

Malaysia's mineral reserves

Estimated
total value
RM732bil

- **Metallic minerals**
eg. Tin, aluminium, copper
- estimated value: **RM178bil**
- **Non-metallic minerals**
eg. silica sand, kaolin, quartz rock
- estimated value: **RM435bil**
- **Energy minerals**
eg. coal reserves in Sabah and Sarawak
- estimated value: **RM119bil**

Source: Ministry of Water, Land
and Natural Resources

The mineral reserves comprise of (million tonnes)



Canada, India and Middle Eastern countries.

"We are most encouraged by the government's intention to revitalise and re-energise Malaysia's mining industry as an important and significant contributor to the country's GDP," he tells StarBizWeek.

The chamber, he says, had submitted a proposed "Mineral Resource Industry Development Master Plan, 2019-2030" to the government earlier this year, and recently held a briefing for the Water, Land and Natural Resources

Minister on the proposal.

Mohd Ajib says the chamber hopes the push to boost mining activities will lead to the setting up of the Mineral Industry Development Board and also a mineral development task force in each state for accelerated exploration and mine development programmes.

On the issue of environmental impact, he says the chamber is of the stand that the mining of minerals like bauxite and rare earth elements must be undertaken in a

responsible and sustainable manner.

"The mining of such minerals should be undertaken legally within the requirements of the mining and mineral legislations.

"It should also be undertaken with due consideration of the environment as well as preservation of the good image of the mining industry," he says.

Enforcement by the authorities for the breach of any requirements, he adds, should be undertaken effectively without fear or favour.