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**Boon or Bane? Mining in Developing Countries: A case history of Odisha, India**



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The mining industry leaves behind a “footprint” – an environmental, social, and economic impact. However, there are concerns as to whether the development of these resources actually benefits the countries and their economic development, or rather poses risks and involves costs – largely in terms of missed opportunities in other sectors. Despite being the highest mineral rich state of the country, the state of Odisha is considered as one of the poorest states. Odisha's resources of Bauxite, Chromite, Coal, Iron ore, Manganese and Nickel ore are formidable constituting approximately 50%, 98%, 25%, 35%, 27% and 91% respectively of the total resources of the country. Mineral resources being finite, keeping in the requirement of the industries, there should be proper balance between exploitation and augmentation/ development.

In this paper an attempt has been made to show the economic significance of mining sector of Odisha in terms of value of total extractions, total employment generation and contribution of mining sector to State Gross Domestic Product and total revenue generation.

