

NOTES

GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION

Stratagem EH4 is a new instrument for geophysical exploration. It is an electrical resistivity imaging system advertised as the first portable subsurface resistivity imaging system capable of giving good resolution of resistivity for depths ranging from 10 metres to 500 metres (up to 1 km with the low-frequency options). Stratagem EH4 is stated to be useful in a variety of applications where subsurface resistivity measurements are of interest including mineral resource and groundwater exploration, as well as engineering and environmental site characterisation.

Those interested may contact Douglas Groom, GEOMETRICS, 2190 Fortune Drive, San Jose, CA-95131, USA., Tel: (408) 954-0522; Fax: (408) 954-0902.

OCEAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CELL

A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed recently by Mangalore University and the Department of Ocean Development (DOD), Government of India, "to establish an Ocean Science and Technology Cell (OSTC) in the area of Marine Geology and Geophysics to promote high quality frontier research and to develop human resources required for the sustained use of oceanic resources for the socio-economic benefit of the Indian society". It is for the first time that DOD is setting up such a Cell in an Indian University to support marine research. Likewise, it is for the first time that a Cell of this type has been set up at Mangalore University to carry out scientific research.

It is envisaged that the Cell would be a centre of research activities in Marine Geology and Geophysics in the country. Opportunities to carry out research will not be limited to the faculty members of Mangalore University, but would be open to scientists from other universities and institutions of the country. To promote frontier research, required facilities will be set up at the OSTC during the coming years.

A Management Board chaired by the Vice-Chancellor, Mangalore University, is the executive body that will organise, review, monitor and guide the activities of the OSTC at Mangalore University. Expert members on the Board are:

- P.C. Pandey, Antarctic Study Centre, Goa (Vice-Chairman),
- V.K. Gaur, Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore,
- B.L.K. Somayajulu, Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad,
- M.S. Srinivasan, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, and
- D. Gopal Rao, National Institute of Oceanography, Goa.

R. Shankar of the Department of Marine Geology, Mangalore University, is the Co-ordinator of the OSTC and Member-Secretary to the Management Board.

The Cell organised a two-day National Colloquium on Marine Geological and Geophysical Research, January 30-31, 1998. More than 30 scientists from several universities and research institutions in the country participated and made presentations about the type of research that should be pursued in the discipline of Marine Geology and Geophysics in the country during the next five years.