

The Valedictory session was utilised for a discussion on critical aspects of the age of and life in the Vindhyan. It was pointed out that a lack of Geological map of the entire Vindhyan belt on 1:250,000 scale has impeded research work and the GSI is the best agency to bring out such a map. The need for coordinated dating of Vindhyan rocks, particularly the amygdaloidal andesitic lava occurring intermittently along the western edge of the basin and also dolomite and glauconite in the sequence, by systematic Ar/Ar, Rb/Sr, Pb-Pb and other modern methods was stressed. The need for understanding the biological evolution of *Chuaria-Tawuia* assemblage on a regional basis was also suggested.

There were references to small shelly fossils. The present reporter explained that the paper was reviewed by Martin Brasier of Department of Earth Science, University of Oxford, who strongly encouraged its publication. As this find represents the first and new report from the Vindhyan rocks, the Geological Society of India wished to subject the reported localities and the fossils for a detailed scrutiny. Accordingly a Vindhyan Field Meeting was proposed.

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#### **PETROTECH-99: LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD TO DR. HARI NARAIN**

The International Petroleum Conference, PETROTECH-99 was held in Delhi from 9th to 12th January 1999. This was the third conference; the earlier two were organised by the ONGC Ltd. in January, 1995 and January 1997. This conference was organised by the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. with full support of the entire oil industry in the country and under the patronage of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. There were nearly 1500 participants including a large number of foreign delegates representing various oil companies including those dealing with refining and petrochemicals. The PETROTECH-99 Lifetime Achievement Award for outstanding contributions to the development of earth sciences in general and geophysics in particular, with emphasis on its application to the petroleum industry in India was awarded to Dr. Hari Narain, former Director, National Geophysical Research Institute, Hyderabad. Award Lecture on "Research Perspectives for Exploration of Hydrocarbons in the 21st Century" was delivered by Dr. Hari Narain on the occasion.