

The large majority of Indian mineral production is consumed domestically. As recently as 1992/93, only four commodities made up over 90 per cent of the value of mineral exports (see Table 3). These are alumina, iron ore (largely to Japan and South Korea), diamonds (most of which are imported, cut and re-exported), and a growing trade in quality granite, limestone and related industrial minerals.

India is a net importer of minerals and metals. As Table 4 indicates, imports are required to meet domestic demand for most of the major base metals, coking coal, asbestos, rock phosphates, potash, and sulphur.

Minerals and metals represented 22.5 per cent of total merchandise exports and 18.8 per cent of total imports during 1992/93. As such, mining features importantly in the formulation of Indian trade policy

**Table 2**  
**MINERAL PRODUCTION IN CANADA AND INDIA 1993-94**

Commodity (unit) Volume	Canada		India	
	Value (C\$000)	Volume	Value <sup>1</sup> (C\$000)	
Coal (MT)	1,783,000	68.6	4,058,767	245.4
Iron Ore (MT)	1,036,587	31.7	338,082	56.4
Gold (kg.)	2,258,007	152,578	37,353	1,938
Diamonds (cts.)	nil	nil	3,959	19,607
Bauxite (Th. T)	nil	nil	32,207	5028.5
Copper (t)	1,759,675	698,799	91,263	52,243
Nickel (t)	1,215,994	180,673	nil	nil
Lead(t)	96,215	181,000	19,409	61,426
Zinc conc. (t)	1,228,826	998,234	71,383	325,022
Manganese (Th.T)	nil	nil	66,398	1781.1
Chromite (Th.T)	nil	nil	90,201	1094.1
Potash (MT)	901,539	6.85	nil	nil
Asbestos (t)	215,076	509,000	879	46,961
Total Value <sup>2</sup>	14,865,621		5,966,359	

Sources: Indian Bureau of Mines, Indian Minerals Yearbook  
Natural Resources Canada, Canadian Minerals Yearbook

Notes:

1. Values are calculated as pit head values
2. Non-fuel minerals plus coal and lignite