

the usage of any information system (un) popular, is very well discussed, and this is aptly needed here because of the fact it has to be utilised by the geoscientific community whose familiarity with the computer hardware/software and the digital manipulation of maps may range from limited to nil.

The importance of 3D visualisation of the geoscientific data is needless to emphasize. Majority of the 3D visualisation methods associated with the GIS packages demand higher processing times and are also poorly supported in respect of query handling, and modelling for the necessary improvements required in the database for effective handling of 3D data and to improvise the modelling capabilities in this domain, various methods are suggested under the spatial mapping and modelling systems.

The advantages inherent in both vector and raster based representation is very well brought out in the 'map construction - handling raster based data'. The effectiveness of remote sensing data combined with the image processing capabilities is depicted with suitable examples in the other two sections which also demonstrate how the remote sensing data can be integrated with GIS to enhance the analytical capabilities.

Different chapters in map construction and applications in various fields, such as geology, natural resources, geomorphology, cartography, soil sciences and ecology discuss extensively on the utilisation of GIS techniques for different application purposes. Various case studies incorporated in each of these sections cover majority of the applications that are possible in that field of study. However, dearth of a summarisation section dealing with all possible applications and possible approaches for each of the fields, leaves a reader high and dry whose application area doesn't conform to any of the case studies detailed. A section on global scenario in this field might have made the compilation much more complete.

In essence this compilation provides the reader with an in-depth knowledge about all the aspects of utilising GIS concepts in geosciences field. Various views expressed and the case studies presented enhance the reader's perspective many fold. This definitely will be a prized possession for all the organisations working in the respective fields and also for the organisations which plan to adopt the GIS techniques in future.

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

**Second South Asia Geological Congress**, Colombo, Sri Lanka. Organised by the Ministry of Industries, Science and Technology, Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, covering SAARC countries and Turkey and Iran. February 20-25, 1995. For particulars write to:

Secretary General and Chairman, Organising Committee, NARA, Crow Island, Mattakuliya, Colombo - 15.

**National Seminar on Acquisition and Appreciation of Modern Techniques in Earth Sciences Related Industries.**, Organised by Indian Geological Congress and Dept. of Industries and Earth Science, Tamil University, Thanjavur, during October 5-7, 1993. For further particulars write to :

The Secretary, Indian Geological Congress HQs, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Roorkee, Roorkee - 247 667 (U.P)