

CHRONOLOGY OF THE FOSSIL DECCAN TRAP ASSOCIATED SEDIMENTARY SEQUENCES

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The last two decades have shown focussed global attention on the volcano - sedimentary sequences of the Deccan Traps for a variety of reasons : the Deccan Traps in themselves constitute one of the most intensive and extensive continental flood basalt provinces in the world; their duration straddles the Cretaceous- Tertiary boundary and the biotic assemblages are unique and help in deciphering the contiguity of the Indian landmass during the drift and ultimate collision with the Asian block.

The chronology therefore of the fossil sedimentary sequences associated with the Deccan traps becomes of paramount importance. This talk reviews the current status of the problem and attempts to put the various fossil bearing sequences in the context of the much better time-constrained flow stratigraphy of the Western Ghat Sector.