

Preface

Indian Thermal Analysis Society (ITAS) has been organizing biennial national symposia in the field of thermal analysis for the past twenty five years. These symposia are organized to provide a common platform to share the innovative ideas among the scientists working in the field of thermal analysis, in research institutes, universities and industries. The 14th National Symposium in this series, THERMANS 2004, was held at M. S. University of Baroda, Baroda during January 20–22, 2004. In this symposium, 109 research papers and nine invited lectures covering the topics of application of thermal analysis in high tech. areas such as nuclear science and space science and in the fields of glass, ceramics, polymers, biomaterials, pharmaceuticals and inorganic complexes were presented. Awards were given to outstanding senior scientists for their contributions in the field of thermal analysis. Awards were also presented to young scientists and Ph.D. students to encourage them to actively continue their research in this field. These awards were sponsored by NETZSCH Gerätebau GmbH and TA Instruments. I am thankful to Dr. A. Pratap, local convener of the symposium for nice arrangements, Board of Research in Nuclear Sciences and other sponsors for their financial supports.

Some of the papers presented in this symposium, which mainly focus on the application of thermal analysis in the fields of (I) polymers, composites and explosives (II) biomaterials and pharmaceuticals and (III) novel materials and catalysts have been selected and revised for publication in this special issue of *Journal of Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry*.

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Dr. V. Venugopal
Guest Editor



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