

NATURAL DEFECTS IN COMMERCIAL ROCK DEPOSITS OF KARNATAKA STATE, INDIA - REQUIRED CRITICAL EVALUATION

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ABSTRACT : Decorative and dimensional stones are the latest and best foreign exchange earners of India. Indian commercial stone industry has the unique distinction of possessing all the varieties of stones which only few countries in the world possess. Karnataka State forms a part of the Indian Peninsular shield and extends over an area of 191,792 sq. Km. and Pioneer in exploitation of commercial decorative, ornamental, rock deposits. Peninsular gneisses, closepet granites younger granite intrusions, dyke rocks such as dolerite, gabbro, felsite, Pyroxenite etc. of different ages are the main sources of commercial rock deposits in Karnataka. The success of commercial stone industry solely depends upon the availability of large reserve of defect free rock deposits. In Karnataka too many organisations, entrepreneurs, individuals are investing huge amounts into commercial stone industry without evaluating the quality of the deposits. This resulted bad quality outputs. Consequently quarry lease holders abandoned quarrying in midway. Supply of defect stone blocks adversely affected the International stone market. Natural defects in commercial rock deposits adversely affect the quality. Every rock deposit must critically analyse before exploit them for commercial requirements. Quarry owners and exporters should be quality conscious about export oriented commercial stone blocks and keep up the national pride.