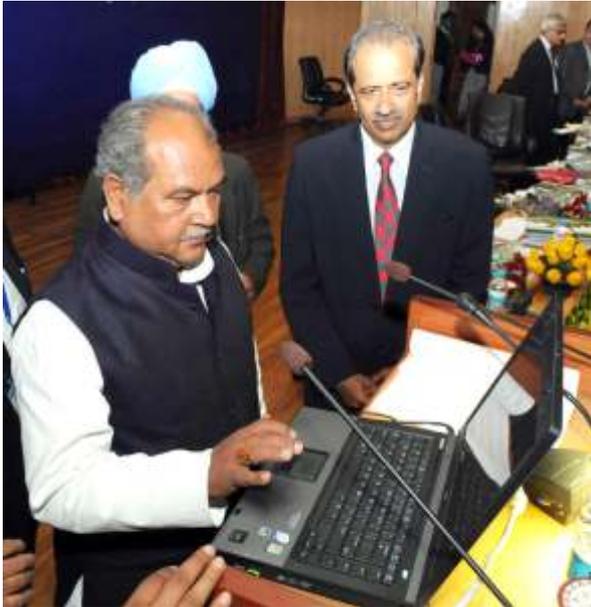


## Tomar Launches Operation Khanij Khojâ of GSI



**S**hri Tomar launched Operation Khanij Khojâ of Geological Survey of India (GSI) and received GSI report of 100 mineral blocks for regional exploration during 55th Central Geological Programming Board meeting in New Delhi.

While addressing the representatives from different states and institutions of the country in the meeting, Shri Tomar remarked, Mineral exploration in India needs to be done in a proactive and time-bound manner. Government of India has taken several decisions to enable this, and to build

exploration capacity in the country. Mineral exploration and mining are independent of each other. Former aims to build a comprehensive database of country's mineral resources, while mining of these resources can be done based on the requirement. Exploration by its very nature needs to be done well in advance and not when there is scarcity of minerals. Government under the leadership of Prime Minister has created a spirit of national pride and belongingness through programmes like Make in India, Skill India etc. All of us need to carve out a role for ourselves as individuals and organizations to be a part of this drive to make a

better India. Shri Tomar congratulated GSI and CGPB for their initiative and contribution and exhorted them to take up more challenges and assured that Government will provide all possible support.

Secretary, Mines Shri Balvender Kumar in his address informed that in a couple of months, 6000 geological reports will be put in public domain by GSI in digitized format, the work on which is already on. Selection of consultant for aerogeophysical survey is also in advanced stage and is likely to be completed soon., he added. Shri Kumar stated

that the changes being brought in the Mining sector over last year and a half, are going to revolutionize the mining sector in coming 2-3 years.

Additional Secretary Shri R.Sridharan spoke on the status of exploration in India vis-à-vis international developments in exploration.

As mentioned above, GSI has identified 100 such blocks which may be taken up by the private explorers for regional exploration. The Minister released the document in six volumes detailing these blocks. Ministry of Mines will take further action in this regard. The identified blocks includes total area of about 12,000 sq. km with prospects for minerals such as, basemetal, gold, iron, tin/tungsten, strategic minerals, etc.

The Operation Khanij Khojâ state-of-the-art project of GSI launched is to be implemented in two selected areas in the country. It is focused on probing for deep seated/concealed mineral deposits. Characterizing India's geological cover, investigating lithospheric architecture, resolving 4D geodynamic and metallogenic evolution, and detecting and characterizing the distal footprints of ore deposits, would be the main components of this initiative.

These programmes are also important action points of the draft National Mineral Exploration Policy (NMEP)

## NSPCL Pays Dividend of Rs.100 Cr.

**N**TTPC-SAIL Power Company Pvt. Ltd. (NSPCL), a joint venture of two Maharatna companies, NTPC Limited and Steel Authority of India Limited, paid interim dividend of Rs. 100 crores for the year 2015-16, which works out to 10.20% of paid up equity capital. Mr. Manash Sarkar, CEO, NSPCL presented the dividend cheque of Rs. 50.00 crore to Mr. P.K Singh, Chairman, SAIL on 16th February, 2016 at the SAIL Corporate Office, Delhi. Mr. A.K. Choudhary, Director (Finance), SAIL; Mr. S.S. Mohanty, Director (Technical) SAIL; Mr. G. Vishwakarma, Director (Projects) SAIL and Mr. S.V. Shahi, CFO, NSPCL were also present at the cheque presentation ceremony.

During financial year 2014-15, the company paid total dividend of Rs. 100 crores which included interim dividend of Rs.80 crore and Final dividend of Rs.20 crore which also works out 10.20% of paid up equity capital share. The Dividend and Dividend distribution tax amounts to 52.80% of Profit After Tax of Company, achieved during financial year 2014-15.

The Interim Dividend and Dividend distribution tax for the current year 2015-16,



works out to 91.39% of Profit After Tax of Company achieved during Nine Months Period of April-December'2015. Ever since its inception in March 2001, NSPCL has been a continuous dividend paying company.