

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINES  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 130**  
ANSWERED ON 21.07.2025

**MINING OF RARE EARTH METALS AND OTHER CRITICAL ELEMENTS**

130. SMT. SUMITRA BALMIK:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the reserves of rare earth metals and ores in the country and whether mining is feasible; and
- (b) whether Government is planning to give any policy support to MSME and startups in recycling of rare earth metals?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), a constituent unit of Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), is carrying out exploration and augmentation of rare earth group elements along coastal/ inland/ riverine placer sands, as well as in hard rock terrains in several potential geological domains in the country. As on date, the rare earth resources estimated by AMD are as follows:

- I. 7.23 million tonnes (Mt) approximately of in-situ Rare Earth Elements Oxide (REO) contained in 13.15 Mt of monazite [a mineral of Thorium (~10% ThO<sub>2</sub>) and Rare Earths (~55% REO)] occurring in coastal beach, teri/ red sand and inland alluvium in parts of Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Gujarat, and Maharashtra.
- II. 1.29 Mt of in-situ REO resources have been identified in hard rocks in Gujarat and Rajasthan.

As per DAE, mining is feasible for these resources.

Additionally, GSI has augmented 482.6 Mt resources of REE ore at various cut-off grades in 34 exploration projects.

(b) The National Critical Mineral Mission has been set up, following the approval by the Union Cabinet on 29.01.2025. The Mission comprises key interventions for increasing domestic capacity and building supply chain resilience in critical minerals, including rare earths. A scheme for promotion of critical minerals recycling through incentivization of eligible recyclers, including MSME units and Start-ups is a part of this Mission.

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