students, representatives of the people and NGOs, (m) there is no permanent solution for coastal erosion, (IV) increase green walls instead of seawalls, (v) construction of seawalls may be taken up only at those places where it is very essential, but using right technology and quality, (vi) there should not be any developmental activities within 500 m from the shoreline as per the CRZ act, (vii) creation of digital database on coastline changes using RS and GIS technology is essential, and (viii) bringing out a brochure in Kannada on the theme of the workshop is necessary in order to create awareness among more number of local people

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International Conference on "Deep-Sea Minerals and Mining" DSMM-2008

The conference was organized by RWTH-Aachen University, Freie Universität-Berhn, and the Leibniz-Institute of Marine Sciences, University of Kiel Participants consisting of geo-scientists, mining and process engineers, metallurgists and mineral economists from R&D organizations, academic institutes and various industries all over the world attended the Conference There were about 100 delegates from 18 countries including the host country-Germany.

The Scientific Program consisted of four Target Fields (1) Manganese Nodules and Crusts, (2) Seafloor Massive Sulphides deposits, types of deposits and origin - by S Petersen of Leibniz-institute of marine sciences, (2) Lessons from land to modern seafloor volcanogenic massive sulphides - by Prof S D Scott Besides these, two other important presentations were made by S A Trebilcock who presented (i) on the overview of Nautilus Minerals and on its activities at Solwara Prospect off the coast of Papua New Guinea and (n) on the development of World's first SMS mining system Lots of discussion took place especially on the first mining system of the SMS deposits It was quite educative to learn on the latest status of the Nautilus Minerals, Canada

Manganese Nodules and Crusts

The session was chaired by Prof F M Meyer and Prof S D Scott where nine oral presentations were made The interesting papers were (1) Economics of deep-sea mineral deposits - by H R Kudrass of BGR, Germany, (2) Summary of Neptune Exploration Activities - 2007 - by S McDonald of Neptune Minerals Pic and (3) Marine mineral resources rare metal sources for new technological applications - by U Schwarz-Schampera of BGR, Germany It was interesting to note the developments in the Neptune Minerals front Since becoming a public company in October 2005, Neptune Minerals has continued to advance its primary aims of exploration, application and development in marine mineral resources

Deep-Sea Mining Concepts and Processing

The discussions in this session were more concentrated on the mining equipment development and the logistics to operate them in large-scale under deep-ocean water Various new concepts were also discussed There was only one poster presentation under this target field

On 12th of March in the afternoon, there was a public lecture entitled "Marine Gashydrate Energiequelle und C02-Spieder der Zukunft" arranged by the organizers that was open to public The lecture was delivered in German language by Dr K Wallmann of IFM Geomar, Kiel and a large audience attended the lecture On 13th of March, most of the participants and the organizers went on an excursion to the Hambach Lignite (coal) Open Pit which is the largest and deepest open-cast mine in Germany A visit was also made to Erkelenz, WIRTH GmbH to see latest designs and developments on mining equipment especially for marine mining As far as Indian participation is concerned, there were three participants including the undersigned The other two were from Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology (CSIR), Bhubaneswar However, there were no participants from NIO-Goa or NIOT-Chennai (-as per my personal expectation) Nevertheless, the Conference was timely and was very successful

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