

## **Meeting with prospective outsourced drilling bidders held on 17.01.2019 at Oldham Hall, CHQ, Kolkata**

A meeting was held on 17.01.2019 between GSI officials and prospective outsourced drilling bidders in CHQ, Kolkata under the Chairmanship of Shri G. V Vidyasagar, ADG (STSS) and Co-Chairman Shri R.S Garkhal, ADG, PSS- P&M. Shri K. Panda, ADG(F) & HOD, CHQ was also present. The ADG & NMH-II and ADG & HOD of regional offices along with the DDGs of Mineral rich State Units were also connected through the video conferencing.

At the outset, Shri T. Pongen, Superintending Engineer, CHQ welcomed all the participants and meeting started with opening remarks by Shri G. V Vidyasagar, ADG (STSS)& Chairman, Shri R.S Garkhal, ADG, PSS- P&M & Co-Chairman, Shri K.Panda,ADG (F) & HOD, CHQ and Shri D.Mohan Raj, ADG & NMH-II through VC.

Before the start of the deliberations, Shri Ajay Agarwal, Chief Engineer, CHQ reiterated that GSI is more than 165-year-old scientific organisation and stressed on the importance of mining sector in the GDP of the nation. He solicited support to the role of GSI in nation building by participating in GSI's outsourced drilling tender process in G4 & G3 investigations as it will lead to G2 investigation involving large quantum of drilling.

Various issues raised by the representatives of the agencies were discussed and suggestions were also made by the representatives. Assurance was given in the meeting to look into the issues and make modifications in the tender documents wherever needed to ensure more participation in future bidding process.

Specific reference was made regarding outsourced drilling in NER for which the bidders expressed that drilling in NER is very challenging and financially not viable vis-a-vis other regions due to rugged terrain and inaccessibility of location of boreholes. Suggestion was made to relook into the estimated cost for making the project attractive.

The meeting ended with the summation of the deliberations by the Chairman as fruitful and eye opening followed by vote of thanks by Shri T. Pongen, SE.

Moments captured during the meeting at Oldham Hall, GSI CHQ Kolkata





