



भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
भारतीय भूवैज्ञानिक सर्वेक्षण
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA
केंद्रीय मुख्यालय
CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS



INTERNATIONAL GEODIVERSITY DAY 2025
ONE EARTH, MANY STORIES



INTERNATIONAL
ASSOCIATION for
PROMOTING
GEOETHICS

Celebrations on occasion of

4th International Geodiversity Day (6 October 2025) & 9th

International Geoethics Day (16 October 2025)

Workshop on “Harnessing Geodiversity for Geoconservation”

Date: 16 October 2025

Venue: Conference Hall, Geological Survey of India, CHQ, 15 Kyd Street, Kolkata / Online;

Programme

Duration (in hrs. IST)	
9:30-10:00	Registration
10:00-10:10	Inauguration of Exhibition on Geodiversity
10:10-10:20	Group Photography
10:20- 11:00	Inaugural Session
	- Welcome - Address by Guest of Honour, Shri G M Kapoor, Convener, Kolkata Chapter & Adviser, Chapters Division, INTACH, New Delhi - Video message from UNESCO on occasion of IGD - Release of short film on “Seven Marvels of Earth’s Geological Legacy” - Declaration of New Geoheritage Sites of India - Address by Shri Asit Saha, Director General, GSI
11:00–12:00	Technical Session 1: Harnessing Geodiversity for Geoconservation
11:00-11:20	<i>Significant role of sacred spaces in conservation of geodiversity</i> – Dr. S K Wadhawan, DG, GSI (Retd.), Adviser [Geosciences] and Adjunct Professor, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Kerala.
11:20- 11:40	<i>Geological Outcrops: The Unique Key to Nature’s Laboratory</i> – Prof. Nibir Mondal, Professor, Jadavpur University.
11:40-12:00	<i>The Geoethical Role of Youth in Conserving Geodiversity: A Crucial Path Towards Sustainable Geosciences-</i> Shri Aditya Verma, PhD Research Scholar, IISER, Kolkata.
12:00- 14:00	Technical Session 2: Geoheritage, Geotourism & Geoparks: Geoconservation frontiers
12:00- 12:20	<i>Scoping geoheritage for geoconservation in India-</i> Dr. Snigdha Ghatak, Deputy Director General, International Affairs, Geoheritage & Curatorial Division, GSI, CHQ.
12:20-12:40	<i>Geotourism potential from India- Asia collision zone-</i> Dr. Neptune Srimal,

	Professor, Florida International University.	
12:40-13:10	<i>Geotrails from the Deccan province-</i> Dr. M S Bodas, Dy. Director General (Retd.)	
13:10- 13:25	<i>New addition to National Geoheritage inventory: Guryul Ravine Permian -Triassic Boundary Section, Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir-</i> Shri Abdul Qayum Paul, Director, SU: J & K.	
13:25-13:40	<i>New addition to National Geoheritage inventory: Orbicular Granite, Pichore, Shivpuri, Madhya Pradesh-</i> Shri Abhishek Tiwari, Senior Geologist, SU: M. P, Bhopal.	
13:40-14:00	<i>Special Invited Talk: Geoconservation in Practice: Managing Geoheritage in the Charnwood Forest aUGGp, UK-</i> Dr. Jack Matthews, Founder Member (IGD), Geoheritage conservation and interpretation officer for Charnwood Forest Geopark.	
14:00- 15:00	Lunch Break	
15:00- 16:00	Technical Session 3: Geo-collection/Georelics: A window to the past	
15:00-15:20	<i>Geo-Collections: Policy, Pedagogy, and Planetary Memory-</i> Prof. R Baskar, Professor, FGS (Ind), FGGS, School of Sciences, IGNOU; Member, IUGS-Sub-Commission on Geo-collections.	
15:20-15:40	<i>Dinosaurs of India: Diversity, Distribution, and Discovery</i> – Dr. Brian Curtice, Paleontologist and CEO, Fossil Crates, Research Associate, Arizona Museum of Natural History.	
15:40- 16:00	<i>A deep dive into 175 years of legacy collections of GSI-</i> Shri Amitabha Bhattacharya, Director, Geoheritage and Curatorial Division.	
16:00- 16:20	Technical Session 4A: Heritage Stones: Narratives Carved in Time	16:00- 17:30 Session 4B*- visit to Museum / repository
16:00-16:20	<i>Geoheritage of some IUGS designated Heritage Stones of India-</i> Dr. Raymond Duraiswami, Secretary General, Heritage Stone Sub-commission and Associate Professor, Savitribai Phule Pune University.	
16:20- 17:00	Technical Session 5: Geoconservation through the lens of Geoethics	
16:20- 16:40	<i>Geoethics as a Framework for Geodiversity, Geoheritage, and Geoconservation-</i> Dr. Silvia Peppeloni, Researcher at INGV and Chairholder of the CIPSH.	
16:40- 17:00	<i>Meteorite Repository in India- A Geoethical Approach-</i> Dr. Arindam Dutta, Director, GSI, CHQ.	
17:00- 17:45	Panel discussion - “From rocks to landscapes: Why geodiversity matters in a changing world” (followed by Open Session)	
Panelists: - Smt. Varsha Aglawe, ADG, Eastern Region, GSI. (TBC) - Shri Dinesh Ganvir, ADG, Central Region, GSI. (TBC) - Dr. Talat Ahmed, Prof. (Retd.), Former V.C. of University of Kashmir & Jamia Millia Islamia, Chairman of Governing body of Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology (Coordinator) - Dr. Alireza Amrikazemi (TBC), Director, Qeshm Island UNESCO Global Geopark, UNESCO Global Geopark Council Member - Dr. O N Bhargava, Honorary Professor, Department of Geology, Punjab University. - Giuseppe Di Capua, Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia, Rome; International Association for Promoting Geoethics; IUGS Commission on Geoethics. IAPG Secretary General and Treasurer - Shri Ravi Kumar Vundavalli, Director, GSI (Retired) & Member, INTACH - Dr. Nehru Prabhakaran, Scientist D; Wildlife Institute of India		
17:45- 18:00	Summing up & Vote of Thanks	
18:00	High tea	

N.B: ***Session 4B** consists of Slogan Writing Competition on geodiversity (for students, researchers) & visit of student delegates / interested participants to Indian museum and Meteorite Gallery, GSI (to be coordinated by Geoheritage & Curatorial Division)
