

“Public policy for integrating Geosciences Research to Sciences: The Indian perspective”

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The Earth behaves as a single, interlinked and self-regulating system. Its components, atmosphere, ocean, geosphere, cryosphere and biosphere, function together and interactions related to transfer of energy and material are complex. The geological processes are one of the most important components in understanding the earth system, and help to understand prediction of weather, climate and hazards and sustainable use of resources. Public policy should be guided towards providing new perspective of the earth system and discovery of new phenomena, understanding of earth processes as well as their interaction with human system, and application of this knowledge to develop services for societal, environmental and economic benefits.

The policy priorities should focus on the following aspects:

- i) Earth observations, including in situ satellite as well as indirect measurement of earth properties, and data policy.
- ii) Understanding of processes, through modelling and investment in necessary infrastructure, computing resources and networking.
- iii) Development of services to build resilience to hazards and climate change; clean energy and sustainable use of resources.
- iv) Innovation and business development.
- v) International cooperation.
- vi) Education, research and development of human resources.
- vii) Financial resources, essentially investments towards basic research, education and building infrastructure.

The above mentioned aspects will be discussed in the Indian context.