

## Addapedia Editorial Analysis PDF 26 September 2024

### China's warning shots with minerals that run the world

(The Hindu, 26-09-24)

#### What recent actions has China taken regarding critical minerals?

- Announced restrictions on antimony exports in August 2023
- Curbed exports of gallium and germanium in 2023
- Restricted export of high-purity graphite materials
- Limited export of rare earth processing technologies

#### Why are China's actions concerning for other countries?

- China dominates critical mineral supply chains:
  - Controls 60% of rare earth production
  - Controls 60% of critical minerals production
  - Controls 80% of processing worldwide
- Many countries, including India, EU, Japan, and the US, are strategically vulnerable due to dependence on these minerals

#### How has China's approach to critical minerals exports evolved?

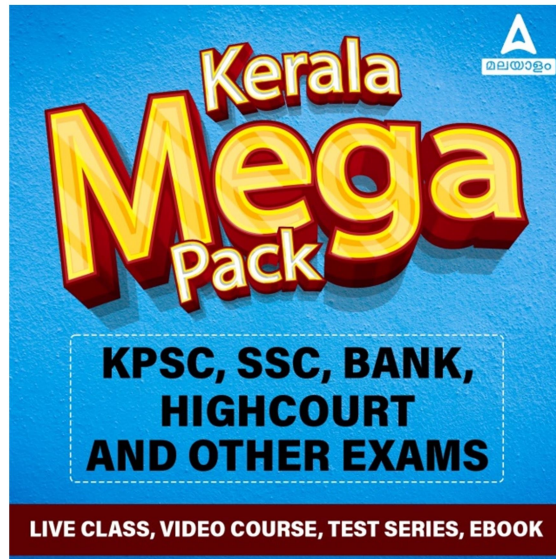
- Moved from politicization to weaponization of mineral exports
- Using mineral resources as a political tool and foreign policy objective
- Responding to US and Western actions with reciprocal measures
- Demonstrating its status as a mineral power to remind the West of their dependency

#### What are the implications for India?

- India is heavily dependent on imports of critical minerals like lithium, nickel, cobalt, and copper
- Import costs for these minerals reached around ₹34,000 crore in FY23
- India's mineral demand is expected to grow, potentially increasing vulnerability
- The situation serves as a wake-up call for Indian policymakers to take precautionary measures

*Can you answer the following question?*





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