



2013 Minerals Yearbook

BANGLADESH

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF BANGLADESH

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In 2013, the mineral industry of Bangladesh produced mainly cement, coal, natural gas, salt, and stone. The country lacks reserves of metallic minerals but is prospective for natural gas. According to the Central Bank of Bangladesh, in fiscal year 2013 (July 2013 to June 2014), mining and quarrying accounted for about 1.6% of the country's gross domestic product (GDP), and the construction sector accounted for about 6.9% of the country's GDP. Total foreign trade increased by about 5% to \$60.1 billion from \$57.3 billion (revised) in 2012. The country's total exports were valued at about \$26.6 billion compared with \$24 billion (revised) in 2012, which was an increase of 10.8%; the total value of imports in 2013 increased by less than 1% to \$33.6 billion from \$33.3 billion (revised) in 2012. Imports of iron, steel, and other base metals (unspecified) were valued at \$2.3 billion, which was an increase of 5% compared with the value in 2012. Imports of crude petroleum were valued at \$1.1 billion, which was an increase of 11.7% compared with the value in 2012 (Central Bank of Bangladesh, 2014, tables I.1, I.3, IV.3).

The Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Mineral Corp. (Petrobangla) is the Government entity that is responsible for the exploration for, production of, and transmission and distribution of natural gas and oil in Bangladesh. In recent years, Petrobangla continued its campaign for the discovery of new gasfields to increase the country's natural gas reserves by performing exploratory drillings and conducting seismic surveys. Petrobangla is also in charge of the development of industrial mineral and coal deposits that are determined to be economically feasible. Oversight of mineral exploration projects is the responsibility of the Geological Survey of Bangladesh (Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Mineral Corp., 2013, p. 6, 17).

Production

In 2013, Bangladesh produced mineral fuels, mineral products, and small amounts of industrial minerals. Production of bituminous

coal increased by about 42% to 1.2 million metric tons (Mt) from 854,805 metric tons (revised) in 2012; modest increases were reported for the production of natural gas (1.7%) and salt (1.5%). Data on mineral production are in table 1.

Structure of the Mineral Industry

The major public gas-producing companies, both of which were under Petrobangla, were Bangladesh Gas Fields Co. Ltd. (BGFCL) and Sylhet Gas Fields Ltd. (SGFL). In addition to exploring for, producing, and distributing oil and gas, Petrobangla also explored for and produced coal and granite through its subsidiaries Barapukuria Coal Mining Co. Ltd. (BCMCL) and Maddhapara Granite Mining Company Ltd., respectively. Eastern Refinery Ltd. (ERL), which was a subsidiary of Bangladesh Petroleum Corp. (BPC), was Bangladesh's sole petroleum refining company. The refinery, which was located in Chittagong, produced petroleum products from imported crude oil (Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Mineral Corp., 2013, p. 28–29). Table 2 is a list of major mineral industry facilities.

More-extensive coverage of the mineral industry of Bangladesh can be found in the 2012 U.S. Geological Survey Minerals Yearbook, volume III, Area reports—International—Asia and the Pacific, which is available at <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/pubs/country/asia.html#bg>.

References Cited

- Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Mineral Corp., 2013, Annual report 2013: Dhaka, Bangladesh, Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Mineral Corp., 56 p. (Accessed December 9, 2014, at [http://www.petrobangla.org.bd/Annual report 2013_low res.pdf](http://www.petrobangla.org.bd/Annual%20report%202013_low%20res.pdf).)
- Central Bank of Bangladesh, 2014, Bangladesh Bank quarterly—April-June 2014: Dhaka, Bangladesh, Central Bank of Bangladesh, II, no. 4, 23 p. [tables only]. (Accessed February 5, 2015, <http://www.bangladesh-bank.org/pub/quarterly/bbquarterly/apr-jun2014/bbquarterly.php#>.)

TABLE 1
 BANGLADESH: ESTIMATED PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES^{1,2}

(Metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity ³	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Cement, hydraulic ⁴ thousand metric tons	12,000 ^r	13,770 ^{r,5}	14,690 ^{r,5}	15,000 ^r	15,000
Clays, kaolin ⁴	8,500	8,500	--	--	--
Coal, bituminous ^{4,5}	730,866	666,635 ^r	861,072 ^r	854,805 ^r	1,217,537
Gas, natural, marketed ^{4,5,6} million cubic meters	19,919	20,312	20,951	22,670 ^r	23,055
Iron and steel, metal, steel products ⁴	60,000	60,000	--	--	--
Nitrogen, N content of urea, ammonia, ammonium sulfate	1,300,000	1,300,000	--	--	--
Petroleum:					
Crude thousand 42-gallon barrels	1,800	1,800	--	--	--
Refinery products do.	9,500	9,500	NA	NA	NA
Salt, marine ^{4,5}	1,388,557	1,409,239	1,430,329 ^r	1,438,805 ^r	1,460,357
Stone:					
Boulder thousand cubic meters	NA	5,521 ⁵	5,575 ⁵	5,580 ⁵	5,569 ⁵
Granite, crushed	290,187 ⁵	300,000	360,071 ⁵	281,402 ^{r,5}	300,000

^rRevised. do. Ditto. NA Not available. -- Zero

¹Estimated data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

²Table includes data available through February 5, 2015.

³In addition to the commodities listed, construction materials, such as limestone, sand and gravel, and other varieties of stone, are known to have been produced, but available information is inadequate to make reliable estimates of output.

⁴Data are for the fiscal year ending on June 30 of the following year.

⁵Reported figure.

⁶Gross production is not reported; the quantity vented, flared, or reinjected is thought to be negligible.

TABLE 2
BANGLADESH: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN 2013

(Thousand metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity	Major operating companies and major equity owners	Location of main facilities	Annual capacity ^c	
Cement	Chhatak Cement Company Ltd. (Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corp.)	Shunamgnj, Chhatak	190.	
Do.	Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Mineral Corp. (Petrobangla)	Chittagong	1,000.	
Do.	do.	Sylhet	1,100.	
Do.	Cemex Cement Bangladesh Ltd.	Mahmudnagar	600.	
Do.	HeidelbergCement Bangladesh Ltd.	Chittagong and Narayangonj (near Dhaka)	2,000.	
Do.	Holcim (Bangladesh) Ltd.	Bagerhat and Narayanganj	1,300.	
Do.	Lafarge Surma Cement Ltd. (Lafarge Group and Cementos Molins S.A.)	Chhatak, Sunamganj	1,500 (1,150 clinker).	
Do.	Meghna Cement Mills Ltd. (an enterprise of the Bashundhara Group of Bangladesh)	Mongla Port Industrial Zone and Pashur River Bank facility	1,000.	
Do.	Premier Cement Mills Ltd.	West Mukterpur in Munshigonj	2,400.	
Do.	Shah Cement Industries Ltd.	Dhaka	1,860.	
Do.	Unique Cement Industries Ltd.	Chittagong, Dhaka, and Sylhet	1,440.	
Do.	Various	18 additional facilities	5,240.	
Coal	Barapukuria Coal Mining Co. Ltd. (BCMCL) [Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Mineral Corp. (Petrobangla), 100%]	Barapukuria	1,000.	
Fertilizer	Di-Ammonium Phosphate Fertilizer Co. Ltd. (Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corp.)	Anowara, Chittagong	528.	
Do.	Jamuna Fertilizer Co. Ltd. (Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corp.)	Tarakandi, Jamalpur	561.	
Do.	Natural Gas Fertilizer Factory Ltd. (Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corp.)	Fenchugonj, Sylhet	106.	
Do.	Polash Urea Fertilizer Ltd. (Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corp.)	Palash, Narsingdi	95.	
Do.	Triple Super Phosphate Complex Ltd. (Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corp.)	North Potenga, Chittagong	100.	
Do.	Urea Fertilizer Factory Ltd. (Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corp.)	Ghorashal, Narsindi	470.	
Gas, natural	million cubic meters per day	Bangladesh Gas Fields Co. Ltd. (BGFCL) [Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Mineral Corp. (Petrobangla), 100%]	Bakhrabad, Habiganj, Kamta, Meghna, Narsingdi, and Titas	22.
Do.	do.	Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration and Production Co. Ltd. (BAPEX) [Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Mineral Corp. (Petrobangla), 100%]	Fenchuganj and Saldanadi	2.
Do.	do.	Chevron Corp.	Bibiyana gasfield (Block 12)	22.7.
Do.	do.	do.	Jalalabad gasfield (Block 13)	6.5.
Do.	do.	do.	Maulavi Bazar gasfield (Block 14)	1.7.
Do.	do.	Niko Resources Ltd.	Bibiyana and Feni	6.
Do.	do.	Sylhet Gas Fields Ltd. (SGFL) [Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Mineral Corp. (Petrobangla), 100%]	Beanibazar, Haripur, Kailashtila, and Rashidpur	5.
Do.	do.	KrisEnergy Ltd., 30%	Bangora gasfield (Block 9)	3.4.
Do.	do.	PTT Exploration & Production Public Co. Ltd.	Block 17 and Block 18	NA
Petroleum, refined	42-gallon barrels per day	Eastern Refinery Ltd. (Bangladesh Petroleum Corp.)	Chittagong	34,000.
Steel, crude		Bangladesh Steel and Engineering Corp.	do.	20.
Stone, crushed, granite		Maddhapara Granite Mining Co. Ltd. [Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Mineral Corp. (Petrobangla)]	Maddhapara, District of Dinajpur	1,650 (hard rock).

^cEstimated; estimated data are rounded to no more than three significant digits. Do., do. Ditto. NA Not available.