REVIEW

CENOZOIC STRATIGRAPHY AND PALYNOLOGY IN INDIA Palaeontological Society of India, 1980. Special publication, no. 1, pp. 1-135, Price Rs. 350/- ($ 45).

This special publication of the Palaeontological Society of India, entitled 'Cenozoic Stratigraphy and Palynology in India' contains review papers presented at the workshop organized by the Indian Association of Palynostratigraphers in October, 1980 at Lucknow.

Dr. Bhardwaj in his address emphasises on biostratigraphic precision taking into consideration evolution, taxonomy, palaeogeography and sedimentology. Mr. Talukdar in his valuable inaugural address discusses the relation between palynology and stratigraphy and points out outstanding geological problems of the Indian Tertiary sediments. Dr. Bhatia reviews research work done on the Sabathu, Dagshai and Kasauli Formations of the Lesser Himalaya and favours the retention of the term 'Dagshai' as a distinct lithotope with a gradational contact with the Sabathu Formation. A tentative correlation of the Sabathu Formation of the type area with the Bilaspur and Kalakot regions is also suggested. Mr. Mohan reviews the geological and palaeontological information on the Palaeogene stratigraphy of western India and correlates the Paleocene sequence (P1-P4) of GKH-well drilled by the ONGC in the Kutch offshore with the sequence exposed in Naveda in Kutch mainland and agrees with the presence of marine Middle Paleocene sequence in Kutch.

Dr. Singh outlines Palaeogene palynostratigraphy of Assam, Bengal and Meghalaya basins and further discusses tectonic history and depositional environments. He impresses the need for extensive palynological studies for precise zonation in these basins. Dr. Jain reviews briefly the history of dinoflagellate study and its development in India and stresses the need for proper identification based on large number of individual specimens. Dr. Ramanujum critically reviews the palynological investigations carried out on the Tertiary sequence (Paleocene-Miocene) of southern India and further details the work carried out on the Cauvery, Kerala Basins and the Deccan intertrappeans. He concludes that the Quilon beds are homotaxial with Warkalli sediments.

Dr. Datta deals with the Tertiary stratigraphy of Upper Assam and discusses the geology, flora, fauna and tectonic history of the Langpar Formation, Disang Group, Tipam Group and Dihing Group. He suggests regression of the sea from Upper Assam in Late Eocene time and deposition of Neogene and Holocene sediments in a fluviatile environment. Drs. Srivastava and Goel review the Late Cenozoic biostratigraphy of the Andaman and Nicobar islands and suggest extended work on the nature of coiling direction for refinement of biostratigraphic zones.

Dr. Pandey's paper on chronostratigraphic correlation of the Neogene sedimentaries of Western Indian shelf, Himalaya and Upper Assam, contains valuable geological information. In addition, he describes in detail nineteen species of larger foraminifera. Dr. Gupta and Sharma discuss palynological studies of exposed Quaternary sediments of Northern, Eastern and Southern India.

The book is a welcome contribution to the Stratigraphy of Indian Sedimentary basin. The large figures reproduced in the Volume should have been made better and reduced to page size. The volume is well printed and got up but the price of Rs. 350/- ($ 45 for outsiders) for a 138 page Volume is quite high.

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