



DR. T. K. BHATTACHARYA
(1923-1993)

Dr. T. K. Bhattacharya died at the age of 70 years due to cardiac arrest on December 3, 1993 at his residence in Calcutta. In his death, the Indian geologist community, in general, and geoscientists of the Atomic Minerals Division (AMD) of the Department of Atomic Energy, in particular, have lost a reputed petrologist.

Tarun Kumar Bhattacharya was born on February 28, 1923 in Calcutta. He got his B.Sc.(Hons.) and M.Sc. in Geology in 1946 from the Presidency College, Calcutta and Dres-Sc from the University of Nancy, France in 1955. During his stay in France from 1951 to 1955, he got trained in 'Uranium Geology' at the C.E.A., France. Due to his liking for teaching and academic work, he took up a lecturer's post in the Geology Department of Jadavpur University in 1947 and continued upto 1958.

At the invitation of Dr. P. K. Ghosh, the then Director, Dr. Bhattacharya joined AMD in 1958 and continued till his retirement in February, 1983. He was mainly instrumental in organising the Petro-mineragraphic Laboratory of AMD in New Delhi till its development into a full-fledged, individual, reputed Laboratory of Petrology, X-ray diffraction and Emission Spectrography. He had initiated and guided many petro-mineralogical investigations as applicable to the exploration for atomic minerals. Some of his notable contributions, are on the characterization of the hydrothermal-type uranium mineralisation of the Singhbhum shear zone, Bihar; trace element geochemistry of granitoids and ultramafic rocks of eastern India; trace element geochemistry of alkalic suite of Koraput, Orissa; rare-earths and other trace elements in uraninites and radioactive heat generation of granitoids vis-a-vis nature of crust in Peninsular India. After heading the Petrology Laboratory of AMD, first at New Delhi and then at Hyderabad, he took up the more challenging assignment of guiding the exploration programmes for atomic minerals in the Southern Region, AMD, as its Regional Director, from October 1976 to February, 1983. During his stewardship, the quartz-pebble-conglomerate-type uranium deposit at Walkunji in the South Kanara district of Karnataka was proved. Besides uranium mineralization, his other pet subject was 'granite' to which he

contributed significantly in terms of petrogenesis and geochemistry. Even after retirement, he used to keep himself informed with recent advances in Geology, and more particularly on matters related to the exploration for atomic minerals.

Dr. Bhattacharya was a life-fellow the Geological Society of India, fellow of the Geological, Mining and Metallurgical Society of India, Geochemical Society of India, Mineralogical Society of India and member of the Indian Society of Earth Sciences. He was a referee to some leading earth science journals of India.

As a person, Dr. Bhattacharya was affable, cheerful, informal making even small gatherings lively by his memorable jokes. He was a lover of music and a good collector of many antiques. All these made him a guide, philosopher and friend to many of his associates, who join his family members in mourning his death.

*Atomic Minerals Division
Bangalore - 560 072.*

R. DHANA RAJU

ANNOUNCEMENTS

5TH CONF. SINKHOLES, ENG. & ENV. IMPACT KARST: April 2-5, 1995; Gatlinburg, TN. Abstracts deadline: Sept. 2, 1994. B. F. Beck, P. E. LaMoreaux & Associates, Inc. Box 4412, Oak Ridge, TN 37831-4412. U.S.A.

MANGANESE MINERALIZATION - Geochemistry and mineralogy of terrestrial and marine deposits. 26-27, September 1994, at the Geological Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London. For further information please write to : Dr. K. Nicholson (convenor), School of Applied Sciences, The Robert Gordon University, ST. Andrew Street, Aberdeen, AB1 1HG. Fax. (0224) 262828.

XI CONVENTION OF INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF SEDIMENTOLOGISTS, 21-23, October, 1994, at the Department of Earth Sciences, University of Roorkee, Roorkee - 247 667. For further information please contact. Prof. B. Parkash, Convenor.

10TH HIMALAYA-KARAKORAM-TIBET WORKSHOP. 4-8 April, 1995. The ETH Conference Centre, Mante Verita, Ascona, Ticino, Switzerland. For further information, contact : Dr. David A. Spencer, Geologisches Institut, ETH-Zentrum, CH-8092 Zurich, Switzerland.

SOFTWARE "MPET" PROGRAMME. Software "Mpet" Programme has been developed to calculate P-T and activities in common metamorphic minerals after different models published in recent years. In this software name "Mpet" programme the published thermometers and barometers involving gt-bio, gt-opx, gt-cd, gt-cpx, opx-cpx, gt-plag-ky/sill-qz, gt-cd-sill-qz, gt-opx-plag-qz, gt-cpx, plag-qz have been included. The software is available for scientists and researchers on request with payment towards floppy and postal charges. The interested scientists may contact to Dr. Harel Thomas, Department of Geology, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi - 221 005, U.P.