Specimens and photos: Boris Z. Kantor if other is not specified

1. Calcite of two generations. Specimen width 5 cm. Kannad, Aurangabad district, Maharashtra, India.
I
n 2016, exotic specimens of calcite (Figs. 1, 3, 4) were found in the traps of the Maharashtra state of India (Fig. 4). For a mineral collectors, they provide an opportunity to take a foray into an independent mineralogical study.

Calcite, as such, is quite ordinary in traps and even may be mined on an industrial scale; e.g. Siberian deposits of optical calcite, Iceland spar (Fig. 5), are located in the Russian traps. Calcite is also widespread in the Deccan traps in the state of Maharashtra (Figs. 6, 7, 8). Recently, some calcite crystals of unusual shape were found here. These finds are flat crystals that are transparent in thin areas, looking like a quill with a central stalk and parallel sprouts, subindividuals. Crystal forms are scarcely discerned; only fragments of acute rhombohedrons (Fig. 9) and scalenohedrons can be observed.

The Maharashtra state is known for excellent zeolites and accompanying minerals. For many years specimens have been extracted in countless quarries and pits from