

Preface

We are delighted to present this Special Issue titled “*Recent Trends in the Design and Development of Catalysts and their Applications*” which includes selected papers presented in the conference titled 7th *Asia Pacific Congress on Catalysis (APCAT-7)*. APCAT is an international conference which gathers fellow scientists, academicians, students and delegates from the industry spread all over the world with the aim to provide a high-profile and internationally renowned forum for researchers in catalysis science and technology. This event is organized every three years and for the first time, it was organized in India under the Chairmanship of Padmashree Prof. G. D. Yadav, Vice Chancellor, Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT), Mumbai (also the President of the Catalysis Society of India) and supported by the Catalysis Society of India (CSI). The event was held from 17th January to 21st January 2017, at The Lalit, Mumbai, India. The theme of the event was *CATALYSIS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, PEACE AND PROSPERITY*. The Chief Guest of the Event was Padma Vibhushan Prof. M. M. Sharma, FRS, FNA, Former Director, UDCT; Emeritus Professor of Eminence, Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT). The Guests of Honour were Mr. Ramanujalu Janardhanan,

Vice President - South Asia & ANZ, SABIC., Prof. Can Li, Chairman, Asia-Pacific Association of Catalysis Societies (APACS) and Prof. G. D. Yadav, Chairman, APCAT-7. More than 500 delegates from 30 countries participated in this event. In this conference, 175 oral papers and 115 posters were presented along with 30 invited lectures which included plenary, keynote and invited talks.

Based on the theme of this special issue, we invited 30 selected papers presented in the conference and after peer review, 16 papers were accepted for publication. These papers highlight the work on biocatalysis, synthesis of catalysts and their characterization, and their applications for various reactions.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Chemical Sciences* for allowing this special issue to be published, all the Authors who kindly contributed their papers to this special issue and Reviewers for their kind help and cooperation. We are also obliged to the Chief Editor and the editorial staff of the *Journal of Chemical Sciences* and the publishing and production teams at Springer Nature for their assistance in the preparation and publication of this issue.

M LAKSHMI KANTAM, PhD

Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai, India
E-mail: lk.mannepalli@ictmumbai.edu.in

VIRENDRA K RATHOD, PhD

Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai, India
E-mail: vk.rathod@ictmumbai.edu.in