

NOTES

GROUNDWATER QUALITY PERSPECTIVE

A recent special volume of the *Journal & Australian Geology and Geophysics* (vol.14 Numbers 2 & 3 1993, 318p.) contains both overview papers and case studies of groundwater pollution and remediation. Of special interest are the papers:

- (1) Assessment of the relative vulnerability of ground water to pollution.
- (2) Risk assessment as a framework for management of aquifers - a literature review.
- (3) Technology selection for remediation of organic pollutants.
- (4) Wastewater irrigation and ground water quality protection guidelines for Australia.
- (5) National ground water protection guidelines for Australia
- (6) Towards an Australian ground water quality assessment programme.

A few of the recommendations that originated from the conference are (i) a community education programme, (ii) a coordinated programme to quantify the impact of various industrial, residential and agricultural, land and waste management practices on ground water, (iii) need for a national management programme for the protection and sustainable use of ground water, (iv) establishing a programme to identify principles of appropriate monitoring of ground water quality to determine man's impact and to facilitate prevention, rather than remediation, of ground water pollution problems and (v) establishing performance criteria to assess the application of the Guidelines for Ground Water Pollution progressively with the implementation of monitoring.

These are not only applicable to Australia but to other areas like India too. Our emphasis has so far been mostly on the quantitative aspects. The worth of the resource depends on its quality too. While considerable information is available on the major ion composition, very little is known about the trace elements and minor constituents. The recommendations of the conference and the proceedings of the specialist workshops provide interesting reading. It is a timely contribution and a 'must read' for those concerned with the management of this resource.

*Central Groundwater Board
IV Block, Jayanagar
Bangalore - 560011*

V. JAGANNATHAN

EVIDENCE OF PGE MINERALIZATION IN THE CHANNAGIRI MAFIC COMPLEX, SHIMOGA DISTRICT, KARNATAKA

In a recent reconnaissance investigation of the mafic-ultramafic body, designated here as the Channagiri mafic complex, in the southeastern portion of the Shimoga schist belt (Lat. $13^{\circ} 44' - 13^{\circ} 55' \text{ N}$; Long. $75^{\circ} 48' - 76^{\circ} 02' \text{ E}$) significantly high values of Platinum Group Elements (PGE) have been recorded. The mineralisation is localized to a 1.5 km (NS) x 50m (EW) chromitite seam located approximately 2 km north of Tavarekere village (Lat. $13^{\circ} 51'$