

INDUSTRIAL MINERALS By R. K. Sinha, Oxford and IBH Publishing Co., 17 Park Street, Calcutta 16, (1982) p. 480, Price Rs. 75/-

R. K. Sinha's new book on Industrial Minerals specially written for students in India is a welcome addition to the very limited number of books dealing with the economic mineral resources of the country. The arrangement adopted is alphabetical commencing with apatite and ending with zircon. Information on mode of occurrence, industrial application, mining and processing, domestic and world resources are given for most of the minerals. Specifications for industrial use and production statistics are furnished in respect of the more important industrial minerals. The period covered is to end of 1979.

In the introduction the author has claimed that the country possesses adequate resources not only sufficient for domestic requirement but also cater to the world's needs! Catering to the World's need is a very tall order and such exaggerated statements are not warranted. Compared to World standards production of industrial minerals in India is quite low, although there is considerable scope for development.

It would have been better if the author had provided some useful data on mineral trade – i.e. the extent of our mineral exports and our dependence on mineral imports. We would also liked to have a more detailed account of the mode of occurrence of Indian mineral deposits illustrated with informative sketches and photographs. As it is, the illustrations included in the book—an electron photograph of diatomite and a picture of wollastonite mining can hardly be considered as representative of the mineral industry. The list of references for further reading is not well chosen and is wholly inadequate. Too frequent use of abbreviations like DB, OMC, RIMDC, FC, RHC, ACC, OPC, TISCO, SRC, PPC and the like have been made. These carry no meaning to a student.

But for these shortcomings which can be removed in a subsequent edition, the book is a useful compilation giving information of value relating to the industrial minerals of India and should find a place in all school and college libraries.

B. P. R.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SYMPOSIUM ON RESOURCES SURVEY FOR LANDUSE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

October 20-22, 1982

The main objective of the symposium is to evaluate the natural resources available namely: land, minerals, water, plants and soil using modern methods of aerial photointerpretation and remote sensing techniques for effecting economy, speed and accuracy and to see how these resources can be put to appropriate use giving benefits to the local inhabitants and at the same time providing a healthy environment to live in. The symposium aims at highlighting the importance of effective landsue planning based on integration of existing resources and to develop methodology for such planning which is acceptable to the planners as well as to the people.

All correspondence related to the Symposium may be addressed to:

Prof. D. P. Rao

Organising Secretary (ISPI & RS)

Indian Photo-interpretation Institute, (NRSA)

4, Kalidas Road, P.B. No. 135

Dehra Dun-248 001, India