

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3900
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2012
COMMITTEE ON GSI
Bajwa Shri Partap Singh;Singh Shri Bhupendra

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government constituted a High Powered Committee on Geological Survey of India (GSI) in January 2008;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the recommendations made by the Committee and the follow-up action taken by the Government thereon;
- (c) the detailed modernisation programmes undertaken and expenditure incurred thereon by the GSI during last three years;
- (d) whether the GSI is lacking in modern instruments like Blue Water Research Vessels, Heli-brore Geophysical Survey System and the pace of modernisation and upgradation work providing high capacity state of the art laboratory in it is quite slow;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the efforts and progress made so far for making Geological Survey of India a world class geological scientific institute and provisions made for instrument modernisation during 12th Five Year Plan?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR MINES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) and (b): The Government constituted a High Powered Committee [HPC] vide Ministry of Mines Resolution No. 11(39)/2007-M.I dated 7th January, 2008 to review the functioning of the Geological Survey of India (GSI), and assess its capacity to meet the emerging challenges taking into account the organization's technological and manpower resources.

HPC submitted its Report on 31st March, 2009 with Seventy-four recommendations. The Ministry accepted the Report of HPC for implementation of the recommendations on 1st May, 2009.

The HPC recommendations for the 'right sizing' of the strength of GSI, the filling up of posts over a 10 year period to achieve full recommended strength and constitution of Group 'A' Geophysics, Chemistry and Engineering S&T Streams as Organised Service have been approved by the Cabinet on 25th October, 2011.

As on date a total of Sixty-five recommendations of HPC have been implemented including those whose implementation are continuous in nature. Another Five recommendations are partially implemented/under implementation and are likely to be completed during 2012-13. Remaining Four recommendations are not implemented as come to conclusion in consultation with concerned authorities, that at present there is no need to implement these recommendations.

(c): During XI Plan, emphasis was on procuring modern equipments for chemical, geophysical and geological laboratories and also drilling facilities.

Expenditure incurred on modernization of drilling and laboratories in GSI during the last three years, excluding expenditure on Ocean Going Research Vessel, is as indicated below :-

2009-10 24.88 crores

2010-11 34.00 crores

2011-12 40.21 crores

(d) to (f) : GSI is in the process to acquire one Ocean Going Research Vessel [Blue Water Research Vessel, scheduled delivery in September 2013], one Heliborne Geophysical Survey System and state-of-the-art equipments for drilling and modernisation of its Laboratories. During the 12th Five Year Plan GSI would need Plan support of 1382.0 crores for modernization purpose. The technology infusion in GSI will be in accordance with the Modernization Report, GSI, 2011.