

Editorial

Readers may notice that there is a change in the format in this issue of **Bulletin of Materials Science**. Sometime during 1997, the Editor of Publications of the journals of Academy suggested that we consider adoption of a different dimension of the journal and format of the text. The suggested format is easily adaptable for fully computerized processing of the journal. The contributors may be easily persuaded to send their manuscripts on diskettes. The suggestions were considered in detail at a meeting of the Editorial Committee which was held on 1 November 1997 at IICT, Hyderabad. Upon the recommendations of the Editorial Committee, the **Bulletin of Materials Science** will hereafter be printed in a two column format and would continue to retain the present form of the cover page. The journal itself will however be slightly bigger. This will also enable an increase in the printed matter for the same number of pages. I am sure the changes will be welcomed by readers of the **Bulletin of Materials Science**.

I feel it opportune to remind the readers about publication options available with the journal. BMS publishes **Rapid Communications**. This will enable publishing

your research results of importance within two months of communication. These papers are given very speedy refereeing. BMS publishes **Review Articles**—both invited and contributed. These reviews have to be on topical subjects. **Book Reviews** are also published. Authors are encouraged to send copies of their published books for reviewing. We are striving hard to reduce the time between the receipt of paper and its final publication to a minimum. The delays are often attributable to multiple revisions which some papers require. In this context, I express my sincerest thanks to the referees who have spared their most valuable time for the betterment of the journal.

The journal also publishes Proceedings of selected National and International Meetings on Materials Science. Although we receive a number of requests in this regard every year, we have to be selective in view of the escalating costs of journal production. However, the journal promises to accommodate as many such requests as possible.

I trust that the community of materials scientists will continue to offer their best cooperation in maintaining good standards of the journal.

K J Rao
Editor