

## National Mineral Awards – 2007

### **Petrology and Geochemistry including Mineralogy, Geochronology and Isotope Geology**

Dr. Abhijit Bhattacharya, Professor, Department of Geology & Geophysics, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur has carried out extensive studies on metamorphic petrology, magmatic evolution with special reference to the massif anorthosite genesis and the nature of craton-mobile belt contact in Eastern India.

Prof. Bhattacharya's studies on the tectonized contact zone between the Eastern Ghats Belt and the cratonic nucleus of India have led towards a better understanding of the dynamics of Neoproterozoic - Early Paleozoic amalgamation history of India. His work on igneous petrogenesis has demonstrated that the presence of melts modifies deformation behavior of minerals in plutonic rocks during emplacement at supra - solidus conditions.

He has presented a new tectono-metamorphic model for the North Singhbhum Mobile Belt and Pan African transcontinental suture zone in Shillong-Meghalaya Gneiss Complex for the first time linking it to the Australo-Antarctic Suture.

In recognition of his immense contributions in metamorphic petrology and magma genesis in various terrains of Eastern India, National Mineral Award - 2007 is conferred upon Professor Abhijit Bhattacharya.