

## OBITUARY



**Krishnam Raju Kalidindi**  
(1938-2009)

It is with profound sorrow that we record the passing away of K.K.Raju, Retired Deputy General Manager (Exploration), Hutti Gold Mines Co. Ltd., on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2009.

Krishnam Raju, Kalidindi was born on May 10, 1938. He took Masters degree in Geology in 1962 from the Andhra University and his PhD in 1970 from Osmania University, Hyderabad. After completion of his Masters Degree in Geology, K.K. Raju started his career in the Geological Survey of India as Sr. Technical Assistant and promoted as Asst. Geologist in 1967. While working as Geologist during 1963-70 he actively involved in exploration for copper, lead and zinc in Agnigundala Project, Guntur district, Andhra Pradesh, and for gold in the extension areas of Hutti Gold Mines and Buddinni Block of Hutti-Maski greenstone belt, Karnataka.

Subsequently, he resigned from GSI and joined Hutti Gold Mines Co. Ltd. as Sr. Geologist in 1970. During the period 1970-83 he served as Senior Geologist in Hutti Gold Mines Co. Ltd., responsible for establishing Geology and Exploration wing in Hutti Gold Mines Co. Ltd. and looked after exploration and Mining Geology and produced underground geological plans and sections of the complete Hutti Mine and also the Thinthini Copper Mine and Mangalur gold Mine.

During 1983, he was promoted as Chief Geologist, heading the Exploration wing of the Hutti Mines, and responsible for planning and execution of exploration and mining geological activities not only in the Hutti Gold Mines proper but also in the Satellite Mines in the Hutti-Maski Schist belt and in the other gold prospects of Chitradurga viz., Ajjanahalli, G.R. Halli and Kunchiganalu and in Mysore Mines of Gadag Gold Field. He also looked after exploration in Chitradurga and Kalyadi Copper Mines.

During 1995, he was promoted as Dy. General Manager

(Exploration) and was responsible for creating and organizing a full-fledged Exploration Department in Hutti Gold Mines Co. Ltd. for which post he held till his retirement in 2002. He discharged his duties as DGM (Exploration) with efficiency and enhanced the reputation of the Exploration Department. I had the privilege to work under his guidance from 1996 to 2002.

The research studies conducted by K.K.Raju on gold mineralisation at Hutti deposit originally are of basic nature and have clearly brought out genetic and conceptual models for gold mineralisation in Hutti deposit. It is an excellent and original contribution to the status of knowledge on geochemistry, genesis, nature and part played by structural controls for localization of gold mineralisation to form rich ore shoots in the Hutti deposit. Though it is of basic nature of scientific work, the results of his studies indicated significant bearing on the applied aspects viz., exploration and discovery of new ore zones, which have practical bearing on the mining geological aspects of Hutti Gold deposit. His work on the mineralisation on Hutti auriferous reef is a very notable contribution to the geology of Hutti Gold Mine.

After retirement from Hutti Gold Mines, he joined the NMDC as Exploration Advisor where he carried out exploration work for gold and associated minerals in India and also in Tanzania. K.K. Raju was a Life Fellow of the Geological Society of India and Member of the Mining, Geological and Metallurgical Institute of India.

K.K.Raju published a number of papers and in-house technical reports of high quality. He was very methodical, meticulous and hard working. He leaves behind his wife Saraswati Raju, son Prasad and daughter Praneetha.

*Hutti Gold Mines, Hutti*

M.L. PATIL