

## 2. MINING MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT

### Description

Mining Machinery and Equipments are a generic term covering all equipments used in activities such as road & subway construction and irrigation projects, besides mining *per se*. The specifications and sizes, however, vary according to the needs of the end-users and determine the category of equipment.

The Indian mining machinery industry caters to the needs of coal as well as other non-fuel minerals mining, both opencast and underground. Some industrial analysts say that non-coal underground mines being very small in number, (copper, zinc, gold, manganese etc.), there is a general shortage of equipment for these. The mining methods and technologies obtained in India have largely influenced the manufacturers. Hence, equipment requirements of large-sized mines are generally met by imports.

Indian capacities for manufacturing heavy machinery are limited. Major assemblies and sub-assemblies are, even today, imported. It should be noted though, that geotechnical, geomining and environmental working conditions in India are significantly different from those countries where these equipments were developed for their use. Thus, equipments designed abroad may not bear straight application here. This fact calls for a careful modification through indigenisation of equipments, or at least, design modifications, to suit Indian working conditions.

### Market Size

The present annual market for mining machinery and equipment and their parts is in the neighbourhood of Rs. 21 billion, with domestic production accounting for about 80 per cent, and the balance being met by imports.

Table 1  
Estimated Market Size\* in 1992-93

Source	Rs. (billion)	% Share
Domestic Supplies	16.88	82.18
Imports	3.66	17.82
Total	20.54	100

\*Mining machinery/equipment industry is one of the poorly documented sector and hence suffers statistical disabilities.