

EDITORIAL

I am delighted to present the second issue of the 22nd volume of the official Journal of Institute of Science and Technology (JIST), Tribhuvan University. This is the third issue published after I took over the helm as the Chief Editor of this Journal and I am indebted to several people for bringing the JIST up to this point. The Journal could not have been published without the contributions from the researchers and the reviewers. I am grateful to Prof. Dr. Armila Rajbhandari (Nyachhyon) and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gopi Chandra Kaphle for working tirelessly in copy editing and typesetting and to Asst. Prof. Ms Reshma Tuladhar for improving the quality of the paper by working as a language editor. Special thanks to the Dean Prof. Dr. Ram Prasad Khatiwada and Asst. Deans Prof. Dr. Ram Narayan Jha and Prof. Dr. Shambhu Prasad for constantly motivating and advising us during our formative years.

While we have been successful in the publication of two issues in 2017, we were only able to publish one issue in the earlier year because my team was unable to get into the speed with the midyear official handover. Hence we only had the time and resource for publishing one issue. As a chief-editor, my goal has always been to steer the journal in a direction of international standards and prioritize on quality of articles over quantity. Thus, we found it prudent to publish only one issue to achieve this goal.

The second issue of the 22nd volume has undergone some technical updates. The articles are now presented with a received date, accepted date, and article categorization. We have also introduced a copyright agreement form to honor the ownership of the intellectual content and prevent its potential misuse.

I am proud to announce that an article published in the first issue of the 22nd volume of JIST, *Medical Ethnobiology and Indigenous Knowledge System*

Found in Darai Ethnic Group of Chitwan, Nepal written by Manisha Poudel and Prof. Dr. Nanda Bahadur Singh received both national and International media coverage. This article explored the indigenous and medical knowledge systems in the Darai community of the Chitwan Valley. The media coverage of this article is a matter of pride not just for the scientific community of Nepal, but for the entire nation. I would like to congratulate Ms. Poudel and Prof. Singh on their achievement and on raising the standards of our Journal.

We are pleased to inform that the Journal Publishing Practices and Standards assessment (JPPS) report of JIST has been released. According to the JPPS report, published by INASP in 29 January, 2018, our journal has been awarded with one star level. This provides assurance to our readers and authors that our journal meets an internationally recognized set of criteria at a particular level.

The ease of access of Nepali Journals to the International community would not have been possible without our transition to the online system on NepJOL (<http://www.nepjol.info>) website. Therefore, we are making the JIST a fully online journal, with no hardcopy publication.

But the success of this Journal is not possible without the help of our readers, authors and reviewers. I request all of our contributors to continue supporting the JIST. We also call for submission of papers that encompass broader research activities, in exchange for our well-known timely and quality reviews. Any suggestions on improving the Journal would be greatly appreciated.

Prof. Dr. Kumar Sapkota
Chief Editor