

RELEASE OF PUBLICATIONS AND INAUGURATION OF THE NEW EDITORIAL WING

The new editorial wing of the Geological Society of India was formally declared open by Dr. S.V.P. Iyengar, formerly Senior Deputy Director General, Geological Survey of India, at a function in Bangalore on the forenoon of 27.04.02 amidst sonorous chanting of vedic hymns. Professor R. Viljoen of the Geological Society of South Africa released two of the latest publications of the Society – namely the “Geology of Bihar and Jharkhand” authored by T.M. Mahadevan and – “Palynology in Hydrocarbon Exploration” authored by N.C. Mehrotra, B.S. Venkatachala, S.N. Swamy and P.N. Kapoor.

The Editorial Wing is now housed in the recently acquired flat in the same Kavita Apartment Complex at Gavipuram in Bangalore, where the other offices and Library of the Society are housed. Dr. S.V.P. Iyengar in his brief speech after the inauguration ceremony, recounted the selfless service and dedicated efforts of the founding fathers of the society in building up these assets.



Dr. S.V.P. Iyengar inaugurating the Editorial Wing.

Dr. B.P. Radhakrishna, President of the Society in his welcome address, reflected on the early years and steady growth of the Society and the gradual acquisition of some assets and facilities for serving the cause of the geological profession. With the increased accommodation provided for the editorial wing of the Society, it is hoped that the publication activity of the Society would receive a new boost at a time when on-line publishing and open archival systems are being debated as future models for scientific publishing. The Geological Society of India should take part in this global debate and gear itself to catch up with the emerging technologies in DTP and on-line publishing.

Prof. Viljoen in his remarks after the release of the



Dr. B.P. Radhakrishna welcoming Prof. R. Viljoen.

new publications, traced the deep fraternal ties that have evolved between the Geological Societies of South Africa and India in recent years and appreciated the efforts of the Society in bringing out the textbook series on the geology of the various states of India. On a comparison of the geology of the composite Bihar state with the geology of the South African Shield, he felt that several new impulses for exploration may be derived, specially for Platinum Group Elements (PGE) in the ultramafic complexes. He also felt that the prospects for diamond exploration in the Jharkhand area appear to be bright on an analogy with South African geology. Prof. Viljoen presented an excellently brought out colourful book on the Minerals of South Africa by the Geological Society of South Africa to the library of the Geological Society of India.

Dr. T.M. Mahadevan, while introducing the book on the Geology of Bihar and Jharkhand, recounted the formidable challenge the writing of the book had been. The composite Bihar State encompasses all the geological formations of the Peninsular Shield of India with vast and diverse mineral resources.

Dr. N.C. Mehrotra, the principal author of the book on the Palynology in Hydrocarbon Exploration, explained the importance of Palynology in petroleum exploration and in high resolution sequence biostratigraphy. An attempt has been made in the book to summarise at one place the last five decades of work carried out in India in this new and rapidly advancing field.

The function was attended by a large number of fellows of the Society and Shri S.V. Srikantia, Hon. Secretary of the Society proposed a vote of thanks to everyone for making the function a great success.