



EDITORIAL

It is with great excitement that we announce *Hexapoda* has officially joined the publishing portfolio of the Entomological Society of India (ESI), New Delhi. The journal was published previously by the Entomological Academy of India (EAI), Chennai. Discussions were held during Entomology Student Conclave 2024 (ESC2024) held at Bengaluru in Feb 2024 to transfer the journal to ESI marking a new era for the journal and the community it serves. President of ESI, Dr. V.V. Ramamurthy signed a journal transfer agreement with Dr. S. Sithanatham, office bearer of EAI. This transition not only underscores our dedication to advancing entomological research but also ushers in a significant shift in our publishing model, *Hexapoda* will now be an open-access journal, freely accessible to researchers, students, and insect enthusiasts around the world. Both the parties decided to change the name of journal from *Hexapoda (Insect Indica)* to only *Hexapoda*, to indicate the broad nature of topics to be covered and internationalise the journal.

The decision to embrace open access stems from our commitment to disseminating scientific knowledge freely without barriers. We aim to increase the visibility of entomological research, ensuring that discoveries, insights, and innovations are readily available to anyone with an internet connection. We hope that this open access publishing model helps in sharing knowledge, cross-disciplinary collaboration and translate of research into real-world applications.

As an official journal of the Entomological Society of India, *Hexapoda* will continue to uphold the highest standards of scientific rigor and quality. Our publication interest stretches from traditional taxonomy to most recent artificial intelligence and their application in entomology. In the era of climate change and human population increase, discussions on biodiversity loss more specifically insect apocalypse are being held. With the advent of genomics and artificial intelligence, the insects are being used as model organisms for more understanding of biological principles. At the same time, with the quench of increasing food production, research on insects is focused on management with little or no effect on environment and many more. If any student picks up these points and starts their carrier, there is no stop for them, there are lifetime opportunities to carry forward their research interests and *Hexapoda* may be an avenue for their publication. We invite research that addresses global challenges such as biodiversity conservation, sustainable pest management, and the role of insects in ecosystems, all of which are increasingly relevant as we face the impacts of climate change and a growing population.

Open access also aligns with our educational mission. By making all articles accessible, we aim to support and inspire a new generation of scientists and naturalists, particularly those in resource-limited settings. The availability of freely accessible research can foster learning and curiosity, encouraging students and early-career researchers to pursue careers in entomology and related fields. Furthermore, with open access, policymakers, practitioners, and the broader public can access and understand the latest research findings, enhancing the impact and societal relevance of our field.

The Entomological Society of India is honored to steward *Hexapoda* into this new phase, building on its legacy while expanding its reach and impact. We extend a warm invitation to researchers worldwide to contribute to *Hexapoda*. Together, we can build a vibrant, inclusive, and accessible repository of knowledge, reflecting the richness of entomological science.

As the editors of *Hexapoda*, we understand the present status of the journal and we hope that with serious intention and focus on quality in next five years we can be on par with any other reputed journal in the field of entomology.

Thank you for joining us in this exciting transition. We look forward to the wealth of discoveries, discussions, and connections that will emerge as *Hexapoda* continues to grow. With open access, we hope to contribute meaningfully to the advancement of entomology and to foster a global community of insect science that is as open and dynamic as the insects we study.

With gratitude,

CM Kalleshwaraswamy
PR Shashank