

Editorial

The *Proceedings of the Indian Academy of Sciences (Earth and Planetary Sciences)* was started in 1934. Beginning with this issue, the journal undergoes two major changes. First, its name changes to ***Journal of Earth System Science***. Second, the journal is now bi-monthly instead of quarterly.

It was felt that the earlier title was inconveniently long and gave the mistaken impression that it is a conference-proceedings publication. The latter, it was felt, discourages potential authors from submitting manuscripts to the journal. The new title is superior to the earlier in that it is short, especially for citation – *J. Earth Syst. Sci.* instead of *Proc. Indian Acad. Sci. (Earth Planet. Sci.)* – and yet reflects the broad scope of the journal. The journal is highly interdisciplinary and publishes high-quality research – new data, ideas, and conceptual advances – in Earth System Science in its broadest sense. This includes the solid earth, the atmosphere, the hydrosphere, and the biosphere; it also addresses related aspects of planetary and space sciences. Contributions pertaining to the Indian subcontinent and the surrounding Indian Ocean region are particularly welcome.

The increase in frequency of publication was necessitated by the demand from authors that the interval between acceptance of a paper and its publication should be shortened. Earlier, whenever we had a special issue, the interval between two issues publishing regular contributions was six months. Many of our contributors felt that this period needs to be shortened. By becoming a bi-monthly journal, we are fulfilling this demand.

The popularity of a journal and its prestige are based on the rapport built between the journal and its authors through association over a time span of decades. An important element of the rapport is the confidence that the author has in the journal as the right place for making his or her work known. As technology changes, a journal needs to evolve to ensure better service to its contributors. *J. Earth Syst. Sci.* is an Open Access Journal offering free Internet access, has no page charges, has a liberal policy towards figures in colour, offers fifty reprints free and publishes six issues a year. These features make the journal an attractive platform to publish. We look at the changes brought about with this issue as a part of the evolution of this journal.

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