

**MINUTES OF 42nd MEETING OF THE STATE GEOLOGICAL PROGRAMMING AND ADVISORY  
BOARD, WEST BENGAL HELD ON 22.01.2014 AT KOLKATA.**

**42.00.01** : List of the participants is enclosed in Annexure I.

**42.01.01** : At the outset Sri Chanchal Mal Bachhawat, Additional chief Secretary, C&I Department and the Chairman, State Geological programming and Advisory Board made an introduction with the participants present in the meeting and wished a very happy new year to all. He requested Smt. Malabika Jha, Director of Mines and Minerals and the Member Secretary of SGPAB, WB to conduct the meeting.

**42.02.01** : The Member Secretary, gave a hearty welcome to all the participants and thanked them for attending the meeting. She regretted for the late holding of the meeting.

**42.03.01** : The Minutes of the 41st meeting had been accepted by the members. The Action Taken Report had been distributed among the participants.

**42.04.01** : On request of the Chairman all the members briefed their achievements during F.S. 2012-13 and target for F.S. 2013-14 which was approved by the SGPAB, WB.

**42.04.02** : Discussion began with a focus on availability of Fe-ore in West Bengal to cater the need of industrial demand. It was emerged from the views expressed on this issue by GSI & DMM that there was no known resource of significance of Haematite, the conventional Fe-ore required by steel & ferro alloy industries of West Bengal. It was the only way to treat the non-conventional iron resources, like Siderite and Laterite, which had significant quantity available in West Bengal. It was emerged from the exchange of information , there was a vast quantity of Siderite resources as Ironstone Shale in Bardhaman district in the tune of 508 million tones as Measured Resources (331) with average iron content 40-45% and 3032 million tones of Indicated Resource (332). It was commercially exploited by the Bengal Iron & Steel Works for the first Blast Furnace Operation in 1874 before the discovery of large BIF deposits in Singhbhum district of