

**HUTTI GOLD MINES CO LTD: THE PRIDE OF INDIA COMPLETES 75
GLORIOUS YEARS**

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India's major gold producer is the Hutti Gold Mines Co Ltd [HGML], a Govt of Karnataka undertaking. The HGML is active in exploration, mining and metallurgy of Gold and Copper deposits of Karnataka. The Company's Corporate Office is situated in Bengaluru and it operates two units—the Hutti Gold Unit [HGU] in Raichur District and the Chitrdurga Gold Unit [CGU], in Chitradurga District of Karnataka.

The world class Hutti Gold Mines, situated in Hutti, Lingsugur Taluk, Raichur District of Karnataka is owned and operated by the Karnataka Government (Fig. 1). In 1939, Hutti was a small village with about 60 to 70 dwelling. Now it is a town with a population of over 40,000. Half of this population lives in the colony constructed by the HGML.

Evolutionary Stages of Exploration & Mining in Hutti

The pursuit of gold has been there since time immemorial. There are about four chronicled periods of exploration & mining at Hutti with widely separated historical time spans and which are as follows;