Four working mines of iron ore which shall expire on 31.03.2020 under Section 8A (6) of the MMDR Act, were auctioned in Karnataka in July, 2019. So far a total of 68 mineral blocks with estimated resources of Rs 2.46 lakh crore have been auctioned in nine (9) State as on 31st July, 2019. The estimated revenue to the State Governments over the lease period of these auctioned mines is Rs 1.99 lakh crore out of which the estimated auction premium is Rs 1.56 lakh crore.

Further, 32 mineral blocks (21 Limestone, 3 Basemetal, 2 Chromite Ore, 2 Graphite, 2 Gold, 1 Diamond and 1 Bauxite) are presently under various stages of auction.

In accordance to the MoU signed between GSI (TI) and IIT (ISM) Dhandbad and BHU for collaboration on Academic and Research Program, GSI has nominated 13 officers to join Ph. D. course in July 2019 in concerned Institutions. This approach will pave way to carry out research in the field of earth sciences and could lead to significant outcome in the field of mineral discovery, augmentation of natural resources and mitigation of various natural hazards.

The 36th International Geological Congress (IGC) has organized four outreach programs in Italy, Canada, Ireland and Singapore during July’19 to showcase the activities of 36IGC including Geo Expo and Field trips which are aimed to attract international participation in the mega geosciences event scheduled to be held during 2-8 March 2020 at Delhi.

The union Cabinet has approved on 24.07.2019 the proposal of Ministry of Mines to merge National Institute of Miner’s Health (NIMH), an autonomous body of Ministry of Mines with National Institute of Occupational Health (NIOH) and autonomous body under Ministry of health & Family Welfare.

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