



सत्यमेव जयते

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SECRETARY

भारत सरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
खान मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF MINES

शास्त्री भवन, नई दिल्ली - 110115  
SHASTRI BHAWAN, NEW DELHI-110115

**D.O. No.11 [8]2010-M.I**  
October 27, 2010

Dear *Shri Daswant Singh,*

At the outset I would like to extend my best wishes on your assumption of charge. I am certain that you will find ample opportunities to prove your mettle in these transitional times of seminal changes in GSI.

I am in receipt of your DO letter dated 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> October, 2010. It is satisfying to note that some positive changes in activities and mindset have started percolating in GSI, but at the same time there are still many short-comings and long neglected issues. I hope you will be able to address these already listed issues, set priorities and undo the setbacks in GSI's programme implementation which have unfortunately developed over the years due to number of reasons. In this connection, particular attention should be paid to the various concerns as well as issues which were flagged both by me and the Additional Secretary during the recently held HODs meeting in Delhi.

The following issues are being enumerated for expeditious action:-

**1.0 Pending Reports -**

- 1.1 It is noted that disciplinary action has finally been initiated against defaulters albeit after a very long and unjustifiable delay. I expect the process thus started will be taken to its logical conclusion in a time-bound purposive manner. I also hope the pendency of reports will be closely monitored in the future so that situation does not again come to such a deplorable state. Unlike past practice, ACRs should conscientiously reflect any such dereliction of duty and guidelines in this respect must be reiterated.
- 1.2 As of now, six Reports [non-NGCM] up to FS 2006-07 are still pending. What time-bound actions are contemplated to clear these Reports may be clamped.
- 1.3 It is expected that similar action be initiated for defaulters of report pendency for FS 2007-08 that had become due since 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2009, but were allowed to be submitted by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2010 as per your assurance in the last QPR meeting. It is noted that 11 nos. of Reports on mineral investigations of FS 2007-08 are still pending out of a total of 31.

- 1.4 In the current Mission-Region matrix of GSI, for operational activities it will be prudent to prepare SOP and define stages on Report preparation to its scrutiny at supervisory level followed by quality check at Technical Directorate/ Mission level prior to its circulation. Attempt should be made to improve role clarity and accountability at all levels.
- 1.5 Reports for F.S. 2008-09 have also become due since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010. You must ask all HODs to ensure that this is cleared by 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2010.
- 1.6 Not much progress is achieved in making Mineral Investigation Reports UNFC compliant. Regions have failed to complete the task by due date. In the HoD meeting the Regional Heads have committed that the task will be completed by December, 2010. I hope that this deadline is adhered to (including those pertaining to erstwhile AMSE).

## **2.0 NGCM Data**

- 2.1 While tabulating data on optimum machine/ equipment capacity [norm] and actual output against samples pendency liquidation, the reasons for poor performance and initiated remedial measures should be indicated for in-house appraisal and result oriented assessment. I may also be informed of the methodology of how the norms were fixed and reasons for variation between 'norm' and 'liquidation rate'.
- 2.2 I think you are aware that outsourcing of personnel is crucially important for liquidating the pendency of GCM samples. The relevant annexure in your letter clearly shows that the outsourcing has not progressed. Action proposed in the matter and reasons for poor progress must be adequately explained in your next d.o. letter.
- 2.3 You must plan and strive to remove the pendency on samples analysis by end February, 2011 (up to 2006-07) and clear, at least upto Interim stage, all the NGCM Reports upto F.S. 2006-07 by 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2011 positively.
- 2.4 It is still seen that there is no sharing of resources amongst the various laboratories for ensuring complete utilisation of all equipments. As decided in the HoDs meeting, 9000 samples should be tested during the quarter ending December, 2010. A clear statement should be provided

indicating the capacity of each equipment and its utilisation on a month-wise basis.

### 3.0 GSI Portal

- 3.1 Despite repeated reminders, it is observed from a cursory view of the Portal that against 380 approved tour records only 51 tour notes have been uploaded till date. This needs to be looked into, bottlenecks identified and rectification measure attended to.
- 3.2 Leave application software needs to be properly operationalised by according approval online. For this purpose it may be ensured that leave account is fully updated.
- 3.3 It is again reminded that the low number of Case Studies and photographs does not speak very highly of the long history and vast experience of this organisation. Although contributions by Western and Central Region are acknowledged other regions must make extra efforts towards this end and further enrich GSI Portal.
- 3.4 The Portal Phase-III development process has to be monitored for strict adherence to the scheduled time lines. Kindly elaborate further steps being taken in the process and hold regular meetings with NIC for expeditious finalisation/ operationalisation of identified activities.
- 3.5 **Detailed Information Dossiers** were supposed to be updated by 30th September 2010, However updated DID of only Iron has been attempted and uploaded for comments. DID of rest of the commodities (Au, Diamond, Cu, Pb, Zn, Mn, Mo, W, Cr and bauxite) are to be updated urgently. Besides these DIDs of PGE and REE (including Lithium) are to be prepared for their strategic significance and market demand. I am told that the problem of updating DIDs is because of delay in getting MI Reports UNFC compliant. In order to resolve the issue for timely updating of DIDs the coordination by Head of Mission-II is essential in this regard and he should ensure that DIDs are updated in next two-three months.
- 3.6 It was noted in 33<sup>rd</sup> HoD meeting that status of uploading maps in GSI portal is poor. Some Regions, particularly SR was confused in even providing number of maps actually to

be uploaded. As decided, status note on actual number of maps to be uploaded will be submitted within fortnight and as agreed by Regional Heads all Regions except NR will ensure that all maps are uploaded by December, 2010.

- 3.7 The FSP MIS now needs to be upgraded into a full-fledged work flow application, recording the names of the field parties, the dates of mobilisation, setting up of camp, drawal of RCA, visits of supervisory officers etc. The Field Diary module and the stage review and Team Review modules need to be linked so that all this record is available online and paper work is avoided. I would like this fully operational by end of December, 2010.

#### **4.0 RAC and OAC meetings**

- 4.1 Notwithstanding the specific mention in my previous DO letter, the tabulated list on dates of the last few RAC and OAC meetings of the Regions does not figure in your letter. It is requested again that this information be enlisted for monitoring and ensuring that these meetings are held regularly every quarter in Region and State Units and their minutes and ATR uploaded on the Portal.

#### **5.0 Machinery and Equipments – Procurement Action**

- 5.1 Now that the L-1 bidder (M/s Hyundai Heavy Industries, Korea) has been short-listed for price negotiation for the procurement of new Ocean Research Vessel, outcome of the negotiation committee meetings should be reported and pursued expeditiously as the escalated costs would entail due approval from the Hon'ble Minister of Mines and the Cabinet for meeting the changed budgetary requirements. Updated PERT Charts showing milestones and time-lines may be submitted for monitoring.
- 5.2 **Geotechnical Vessel** : Every effort must be directed towards procurement of Geotechnical vessel as per the specifications in new Pert Chart.
- 5.3 Ministry needs to be informed and updated regularly on status of operationalisation of the Heliborne systems acquired by RSAS, GSI, Bangalore. We are eager to know about the status of installation and integration of all the sensors in the helicopter and deployment of the system for the FSP.

- 5.4 It is suggested that a Committee be constituted under the chairmanship of Dy.DG Mission-1B(RSAS) Bangalore to monitor and oversee timely execution of various issues and testing the functionality of all sensors and instruments and speed up overhauling work of helicopter so that geophysical surveys of the selected terrain is carried out in a planned manner.
- 5.5 The Committee must also finalize and issue guidelines and requirements for prioritizing the proposed geophysical surveys to be started in FS 2010-12.
- 5.6 Reports on the activities since acquisition, of major assets, i.e. JTOASS, OGRV and Coastal vessels are still not complete and need to be completed before the next QPR meeting positively.

## **6.0 Geophysical Data and Aeromagnetics**

- 6.1 Geophysical surveys particularly air-borne aero-magnetic surveys need to be carried out for their proven significant role in augmenting deep seated mineral and natural resources of the country. There is a felt need for upscaling the Aeromagnetic Surveys as part of the National Geophysical Programme. A coordinated effort needs to be launched in this direction to expedite a rapid regional aeromagnetic survey of the country in collaboration with other stakeholders / Organisations and may be worked out in collaboration with Standing Committee on Geology under the NNRMS.

## **7.0 RCA and Monitoring of Plan Expenditure**

- 7.1 The status of disciplinary proceedings against erring officers where RCA remained unutilized or unadjusted for more than six months, as pointed out in my previous D O Letter finds no mention in your letter.
- 7.2 Another cause of great concern is the fact that though you have emphatically stated that by 15<sup>th</sup> Oct'10 field parties will move out to their respective field areas, from the reports received here, it is observed that except for three parties in Op: Madhya Pradesh, none others have commenced their field activities. In fact, most of the parties have not even received their RCA till 15<sup>th</sup> Oct'10. Either the priorities and timings were not judiciously set or there is a serious shortfall

in programme implementation. Under both the circumstances, GSI needs to take remedial measures.

- 7.3 It has been pointed out during the 33rd HOD meeting that Eastern Region and Western Region are facing funds crunch under Mission- IV. It is noticed that this poor management/distribution of Mission funds particularly on multidisciplinary Geoscientific Studies being carried out in different Regions. Mission IV has uploaded statement on monthly budget and expenditure only till June, 2010! However, from RE Statement uploaded by Mission IV, it is clear that funds are available with the Mission. Given such deplorable state of financial management, timely implementation of FS 2010-12 programmes appears jeopardised unless immediate remedial measures are taken.
- 7.4 It was also informed during the HOD meeting that funds allocation under Mission-IV are done through two sources (a) for fundamental geoscience - the funds are allocated by the Head of Mission - IV at Kolkata, (b) for multidisciplinary geoscience activities under Mission - IV the funds are allocated by HOD, NRO, Lucknow. This appears to be a cause of confusion and delay. It is amazing that it needs reiteration that Mission - IV is a single entity with headquarters at Kolkata to oversee Plan budgetary allocations to different Regions.
- 7.5 **ECS implementation in GSI** : Implementation of ECS in State Units of Northern, Southern and Northeastern Regions is not yet completed. I hope you will take expeditious steps to complete this process in all offices of GSI particularly in GSI, Delhi latest by November, 2010 and report.

## 8.0 Training Policy Coordination Committee (TPCC)

- 8.1 Now as the date of the next TPCC meeting has been fixed (16<sup>th</sup> November, 2010) I assume the List of Guest Faculty-with their subjects of specialisation / expertise for RTIs and FTCs will be finalised and uploaded on the Portal on fast track basis.
- 8.2 It is hoped that this time a thorough homework is carried out beforehand to ensure detailed Agenda Notes and ATR on the previous meetings are circulated and all members of TPCC participate effectively.

8.3 In particular I want to know of the progress and future plans to impart management training to senior officers of GSI at ASCI/IIMs/MDI etc. as was discussed in detail with DDG (GSI TI) several months ago.

## **9.0 FSP 2010-12**

9.1 You are aware in the preceding FSPs there have been wide disparity in the number of days spent by different parties in field for recording field observations and consequently the quality and credibility of the geoscientific work has seriously suffered. It is expected that the norms set for number of days spent for field observation and supervision at field will be strictly adhered to for improved quality of technical work and output. DG, GSI has already issued detailed guidelines on this issue and this should be strictly adhered to by all field officers.

## **10.0 Policy on publication of Research Papers and participation in International Seminars**

10.1 Time-lines for development of comprehensive policy and guidelines on publication of Research Papers and participation in International Seminars have to be realistically set and adhered to the two draft Policy Paper may be uploaded to the Portal for comments and feedback by 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2010 positively.

## **11.0 Quality Management**

11.1 Quality Management must strictly adhere to timelines for draft SOPs, workshops, finalisation of SOPs and development of checklist for supervisory officers. This process should involve thorough internal assessment and reviewing by internal and external subject experts. Draft SOPs so uploaded on the Portal are not of requisite quality and standards. There is need for an immediate Peer Review of the same so as to ensure that such inadequacies are immediately removed.

11.2 Data provided in Regional Briefing Books show surprisingly low period of field days survey work by Mission - I & II baseline data generating Field parties. Additional Secretary (Mines) has randomly picked samples of such parties with low field days and communicated the same to you. This requires your immediate intervention so that such practices of irresponsible behaviour and shoddy supervision do not recur in current FS 2010-12.

11.3 Peer-review of at least 10 per cent of the Reports of F.S. 2007-08 by external experts may be ensured as decided in HoDs meeting

I would request you to please take urgent action on the issues outlined above. As always I am endorsing a copy of this letter to all HODs. I would be grateful if you could kindly ensure that GSI gears itself at all levels to better respond to the need to reform and restructuring.

Please also ensure that your monthly d.o. letter is sent so as to reach us by 10<sup>th</sup> of each month. For this purpose, in addition to Director (Tech.), e.mail should be sent to me and to the Additional Secretary directly.

*with best wishes*

Yours sincerely,

  
(S. Vijay Kumar)

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