

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3775**  
ANSWERED ON 12.08.2025

**DEPENDENCE ON CHINESE LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES**

**3775. SHRI K SUDHAKARAN:**

**Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government acknowledges that over 75% of lithium-ion batteries used in Indian EVs are currently imported from China and Southeast Asia and if so, the impact of this dependency on domestic supply chains;

(b) the current status of domestic giga-factory projects sanctioned under the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme, including the number of operational projects and total output in the year 2024-25;

(c) whether any timelines have been set for critical mineral self-reliance including lithium, cobalt and nickel sourcing from non-China routes; and

(d) whether any review has been conducted on missed production targets under the Advanced Chemistry Cell battery programme?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEAVY INDUSTRIES  
(SHRI BHUPATHIRAJU SRINIVASA VARMA)**

**(a):** Yes, India is mostly dependent on other Asian countries, *inter-alia*, for lithium-ion batteries and other basic requirements for the production and promotion of EVs in India, exposing the industry to supply chain risks and price fluctuations. Most of the global battery value chain imports originate from China, as the country has significant presence across the value chain.

**(b):** Under the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme namely “National Programme on Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) Battery Storage”, administered by the Ministry of Heavy Industries (MHI), a total of 40 GWh ACC Capacity has been awarded to 4 beneficiary firms, and the projects are under implementation. One beneficiary firm has confirmed installation of 1 GWh ACC capacity, under pilot run at present.

**(c):** As per the information received from Ministry of Mines, the Union Cabinet has approved the launch of the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) on 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2025, for a period of seven years from 2024-25 to 2030-31, with a proposed expenditure of Rs.16,300 crore and an expected investment of Rs.18,000 crore by Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and other stakeholders. The NCMM aims to secure a long-term sustainable supply of critical minerals and strengthen India’s critical mineral value chains encompassing all stages from mineral exploration and mining to beneficiation, processing, and recovery from end-of-life products.

In the interest of developing bilateral cooperation with countries having rich mineral resources, Ministry of Mines has entered into bilateral agreements with the Governments of a number of countries such as Australia, Argentina, Zambia, Peru, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Malawi, Cote D'Ivoire and International organizations such as International Energy Agency (IEA).

Ministry of Mines has also set up Khanij Bidesh India Limited (KABIL), a joint Venture company with the objective to identify and acquire overseas mineral assets that hold critical and strategic significance, specifically targeting minerals like Lithium, Cobalt, etc. KABIL has signed an Exploration and Development Agreement with CAMYEN, a State-owned enterprise of Catamarca province of Argentina for Exploration and Mining of 05 Lithium Blocks in Argentina and has acquired 15,703 hectares in Catamarca Province, Argentina, for lithium exploration and mining. KABIL is also exploring joint investments in large value projects in Australia in collaboration with other Indian PSUs.

Ministry of Mines is also engaging on various multilateral and bilateral platforms such as Minerals Security Partnership (MSP), the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF), and initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET) for strengthening the critical minerals value chain.

**(d):** Yes, monthly review/ workshops and quarterly field visits are conducted by MHI to review the progress in the implementation of the projects of the beneficiary firms and necessary handholding.

\*\*\*\*\*