

## **Funding for 'Australia – India Critical Minerals Research Hub'**

Australia – India Critical Minerals Research Hub (AICMRH) is formed by like-minded researchers from different Indian Institutes (mainly IITs, NITs & CSIR Labs) and some Australian Universities. AICMRH is headed IIT- Hyderabad from India and Monash University from Australia and other Institutes as participating Institutes. NITK is also a participating Institute and Prof. Karra Ram Chandar- Dept. of Mining Engineering is Co-PI.

AICMRH has identified many Research problems, formulated proposals and submitted some research proposals for funding, The first fund has been sanctioned by MoE- Gov of India with a budget of 5 million USD, and similar amount will be contributed by Australian Government. An initial grant of Rs. 6.3Cr is sanctioned by MoE under SPARC on "Synergizing Excellence: Fostering a Bilateral Critical Minerals Research Hub between India and Australia",



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भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान हैदराबाद  
Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad



MONASH  
University

August 12, 2024

**Prof. BS Murty**  
Director, Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad  
Email: [director@iith.ac.in](mailto:director@iith.ac.in)

To

Prof. K Ram Chandar  
NIT Surathkal  
Mining Engineering  
[krc\\_karra@yahoo.com](mailto:krc_karra@yahoo.com)

**Sub: Successful Funding for the Australia-India Critical Minerals Research Hub**

Dear Prof. Ram,

I am thrilled to share some wonderful news. Our joint initiative, the Australia-India Critical Minerals Research Hub (AICMRH), has successfully secured funding. The Ministry of Education, Government of India, has approved a generous grant of \$5 million to support our efforts.

The first phase of funding, approximately 6.3 crore INR, has been sanctioned under the Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration (SPARC) for our project titled "Synergizing Excellence: Fostering a Bilateral Critical Minerals Research Hub between India and Australia" wide the sanction order *No: SPARC/2024-2025/AMRECM/P3941, dated 29<sup>th</sup> April 2024.*

The AICMRH, led by IIT Hyderabad and Monash University, aims to accelerate a low-carbon economy and develop India's mineral processing industry. Our focus includes critical mineral extraction, processing, criticality assessments, economic geology, sustainable mining practices, and supply chain analyses. This initiative aligns with India's National Education Policy (NEP) of India and the Australian Researcher Cooperation Hub (ARCH-India) of Australia, striving to pioneer technologies for a competitive and sustainable future.

With this funding, we plan to organize seminars, workshops, and host foreign academicians at our institutions. Additionally, we will facilitate research opportunities for our Research Fellows, PhD, Master's, and Undergraduate students at participating Australian universities for periods ranging from 2 to 12 months. Prof. Narasimha Mangadoddy, my colleague and Co-PI, will be in touch soon to kickstart these activities.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the funding success so that you can notify your respective institutions and officially participate in any future activities of AICMRH.

Thank you once again for being an essential part of this initiative. I look forward to our continued collaboration.

Yours Sincerely,

(Prof. BS Murty)