

Editorial

With this issue, *Defence Science Journal* (DSJ) enters 44th year of publication. Over the last few years, the Editors, under the guidance and supervision of the Editorial Board, have introduced several changes to enhance the coverage and overall get-up of the Journal. The Journal is now brought out in A4 size, in conformity with the widely followed format. A new cover page layout has been introduced which, we hope, is an improvement over the earlier ones. New columns on R&D Developments, Scientific Correspondence, and Techno-Policy have been introduced.

Efforts have been made by the Editors to reduce the timelag between submission and acceptance of the papers and also in their publication. Due to some policy decisions and changes made in the layout, some delay invariably has crept into the publication process. To reduce the timelag in printing, we have been inviting authors to submit their papers in WordStar or compatible files. Though the response has been favourable, we feel we should be able to receive more papers in this electronic format. This type of submission would not only facilitate carrying out editorial corrections and copy-editing work, but also help in avoiding the cumbersome typesetting and proof-reading routines.

Since July 1992 we have been bringing out every issue of DSJ as a special issue on a specific topic of current defence interest. Majority of the papers in each of these special issues is in the special subject area followed by the papers accepted for publication in other areas. To clear the papers already accepted for publication, we have been increasing the number of papers in these issues. The present issue focuses on Biomedical Sciences and the next issue will mainly cover Computer Applications. These special issues have been planned to clear the pending papers in these subject fields.

We are happy to inform that an Editorial Executive Committee has been constituted by the Chairman of the Editorial Board to oversee the day-to-day functions of the Journal and to suggest ways and means to further improve the quality of the Journal. Already, a few steps such as refereeing of the papers invited for special issues by the Guest Editor(s) and strengthening of the refereeing system, have resulted in improving the scientific quality of the papers. We hope that the contents will further improve in the coming issues. We also hope to close the timelag in publication by the next two or three issues and to bring out the publication in time thereafter.