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The generation and timely sharing of knowledge and information is ever more critical, as vividly reminded by the impending Covid-19 pandemic. Countries are accusing each other of hiding or not sharing information on time. The scientist and researchers around the globe are currently on a race to find a reliable vaccine against the novel corona virus; however, rigorous vetting and systematic testing are equally important to prevent misuse of science and technology.

Nepal Engineering College is doing its part to contribute to the solution to this pandemic by designing, constructing and providing a food delivery robot, named as Sisters' Assistant Robot (SAR) to the Sukraraj Tropical and Infectious Disease Hospital in Kathmandu. A technology to be easily adopted by the intended users need to match the skill level of the users. The SAR is appreciated by the health workers at the hospital for its ease of use and lack of sophistication.

The challenges posed by the need to maintain physical distance has created a problem none of us contemplated before the Covid-19 pandemic. The educational institutes around the world are in a dilemma; the need to make a choice between maintaining the academic calendar by starting the classes soon and protecting the health and safety of the students and staff and preventing mass transmission of the disease is creating confusion among the decision makers. Online class is a partial solution, not a complete one. If the confusion persists for some more months several academic institutes may face challenge to survive. Let us all contribute in any way we can by being a part of the solution.

The quality of the papers in this edition of SCITECH Nepal has been improved a lot, partly due to the greater number of manuscripts submitted. With the stakeholders' support, Nepal Engineering College is poised to soon elevate the standard of its publications to an international level. The results of our dedication and persistence will be there for all to enjoy and use. The editorial team, who worked behind the scene, would like to congratulate the authors whose papers have been published and encourage others to keep elevating the output standard of their works.

Hari K Shrestha

Prof. Dr. Hari Krishna Shrestha
Chief Editor