

included 5 seismic zones, I to V. However, in the present revised edition by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS, 2002), it has only 4 Seismic Zones, the earlier ISI zone of I is now included in the BIS zone of II. This has been done in order not to disturb the intensity ranges already given for the later zones of III, IV and V. There is no Seismic Zone I now.

The present edition of 222 pages is very reasonably priced at Rs 65/- and is worth possessing by students of earth science in the country.

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R VAIDYANADHAN

INDIAN GEOGRAPHICAL FACTS

Thanks to quizzes being conducted at different levels both in educational institutions and almost all television channels all the year round, the need for books on all types of information has tremendously increased. This has led to publications not only on General Knowledge, but also in specific fields like history, literature, economics, mathematics, biology, sports etc. The list is endless.

'Indian Geographical Facts' by Sri S M Mathur, formerly of the Geological Survey of India and published by Rupa & Co (7/16, Ansari Road, Daryaganj, New Delhi - 110 002, 2003, 139p, Price Rs 150/-) is a collection of

facts and figures essentially geographical, on India. It departs from the usual in containing some information on changed names of places, twin cities, biosphere reserves, world heritage sites etc. This publication would naturally be of considerable help to refer to important information on India in particular, culled out from various publications, not easily accessible to all.

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G. PARTHASARATHY HONOURED

Dr G Parthasarathy of National Geophysical Research Institute, Hyderabad and Fellow of the Geological Society of India has been awarded the Physical Research Laboratory (PRL) Award for the year 2003 for his outstanding contributions in the field of 'Earth and Planetary Sciences' and more specifically for his studies on 'electrical conductivity and thermal stability of minerals at high pressures and for his pioneering work on silica polymorphs'.

It is gratifying to note that the interdisciplinary work of Dr Parthasarathy straddling Mineralogy and Physics has found recognition, which we hope will spur him and his team to further intensified work in this important area of study.

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M S Rao