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English

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**United Nations Group of Experts on  
Geographical Names  
2025 session**

New York, 28 April – 2 May 2025

Item 5 (a) of the provisional agenda\*

**Technical expertise: Names collection, office treatment, features beyond a single  
sovereignty and international cooperation**

## **Report of India**

### **Summary\*\***

The Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, is the National Names Authority and works with the Survey of India, as the National Geospatial and Mapping Authority, as the authority responsible for transliterating geographical names from Vernacular Scripts to Roman and Devanagari Scripts, to standardize place names in English and Hindi. Further, the National Geospatial Policy 2022 of India has entrusted the Survey of India with implementing the fundamental data theme of Geographical Names.

This report will outline the key initiatives taken by Survey of India, which includes:

- a. The traditional methodology adopted during the mapping of the country in 1:50K scale sheets – field collection, authentication, transliteration to Roman and Devanagari scripts, data archival, and preservation;
- b. The transition to a digital environment and the transliteration of the Geographical Names in all the 22 scheduled languages of India using software tools;
- c. The ongoing procedure of collection of sound bites with the help of a centralised server-based module and simple-to-use mobile application for crowdsourcing with linguistic experts; and,
- d. The future roadmap.

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\*GEGN.2/2025/1.

\*\*The full report was prepared by Survey of India, Department of Science & Technology, Government of India. The report will be available under document symbol GEGN.2/2025/138/CRP.138, in the language of submission only, at [https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/4th\\_session\\_2025/](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/4th_session_2025/)