Workshop on Natural Resources of Chitradurga District, Karnataka – K.R. Krishnamurthy

On the lines of the workshop on ‘Mineral Resources of Tumkur District, Karnataka’ held in December 2008 in Tumkur, Karnataka, a similar workshop was held in Chitradurga on 13th April 2015. The workshop was organized by MEAI, Bangalore Chapter and the Geological Society of India, Bangalore. The Workshop covered the natural resources of the district. 25 delegates travelled by a specially arranged bus from Bangalore, and arrived in Chitradurga on 12th April 2015. In the evening the delegates visited John Iron Ore Mines operated by ERM Group.

The Workshop was inaugurated by S.V. Srikantia, formerly of Geological Survey of India who is an authority on Himalayan Geology, and presently the Vice-President of the Geological Society. K.R. Krishnamurthy, Convener, gave the welcome speech. R.H.Sawkar, Chairman, MEAI: Bangalore Chapter and Secretary, Geological Society of India made the opening remarks on the purpose and scope of the Workshop. Vijay Lal Meena, Chief Conservator of Forests, Bellary Circle, B.Ram Mohan, Regional Controller of Mines, Indian Bureau of Mines, Bangalore, and Manoranjan Mohanty, Director, GSI Training Institute (the venue of the Workshop) were the Guests of Honour and each one of them gave brief speeches. A Souvenir was released during the inaugural function. N.Rajendran, Member, Organizing Committee proposed a vote of thanks.

In the morning the delegates visited the Rock Garden maintained by the Geological Survey of India in the campus of the Training Institute. Manoranjan Mohanty, Director, GSI and C. Parthasarathi, Sr. Geologist, GSI oversaw all arrangements. The two Technical Sessions were chaired by D.V. Pichamuthu, Member, MNDB, Institution of Engineers (India) and co-chaired by B. Ram Mohan. Nine invited papers on regional geology, mineral resources, working of limestone, dolomite, iron ore and manganese ore mines, wind farming, ground water scenario, mini cement plants, and environment and forests of Chitradurga District were presented by various authors; these were well received. The Workshop was well-attended with nearly 100 delegates including 25 students of geology from the local Government Science College and SJM Institute of Technology.


R.H.Sawkar concluded the workshop, expressing the hope that similar workshops would be held in the other districts of Karnataka.

(a) Inauguration of the workshop by S.V. Srikantia. (b) Group photo of the delegates. (c) Release of the Souvenir. (d) Welcome address by K.R. Krishnamurthy