

position: no other organism has such an ability to understand and control its environment. Understanding the Earth's basic geological processes and their relationship with the biosphere and with human activity is essential to our own survival".

Various aspects of origin and occurrence of minerals have been supplemented with exquisite photographs and informative line drawings. It would have been more beneficial to the reader had the author given appropriate references in the text. "Recommended reading" and "Appendix references" given at the end of the book are inadequate to pursue reader's inquest. A table on salient physical and optical properties of minerals could have been included.

Although the book appears to be elementary it kindles the minds of young readers and it would be a pride possession of a minerals collector as well as a geologist.

*Department of Geology,
M.S. University of Baroda,
Vadodara - 390 002.*

R.V. KARANTH

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORKSHOP ON HIMALAYAN FORELAND BASIN WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO PRE-SIWALIK TERTIARIES: March 16-19, 1998, Venue: University of Jammu, Jammu.

The Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun, is organizing this Workshop with an aim to provide a forum to disseminate the state-of-art knowledge on Himalayan Foreland Basin as a whole with emphasis on Dagshai-Kasauli/Dharamsala/Murree sequences, i.e., the Late Eocene-Early Miocene interval. A post-workshop field excursion in the vicinity of Jammu is also planned. The registration fee is Rs. 500/- (excursion fee Rs. 300/- extra). The last date for submission of abstracts is December 1, 1997. For further details contact Dr. Kishor Kumar, Convenor, Workshop on Himalayan Foreland Basin, Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, 33-General Mahadeo Singh Road, Dehradun - 248 001, **Tel:** (0135) 627387, 624806; **Fax:** (091-0135) 625212; **E-mail:** wihg@sirnetd.ernet.in.

NATIONAL SEMINAR ON RECENT TRENDS IN GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION FOR NATURAL RESOURCES

will be conducted by the Department of Applied Geology, University of Madras during 4-5 March, 1998. For further details contact Dr. P. Periakali, convener — RGPNA, Department of Applied Geology, University of Madras, Guindy Campus, Chennai - 600 025, **E-mail:** pkali@unimad.ernet.in; **Fax:** 044-2352494, 044-2355180.