

## Foreword

The Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research was established in 1989 to commemorate the centenary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. The main objective of the Centre is to promote scientific research at the highest level. The Centre works closely with the Indian Institute of Science.

In the past 9 years of its existence the scientific activities at the main campus at Jakkur have steadily increased. The Centre's faculty and student strengths are growing. Various extension activities like the JNCASR-COSTED International Fellowship and Summer Research Fellowships offered by the Centre and Educational Monographs published are now well known.

Lectures covering different areas of research are delivered by the members of the Centre during the annual faculty meeting each year. The lectures delivered at the 8th annual meeting held during November 1997 are presented in this special issue of the *Journal of the Indian Institute of Science*.

We are thankful to Prof. M. S. Shaila, Editor, and Mr. N. M. Malwad, Executive Editor, for bringing out this special issue.



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