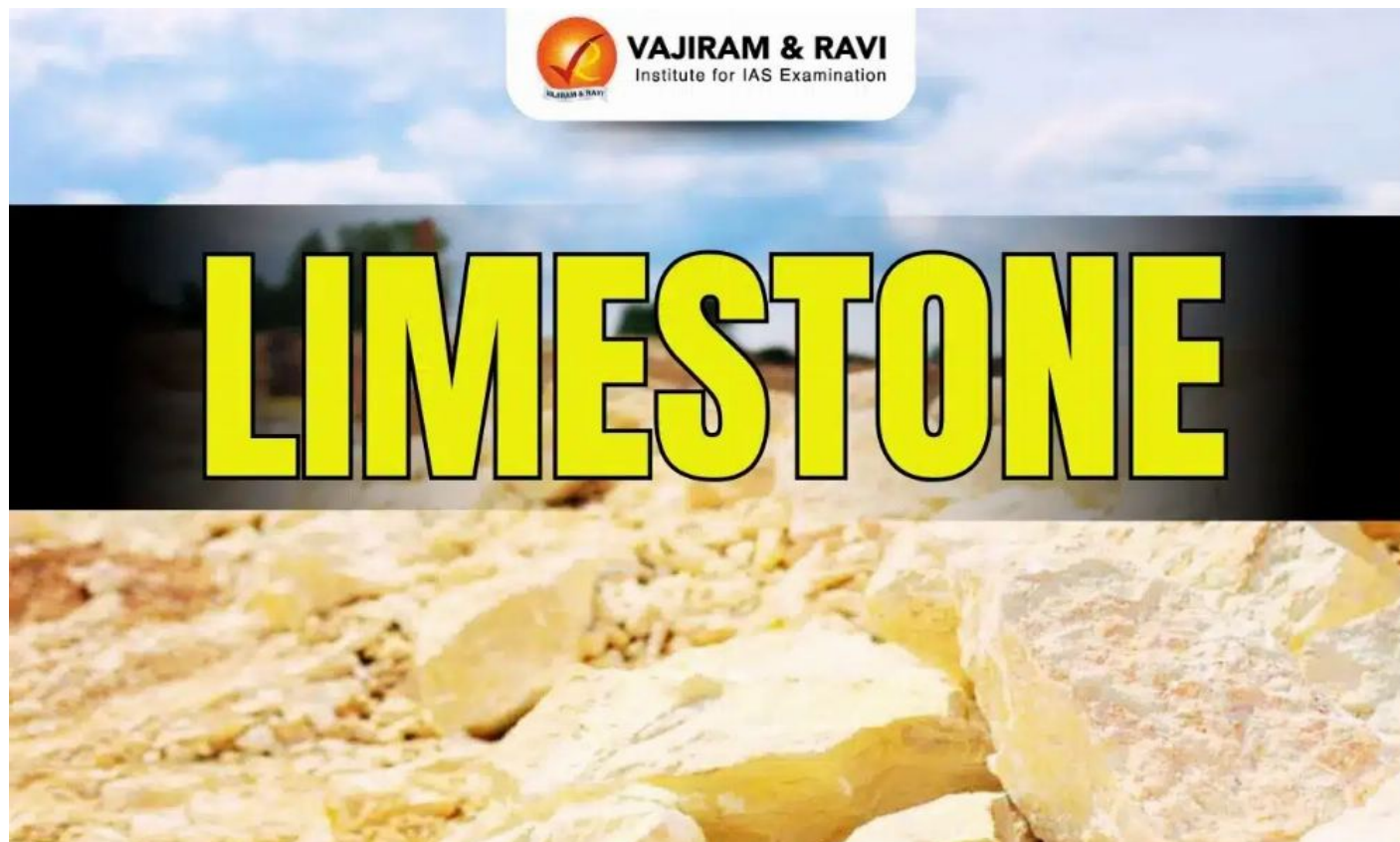


Limestone

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Limestone Latest News

The Ministry of Mines is set to launch the second tranche of the auction of limestone blocks in Jammu and Kashmir.

About Limestone

- It is a **sedimentary rock made of calcium carbonate** (CaCO_3), usually in the form of calcite or aragonite.
- It occurs across **almost all geological sequences** from Pre-Cambrian to recent, except in Gondwana formations.
- **Composition of Limestone**
 - It often contains **magnesium carbonate**, either as dolomite $\text{CaMg}(\text{CO}_3)_2$ or **magnesite** (MgCO_3) mixed with calcite.
 - It also contains minor constituents of **clay, iron carbonate, feldspar, pyrite, and quartz**.
- **Distribution of Limestone in India: Karnataka has the largest share** (28%) of total resources, followed by Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Meghalaya, and Chhattisgarh.

Uses of Limestone

- The principal use of limestone is in the **Cement Industry**.
- **Metallurgical Processes:** It is used as a **flux in iron** and steel production.
- **Chemical Production:** It is used in production of Calcium carbide, alkali, bleaching powder.
- **Agriculture:** It is used as **soil conditioning agent, fertilizer** (calcium ammonium nitrate).
- **Consumer Products:** Whiting (chalk and precipitated limestone) in rubber, paint, cosmetics, toothpaste, and shoe polish.

Source: News On Air

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/limestone/>

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