

GEOFRATERNITY

On the happy occasion of the second anniversary of Uttaranchal State on Nov. 9, 2002, the Geofraternity - a society of students and teachers of the Geology Department of DBS College, Dehra Dun, was formally inaugurated by Honourable Shri Bachi Singhji Rawat, Minister for Science and Technology, Government of India, in a well attended function in the college campus. This society was working informally since 1999 for popularization of geology and intensification of academic activities. Honourable Minister on this occasion unveiled the inauguration plaque and released the vision statement of Geofraternity. The vision statement of the Geofraternity envisages:

- To promote and popularize geology;
- To develop appreciation of mother 'Vasundhara' as heritage;
- To remove misconceptions about geological processes in society;
- To work for enhancement of prestige of the department and make it a centre of excellence;
- To increase interaction of the department with eminent professionals;
- To shape personality of students for future challenges and
- To develop sense of belonging and inculcate feelings of pride in students about the institute of their learning.

Welcoming the Chief Guest, the Convener of Geofraternity highlighted the work carried out by the Geofraternity in last four years such as organizing lecture series of professional geologists, sending delegation of students for participation in the seminars, helping in

departmental activities and others. Dr. R.K. Pande, Patron of the society, highlighted the work of the society before the audience in glowing terms and made an impassioned plea to Honourable Minister to have more fund allocation for colleges for research and improving infrastructure. The Minister in his address highlighted 'Jai Vigyan' mission of the Government of India and mentioned that India cannot develop on borrowed technology and that we will have to evolve technology on our own. The Minister appraised the audience about new schemes initiated by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) for promotion of science and technology. He agreed that more funds should be give to colleges. He mentioned that present government is committed to spend two percent of GDP for development of science and technology from the present one percent. The Minister further assured the Department of adequate help for upgradation of laboratory and infrastructural facilities, which was received warmly by the audience. Students also participated in a lively interactive session on the state of science with the minister. Geofraternity honoured Mr. U. Paul, Miss M. Rai, M. Mahat, U. Devrani and Miss M. Dangwal for securing highest marks in their classes. Best alumni award was given to Dr. PC. Nawani, Director, Geological Survey of India and special contribution award to Mr. Harish Bahuguna. Dr. Nawani welcomed the formation of Geofraternity and hoped for a bright future for the Department. The function concluded with vote of thanks by Prof. J.D. Badhe.

*Department of Geology
DBS (PG) College
Dehra Dun - 248 001
Uttaranchal*

A.K. BIYANI

ADDENDUM

The following additional information may be incorporated in the note on 'Geology of Petroleum' by A.B. Dasgupta (Jour. Geol. Soc. India, v.61, no.3, pp.347-359) before the concluding remarks on p.357.

Coal Bed Gases (Primarily Methane)

The total in place global resources have been estimated to be somewhere between 85 and 265 TCM (BAAPG, Nov. 2002, p. 1882).