

**MINUTES OF THE 50<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE STATE GEOLOGICAL PROGRAMMING & ADVISORY BOARD (SGPAB), WEST BENGAL HELD ON 25<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2022 at 1 p.m. AT THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, COMMERCE & ENTERPRISE, GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL, AT KOLKATA**

**List of Participants is enclosed in Annexure I.**

**Proceedings of the 50<sup>th</sup> Meeting of SGPAB, West Bengal: -**

50.01.00	Smt. Sunrita Hazra, IAS, Secretary of the Government of West Bengal, Department of Industry Commerce & Enterprises took the chair and welcomed all the delegates and dignitaries and requested all to introduce themselves. She initiated the discussion on the mineral scenario of West Bengal with special emphasis on sustainability in the mining sector and strengthening of mineral infrastructure and enhancement of Government revenue.
50.01.01	Shri. Anurag Srivastav, IAS, Senior Special Secretary of the Government of West Bengal, Department of Industry Commerce & Enterprises, stressed on the exploration of mineral resources in the state mainly on Coal, Sand and other minerals. He requested GSI to take up plans and to carry out exploration work so that new mineral blocks could be generated for auction. He assured of all kinds of support from the State Government's end.
50.01.02	Smt. Sonali Datta (Ray), Director of Mines and Minerals and the Member Secretary, SGPAB welcomed all delegates and dignitaries. She mentioned that 49 <sup>th</sup> SGPAB meeting was conducted through email circulation and minutes/action taken report of 50 <sup>th</sup> SGPAB shall be placed for approval before the house. She stated about the adaptation of Sand Mining Rules, 2021. She briefly described the achievements of DMM for 2021-2022 viz. approval of 132 no. of Mine Plans (from October, 2021 to till date), scrutiny of 18 DSRs by the officials of DMM (out of which 6 no. of DSRs, namely: Uttar Dinajpur, Dakshin Dinajpur, Murshidabad, Alipurduar, Bankura and Paschim Bardhaman have already been approved by SEIAA). In this connection she informed the house that WBMDTCL had developed a dedicated web portal for online mineral administration system. DMM was also sharing necessary mineral related data for Natural Resource Accounting to Pr. Accountant General for F.S. 2022-2023. She requested GSI for re-evaluation and DGPS survey of Pankridih Apatite deposit and Pb-Zn deposit of Gorubathan. She also mentioned that West Bengal had potential in natural resources and the state could secure a good position in mineral map of India by strengthening exploration and sustainable exploitation.
50.01.03	<b>CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 49<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF SGPAB, WEST BENGAL</b> The minutes of the 49 <sup>th</sup> meeting of SGPAB, West Bengal was confirmed by the House unanimously.
50.02.00	<b>DISCUSSION ON AGENDA</b>
50.02.01	<b>Agenda 1</b> (1) <b>Requesting GSI to undertake the Block Boundary DGPS Survey for Panrkidih Phosphate Deposit within the periphery of Purulia District (Excluding parts of Jharkhand) and to convey the present status report to DMM, as per UNFC Guidelines.</b> <p align="right"><b>(Action : DMM, GSI)</b></p>

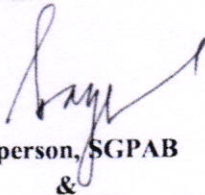


	<p><b>Comment of GSI:</b> Besides Pankridih, DGPS block boundary report containing Form IVA including Chirugora, Purdaha, Mednitandr had already been handed over to DMM. However GSI will check the issue and inform DMM later on.</p> <p>(II) As a follow up decision of Joint Working Group (JWG) meeting (held on 08/02/2022, Para: 01.01.03), a revaluation of the Lead-Zinc-Copper Deposits in Gorubathan area through Joint Survey involving a team of technical personnel from GSI and D.M.M., W.B.</p> <p><b>Comment of GSI:</b> Due to change of topography as well as demography, it was very difficult to demarcate block boundary by DGPS survey. GSI requested DMM to sit together regarding this issue to initiate the programme.</p> <p><b>Comment of DMM:</b> DMM also agreed on this issue.</p>
50.02.02	<p><b>Agenda 2</b></p> <p>A. Status of Reconstitution of JWG for auctioning of Mineral Blocks. (Action: DMM, GSI)</p> <p><b>Comment of DMM:</b> The matter was under process in the IC&amp;E department.</p> <p>B. Status of auction of Rudra Block (Gold). (Action: DMM, GSI)</p> <p><b>Comment of DMM:</b> Reschedule of block was necessary as area was so large covering Mukutmanipur Dam and other common public utility infrastructures.</p> <p><b>Comment of GSI:</b> A letter was requested from DMM's end. (Action: DMM)</p> <p>C. Preservation and Maintenance of Geo-heritage sites. (Action: DMM, GSI)</p> <p><b>Comment of DMM:</b> GSI has been requested to provide the detailed Geo-Tagged boundary covering the entire stretch of Latitude &amp; Longitude, instead of the Central Co-Ordinate value as provided by them for the concerned 03 sites. After obtaining the required data from GSI, it shall be forwarded to the concerned D.L. &amp; L.R.O. Offices for obtaining necessary Land Availability Reports. (Action: GSI)</p> <p>D. Projects on Seismic micro-zonation of urban agglomerates for seismic disaster preparedness and urban planning are taken up by GSI on receiving request from different state government agencies. If any such requirement arises relating to seismic hazards, GSI can be approached for such projects. (Action: Department of IC&amp;E, GSI)</p>



50.02.03	<p><b>Agenda 3: <u>Issue of grant of PML and PEL in favour of ONGC-MBA Basin</u></b></p> <p>a) <b>Grant of Prospecting cum Mining Lease of 5.88 Sq. km. for Oil &amp; Gas Discovery in the well Asokenagar-1, Block WB-ONN-2005/4</b>  Application for grant of PML was submitted to the Govt. of West Bengal. The grant of PML is awaited.  (Action: DMM/IC&amp;E, ONGC)  Comments of DMM/IC&amp;E: The matter is under process.</p> <p>b) <b>PEL for the Block BP-ONHP-2021/1</b>  PEL application dated. 22.10.2021 for Block BP-ONHP-2021/1 was submitted to Dept. of Industry, Commerce and Enterprises, Govt. of W.B. Grant of PEL is awaited.  (Action: DMM/IC&amp;E, ONGC)  Comments of DMM/IC&amp;E: The matter is under progress.</p>
50.02.04	<p><b>Agenda 4: Miscellaneous Issues.</b>  The Director, E.G: GSI, ER, informed the house that, Early Landslide Warning System in the Darjeeling Himalayan Terrain can be developed in near future using the latest State of the Art Technological Inputs, to prevent loss of Human lives and Property. In this connection, he requested the State to develop a few more Weather Monitoring Stations apart from the already existing Weather Stations of Darjeeling &amp; Siliguri, by taking inputs of: Soil, Weather, Rainfall, etc.  (Action: Dept. of I C &amp; E)</p>
50.03.00	<p><b>Concluding Remarks:</b> The Member Secretary, Director of Mines &amp; Minerals, requested all the member participants to come forward for strengthening development of the Mineral Sector in West Bengal. Moreover, she stated that, <b>Proper Exploration and Sustainable Exploitation of both Major &amp; Minor Minerals can elevate West Bengal among the Top 5 States in India in the realm of Mineral Production and Management. Thus, West Bengal may become a successful Mineral exporter of Major &amp; Minor Minerals within India &amp; abroad.</b></p>

The 50<sup>th</sup> SGPAB Meeting ended with vote of thanks.to and from the chair.

  
Chairperson, SGPAB  
&

Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal  
Department of Industry, Commerce & Enterprises.