

**F.No.10/73/2011
Government of India
Ministry of Mines**

New Delhi, the 9th August, 2011

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject:- **Constitution of a Steering Committee to Develop a Strategy Paper on Status and Availability of Rare Earth Element (REE) and Energy Critical Element (ECE).**

Rare Earths (RE) and Energy Critical Minerals (ECE) are extensively used in high technology and futuristic applications like wind energy turbines, solar energy collectors and thin film technologies. There is need for development of a focused strategy for their indigenous production, based on analysis of availability, stepping up of exploration for discovery of economically extractable deposits and identification and development of processes for their recovery in usable forms and quantities in order to ensure long term national raw materials security.

2. A Steering Committee has accordingly been constituted for a coordinated research and development effort. The Composition and Terms of Reference of the Steering Committee are as follows:-

I Composition:

1	Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India	Chairman
2	Chairman, Centre for Study of Science Technology and Policy (C-STEP)	Co-Chairman
3	Nominee of Department of Science & Technology	Member
4	Director General, Geological Survey of India	Member
5	Director, (Materials Group), BARC	Member
6	CMD, India Rare Earth Limited	Member
7	Director, (Materials,) Defence Research & Development Organization	Member
8	Director, (Atomic Minerals Division), Department of Atomic Energy	Member
9	Director, IMMT, Bhubaneswar	Member
10	Director, NML, Jamshedpur	Member
11	Director, Centre for Techno-Economic Mineral Policy Options (C-TEMPO)	Member-Secretary

Terms of Reference

1. Prepare a position paper on current status of Rare Earths (REE) and Energy Critical Elements (ECE) like gallium, indium, germanium, selenium, lithium etc.
2. Identify high value REE and ECE for industrial and strategic applications, including lasers, magnets, energy and power generation and storage and other applications of widespread potential use and the status of Indian industrial sector to utilize these materials for the required applications.
3. To review Sources of supply, economics, supply chain etc. with a view to improving raw materials security for the long term in the national interest.
4. Make recommendations on restarting domestic REE/ECE production, examining extraction processes and making recommendations on the creation of process R&D facilities to develop extraction and recovery processes on an ongoing basis to meet actual needs in specific situations.
5. Develop strategies for intensifying exploration beyond Monazites, for Xenotime, Bastnaesite and other primary sources of REE.
6. Identifying all the techno-economic issues for long term national raw materials strategy and preparing a strategy paper for the Government providing short, medium & long term options alongwith proposals for specific policy & legislative interventions.
7. **The Committee may submit the report preferably within six months.**

(Anil Subramaniam)
Under Secretary to the Government of India
Telefax: 011-23383946

To

All Members of the Committee

Copy to:-

1. PS to Hon'ble MoS (IC) of Mines
2. PPS to Secretary (Mines)
3. PPS to Addl. Secretary (Mines)
4. PS to JS(MR)
5. Director (CS)
6. Director (C-TEMPO)