

**Proceedings of the Sixth Annual General Meeting, MRSI, Kharagpur, 1995**

**FOREWORD**

This special issue of the *Bulletin of Materials Science* carries the Proceedings of the Sixth Annual General Meeting of the Materials Research Society of India, held at the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur from February 7 to 9, 1995. Prof. K L Chopra spoke about “My experiments with thin films—the nanostate of matter” in his Distinguished Materials Scientist Lecture. He elaborated on the challenges he faced in unravelling the mysteries of the ‘fourth state of matter’ during his thirtyfive years of active research career in thin films. The Medal Lectures featured in this issue, represent topical materials such as amorphous semiconductors, microwave ferrites, cast metal matrix composites and high performance fibres. There are also articles on phase change optical recording, use of thermal plasmas in material processing, fatigue of brittle materials and processing of monolithic materials to composites. There are two invited articles by Prof. A Sōmiya on “A new materials processing—hydrothermal processing” and by Prof. P Pramanik on “Synthesis of nano particle of inorganic oxides by polymer matrix”. It is hoped that these stimulating articles will be welcomed by all the materials scientists.

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*Editor*