

Proceedings of the IUMRS-ICA 98 October 1998, Bangalore

FOREWORD

This is a special issue of the Bulletin of Materials Science based on the Proceedings of the 5th International Union of Materials Research Societies-International Conference in Asia (IUMRS-ICA 98) held at Bangalore in October 1998. The conference was attended by about 700 scientists from all over the world. Research work presented at the conference was spread over a number of areas of materials science and technology. Presentations were organized in twenty broad disciplines in several parallel sessions over a period of four days. Several eminent scientists presented plenary and invited talks on important subjects in materials science and technology.

We are publishing in this special issue of the Bulletin of Materials Science the plenary and the invited lectures presented at the conference. These lectures relate to topics of considerable current interest, some of which provide concise overviews of the subject areas. These articles therefore serve as ready and authoritative references to current topics in materials science. Thus, it is hoped that this special issue will be received as a handy and useful compendium in the vast and growing field of materials science.

We are happy that this special issue could be brought out within a reasonable time after the conference. This was possible largely due to the cooperation of all the contributing authors to whom we are deeply indebted.

We feel greatly thankful to the editorial staff of the Bulletin of Materials Science at the Indian Academy of Sciences for their effort in bringing out the special issue.

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