

Call for Papers
National Conference on the theme
***Digging Deeper: Rethinking India's Mining
Economy***

A Conference on Mining in India covering Governance, People,
Industry & Sustainability

Organised by the Centre for Public Policy & Governance, Goa Institute of
Management, In Hybrid Mode – Via Zoom and on Campus at GIM, Sanquelim,
Goa, India

On 24th and 25th July 2025

The [Centre for Public Policy & Governance, Goa Institute of Management \(GIM\)](#), invites scholars to submit and present research papers at the conference. Interested scholars /researchers /academics, faculty members and others may kindly participate. Email **an extended 1000-words abstract and brief CV to the Centre, by June 15, 2025.**

In the subject line kindly write “CPPG-GIM / Mining Conference 2025 / Your Name / Title of Paper”. **Kindly email your extended abstracts and brief CV to chaircppg@gim.ac.in or bernice@gim.ac.in.**

The Conference will be held in hybrid mode, via Zoom and at our campus in [Sanquelim, Goa](#).

The title of the Conference: ***Digging Deeper: Rethinking India's Mining Economy.***

Sub-themes/issues covered are:

- i. Political economy of Mining
- ii. Regulation, contractual, auction and privatization formats
- iii. The environment, people, law and mining
- iv. Mining in Goa

The Issue

India's National Mineral Policy 2019 declares: *"There is a need to understand that natural resources, including minerals, are a shared inheritance where the state is the trustee on behalf of the people to ensure that future generations receive the benefit of inheritance. State Governments will endeavour to ensure that the full value of the extracted minerals is received by the State."* How should we manage this shared inheritance?

Introduction

Mining in India has been problematic. The deep-seated nature of the issues was revealed in the high growth periods (2003-2014), during which the demand for mineral resources increased by leaps and bounds. User industries and mining companies complained about the under exploitation of resources in India, due to a variety of restrictions including environmental restrictions and the mobilisation against mining by people in and around mines. Environmentalists, concerned citizens, and people affected by mining point to the adverse effects, which sometimes even result in the violation of human rights & environmental norms. Mining in general is problematic because the negative externalities tend to be high unless there is functional and effective regulation. Very few countries have witnessed what we may call responsible mining. As mining generates rents for the state, the nature of the state (its fairness and capability) becomes the key determinant in the ultimate distribution of the rents among various classes and groups of people. Scholars have ample evidence to show that extractive oriented economies in many countries have not been able to avoid the embedding of a certain politics that is driven by the distribution of the rents, and the social costs incurred in mining. "Corruption" in such societies is widespread. Also, there could be a "Dutch disease" effect of such mining, especially when the resource is large and significant (petroleum in Nigeria, copper in Congo). Yet, mining is important, since we can hardly, at least for the world as a whole, envisage growth without mining, even with increasing reuse and recycling of materials.

"Minor" minerals such as stone, marble, sand, laterite are controlled by the state governments, whereas other minerals like natural gas & hydrocarbons, coal, atomic minerals, iron ore, bauxite are regulated by the Central Government. Offshore minerals are entirely in the domain of the Central Government. The approaches to regulation vary and have seen major changes with the entry of the private sector in the mining of coal and auctions for major minerals. The need for functional regulation and auction/bidding modes, monitoring, valuation, cannot be overstated. Incentive compatible contracts that minimise the externalities and maximise the value of mining to society, while making mining an attractive sector for business are important. At the state level, over extraction, misreporting grade of ore, and mis-invoicing and/or misspecification of the reference prices are rampant despite significant improvement in the contract forms at the central levels. Mining can also generate regional and national monopolies which would need recognition in the regulation and auction formats.

Mining in India seems to have generated relatively larger negative externalities. And locals, many of whom are tribals and the most vulnerable, bear the brunt of these externalities. Human Rights Watch has said that "mining is out of control" and called for better regulation and management of mining. The reasons for the same seem to be deep-rooted. Accident rates in mining are among the highest in the world.

Conservation of critical minerals is an aspect that is being recognised by the government. Great global asymmetries in the resources of such materials as lithium, copper, rare earths, potassium, phosphorus, makes the trade in such minerals/materials and in petroleum and natural gas subject to strategic intervention so that the global markets tend to be thin. Much of the exchange is not arm's length. Long term contracts, and cross-border ownership and government restrictions are rampant.

Climate change challenges imply the need to not only reduce our dependence on fossil fuels but also to reduce the energy consumption, and emissions in the mining process itself.

Four themes in six sessions over two days would be taken up in the Conference. Each theme would start with a keynote presentation by experts and luminaries in the field followed by presentations of papers. A conference publication would be brought out in the form a book. The authors would have the freedom to publish the same or more analytical versions of the same in peer-reviewed journals as well.

Sub-themes

A. Political economy of mining

Mining economics, imports of mineral products, rents generated, basis for over extraction when observed, court judgements, externalities in mining. The public and private sector in mining. Experience/trends in mining in sectors, at the central and state levels. Mining receipts in the budgets of state and central governments. Illegal/ Rat-hole mining of coal and other minerals. Transportation of minerals and issues therein. Mafias in mining. Intergenerational equity, property rights and liability rules in mining. Resource curse. Dutch Disease. Sovereign Wealth Funds & Dividends.

B. Regulation, contractual, auction and privatization formats

Industry structure and competition. Recent changes, first-come, first-served approaches to mining using the private sector, public sector efficiencies in mining, court injunctions, mining policies, sectoral policies, performance of recent auctions, royalty / auction premium arrangements. Zero Loss and optimal fiscal policy (royalty etc). Auction formats, pricing formats. Legal issues in mining. Supply chain monitoring. Integrity Due Diligence. Transparency and accountability. Working of OI DF, NMET and other mineral development funds. Mining economics, risks, and risk mitigation. Comparative studies. Case studies, investments and FDI in mining, trade and minerals, role of corporates, PSUs and MNCs, models of partnership.

C. The environment, people, law and mining

Experiences of people with mining. Negotiated approaches. Environmental regulation in mining. Climate change challenges. Efficacy. Improved formats. People's movements. Impact assessment. Mitigation methods. Case studies. Working conditions in mining. Technology of mining. Safety and workplace pollution. Wages in mining. Workers in mining. Migrant labour in mining. NGOs in mining. Ethics and Human Rights in Mining. The role of local governments in mining regulations. The framework for law, lease and acquisition in mining. Women in mining. Children in mining.

People & all future generations. Mining affected areas. Rehabilitation and land recovery. Working of DMFs, OMBADC, KMERC and other mining impact funds.

D. Mining in Goa (in collaboration with the [Goa Foundation](#))

All issues related to mining in Goa. Case studies. Resource curse. Corruption and governance. Iron ore, sand, stone, laterite, etc., including law, litigation, monopolisation, state receipts, environmental and pollution, transportation, regulation, framework, etc. Social impacts, constraints, land and people. Goa Iron Ore Permanent Fund. DMFs.

Brief Structure of the Conference

There will be six sub-sessions spread across four key sub-themes. Sub-themes three and four will have two technical sessions each, the other sub-themes will have one technical session. Four papers will be presented at each technical session with one keynote address. In addition, there will be Inaugural and Valedictory Sessions with Keynote addresses. Altogether, there will be 8 keynote addresses, and 24 Papers. One panel discussion is also planned on the second day.

For further details, you may kindly write to:

- i. [Prof. Kingshuk Sarkar \(kingshuk@gim.ac.in\)](mailto:kingshuk@gim.ac.in)
- ii. [Prof. Sebastian Morris \(morris@gim.ac.in\)](mailto:morris@gim.ac.in)
- iii. Ms. Bernice de Souza (bernice@gim.ac.in)
- iv. Ms. Nandini Tank (nandini.tank@gim.ac.in)

The Centre for Public Policy and Governance

The Centre for Public Policy and Governance (CPPG) is one of the new initiatives of the Goa Institute of Management (GIM) and has the objective of generating and leading intellectual capital and experience to inform public policy making and governance in India and in emerging economies. The Centre attempts to explore and understand the links between the fields of management, administration, and public policy. Its philosophy is predicated on the belief that effective public policy is always deeply contextualized. The Centre aims to serve as a platform to enable discussion and analysis of public policies and their implementation.

Goa Institute of Management

The Goa Institute of Management is a leading business school focused on transforming and improving management education with the aim to prepare students to be responsive and responsible leaders, making a difference in society. It was rated among the '*Best B-Schools for the World*' in the [Positive Impact Rating 2023](#). The Institute offers four two-year full-time PGDM programmes, including PGDM, PGDM-Healthcare Management, PGDM-Big Data Analytics, and PGDM-Banking, Insurance, and Financial Services. Besides the CPPG, it has the [Centre for Social Sensitivity and Action \(CSSA\)](#), [Centre for Excellence in Sustainable Development \(CESD\)](#), [Centre of Excellence in Research \(CER\)](#), and the [Centre for Creativity, Innovation and Design Thinking \(CCIDT\)](#). It also offers the Fellow Program in Management and a hybrid program for working executives.

The Institute has a 50-acre scenic campus in Poriem, North Goa with opportunities for outdoor learning, creativity through theatre, sports, and simulation games.

Location of the Conference: Goa Institute of Management, Near Ravindra Bhavan, Sanquelim, Poriem, Goa 403505, India

<https://goo.gl/maps/YUuH9kV6GcMaHS9r7>