

F.No. 1-6/2025-NAT/PPC
Government of India
Ministry of Education
Department of School Education & Literacy

130-C, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated the 31st December, 2025

To

1. Additional Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/
Secretaries/ Commissioners (School Education), All States & UTs.
2. The Chairman, Central Board of Secondary Education.
3. The Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan.
4. The Commissioner, Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti.
5. Chairman, National Institute of Open Schooling.

Subject: Participation of students in the National Earth Science Olympiad (NESO) test to be held in January 2026 for the International Earth Science Olympiad (IESO) 2026 – reg.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to forward a copy of the D.O. letter dated 3rd December, 2025 received from Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), regarding dissemination of information and facilitation of student participation in the National Earth Science Olympiad (NESO) 2026, which serves as the national-level selection process for the International Earth Science Olympiad (IESO) 2026.

2. The important dates of events and the eligibility criteria for the olympiad is as below: -

Event	Date / Window
Registration	Up to 7 th January, 2026
National Level Entrance Test (NSEESO / ET)	Saturday, 24 January 2026 , 10:30 AM (duration 90 minutes)
Training Camp + Indian National Earth Science Olympiad (INESO)	3-week residential Training Camp during May/June 2026, followed by INESO exam at the end of camp.
Pre-departure Training Camp (for selected students)	After INESO 2026
International Earth Science Olympiad (IESO) 2026	Date to be announced (host country- Italy)

Eligibility Criteria :-

- Students currently studying in **Classes IX, X, XI, or XII** (as of August 2026).
- Age: The candidate should **not be older than 18 years** as on **1st July of the Olympiad year**. They should **not be a university/college student** at the time of participation.
- Students who have already participated (or won a medal) in a previous IESO may be ineligible (as per general IESO eligibility norms).


3. In this regard, it is requested to encourage participation of students of school under your State/UT/Organisation in the above said Olympiad and also nominate a nodal officer who will coordinate with MoES for NESO/IESO. The details of the nodal Officer may please be shared with MoES.

4. Any clarification regarding the registration may be sought from Dr. Jagvir Singh, Scientist-G/Adviser (011-24669536, 9868105010, jvsingh.moes@nic.in) and Dr. Mithila Verma, Scientist-E (011-24669516, mverma.moes@nic.in).

5. This is issued with the approval of Competent Authority.

Yours faithfully,

Encl: As above.

 31.12.2025

(Ajay Kumar)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Tel No. 23381662

Email:- ajay.kr71@gov.in



सत्यमेव जयते
डॉ. एम. रविचंद्रन
Dr. M. Ravichandran



सचिव
भारत सरकार
पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय
पृथ्वी भवन, लोदी रोड, नई दिल्ली-110003
SECRETARY
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
PRITHVI BHAWAN, LODHI ROAD, NEW DELHI-110003

D.O.No. MoES/Secy/12/2025

Dated 03rd December, 2025

Dear Shri Sanjay Kumar,

Subject: Participation of secondary & senior secondary students in the National Earth Science Olympiad (NESO) test to be held on 24th January, 2026 for the International Earth Science Olympiad (IESO) 2026- regarding.

JS (Dush)
R4H

I sincerely thank you for your support last year, which increased awareness amongst schools and students about the Earth Science Olympiad. It resulted in significant increased number of participants in the Olympiad.

The International Earth Science Olympiad (IESO) founded as one of the major activities of the International Geosciences Education Organization (IGEO) is an annual competition for secondary school students across the World. The main aim of the IESO is to encourage student's interest and awareness of Earth Sciences (ES) and to enhance teaching/learning of ES (atmospheric science, ocean science, geosciences, and polar sciences) at the school level given its increasing importance and relevance to the society. The IESO aims further to foster friendly relationships among young learners from different countries and promote international cooperation in exchanging ideas and materials on Earth Sciences. About 45 countries (including U.S., Germany, Russia, Japan, UK, France, Spain, South Korea, Italy, China, etc.) participate in IESO.

The Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) supports the National Earth Science Olympiad (NESO) and IESO in coordination with the Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education (HBCSE). Initially, 25 students are selected based on an all-India entrance test. These students undergo advanced training for a period of about four weeks. Finally, four students are selected to represent India in the IESO based on their performance during the training period. It is my pleasure to mention that students of our country have been bringing laurels to the nation by winning medals in IESO. This year, a team of four students won 7 medals (1 Gold, 4 Silver, 2 Bronze) in different competitions among teams from countries worldwide in the 18th IESO-2025, held in Jining, China, from 8 to 16 August 2025.

MoES will be supporting country's students' team for the forthcoming 19th IESO-2025, to be held in Italy, in August 2026. Geological Society of India (GSI) Bangalore will be facilitating the conduct of an all-India level Entrance Test (NESO) of ninety minutes on 24th January 2026 to select students to represent the country in the IESO. Dr. Jagvir Singh, Scientist-G/Adviser (011-24669536, 9868105010, jvsingh.moes@nic.in) and Dr. Mithila Verma, Scientist-E (011-24669516, mverma.moes@nic.in) are the coordinating officers for the activity as detailed on website/s of MoES (www.moes.gov.in), and GSI (<https://gsi.manageexam.com/>)

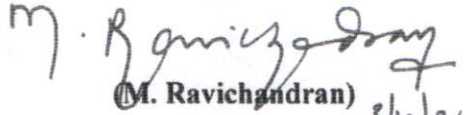
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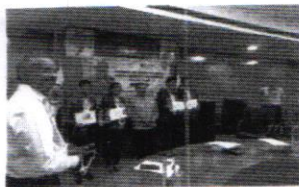
I shall be grateful to you for encouraging the students of CBSE schools (Kendriya Vidyalaya, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, etc.) for national test (NESO) and IESO. You are also requested to please nominate a nodal officer who can coordinate with the nodal officers from MoES for NESO/IESO.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,


(M. Ravichandran) 3/12/21

Shri Sanjay Kumar
Secretary,
D/o School Education & Literacy
Ministry of Education
124-C, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.



Team with HMoES and Secretary MoES



पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय
Ministry of Earth Sciences



IESO-2025 team India with HMoES

INTERNATIONAL EARTH SCIENCE OLYMPIAD*

MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF INDIA

- ➔ Will you be studying in IX, X, XI & XII Std. in August 2026?
- ➔ Were you born after 01-07-2007?
- ➔ Would you like to participate in the International Earth Science Olympiad (IESO) ?
- ➔ If your answers are YES, you should write the Entrance Test.

ENTRANCE TEST:

An entrance test has been scheduled on Saturday **24th Jan 2026** for 90 minutes at 10.30 am in English & Comprising objective type of questions spanning Geology, Geophysics, Meteorology, Oceanography, Terrestrial Astronomy and Environmental Science. For syllabus & limited reading materials, visit <https://www.geosocindia.org/index.php/ieso>

Four-stages of IESO: i. National Level Entrance Test (ET), ii. Training camp & Indian National Earth Science Olympiad (INESO). (Selection of the four-member team after 3-week training programme), iii. Pre-departure Training Camp (1 week), iv. Participation in the IESO.

TRAINING CAMP: The 3-week Training Camp will be held during May/June 2026 and will comprise lectures, discussions, data mining and poster presentation. The INESO will be held at the end of the Camp. The top four students will be declared as winners of 19th INESO. The four winners of INESO will participate in the IESO (2026) to be held in Italy.

In the recently concluded IESO-2025 organized at Jining, China between 8th to 16th August 2025, 31 countries participated. Team India represented by four students: Rayansh Gupta, Charuvrat Bains, Apam Nidhi Pandey, Priyanshi Ghangas.

S.No.	Name of the Student	ITFI	ESP	Individual Test	Reporter's Award
1	Rayansh Gupta	Gold		Silver	3 rd Prize
2	Charuvrat Bains	Silver	Silver	Bronze	
3	Apam Nidhi Pandey		Silver		
4	Priyanshi Ghangas	Bronze			

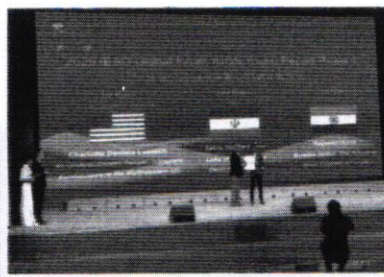
Table-2: Achievement of the Indian team members in the International Olympiads						
Year	Venue	Students	G(E)	S(VG)	B(Gd)	Total
2007	South Korea	2		2		2
2009	Taiwan	4			4	4
2010	Indonesia	4		1	3	4
2011	Italy	4		3	1	4
2012	Argentina			1	3	4
2013	India	4		3	1	4
2014	Spain	4		1	2	3
2015	Brazil	4	1		2	3
2016	Japan	4		4		4
2017	France	4	1		1	2
2018	Thailand	2		1	2	3
2019	South Korea	4	3	4	3	10
2020	Covid lock down					
2021	Covid lock down					
2022	Italy (Virtual)	8	10	4	6	20
2023	IGEO (Virtual)	8	3+ (1)	7+ (9)	6+ (4)	16+ (14)
2024	Beijing, China	4	3	2	3	8
2025	Jining, China	4	1	4	2	7

G- Gold, S-Silver & B-Bronze, E-Excellent(=Gold); VG-Very Good(=Silver) & Gd-Good(=Bronze)

- Centre registration for the Entrance Test : upto **7th Jan 2026**.
- Student Registration : upto **7th Jan 2026**.
- For details visit our website: <https://gsi.manageexam.com/>



IESO 2024 students with the Minister



Rayansh Gupta receiving Award



Team India: Prof. Devesh Walla (Mentor), Charuvrat Bains, Priyanshi Ghangas, Prof. Hema Achyuthan (Mentor & Team leader), Rayansh Gupta, Apam Nidhi Pandey and Dr. Jagvir Singh (Observer)

For details of INESO, please contact
Prof. Hema Achyuthan (Mob: 09382849662) Email: hachyuthan0@gmail.com; Ms. Mamatha (Mob: 7760988131) Email: gsocind@geosocindia.org
Dr. Jagvir Singh Mob: 9868105010 Email: jvsingh.moes@nic.in; Dr. Mithila Verma Mob: 8588857757 Email: mverma.moes@nic.in
Helpdesk Email : ineso2026exam@gmail.com, Mobile: 8433527956

Last date for Centre Registration - 05.01.2026; Student Registration - 05.01.2026.

Participation of secondary & senior secondary students in the National Earth Science Olympiad (NESO) test to be held on 24th January, 2026 for the International Earth Science Olympiad (IESO) 2026 -reg.

Dr M Ravichandran < secretary@moes.gov.in >

Thu, 04 Dec 2025 10:35:06 AM +0530

To "Ms Karwal"<secy.sel@nic.in>

Cc "Dr. Jagvir Singh"<jvsingh.moes@nic.in>,"Mithila Verma"
<mverma.moes@nic.in>

2 Attachment(s)

International Earth Science Oly...
2.6 MB

Secy-SEL.pdf
714.8 KB

Kind Attn: PSO/ Sr. PPS to Secretary, D/o School, Education & Literacy

Sir,

Please find attached a scanned D.O. Letter along with annexures from Dr M Ravichandran, Secretary, MoES on the above-mentioned subject.

Regards,

O/o Secretary, MoES