

Khanij Bidesh India Limited (KABIL)

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Source: *Press Information Bureau*

The Ministry of Mines has set up a joint venture (JV) namely Khanij Bidesh India Limited (KABIL) with the participation of three central public sector enterprises. These are;

- National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO)
- Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL) and
- Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL)

The objective of KABIL

To ensure a consistent supply of strategic minerals to the domestic market and work toward the overall objective of import substitution.

What are Strategic minerals?

Strategic minerals are those which are **critical to the economy and defence of a country** but are not available in that country in commercially viable quantities. **India has identified 12 such minerals including** lithium, cobalt, tin, tungsten, and selenium

Functions of KABIL

It will carry out **identification, exploration, development, mining, and processing of strategic minerals overseas for commercial use and meeting India's requirement of these minerals.**

The minerals will be sourced in the following ways:

- Creation of trading opportunities
- Government-to-government collaborations with the

- producing countries, and
- Strategic acquisitions or investments in the exploration of mining assets in the source countries

Importance

The new company will help in building partnerships with other mineral-rich countries like Australia and those in Africa and South America, where Indian expertise in exploration and mineral processing will be mutually beneficial bringing about new economic opportunities.