First International Conference on the Recent Developments in Stratigraphy (ICRDS-2013) –
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First International Conference titled “Recent Developments in Stratigraphy” was organized by the Department of Geology, Deccan Education Society, Fergusson College, Pune (14th -16th December 2013) jointly with the Geological Society of India, Bangalore; the Paleontological Society of India, Lucknow; and the Gondwana Geological Society, Nagpur with a goal to provide a ‘common platform’ to ‘academia and industry’ involved in innovative multidisciplinary research in Stratigraphy; to demonstrate significance of their work in solving enduring problems in the fields of geosciences; and also to bridge the widening gap between ‘advanced researches’ and the existing ‘text-books’ in this field of geology.

K.B. Powar, Harsh Gupta, M.P. Singh and P. Kundal were Patrons and S.K. Tandon, K.V. Subbarao, M.S. Srinivasan, Ravindra Kumar, Rajiv Nigam, P.K. Kathal, S.M. Hussain, V.D. Borkar and Anil Bhardari and others were Members of the Advisory Committee of the conference.

Seventy-five abstracts were contributed by the scientists from various universities and research institutions. One eighty-five scientists attended the conference including seven foreign delegates. A total of 66 papers were presented in plenary, technical and poster sessions.

The inaugural keynote address was delivered on the “Himalayan Stratigraphy” by K.S. Valdiya, besides 10 keynote addresses, one each in the ‘Technical Session’ that included addresses by D.K. Pandey on the “Lithostratigraphy vs Sequence stratigraphy: A case study from the sedimentary basins west of Aravalli axis”; D. Sinha on “Application of Planktic foraminiferal biostratigraphy in inferring Cenozoic ocean circulation and climate”; K. Pandey on “Recent Developments in

Chronostratigraphy”; P.K. Kathal, on the “Applications of Microfossils”; S. Das on “Early basin tectonic style, mechanism and conversion histories during the Archean and Proterozoic: a glimpse through the Dharwar, Singhbhum and the Kolahans in the Indian shield; R. Venkatachalapathy on “Some findings of Planktic foraminifera and their applications in biostratigraphy of Assam, Nagaland, Tamil Nadu”; S.J. Sangode on ‘Recent Developments in Magnetostratigraphy’; and A. Kale on ‘Recent trends in sequence stratigraphy’.

The first and second technical sessions focused on the “Recent Developments in Lithostratigraphy and Biostratigraphy”. The third session featured “Recent Developments in Chronostratigraphy and Applied Geology”. The fourth and fifth sessions focused on the “Recent Developments in Magnetostratigraphy, Sequence and Seismic Stratigraphy”. The sixth session was devoted to the “Recent Developments in Chemostratigraphy and Applied Geology”. In the seventh session “Applications of Stratigraphy in Petroleum Exploration” was the main topic. The eighth session was titled “Recent Developments in Paleontology, Paleo-oceanography, Paleogeography and Paleo-environment” and there were good

presentations in this session. In the ninth session on “Recent Developments in Event Stratigraphy” presentations were made by U. Banerji, N. Juyal and R. Bhushan, on “Land sea interaction during last 5.5 ka around Diu Island, Western India”; and A. Poovendan and S. M. Hussain, on the “Palynostratigraphy and Paleoenvironment of early Permian and Cretaceous palynofossils in subsurface sediments of the Cauvery basin, India”.

The tenth session titled “Recent Developments in Sedimentary Basins of India” witnessed papers presented by K. S. Misra on the “Basin forming and basin modifying tectonics of petroliferous basins in Peninsular India” and S. Das and S. R. Sahoo on the “Sandstone petrofacies, paleotectonics and paleogeography of Kolhans in the Chaibasa-Noamundi Basin, West Singhbhum, Jharkhand”.

A total of 13 posters were presented in the poster session. The conference concluded with the “valedictory Session” in which the panel of scientists discussed the important findings presented in the conference. The delegates thanked the organizers for providing a common platform to share many important observations in the field of stratigraphy.

Detailed Report ICRDS-2013 is available on Society website (www.geosocindia.com) under News and Views column