

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINES  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO – 2627**  
ANSWERED ON 11.12.2024

**LITHIUM EXTRACTION**

2627 SHRI ADITYA YADAV:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is significantly increasing country's lithium extraction and refining capacities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c): Yes Sir. Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, has been amended in 2023 empowering Central Government to auction blocks for 24 critical and strategic minerals including lithium. Ministry of Mines has successfully auctioned Katghora Lithium and Rare Earth Element (REE) block, spanning 256.12 hectares in the Korba district of Chhattisgarh. Further, there is increased focus on exploration of critical minerals including lithium.

Ministry of Mines has been promoting R&D and technological innovation in mining and metallurgy sector through its Science and Technology Programme with focus on extraction of strategic and critical minerals. Projects related to Critical Minerals including lithium have been sanctioned under the Programme. Government is engaged in bilateral and multilateral fora with an aim to access the latest technologies in processing of critical minerals.

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