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Editorial

Because of the Editorial Committee's decision to bring out a special issue on Biotic Systems, many good papers submitted earlier to The NEHU Journal could not be considered for publication in January-June issue, 2017. Hence, we have included more papers in this issue. Themes of the papers included in the issue cover a range of disciplines – Economics, Philosophy, Linguistics, Anthropology and Education to Physics.

The first four papers touch different economic issues – food security, nutritional intake, social auditing of MGNREGS and crop pattern. It is indeed a matter of serious concern that India ranks 100th position in the World Hunger Index. It is a paradox that on the one hand we boast of the success of the Green Revolution, but on the other hand we see India facing the problem of food security. V. Biju Kumar's paper seeks to address the causes for and implications of food security problem that the country is facing. In the second article, Anika Shadap and Veronica Pala make a study of consumption pattern in two hill states, namely Himachal Pradesh and Meghalaya, and examine the reasons for differences in nutritional intake pattern in the states. Social auditing has been conceived as integral part of the MGNREGS, one of the most ambitious programs initiated by the Government of India to address the problem of rural unemployment. Sanjoy Roy paper examines how social audit mechanism has been working in the state of Tripura, which ranks high among the successful states implementing MGNREGS in the country. In the next paper, based on the study of cropping pattern in Barddhaman district in West Bengal, Kshudiram Chakraborty and Biswranjan Mistri show how cropping pattern depends on access to irrigation and soil conditions.

From ancient times to the present post-modern time there are debates in philosophy on the relationship between word and its meaning. How does a word connote meaning, and does the meaning of the word connotes something particular or universal? Sanjit Chakraborty's paper focuses on the debate between Realist (*nyaaya*) and Buddhist (*Apohavada*) on the issue of word and the meaning it conveys. While Sanjit Chakraborty's paper talks about negation to make sense of meaning, Moumita Dey in her paper examines different forms in which Negation finds expression in Nyishi language spoken in the state of Arunachal Pradesh. There are several taboos regarding the menstruating women in Hindu community in Nepal, which are

discriminative in nature and violative of basic human rights. How the practice of *Chaupadi* affect the health and security of the women are brought out in Prakash Updhyay's paper on Menstruation taboos in Nepal. In the next paper, Kuheli Biswas Das, Quendarisa Kharbuli and Baphimon Rynjah make a survey of the knowledge and use of ICT by teachers attending the Orientation Course and Refresher Courses and conclude that the teachers attending Orientation Courses are better equipped in ICT, as they are younger and more familiar with computer and digital technologies. The last paper by Anindya Kumar Biswas interrogates Kepler's Third Law and examines harmonic oscillator potential for two body problems.

Apart from editorial committee members, I thank my NEHU colleagues who reviewed the papers and gave their valuable suggestions. As informed in the last issue, the NEHU Journal is a UGC recognized journal. We request the cooperation of everyone to make the NEHU Journal a reputed multidisciplinary academic journal in the country.

H. Srikanth Editor