

**F. No. Met4-13/1/2024
Government of India
Ministry of Mines
(S&T section)**

**3rd Floor, Shastri Bhawan
New Delhi, April 28, 2025**

INVITATION FOR PROPOSALS

Subject: Recognition of Centre of Excellence under National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM).

The Ministry of Mines has issued the guidelines for Centres of Excellence under the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM). The guidelines are available at the Ministry of Mines' website: <https://mines.gov.in/webportal/content/national-critical-mineral-mission>, as well as in the SATYABHAMA Portal, which may be accessed at research.mines.gov.in.

2. Under this initiative, the Ministry of Mines invites proposals from eligible institutions for recognition as Centres of Excellence (CoE) to foster focused research, innovation and capacity building in the Critical Raw Materials sector in India. The eligible institutes may submit proposal as per the enclosed proforma to the Ministry of Mines at the address given below, with a soft copy in PDF format to be emailed to met4-mines@gov.in.

Deputy Secretary
S&T Section, Ministry of Mines
Room no. 349, A wing, Shastri Bhawan,
Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi - 110001

3. Broad areas of research, elements of CoE, eligibility condition and minimum sets of elements for a CoE, evaluation criteria and procedure of evaluation/ approval/ funding are specified in the CoE Guidelines. All eligible institutes should follow the instructions given in the said guidelines before submitting the proposals, complete in all respects, to the Ministry of Mines.

4. The cut-off date for submission of proposals from eligible institutions for recognition as a CoE is 30.06.2025. Thereafter, depending on the need to recognise more CoEs, the application process will be opened from time to time.

5. Shortlisted institutes will be invited to present their proposals, details of which will be communicated separately. All interested institutes are encouraged to submit their proposals well in advance of the stated cut-off date to ensure timely consideration.

For further queries, please email us at: met4-mines@gov.in.

PROFORMA FOR SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS BY THE PROSPECTIVE R&D INSTITUTIONS / ACADEMIA FOR RECOGNITION AS A CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR R&D IN CRITICAL RAW MATERIALS

PART-I: GENERAL INFORMATION

A. Detail of Institutional/Organizational Profile of applicant for CoE (Hub):

1. Name of the R&D institutions/ Academia (Hub):
2. Type and status (R&D Institution/Academia):
3. Address, contact details, and website:
4. Year of establishment:
5. Sources of funding for the institutions/ Academia:
6. Governing structure:
7. Financial pattern of the R&D institution/ academia:

B. Details of Collaborative Partners (Industry and R&D institute/Academia):

1. Proposed CoE will bring in at least two industry partners and at least two academic partners:
 - a. Names and details of two industry (spoke) collaborating with applicant (Hub):
 - b. Names and details of two R&D institute/academic (spoke) collaborating with applicant (Hub):
2. Nature of collaboration (MoU, Research Partnership, Industry-Academia Linkage):
3. Roles and responsibilities of each Collaborative Partners:

PART-II: DETAILS OF EXISTING MANPOWER: [To be provided by the applicant for CoE (Hub) and R&D Institute/Academic (Spokes)]

1. Profiles of scientists, key researchers and faculty highlighting their expertise, research contributions and professional experience in critical minerals.
2. Profile of Specialists in laboratory analysis, pilot-scale experimentation, process optimization, detailing their specialized skills and roles in advancing critical mineral research.
3. Profile of experts in process design, scale-up strategies and technological innovations for beneficiation and extraction.
4. Details of Administrative and support staff including regular and contractual personnel responsible for facilitating research operations, project management and institutional coordination to ensure the effective functioning of the CoE.

PART-III: DETAILS OF INFRASTRUCTURE: [To be provided by the applicant for CoE (Hub) and R&D Institute/Academic (Spokes)]

1. Total land area of the R&D institute/academia, including campus layout, dedicated research zones and facility expansion potential.
2. Detailed overview of laboratory spaces, specialized research units, high-end instrumentation and pilot-scale setups supporting advanced studies in critical minerals and process technologies.
3. Status of registration with national research platforms such as FIST and iSTEM, reflecting institutional recognition, funding access and integration with technological advancements in critical minerals and related fields.

PART-IV: STATUS OF RESEARCH: [To be provided by the applicant for CoE (Hub) and R&D Institute/Academic (Spokes)]

1. Details of research papers published in Scopus and ABDC-listed journals in critical minerals and allied area viz. material science, geology, mining, metallurgy, etc. in last 3 years.
2. Details of patents filed and granted in Critical Mineral and allied area
3. Numbers of pilot scale project/ scale of operationalization and vision statement for commercialization of developed technology related to Critical Mineral and allied area.
4. Numbers of already developed technology for commercialization & Industry Adoption Plans.
5. Existing strength in technology transfer for critical minerals and allied areas (Material science, geology, mining, metallurgy)
6. Vision statement on technological advancements and contributions, collaborations with institutes (including foreign institutes)/industries and actual use of research into industries related to critical minerals and allied area.

PART-V: STATUS OF TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNICAL DETAILS: [To be provided by the applicant for CoE (Hub) and R&D Institute/Academic (Spokes)]

1. Details of developed flow sheets for Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 3 to 4 or more for the extraction or beneficiation in the mining sector:
2. Details of Section 8 company, if set up, to develop commercially feasible solutions for the research and technology developed by institute, including in the field of mining, geology, metallurgy, material science and allied sectors
3. Details of ongoing and completed Research Projects funded by various funding agencies of Govt. of India/ others:
4. Details and Revenue earned out of ongoing and completed Research Projects:
5. Details of existing core competence for critical minerals & metals:
6. Details of Collaborative work with foreign institute/industry partners and their outcome:
7. Number of research projects being handled at present:
8. Number of research projects successfully commissioned and advanced to a higher TRL level:

PART-VI: OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS DETAILS: [To be provided by the applicant for CoE (Hub) and R&D Institute/Academic (Spokes)]

1. Skill Development and Training Programs:
2. Key achievements of the applicant during last 10 years:

PART-VII: DETAILS OF THE COLLABORATIVE INDUSTRY PARTNERS: [To be provided by the applicant for at least two industry (Spokes)]

1. Details of revenue, including annual turnover and funding sources.
2. Describe the team, including technical & business expertise and mentors.
3. Outline the commercialization strategy, detailing utilization of technology to create a product/service, its positioning & value addition for the intended customers, plan for-go-to-market, challenges executed.
4. Explain the potential impact, including environmental sustainability, market size, customer demographic & the technology's effect on these.

PART-VIII: PROPOSED SET/ GROUP OF SETS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE (CoE)

1. Proposed sets for recognition of CoE (as per Annexure-II of CRM):
2. Details of targeted critical metals and sources of Critical Raw Materials:
3. Relevance and significance achievements in the proposed sets for centre of excellence:
4. Objectives and expected outcomes in the targeted Critical Raw Materials sector:

PART-IX

1. Any additional information about the organisation for consideration of the PEMC for setting up of the CoE at organisation/applicant.

(A separate page may be given if information is large)

(Signature)
Director of the Hub Institute