Earth Science research in India has shown a steady growth during the last one and half decades. A positive trend in earth science research has been, by and large, due to the extra mural R&D funding by the Department of Science & Technology (DST, GOI), University Grants Commission (UGC] and Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). The DST has played a pivotal role in funding of R&D projects under its various schemes and programmes such as SERC (PAC–ES), Deep Continental Studies, Seismology, Glaciology as well as Young Scientists Programme. Besides funding of R & D projects, a major thrust has been given to infrastructural development, by way of augmentation of existing instrumentation facilities and creation of sophisticated analytical facilities including geochronology and isotope geochemistry, as well as manpower development in critical and exciting areas of research in earth sciences. This effort has resulted in training of young earth science researchers and steady growth in publication of a number of research papers, both at national and international levels, in peer reviewed journals by Indian Earth Science Community.

Recent Indian report to IUGS (2008 ) compiled and edited by Ashok K Singhvi, Abhijit Bhattacharya and Satyabrata Guha, published by INSA, provides a good compilation of Indian Geoscience research over the past five years (http://www.prl.res.in/~singhvi/IUGS-2004-08-Book.pdf). The report comprises 57 articles on varied topics ranging from Glaciers and Antarctic Science to Holocene monsoon, floods and paleofloods, erosion in fluvial basins, Quaternary fluvial records, sedimentary and fossil records to geodetic and geophysical studies, shallow subsurface studies, seismic microzonation and earthquake precursor studies, studies on geophysical modelling, deformation and metamorphism in the Himalaya, geochronology and isotope geochemistry, natural resources (mineral, oil, gas, coal bed methane and gas hydrates). Ten institutional reports by leading earth science research institutes and organizations are also presented. This well-produced book collates the Indian work in these areas, in short, crisp reviews of 5000-7000 words each, with up-to-date references and illustrations in colour. This book will be handy both for the researchers and the teachers and will serve as a useful reference material. Some copies and soft copies of this book are available on request from the Indian National Science Academy, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg. Personally, this book gave a good feeling to note that the efforts put in by earth science community and necessary support provided by funding agencies, has set the pace for so much new and exciting research work being done in India.

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