

## Minerals Security Partnership (MSP)

- India joined the Mineral Security Partnership (MSP) as its 14th member in June 2023.
- The other members include the United States, Australia, Canada, Japan, and several European nations.
- MSP aims to strengthen critical mineral supply chains to promote economic growth and meet climate goals.
- It focuses on ensuring the production, processing, and recycling of critical minerals by encouraging investments from both governments and private sectors across the entire value chain.

### What is MSP?

- A global group of **14 countries + the EU** working together to secure a stable supply of **critical minerals**.
- Members include **India, the US, UK, Australia, Canada, Japan, South Korea, and the EU**, among others.
- Committed to **high environmental, social, and governance (ESG)** standards for mining and processing.

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### History

1. **Launch:** Announced in **June 2022** during a mining convention in Canada.
2. **Goal:**
  - Ensure minerals are **produced, processed, and recycled responsibly**.
  - Help countries benefit economically from their mineral resources.
3. **India's Entry:** Became a member in **June 2023**.
4. **Recent Additions:**
  - **Estonia:** Joined in March 2024.
  - **Argentina:** Joined in August 2024.

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### Key Focus

- Focuses on **critical minerals** like Lithium, Cobalt, and Rare Earth Elements essential for modern industries (batteries, electronics, etc.).
- **Not Interested:** As of late 2022, copper, gold, and silver were excluded from its focus.

## Global Collaboration

- MSP works with countries in Africa (e.g., South Africa, Zambia) to support sustainable mining practices and improve access to minerals.
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## Criticism

- Concerns were raised that MSP might prioritize mining in other countries over **developing domestic resources** (e.g., in the US) under the guise of conservation.
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## Significance for India

- Joining MSP allows India to reduce reliance on China for critical minerals and boost its industries like renewable energy, EVs, and electronics.