(ii) The GSI, as a premier earth science organization of the country to take the lead in the digitization of the existing database on a time bound basis.
(iii) All geoscientific organization to be geared up for IT adaptation for their data management on a uniform pattern in view of NSDI.
(iv) A comprehensive policy for IT in GSI and ultimately switching over to e-governance through internet and e-business/commerce.

In the valedictory function Dr. R.N. Bohidar, Principal Secretary, Steel and Mines, Government of Orissa was the Chief Guest and Dr. R.N. Mishra, Dy. D.G. (Retd.), GSI was the Guest of Honour. Dr. Bohidar complimented GSI for holding the seminar at Bhubaneswar and appreciated the role played by it in enhancing the status of Orissa in the mineral map of India. Shri D. Chatterji chaired this session. More than two hundred delegates from various organizations and universities of the country attended the seminar and showed keen interest in the deliberations.

From the technical content and the organizational point of view this seminar was considered one of the best conducted by the GSI in recent times.

Geological Survey of India E.V.R. PARTHASARADHI
Kolkata

NATIONAL SEMINAR ON ALKALINE–CARBONATITE MAGMATISM

The Department of Geology, Kakatiya University, Warangal, Andhra Pradesh organised a National Seminar on "Alkaline–Carbonatite Magmatic Activities – their Geological–Tectonic Settings and Associated Mineralization – the Indian Panorama" under the joint sponsorship of the UGC and the Andhra Pradesh State Council of Science and Technology (APCOST) during 30-31 March, 2002. The Seminar was inaugurated by Prof. Chandrakant Kokate, Vice-Chancellor, Kakatiya University. In his presidential address, the seminar director Prof. V. Madhavan of Kakatiya University, made an appeal to the Government of India to establish a Ministry of Natual Resources and Disaster Management on the lines of Human Resource Development Ministry. Prof. Madhavan emphasized the need for such a Ministry in view of the globalization of economy and the increasing frequency of natural disasters like earthquakes, floods etc.

Recent developments and progress of research on the Indian kimberlite, lamproite, carbonatite and other alkaline rock associations were deliberated with an emphasis on the future course of action. In his keynote address on Indian carbonatites, P. Krishnamurthy of the Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research, Jamshedpur, traced the new approaches to carbonatite research during the last decade, especially with regard to stable (C and O) and radiogenic (Rb-Sr, Sm-Nd and Pb-Pb) isotopes. Mantle conditions and processes responsible for the generation of carbonatite magmas were also discussed in detail. Prof. S.G. Viladkar of St. Xavier's College, Mumbai discussed fenitization around carbonatites in general and Amba Dongar carbonatite in particular. He emphasized that nephelinizaiton, as commonly observed around ijolite complexes, is "particularly absent around carbonatites". Saurabh Kumar Varma of National Geophysical Research Institute presented a paper on regional underplating and associated KCR volcanism in Central India. K. Gopalakrishnan, V. Subramaniyan and R. Upendran presented the "tectonic domain" based classification of the alkaline-carbonatite complexes of the Southern Granulite Terrain (SGT) and discussed the same in detail. These workers together with Prof. Viladkar also presented another paper on fenitization associated with Tirupattur alkali syenite-carbonatite province in northern Tamil Nadu. Sri K.R.P. Rao, S.S. Nayak and Ravi of the Geological Survey of India presented their findings on the kimberlites and lamproites of southern India. Various aspects of alkaline rocks from Andhra Pradesh were presented and discussed by J. Ratnakar and M. Srinivas of Osmania University and David, Mallikarjun Reddy and Srinivas Reddy of the Kakatiya University.

In his concluding remarks, the seminar director Prof. Madhavan explained the tectono-magmatic framework of various alkaline provinces of India. In addition to Cuddapah intrusive province in the eastern Dharwar craton, five more alkaline provinces are now proposed: (1) The southern India Peninsular alkaline province, (2) The Deccan alkaline province, (3) The Vindhyan alkaline province (4) The Bastar alkaline province and (5) the Shillong alkaline province. Although the concept of alkaline province has recently been adopted in India, Prof. Madhavan reminded that it was in vogue in many parts of the world since more than a century.

Department of Geology, V. MADHAVAN
Kakatiya Unviersity,
Warangal - 560 009