

NOTES

BASIN MODELLING COURSE, JUNE 6 TO JUNE 10, 2000

A contact course on Basin Modelling was organised under SERC Programme (PAC-ES) of the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India by Dr. R.N. Singh, Director, NEERI, Nagpur between June 6-June 10, 2000 at C-MMACS, Bangalore. Dr. Malay Mukul, C-MMACS, Bangalore was the coordinator for the programme. This course was conducted. The course was open to post-graduate students, researchers and teachers with a background in earth sciences. Totally eleven participants selected for this course represented universities, research institutions and government organisations.

The course began with a brief welcome address by Dr. R.N. Singh, and an introduction to basin modelling, its concepts, importance and application to geosciences. Experts drawn from the faculty of geology, geophysics, mathematics and computer science gave 19 lectures. The experts included S.K. Biswas, Gangan Pratap, R.N. Singh, Malay Mukul, V.K. Gaur and T.M. Krishna Mohan.

Geology being a descriptive subject, this course revealed the application of mathematics in basin modelling and speculation for natural resources such as oil, gas, groundwater etc. This was a fresh perspective based on multi-disciplinary approach, which was welcomed by all.

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WORKSHOP ON ISOTOPE GEOCHEMISTRY AND RADIOCHEMISTRY IN THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT MAY 22-30, 2000

Isotope geochemistry and radiochemistry are extremely important in studying the oceans. They are useful in many ways such as: Dating sediments, manganese nodule / crust deposits etc.; understanding water column processes; deciphering water mass movement; determining fluxes and inventories of radio nuclides; understanding palaeoclimate, palaeoenvironment and palaeo-environment; oceanic phenomena like denitrification etc.; sources of organic carbon, and in several other fields.

In spite of the significance of such studies, isotope geochemistry and radiochemistry in the marine environment have not received much attention in the university curricula and research programmes in the country. The Ocean Science and Technology Cell (Marine Geology and Geophysics), Mangalore University, therefore, conducted an eight-day workshop sponsored by the Department of Ocean Development, New Delhi during 22-30 May, 2000 to familiarize university teachers with the scope, methodology and application of stable isotope geochemistry and radiochemistry in the context of the oceans. Ten participants from different universities of the country were given lectures and tutorials. Prof. B.L.K. Somayajulu and Dr. R. Ramesh from Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, conducted the workshop. The participants found the workshop informative and useful.

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