

India, UK explore green tech for critical mineral mining

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India has started negotiating with the United Kingdom (UK) to expand critical minerals collaboration under the newly-signed UK-India Technology Security Initiative (TSI).

As part of these negotiations, the British High Commissioner to India, Lindy Cameron, met officials from the Ministry of Mines last week to explore ways to enhance cooperation. This is particularly for developing economically viable and environmentally sustainable technologies for extracting and recycling critical minerals, Business Standard has learnt.

“The initial round of meetings between the two sides has been completed. The goal is to lead the critical minerals supply chain and reduce



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dependency on China from both sides. More meetings are scheduled in the coming months,” a government official said.

The UK-India TSI, formalised on July 24, is a strategic framework aimed at fostering collaboration across several key sectors. These include critical minerals, semiconductors, artificial intelligence

(AI), quantum technologies, biotechnology, and advanced materials.

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India is already a member of the US-led Mineral Security Partnership (MSP), which seeks to secure reliable critical mineral supply chains.

Additionally, India has partnered Australia under the India-Australia Critical Minerals Investment Partnership, focusing on exploration and development of critical minerals. During the discussions, both sides focused on creating capacity-building programmes for critical mineral processing, data management, and mining finance. These could ensure that India and the UK are well prepared to manage and optimise their mineral resources.

Another key area was the potential establishment of a joint Critical Minerals Recycling Centre in India that would concentrate on recycling end-of-life products to extract valuable critical minerals, with an emphasis on advanced military waste recycling.

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