Editorial

The Journal of Earth System Science (JESS) has strived over the years to meet the contemporary demands of disseminating scientific information. For example, from *Proceedings of the Indian Academy of Sciences (Earth and Planetary Sciences)* in 1978, the journal rechristened itself as *Journal of Earth System Science* in 2005 to enlarge its scope. Likewise, the tie-up of the *Indian Academy of Sciences* with *Springer* in 2007 brought in contemporary electronic processing of manuscripts and enhanced the journal's visibility. In 2017, JESS entered into the CAP (Continuous Article Publishing) mode in order to reduce the time lag between article acceptance and publication for the benefit of the authors as well as readers. In these days of manifold increase in scientific output and information and the accompanying increase in the pace of life, an early publication of research findings is desired by authors and readers. We are extremely happy to announce a new section in JESS for short articles: JESS will include a new category called *Rapid Communications*.

Rapid Communications category is specifically meant for showcasing concisely written articles that are inter-disciplinary or timely or innovative (containing either new data or reinterpretation of existing data) and whose rapid publication is considered to be desirable in the opinion of the Editorial Board of JESS. Authors should clearly spell out the reasons for consideration of their article under this category in their covering letter at the time of submission. An article in *Rapid Communications* should not exceed five printed pages of the journal and must contain an abstract of 100 words (maximum), text of 3500 words (maximum), no more than three illustrations (Figures + Tables combined), a limit of up to a maximum of 15 references, and five essential key words. Supplementary data are allowed, but should not lead to additional text or figures essential for the completeness of the paper. The entire processing (submission, revision and acceptance/rejection) of the manuscripts considered under *Rapid Communications* category will be completed within four weeks. Upon acceptance, the manuscript will go online with a DOI number and normally be published within three months. Needless to add, in order to meet this tight schedule, this section will not allow any major revision and authors are expected to make only minor revision and complete proofreading with minimum delay.

We do trust that the introduction of the *Rapid Communications* category in *JESS* will prove beneficial, especially to young researchers, in publishing cutting-edge results rapidly.

Editors