

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2561
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.03.2023

Production of rare earth materials by IREL

2561 Smt. Sangeeta Yadav:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the figures regarding production of rare earth materials by IREL(India) Limited during the last five years;
- (b) whether, in order to compete China's advances in rare earth materials sector across the world, Government is considering to open this minerals Sector for domestic private players with good credentials;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

(a)

Period (in years)	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18
Production of mixed Rare Earth Chloride (Qty in tons)	5578	4433	5034	4215	2724

- (b) to (d) In India, the principal source of Rare Earth Elements (REE) is monazite which occurs in Beach Sand Minerals (BSM) sand deposits and is radioactive in nature due to presence of thorium, uranium, along with rare earths. Therefore, mining and extraction of REE is under the control of DAE. REE in the form of oxides/ compounds, duly liberated from radioactivity is available under Open General License (OGL) for all. Any industry (Public or Private) can access and utilize indigenously produced high pure rare earths for further processing or desired end use.