

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 295
ANSWERED ON 27.03.2025

EXCAVATION OF RARE EARTH METALS

*295. SMT SAGARIKA GHOSE

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the volume of rare earth metals excavated in the last three years;
- (b) the States from where these rare earth metals have been excavated;
- (c) the industries where these rare earth metals are being used; and
- (d) whether the sources of these metals are depleting due to overuse?

ANSWER

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

- (a) to (d) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (D) IN RESPECT OF
RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 295 FOR REPLY ON 27.03.2025
REGARDING EXCAVATION OF RARE EARTH METALS ASKED BY SMT
SAGARIKA GHOSE.

- (a) to (b) As such Rare earth metals are not excavated directly from any given source. In India, Primary source of Rare Earth bearing mineral is Monazite, found in assemblage with six other minerals. Monazite is a prescribed substance as per the Atomic Energy Act 1962. IREL (India) Limited, Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) under Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), is the only entity processing Monazite to produce high pure Rare Earth (RE) oxides in India. These high Pure RE oxides can be used to produce RE metal.
- (c) The key industries that rely on rare earth metals are Electronics, Renewable Energy, Electric Vehicles (EVs), Automotive, Defense and Aerospace, Medical etc.
- (d) No.
