

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2662
ANSWERED ON 24.03.2025

STRATEGIC SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT FOR CRITICAL MINERALS

2662. SMT. SANGEETA YADAV:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has developed a strategic plan for securing critical minerals through international partnerships and domestic value chain development;
- (b) if so, the key countries and companies India is engaging with for supply security;
- (c) the incentives being provided for private sector participation in processing and refining of critical minerals within the country;
- (d) whether Government is actively collaborating with other Ministries/NITI AAYOG towards achieving the goal of 'Viksit Bharat'; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) Yes. The Union Cabinet has approved the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) on January 29, 2025. The NCMM aims to secure a long-term sustainable supply of critical minerals and strengthen India's critical mineral value chains encompassing all stages from mineral exploration and mining to beneficiation, processing, and recovery from end-of-life products. The NCMM components also include 'increasing domestic critical mineral production' and 'Acquisition of Critical Mineral Assets abroad'.

(b) For acquisition of overseas mineral assets, the Ministry of Mines has established a joint venture company, Khanij Bidesh India Ltd. (KABIL). KABIL has signed an Exploration and Development Agreement with CAMYEN, a state-owned enterprise of Catamarca province of Argentina, for exploration and mining of five Lithium Brine Block in Argentina in an area of 15703 Ha.

Further, an MoU has been signed between KABIL and Critical Mineral Facilitation Office (CMFO), Department of Industry, Science and Resources (DISER), Government of Australia

for carrying out joint due diligence and further joint investment in Li & Co mineral assets of Australia.

(c) NCMM has provision of critical mineral processing parks for which there is budget provision of Rs. 500 Crore. Further, there is also budget provision of Rs. 1500 crore for recycling. In addition, there are also provisions for skill development and R&D activity support.

(d) & (e) Yes Sir. The governance framework of NCMM includes an Empowered Committee chaired by the Cabinet Secretary with CEO of NITI Aayog and Secretaries of other stakeholder Ministries as members.
