BOOK REVIEW

on behalf of NRDMS division of DST, Government of India for which they deserve appreciation. The six year lapse of time between the National meet in 1997 and the bringing out of this publication robs some of the topicality. The volume is, however, a useful one and needs to be added as a reference volume to the libraries of the organizations and universities dealing with groundwater and water resources management.

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D S S Murthy

HISTORY OF MINING IN ORISSA compiled and edited by B K Mohanty. Published by the Orissa Mining Corporation Limited, Bhubaneswar, December 2003, 155 pages, Price. Rs 500/-

Orissa, like Rajasthan and Karnataka is known for a variety of minerals. It is a very mineral conscious state being a lead producer of bauxite, chromite, graphite, a major producer of iron ore, manganese ore, limestone, dolomite, fire clays, pyrophyllite, gem stones, beach sand, tin ore, china clay, coal, dimension stones etc. Exploration is on, looking for diamond, base metals, PGE and gold with exciting prospects. The state has a long history of mining and has mineral based industries – steel plant, sponge iron plants, ferro-alloys plants, aluminium smelters and refractory plants etc. Therefore, the state attracts attention of entrepreneurs and geoscientists from India and abroad.

B K Mohanty, who is closely associated with the mineral exploration and industry in Orissa for nearly five decades, is eminently suited for this onerous task of compiling information from several sources, editing and presenting the rich information. He has acquitted himself quite well and deserves our appreciation.

The book briefly deals with the early years of mining and covers mining history of 16 minerals. There is a chapter on Mineral Development Trends in India and a chapter profiling major organizations and departments of Governments—Central and State involved in mineral industry. There are many eye-catching photographs of quarries and mining activity.

This is a companion volume to the earlier publication “Geology and Mineral Resources of Orissa” reviewed in this Journal in August 1999. While acknowledging the usefulness of this authentic reference volume, I must admit that when the book is revised and reprinted, it is hoped that it will be spiced up with a lot more of anecdotal and behind the scenes information.

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B K Dhiruv Rao

• We deeply regret to record the passing away of Shri TV Gopalakrishna, Assistant to the Secretary of the Geological Society of India for many years, on 21 06 2004 at Bangalore.

• We deeply regret to record the passing away of Shri A V Ramachandra, formerly of the Geological Survey of India on 13 06 2004 at Bangalore.