



# Institution of Geoscientists, Odisha

Association of Former Geoscientists of the Geological Survey of India

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

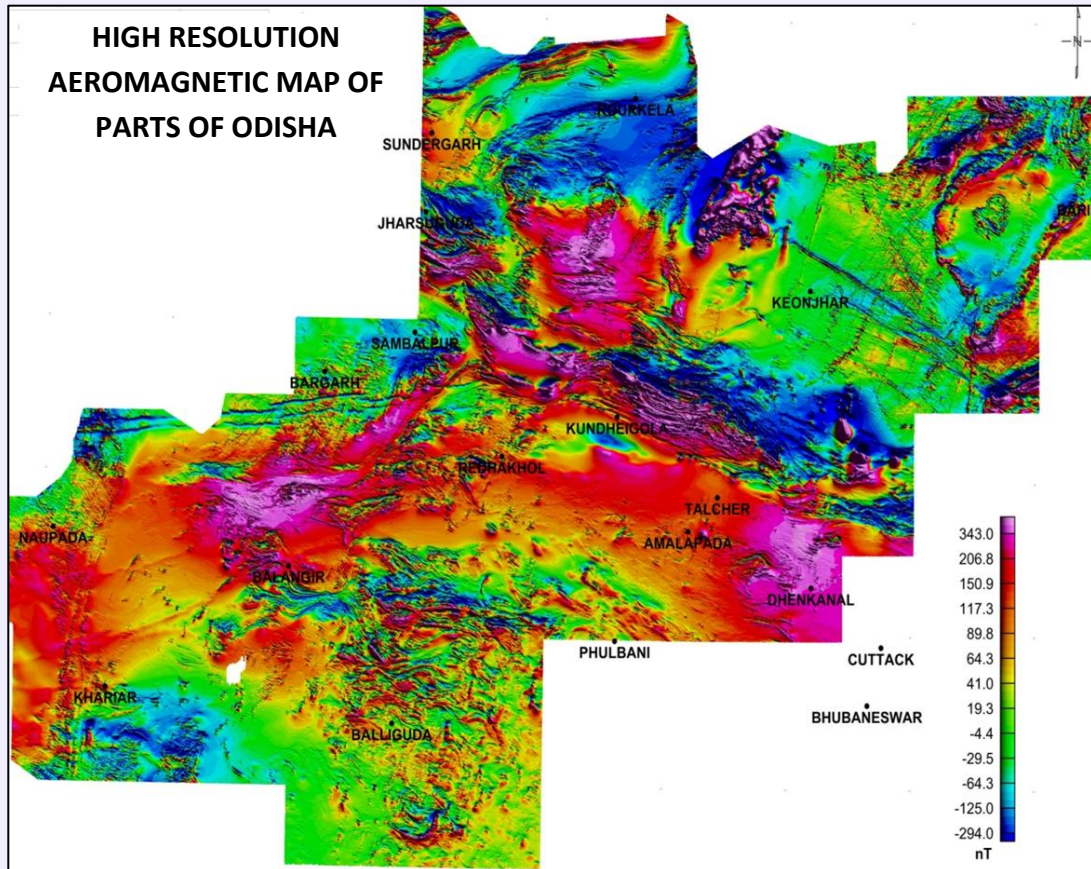
Website- [www.igo.org.in](http://www.igo.org.in)

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## ANNUAL FELICITATION and 6th Dr. RABINARAYAN MISHRA MEMORIAL AWARD FUNCTION

Date: 24 December (Wednesday) 2025

Venue: Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra Odissi Research Centre, Bhubaneswar



**High Resolution Aeromagnetic Map of parts of Odisha (75 ,000 Km<sup>2</sup>) covering parts of the Singhbhum Craton in the north, Eastern Ghats Belt in the south and intervening Coal bearing Gondwana basins (Mahanadi-Ib Basin).**

The data was acquired by M/s World Geoscience, Australia during 1993-98 at a constant height of 80m and spacing of 300m. The data was reinterpreted during 2016-17 at GSI, RSAS Division, Bengaluru and mineral prospective blocks were identified for subsequent detailed investigations. Recently, Helicopter borne EM survey was conducted by GSI in these identified blocks for detailed and more advanced exploration for gold, platinum and chromite.

### Critical Mineral Exploration by GSI in Odisha

1. In Madnasahi-Kesharpur-Dudhiasol sector, Kuliana, Mayurbhanj dist. a total resources of 40.81million tonne of copper ore with average 0.59% Cu has been established. Copper is invariably associated with gold and nickel at places.
2. In Adash-Rampalli sector, Deogarh dist. a total resources of 8.16 Mt of copper ore with 0.61%Cu and having 1715kg of gold has been established.
3. In Khuntapada-Baulasahi-Notara sector of Nayagarh dist syenite and pyroxene bearing syenite are found to be enriched in REE particularly LREE.
4. Exploration programmes at various stages are in progress in both Daspalla graphite belt.

### Office bearers (2025-2027)

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**Secretary** Dr. B. K. Sahu: 9437568969; [sahubk2010@gmail.com](mailto:sahubk2010@gmail.com)  
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### Members of the Executive Council:

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# History of the Institution of Geoscientists, Odisha (IGO) and its activities

## *A Legacy of Service, Knowledge, and Professional Excellence*

The Association of Retired Scientific Officers of the Geological Survey of India (GSI), Bhubaneswar, was established on 3 October 2010 with the founding office bearers: **Shri P. N. Nayak** – President; **Dr. S. Pasayat** – Vice President; **Shri P. K. Panda** – General Secretary-cum-Treasurer; **Shri G. C. Das** – Joint General Secretary; **Md. Sahid Ummar** – Joint Secretary. In 2011, a draft Memorandum containing the Laws and By-laws was prepared under the name **PRITHVI**. Over the years, the association organized regular family get-togethers and technical meetings on significant and emerging geoscientific themes. In 2013, **Dr. S. Pasayat** assumed the role of President, and **Shri R. N. Padhi** joined as Adviser.

Between 2010 and 2016, senior members were honoured for their distinguished lifetime contributions. The association also extended financial support to the **Samaj Relief Fund** and the **Chief Minister's Relief Fund**, reflecting its commitment to social responsibility.

In January 2017, the society adopted the new name **Institution of Geoscientists, Odisha (IGO)**, and it was formally registered on **18 January 2018**. **Dr. B. M. Faruque** served as the first President of IGO, followed by **Shri S. C. Rath**, **Dr. S. B. Ray**, and **Shri J. K. Nanda**.

Today, **IGO stands as a distinguished platform**, widely recognized across India and abroad for disseminating geoscientific knowledge and sharing the rich professional experience of its esteemed members. Many former GSI officers, now residing outside Odisha, continue their active engagement as life members of the organization.

A major milestone was achieved in **2024**, when IGO was included as an invited participant in the **State Geological Programming Board (SGPB)**. Since then, it has been contributing key technical recommendations vital to the state's geological and mineral development initiatives.

IGO has also expanded its collaborative presence by signing a **MoU with F. M. University, Balasore**, to provide teaching and training support to the Department of Geology. Additionally, several **MoUs with mining and exploration companies** have been established to extend specialized technical expertise.

## Major events and activities of IGO

### ➤ Annual Felicitation

- The **Annual Felicitation Ceremony** and the **5th Rabi Narayan Mishra Memorial Award Function** were held on **25 December 2024**, honouring distinguished members for their contributions.

### ➤ International Seminar & Field Workshop

- A **3-day International Seminar and Workshop**, titled “**Coastal Dynamics, Economy and Environment**,” was organized from **8–10 January 2025** by the Department of Geology, **F. M. University, Balasore**, in collaboration with **IGO**.
- On **12 January 2025**, students and faculty from **Utkal University, Ravenshaw University, North Odisha University**, and **F. M. University** conducted an in-depth field study of the geomorphic features and natural processes shaping the **tidal flats of Chandipur**.

### ➤ Family Picnic

- A family' picnic was organized on **17 February 2025** at **Naraj**, 20 km from Bhubaneswar, on the scenic bank of the **Mahanadi River**. The event saw enthusiastic participation from members and their families.

### ➤ 55th Earth Day Celebration

- The **55th Earth Day** was observed on **22 April 2025**, with the theme “**Our Power: Our Planet**.”
- **Dr. Priyadarshi Chowdhury**, Assistant Professor, NISER Bhubaneswar, and Affiliate Research Fellow, Monash University, Australia, graced the occasion as **Chief Guest**, delivering an insightful lecture titled “*Building Earth's First Continents: Insight from the Singhbhum Craton.*”

- **Shri Pankaj Kumar**, Deputy Director General, SU Odisha, was the **Guest of Honour**.

### ➤ Petrological Study Report

- IGO .” submitted 44 petrological study reports to M/s Vedanta Pvt. Ltd and 28 to M/s Kundan Gold Mines Pvt during 2025

### ➤ 61st AGPB, Odisha

- **Dr. M. Mohanty** and **Dr. B.K. Sahu** represented IGO in the **61st SGPB meeting** held on **14th November, 2025** on virtual mode. The constructive suggestions put forth by the IGO were appreciated and recorded in the meeting.

## Obituary

Late **B. K. Jena**, former Dy. Director General passed away on **21st January 2025**

Late **Mrs. S. Sarangi**, wife of **Shri B.B. Sarangi**, former Director, passed away on **7th February 2025**.

Late **P. K. Roy**, former Director, passed away on **11th September 2025**.



Prof. S.K. Tripathy, VC, FM University, Balasore along with IGO Members on the International Seminar on Coastal Dynamics held on 10-12th January, 2025



Participants of the field Workshop at the Chandipur tidal flat.



Earth Day Function held on 22nd April, 2025 at GSI Office, Bhubaneswar. **Dr. Priyadarshi Chowdhury**, Asst. Professor, NISER (left). **Shri Pankaj Kumar**, Dy.D.G., GSI (Centre).



Annual get together of IGO members at **Naraj Irrigation Guest House** on **17th February, 2025**



Annual Felicitation and the **5th Rabi Narayan Mishra Award Function** held on **25.12.2024**. Chief Guest: **Dr. Ramanuj Narayan**, Director, IMMT, Bhubaneswar (**3rd from right**)

## Eminent Senior Members of IGO being Felicitated in 2025



Shri Rabindranath Patra, M.Sc. (Geology), Utkal University, began his professional career as a Geologist with the East Coast Bauxite Project in the Directorate of Geology and Mines, Government of Odisha. He subsequently worked in the exploration of limestone, dolomite, and coal in Meghalaya and the Bhutan Himalayas as a Geologist in the Geological Survey of India. His dedicated and sustained efforts led to the discovery of the country's maiden PGE deposit in the Baula–Nuasahi Magmatic Complex in Keonjhar district, for which he was conferred the National Mineral Award in 1998 by the Government of India. He underwent specialised training on *Ultramafic Rocks & Platinum Group Element Mineralisation* at BRGM, Orléans, France. He also carried out base-metal investigations in the Daling Group rocks of Eastern Sikkim and supervised coal investigations across the country. He later took over as DDG & HOD of the Southern Region, GSI, Hyderabad. He has been felicitated by numerous organisations and professional societies, including the Department of Geology, Utkal University.



**Girija Prasad Mohapatra**, M.Sc. (Geology), Utkal University, joined the Geological Survey of India in December 1977 as a Geologist and had a distinguished 36-year career that culminated in his serving as Additional Director General and HOD, Eastern Region, GSI. He acquired wide-ranging professional expertise in Marine Geology, Offshore Mineral Exploration, Oceanic Remote Sensing, geotechnical investigations of the seabed, and comprehensive studies on coastal and river-mouth processes. He was a key resource person in the construction and commissioning of GSI's state-of-the-art research vessel, *RV Samudra Ratnakar*. His research works have been published in national and international journals. In addition, he is a prolific writer of short stories featured in various Odia magazines and periodicals and is the author of the book *Punascha Samudra*, published in 2010. His advisory roles to academic and scientific institutions, as well as his service on various Government committees, are widely recognized.



**Sisir Chandra Rath, M.Sc (Applied Geology)**, IIT Kharagpur, has an outstanding academic record and topped the 1976 UPSC Geologists' Examination. He served the Geological Survey of India as a pioneer in geological mapping and mineral investigations. He and his team received the prestigious National Mineral Award (2012) from the Government of India for their outstanding contribution to the discovery and estimation of PGE resources in the Bangur mining area. As Deputy Director General; he headed the GSI Training Institute, where he remained an exceptionally popular mentor. He later led the Southern Region, GSI, achieving notable success and recognition. He was also the first person from Odisha to become **Director General** of GSI in its 164-year history. He has numerous national and international publications to his credit and was conferred Lifetime Achievement Awards by the Society of Geoscientists and Allied Technologists (SGAT), Odisha, and the Utkal University Alumni Association in 2024. His unmatched oratorical and communication skills, combined with his love for music, astrology, nature, and his remarkable ability to recite from scriptures, make him an inspiration across generations.

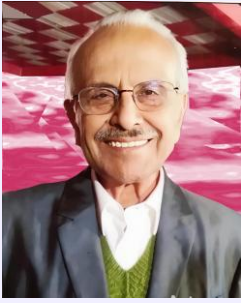


**Shri Upendra Kumar Behera, M.Sc. ( Applied Geology)**, Utkal University, began his career as a Geologist with DGM, Odisha, contributing to the East Coast Bauxite Project at Panchpatmali and the Kuanr Bauxite Project in Keonjhar. In GSI, he worked in the challenging terrains of Bhadarwar–Kistwar (J&K), Paoli and Chamoli–Garhwal, and the Alakapuri–Kedarnath sectors (Uttarakhand), aiding the understanding of Himalayan tectonics. He carried out pioneering work on the Quaternary geology of the Yamuna basin (UP) and the Brahmani–Baitarani compound delta (Odisha). His keen observations and insightful interpretations during mapping in the Gorumahashani–Khiching–Champua belt contributed to deciphering the Precambrian evolution of the Singhbhum Craton. Through extensive geological mapping and mineral exploration across India—from Precambrian to Quaternary terrains—he earned a reputation as a geologist of distinction. As DDG and HoD, NE Region, and later as DDG (PSS), CHQ, Kolkata, he received wide recognition. In 2013, he served as part of the Indian delegation to the Mining INDABA Conference, Cape Town. His calm demeanour, subject expertise, and attention to detail mark him as an exemplary technical administrator.

### *Achievements by Members*

- ❖ **Shri Sisir Chandra Rath received the prestigious SGAT Life Time Achievement Award on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2024**
- ❖ **Shri Rabindra Nath Sar is conferred with title Gitavratī for successfully memorising the 18 Adhyayas of Srimad Bhagavad Gita from Geeta Pariwar on 26 October 2025.**

## SNIPPETS FROM THE 5<sup>th</sup> Dr. RABINARAYAN MISHRA MEMORIAL AWARD FUNCTION - 2024



Dr. Rabi Narayan Mishra, born in Cuttack, Odisha, was a distinguished geoscientist who excelled academically, topping his M.Sc. (Geology) at Utkal University in 1959 and receiving a Gold Medal. His career began with teaching at Sundargarh Government College, followed by roles in the Coal Board, Indian Bureau of Mines, Geological Survey of India (GSI), and Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd., spanning over four decades (1960–2000).

He earned a Ph.D. from Utkal University in 1979 for his work on iron and manganese ores in the Sandur Schist Belt, Karnataka. He was deputed as a UN expert on Ore Resource Classification (1979) and served as an advisor on the mineral industry to the Emirate of Fujairah (1982). He was also a UNIDO Fellow for iron ore development in the Philippines and Australia.

As Director of GSI's Airborne Mineral Survey and Exploration (AMSE) Wing, he led significant discoveries, including the hidden base metal deposit at Kayar, Rajasthan. He also oversaw projects on iron, manganese, and gold

exploration in Odisha and contributed to the exploration of gold deposits at Gadag and Hutti. Dr. Mishra promoted the use of Hindi for scientific writing and served in various capacities across GSI's regional units, GSI Training Institutes, and Coal Wing until his retirement in 2000.

His accolades include the first S. Narayanaswami Award from the Geological Society of India (1982) for contribution in iron and manganese exploration, SGAT's Award of Excellence for the Kayar Base Metal discovery, and recognition for contributions in metallogeny by the Indian Science Congress Earth Group in 2000. He was named International Man of the Year by the Cambridge Biographical Institute (1999–2000) and held honorary membership in the New York Academy of Sciences (2000-01). He received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the South Asian Association of Economic Geologists in 2012.

A prolific writer in English, Hindi, and Odia, Dr. Mishra authored numerous scientific papers and articles, inspiring the geoscientific community with his scholarship, oratory, and leadership. He served as an advisor and mentor to the Institution of Geoscientists, Odisha, and was a member of several prestigious scientific organizations.

## 6<sup>th</sup> Dr. RABINARAYAN MISHRA MEMORIAL AWARD - 2025



**Miss Anwita Mishra**, born on 09 September 2001 at Cuttack has a brilliant academic career and is presently pursuing Postgraduate Diploma in Remote Sensing & GIS (2025-2026) in the Department of Geography, Utkal University. She completed her schooling from DAV Public School, Cuttack securing 9.4 CGPA (CBSE Board) in Class -X and 82.8% in Class XII. She graduated as University Topper in B.Sc. (Hons.) in Geology (2020–2023) from Stewart Science College, Cuttack scoring 90.10%. She completed M.Sc. in Applied Geology (2023–2025) from Utkal University as Department Topper scoring 86.95% and a CGPA of 9.36. She was awarded Prof. K. N. Sahoo Memorial Award and Sailabala Merkap Memorial Award for securing highest marks in her 1<sup>st</sup> year M.Sc. and Padmanav Merkap Memorial Gold Medal for the year 2025.

In appreciation of her academic brilliance and for securing the highest marks in Economic Geology in M.Sc. Applied Geology, 2025, from Utkal University she is conferred with the **6<sup>th</sup> Dr. Rabi Narayan Mishra Memorial Award** by the Institution of Geoscientists, Odisha (IGO). This award is instituted by Mrs. Kanakalata Mishra in memory of her late husband Dr. Rabi Narayan Mishra, former Deputy Director General, Geological Survey of India and one of the pioneers in Mineral exploration in India. Members of the Institution of Geoscientists, Odisha (IGO) on conferring this award pray for success in her future endeavours and hope she excels in scholastic achievements and contributes towards the mineral development of the country.

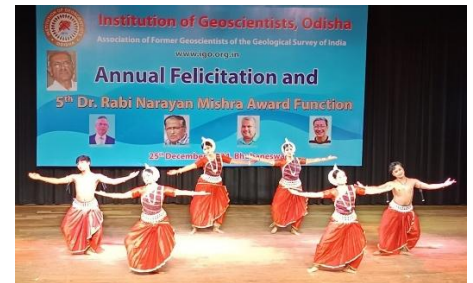
## SNIPPETS FROM THE 5<sup>th</sup> Dr. RABINARAYAN MISHRA MEMORIAL AWARD FUNCTION - 2024



Shri Sisir Kumar Sahoo receiving the 5<sup>th</sup> Dr. R. N. Mishra award from Dr. Ramanuj Narayan, Chief Guest.



Dr. Rudra Narayan Mishra, brother of late Dr. R. N. Mishra speaking on the occasion. Part of the cultural Function.



Odishi Dance Programme