Editorial

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It is a very happy occasion that two internationally renowned scientific societies of the country, namely Astronomical Society of India (ASI) and the Indian Academy of Sciences (IASc), Bengaluru are joining hands in the publication of the *Journal of Astrophysics and Astronomy* (JAA) from this issue onwards, which will be the first joint publication in collaboration with Springer Nature, India. This event is an important milestone in the history of the publication of the JAA which was started in 1980 by the Academy. The objective of this journal is to publish original research papers as well as critical reviews of topical fields in the area of astrophysics and astronomy, including instrumentation, laboratory astrophysics and cosmology. With this new initiative, I am confident that the JAA will serve as a powerful window to the global community for the Indian efforts made in the frontline and new emerging fields of astronomy and astrophysics. From 2018 onwards, JAA will be published as a bi-monthly journal instead of the ongoing quarterly publication. Like other well-established journals in the field, articles submitted as Letters will also be considered for publication. I am not only confident, but sure that joint efforts of ASI and Academy will strengthen the main objectives of the JAA as well as improve its worldwide visibility. The use of

Editorial Manager (EM) system has enabled online submission of the manuscripts to the global community. It has also enabled fast peer review management system and quick publication of the accepted manuscripts in collaboration with Springer Nature, India.

As mentioned earlier in this section, the advantages of publishing in JAA are numerous like no page and colour printing charges, a fairly flexible page limit for the manuscripts, etc. The publication with Springer ensures high visibility and prompt, wide dissemination using the latest and modern techniques like the Continuous Article Publishing (CAP) mode, i.e. an accepted article is published immediately online with DOI and article citation ID. Articles thus become visible in Web of Science as well as to the international community without any delay.

I hope that all this coupled with ASI and Academy joining hands in the publication of JAA will induce researchers to contribute their high-quality papers to JAA, thereby making JAA into a more vibrant international journal.

Ram Sagar

*Chief Editor
J. Astrophys. Astr.*