

RAJASTHAN KA BHU VIGYAN EVAM KHANIJ SAMPADA (in Hindi) by Ram Rax Pal Vijay Vergia. Published by Hindi Granth Academy, Jhalana Dungari, Jaipur, 223p. Price: Rs.165/-

The Geology and Mineral Resources of Rajasthan is written in national language Hindi by the name of "Rajasthan kaBhu Vigyan Evam Khanij Sampada". The book contains fifteen chapters which are further subdivided into three parts. The first part of the book introduces the State and describes the physiography and stratigraphy of the State, which is covered in nine chapters. The stratigraphic classification is based on Geological Survey of India publications. However, the other classification, given by different workers have also been mentioned in the book. Number of geological maps are incorporated to explain the geology of the area.

The second part of the book covers the mineral occurrences of the state in three chapters. In this part, minerals found in the state are described and significant mineral deposit such as Lead-Zinc, Rock Phosphate, Wollastonite, Gypsum, Emerald, Soapstone, Marble etc. are dealt with in detail. The mineral resources available, their significance, specifications for industrial use and their production in terms of state and country are properly presented.

The third part of the book comprises the practical aspects and covers the information regarding mineral based industries existing in the State and future scope of investment in the mining and mineral based industry. The process of beneficiation and utilization of low grade minerals are also covered in the book.

Author has mentioned that huge deposit of Lignite, Gypsum, Rock Phosphate. Limestone, Marble, Granite, Shale and Slate are available in the State and have the potential for mineral based industries. The book also highlights the scope for investment in mineral investigations for particularly base metals, noble metals and mineral fuels.

The technical words used in the book are picked up from the "Definitional Dictionary of Geology" (Scientific and Technical Vocabulary Commission, Ministry of Human Resources, New Delhi).

The author is a field geologist in the State Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Rajasthan having 25 years of field experience and worked on different projects of mineral exploration in the State. He has tried his best to dwell on the mineral wealth found in the State. The book is very informative and useful to the common man and the efforts of the writer deserve high appreciation. The quality of printing by Rajasthan Hindi Granth Academy has been very good. The book is useful to the students of Geology, Geography, Civil Engineers, Economists and those who want to know about the mineral wealth of Rajasthan and want to invest in the minerals sector.

*Department of Mines
and Geology
Jaisalmer, Rajasthan*

BHANWARA RAM CHOUDHARY

It Matters*

Galileo didn't publish his observations in scholarly Journals. They didn't exist in his lifetime. Scientific publishing as we know it, with experts reviewing manuscripts before they're made public, developed slowly before the 20th Century. Today scientific peer review still matters. The sheer volume and specialization of modern research means that even a brilliant editor of a narrowly focused journal needs help evaluating submissions. Reviewers report on whether articles show sound investigative techniques, logical analysis, and plausible conclusions. Though most scientists recognize flaws in the process, it can tend to slow the spread of new data and stifle original thinking-peer reviewed publications remain the gold standard: reliable source for credible science.

- Lynne Warren

[•Reproduced with permission from National Geographic, May 2003, p. 1]