

1. TOPOGRAPHY

The Sewa gorge remains straight and its width remains constant at about 1 mile, but in the river, mean channel gradients has increased slightly to about 3 feet per mile and curves are fewer. The profile is interrupted by several minor sets of rapids, through many of which there is a narrow fault-controlled main channel. At two of them, river widths have trebled and braided channels appear at low water, these are the rapids at Konta and Barma, which have been the focal points of intense mining activity. The wide Konta and Barma rock bars were covered to a large extent by boulder beds, gravel banks, and sand banks underlain by gravel. All these were exposed and accessible at low water and therefore among the first deposits to be exploited.

2. MINERALOGY

The median parcel size is 1.2 carats, 30% to 40% of the stones been coated and among the clear stones there very few flaws and good colour. Stones as large as 95 carats have been found. heavy mineral concentrates consists principally of tourmaline, corundum, ilmenite and magnesian ilmenite.

3. MINING AND RESERVE STATUS

The Sewa channel is the major producer. Most coffer-dam operations have exposed 4 or 5 feet of pay coarse gravel below 5 to 8 feet of sand and barren gravel. Values generally vary between 0.5 and 3.0 carat/cubic yard. In the greater part of the Sewa channel Islands and rock bars are absent and therefore coffer-dams cannot be successfully constructed and also the presence of thick sand on the bed precludes the construction of coffer-dams, and those that are built usually fail to enclose the deeper parts of the channel. In consequence therefore, inspite of ten years of intensive mining, there remains substantial areas of river channel which are unmined.

RESERVES	AV. GRADE OF GRAVEL	TOTAL AREA (VOL. OF GRAVEL)	PAYABLE RESERVE
Sewa Channel	1.24 carats/yd ³	600,000 yd ³	744,000 carats