



Preface

Professor Calyampudi Radhakrishna Rao is one of the most eminent statisticians of the world. He was elected to the Fellowship of the Academy in 1974 for his “distinguished contributions to statistics.”

Professor C R Rao was born on September 10, 1920. We felt that it would be appropriate to celebrate his birth centenary in the Academy by organizing a *Conference on Statistical Science* in his honour. After some internal discussions, the Council of the Academy supported our proposal. We decided that the Conference will comprise a set of Invited Lectures to be delivered by students and associates of Professor Rao. We invited speakers representing the various areas in which Professor Rao has made seminal contributions. Most speakers accepted our invitation, even though we were unable to support their travel from far and wide. The Conference was finally held on December 12th and 13th, 2019, in Bengaluru. In addition to many Fellows and Associates of the Academy, a large number of students and faculty members from Statistics and Mathematics Departments of various institutions, universities and colleges in and around Bengaluru attended the Conference. Concurrently, we contacted the Editor-in-Chief of the Academy’s journal, “*Proceedings – Mathematical Sciences*,” with the proposal that the manuscripts submitted by the invited speakers be published as a Special Issue honouring Professor Rao. Professor Parameswaran Sankaran, the Editor-in-Chief, readily and enthusiastically agreed. He invited us to serve as Editors of the Special Issue.

Financial support for holding this Conference was provided by the Academy and by the Department of Science & Technology, Government of India, as a special grant, for which we are grateful. We take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the invited speakers; participants of the Conference; the Director, Raman Research Institute for providing their auditorium and other logistical facilities to hold the Conference; and, the Executive Secretary and the staff of the Academy for their help and support.

We also take this opportunity to express our sincere regards and best wishes to Professor C R Rao on his birth centenary.

B L S Prakasa Rao
Partha P Majumder
Guest Editors

Speakers with some participants

