

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 454
ANSWERED ON 24.07.2023

LIST OF CRITICAL MINERALS

454. SHRI BIPLAB KUMAR DEB:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has released a list of critical minerals for the development of the country; and
- (b) if so, the details of these minerals and the measures taken by Government to make India self-reliant (Aatmanirbhar) w.r.t the availability of these minerals?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINES, COAL AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Government has released a list of 30 critical minerals for India. These minerals are Antimony, Beryllium, Bismuth, Cobalt, Copper, Gallium, Germanium, Graphite, Hafnium, Indium, Lithium, Molybdenum, Niobium, Nickel, PGE, Phosphorous, Potash, REE, Rhenium, Silicon, Strontium, Tantalum, Tellurium, Tin, Titanium, Tungsten, Vanadium, Zirconium, Selenium and Cadmium.

Ministry of Mines has increased focus on exploration of these minerals in the country through Geological Survey of India (GSI) and other agencies. The details of exploration projects taken up by GSI in last 3 years on critical minerals in India are as under:

Field Season	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Total projects on critical mineral	59	118	123	122

A joint venture company namely Khanij Bidesh India Ltd. (KABIL) has been incorporated with the equity contribution from three Central Public Sector Enterprises namely, National Aluminium Company Ltd, Hindustan Copper Ltd and Mineral Exploration Company Ltd with the objective to identify and acquire overseas mineral assets of critical & strategic nature such as Lithium, Cobalt & others so as to ensure supply side assurance. KABIL has engagements with countries like Argentina, Australia etc. to acquire critical & strategic minerals assets.
