

NOTES

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF INDIA

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Annual General Meeting of the Geological Society of India will be held at the Indian Institute of Technology, Powai, Bombay between the 11th and 12th of March, 1991. Detailed programme is furnished below :

Monday, 11th March, 1991

Group Discussion

“Advances in offshore and onshore exploration”

10.00 A.M. – 1.00 P.M.

2.00 P.M. – 4.15 P.M.

1. Status of exploration in Western offshore basins
R. B. Mathur (ONGC, Bombay)
2. Stratigraphy of Bombay offshore basin
K. M. Nair and N. K. Singh (ONGC, Bombay).
3. Application of seismic stratigraphy in oil exploration with examples from Western offshore
P. S. N. Kutty and V. K. Agarwal (ONGC, Bombay).
4. Formation evaluation : Petrophysical studies in oil exploration
S. K. Sharma (ONGC, Bombay).
5. Geochemistry in oil exploration
K. N. Mishra and S. Mathur (ONGC, Bombay).
6. Quantitative methods for regional mineral resource evaluation
S. R. Divi (Osmania University, Hyderabad)
7. Geomorphic controls in mineral exploration
V. Subramanyan (IIT, Bombay).
8. Application of statistical techniques to Mineral exploration
H. S. Pandalai (IIT, Bombay).

9. Advances in seismic exploration for lignite and coal with case histories from India.

V. V. L. N. Swamy (MECL, Nagpur)

10. Exploration for limestone – an overview

S. Asokan (A.C.C., Bombay)

4.30 – 5.30 P.M. **Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of India.**

Tuesday, 12th March, 1991

**Recent research investigations in different fields of
Earth Sciences**

9.30 A.M. – 1.00 P.M.

2.00 P.M. – 5.00 P.M.

Young Scientists

1. **S. Ramesh**

Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad.

2. **Powar**

Lecturer, Dept. of Geology, University of Poona, Pune.

3. **M. S. Bodas**

Geological Survey of India, Economic Geology Division,
North U.P., Lucknow.

4. **S. F. R. Khadri**

School of Studies in Geology, Vikram University, Ujjain, M.P.

5. **M. K. Devarajan**

Geological Survey of India, Sanjivani Nagar, P.O. Garha,
Jabalpur 482 003.

6. **K. Krishnamurthy**

School of Studies in Geology, Vikram University, Ujjain, M.P.

7. **Nambiar**

Dept. of Geology, University of Kerala, Trivandrum.

8. **V. Purnachandra Rao**

Geological Oceanography Divn., National Institute of
Oceanography, Dona Paula, Panajim, Goa.

9. **M. Srimal**

Geochronology Divn., Geological Survey of India,
27, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Calcutta.

PADMASHREE AWARD TO A GEOLOGIST

President of India has been pleased to award *Padmashree* to Dr. B. P. Radhakrishna, Editor, Journal of the Geological Society of India, in recognition of his services in the field of geology.

COASTAL GEOMORPHOLOGY

The workshop on 'Coastal Geomorphology' was sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology, New Delhi and conducted by the Department of Geology, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, under the convenorship of Dr. R. Vaidyanadhan. The workshop was held from 14th to 16th November, 1990. The last day of the workshop was devoted to a field trip to Visakhapatnam coastal area. The workshop was attended by some senior scientists and research students actively interested in the study of Coastal Geomorphology and sedimentation. The outcome of the workshop was the issue of a teaching manual containing eight articles and the ninth one a field guide to study the geomorphology and sedimentation of Visakhapatnam coastal tract. The articles are by noted university teachers and professional scientists. The articles are (1) Field mapping of coastal landforms - depositional and erosional; (2) Field mapping of minor coastal landforms; (3) Use of remote sensing products in coastal studies; (4) Sedimentary structures: methods of study and significance in coastal sediments; (5) Littoral sand budget; (6) Correlation between offshore sediments and coastal features; (7) Dating of sediments and events in coastal areas; (8) Ground water response to sea-level fluctuations. Each article offers instructive material on its subject matter, followed by line drawings, sketches and block diagrams, as illustrations to the material offered in the article. It would have been highly welcome if the concerned authors had offered a short abstract of their articles for quick perusal and understanding of the subject matter.

The manual seems to have achieved its objective of offering a short course on the subject of coastal geomorphology and sedimentation and of initiating the participants in the essentials of the subject and encouraging them to practice the study of Coastal Geomorphology both in the field and in the laboratory. One would be looking forward from the participants of the workshop to well produced documented studies of high value in the field of Coastal Geomorphology and Sedimentation in years to come.

Seminars and workshops are held in the country at various times and places sponsored both by governmental and private authorities for the benefit of students, teachers and as a refresher course for senior scientists. Rarely are the proceedings published for the benefit of the non-participants in the seminars and workshops. The notable exceptions are the proceedings of the workshops 'Goals for Earth Science Activities in the Nineties' published by the Geological Society of India as their Memoir No. 18, and (2) the present one on 'Coastal Geomorphology and Sedimentation'. They have set an example for other organizers of seminars and workshops.

C. GUNDU RAO

GOLD IN LATERITE

The following summary of a paper by David La Count Evans on 'Laterization as a possible contributor to gold placers'. (E & M J August, 1981, pp. 86-91 is sure to prove to be of interest to our readers—Ed.)

Former concepts of gold mineralisation, recognising that many major gold placer areas occur in, or on the flanks of, laterized ultrabasic rocks, were primarily based on the denudation, transportation, deposition and mechanical concentration of gold from lodes. The possibility that gold might be concentrated by dissolution and reprecipitation was not accepted, although it had been suggested during early exploitation of the Californian placers. While accepting that the placers had been derived from lodes, the considerable difference in size and purity of the placer gold nuggets and the lode gold particles was commonly observed and thought to indicate that some process other than simple denudation, transportation and deposition was involved.

During succeeding decades, investigations, both laboratory and field, were carried out. By the mid-1970's research indicated that gold, in small amounts, but evenly distributed throughout ultrabasic rocks, can be dissolved and reprecipitated (sometimes in commercially viable concentrations) by natural agencies through the process of laterization.

Recognition of this possible effect of laterization does not imply that all laterite areas contain concentrations of gold. It does, however, indicate that, as evidenced in recent years in other continents, exploration in such areas can result in the discovery of large low-grade deposits amenable to large-scale open pit methods of mining.

L. C. CURTIS

REGIONAL CHAPTER OF THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF INDIA AT DEHRA DUN

A. Regional Chapter has recently been opened at the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehra Dun, with the prime objective of bringing together all the Fellows of the Society and other geoscientists at Dehra Dun and its neighbouring regions. The basic idea of opening the Chapter is to promote better interaction and to discuss important issues and recent developments especially related to Indian Geology. To start with, it was decided to organise a series of lectures by reputed workers and specialists.

The inaugural lecture was delivered by Professor R. Vaidyanadhan (Andhra University) on 1st August 1990 on 'Expanding Scenario of Earth Sciences'. It was attended by about 75 geoscientists.

Two more lectures were delivered by Dr. S. K. Biswas (Director, KDM Institute of Petroleum Exploration, ONGC, Dehra Dun) on 'Structure of the western continental margin of India and its evolution' and by Professor P. V. Sharma (Institute of Geophysics, Copenhagen University) on 'Enigma of mass extinction at

Cretaceous-Tertiary boundary'. These lectures were interesting and generated a lot of awareness among the geoscientists. More than 125 geoscientists attended these lectures.

Such lectures under the aegis of the Regional Chapter are of great importance in discussing topics of interest and organising field workshops.

We request the Fellows as well as other geoscientists of the region to cooperate with us making the Chapter's activity more useful.

*Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology
Dehra Dun 248 001.*

V. C. THAKUR AND R. J. AZMI
Organisers

MINERAL EXPLORATIONIST

The ideal mineral explorationist is a subtle blend of optimist and cynic. He knows his chances of success are minimal, for in no other field of technical endeavour is the success rate so low. It is well-known that only one prospect in several thousands turns out to be a viable mine by normal commercial standards. He must not allow such statistics to deter him, but must cultivate keen powers of observation and reasoning coupled with a determination to succeed.

D. A. VILJOEN

RESPONSIBILITY OF A REFEREE

A referee has the responsibility to judge a work fairly, decline to review a work that is not in his field of competence, comment with an attitude of helpfulness and without rancour, and either do his best to aid the author to improve the paper for publication, or point out fairly and with facts the reasons why it is not fit for publication.

C. J. ROBINOV
'Physics Today'

RIFT BASINS OF PRECAMBRIAN AGE

Phanerozoic sedimentary basins of rift origin are noted world-wide for their hydrocarbon productivity. However, following their discovery and exploitation on other continents, rift basins of Precambrian age have only recently been recognized as potential source of hydrocarbons in North America.

MC GINNIS
EOS, July 24, 1990