

Hindustan Zinc to focus on critical, rare minerals exploration

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Jaipur: Hindustan Zinc has renewed its focus on exploration of copper, lithium, nickel, cobalt, potash, and rare earth elements, while evaluating prospects in neodymium, antimony, graphite, and germanium.

The company has become one of the first private players in India to secure a rare earth (monazite) block, a land-based, non-radioactive deposit distinct from the beach-sand monazite traditionally mined in the country.

It has floated international tenders for AI- and drone-led exploration, drawing on global expertise from Australia, South Africa, Chile, and China.

“These efforts strengthen India’s strategic miner-

al ecosystem and align with the govt’s critical minerals roadmap,” she said.

During the meeting, she said Hindustan Zinc is scaling up operations to double production capacity in the coming years, with new smelting capacity and mine expansions underway.

“First phase of 2x growth strategy is already underway with nearly Rs 12,000 crore invested in a new integrated refined metal smelter of 250 kilo tonne per annum at Zinc Smelter Debari in Rajasthan.”

This also includes a tailings reprocessing project at Rampura Agucha mines, with an investment of Rs 3,823 crore and a 10 million tonnes feed capacity to recover zinc and silver from historical tailings, she added.