

1. WHY DOES CHHOTNAGPUR PLATEAU HAVE SO MANY MINERALS?

Chhotnagpur plateau or high land region in the eastern part of India is composed of Precambrian rocks of about 500 million years old. It situated mainly in Jharkhand as well as adjacent states of Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, and Odisha. It lies between Gangetic basin in the north and Mahanadi basin in the south. It is located on the northeastern tip of the mineral-rich Deccan plateau. It comprises Ranchi Plateau, Hazaribagh Plateau, Kodarma Plateau.

Due to typical geological situation and intertwined between river basins Chhotnagpur plateau is a highly mineral-rich region in India. The minerals found in Chhotnagpur Plateau are coal, iron-ore, copper, asbestos, bauxite, china clay, chromite, dolomite, limestone, feldspar, fire clay, keonite, manganese, mica, silica, steatite, vanadium steatite, uranium gold, antimony, etc. The plateau holds about 74% of total coal production, 40% of the total iron ore production of India. It contains the largest deposit of Mica in India. Termed as the store house of minerals, the Plateau is home to massive industrialisation and industrial cities like Jamsedpur, Bokaro, Sindhri, Ranchi etc. are located in this region.



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