



# Discovery of Gold Ore in Madhya Pradesh

## Why in News?

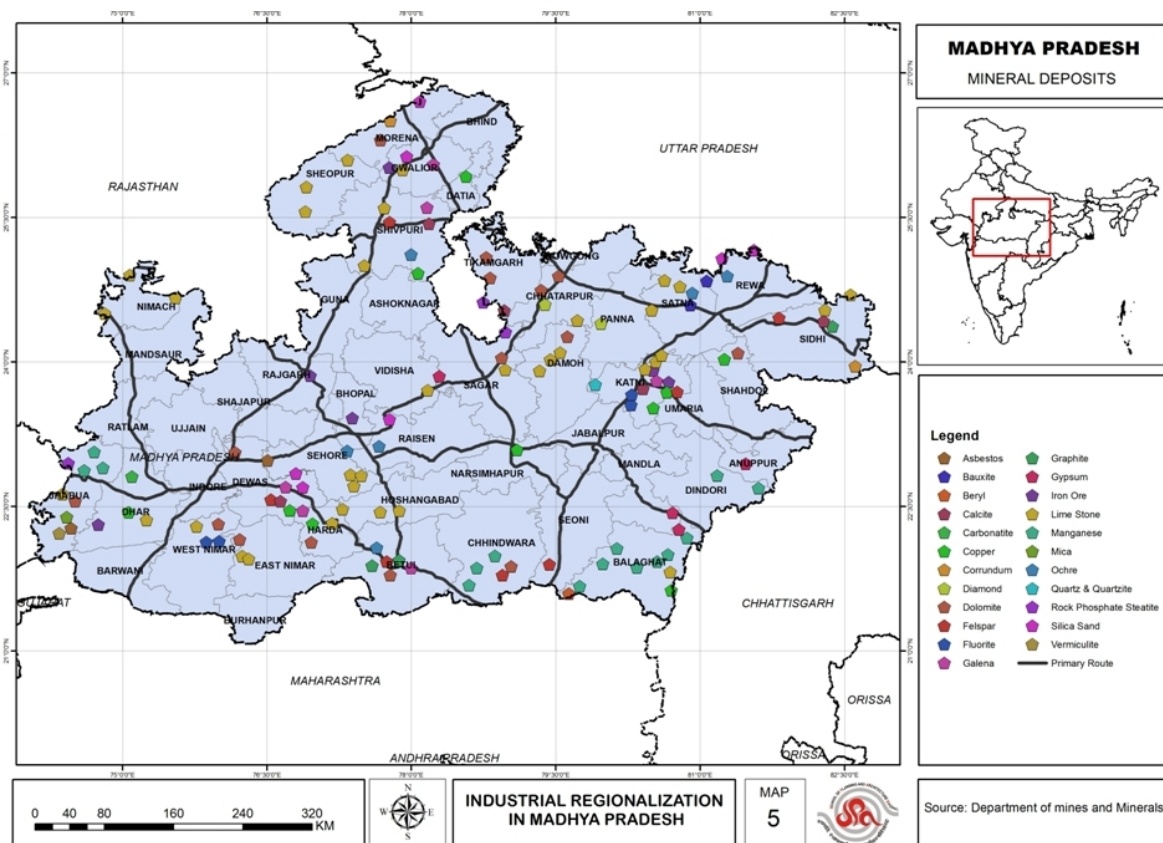
**Gold ore deposits** were discovered in the **Mahgawan and Keolari** areas of Sihora tehsil, **Jabalpur** district, Madhya Pradesh, during an intensive survey conducted by the **Geological Survey of India (GSI)**.

## Key Points

- **Survey and Findings:** Although **iron ore** is **abundant** in the region, **gold ore has been reported for the first time**, with geologists finding small quantities alongside iron ore.
  - The gold deposits in Jabalpur are spread across an estimated 100 hectares, with experts speculating that the **quantity could reach lakhs of tonnes**.
  - Preliminary soil sampling has also revealed the **presence of copper and other valuable metals in the region**.
- **Proximity to Other Gold Projects:** The discovery of gold in Jabalpur is notable because of its **close proximity to the Imliya gold and base metal block project** in **Dhimarkheda, Katni district**, which borders Jabalpur. This geographical continuity makes the finding of gold ore in Jabalpur's border areas unsurprising.
  - The **Imliya gold mine, leased for 50 years**, suggests that nearby areas such as Mahgawan and Keolari may have similar mineral profiles.
- **Significance:** The discovery of gold could lead to increased mineral exploration in Madhya Pradesh, adding gold to the already known reserves of **iron ore and manganese in the region**.
  - This discovery has the potential to **significantly boost the local economy** and establish Jabalpur as a key mineral-rich zone in India.

## Mineral Resources in Madhya Pradesh

- Madhya Pradesh is the only state in India with **active diamond mining**, with the renowned **Panna mines**.
- **It is also the leading producer of copper concentrate, diaspore, pyrophyllite, manganese ore, limestone, and clay (others).**
- The State hosts the country's **90% diamond, 74% diaspore**, 55% laterite, 48% pyrophyllite, 41% molybdenum, 27% dolomite, 19% copper ore, 18% fireclay, 12% manganese, and 8% rock phosphate ore resources.



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