

**NOTE ON GEOPHYSICAL SURVEYS FOR IDENTIFICATION OF POSSIBLE LOCI  
FOR HIDDEN TREASURES AT CHENNAMPALLI FORT AREA  
KURNOOL DISTRICT, ANDHRA PRADESH**

**Geophysics Division, Geological Survey of India, Southern Region, Hyderabad**

Geophysical surveys comprising of Magnetic and Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) methods were undertaken on the request of Secretary, Industries and Commerce / Mines, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh on priority basis to establish the favourable loci of hidden deposits in the Chennampalli fort area, Kurnool district, Andhra Pradesh. Initially, based on the information provided by the state officials, high precision magnetic surveys were deployed for the coverage of fort area with very close spaced observations. The outcome of this survey in conjunction with the earlier suspected areas has led us to plan the sophisticated GPR surveys for identification of possible target zones.

Magnetic surveys have mainly indicated a fracture zone in NNE-SSW direction corroborated with the presence of open wells. Unusual anomalous zones are observed with specific dimensions within it. These small zones, which may not be due to geological causes, are targeted for GPR surveys. It is further observed that geomorphologically, the fortified top of the mountain is a flat terrain and slopes steeply both in north and south directions. However, relatively three more flat areas are observed which permitted application of GPR methods. Thus, the possible areas are divided into four platforms and the geophysical results are analysed accordingly.

GPR surveys have indicated voids in the covered areas at two locations based on the reflections from the ground. One zone in platform-2 indicated highly localized anomalous zone where Govt. of A.P. efforts were concentrated earlier. Importantly, surveys on top of the hill over platform -3 have indicated concealed chambers adjacent to one such exposed place between the two bastions. It is also noticed that this area has unusually more number of bastions.

Integrating all the available information, it is observed that out of the four platform areas interesting anomalous zones, which may possibly house hidden objects, are identified at two places and accordingly recommended for further probing.

The final report was handed over to Shri Nataraj, Additional Director, Mines and Geology, Govt. of A.P. by the ADG & HOD, SR in his chamber on 29.01.2018.





GPR data acquisition



Picture depicting the prioritized areas for further probing.



ADG & HOD, SR, Handing over the report to Additional Director, Mines & Geology, Govt. of A.P.