



URANIUM MINERALIZATION IN MIZORAM : POSITIVE INDICATIONS

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More than 40% of presently available low cost uranium resources are contained in detrital sandstones of fluvial, littoral or lacustrine origin in reducing environment. Further it is hypothesised that uranium in these deposits are derived by leaching from volcanic glass or from granitic rocks exposed along the margins of sedimentary basins. Ground or surface water are the main agents, which facilitate the transportation of these leached uranium from its source towards the depositional basins. The sedimentary diagenetic uranium deposits of this kind are known to occur in the strata of Palaeozoic, Mesozoic and Cainozoic ages. An example is that of uranium deposits from middle Siwaliks in the Potwar locality, Pakistan.

The Tripura Mizoram basin, the southern extension of Surma Valley is well covered by Surma Group of rocks. This basin mainly consisting of thick beds of sandstones and shales, has fair prospects of uranium mineralization as the conditions are very favourable.

This evidences favourable for uranium mineralization in the region are indicated by the higher concentration of Rn²²² in the soils and vegetation; suitable primary sedimentary structures such as lenses interbedded with mudstones; proximity of gneisses, schists and granites of Mogok group of Myanmar as mixed acid igneous and metamorphic province; strong reducing environment indicated by carbonaceous shales, fossil wood and clay ball; Chhimiupui river draining from Arkan-Yoma Hills of Myanmar.

In view of the above facts a more sensitive and thorough exploration may reveal new uraniumiferous deposits in the region.