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CORRESPONDENCE

"HEAVENLY BOUNTY" – SOME THOUGHTS ON IMPACT METALLOGENY

Dr. BPR has proposed a revolutionary concept of "Impact Metallogeny". This novel idea may appear as fictitious, but as one addicted to geological thoughts from 1947 onwards, I strongly feel that this proposition should not be wrapped under the carpet. While most of us traditionally look up only to the mantle, the endogenic source for the genesis of gold, uranium, tin, platinum group, base metals, Radhakrishna directs our attention to an unexpected cosmic source. While suggesting so, he marshals a plethora of concrete and convincing evidences; he cites case histories of occurrences of economic mineral deposits from all the world over. He validly remarks that there are either fool-proof structural, textural, mineralogical evidences pointing out meteoritic impact or there is no clear-cut genetic relation between the metallic deposit and the host environment. For example, we are now well aware of the excellent documentation of the impact structures in the kimberlitic rocks by Drs M.S. Rao and Fareeduddin. Secondly, in the Ni, Cu and PGE occurrence at Sudbury, Canada, while the metals are solely confined to komatiitic matrix, the geochemistry strongly supports a distinct crustal source.

I fondly hope that earth scientists attempt to applying BPR's suggestions of Impact Metallogeny to at least two mineralised belts such as the auriferous belt of the Dharwar craton and the Pb-Zn belt of Zawar. Using several enhanced techniques, satellite image outputs study should be extended to probe hitherto undiscovered areas.

I am sure that this sufficiently researched innovative concept of BPR would find favour with and have positive IMPACT on the earth scientists in India and abroad.

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