

Institution of Geoscientists, Odisha

Association of Former Geoscientists of the Geological Survey of India

(Regd No 23952/78 of 2017-18),

HIG-123, Kalinga Vihar, Sector-6 , Bhubaneswar- 751019, Odisha

Website- www.igo.org.in

The formation of an Association of the retired scientific officers of the Geological Survey of India (GSI) was initiated in September, 2010 mainly to look after the welfare of the members and their families. Initially the Society was formed in the name of **PRITHVI on 3rd October, 2011**. The name 'PRITHVI' was changed to 'Institution of Geoscientists, Odisha, (IGO)' and was registered on 18th January 2018.

In the last few years the Association (IGO) has established its identity as a leading platform visible all over the country and abroad in disseminating and sharing the knowledge and professional experience of the eminent members who have their own recognition in various fields of Geosciences. Effort was made to impart field training to young upcoming geologists from the mining industry as well as Post-graduate students of various universities in Odisha. It organises lectures on mineral exploration for the post-graduate students through eminent faculty arranged from leading academic Institutes and professional organisations besides members of the IGO. It carried out a series of virtual high standard and informative lectures on current topics of diverse fields of Geosciences. The recorded lectures have also been uploaded on YouTube for the benefits of the students. Besides technical projects involving petrological study of samples from different exploration/mining projects are being taken up from time to time. IGO organises Earth Day every year on 22nd April by inviting eminent scientists for delivering talks relevant to the theme. As part of its commitment, IGO felicitates its senior members and geoscientists of repute every year besides conferring Dr. R.N. Mishra Memorial award to students of Utkal University securing highest mark in Economic/Ore Geology. IGO organises annual family get together and picnic.

Activities and Achievements in 2025

- An international seminar on “**Coastal Dynamics: Geology, Economy and Environment**” was held during 8-10 January, 2025 at FM University, Balasore with the active involvement of IGO. This was the second international seminar held in the FM University with the guidance and mentorship of IGO. On 10th January 2025, a large contingent of students and faculty members from various universities of the State participated in the field work in the famous tidal flats of Chandipur to understand the geomorphological features carved out by the natural agencies.
- The Annual Felicitation Function was held on the 25th December 2024 at Guru Kelu Charan Mohapatra Odishi Research Centre Auditorium, Bhubaneswar. Five senior members of IGO S/Shri Guru Charan Das, R. N. Pasayat, Prashant Kumar Ray, Dr. S. Sarvothaman and V. Ravi Kumar were felicitated for their outstanding contribution in the field of Geosciences. The 5th Dr. Rabi Narayan Mishra Memorial Award was conferred on Sh. Shisir Kumar Sahu, the best student of Economic Geology from the Geology Department, Utkal University for

the academic session 2022-2024. A letter of appreciation was handed over to Mrs. Shahid Ummar for his contribution in popularizing earth science.

- A family get-together cum picnic was arranged on the 23rd February 2025 at at the Natraj Hilltop IB on the left bank of the river Mahanadi. Members of IGO along with their families enthusiastically participated in the event.
- On invitation, members of IGO participated in the 175th Foundation Day Celebration of GSI at the State Unit Odisha, Bhubaneswar. IGO was an official sponsor.
- The 7th Annual General Body Meeting was held on the 16th March, 2025. The newly elected Council for the 2025-27 term was elected.
- The 55th Earth Day with theme “*Our Power, Our Planet*” was observed on the 22nd April, 2025 at the GSI premises of State Unit Odisha. Dr. Priyadarshi Chowdhury, School of Earth and Planetary Sciences, NISER, Bhubaneswar, was the chief speaker on the occasion. Shri Pankaj Kumar, Deputy Director General, State Unit Odisha, GSI was the Guest of Honour.
- A MoU between M/S Geomarine Solutions Pvt Ltd and IGO was signed on 1st August 2025 for preparation of exploration proposals for submission to NMET.
- A condolence meeting was held for Late Sri P L Roy, one of the founding members of IGO, on the 20th September 2025, where the members expressed their feelings and memories for the departed member.
- 2 new members Sh P K Jena and Sh P C Das joined IGO in August 2025.
- For the first time, 2 professors (ex-GSI) Prof J K Pati, Allahabad University and Prof M L Dora, JNU joined as life members in September 2025.
- Dr Manoranjan Mohanty, Vice President and Dr B K Sahu, Secretary attended the 61st State Geological Programming Board held on the 14th November 2025.
- Sri Sisir Chandra Rath, Director General (Retd.) GSI was felicitated by the SGAT and Utkal University.
- Dr S B Ray chaired one of sessions and participated in the panel discussion on “Science and Technology Innovations: Challenges and Prospects” -an international seminar held at KIIT University.