

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA
29, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Kolkata- 700 016



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From:

Additional Director General & NMH-III,
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To:

Additional Director General & HOD,
CR- Nagpur /ER- Kolkata /NER- Shillong
/NR-Lucknow /SR-Hyderabad/WR-Jaipur/
Additional Director General & NMH,
M-IA, IB, II, III, IV, AdSS, STSS, F
The Deputy Director General & HoD, M&CSD,
Mangalore/ RSAS-Bangalore/GSI TI-Hyderabad,
Chief Engineer CHQ, DDG(Chem), DDG(P)

Sub: Complete Review and modification of existing GSI Publication Series as per demand/relevance

Sir,

During the VAQ workshop, a recommendation was made for the complete review of all GSI Publication Series and modification of the existing publication series as per demand/relevance. The matter was referred to a committee chaired by Shri Deo Nath, Additional Director General and Head Mission-III. The report of the committee was approved by the DG, GSI.

The recommendations of the committee are as follows:

1. In present day perception, unpublished reports of GSI are shared in Public domain much before the “Extended Abstracts of reports” are brought out. It is recommended that all the authors of unpublished reports should submit mandatorily a “Short Communication” within one month of receiving the inputs from service providing divisions. The committee recommends introducing a digital publication in OCBIS portal for Short Communications on the lines of Extended Abstracts and the digital publication may be flexible enough so that it can be updated periodically within one year freezing time.
2. From the detailed discussion on each and every present category of GSI Publications, it has been concluded that there is an urgent need to redefine these classical GSI Publication series based on their periodicity, demand and relevance. In this regard, it can be mentioned that the GSI was established by the British stalwarts and so far continuing the British Legacy, GSI Publication series also shows much resemblance with publications of British Geological Survey (BGS) and Geological Society of London. Thus, drastic changes for each category are not recommended.

3. However, instead of present nine GSI publication series, the following six broad categories have been proposed:

a) **Annual Report of GSI** (Earlier Records of GSI Series): As Part 1 to 8 has no relevance in future to publish. Annual General Report (Part 1) has already stopped publishing since 2017 and for Extended Abstracts of unpublished reports of Central facility and other Regions (Parts 2 to 8), it is proposed to introduce a digital publication in OCBIS portal for short communications on the lines of Extended Abstracts. The committee recommends that in light of this, the hard copy publication of Extended Abstracts of Regions and CHQ may be discontinued from FS 2019-20 (w.e.f. Extended abstracts for FS 2018-19).

b) **Memoirs** (A written account on a subject usually based on personal knowledge. It may include *Palaeontologia Indica* also as initially it started as Memoir only).

c) **Journals** (GSI Quarterly journal- Indian Journal of Geosciences).

d) **Special Publications** (Collection of papers on Special topic, Proceeding volumes of seminars/symposium, any special commemorative volume, Manual of Geology of India Series, Special volume on significant geological event like Kutch (Bhuj) Earthquake of 26th January 2001, Specific landslide event etc.).

e) **Geology and Mineral Resources of India** (Existing Misc. Pub 30 Series and Bulletin Series A on Economic Geology may come under this category).

f) **Other/Miscellaneous Publications** (Any other GSI Publications like Publications on Engineering Geology earlier published as Bulletin Series B, Landslide compendiums, any miscellaneous publications).

Detailed Concept note on publication of 'Shorter Communication' in OCBIS Portal and the report of the committee are attached for ready reference.

Yours faithfully



(Deo Nath)

ADG & NMH-III
CHQ, GSI, Kolkata

Report for VAQ recommendation on Review of all GSI Publication Series and modify as per demand/relevance

The issue has been raised in the VAQ workshop, held at Kolkata on the 19th and 20th July, 2018 for the review of all GSI Publication Series and modification of the existing publication series as per demand/relevance. The following committee was constituted by the DG, GSI for complete review of GSI Publication series.

1. Shri Deo Nath, ADG & National Mission Head-III-Chairman
2. Smt. Neeharika Jha, Dy. DG, M-IIIB-Member
3. Shri M. Raghupathi, Dy. DG, IA-IGC-Member
4. Shri C. Joshi, Director, PSS-P&M- Member
5. Shri Ashish Nath, Director & PRO- Member
6. Smt. Pushp Lata, Director, Publication Division-II- Member
7. Dr. Susmita Gupta, Director, Publication Division-I- Member
8. Smt. Nabanita Nandy, Superintending Geologist, Publication Division- Member.

The committee examined the recommendations made in the VAQ Workshop for complete review of GSI Publication series. It is discussed that in present day perception, unpublished reports of GSI are shared in Public domain much before the “Extended Abstracts of reports” are brought out. It is proposed by PSS-P&M that all authors of unpublished reports should submit mandatorily a “Short Communication” within one month of receiving the inputs from service providing divisions. The committee recommends introducing a digital publication in OCBIS portal for Short Communications on the lines of Extended Abstracts and the digital publication may be flexible enough so that it can be updated periodically within one year freezing time. Detailed Concept note on publication of ‘Shorter Communication’ in OCBIS Portal prepared by PSS-P&M is also enclosed (Annexure-1).

From the detailed discussion on each and every present category of GSI Publications, it has been concluded that there is an urgent need to redefine these classical GSI Publication series based on their periodicity, demand and relevance. In this regard, it can be mentioned that the GSI was established by the British stalwarts and so far continuing the British Legacy, GSI Publication series also shows much resemblance with publications of British Geological Survey (BGS) and Geological Society of London. Thus, drastic changes for each category are not recommended.

However, instead of present nine GSI publication series, the following six broad categories have been proposed:

a) **Annual Report of GSI** (Earlier Records of GSI Series): As Part 1 to 8 has no relevance in future to publish. Annual General Report (Part 1) has already stopped publishing since 2017

and for Extended Abstracts of unpublished reports of Central facility and other Regions (Parts 2 to 8), it is proposed to introduce a digital publication in OCBIS portal for short communications on the lines of Extended Abstracts. The committee recommends that in light of this, the hard copy publication of Extended Abstracts of Regions and CHQ may be discontinued from FS 2019-20 (w.e.f. Extended abstracts for FS 2018-19).

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Concept Note on Facility for Publication of short communication to be hosted on OCBIS portal.

The National Mineral Exploration Policy contains a very significant provision according to which all baseline and exploration data, is to be made available in public domain, free of charge, as a 'Public Good'.

Almost all of GSI legacy reports have already been digitized and made available on the GSI portal. All reports that are being generated are also being placed on the GSI portal and available in public domain.

There is a scheduled timetable for report circulation, but due to late receipt of chemical analysis and fast approaching deadlines, the authors virtually have no time left to logically interpret the results, draw conclusions, validate and finalize the reports. Sometimes the analysis are received only a few days before the deadline. This delay in analysis is probably because the number of samples being generated for analysis exceeds the analytical capacity of the laboratories.

These reports, once submitted by the authors, are scrutinized at various levels. The Regional Mission Heads have to scrutinize a large number of reports within a very short period. During this short time, it may be only possible to cursorily scan the report rather than give a meaningful feedback. This has given rise to the perception that quality of many of the reports needs improvement.

GSI also brings out a publication called Records of GSI containing extended abstracts of all reports to be brought out during the year. The publication of extended abstracts was started in 1980's to share the work carried out by GSI, during the period when GSI reports were not shared in public domain. The Records volume is brought out from the six Regions and CHQ. The material for extended abstracts is submitted according to a schedule and when the chemical analysis are not received by the due date, the abstract does not contain the interpreted results.

As the situation stands today, the complete report is being shared in the public domain much before the extended abstracts are brought out.

To overcome the drawbacks of the current system the following recommendations were made during the VAQ workshop:

- 1. It is recommended that all authors should submit a short communication within a short time of receiving the inputs from service providing divisions (Chemical, petrology, PGRS etc. as the case may be) so that any important information or finding will be available to the stake holders. The short communications may be in the form of a digital publication hosted in OCBIS and which is updated periodically.*
- 2. The authors should be given sufficient time to prepare a full report, post receipt of the input from service labs (about 2 months).*

The timelines accepted in the VAQ workshop are a) Uploading of Highlights – 30 days from receipt of analysis and b) Submission of reports – 60 days from analysis/input.

It is therefore proposed to host a digital publication on the OCBIS portal with a suitable title for short communications on the lines of extended abstract. These can include highlights of reports to be circulated and other findings of significance that need to be shared with stakeholders. The timelines for uploading highlights of reports as decided in the VAQ workshop is 30 days from receipt of analysis and inputs from service divisions.

The proposed digital publication will need to be flexible so that it can be updated periodically (as and when highlights or communications are received).

The publication can have a life of one year after which it can be frozen and the next edition can be started.

The benefit of implementation of this system would be to ensure sharing of information with the stakeholders within a short period of time and allowing sufficient time for preparation and circulation of higher quality reports.