Minutes of Meeting between Ministry of Mines, Govt. of India and BISAG

The team comprising of Shri Pradeep Singh, Director (Technical), &Shri Sanjeev Verma, Director, Ministry of Mines, Govt of India, Dr. Sanjay Das, Dy. Director General, State Unit : Rajasthan, & Shri Alok Chitranshi, Director, State Unit Gujarat, Geological Survey of India, Shri Darshan Bharadwaj, IBM, Govt of India visited Bhaskaracharaya Institute of Space Application and Geoinformatics (BISAG) on 17th March,2020.The visit started with a presentation by Dr T. P. Singh, Director, BISAG about activities, tasks and objectivesof BISAG. During the presentation, several case studies related with Space Application and Geoinformatics developed by BISAG were shown. Subsequently, the team also visited the laboratories of BISAG wherein different applications leading to management of social and scientific databases built for the stakeholder by BISAG were documented/shown. These databases have been developed by BISAG by the application of their indigenous softwares. The team of Ministry of Mines and GSI also demonstrated the existing capabilities of data dissemination process through the " Bhukosh" portal of GSI. It was shown to BISAG how geoscientific data specifically 50K Maps and NGCM spatial data can be downloaded both in pdf as well as specific GIS data format by the user.

Based on the detailed discussions following areas have been identified for collaboration-

1. Ministry of Mines is in the process of creation of National Geoscience Data Repository (NGDR) to make available all geological, geochemical, geophysical and mineral exploration related data in public domain on a single window digital geospatial platform, free of cost. The NGDR is envisaged to be a geoscientific data repository that will contain a vast gamut of data ranging from geospatial, remote sensing, geophysical including gravity-magnetic, geochemical, exploration related data and various other proprietary data types and formats. NGDR will be an integration of GIS Engine, Geophysical Solution, Content Management System and Business analytics on single platform. The proposed solution architecture will be robust, highly secure and scalable in nature and capable of catering to the current demand as well as the projected future growth. A Detailed Project Report (DPR) of National Geoscientific Database Report (NGDR) is in the process of finalization. The report, on finalization will be shared with BISAG. However, as the DPR

finalization will take some time, GSI will prepare a detailed concept note on NGDR, containing its various features and pathways and submit BISAG within one week. After examining the document, BISAG may call concerned experts from GSI for further action. An MOU will be drafted and the costing will be worked out and formalized before launching the project.

2. BISAG may register and use the existing BHUKOSH portal of GSI for understanding the different processes and data extraction, applications on BHUKOSH and can suggest further upgradation in data structure and or dissemination process. This will give BISAG the first hand information about this important GIS application. The BISAG will suggest the further upgradation in the data structure and develop analytical tools for utilizing this big dataset. However, if required, some sample geoscientific data which is downloadable can be shared with BISAG for this purpose.

3. The unavailability of data like land records, forest cover etc. is a major hindrance excluding these mining barriers at the time of formulating the mineral exploration items. GSI would make efforts to collect such data from Central and State Government agencies and take support of BISAG in integrating socio-economic and administrative, spatial and non-spatial data base existing with Ministries, Central and State agencies with existing Geoscientific data of GSI. GSI will examine whether the computerized land records available on Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP) under Ministry of Rural Development, Department of Land Resources could be used. GSI would also take up the matter of getting forest cover data from Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MOEFCC).

4. GSI has developed huge coal resources through surface and subsurface exploration up to G2 level and maintains coal repository. The updated Coal inventory is being shared with BISAG. The data will be reviewed by BISAG to examine whether data can be used for predictive modeling softwares. GSI can also explore the possibilities for the same in other mineral explorations.

5. IBM may examine whether the applications of Mining Tenement System (MTS) can be further upgraded by BISAG. It was also suggested that all details like production, import, export of mineral data should also be available online through an end to end system.

6. GSI has a National Training Institute with headquarter at Hyderabad. At present the activities of Training Institute are shown in a separate window in the GSI portal. This leads to cluttering of information. GSI, TI needs to have a separate website which will display all its major activities, separate modules for different geo-science, administrative and financial training courses, annual training calendar, e-learning modules. This issue needs to be discussed further with GSI and BISAG.

7. The website of NMET is not operational for quite some time. BISAG could be approached for upgradation of NMET website.

Actions:
1. Shri Alok Chitranshi, Director, SU: Gujarat will be the coordinator of the joint GSI-BISAG programmes.
2. Shri Bhardwaj will be the coordinator for joint IBM-BISAG programmes.
3. Two Senior Geologists from GSI, SU: Gujarat, Gandhinagar will be associated full time with the joint GSI-IBM-BISAG programme.
4. Shri Pradeep Singh, Director (Technical) and Shri Sanjeev Verma, Director, Ministry of Mines will coordinate the programme at Ministry of Mines.