

Mineral Security Partnership

June 24, 2023 • vajiramandravi.com



About Mineral Security Partnership:

- It is an ambitious new initiative to **bolster critical mineral supply chains**, announced by the **United States (US) and key partner countries** in June 2022.
- The goal of the alliance is to **ensure that critical minerals are produced, processed, and recycled** in a manner that supports the ability of countries to **realise the full economic development benefit** of their geological endowments.
- The focus of the grouping would be on the **supply chains of minerals such as Cobalt, Nickel, Lithium** and also the **17 “rare earth” minerals**.

What is a critical mineral?

- There is no global definition of critical minerals, but essentially, they are **mineral deposits with high economic vulnerability** and **high global supply chain risk**.

What are major critical minerals?

- The **major critical minerals are Graphite, Lithium and Cobalt**.

- They are **used for making EV batteries** and are also critical for **making semiconductors** and **high-end electronics** manufacturing.
- These minerals are also used in **manufacturing fighter jets**, drones, radio sets and other critical equipment.

Who are the top producers of critical minerals?

- The **major producers** of critical minerals globally are **Chile, Indonesia, Congo, China**, Australia and South Africa.

What are rare earth elements?

- The 17 rare earth elements (REE) include the **15 Lanthanides** (atomic numbers 57 — which is Lanthanum — to 71 in the periodic table) **plus Scandium** (atomic number 21) **and Yttrium (39)**.

Q1) What are major critical minerals?

The major critical minerals are Graphite, Lithium and Cobalt. They are used for making EV batteries and are also critical for making semiconductors and high-end electronics manufacturing. These minerals are also used in manufacturing fighter jets, drones, radio sets and other critical equipment.

Source: [India joins US-led critical mineral club, boost likely for EV, electronics](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/mineral-security-partnership/>

© Vajiram & Ravi. For personal use only.