Shri Dinesh V. Ganvir Takes Charge as Director General of GSI; Reaffirms Focus on Mineral Security, Scientific Excellence and Technological Advancement

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Shri Dinesh Vitthalrao Ganvir has assumed the charge as the 55th Director General of the Geological Survey of India (GSI), an attached office of the Ministry of Mines, Government of India. With more than three decades of experience spanning geological investigations, mineral exploration, engineering geology and institutional leadership, Shri Dinesh V. Ganvir brings to the office extensive scientific, technical and administrative experience.



Shri Dinesh V. Ganvir joined the Geological Survey of India on 1st July 1994, following the completion of his Master's degree in Geology from RTMNU University, Nagpur. Over a career spanning more than 32 years, he has served in a range of scientific, technical and administrative positions across GSI's Central Region, North-Eastern Region and Northern

Region. Immediately prior to assuming the charge of Director General, he was serving as Additional Director General and Head of Department, Central Region, Nagpur, while also holding the additional charge of National Mission Head-II.

His contributions span geological mapping, mineral exploration, engineering geology and multidisciplinary geoscientific studies. His assignments include thematic mapping in the Western Bastar Craton; gold and diamond exploration in the Sakoli Fold Belt of Maharashtra; and geoscientific studies associated with the conservation of the UNESCO World Heritage Sites of Bhimbetka Rock Shelters and Ellora Caves. He has represented GSI at several international forums, including the India–Peru Joint Working Group, the Russia–India Mining Sub-Group and IMARC 2022 in Australia.

In leadership assignments, particularly as National Mission Head-II, Shri Dinesh V. Ganvir was associated with the planning and monitoring of multidisciplinary field programmes and nationwide mineral exploration, including spearheading a five fold jump in investigations for critical and strategic minerals in recent time and preparation of geological reports and exploration blocks for mineral auctions process in line with GSI's national mandate. During this tenure, he made significant contributions to the nation’s mineral exploration and resource development initiatives, facilitating the handover of 359 Geological Reports and 377 Geological Memorandums. Of these, 202 blocks pertained to critical minerals, of which 40 have been successfully auctioned, while 56 blocks under the Exploration Licence (EL) regime were handed over, of which 11 have been auctioned, under Tranche I & II.

On assuming charge of Director General, Shri Dinesh V. Ganvir underscored the importance of enhancing the scientific depth, relevance and national impact of GSI's work. A key priority will be to intensify exploration for critical and strategic minerals through integrated geoscientific investigations, advanced mineral prospectivity mapping and systematic generation of scientifically robust, auction-ready mineral blocks. These efforts will support the country's objectives of strengthening mineral security, reducing import dependence and advancing the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat.

He also emphasised the need to harness emerging technologies and advanced data analytics in conjunction with rigorous field-based investigations. The integration of modern geoscientific tools and methods is expected to improve the precision and efficiency of exploration. Strengthening laboratory infrastructure, upgrading analytical capabilities and offshore exploration will also be important areas of focus.

Beyond mineral exploration, GSI will continue to strengthen its contributions to fundamental geoscientific research, landslide early warning, glacial and cryospheric studies, major infrastructure projects and hazard assessment. These areas of work are vital to informed policymaking, infrastructure planning, disaster preparedness and sustainable development. The emphasis will be on generating reliable, science-based inputs that address the country's evolving developmental and societal priorities.

Emphasising institutional development, Shri Dinesh V. Ganvir highlighted the need to empower scientific personnel, foster innovation, recognise merit and performance, and strengthen coordination among National Missions, Regional offices and State Units. Efficient resource utilisation and timely delivery of high-quality scientific outputs will remain central to enhancing GSI's effectiveness.

Under his leadership, GSI will seek to build on its rich scientific legacy while responding to the demands of a rapidly evolving geoscientific and technological landscape. With a renewed focus on scientific excellence, innovation, collaboration and outcome-oriented work, the organisation will continue to play a pivotal role in strengthening India's mineral resource base, supporting infrastructure development, enhancing disaster resilience and contributing to the national vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

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