

From the Director's Desk

India is one of the richest and most diversified countries as far as biodiversity, natural products and resources are concerned. Dissemination of information on various topics related to these subjects has acquired unprecedented prominence in the last two decades as every field, be it science, technology or engineering, look to natural resources as a safe source, both environmentally as well as technologically.

The National Institute of Science Communication And Information Resources (NISCAIR), is a constituent establishment of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), New Delhi which houses globally renowned publications such as, The Wealth of India—An Encyclopaedia of Indian Raw Materials, 17 scholarly research journals and 2 abstracting journals, *viz.* Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Abstracts (MAPA) and Indian Science Abstracts (ISA). Since, MAPA and ISA have vast coverage on Medicinal and Aromatic Plants and all science subjects, respectively, we have now decided to extend our services on all plant and animals based natural products in faster mode i.e. electronically. With immense pleasure we announce launching of **Natural Products and Resources Repository (NPARR)** with open access to adequately fulfill the information needs of teachers, scientists, scholars and entrepreneurs for research and commercial products development from natural resources. Another feature of this repository is that authors can be users and contributors to this repository at the same time by sending soft copies of abstracts of their published papers with full citation and address of corresponding authors and information on technologies/know-how developed at their institute/university for placing under respective group of products/technologies. I trust that this collection will also help researchers in searching core and non-core journals on specified products.

I welcome all experienced authors, editors and publishers of national and international journals for their creative cooperation and enthusiastic involvement in this new endeavor. The NPARR allows free access to its contents and hence will enhance citation/visibility of papers/ technological know-how included in this repository. We look forward to provide you a comprehensive collection of quality information on natural products in coming years.

Gangan Prathap