



## 20 Microns invests in new mines

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Indian IM company to spend \$20m. on attapulgite, bentonite, and other clay mines in Gujarat, India over next 3-4 years

Indian industrial minerals company, 20 Microns Ltd, plans to invest \$20m. into acquiring additional attapulgite, bentonite, and other clay mines in Gujarat, west India, over the next 3-4 years.

Atil Parikh of 20 Microns told **IM**: “We have identified some mines, but can’t release details of future production figures yet. More figures will be released in March after the end of our fiscal year.”

The projects are expected to involve the Gujarat Government, and 20 Microns has already signed a joint memorandum of understanding to be published in the next few days.

20 Microns has also confirmed to **IM** that its mining leases for certain existing operations, which were due to expire soon, have also been renewed by the Gujarat government.

The company has shown its growth ambitions recently, with an Initial Public Offering (IPO) for company shares in September 2008 to fund capacity expansions for its ground calcium carbonate, calcined kaolin, and talc products (*see IM September '08, p.15*).

20 Microns presently has four mines and eight processing plants across India, and also produces barytes, mica, silica, and iron oxides.