

Anglong district. In upper Assam, the Surama Group is completely absent and the Barail Group is directly overlain by the Tipam Group.

Assam possesses vast quantities of different mineral resources. The economically viable mineral resources including the energy resources are described below.

Coal

Coal is one of the important mineral resources belonging to the "energy group". Assam coal belongs to two distinct stratigraphical horizons Tertiary formations and Gondwana formations. In upper Assam, the two important Tertiary coal fields are : (i) Makum coal field and (ii) Dilli-Jaipur coal field. The Makum coal field is the oldest coal field and it is about 30 km long and 5 km wide. It has four main mines-Namdang, Bargolai, Ledo and Tipong. The coal division of the Geological Survey of India (GSI) has been conducting regional exploration by drilling work. There are more than 210 million tonnes of high quality coal to be extracted from the Margherita- Ledo coal belt. According to GSI, coal reserve in Makum coal field is 235.66 million tonnes. The Dilli-Jaipur coal fields are located on the east of Dibrugarh and Sibsagar districts. The thickness of the coal seams varies. The total reserve has been estimated by GSI at 54.02 million tonnes.

Table 10.1
Coal reserves in different fields of Assam

Name of coal field	Depth (in meter)	Reserve			Total (in million tonnes)
		Proved	Indicated	Infured	
Tertiary Coal field					
1. Makum	0-600	123.66	50.19	61.81	235.66
2. Dilli-Jaipur	0-300	9.03	14.19	30.80	54.02
3. Karbi Anglong	0-300	0.69	-	2.02	2.71
Gondwana Coal					
Singrimari	0-300		2.79		2.79
Total		133.38	67.17	94.63	295.18

Source : Directorate of Geology and Mining (DGM), Assam

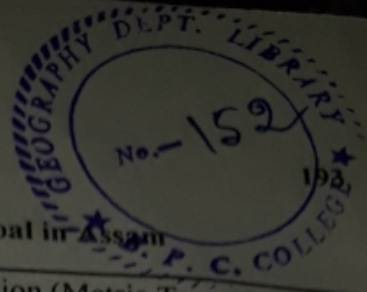


Table 10.2
Mine-wise production of coal in Assam

Name of Mine	Annual production (Metric Tonnes)		
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Tipong underground	1,53,012	1,55,007	1,47,428
Tirap open cast	6,03,039	5,90,066	6,68,664
Ledo underground	95,179	1,00,258	1,03,212
Bargolai underground	1,18,426	1,27,007	1,27,991
Tikak open cast	1,08,822	2,00,077	1,17,149
Jaipur underground	21,697	26,235	26,545
Namchic	-	-	1,450
Simsong	-	-	905

Source : Directorate of Geology and Mining, Assam

COAL PRODUCTION IN ASSAM
(IN MILLION METRIC TONNES)

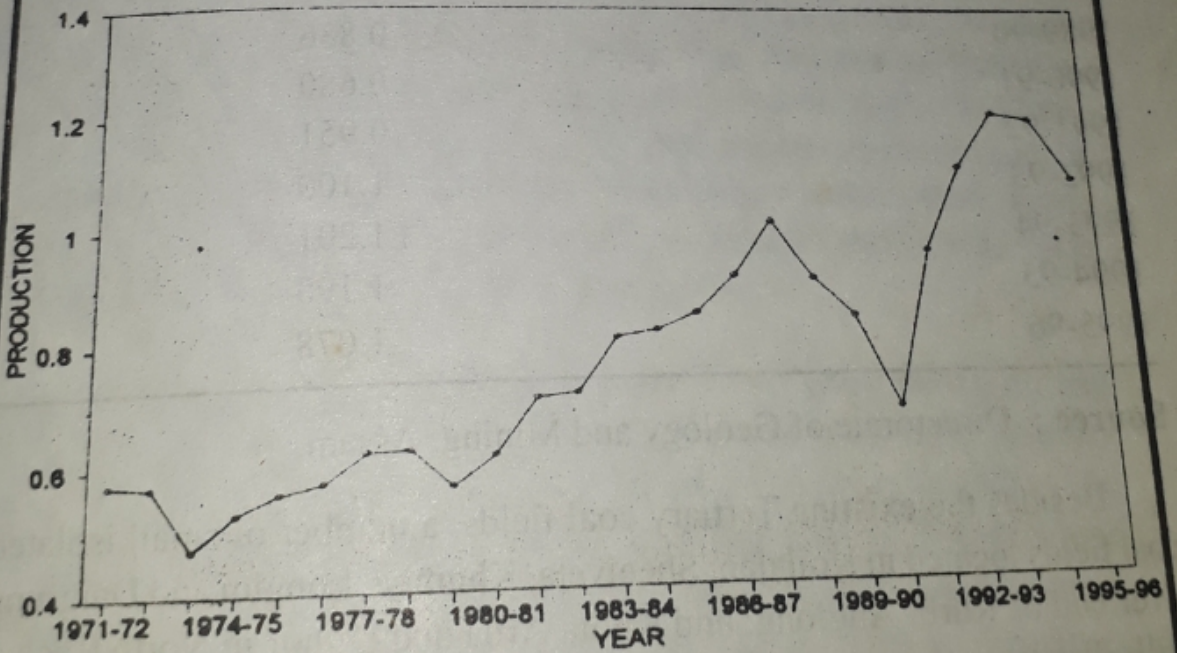


Fig. 10.2