



Rajasthan's Mines Department Plans to Increase Revenue in FY25

Why in News?

The **Rajasthan Department of Mines & Geology** has developed a strategy to increase revenue during the current financial year (FY25).

Key Points

- Rajasthan is one of the richest states in terms of availability and variety of minerals, producing over 57 types of minerals.
 - The mines department earned a revenue of over Rs 7,490 crore during FY2024.
- A plan has been made to ensure daily monitoring by preparing **a road map for exploration, drilling, preparing blocks and plots for auction**, creating an auction calendar, and revenue collection.
- According to the plan, **better coordination with the concerned departments** including forest, district administration, and police administration would be strengthened to stop **illegal mining activities**.
- There should be a regular system for collecting the revenue due to the government so that there is no need to make much effort for recovery at the last moment.

Illegal Mining

- Illegal mining is the extraction of minerals, ores, or other valuable resources from land or water bodies **without the necessary permits, licenses, or regulatory approvals** from government authorities.
- It can also involve the violation of environmental, labor, and safety standards.
- Government Initiatives Related to Mining
 - **National Mineral Policy 2019**: It aims to **increase mineral exploration and production, promote sustainable** mining practices, and streamline regulatory processes.
 - **Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY)**: It is a welfare scheme for mining-affected areas, and the **Sagarmala project**, which aims to develop port infrastructure to support the growth of the mining sector.