



National Conference

on

Industrial Minerals and Ceramics: Downstream Industries & Investment Opportunities



Venue: Auditorium, Bikaner Technical University (BTU), Bikaner, Rajasthan

Dates: 8-9 November 2025

Organised by:

Bikaner Technical University (BTU), Bikaner

Mining Engineers' Association of India (MEAI), Rajasthan Chapter, Jodhpur

In Association of



Bikaner District Mine Owner's Association

About the Conference

India is endowed with vast deposits of industrial minerals which are used in the industries and are mined for their commercial value which are non-metallic minerals or rocks valued for their physical properties (not as a source of metal or fuel). The industrial rocks and minerals are limestone, clays, sand, gravel, diatomite, kaolin, bentonite, silica, barite, gypsum, and talc. Some examples of applications for industrial minerals are construction, ceramics, paints, electronics, glass, filtration, plastics, detergents and paper etc. The ceramic raw materials such as clays, feldspar, quartz, gypsum, kaolin, bentonite, and fuller's earth & these minerals are essential for traditional industries (tiles, sanitary ware, refractories, glass, cement) as well as advanced applications (aerospace, energy, biomedical, electronics).



China and India are major global producers of industrial minerals and ceramic products, with China leading in overall mineral production and China and India being the largest ceramic tile manufacturers. Indeed. In the USA during 2024, industrial minerals again accounted for the majority share of total mine production by value, at US\$72.1bn, or 54%, followed by metals, 25%, and coal, 21%. But right now, "industry resilience" seems to be the rallying call, with industrial mineral producers and traders facing straitened times from market slowdowns, environmental regulations, decarbonisation and other sustainability issues, pressure to diversify and near-shore mineral sourcing, and, yes, geopolitics.

In India, Rajasthan is known for mining ceramic raw materials like ball clay and feldspar, and Orissa, rich in minerals like bauxite. Morbi (Gujarat), known as the "Ceramics Capital of India" due to its concentration of ceramic tile manufacturers.

Rajasthan holds a premier position in this sector. Beyond Bikaner's rich clay and gypsum resources for long decayed, districts such as **Nagaur, Ajmer, Bhilwara, Pali, Udaipur, Rajsamand, Chittorgarh, Tonk, Jaipur** are equally significant for their deposits of ceramic minerals. Western Rajasthan has good potential of Industrial Growth by exploring and exploiting industrial minerals. This geological wealth provides the foundation for establishing **downstream industries** in ceramics and for positioning Rajasthan as a **national hub for ceramic-based industrial clusters**. Potash, a vital strategic mineral, occurs in the Nagaur–Ganganagar Basin near Bikaner and has drawn the attention of national and international agencies for exploration and mining. Primarily used in fertilizers, potash also finds

applications in the downstream fertilizer industry, glass and ceramics, and explosives. Its development holds immense potential to reduce India's import dependence, strengthen agricultural and industrial self-reliance, and stimulate regional growth. This is the right time to think and act decisively to harness these resources by leveraging available expertise, infrastructure, and technological know-how.

The Mining Engineers' Association of India, Rajasthan Chapter–Jodhpur and Bikaner Technical University (BTU), Bikaner In Association of Bikaner District Mine Owner's Association (BDMOA) is organizing the **National Conference** on *“Industrial Minerals and Ceramics: Opportunities for Downstream Industries”* on **8-9 November 2025 in Bikaner** and will be live-streamed through an official YouTube channel, enabling wide participation across locations.

The **Mining Engineers' Association of India** (MEAI) established in 1957, proudly represents all professionals serving the minerals and mining industry in India. MEAI has a membership strength of more than 6500 spread in 27 regional chapters and around 30 plus Institutional Members across the country. The members include Mining Engineers, Geologists, Metallurgists, Geoscientists.

With **Bikaner Technical University (BTU) designated as the Centre of Excellence for Ceramic Minerals**, this National Conference seeks to bring together **academia, industry, policymakers, and entrepreneurs** to discuss opportunities, technologies, and future pathways in industrial minerals and ceramics.

The upcoming conference will be held in Hybrid Mode, offering a blend of physical and virtual participation, and will feature in-depth case studies and presentations of advanced work across key thematic areas. All accepted papers will be preserved in a hardbound “Proceedings of the Conference”, making them a valuable reference for professionals, researchers, and policymakers alike.

Conference Themes

The Conference will cover, but not be limited to, the following themes:

1. Mineral Resources & Characterisation

- Mapping of clay, feldspar, quartz, gypsum, kaolin, bentonite, fuller's earth.
- Regional focus on Bikaner, Nagaur, Ajmer, Bhilwara, Pali, Udaipur, Rajsamand, Chittorgarh, Tonk, Jaipur and other mineral districts of Rajasthan.
- Emerging resources across India.

2. Mining, Beneficiation & Processing Technologies

- Advances in beneficiation and mineral processing.
- Sustainable and energy-efficient practices.

3. Ceramic Materials & Applications

- Traditional ceramics: tiles, sanitary ware, refractories, glass.
- Advanced ceramics: aerospace, electronics, biomedical, energy storage.
- Ceramic composites and glass ceramics.

4. Downstream Industries & Value Addition

- Establishing ceramic clusters in Rajasthan and India.
- MSMEs, start-ups, and entrepreneurship opportunities.
- Case studies from ceramic hubs (e.g. Morbi, Gujarat).

5. Policy, Environment & Investment Opportunities

- Government policies and industry incentives.
- Environmental sustainability in ceramic industries.
- Investment potential in downstream sectors.

Call for Papers

Authors are invited to submit **abstracts (300–400 words)** on the above themes. Selected papers will be presented during the technical sessions.

- **Abstract Submission Deadline:** 25 September 2025
- **Acceptance Notification:** 30 September 2025
- **Full Paper Submission:** 25 October 2025

(Templates and guidelines will be provided upon acceptance)

Participation

The Conference will be of interest to:

- Academicians and researchers in geology, mineral processing, and ceramics.
- Industry professionals from mining, ceramics, glass, and refractory sectors.
- Entrepreneurs and MSMEs exploring ceramic clusters and downstream industries.
- Policy makers, government officials, and investors in mineral-based industries.
- Industry / Corporate delegates
- Academicians & Researchers
- Students / Research Scholars
- Central/state agencies
- Mine owners/MSME manufactures /MEAI Members



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Registration Details

Registration Fee:

Delegate	:	Rs 4,000/- per delegate, * GST @5% shall be additional Rs 1,000/- MEAI members/Academicians No fee for paper reader/speakers
Note: Early bird discount 25% (Registration before 10 th October 2025)		

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Expected Outcomes

- Roadmap for establishing **ceramic industrial clusters in Rajasthan**.
- Stronger linkage between **mineral resources and downstream industries**.

- Recommendations for **policy support, investment, and sustainable development.**
- Networking platform for **academia–industry–government collaboration.**

Program:

Day First:

Registration 10.30 AM to 12.00 Noon

Inaugural Function : 12.15 PM to 1.30 PM

Lunch : 1.30 PM to 2.15 PM

Technical Session-I : 2.15 PM to 4.00 PM

Technical Session-II : 4.15 PM to 6.00 PM

Cultural Program-Gala Dinner: 7.30 PM onwards

Day Second:

Technical Session-III : 9.15 AM to 11.15 AM

Technical Session-IV : 11.30 AM to 1.30 PM

Lunch : 1.30 PM to 2.15 PM

Round table Panel Discussion: 2.15 PM to 3.00 PM

Valedictory Function : 3.15 PM to 4.30 PM

Field Excursion: BE Mining Students (First Day-Lignite Mine/Second Day-Limestone Mines)

About Location of Conference

Bikaner is a Divisional Head quarter city and well connected with Air, Rail and road facilities. It has number of good hotels in star groups for comfort stay and known for its rich historical and cultural heritage of state Rajasthan. The conference location is around 10 KM from Bikaner Railway station and around 20 KM from Nal Civil Airport.

Organising Committee

Patrons: Prof. Akhil Ranjan Garg, Kul Guru (Vice Chancellor), Bikaner Technical University

Er D. B. Sundara Ramam, President, MEAI, Hyderabad

Er Pankaj Kulshreshtha, Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, Govt of India

Er Mahesh Mathur, ADM (HQ) & Director (I/c), Department of Mines & Geology, Rajasthan

Er YS Sahwal, ADM, Department of Mines & Geology, Jodhpur, Rajasthan

Mentor: Prof. Sushil Bhandari, Former Dean, MBM Engineering College, JNV University

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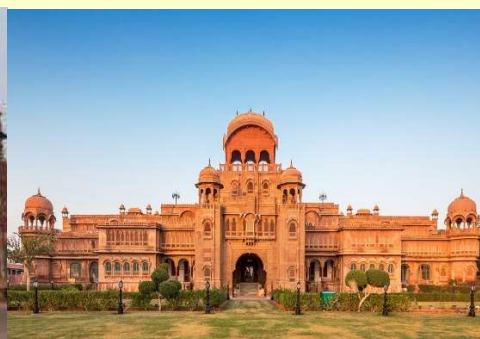
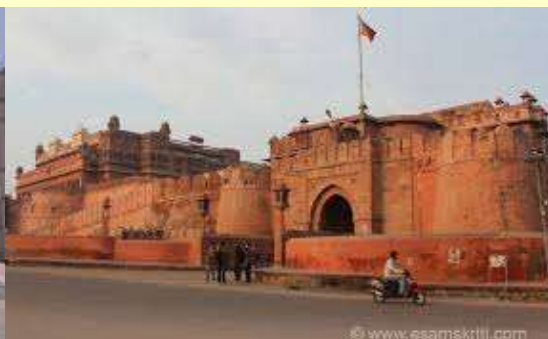
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“Transforming Mineral Resources into Industrial Opportunities”