

- iii. Geoscientific studies for generation of **Tidal Power in the Sunderbans** and navigation of marine vessels through the area.

(Suggestion: DMM, WB)

The Director, Marine & Coastal Survey Division of GSI, ER explained the issue on the strength of their previous works in the areas of Durgaduani, Gosaba, Rakkhaskhali Khal etc. on request of NIOT on the issue of Tidal Power Generation. It was emerged from the discussion that due to neotectonic activity the reversed sedimentation pattern of the area were forcing the river courses of the Sundarbans Deltaic region to migrate gradually towards Bangladesh.

GSI, ER requested DMMWB to look into this issue and to raise specific areas of collaborative investigation for the interest of State. The latter, however, expressed its inability due to shortage of manpower.

Department of Power, GoWB and Non conventional Energy Resources, GoWB would be requested by the Member-Secretary to appropriately take up the issue with GSI, ER for the interest of the State.

(Action : DMMWB & GSI,ER)

43.06.06 AGENDA 6 :

Issue of Illegal Mining in West Bengal and ways of prevention :

Minerals are invaluable and irrecoverable asset of a State. Scientific exploration of it followed by exploitation of it contributes a major share to the revenue earned by the State. Illegal mining of the minerals not only leads to great loss of State revenue but also irreparable depletion of the mineral wealth owned by the State.

In order to take prevensionary measures to cope with this District and State level Task Force have been framed to formulate appropriate steps to be taken as per guidelines framed under the Prevention of Illegal Mining and Transportation Rules of West Bengal. In addition, IBM is also taking initiatives to undertake special drives to curb the illegal mining in this State.