

DETAILED PROFILE OF KEY MINERALS OF ANDHRA PRADESH

I. IRON ORE

Iron ores in the state are associated with the Dharwar, Cuddapah and Pakhal Supergroups. Some lateritic ores of limited extent also occur associated with Gondwanas and Deccan Traps. The iron ore deposits can be classified as (1) lode or vein deposits, (2) bedded deposits, (3) detrital ore deposits and (4) lateritic deposits. The resource position obtained from the unpublished reports of GSI, is given as under.

Anantapur District

High grade haematite ore occurs as lenses and pockets in the Dharwar Supergroup near Obalapuram, Siddapuram and Chalapuram in Rayadurg. A reserve of 1 Mt of ore with 60% Fe is expected in this area. This forms the southern extension of the Bellary iron ore deposits. A major part of the deposit is already mined out with a remaining resource of 108.6 Mt.

Chittoor District

Haematite ore associated with Dharwar banded haematite quartzite occurs near Sirasanambedu, Kovanur and Suramala in Srikalahasti. A reserve of 0.65 Mt of iron ore with 38.43% to 63% Fe was estimated.

Cuddapah District

Iron ore associated with ferruginous sediments of the Cuddapah Supergroup are found at Chabali, Pagadalapalle and Rajampet. Iron ore at Chabali analysed 54 to 65% Fe and that of Rajampet 58% to 60% Fe. A reserve of 20 Mt was estimated in these areas.

Guntur District

Low grade magnetite ore associated with banded ferruginous quartzite is available near Tummurukotai in Palnad area. A reserve of 85 Mt with 22.75% Fe was estimated.

Krishna District

Good quality iron ore analysing 62% to 65% Fe is reported from Dachupalem. About 1.3 Mt of iron ore is expected in this area.

Kurnool District

High-grade deposits of specular haematite occur along a major fault zone in the Cuddapah rocks, in Veldurthi-Ramalakota area. A total reserve of 3.7 Mt of ore with 50% to 60% Fe estimated in Veldurthi-Ramalakota area. Haematite is also known along minor zones parallel to the main fault zone.

Nellore District

Lenticular bodies of Dharwar haematite quartzite occur at Rasaupalem, 13 km from Nayudupeta. Apart from the 0.60 Mt of iron ore estimated in this area has been mined.

Prakasam District

Large deposits of low-grade iron ore, associated with haematite-magnetite quartzite, occur in Ongole and at Addanki. The Ongole, Konijedu and Sonampudi areas account for 292 Mt of ore

with 30% to 37% Fe. The Addanki Group consisting of Byrepalle, Errapalem, Tummavaram and Manikeswaram deposits contain a reserve of 4 Mt.