

## GEOLOGICAL HAZARDS IN THE HIMALAYAN REGION

The need for augmenting studies on seismotectonics and the effects of seismicity has been keenly felt particularly after the Uttarkashi earthquake of 20th October, 1991 and Killari earthquake of 30th September, 1993. A Group Discussion was held on "Geological Hazards in the Himalayan Region: Assessment and Mitigation" from 10-12 March, 1994 at the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehra Dun. Over 100 delegates and research students attended from various Central and State Government Organisations, Research Institutes, Universities and some N.G.Os. A few special lectures were also organised. A volume containing abstracts of over 50 papers (74p.) was released during the occasion.

The discussions centred round two broad heads : (i) the seismic hazards and (ii) landslides and other mass movements. Among the important recommendations made were the followings : (i) establishment of a modern computer based Data Centre where seismic data from all segments of the Indian subcontinent is gathered and made available, (ii) analyses of known areas of strain using VLBI and G.P.S., (iii) erection of a modern computer based Data Centre for geodetic data for the whole country, (iv) establishment of mobile units with at least 15 MEQ recorders, (v) study of crustal deformation using geomorphological features and behaviour of seismological faults, (vi) stricter implementation of building codes (in seismologically prone areas) and (vii) intensive efforts to be made to educate the public on all aspects of earthquakes through multi-media.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THE GEOLOGY OF THE EASTERN MEDITERANEAN REGION--** Second International Symposium, August 27–Sep. 1, 1995, Jerusalem, Israel. For details write to Gideon Steinitz, Geological Survey of Israel, Jerusalem, Israel.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF GROUNDWATER DEVELOPMENT.** - Regional Workshop - October 17-20, 1994 at the Department of Geology, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra - 132 119 (Haryana). For details write to Prof. D. Singhal, Organising Secretary.

**NATIONAL SEMINAR ON ANORTHOSITES AND RELATED ROCKS** - 10-12, October, 1994. Abstracts not more than 300 words are to be sent to Dr. M. Arumugam, Director, NSAARR, Department of Geology, Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar 608 002, Tamil Nadu to reach by 15th July 1994. For further details write to the Director.

**GEOMAGNETISM AND EARTH'S INTERIOR - ELECTROMAGNETIC INDUCTION IN THE EARTH** - Fourth SERC School - October 10-29, 1994, at the Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. Sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology, New Delhi. Interested participants (not more than 35 years of age) should write to Prof. T. Lal, Course Director, Department of Geophysics, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi 221 005. Last date of receipt of applications for participation is 30th July 1994.