

# India, Japan to convene joint working group on critical minerals soon

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India and Japan on Friday launched an AI dialogue, and decided to convene their joint working group (JWG) meeting on critical minerals in the early part of this year. At the 18th India-Japan strategic dialogue that took place here on Friday between External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and his Japanese counterpart Toshimitsu Motegi, the two sides also

reviewed projects that are under consideration as part of deepening bilateral defence cooperation.

Under the India-Japan economic security initiative, both sides will convene the private sector dialogue to enhance public-private cooperation in the field of economic security. The second round of the 'Economic Security Dialogue' led by India's Foreign Secretary and Japanese vice minister for foreign affairs will be held in the first half of 2026.

In his address at the meeting, Jaishankar said as the leading democracies and major economies of the world, India and Japan not just have an opportunity "but also an obligation, a duty to shape the global order, and in the current uncertain global situation, it's even more important that we work closely towards shared strategic goals".

"Economic security today is particularly paramount. I think both our countries attach enormous importance to it," Jaishankar said.