

## Ministry of Mines Receives Silver Award for Excellence at IITF 2025

### Attracts Over One Lakh Visitors, Showcasing India's Mineral Wealth, Innovation and Technological Excellence

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The Ministry of Mines Pavilion awarded Silver Medal (Second Prize) for excellence in display under the Central Ministries & Government Departments Pavilion Category at IITF 2025. The award was presented by IITF officials to Smt. Farida M. Naik, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Mines, along with senior officials of the Ministry. Aligned with the IITF 2025 theme “*Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat,*” the pavilion attracted over one lakh visitors and offered an immersive showcase of India's mineral wealth, technological innovation, community empowerment, and sustainability initiatives, reflecting the nation's journey towards *Viksit Bharat @2047*.



Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) under the Ministry presented India's industrial and strategic capabilities in a compelling manner. NALCO showcased its leadership in aluminium production and its applications across clean energy, transport, and strategic sectors. Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL) displayed copper products, highlighted copper's importance across power, construction, railways, and electronics, while emphasizing its cultural contribution to the Ram Mandir, supplying around 70,000 pure copper strips and blocks for joining stones and strengthening the temple structure. MECL presented advanced exploration technologies, core samples, and instruments essential for discovering and mapping India's mineral resources.

The Geological Survey of India (GSI) captivated visitors with a comprehensive geological gallery featuring dinosaur and plant fossils, egg specimens, kimberlite samples, offshore marine nodules, lime mud, construction sand, stunning geodes, amethyst crystals, and an extensive collection of critical minerals vital for emerging technologies. This exhibit offered visitors an up-close view of India's natural heritage and its strategic mineral potential.

JNARDDC showcased sustainability through creative e-waste models, including an e-waste doll, elephant, and a metal scrap globe. Its RVM and plastic bottle crusher machines collected over 400 kg of plastic waste, encouraging eco-conscious practices among visitors. NIRM showcased rock testing capabilities and highlighted its role in certifying marble used in the Ram Mandir statue and structural components, demonstrating the importance of scientific validation in national heritage and infrastructure projects.

The core highlight of the pavilion was community empowerment. District Mineral Foundation (DMF)-supported Self-Help Groups (SHGs) from different states displaying bamboo crafts, handmade goods, and regional speciality products. Their collective sales exceeded ₹20 lakh, reflecting grassroots empowerment, rural entrepreneurship, and sustainable livelihoods across mining-affected regions.

Private sector leaders further enhanced the pavilion's impact. Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL)—the world's largest integrated zinc producer and among the top five global silver producers—showcased its role in strengthening India's critical mineral capabilities through an interactive, future-ready stall. The display highlighted HZL's evolution into a multi-metal company central to the global energy transition, featuring RFID-enabled experiences that demonstrated the importance of critical minerals such as tungsten, potash, halite, cadmium, germanium, and rare earth elements in sectors like defence, clean energy, electric vehicles, and manufacturing—driving India towards a Viksit Bharat. Visitors explored ore samples alongside diverse products including silver, SHG zinc, and Asia's first low-carbon green zinc, EcoZen, as well as immersive AR/VR tours of HZL's world-class mining and smelting operations. A dedicated social impact section displayed products made by local communities, including HZL's Sakhi Didis and Daichi Upaya handcrafted items, reflecting rural entrepreneurship, women-led microenterprises, and sustainable livelihoods.

Hindalco Industries Limited further added technological depth by displaying aluminium used in Chandrayaan-3, Vande Bharat trains, aerospace, and advanced engineering projects, demonstrating India's growing capability in lightweight, precision, and next-generation manufacturing.

The Ministry of Mines Pavilion successfully brought together technology, innovation, sustainability, cultural heritage, and community engagement, establishing a new benchmark for public interaction and sectoral showcasing at IITF 2025. Through its comprehensive displays, interactive experiences, and inclusive initiatives, the pavilion exemplified the spirit of *"Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat"* while demonstrating how India's mining ecosystem—through CPSEs, research institutions, private sector collaboration, and empowered communities—is driving the nation toward a self-reliant and future-ready India.



## A Proud Moment! Mines Pavilion Wins Silver Award at IITF 2025

The Ministry of Mines has been honored with the Silver Award for Excellence in Display under the Central Ministries & Government Departments Pavilion at IITF 2025, standing out among numerous participants.

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