

A large deposits of 15 rare earth elements found in Andhra Pradesh

April 6, 2023

In news— Hyderabad-based National Geophysical Research Institute has found large deposits of 15 rare earth elements(REE) in Andhra Pradesh's Anantapur district recently.

Key updates-

- **NGRI scientists conducted a survey looking for non-traditional rocks like syenites in Anantapur** and successfully identified the host minerals.
- **The major REE identified were allanite, ceriate, thorite, columbite, tantalite,** apatite, zircon, monazite, pyrochlore euxenite and fluorite.
- Scientists also said that several alkaline syenite deposits earlier, which were reported by the Geological Survey of India were looked at afresh for REE-bearing minerals.
- **Some of the potential hubs for these REE-bearing minerals include** Dancherla, Peddavaduguru, Danduvaripalle, Reddypalle Chintalchervu and the Pulikonda complex in Anantapur and Chittoor districts.
- **An estimated 5.9-million tonne reserve of lithium,** a crucial mineral for the manufacturing of electric vehicles and solar panels, **had been discovered in Reasi district by the Geological Survey of India (GSI).**
- **REE of the lanthanide series are critical components in many electronic devices like cellphones,** televisions, computers, automobiles used daily and in various industrial applications.

- **Lithium falls in the critical resource category**, which was not earlier available in India and India was dependent for its 100 per cent import.
- The G3 (advanced) study of the GSI shows the **presence of best quality lithium in abundant quantity in the foothills of Mata Vaishno Devi shrine at Salal village (Reasi)**.

Further

reading:

<https://journalsofindia.com/europes-largest-known-deposit-of-rare-earth-elements-found-in-sweden/>