

## **India-Argentina Agreement for Lithium Blocks**

Recently, India through **Khanij Bidesh India Limited (KABIL)** has signed an agreement with **Argentina's State-owned CAMYEN** for exploration and development of five **lithium brine blocks** in **Argentina**.

- The agreement will allow **KABIL** to **evaluate**, **prospect**, **explore**. Upon subsequent discovery of **lithium minerals**, exploitation rights for commercial production have also been granted.
  - This is the first-ever lithium exploration and mining project undertaken by a government company in India.
- Lithium, often called 'white gold', forms the cornerstone of the country's transition to green energy options.
  - It is used across various categories, including energy storage solutions, batteries for mobile phones, and in Electric Vehicles (EVs).
- Argentina is part of the world's "Lithium Triangle", along with Chile and Bolivia.
  - The three nations together have more than half of the world's total lithium resources.
  - Argentina also has the distinction of having the 2<sup>nd</sup>-largest lithium resources, 3<sup>rd</sup>-largest lithium reserves and 4<sup>th</sup>-largest lithium production in the world.

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