



## Annual Report for the year 2013-14

(Presented at the Annual General Meeting on 10th March, 2014)

Mr. President and esteemed Fellows of the Society

I extend a warm welcome to you all at the 58th Annual General Body Meeting. I am happy to present the annual report of the activities of the Society for the year 2013-14.

### Annual General Meeting

The 57th Annual General Meeting of the society was held on 1st March, 2013 at the CAS in Geology, University of Lucknow, Lucknow under the Chairmanship of Prof. Ashok Sahni. Forty-nine Fellows attended the meeting. The annual report of the Society was presented by the secretary and audited account for the year 2011-12 by the treasurer; these were approved.

### Councils Meetings

The Council of the Palaeontological Society of India met on six occasions during the preceding year for transacting the business of the society.

### Lectures

1. 31st M.R. Sahni Memorial Lecture was delivered on 1st March, 2013 by Prof. S.P. Mohan, Head, Geology Department, University of Madras, Chennai on "Environmental Micropalaeontology: Application of Microfossils to Palaeoclimate, Hydrocarbon Exploration and Pollution".
2. 15th S.N. Singh Memorial Lecture was delivered on 10th September, 2013 by Dr. Mrinal Sen, Director, N.G.R.I., Hyderabad on "Subsurface Imaging: Challenges and Opportunities".
3. 1st Inaugural R.C. Misra Memorial Lecture was delivered on 8th November, 2013 by Sri S.K. Srivastava, Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Oil India Ltd., on "Latest Trends and Technologies in Hydrocarbon Sector: Global and Indian Scenario".

### Awards

1. M.R. Sahni Memorial Gold Medal was awarded to Ms. Sandhya Verma for securing highest percentage of marks of Palaeontology at 3rd & 4th Semester examination of 2013 of the University of Lucknow.
2. Prof. R.C. Misra Memorial Life Time Achievement Award for the year 2012 has been conferred on Prof. B.S. Tewari, former Chairman, CAS in Geology, Panjab University, Chandigarh for his outstanding contribution in the field of GeoSciences on 1st March 2013.
3. Prof. R.C. Misra Memorial Life Time Achievement Award for the year 2013 was awarded to Prof. S.B. Bhatia, F.N.A. former, Chairman, CAS in Geology, Panjab University, Chandigarh on 8th November, 2013.
4. Prof. S.K. Singh Memorial Gold Medal for the best paper published in the Journal of the Palaeontology Society of India in the year 2012, was awarded to Dr. Sreepat Jain of Delhi for his paper entitled, "Integrated biostratigraphy and palaeoenvironment of the Middle Jurassic sediments at Kuldhra (Jaisalmer), western India, published in vol. 57(1), pp. 1-41, 2012".



Dr. S.A. Jafar, former Scientist BSIP, Lucknow being presented S.N. Bhalla Commemorative Gold Medal for 2013 by Dr. S.B. Nimse, Vice-Chancellor, Lucknow University, Lucknow on 10th September 2013.



Dr. Mrinal Sen, Director, N.G.R.I., Hyderabad delivering the 15th S.N. Singh Memorial Lecture on 10th September, 2013.

5. Prof. S.N. Bhalla commemorative Gold Medal for the year 2012 was awarded to Dr. S.A. Jafar, former, Scientist Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow for his outstanding contributions in the field of Micropalaeontology.
6. Mani Shanker Shukla Memorial Gold Medal for the year 2012 was awarded to Dr. Raj Kumar Singh Assistant Professor, School of Earth, Ocean and Climate Sciences, I.I.T. Bhubaneshwar for his outstanding contribution in the field of Micropalaeontology (Below 35 age group).
7. Sharda Chandra Memorial Gold Medal for the year 2012 was awarded to Prof. S. Bardhan, Department of Geological Sciences, Jadavpur University, Kolkata for the best scientific contribution in Palaeontology for his paper." Record of intense predatory drilling from Upper Jurassic bivalves of Kutch, India : Implication for the history of biotic interaction" published in *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*. Vol. 317-318 pp. 153-161.

### Field Workshop on Ladakh

The Society is organizing a Field Workshop on "Post collisional Palaeogene Tectono-sedimentary framework of the Ladakh Fore Arc Basin" from 28th July to 4th August, 2014. About 20 delegates from ONGC, BSIP, WIHG and universities are expected to participate. Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology has agreed to co-sponsor this workshop.

### Conference

The Society consponsored an International conference on "Recent Developments in Stratigraphy" organized by Fergusson College, Pune from 14th to 16th December, 2013.

### Current Membership

Life Member	290	(including 9 in the current year)
Ordinary Member	22	
Honorary Member	02	
Institutional Member	01	
<b>Total</b>	<b>315</b>	

### Publication

1. Publication of the journal remains to be the major activity of the society. Besides publishing original research work in Palaeontology, the journal also serves the needs of all allied branches such as Biostratigraphy, Palaeobotany, Sedimentology, Hydrocarbon Exploration and Coal Geology by maintaining regularity and high quality printing. All papers in the journal are peer reviewed.

The Society published biography of one of the 20th century's most prominent Russian Palaeontologist Prof. Boris S. Sokolov, authored by Dr. Patricia A.V. Rich of Monash University, Melbourn, Australia. The book was released on 1st March 2013 by Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of the Baba Saheb Bhim Rao Ambedkar University Padma Shri Prof. R.C. Sobti.



Second Prof. R.C. Misra Life Time Achievement Award for the year 2013 being presented to Prof. S.B. Bhatia, F.N.A., former, Chairman, CAS in Geology, Punjab University, Chandigarh by Prof. B.S. Tewari, Patron of the Pal. Soc. of India on 8th November, 2013.



Inaugural Prof. R.C. Misra Memorial Lecture being delivered by Mr. S.K. Srivastava, CMD, Oil India on 8th November, 2013.

2. The Society published another book entitled, "Himalayan Fossil Fraud - a view from the galleries" written by Dr. S.K. Shah, Former Prof. and Head, Geology Department, University of Jammu. The book was released on 10th September, 2013 by Dr. Mrinal Sen, Director, N.G.R.I. Hyderabad.

### **Library**

The Society maintains its library by addition of Journals and research publications received in exchange from sister organizations from abroad, namely People's Republic of China, South Africa, Poland, Italy and the Netherlands.

### **Finances**

The Society is trying its level best to procure finances to meet out the steadily rising cost on publication and in organizing other activities such as lectures, field workshops and awards. D.S.T., New Delhi has sanctioned Rs. 85,000/- to meet out partial expenses on publication. Rs. 4,50,000/- from the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Govt. of India, and Rs. 3,40,000/- from O.N.G.C., have been received for organizing the field workshop on Ladakh.

Mr. Arun Misra has donated Rs. Two Lacs for organizing the Prof. R.C. Misra Memorial Lecture annually.

### **Acknowledgements**

The Society expresses its deep sense of gratitude to the Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India for granting Rs. 85,000/- for publication of the Journal of the Society. Financial assistance of Rs. 4,50,000/= from the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Govt. of India and Rs. 3,40,000/= from O.N.G.C. is gratefully acknowledged. The Society is specially obliged to Sri N.K. Verma, Director Exploration, ONGC for taking personal interest in the organization of Ladakh Workshop and arranging financial assistance.

To Sri Arun Misra, the society is grateful for donating Rs. Two Lacs towards R.C. Misra Memorial Lecture.

We are obliged to Prof. K.K. Agarwal, the Head, Centre of Advanced Studies in Geology, University of Lucknow and the faculty members for extending all possible help and support in the activities of the society. A large number of geoscientists assisted the editors in evaluating scientific contributions received for publication. The society acknowledges with thanks their help. Special thanks are due to the editors for maintaining high quality, regularity and punctuality of publication of the journal. The Society is grateful to M/S. Army Printing Press for good printing and timely release of the Journal, and M/s. Dream Sketch for printing biography of Sokolov.

I am personally obliged to all the members of the Executive Council of the Society and fellows for their unreserved support, guidance and assistance in the smooth functioning of the society.

10th March, 2014

M.P. Singh  
Secretary, the Palaeontological Society of India