

# CURRENT SCIENCE

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## EDITORIAL

Scientific journals, today, face mounting pressures from the marketplace; rising costs of production, increasing competition and diminishing library budgets, which limit circulation. The hardest hit of course, are journals from the scientifically less advanced areas of the world, that have always found it difficult to maintain high visibility and scientific quality. The new year seems as good a time as any to ponder on the state of this journal.

Some years ago a conscious effort was made to change the face of *Current Science*; to modernise its appearance, to professionalize its treatment of manuscripts and to open its pages to opinions and debates on matters of interest to India's scientists. This effort has been largely directed at enhancing the appeal of *Current Science*, a multidisciplinary science journal, catering to the increasing demand for rapid communication of important findings in diverse areas of science. Coverage has been extended to news and opinion on matters of scientific policy related to research and higher education in India. We have relied heavily on authors, readers and referees (who frequently interchange roles), to effect what is hopefully, a transition in the right direction.

There is no doubt that improvements have only been incremental and that a lot more

needs to be done. The scientific quality of *Current Science* will necessarily depend entirely on the contributions that are received. This seems an appropriate time to reiterate that this journal will deal as expeditiously as possible with manuscripts reporting interesting scientific results.

We have also opened our 'Correspondence' and 'Opinion' pages to accommodate disparate views on important matters of scientific policy. The hope is that *Current Science* will serve as the key medium of communication among India's scientists pulling together researchers and educators from all parts of this country. However, we must emphasize that the foremost goal of this journal is to provide a forum for publishing important and original research. Eventually, we hope that *Current Science* will carve for itself a niche in the Indian scientific scene and present a coherent view of Indian science to the outside world. In this venture we rely implicitly on all our authors and readers, who will help to chart the future course of *Current Science*.

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