

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINES  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 923**  
ANSWERED ON 08.12.2025

**OBJECTIVES AND TARGET OF THE NATIONAL CRITICAL MINERALS  
MISSION**

923. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the key objectives and targets of the National Critical Minerals Mission (NCMM);
- (b) the major components and focus areas identified under the Mission; and
- (c) the steps taken under the NCMM to promote international cooperation and private sector participation in critical mineral exploration and development programmes?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) The key objectives of the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) are:
  - i) To secure India's critical mineral supply chain by ensuring mineral availability from domestic and foreign sources.
  - ii) Strengthening the critical mineral value chains by enhancing technological, regulatory, and financial ecosystems to foster innovation, skill development, and global competitiveness in mineral exploration, mining, beneficiation, processing, and recycling.
- Expected output/targets of NCMM are:

Key heads	Total (2024-25 to 2030-31)
Domestic Critical Mineral Exploration Projects	1200
Foreign Critical Mineral Mines	50
Incentive scheme for recycling - total materials recycled (kt)	400
Patents in critical mineral value chain	1000
Skill development	10000
Mineral Processing Parks	4
Centre of Excellence	3
Mineral Stockpile (cumulative)	5

(b) The components and focus areas identified under the Mission are:

- i. Increasing Domestic Critical Minerals Production
- ii. Acquisition of Critical Mineral Assets Abroad
- iii. Recycling of Critical Minerals
- iv. Trade and Markets
- v. Scientific Research & Technological Advancement for Critical Minerals
- vi. Human Resource Development
- vii. Developing Effective Funding, Financing and Fiscal Incentives

(c) Ministry of Mines has taken several initiatives to promote private sector participation and international cooperation in critical minerals, which inter-alia includes:

- 38 Private Exploration Agencies have been notified for taking up exploration projects with funding from the National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust (NMEDT).
- Exploration Licenses (E.L.) regime has been introduced for deep-seated and critical minerals, under which, a share of auction premium accrues to the EL holder, who explored it.
- To encourage, and incentivize private-sector participation in mineral exploration, scheme for partial reimbursement of exploration expenses has been introduced for holders of Composite Licences (CL) (reimbursement of up to 50%, subject to a ceiling of ₹8 crore) and holders of Exploration Licence (EL) (up to 50% of expenses, with a limit of ₹20 crore).
- The Ministry provides funding for Research and Development (R&D) projects to various Institutions/Laboratories/Start-ups/ MSMEs etc.
- The Ministry maintains regular coordination with Indian embassies to identify potential opportunities in the critical minerals sector. In the interest of developing bilateral cooperation with mineral resource rich countries, the Ministry has entered into bilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with a number of countries such as Australia, Argentina, Zambia, Peru, etc and also with international organizations such as the International Energy Agency (IEA). Further, Ministry of Mines actively facilitates international and private sector collaboration through seminars, meetings, etc.
- Ministry of Mines engages in various multilateral and bilateral platforms such as Minerals Security Partnership (MSP), India-US Strategic Mineral Recovery Initiative, Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF), and India-UK Technology Security Initiative (TSI), etc. for strengthening the critical minerals value chain.

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