

36th International Geological Congress (IGC)
Secretariat
Geological Survey of India,
C-II, Pushpa Bhawan, Madangir Road
New Delhi-110062



**Report on preparations for 36th International Geological Congress,
Delhi, India, in 2020**

**To the IUGS Executive Committee at the 69th Annual Meeting of IUGS, Kunming,
China, 18th- 22nd January 2016 on Preparations**

Glimpses of preparatory activities during 2015

The following preparatory activities were undertaken during the year 2015:

1. Setting up of a legal entity for organising 36th IGC:

The process of setting up of the legal entity i.e., a society, named “36th International Geological Congress (36IGC)” for organising 36th IGC is in the final stage of approval. The society is being established following the laid down Government of India norms and is likely to be instituted/ registered in the next two months. The Memorandum of Association (MoA) has been finalised and the governing body of the Society has also been defined. The registered office of the Society would be 36th International Geological Congress (IGC) Secretariat, Pushpa Bhavan, New Delhi-110062.

2. Budget allocation:

The provision for the immediate budgetary requirements of carrying out preparatory activities for 36th IGC has been made by Government of India.

3. Appointment of key functionaries and Local Organising Committee (LOC) of the 36th IGC:

Dr. Shailesh Nayak, Distinguished Scientist and Former Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India and Director General (*Ex-Officio*), Geological Survey of India have been nominated by the Appropriate Authority to take over charge as President & co-president of 36th IGC respectively. The acceptance of Dr. Nayak for this post has been sought. Selection of Secretary General, Chairs and members of various subcommittees for 36th IGC is underway. The basic organisational structure for 36th IGC as approved by the Appropriate Authority includes president and co-president, Secretary General, Secretariat and a no. of subcommittees viz. i) science programme ii) field trip, iii) finance, iv) sponsorship and geo-expo, v) geo-host, vi) volunteer programme, vii)

overseas contact, viii) website and IT ix) PCO, etc. The Working Office-cum-Secretariat (WOCS) was decided to be continued to function as the Secretariat for 36th IGC.

4. Launching of redesigned 36th IGC website: The dynamic and redesigned website of 36th IGC was launched in Dec. 2015.

5. Hiring of Professional Conference Organiser (PCO): The process has been initiated. It has been decided to hire the PCO initially for 35th IGC activities.

6. Preparations for 35th IGC:

As the host nation for IGC, efforts have been made by the Preparatory Committee to promote 36th IGC in a significant way during the 35th IGC, South Africa, 2016.

i. A stall space of 9mX6m has been booked in the 35th IGC Geoexpo

ii. Various advertising opportunities at 35th IGC have been availed.

iii. Huge response has been reported from Indian geoscientists for submission of scientific abstracts and symposia proposals. A few hundred abstracts are in the process of submission. Moreover, about twenty four symposia proposals submitted by Indian geoscientists are going to be convened at 35th IGC. Measures have been initiated to fund the participation of Indian geoscientists/ LOC members for attending 35th IGC.

iv. Till date, two special volumes have been earmarked for release on the occasion of 35th IGC. A book on Geo-tourism in the Indian sub-continent by 36th IGC Society in collaboration with Geological Survey of India and PINSA volume of INSA would be released. The neighbouring countries are also being contacted for their contributions in this volume.

v. Geological Survey of India is the nodal agency in India for International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) projects. Taking 36th IGC as a major geoscientific platform, measures have been initiated to enhance collaboration with IUGS by participating in its various initiatives/projects.

7. Science content enhancement:

Themes and field trips for 36th IGC are being developed. Five Brain Storming Sessions (BSS) have already been conducted in various regions of India viz., Kolkata, Eastern Region; Hyderabad, Southern Region; Nagpur, Central Region; Lucknow, Northern Region and Jaipur, Western Region. A similar session is also scheduled at Shillong, Northeastern Region, in January, 2016. Additionally, two meetings were conducted, one at Hyderabad, in May, 2015 and the second at Kolkata in Sept. 2015 (devoted towards development of field trips). Geoscientists from government/ non-government organisations, institutes, universities were brought on board to deliberate on themes and

field trips for 36th IGC. As an outcome, routes were chalked out and field trip coordinators and members are being shortlisted.

Field Excursions and themes proposed for the IGC have been /are being taken up as research projects within Geological Survey of India's annual programmes and in collaboration with stake holders/regional partners and universities, or by other organisations separately.

8. Promotional events and outreach programmes:

The following promotional events have been conducted/ planned during the current Financial Year i.e., 2015-16.

- i. **National Conference on Paleogene of the Indian Subcontinent, 23-24 April 2015, Lucknow:** 36th IGC was promoted and publicity material was distributed. A special session was conducted on organisation of 36th IGC.
- ii. **XII International Symposium on Antarctic Earth Sciences, Goa, 13-17 July, 2015:** 36th IGC promoted and publicity material was distributed. The members from 36th IGC, Secretariat were part of organising committee.
- iii. **INQUA, 26 July to 3 August 2015:** During one scientific session held at the congress and at its Geoexpo geoscientists across the world were informed and invited to participate in 36th IGC. Good response was also received from various working groups of INQUA regarding their participation in 36th IGC.
- iv. **12th Annual Meeting and International Conference of Asia Oceania Geoscience Society (AOGS), 2 to 7 August 2015:** An exhibition stall was put up for promotion of 36th IGC which received good response.
- v. **International Conference on "Engineering Geology in New Millenia", 27-29, Oct. 2015:** An exhibition stall was put up for promotion of 36th IGC which was well appreciated.
- vi. **Brain Storming Session (BSS) on "36th IGC: A Unique Opportunity for Advancement in Geosciences":** Two BSS have been organized at Northern Region, Lucknow (2-3 Dec. 2015) & Western Region, Jaipur (16-17 Dec. 2015) towards sensitizing geoscientists regarding 36th IGC, generate ideas regarding 36th IGC themes and field traverses.
- vii. Promotion of 36th IGC (display boards) at various events organised by Ministry of Earth Sciences has been carried out.
- viii. **Upcoming events**
 - a. **Meeting of the Stake Holders as a run up to 36th IGC** for developing sponsorship, participation, volunteer, program etc. is scheduled in February, 2016.
 - b. **Workshop with co-host neighbouring Countries- "Vision for Fusion"** has been scheduled on 29-30 March, 2016, New Delhi to chalk out a common road map for 36th

IGC. Developing cross country field traverses and field traverse in the neighbouring countries would be one of the expected outcomes from the workshop.

- c. **Brain Storming Session (BSS) on “36th IGC: A Unique Opportunity for Advancement in Geosciences”** is scheduled on 28-29 Jan, 2016 at Shillong, Northeastern Region.
- d. **Theme specific workshops on Marine Geology and Quaternary Science** are being planned.
- e. **A field workshop at Ladakh** has been planned during first week of March, 2016.

9. Meetings

Two Preparatory Committee and one Appropriate Authority meetings were held and important decisions were taken regarding organising 36th IGC. Other meetings with the nodal organisations and major stake holders were held to plan out various organisational aspects on 36th IGC. Preparatory Committee members attended IUGS/IGCC meeting at Cape town on 27th May, 2015. PC members are also going to participate and present the progress of work pertaining to 36th IGC during 69th IUGS EC meeting, 18th-22nd Jan, 2016, Kunming, China.

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