

## **Muddling through Geosciences Education Diminishment of Field Work**

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An era of revolution and new throbs has brought in paroxysmal proliferation in the interdisciplinary and promiscuous mosaic to Earth System Sciences. Availability of advanced and sophisticated instrumentation techniques fortifies the geoscientists to develop quick information gathering and database systems for solving many issues on various facets of earth sciences. Today trace element analyses up to ppb level and remote sensing based morpho-, petro- and minero-tectonic signaturing over large areas within incomprehensibly short span of time are possible. Consequently there has been a phenomenal and substantial drift from the pragmatic approach which entails geological field work.

Field oriented study in this natural system science has no substitute. Importance of geological field work as an inevitable component of geoscience education and research has been highlighted. A format of field work curricula at the minimum for graduate, post-graduate and pre doctoral levels has been suggested. The tendency and reasons of making it a laboratory oriented subject in developing countries and India in particular have been discussed. At the threshold of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the empirical work on earth system sciences to be nonelusive can be done only when geoscientists and allied technologists enhance their self-efficacies both at individual and collective levels proportionately combining laboratory exercises with field work.