

## **The Journey of Aai Khodal Traders**

### **A Legacy of Responsibility. A Future of Sustainability.**

Since its establishment in 2007, Aai Khodal Traders has evolved from a regional sand supplier into a professionally managed mineral processing enterprise rooted in integrity, transparency, and environmental responsibility. Our journey reflects a deliberate transition — from compliance-driven operations to sustainability-led growth.

#### **2007 – 2011**

##### **Building the Foundation of Integrity**

Aai Khodal Traders was founded in 2007 with a clear mission: to professionalize the sand mining and supply industry in Gujarat through structured governance and ethical business practices.

Under the leadership of Mr. Baldevbhai J. Chauhan, we established:

- 100% royalty and statutory compliance
- Transparent GST and taxation systems
- Direct-to-industry supply model, eliminating intermediaries
- Early adoption of standardized Health, Safety & Environment (HSE) protocols

At a time when informal systems dominated the sector, we built a compliance-first organization — laying the groundwork for long-term credibility and responsible operations.

#### **2012 – 2017**

##### **Transition to Precision & Process Control**

As Gujarat's ceramic and glass industries expanded, we recognized that quality consistency and operational efficiency would define the next phase of growth.

This period marked our technological transformation:

- Shift from manual grading to mechanized processing
- GPS-enabled logistics for route optimization and fuel efficiency
- Structured quality control systems

In 2017, we inaugurated our advanced processing facility in Jhagadia, transforming into a merchant manufacturer with end-to-end purity control of silica sand.

This milestone enabled:

- Enhanced material consistency
- Improved operational efficiency
- Installation of dust suppression systems to protect ambient air quality

- Greater environmental control across processing stages

The Jhagadia plant represented a shift from trading to value-added manufacturing.

## **2018 – 2023**

### **The Sustainability Transformation**

Beginning in 2018, our strategic focus expanded beyond efficiency to environmental stewardship.

Recognizing water as a critical resource in silica processing, we invested in advanced sedimentation infrastructure and process optimization. By 2019, we successfully implemented a Closed-Loop Water Recycling System, enabling reuse of approximately 70% of process water — significantly reducing freshwater dependency.

During the global disruptions of 2020–2021, our commitment extended beyond operations. We supported local communities in Sanathal and Jhagadia through medical assistance and essential aid, reinforcing our social responsibility during challenging times.

In 2023, we formalized our “Scientific Reclamation” strategy, incorporating:

- Structured land restoration planning
- Topsoil conservation and reuse
- Native vegetation replantation
- Progressive rehabilitation of exhausted mining areas

Our objective is not only extraction — but ecological restoration.

## **2024 – 2025**

### **Digital Transparency & Energy Optimization**

We have now entered a phase of structured ESG integration and digital accountability.

In 2024, we launched a digital corporate platform designed to enhance stakeholder transparency. This includes structured sustainability disclosures, governance documentation, and compliance visibility.

Simultaneously, we initiated energy efficiency upgrades at our Jhagadia facility:

- Installation of high-efficiency VFD motors
- Optimization of electrical load management
- Evaluation of on-site solar energy integration
- Monitoring of energy intensity per metric ton produced

These measures reduce the carbon intensity of every shipment delivered to leading industrial clients such as **Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC)**, **Larsen & Toubro (L&T)**,

and **AIA Engineering** — ensuring that reliability and environmental responsibility go hand in hand.

## **2026 & Beyond**

### **Our Vision for a Low-Impact Mineral Enterprise**

Looking forward, Aai Khodal Traders is committed to transforming into a Zero-Waste and Low-Carbon Enterprise.

Our forward roadmap is structured around three strategic pillars:

#### **1 AI-Driven Precision Mining**

We plan to adopt intelligent extraction monitoring systems that:

- Minimize soil disturbance
- Improve yield per excavation cycle
- Reduce overburden generation
- Enhance operational efficiency

By combining technology with geological precision, we aim to reduce resource loss at the source.

#### **2 Carbon-Neutral Logistics Transition**

Logistics represents a material portion of Scope 3 emissions. By 2028, we intend to initiate:

- Gradual integration of electric or alternative-fuel heavy vehicles
- Route optimization software upgrades
- Collaboration with low-emission transport partners

Our long-term objective is to significantly lower the carbon footprint of deliveries from Jhagadia to industrial hubs across India.

#### **3 Global ESG Integration & Science-Aligned Targets**

We are aligning our sustainability governance framework with internationally recognized ESG standards and the principles of the **Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi)**.

This includes:

- Structured GHG inventory development
- Carbon intensity benchmarking

- Formal emission reduction pathway planning
- Enhanced ESG disclosures

Our ambition is to position Aai Khodal Traders as a globally competitive supplier of high-purity silica sand — built on ethical governance, climate responsibility, and operational excellence.

### **A Legacy That Looks Forward**

From compliance-driven beginnings to sustainability-led growth, our journey reflects one constant principle:

Responsible mining is not a regulatory obligation — it is a generational commitment.

Aai Khodal Traders is building not only a stronger enterprise, but a resilient, climate-conscious mineral supply chain prepared for the industries of tomorrow.