Special Issue on Applied Micropalaeontology *– U.B. Mallikarjuna (Email: mallikarjunaub@rediffmail.com)*

The Gondwana Geological Society (GGS), Nagpur has recently brought out a special issue (dedicated to Dr. R.M. Badve) on Applied Micropalaeontology, Gondwana Geological Magazine (Vol.25, no.1, June 2010). The issue consists of 23 research papers, among these 8 papers on foraminifera, one each on thecamoebians, bryozoa, nannofossils and calcareous algae, two each on diatoms, ostracodes, pteropods and five on palynofossils giving diverse application of fossil groups. Sahoo and Saraswati (pp.1-5) discuss the advantages and constraints of foraminiferal Mg/Ca palaeothermometry. Singh and Rai (pp.7-12) examine the influence of surface productivity and deep sea ventilation on the Pleistocene foraminiferal diversity at ODP site 763 A in the eastern Indian Ocean. Rajashekar (pp.43-48) outlines the significance of Cretaceous foraminifera from the Bagh Beds, Andaman and inter tidal deposits of the Gulf of Kachchh. Nigam (pp.55-60) provides foraminiferal account from the shaly sediment layers in Goa and Lothal Dockyard (Gujarat) and indicates the possibility of high sea around 6000 years BP. Farooqui (pp.61-68) provides potential of thecamoebians as proxy for monitoring palaeoecology and palaeoclimate using comprehensive modern field data base from a wide range of marine and freshwater settings. Sonhar et al. (pp.69-80) demonstrates the usefulness of bryozoans in tracing palaeoenvironment giving India records. Khosla et al. (pp.115-124) report ostracode assemblage from the Late Cretaceous Lameta Formation of Pisdura, Nand-Dongargoan Basin and interpret that the grey limestone and white silty sandstone of Lameta Formation were deposited in a pool or lake, white red clays accumulated in desiccating environments. Kundal (pp.125-132) furnish an introduction to fossil calcareous algae. Rahul Mohan et al. (pp.133-138) gave an account of diatom morphometry and its application to decipher past climate changes. Rai and Abha (pp.149-159) provide an account of applications of nannofossils in reconstruction of palaeo-environment and in biostratigraphic studies. Nagamandhu et al. (pp.161-166) record palynofossils from Chintalpudi sub basin of Settupalli area of Godavari valley and conclude that climate during lower Gondwana was warm temperate with medium to high humidity. Sabina, Mahesh Bilwa (pp.175-180) suggest swampy conditions for the coal seams of Umrer coal field of Wardha Basin. Samant et al. (pp.181-184) conclude that the thin coal bed exposed in a trench at Lametaghat near Jabalpur belongs to Jabalpur Formation of Gondwana Supergroup based on palynofossils. Dogra et al. (pp.185-194) fix Tithonian-Neocomian age for the Jabalpur Formation and Maastrichtian for the Lameta Formation based on palynological studies.