

dig. It was mainly found above bedrock and clay bands. The gravel is well stratified and often crossbedded. Sometimes, however, the gravel layers are unsorted and heterogeneous and even contain a number of silt and clay nodules (e. g. in trench IV; cf. fig. 1). This shows that the gravel had been deposited during the monsoons in times of heavy flood when nodules of the higher situated silt cliffs were washed into the gravelly river bed by lateral erosion without being transported very far. This can be observed even today in the flood bed of the river after heavy floods.

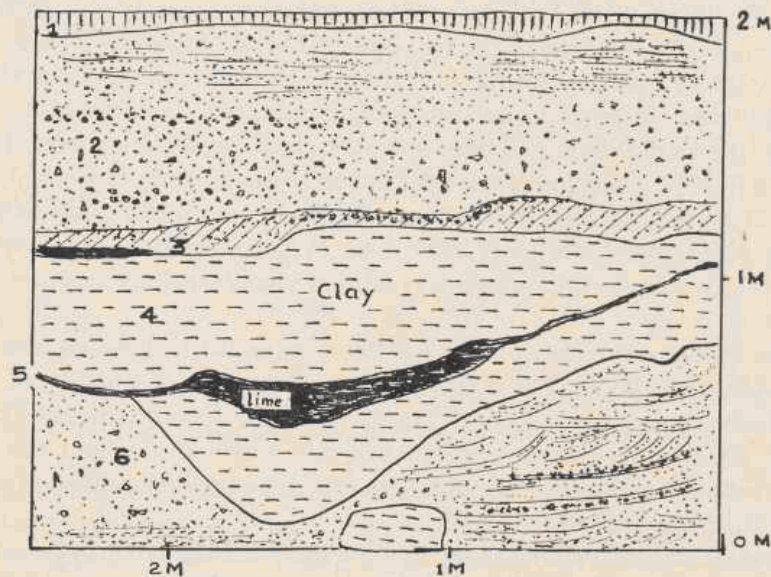


Fig. 2

North Section, Trench VI

1. Black cotton soil - 2. heterogeneous sand and fine gravel -  
3. hard cemented gravel - 4. clay lense - 5. a band of lime concretions in the clay -  
6. crossbedded sand and fine gravel [Artifacts of the "Nevasian" found in 2, 3 and 6].

The colluvial component of the gravel at Chirki is higher than the alluvial component. The gravel is therefore apparently of nullah rather than of fluvial origin, and is a lateral, local contribution to the river Pravara. Only the coarser gravel-layer in the lower part of the deposit (in trench V) has a higher percentage of well rounded pebbles and is therefore fluvial.

The gravel sometimes contains dark brown clay lenses (e. g. in trench VI; cf. fig. 2). They can be explained as still-water deposits in a small basin in the river or nullah bed, isolated from the main stream of flowing water. The surface of the underlying rock is very irregular and undulating and rises on the one side towards the flat valley of the Pravara, and, on the other side, towards the Pravara river bed where it forms a steep cliff of six metres (cf. fig. 3). Between trench I-III the bedrock dips suddenly towards the river, from a level of about 10 metres to a level of 6.60 metres above river level. In trench VI, which is