

Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation (GMDC), a state-owned mining company, would expand its lignite mining capacity while also investigating other basic metals at its existing mines in North Gujarat. According to top company officials, the mining giant, which presently has around 85% of its activities in lignite mining, will shortly begin lignite mining at six more areas in the State.

GMDC has already been allocated lignite blocks in Panandhro Extension (Kutch) and Bharkandam (Kutch), as well as four further blocks in Bharuch District's Valia and Damkai Padal, Surat District's Ghala, and Kutch's Lakhpat.

"We have significant reserves in all these blocks and they have been lying with us for a long time. Now we have received the letter of Intent for mining lease from the government for at least three of them in the past six months and we expect to commence lignite mining soon," Roopwant Singh, Managing Director, GMDC said.

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