



*The Abdus Salam*  
**International Centre for Theoretical Physics**

KATEPALLI R. SREENIVASAN  
Director



## FOREWORD

It is now almost forty years since Professor N. Rudraiah arrived at the Bangalore University as Professor of Mathematics, ushering in fresh outlook in both style and substance. As an undergraduate student there at the time, I remember his arrival quite well. Professor Rudraiah steadily built up around him a group of young researchers in applied mathematics. You will see the names of some of them in the pages to follow. As the collective accomplishments of the group mounted, they began to plan for a Centre for Advanced Studies in Fluid Mechanics.

The University Grants Committee of India (UGC) initially sanctioned, towards this end, a Departmental Special Assistance with thrust in Fluid Mechanics in 1980. It is gratifying to know that the UGC has supported the Centre without break since 1980. While it was only in 2002 that the UGC Centre for Advanced Studies in Fluid Mechanics was formally created, the effective date of creation of the Centre may indeed be regarded as 1980. Since then, the Centre has been involved in teaching and research, as well as extension studies.

The Centre is now celebrating the Silver Jubilee by organizing an International Conference on “Frontiers in Fluid Mechanics” during October 26–28, 2006. Distinguished fluid dynamicists from USA, Canada, Italy, Hong Kong, Japan, Czech Republic and South Korea, in addition to those from different parts of India, are participating in the conference by discussing important research results. Besides, many young researchers are presenting their contributed papers. It is clear that the conference has the hallmarks of being successful.

The conference also marks a special event—and that is the 75<sup>th</sup> birthday of Professor Rudraiah. Considering his dedicated efforts over the years in creating and maintaining the Centre, it is entirely befitting that this milestone should be celebrated by his friends and students. I am personally pleased to be a part of it.

Organizing such an event requires much work on the part of many people; the colleagues of Professor Rudraiah deserve much appreciation for their effort. They are bringing out the proceedings of this conference as a labor of love. I hope that the proceedings, which are being published by the Sapna Book House in Bangalore, will serve as a useful resource for younger researchers in fluid mechanics and other allied fields.

*K. R. Sreenivasan*

K. R. SREENIVASAN  
Abdus Salam Research Professor  
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