

## **Special section on “Utilization of tungsten resources in India : Present status and future prospects”**

### **FOREWORD**

An efficient utilization of the tungsten resources available in the country, both low grade ore deposits as well as secondary sources like scrap, is of strategic importance to India. As a consequence of initiative taken by the defence establishment, a number of R&D institutions have made commendable efforts during the past few years, towards this goal. Six review papers included in this issue are contributed by eminent experts in the field and cover important facets of tungsten ore processing in India. The topics include beneficiation of tungsten ore deposits including the recovery of tungsten values in the fines and ultrafine size range, processing of low grade tungsten ore concentrates by hydrometallurgical route; the present plant practice at Degana, the only tungsten mine in India, tungsten analysis procedure for low grade ores, a comprehensive review of status of tungsten ore processing in the country and identification of technology gap areas for future R&D efforts.

We sincerely hope that the wealth of information and data generated over the years by researchers on tungsten ore processing, presented in a scientifically rigorous manner in this issue, will be of interest and benefit to the research community at large as well as to the various agencies and organizations concerned with augmenting the availability of this strategic metal in the country.

We are grateful to all the authors for their contributions and to the reviewers for their valuable inputs. The infrastructural support provided by Tata Research Development and Design Centre, Pune during the editing and preparation of final versions of the manuscripts is thankfully acknowledged. I am grateful to Prof. P Rama Rao and Prof. E C Subbarao for their kind help and encouragement in this effort.

**Pradip**  
*Guest Editor*