## FOREWORD

The Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research was established by the Government of India to commemorate the Centenary Year (1989) of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. The Centre has strong academic links with the Indian Institute of Science, and has been functioning on its campus. It has a number of distinguished scientists as Honorary Professors and Senior Fellows.

At the meetings of the faculty held annually, lectures are delivered by selected honorary faculty covering certain aspects of interest and recent developments in their fields. The presentations are attended by the honorary faculty and others connected with the Centre as well as by the students and staff of the Indian Institute of Science. These lectures are collected together and published in special issues of the Journal of the Indian Institute of Science. This is the second such issue.

On behalf of the Nehru Centre and the Indian Institute of Science, I extend my thanks to Prof. M. Vijayan, Editor of the *Journal*, for agreeing to devote a special issue for this purpose and for his help in its preparation.

C.N.R. Rao President

Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research

Bangalore June 1992