

This updated catalogue is intended to provide information on the availability of various aerogeophysical maps for sale with the AMSE Wing of the GSI at Bangalore. The catalogue is priced at Rs.185/- and can be obtained from the Director, Map and Cartography Division, AMSE Wing, Geological Survey of India, No.2, Church Street, Bangalore - 560 001; Tel: 080-5586125 Fax: 91-80-5586687

M. S. RAO

MONOGRAPH ON MEDITERRANEAN

The Geological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, has brought out a monograph on the "Geological structure of the North-Eastern Mediterranean" (Cruise 5 of the Research Vessel 'Akademik Nikolaj Strakhov'; pp.396+viii, 200 Figs and 3520 references on the Mediterranean) dealing with the *tectonics of the eastern Mediterranean and the closure of the Tethys*. The publication is available for sale for US \$73 from 15 January 1996 from: Dr. John K. Hall, Historical Productions - Hall Ltd., 25 Hamitnahalim Bahar, Ramat Motze, Jerusalem - 90822, Israel; Fax: 972-2-346590.

M. S. RAO

US BUREAU OF MINES TO BE CLOSED

The axe has fallen on the U.S. Bureau of Mines. The Republican dominated U.S. Congress has decided that the cost of maintaining the staff is too high. The Bureau with a 85 year record of service to the mining industry is the major casualty. A report in the Mining Journal (Sept. 29, 1995) states that as many as 1100 jobs will go. A total sum of \$64 million has been appropriated to cover the cost of closure.

Mineral information collection work is to be transferred to the U.S. Geological Survey. Health and safety aspects handled by the Bureau are to be transferred to the Department of Energy.

BPR

BOOK REVIEW

BHĀRATHĪYA BHŪ-TATTWA - RAHASYAM (Geological Foundations of Indology) by S.R.N. Murthy, Kalpatharu Research Academy, Post Box. No.1857, Bangalore 560 018. 91 pages, Rs.25/-

The author, a geologist by profession, has published quite a few papers in the recent past, bringing to light geological information that could be gleaned from out of ancient Indian literature. In the present book he has attempted to show that some of the early findings of our ancients, particularly on the origin of early man (pp.19-20), the geomorphic history of the Saraswathi river (pp.27-35) and the evolution and processes on the earth (pp.38-44) that deserve a study by earth scientists. He pleads for a coordinated effort by archaeologists and Quaternary geologists in unravelling the geomorphic history and evolution of major rivers of India with which the ancient history of man is closely associated. This publication will be of interest to those doing research in these fields.

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