SEDIMENTOLOGISTS MEET AT PUNE

The IX-National Covention of the Indian Association of Sedimentologists was held on December 28-29, 1992 at the Department of Geology, University of Poona, Pune, attended by delegates representing various universities of India, and national Research Institutes and Government organisations engaged in exploration of oil and gas, atomic minerals, and coal.

In his inaugural address, as chief guest, Mr. R. B. Mehrotra, Member (Exploration), Oil and Natural Gas Commission highlighted the role of sedimentology in hydrocarbon exploration and exploitation. He emphasized the need to identify the priority areas of national concern, and endeavour in the development of deterministic numerical models capable of simulating geodynamic and geochemical processes that lead to the generation and migration of hydrocarbons. The main thrust of the convention was on sedimentation, tectonics, paleoenvironments, and energy resource potential in the cratonic and pericratonic sedimentary basins of peninsular and extra-peninsular India.

The oil and gas producing basins of western India, both offshore and onshore, were the focus of attention, with a number of papers presented on recent advances on facies modelling, geochemistry and stratigraphic traps, and subtle problems of identifying source rocks. Contributions were made on a wide variety of themes including Precambrian sediments and mineralization, coal-bearing Gondwana basins, Himalayan geology, Quaternary sedimentation including radioactive placer deposits, and hydrogeology and sedimentology.

The convention was co-sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology and Atomic Minerals Division, organised by Professor A.M.Patwardhan and colleagues, and presided by Mr.S.M.Mathur, ex-Director, Geological Survey of India.

Professor S.M.Casshyap, Department of Geology, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh has been elected as the next President of the Indian Association of Sedimentologists. The X-convention will be held in October/November, 1993 at the University of Karnataka, Dharwad, with Prof.V.C.Chavadi, Department of Geology, Karnataka University, Dharwad as the Convenor.

Secretary, IAS
Geology Dept. AMU, Aligarh

B.D.BHARDWAJ

TIDAL CLASTICS 92

The Third International Research Symposium on modern and ancient clastic tidal deposits was held under the auspices of Senkenberg Institute, Wilhelmshaven, Germany from 25-28 August, 1992. The sessions were on: (i) The tidal influences in some valley-filled facies (ii) on recent environments, (iii) bed-load parting zone, (iv) significance of foraminifera as facies indicator, (v) impact of hydrography on large-scale tide influenced sand bodies and impact of seismic activity, (vi) benthos and labensspuren zonation and (vii) grain-size dynamics in tidal environment.

Methodology of rapid technique to dry suspended matter for SEM examinations was also demonstrated through a poster session.

The next symposium on "Tidal Clastics 96" is to be held in the Unversity of Florida, U.S.A.

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B. P. SINGH

THE JOURNAL OF 1992 : AN ANALYSIS

A study was made recently on the contents of the 12 issues of the Journal of the Geological Society of India of the year 1992. The following emerge as a result of the analysis:

(1) 89 Research papers were published, 11 papers were discussed (Comment and Reply), 23 books received by the Society were reviewed, contents of 5 publications, proceedings of 4 National and 4 International Conference/Seminars/Workshops were brought to the notice of the readers, besides 12 editorials on different topics of interest to the earth science community.

(ii) The total number of pages published (excluding Sanchaya - bibliography of Indian Geology) in the 12 issues of the journal was 1119, out of which the Research Papers added up to 667, accounting for 55% of the space.

(iii) Approximate number of papers published under different subdisciplines were: Petrology - 16; Fluid inclusions and Geochemistry -10; Sedimentology -9; Economic Geology - 7; Structural Geology -5; Tectonics -5; Hydrogeology -5; Stratigraphy -5; Micropalaeontology -5; Palaeontology -4; Geophysics -4; Marine Geology -4 and others 2 or 1.

(iv) The areas dealt with by papers ranged from World Oceans to a few samples from an outcrop. Yet a classification was made and it indicated that South India topped with 8, followed by Indian Ocean -5, Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea -3 each. Statewise breakup is approximately as follows: Andhra Pradesh -9; Uttar Pradesh -7; Karnataka-6; Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan -5 each; Maharashtra-4; Foreign lands -4 and others 2 or 1.

(v) The maximum number of papers received was from the Universities, followed by the Geological Survey of India, National Geophysical Research Institute, Indian Institute of Technologies, Foreign authors, Oil and Natural Gas Commission, National Institute of Oceanography and Centre for Earth Science Studies.

(vi) There were 24 papers from single authors, 32 from 2 authors, 19 from 3, 11 from 4, 2 from 5 and 1 from 6 authors. In a few cases it appeared as though the papers were weighed down by too many authors.

(vii) Of the 224 Research Papers received during the year 78 were accepted for publication, 66 rejected and the rest are under various stages of refereeing and revision.

(viii) On an average it took 6 to 8 months for an accepted paper to appear in print.

It is obvious from this analysis that more space should be given to the publication of Research Papers so that the time lag between the receipt and publication be reduced.