

MINERAL RESOURCES AND MINING

Exceptional Diamond Discovered in Yakutsk Kimberlites

At an enriching plant situated near the Arctic Circle, a diamond so big that it could barely be measured was extracted from kimberlite ore.

The crystal weighs 76.5 carats (one carat = .2 grams). According to specialists, after it is cut it will be a most exceptional diamond. It is customary to give such giants a name of their own. This one has been named "Kosa Sokolinaya" (Sokolin's Sand Bar), in honour of the 40th anniversary of the day Yakutsk geologists first began their search for superhard minerals. Forty years ago they discovered their first diamond on a sand bar of the high Vilyuy River and they named the diamond field they had discovered "Sokolin's". Since the industrial exploitation of the Yakutsk kimberlite deposits began, the biggest collection in the world of these crystals has accumulated in the autonomous republic. The total weight of the collection surpasses 2.5 thousand carats.

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Effects of Coalminers Strike

Vorkuta

The work of the Vorkuta mines and their neighbouring enterprises is regaining its usual