

Announcements

The Geological Society of India, Bangalore, Field Conference and Group Discussion on the Deccan Volcanic Province. Recent years have seen the initiation of a number of major research projects on the Deccan volcanic province of India, one of the world's major areas of continental flood basalts. The basalts were probably erupted approximately 65 m.y. ago and cover an area of more than 500,000 km² and must have spread over a still larger area whose extensions lie hidden beneath the Arabian Sea. Present research studies carried out by collaborating groups from India, U.K., U.S.A., and several European countries, are concerned with elucidation of volcanic stratigraphy and structure, geochemistry, geophysical aspects, and palaeomagnetism. The questions addressed by these projects include the possible role of mantle plumes and rifts in generating volcanism, crustal shortening during the Himalayan orogeny, the role of volcanism in continent building and, specifically, continental uplift, and petrogenesis of the lavas.

The time is most opportune to bring together all active workers from different disciplines to present an integrated picture of the nature and origin of this major volcanic episode. It is, therefore, proposed to organize a field conference at Igatpuri (lower traps) and Mahabaleswar (younger traps) with main emphasis on field excursions followed by group discussions in the later part of 1987.

The following aspects are proposed to be covered :

1) Structure and Stratigraphy ; 2) Plateau uplift and Geomorphology ; 3) Age and geophysical studies ; 4) Hot springs and their relationship with tectonics and seismicity ; 5) Petrography and Mineralogy ; 6) Zeolites ; 7) Geochemistry ; 8) Petrogenetic processes and modelling ; 9) Palaeomagnetism and rock magnetism ; 10) Comparative studies with other flood basalt provinces.

Those who have made any specific study on any of the aspects outlined above are requested to contact :

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Workshop on computer applications and management of petrological data bases September 12-23, 1987. A joint undertaking of UNESCO, International Union of Geological Sciences, Kuwait University.

Description: This is a workshop to instruct geologists in how to manipulate and apply petrological data using a variety of computers ranging from micros to mainframes. Topics presented will include general principles of data base operation, applications of data bases in higher education and petrologic research and uses of data bases in mineral resource exploration. Approximately 50 per cent of the instruction will be hands-on keyboard experience with the various computers working on application exercises. It is desirable for participants to have some familiarity with general computational principles, but a knowledge of data base management techniques is not necessary.

Costs: A small registration fee will be charged. Lodging and food service provided courtesy of Kuwait University and the government of Kuwait. Travel grants available.

Contact: To receive additional information, write to :

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