

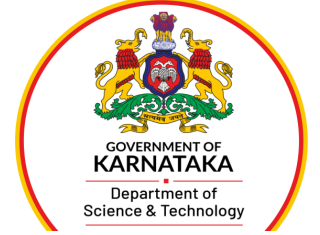
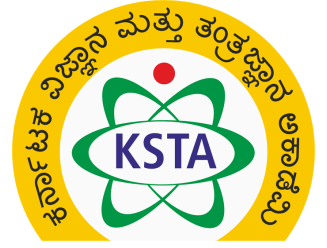
National Brainstorming Conference on Securing the Critical Mineral Value Chain for Sustainable Development

November 4-5, 2026 | Wednesday - Thursday
Venue: KSTA Auditorium

REGISTER NOW | LIMITED SEATS AVAILABLE

Last Date : October 30, 2026 - for Registration

Last Date : October 25, 2026 - for Abstract Submission



Paper Presentation

Exhibition

Sponsorship

**Cash Prize for Best
Paper Presentation**

Convenors

Dr Prabhakar Sangurmath
Former Executive Director & Board of Director
Hutti Gold Mines Co. Ltd [HGML]
Independent Director,
Karnataka State Minerals Corp. Ltd (KSMCL)
Executive Committee Member, KSTA

Dr. Anand R
Chief Executive Officer, KSTA

Co-ordinators

Shri V K Srinivasu
Senior Scientific Officer, KSTA

Shri Umesh Ghatage
Scientific Officer, KSTA



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+91-80-29721550**



About KSTA

Karnataka Science and Technology Academy is an organization under Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of Karnataka, which was established under the Chairmanship of distinguished Space Scientist Padma Vibhushan Late Prof. U R Rao [2005-2017] Former Chairman, ISRO / Secretary, DOS, Govt. of India. Padma Shree Awardee Dr. S K Shivakumar, Former Director, Prof. U R Rao Satellite Center, Bengaluru led the Academy from 2017 to 2019, followed by Padma Shree awardee Prof. S Ayyappan, Former Director General, ICAR, Govt. of India who served from 2021 to 2023. Presently chaired by Prof. Rajasab A H, Former Vice Chancellor, Tumkur University, Tumakuru.

Background

Critical minerals are indispensable to India's economic development, clean energy transition, advanced manufacturing, and national security. However, the country remains highly vulnerable to supply disruptions due to limited domestic availability, high import dependence, and the concentration of global extraction and processing capacities in a few countries.

In 2023, the Ministry of Mines officially identified 30 critical minerals—including lithium, cobalt, nickel, graphite, copper, and rare-earth elements (REEs)—which form the backbone of strategic sectors such as electric vehicles (EVs), semiconductors, aerospace, defence, renewable energy, and advanced electronics. Currently, India imports a substantial share of its lithium and cobalt requirements and relies heavily on international markets for processing and refining. This exposure creates significant supply chain risks, particularly during geopolitical tensions and trade disruptions.

To mitigate these challenges and realize the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliance), India is taking a comprehensive strategic approach. Key organizations—including the Geological Survey of India (GSI), MECL, IREL, AMD, National Laboratories, Government and private exploration agencies are intensifying domestic exploration, while Khanij Bidesh India Ltd. (KABIL) secures mineral assets overseas. Furthermore, the National Critical Minerals Mission (NCMM) has been established to develop a resilient and self-reliant critical mineral ecosystem across the entire value chain. The mission encompasses exploration, mining, beneficiation, processing, recycling, and recovery from end-of-life products. It also focuses on accelerating regulatory approvals, developing processing infrastructure, encouraging overseas acquisitions, promoting strategic stockpiling, and strengthening research and innovation to enhance India's long-term critical mineral security.

About the Conference

This National Brainstorming Conference addresses the most pressing challenges facing India's critical mineral and mining sectors. The event aims to promote responsible, technology-driven practices while fostering a collaborative ecosystem between industry leaders, academia, policymakers, and research organizations. Serving as a knowledge-sharing and networking forum, the conference will enable stakeholders to exchange ideas, showcase technological innovations, and chart a sustainable roadmap for next-generation mining operations.

Conference Themes

- Exploration, Resource Assessment
- Mining, Extraction & Mine Development
- Critical Mineral Value Chains for Clean Energy and Strategic Sectors
- Supply Chain Resilience, Strategic Partnerships & Overseas Asset Acquisition
- Recycling, Urban Mining & Circular Economy Approaches
- Environmental Sustainability, Social Responsibility & Responsible Mining Practices
- Policy Framework, Governance, Regulatory Reforms & Strategic Stockpiling
- Research, Innovation & Advanced/Emerging Technologies
- Skill Development, Capacity Building & Human Resource Development

Target Group

Scientists, Mineral Exploration, Mining & Metallurgy Organizations, Research Scholars, Academicians, Government officials Industries, Product Manufacturers, Entrepreneurs and Start-ups, Traders, Buyers and Exporters





Call for Papers & Poster Presentations

We invite exploration, mining & metallurgy organizations, researchers, academicians, scientists and industry professionals to submit original research papers and case studies aligned with the Conference themes.

Publication Opportunity: All accepted abstracts will be published in a peer-reviewed Abstract Volume with an official ISBN, ensuring wide academic dissemination and citation value for contributors.

- **Oral Paper Presentations:** An opportunity to present impactful research, technological breakthroughs, or policy frameworks before an expert panel.
- **Poster Presentations:** A dedicated session for young researchers and students to visually showcase innovative concepts and ongoing projects.
- **Guidelines for abstract submission, important dates, and registration details** will be shared shortly.

Sponsorship Opportunities

We invite Government, Public and Private sector organizations, mining conglomerates and technology leaders to partner with us as event sponsors. Sponsoring this national conference offers prominent brand visibility, networking access and a platform to demonstrate leadership in India's strategic resource sector.

- **Platinum Sponsor** – Rs. 2,00,000/- [Maximum visibility with prominent branding across conference backdrop, brochure and venue].
- **Diamond Sponsor** – Rs. 1,00,000/- [High visibility with branding on key conference materials and venue displays].
- **Gold Sponsor** – Rs. 50,000/- [Moderate visibility with logo placement in brochure and conference venue].
- **Silver Sponsor** – Rs. 25,000/- [Basic visibility with acknowledgement in the brochure and venue displays].

Exhibition Stalls

A dedicated exhibition space will be available for industries, technology providers, startups and research organizations.

- **Showcase Innovations:** Exhibit cutting-edge mining machinery, processing technologies, recycling equipment, and advanced analytical instruments.
- **Network & Collaborate:** Connect directly with policymakers, scientists, and prospective business partners exploring the critical minerals ecosystem.

Chief Patron:

Dr. Ajay Dharam Singh

Hon'ble Minister of Minor Irrigation, Science and Technology, Government of Karnataka

Patrons:

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Chairman, Karnataka Science and Technology Academy (KSTA)

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Shri Bharath S., I.A.S

Director

Department of Science and Technology
MD, KSTePS / Member Secretary, KSTA
Government of Karnataka



Advisory Committee:

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Deputy Director General
Geological Survey of India, Govt. of India, Bengaluru

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School of Environmental Science
Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi

K. Shashidharan

Dy. Director General (Retd.)
Geological Survey of India, Govt. of India, Bengaluru

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Chief Executive Officer,
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Organizing Committee:

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Chief Executive Officer, KSTA

Shri V K Srinivasu

Senior Scientific Officer, KSTA

Shri Umesh V Ghatage

Scientific Officer, KSTA

Shri Mahadevegowda

Administrative Officer, KSTA

REGISTRATION

- Last Date for Registration: October 30, 2026
- Students & Research Scholars: Rs. 749/-
- Associates & Institutional Members of KSTA: Rs. 999/-
- Other Faculties: Rs. 1249/-

ACCOMMODATION

- Limited accommodation on first come first serve basis
- Students & Research Scholar : Rs. 350/- [per person/per day]
- Associates & Institutional Members of KSTA Rs. 350/- [per person/per day]
- Others : Rs. 650/- [per person/per day]

ABSTRACT

- Abstracts are Invited for Poster Presentation on the topics of the conference
- Last Date for the Submission: October 25, 2026

PRIZES

Best Paper Presentation

- 1st Prize – Rs. 5,000/-
- 2nd Prize – Rs. 3,000/-
- 3rd Prize – Rs. 2,000/-
- Encouragement Prize: Rs. 1,000/-

PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION LINK

<https://forms.gle/wgyoGKP0ZVK8RJhCA>

ABSTRACT REGISTRATION LINK

<https://forms.gle/1kq73pBR8aERm3g8A>

LOCATION

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Unnikrishnan Road, Vidyanarayapura Post,
Bengaluru - 560097

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