Open Government Data (OGD) in energy resources in India

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Reviewing the the availability and accessibility of OGD for improved governance of energy resources in India: case of coal and oil and gas

Introduction

Right to Information Act of 2005, National Data Sharing and Accessibility Policy of 2012 and the Open Data Portal of the Government have been introduced in the last decade.

The project sought to:
- Examine the availability and accessibility of OGD for improved governance of coal and oil & gas in India.
- Identify the issues faced by users in accessing data and government agencies in providing data.
- Propose mechanisms for enhancing OGD in energy.
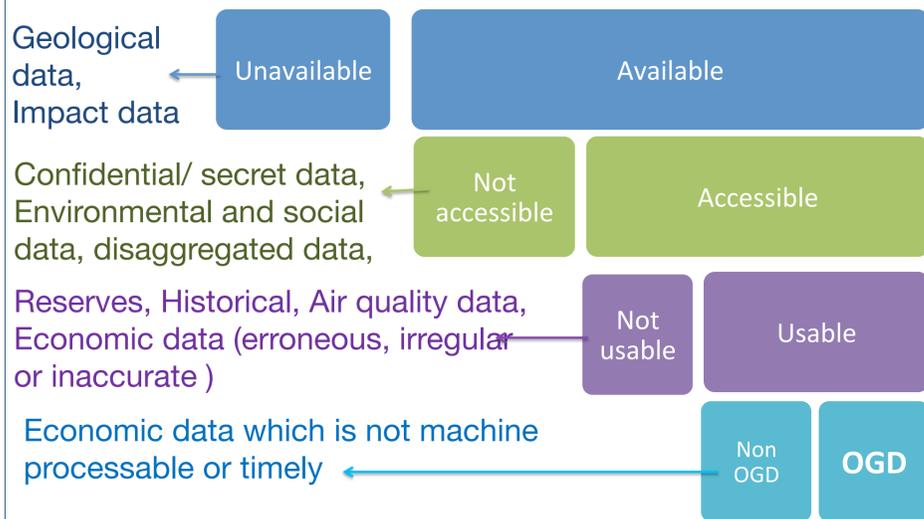
Method and approach

The project adopted a mixed method approach comprising **qualitative research**, **stakeholder engagement and consultation** with each feeding into each other. A **case study approach** was adopted for select institutions.
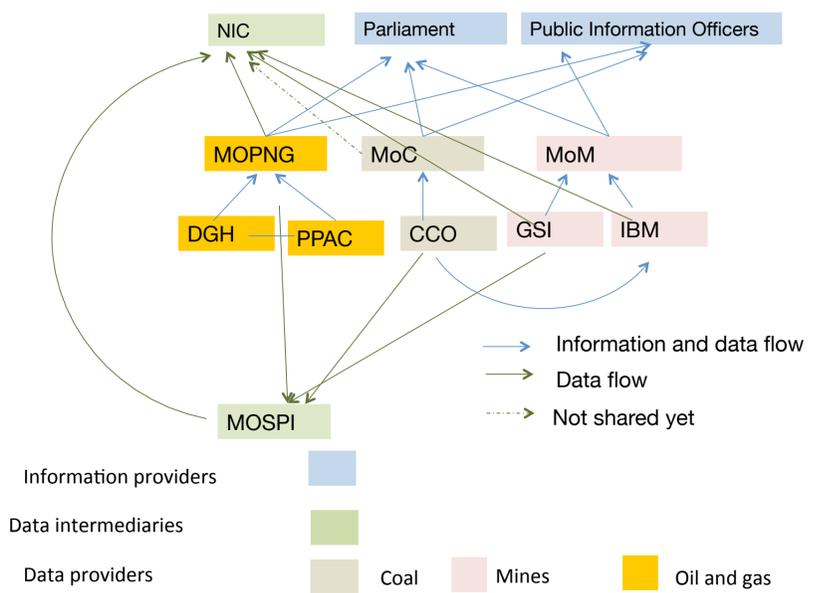
Approach
- Focus on upstream coal and Oil & gas sectors
- Classified data into Economic (physical and financial), Environmental and Social
- OGD principles in the Indian context, where applicable

Evidence and findings

Classification of data and gaps

Geological data, Impact data — Unavailable / Available

Confidential/ secret data, Environmental and social data, disaggregated data, — Not accessible / Accessible

Reserves, Historical, Air quality data, Economic data (erroneous, irregular or inaccurate) — Not usable / Usable

Economic data which is not machine processable or timely — Non OGD / OGD

Information and data flow in coal and petroleum

- Information and data flow
- Data flow
- Not shared yet

Information providers
Data intermediaries
Data providers — Coal / Mines / Oil and gas

CCO - Coal Controller's Organization
DGH - Directorate General of Hydrocarbons
GSI - Geological Survey of India
MoC – Ministry of Coal
MoM - Ministry of Mines
MoPNG - Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
IBM - Indian Bureau of Mines
MOSPI - Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
NIC - National Informatics Centre
PPAC - Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell

Conclusions & recommendations

There is need to synergise existing energy data practises amongst government departments and with open government data initiative in India. Currently, gaps exist in availability, accessibility and quality of data, especially on environment and social aspects of the energy resource development.

The project recommends a **three pronged approach** to enhance openness of government data in energy sector:

Policy measures	Overall data content and quality	Open Data Platform
• Better enforcement of existing laws, policies, programmes • A 'culture of accountability & transparency' to be fostered • Role of intermediaries in making open data useful for improved governance and service delivery to be strengthened and incentivised. • Improved coordination amongst agencies (inter/intra departmental, Centre-State)	• Independent verification of data and/or appropriate quality checks and reducing margin of error is needed. • Clarity in terms of criteria, definitions and methodologies • Streamlining the multiple datasets across various agencies is needed to remove discrepancy and multiplicity	• Room for improvement, especially in terms of awareness • Criteria and control mechanisms for the content • Interlinking and interoperability

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