

problems of health and disease are covered in six papers. Some of the important results and observations made in U.K., U.S.A. and West Germany are furnished.

Thus the proceedings cover a wide spectrum of items of interest to geologists, chemists, physicists and a host of other experts. We expect that such fascinating account of this interdisciplinary subject will stimulate interest in this subcontinent among scientists and inspire them to take up such studies. The present volume is the thirty-fourth (34th) in the series brought out by the publishers under the title International series in Earth Sciences. The entire set will be a valuable possession of a Library in both academic institutions and industry.

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## COMMENT

### A record of Ichnogenus *Chondrites* from Ladakh, Jammu and Kashmir, India and its significance

(A comment on paper by D. K. Srivastava *et al.*, published in the Journal of the Geological Society of India, Vol. 21, No. 9, pp. 458-460).

Srivastava *et al.*, (1980) while reporting occurrence of *Chondrites* sp. from the hard grey shales in Tegar Formation of Skampu in Ladakh district of Jammu & Kashmir, have stated that the only other report on *Chondrites* from the Indian subcontinent is by Kumar *et al.*, from the Malla Johar area.

In this context it has to be pointed out that Chiplonkar and Tapaswi (1975) have already reported the occurrence of *Chondrites* from the Grey Shale horizon of Dalmiapuram Formation near Kallakudi, Trichinopoly district, South India. Probable age of this horizon is Upper Aptian to Lower Albian as based on the presence of foraminifers (Banerji, 1972) and ostracods (Bhatia and Jain 1969, 1972). The tunnels of the species are of constant diameter of 2 mm, circular in cross-section and are filled with what appear to be faecal pellets disposed more or less transversely to the length of the tunnels. It is a *Fodichnia* of Seilacher's ethological groups and indicates littoral to very shallow water deposition. The matrix is somewhat carbonaceous with minute grains of pyrites suggestive of oxygen poor conditions developed behind bars or lagoonal surroundings.

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## AUTHOR'S REPLY

Authors are thankful to R. M. Badve *et al.*, for providing this useful information. Although due precautions were taken by the authors at the time of preparation of the manuscript, the reference under question (Chiplonkar and Tapaswi, 1975) was missed due to oversight.

A definite age for the Tegar Formation cannot be assigned at this stage, since no index fossil has been recovered from this horizon so far, though a few unidentifiable calcified shells of bivalves and gastropods are found in this Formation. The age proposed for the Tegar Formation by Bhandari *et al.*, (*Him. Geol.*, vol. 9, in press) is tentative, based on lithologic correlation.

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