

2017–2018 Minerals Yearbook

BHUTAN AND NEPAL

THE MINERAL INDUSTRIES OF BHUTAN AND NEPAL

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BHUTAN

In 2017 and 2018, the production of mineral commodities—notably cement, coal, dolomite, ferrosilicon, gypsum, iron ore, limestone, marble, quartzite, and talc—represented only a minor part of the economy of Bhutan (World Bank, The, 2018; National Statistics Bureau, 2019, p. 19–21). The legislative framework for the mineral sector in Bhutan is provided by the Mines and Minerals Management Act 1995, the Mines and Minerals Management Regulations 2002, and the Mineral Development Policy enacted in May 2017. Data on mineral production are in table 1. Table 2 is a list of major mineral industry facilities. More-extensive coverage of the mineral industry of Bhutan can be found in previous editions of the U.S. Geological Survey Minerals Yearbook, volume III, Area Reports—International—Asia and the Pacific, which are available at <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/nmic/asia-and-pacific>.

References Cited

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NEPAL

In 2017 and 2018, the production of mineral commodities—notably cement, clay, coal, gemstones, limestone, marble, quartzite, and talc—represented only a minor part of the economy of Nepal (Central Bureau of Statistics, 2018, p. 340, 480; 2019, p. 373). The legislative framework for the mineral sector in Nepal is provided by the Petroleum Act 2040 (1983), the Petroleum Regulation 2041 (1984), the Mines and Minerals Act 2042 (1985), the Mines and Minerals Regulation 2056 (1999) with amendment in 2016, and the National Mineral Policy in 2017. Data on mineral production are in table 1. Table 2 is a list of major mineral industry facilities. More-extensive coverage of the mineral industry of Nepal can be found in previous editions of the U.S. Geological Survey Minerals Yearbook, volume III, Area Reports—International—Asia and the Pacific, which are available at <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/nmic/asia-and-pacific>.

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- Central Bureau of Statistics, 2019, Statistical pocket book of Nepal 2018: Kathmandu, Nepal, Central Bureau of Statistics, May, 415 p. (Accessed January 14, 2020, at <https://cbs.gov.np/statistical-pocket-book-of-nepal-2018/>.)

TABLE 1
BHUTAN AND NEPAL: PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES¹

(Metric tons, gross weight, unless otherwise specified)

| Country and commodity ² | | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| BHUTAN | | | | | | |
| Cement, hydraulic | thousand metric tons | 690 | 791 | 940 | 895 | 941 |
| Clay, unspecified | | 10,209 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Coal, bituminous | | 121,891 | 85,164 | 117,783 | 161,527 | 186,824 |
| Ferroalloys, ferrosilicon ³ | | 79,485 | 104,406 | 106,234 ^r | 108,670 | 138,178 |
| Gypsum, mine | | 414,148 | 389,265 | 317,597 | 328,128 | 461,128 |
| Iron ore, mine: | | | | | | |
| Gross weight | | 18,997 | 43,202 | 28,065 | 32,974 | 37,843 |
| Fe content | | 11,800 | 26,800 | 17,400 | 20,400 | 23,500 |
| Stone, crushed: | | | | | | |
| Dolomite | | 2,040,691 | 2,662,310 | 2,367,659 | 2,536,693 | 2,821,166 |
| Granite | | 4,362 | 3,889 | -- | 26,364 | 6,080 |
| Limestone | | 1,122,825 | 850,431 | 1,257,101 | 1,235,162 | 1,334,038 |
| Marble | | 61,921 | 97,648 | 75,031 | 96,567 | 188,901 |
| Quartzite | | 83,907 | 79,819 | 92,770 | 175,501 | 145,714 |
| Other, unspecified | | 1,474,395 | 2,203,065 | 3,414,215 | 3,828,254 | 3,730,975 |
| Talc | | 12,601 | 5,807 | 2,261 | 1,293 | 2,042 |
| NEPAL | | | | | | |
| Cement, hydraulic | thousand metric tons | 3,100 | 3,910 ^r | 5,000 ^{r, e} | 6,000 ^e | 9,000 ^e |
| Clay, red clay ^{e, 4} | | 21,800 ^r | 11,200 ^r | 15,100 ^r | 18,800 | 18,800 |
| Coal, bituminous ⁴ | | 6,754 ^r | 2,900 ^e | 7,270 | 5,938 | 6,000 ^e |
| Gemstones: ⁴ | | | | | | |
| Kyanite | kilograms | 659 | 105 | 23 | 10 | 10 ^e |
| Quartz | do. | 249 | 1,044 | 521 | -- | -- ^e |
| Tourmaline | do. | 24 | 50 | -- | -- | -- ^e |
| Stone: ⁴ | | | | | | |
| Crushed: | | | | | | |
| Limestone | | 3,453,782 ^r | 4,703,056 | 4,893,587 | 4,621,363 | 6,930,000 ^e |
| Marble, chips | | 5,212 ^r | 14,787 ^r | 15,687 ^r | 5,561 | 5,500 ^e |
| Dimension, quartzite | | 86 | 673 | 714 | 1,052 | 1,000 ^e |
| Talc ⁴ | | 5,255 ^r | 1,860 | 3,003 | 4,873 | 4,900 ^e |

^eEstimated. ^rRevised. do. Ditto. -- Zero.

¹Table includes data available through January 8, 2020. All data are reported unless otherwise noted. Estimated data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

²In addition to the commodities listed, manganese alloys and steel products in Bhutan, and iron ore, lead, magnesite, steel products, and zinc in Nepal may have been produced, but available information was inadequate to make reliable estimates of output.

³Data based on exports.

⁴Production is based on fiscal year, which began on July 16 of the stated year and ended on July 15 of the following year.

TABLE 2
BHUTAN AND NEPAL: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRIES IN 2018

(Thousand metric tons unless otherwise specified)

| Country and commodity | Major operating companies and major equity owners | Location of main facilities | Annual capacity ^e |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| BHUTAN | | | |
| Cement | Dungsam Cement Corp. Ltd. (Druk Holding & Investments Ltd., 80%) | Nganglam, Pemagatshel District | 1,300 |
| Do. | Lhaki Cement Pvt. Ltd. | Gomtu, Samtse District | 198 |
| Do. | Penden Cement Authority Ltd. (Druk Holding & Investments Ltd., 40.3%; His Majesty's Kidu Fund & Sunchob Fund, 11.0%; others, 48.7%) | do. | 850 |
| Do. | Yangzom Cement Industry (Pvt.) Ltd. | Tashicholing, Samtse District | 33 |
| Coal | SD Eastern Bhutan Coal Co. (Goob Sonam Drukpa and family, 70%, and public, 30%) | Eastern Bhutan coalfields, Samdrupjongkhar District | 120 |
| Do. | State Mining Corp. Ltd. (SMCL) (Druk Holding & Investments Ltd., 100%) | Habrang Mine, Samdrupjongkhar town, Dzongkhag District | 30 |
| Do. | do. | Tshophangma Mine, Bhangtar District | NA |
| Ferroalloys, ferrosilicon | Bhutan Ferro Alloys Ltd. (Government of Bhutan, Marubeni Corp., and Tashi Commercial Corp.) | Phuentsholing, Chukha District | 34 |
| Do. | Druk Ferro Alloys Ltd. | Phuentsholing, Chukha District | 13 |
| Do. | SD Eastern Bhutan Ferro Silicon Pvt. Ltd. | Motanga Industrial Estate, Dewathang, Samdrup Jongkhar District | NA |
| Gypsum | Druk Satair Corp. Ltd. | Khothakpa Mine, Pemagatshel District | 400 |
| Steel: | | | |
| Raw steel | Druk Metallurgy Ltd. (Druk Holding & Investments Ltd. and Mr. Dilip Kumar Goenka) | Billet plant, Motanga Industrial Park, Samdrup Jongkhar District | 200 |
| Products | do. | Bar plant, Motanga Industrial Park, Samdrup Jongkhar District | 200 |
| Do. | Lhaki Steels & Rolling Pvt. Ltd. | Phuentsholing, Chukha District | 120 |
| Stone: | | | |
| Dolomite | Jigme Industries Pvt. Ltd. (Jigme Mining Corp. Ltd. of the Lhaki Group) | Chunaikhola Mine, Samtse District | 2,000 |
| Limestone | Bhutan Coal Co. Ltd. | Haurikhola Mine, Samtse District | NA |
| Do. | Dungsam Cement Corp. Ltd. (Druk Holding & Investments Ltd., 100%) | Kangrezi Mine and Marung Ri Mine, Pemagatshel District | NA |
| Do. | Penden Cement Authority Ltd. | Penden Mine and Uttare Mine, Samtse District | NA |
| Quartzite | Bhutan Ferro Alloys Ltd. (Government of Bhutan, Marubeni Corp., and Tashi Commercial Corp.) | Pakchina Mine, Chukha District, and Tintale Mine, Samtse District | 71 |
| Do. | Druk Mining Pvt. Ltd. | 30 kilometers from Phuentsholing, Chukha District | NA |
| Other | Natural Resources Development Corp. Ltd. | Homdhar quarry, Zhemgang District | NA |
| Do. | do | Ngangsing quarry, Pemagatshel District | NA |
| Do. | do. | Tsangkhara quarry, Monggar District | NA |
| NEPAL | | | |
| Cement | Agni Cement Industries Pvt. Ltd. | Gurwaniya, Rupandehi District | 100 |
| Do. | Araniko Abukhaireni Cement Industries Pvt. Ltd. (Advance Group) | Abukhaireni plant, Tanahun District | 330 |
| Do. | Araniko Cement Industries Pvt. Ltd. (Advance Group) | Jitpur factory, Bara District | 330 |
| Do. | Arghakhanchi Cement Pvt. Ltd. | Birpur, Kapilvastu District, and Mainahiya, Rupandehi District | 330 |
| Do. | Cosmos Cement Industries Pvt. Ltd. | Janakpur, Dhanusha District | 132 |
| Do. | Chaudhary Group Cement Industries Pvt. Ltd. | Dumkibas, Nawalparasi District | 1,320 |
| Do. | Dang Cement Industries Pvt. Ltd. (Ambuja Cement Ltd., 91.6%, and others, 8.4%) | Purandhara, Dang Deokhuri District | 396 |
| Do. | Ghorahi Cement Industry Pvt. Ltd. | Laxmipur, Dang Deokhuri District | 248 |

See footnotes at end of table

TABLE 2—Continued
BHUTAN AND NEPAL: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRIES IN 2018

(Thousand metric tons unless otherwise specified)

| Country and commodity | Major operating companies and major equity owners | Location of main facilities | Annual capacity ^e |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| NEPAL—Continued | | | |
| Cement—Continued | Hetauda Cement Industries Ltd. | Hetauda, Makawanpur District | 260 |
| Do. | Hongshi Shivam Cement Pvt. Ltd. [Hong Kong Red Lion Cement No. 3 (Hongshi group), 70%, and Shivam Holding, 30%] | Dumkibass plant, Sardi, Nawalparasi District | 1,980 |
| Do. | Jagdamba Cement Industries Pvt. Ltd. (Saurabh Group) | Bhairahawa, Rupandehi District and Birgunj, Parsa District | 594 |
| Do. | Kepy Cement Industry Pvt. Ltd. | Naubise, Dhading District | 54 |
| Do. | Manasa Cement Industry | Chandragadhi, Jhapa District | 33 |
| Do. | Maruti Cement Ltd. | Chandraudaipur, Siraha District | 158 |
| Do. | Rolpa Cement Pvt. Ltd. (Advance Group) | Budhagaon, Rolpa District | 330 |
| Do. | Sarbotam Cement Pvt. Ltd. (Saurabh Group) | Sunwal, Nawalparasi District | 396 |
| Do. | Shivam Cement Public Ltd. Co. | Hetauda, Makawanpur District | 990 |
| Do. | Shubhashree Jagdamba Cement Mill Pvt. Ltd. (Saurabh Group) | Birgunj, Parsa District | 495 |
| Do. | Sonapur Minerals & Oil Pvt. Ltd. | Bijauri, Dang Deokhuri District | 413 |
| Do. | Udayapur Cement Industry Ltd. | Jaljale, Udayapur District | 264 |
| Lead and zinc, mine | Black Head Mines Nepal Pvt. Ltd. | Ranishikhar Village Development Committee, Darchula District | NA |
| Do. | Nepal Metal Co. Ltd. (Ministry of Industry, 71%, and Khetan Group, 13%) | Ganesh Himal, Dhading District | NA |
| Do. | Torex Mines Nepal Pvt. Ltd. | Dhap of Api Municipality, Darchula District | NA |
| Magnesite | metric tons Nepal Orind Magnesite Ltd. (Government, 75%; Khetan Group, 12.5%; Orissa Industries Ltd., 12.5%) | Lakuridada, Dolakha District | 30 ¹ |
| Steel, products | Hulas Steel Industries Ltd. (RH Golchha and Comcraft Asia Pacific Pte. Ltd.) | Simra, Bara District | NA |
| Do. | Hama Iron and Steel Industries Pvt. Ltd. (Hamasteel) | Simara, Bara District | NA |
| Do. | Laxmi Steels Pvt. Ltd. | Sunwal, Nawalparasi District | 120 |
| Stone, marble | Godavari Marble Industries Ltd. (MC Group) | Godawari, Latitpur District | 8 |

^eEstimated. Do., do. Ditto. NA Not available.

¹Inactive facility since 2015.