Editors' note

This special issue of *Pramana* on "Nonlinearity and chaos in the physical sciences" differs in some ways from other recent special issues we have published.

First, it is not the proceedings of a conference or a meeting but has resulted from a "virtual conference" involving the members of the Indian community working in the area and their friends and collaborators. The response has been greater than we anticipated and the credit is due to the guest editors, Profs R Ramaswamy and K R Sreenivasan, the contributors, and of course the vigorous state of the subject itself.

A second difference is that *Pramana* is not bringing out a separate supplement this time, but presenting the material as the January and February issues. While this split has to be made for practical reasons, the two parts should be regarded as one unit and we are indeed reproducing this note, the guest editors' preface, and the full table of contents in both the parts. Given the amount of work involved in proof-reading and copy editing (even with many of the manuscripts in electronic form) it would have been impractical to bring out separate January and February issues as well. The extra load has in fact meant a delay in the appearance of this two-part special issue which we sincerely regret. We hope to be better prepared when such occasions come up in the future.

This special issue reflects the current active state of the subject of nonlinear phenomena in physics and allied disciplines in the country. We hope that it will be read with great interest by followers and practitioners of this rapidly expanding area and stimulate further work. We also hope that many of the authors who contributed to this special issue will submit some of their work to *Pramana–J. Phys.* in future. And finally, there is no reason why other areas in which there is a strong community cannot follow the example set here.

It is a pleasure to thank Profs K R Sreenivasan and R Ramaswamy for their efforts which have helped this journal bring out an extended special issue devoted to an area of great current interest to physicists all over the world.

R Nityananda
H R Krishnamurthy