



जवाहरलाल नेहरू एल्युमीनियम अनुसंधान विकास एवं अभिकल्प केन्द्र नागपुर

**JNARDDC**

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU ALUMINIUM RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT & DESIGN CENTRE, NAGPUR

Autonomous Body, Ministry of Mines, Govt of India



Amravati Road, Wadi, Nagpur 440023, INDIA | Phone: 91-7104-220701 / 220476 / 220017

Email: [aao@jnarddc.gov.in](mailto:aao@jnarddc.gov.in) / [director@jnarddc.gov.in](mailto:director@jnarddc.gov.in) | Website: [www.jnarddc.gov.in](http://www.jnarddc.gov.in)

An ISO/IEC-17025:2017 & ISO-17034:2016 NABL accredited lab

Dated : 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2026

**ANNOUNCEMENT inviting proposals for funding under S&T PRISM Program of Ministry of Mines (PRISM 5.0)**

Proposals are invited from Startups, MSMEs and Individual Innovators for up to 2 years duration, which have direct bearing on mineral and metal sector, applied and sustainable aspect of mining, metallurgy and industrial applications, for funding under “Promotion of Research and Innovation in Startups and MSMEs in Mining, Mineral Processing, Metallurgy and Recycling Sector (S&T-PRISM)” under Science and Technology Program of Ministry of Mines so as to enable them to graduate to a level where they will be able to raise investments from angel/Venture Capitalist or they will reach a position to seek loans from commercial banks/financial institutions. The funding is positioned to act as a bridge between development and commercialization of innovative technologies/products/services in a relatively hassle free manner.

Funding support will be in the form of a grant of up to Rs. 50 lakhs for Startup, Rs. 1 Cr. for MSME and grant up to Rs. 2 Cr. may be considered for technology products requiring higher funding on the recommendation by TEC and approval by PSC. Start-ups and MSMEs shall submit their proposals under the identified focus areas for dedicated innovation challenge or start-up competition to the TEC for technical evaluation and recommendation to the PSC for approval.

Special emphasis will be on technologies and solutions related to critical minerals, covering exploration, mining, extraction, beneficiation and mineral processing, refining and purification, metal/alloy and product development, recycling and waste utilization, across the critical minerals value chain (**As per details enclosed**).

The detailed advertisement and guidelines may be seen at website of Ministry of Mines’ SATYABHAMA Portal ([research.mines.gov.in](http://research.mines.gov.in)).

The proposals should be submitted through the portal and last date of submission of proposals is **02.04.2026**.

For further details, please contact the Implementing Agency for S&T-PRISM: Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development & Design Center, Nagpur. Website: <https://jnarddc.gov.in> E-mail: [startups-mines@gov.in](mailto:startups-mines@gov.in)

## **Focus Areas of S&T PRISM (5.0)**

- Exploration technologies for identification and assessment of critical mineral resources
- Advanced mining methods for critical minerals
- Mineral beneficiation and ore upgrading for critical mineral-bearing ores
- Extraction and separation technologies for critical minerals
- Refining and purification of critical minerals to product-grade specifications
- Recovery of critical minerals from overburden, tailings, fly ash and other industrial residues
- Recovery of critical minerals from e-waste, spent batteries and other wastes / scraps / end-of-life products
- Metal, alloy and intermediate product development based on critical minerals
- Solvent extraction, ion-exchange, adsorption and membrane-based systems for critical minerals
- Scalable electrochemical and electro-refining technologies for critical mineral recovery
- Process intensification and modular process equipment for critical mineral extraction and refining
- Analytical, sensing and in-situ monitoring tools for critical mineral extraction processes
- Waste minimization, reagent recycling and effluent treatment solutions linked to critical mineral processing
- Critical mineral free solutions for strategic and critical applications

Only projects falling within the critical minerals value chain, including its supporting and enabling technologies shall be considered under S&T-PRISM 5.0 through innovation challenge/ start-up competition, in line with the national objective of strengthening self-reliance, sustainability, and secure availability of critical minerals in the country.

\*\*\*\*\*