

Activities of Directorate General Mines and Minerals, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Shakirullah and Noroz Khan

Directorate General Mines and Minerals, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

The province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) with an area of 74,521 km² is endowed with almost all varieties of mineral resources which can be categorized as: 1) dimensional stones, 2) gemstones, 3) industrial rocks and minerals, 4) metallic Minerals, 5) fuel minerals / coal and 6) ordinary stones. The Directorate General Mines and Minerals (DGMM) is responsible for the management of these mineral resources of the province. This also includes the exploration and development of these resources through implementation of ADP and PSDP funded schemes. So far, more than 12 developmental schemes / projects have been implemented while 10 other developmental projects are proposed to the provincial government. Apart from these activities, the DGMM is also managing grant of mining concessions (prospecting licenses, exploration licenses and mining leases) on various categories of minerals in the province. A cadastral system record is maintained for mineral production, royalty and excise duty. DGMM also perform welfare of mining community, safety of mine workers, enforcement of mining labor laws, conduct of competency examinations of mine supervisors and workers, collection of excise duty on minerals and training of mine workers. The DGMM owned a well equipped Mineral Testing Laboratory at Hayatabad, Peshawar which is playing a major role in facilitating the investment in mineral sector in chemical evaluation of the mineral commodities and also provide facilities for gemstone testing. In order to strengthen the Exploration Wing, a Resource Mapping section has recently been established in the DGMM where GIS/RS based digitized and geo-referenced geological and mineral resources maps of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province are being prepared and processed for the dissemination of information to the general public and national and international investors. In this respect the DGMM has very important role in up-grading the economy of the country.