



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dear Readers,

I have great pleasure in presenting to you the current issue of Vayumandal [Vol. 48, No. 2 (July-December), 2022], a bi-annual bulletin of the Indian Meteorological Society (IMS). In recent times, we have been seeing a greater awareness of the society to increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather and climate events, and coupled with an increase in the vulnerability and exposure to such events, they can lead to devastating consequences to the socio-economic sectors. Indeed, it is often said that a single extreme weather/climate event can wipe out years or even decades of developmental efforts. It is therefore important to prioritize meteorological research and services to better understand the nature of the extreme events and predict them with adequate skill and lead times, to be able to effectively contribute to the development of early warning systems. It is indeed very apt that the present issue of Vayumandal features different aspects of extremes, in terms of avalanche phenomena, convective activities, heavy rainfall, cyclonic systems, lightning and monsoon variability. With the remarkable progress seen in the country in recent years in successful deployment of high-resolution dynamical modelling for weather forecasting, we now have better tools in forecasting the extremes and also to support the routine requirements of more detailed forecasts for decision making in various socio-economic sectors. We have an interesting article in this issue on the application of such forecasts to support agrometeorological services. Reports on extreme weather events during January-May 2022 and activities of IMS and its local chapters, regularly featured in Vayumandal, have also been incorporated in this issue.

We have just had a successful session of TROPMET-2022, a well-known annual symposium under the aegis of the IMS sustained over the past three decades, organized from 29 November to 2 December 2022 hosted by the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Bhopal jointly with the Bhopal Chapter of the IMS. TROPMET-2022 focused on advances in weather and climate prediction, including applications in the water and agricultural sectors. More than 400 participants have presented their work in the form of plenary lectures, keynote and invited talks, oral and lightning talks, and poster presentations. A welcome feature of TROPMET-2022 is the active participation of brilliant young researchers from around the country, and the opportunity provided for the next generation to benefit from their interaction with senior scientists. I heartily compliment all the IMS members for ensuring a successful TROPMET and convey my deep appreciation of the tremendous hard work put in by the organizing team under the leadership of Dr Pankaj Kumar.

This is the last issue produced by the outgoing IMS Standing Committee on Vayumandal. I wish to place on record my gratitude and deep appreciation of the passionate commitment displayed by the Standing Committee chaired by Professor S.K. Dash, and ably supported by Dr Kamaljit Ray and Dr D.R. Pattanaik. I also thank the Editorial Committee for their painstaking efforts in ensuring high scientific standards in the contents. I welcome the new Standing Committee chaired by Dr A.K. Sahai with Dr R.G. Ashrit and Dr R.K. Giri as members and look forward to working with them to build on the solid foundations laid by the previous Standing Committee.

As we come out of the pandemic, I look forward to the continued active and enthusiastic support of all IMS members and partners in sustaining and enhancing the wide range of activities of the IMS.

December, 2022

**Rupa Kumar Kolli
President, IMS**