

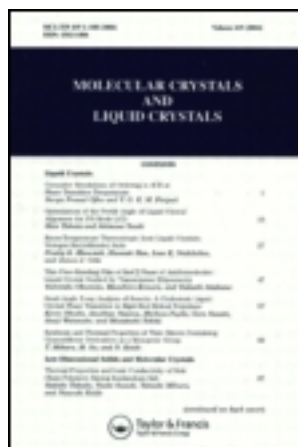
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Molecular Crystals and Liquid Crystals

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Preface

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Preface

The papers appearing in this and the next few issues of *Molecular Crystals and Liquid Crystals* were presented at the Ninth International Liquid Crystal Conference held in Bangalore, December 6–10, 1982. This conference was originally scheduled to take place at Krakow, August 30–September 3, 1982, but, unfortunately, Prof. J. A. Janik and his colleagues faced many practical difficulties because of the situation that had developed in Poland. In spite of every effort on the part of Prof. G. W. Gray, Chairman, International Planning and Steering Committee, to avoid a cancellation of the Krakow meeting, it became quite clear by April 1982 that alternative arrangements would have to be made. Accordingly, the planning and Steering Committee decided to invite us to organize the ninth conference in Bangalore.

Despite the late decision to transfer the meeting, the response was surprisingly good—300 scientists (176 from outside India) attended the conference and, in all, 30 countries were represented. It was a matter of very great satisfaction to everyone that some Polish scientists were able to come. Two of the senior Polish delegates Prof. M. Miesowicz and Prof. J. A. Janik were invited to participate in the inaugural session. The opening ceremony also included a formal presentation of a silver bowl to Prof. Glenn H. Brown as a token of esteem and gratitude for his valuable contributions to the cause of Liquid Crystals over the past quarter of a century, and in particular for his having initiated this series of International Conferences.

A total of 346 papers were presented in oral and poster sessions. The distribution of papers amongst the different subject classifications was as follows:

A	Synthesis and Characterization	34
B	Structure and Dynamics	43
C	Thermodynamics and Phase Transitions	72
D	Mechanical Properties and Defects	23
E	Magnetic, Electric and Optical Properties, including the Blue Phases	60
F	Interfacial Effects and Anchoring	14

G	Liquid Crystals of Disc-like Molecules	14
H	Polymer Liquid Crystals	20
I	Amphiphilic and Biological Systems	38
J	Display Devices and other applications	28

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, I have great pleasure in expressing our indebtedness to *Molecular Crystals and Liquid Crystals* and *Gordon and Breach Science Publishers* for their generous sponsorship, and to the Editors M. M. Labes, G. W. Gray and G. H. Brown for their valuable cooperation which made it possible to bring out the proceedings so quickly.

S. Chandrasekhar
Conference Chairman