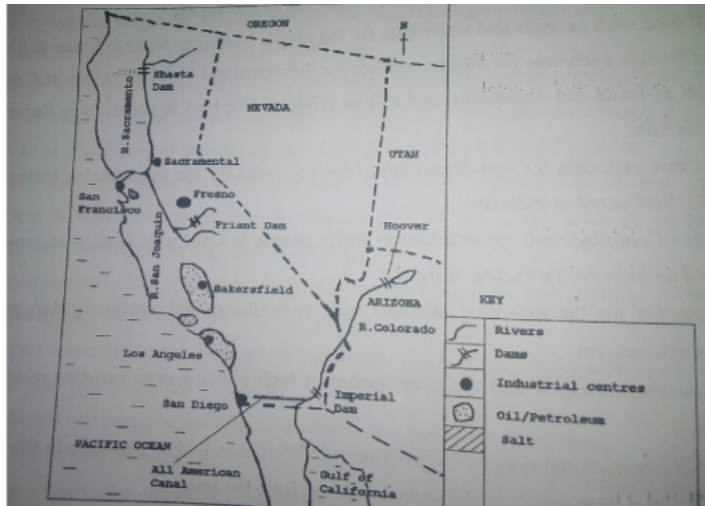


## MINING IN CALIFORNIA.

California is endowed with various minerals both metallic and non metallic such minerals include oil and petroleum,salt,iron ore, aluminum, limestone, copper,Cobalt etc with large mineral deposit in the mining centers of Los Angeles,San Diego,San Francisco,Fresno.

A SKETCH MAP OF CALIFORNIA SHOWING MAJOR MINING CENTRES.



## FACTORS OR CONDITIONS WHICH HAVE FAVOURED THE DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH OF MINING INDUSTRY IN CALIFORNIA.

### Physical factors.

\* presence of large water bodies around California e.g Pacific ocean,R.sacramento which provides water used to cool the mining machines.

\* Presence of favourable climatic conditions in California e.g ice free seasons that favours smooth running of mining activities e.g oil drilling throughout the year

\* Presence of numerous rivers in California e.g Sacramento, Colorado which are used to generate HEP to run mining machines in mining centres e.g San Francisco,San Diego etc.

\* Variety of valuable and commerical mineral deposits e.g coal,iron ore, natural gas which has helped mining industry to compete on world market.

\* Large extensive land in California e.g in San Diego,Fresno which is used to set up mining centres and to expand mining industries.

\* Presence of minerals near the Earth's surface in California which make it easy and cheap to be extracted. Eg using of open cast method.

### **Human factors.**

\* Skilled labour in California e.g mineral surveyors,drivers, mine managers who have helped to do work in mining industries.

\* Sufficient capital in California e.g from government and investors which has been used to pay workers,taxes and buying machines used in extraction of minerals in mining industries.

\* Efficient and reliable transport networks in California e.g railway lines,roads which are used to connect mining centres e.g San Diego, Fresno,San Francisco to market areas.

\* Favourable and supportive government policy in California e.g tax holiday, issuing of mining license to companies which have helped to attract investors and market to mining industry.

\* Presence of wide and ready market in California e.g domestic and international levels eg Europe, Asia which has helped to buy mineral products.

\* Advanced and modern technology in California e.g pipe line systems,exavator which have simplified work and production in mining industry.

\* Sufficient power supply in California e.g HEP generated from rivers like r.sacramento, Colorado which is used to run machines in mining industries.

\* Intensive mineral research in California e.g on market control, extraction control which has helped to improve on quality of mineral production.

\* Political stability in California e.g police that keep law and order which has attracted investors and market to mining industries.

\* Presence of many mining industries in California eg in San Diego, Fresno which help to process mineral deposits into quality products.

## CONTRIBUTIONS/IMPORTANCE/BENEFITS OF THE MINING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF CALIFORNIA.

\* It has provided employment opportunities to the people of California e.g mineral surveyors, Managers, drivers which has earned them income.

\* Mining has provided raw materials to industries e.g mineral processing industries e.g iron and steel industries which has been used to manufacture other products e.g metals.

\* It has generated revenue to the government of California which has been used to development infrastructures like roads, schools and hospitals.

\* Mining industry has promoted infrastructural developments in California e.g school roads which have improved standards of living in California.

\* It promoted diversification of the economy in California e.g setting up of mining centres national wide which has reduced on over depending on few sectors in California.

\*Mining sector has promoted urbanisation in California e.g through infrastructural developments like roads this has led to development in the countrylike in San Diego,San Francisco.

\* It has promoted foreign exchange and currency in California e.g with Europe, Asia which has helped to settle international debts and infrastructural developments.

\* Mining industry has promoted international relations between California with others like Europe Asia which has helped to promote peace and unity in the region.

\* It has provided market to others sectors in California e.g engineering industry which has helped others sectors earn income for development.

\* Mining industry has promoted the development of others sectors within the economy in British Columbia e.g tourism which has encouraged development in California.

\* It has promoted education and research e.g Universities and colleges in California which has helped students to acquire knowledge and skills about mining Field.

## **PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES FACED BY THE MINING SECTOR IN CALIFORNIA.**

- \* Exhaustion of some valuable mineral deposits e.g iron ore which leads to their extinction
- \* Unfavorable climatic conditions e.g winter which interrupts mining activities hence limiting production.
- \* Competition from other countries dealing in mineral products e.g Europe Asia which leads mining sector to losses and limits production.
- \* High costs of transport in California e.g oil pipe lines which is expensive to construct and maintain hence high spending of mining companies.
- \* Limited skilled labour in mining sector this has made work and production difficult in California's mining sector.
- \* Unsupportive government policy e.g high taxation in California which has discouraged investors and market to mining sector.
- \* Occurrence of accidents while carrying out mining activities in California which has caused injuries and death hence discouraging production.
- \* Political instability especially from strikes among miners discourage investors and market.
- \* Labour migration to other sectors e.g fishing which has slowed and discouraged the mining activities.
- \* Low levels of technology e.g duplicated machinery which make work and production difficult in mining sector.
- \* Competition within the economy with other sectors e.g fishing which leads to underfunding of mining sector by the government and labor migration hence limiting production.

## **WAYS OF IMPROVING OR SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS FACED BY FORESTRY SECTOR IN CALIFORNIA.**

- \* Mechanisation such as use of machines should be used to solve the problem of shortage of skilled labour.
- \* Use of protective equipments like helmets, coloured clothes to minimize the occurrence of accidents on waters.

\*Use of other sources of energy e.g solar HEP to solve the problem of over production and mineral exhaustion.

\*Construction of modern transport networks to ease the transportation of mineral products to market centres e.g pipe lines.

\*Modern advertisements to compete on the world market with other countries.

\*Use of advanced technology to solve the problem of low levels of technology.

\*Intensive research on mineral issues to improve on the quality of production and getting of market.

\* Improvement on workers conditions in mining to solve the problem of labor migration.

## **PROBLEM RESULTING OR CAUSED BY THE MINING SECTOR TO THE HUMAN AND PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.**

### **Problems on the Human environment.**

- ✓ Accidents occurrence during extraction of minerals leading to injuries and loss of lives.
- ✓ Labour migration in other sectors leading to labor shortage in other sectors eg fishing.
- ✓ rural urban migration which leads to over population in the mining towns.
- ✓ Displacement of people leading to creation of unplanned settlements eg slums.
- ✓ Regional imbalance in the country which leaves mining towns more developed than other town without minerals.
- ✓ urban related problems like prostitution which increase high crime rates in mining towns.
- ✓ profit repatriation by foreigners which leaves the country underdeveloped.

### **Problems on the Physical environment.**

- ✓ Pollution by mining industries in form of air,water, sound and land pollution which cause diseases to the living organisms in the environment.
- ✓ Exhaustion of mineral deposits due to over production.
- ✓ Destruction of natural vegetation that leads to increased soil erosion, global warming.

✓ Open cast method creates pits and depression on the Earth's surface which act as breeding areas for mosquitoes causing disease to people.