

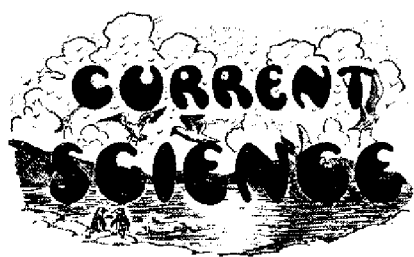
in Srinagar region and inferred three-layered structure of the latter. M. L. Sharma estimated spectral strong ground motion from the Himalaya and obtained a good match with the observed spectrum. M. P. Singh presented preliminary results of seismic profiles along Delhi–Chandigarh–Manali–Leh–Panamic which cut across all the major Himalayan tectonic units. GPS studies by P. Banerjee revealed convergence rate of India at 40 mm/yr. Using broadband waveform

data, K. Suryaprakasam presented mapping of the mantle discontinuities in the Indian shield and the NW Himalaya.

The workshop observed some exciting discussions on whether the Karakoram Fault really exists, reasons for absence of melting of the ultra-high pressure rocks of the Tso-Morari Dome, which have been exhumed from a depth of more than 90 km; geodynamic significance of the Himalayan migmatites, and on the combined ductile shear and channel flow

model of exhumation of the Higher Himalayan Shear Zone. The extended abstract volume, *Himalayan Tectonics (The HIM-PROBE Results)*, edited by S. Singh contains twenty-nine abstracts divided into the five sessions mentioned earlier.

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National Research Laboratories

The decision of the Governing Council of the Scientific and Industrial Research to urge upon the Government of India the imperative necessity for an immediate establishment of six National Research Laboratories with a view to speed up the industrial regeneration of the country, will be enthusiastically welcomed by every section of public opinion in India. The Council has recommended that a Central Fuel Research Station should be established at Dhanbad, which is expected to work in close collaboration with the Indian School of Mines. The subject of fuel is one of fundamental importance to Indian industry in general and to the metallurgical industries in particular. With their characteristic foresight and their reputed generosity, the Tatas have

offered to finance the researches on the production of metallurgical coke to the extent of half the expenditure involved. Reserves of coal in India are limited; poor grades are extensive while the metallurgical quality does not occur in sufficient quantity to meet the needs of the comparatively colossal quantities of high quality iron ore.

The Council has also planned the organization of a National Metallurgical Laboratory which is to be, in all appropriateness, located at Jamshedpur. The Research Laboratory will be associated with, and draw its inspiration from, the great Iron and Steel Works of the Tatas and make use of the facilities offered by the laboratories of the Government Metallurgical Inspectorate. A central Glass Research Institute is the third which has been proposed; its location is not yet decided. The Institute will engage itself on problems connected with glass technology and conduct researches on the production of high grade laboratory, ampoule and optical glasses. The National Physical Laboratory, which, in the first instance, will house the Institute for Radio Research, and the National Chemical Laboratory, complete the six for which the plans are being drawn up. The Tatas, whose munificence has brought into existence the first post-graduate Research In-

stitute of Bangalore, have offered to make a grant of eight lakhs and a half on condition that the National Chemical Research Laboratory is located in reasonably close proximity to the great industrial centre of Bombay. This princely offer has been gratefully accepted by the Council and the Laboratory is proposed to be located at Poona.

Considering the vastness of the natural resources with which this country is blessed, and the magnitude of the industrial problems which are awaiting solution, these six National Research Laboratories would appear absolutely inadequate; but they constitute an encouraging start. It is earnestly to be hoped that the Government of India, who have recently begun to appreciate the value and indispensability of Industrial Research in advancing the economic prosperity of this country, will favourably consider these modest proposals and extend their financial support....

The National Research Laboratories have a great part to play in the future development of the natural resources of this country. We have every hope that the proposals of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research to establish the six National Research Laboratories will be actively supported by the Government of India.

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