NOTES

ASC 2000 SYMPOSIUM ON SEISMOLOGY, EARTHQUAKE HAZARD ASSESSMENT AND EARTH INTERIOR-RELATED TOPICS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEHRAN, IRAN

Asian Seismological Commission organised an International Training Course on Seismology and Mitigation of Seismic Disaster from 25-9-2000 to 9-10-2000 at the Institute of Geophysics, University of Tehran. This training was attended by 15 participants from different parts of the world. Prof. M.R. Gheitanchi of Institute of Geophysics was the Course Director. Experts who delivered lectures include, Harsh K. Gupta (India), Gary Gibson (Australia), J. Jackson (Cambridge), Tim Ahem (USA), Claude Frodivaux (France), Zhu Chaunzen, Zhong Liang Wu and Chen Yun Tai (China), Fracis Wu (Taiwan), Sargei Ballassanian (Armenia), A.K. Shandilya (India), Mohammad Rezapour (Iran) and K. Hamada (Japan).

This international training course was followed by the Third Meeting of Asian Seismological Commission 2000 and a Symposium on Seismology, Earthquake Hazard Assessment and Earth Interior Related Topics during 10-12 October, 2000 at the University of Tehran. About 500 delegates attended this symposium, out of which 300 were from abroad. Total of 500 papers have been submitted for this symposium, which were classified into six sessions which are as follows:

S1 - Earthquake Processes, Precursors and Forecast; S2 - Recent Devastating Earthquakes, Strong Ground Motion and Seismic Hazard Assessment; S3 - Seismotectonics with a special reference to Western Asia; S4 - Induced and Triggered Earthquakes; S5 - Heat Flow, Volcanology, Lithosphere and Structure of the Earths Interior; and S6 - Recent Trends in Seismic Instrumentation, Data Processing and Public Awareness and Related topics.

Out of 500 papers, about 100 papers were presented in three parallel sessions in the symposium and 100 papers were presented in the poster session. Keynote addresses were delivered by Prof. Erich Robert Engdahl, Dr. Gary Gibson, and Prof. H.K. Gupta. There were a three-day field trip and a post-symposium technical workshop after symposium.

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WORKSHOP ON THE APPLICATION OF STABLE ISOTOPE GEOCHEMISTRY IN EARTH SCIENCES: PRESENT STATUS AND FUTURE NEEDS

Use of stable isotopes in various branches of earth sciences e.g., mineral exploration, hydrology, oceanography, palaeoclimate, sedimentology, crust-mantle evolution etc. has continuously increased within the country over the last decade. While limited facilities are available in one or two leading institutes in the country, majority of these isotope data were generated at laboratories abroad. Earth scientists are therefore concerned that high quality isotope research in the country is hampered by lack of such facilities. The Department of Science and Technology (DST) is alive to this concern and is planning for the establishment of a centre of stable isotope research. Establishing a Gas Source Mass Spectrometer (GSMS) or stable isotope analytical facility, however, needs considerable investment and support from national funding agencies. Such a facility also needs several challenging research problems which can be tackled by using the facility on a routine basis. With this in view, a two day workshop sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology on "Application of Stable Isotope Geochemistry in Earth Sciences: Present Status and Future Needs" was organised by the Department of Applied Geology, Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad on 26th and 27th July, 2000. More than 40 scientists from universities, IITs, mass spectrometer manufacturing companies and various goverment organisations participated in the workshop. Prof. B.B. Bhattacharya, Director-in-charge, ISM welcomed the delegates. Prof. S.K. Tandon, Chairman of the DST's