 MMT during the corresponding period of previous year. Production of bauxite has also risen by 0.9% to 4.73 MMT in FY 2025-26 (April- May) from 4.69 MMT in FY 2024-25. Production of Zinc Concentrate has risen by 3.7% to 0.28 MMT in FY 2025-26 (April-May) from 0.27 MMT in FY 2024-25 (April-May). Production of Limestone has risen by 1.6% to 81.40 MMT in FY 2025-26 (April-May) from 80.10 MMT in FY 2024-25 (April-May).

In terms of Index Industrial Production for mining and quarrying for the month of April 2025, minerals like Zinc Concentrate, Limestone and Bauxite had seen notable increase in production during April 2025 compared to April 2024. Production of zinc concentrate grew by 5.8% to 0.14 MMT and production of Limestone rose by 1.2% to 40.1 MMT in April 2025 over April 2024. Production of Bauxite rose by 13.6% to 2.13 MMT in April 2025 over April 2024.

In the non-ferrous metal sector, primary aluminium production in FY 2025-26 (April- May) posted a growth of 1.3% over the corresponding period last year, increasing to 7.07 lakh ton (LT) in FY 2025-26 (April- May) from 6.98 LT in FY 2024-25 (April- May). During the same period, refined copper production has grown by 43.5% from 0.69 LT to 0.99 LT.

India is the 2nd largest Aluminium producer, among top-10 producer in refined copper and 3rd largest iron ore producer in the world. Continued growth in production of iron ore in the current financial year reflects the robust demand conditions in the user industry viz. steel. Coupled with growth in aluminium and copper, these growth trends point towards continued strong economic activity in user sectors such as energy, infrastructure, construction, automotive and machinery.

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