

## Editorial

A year passed since he left us abruptly and we are still trying to find ways to keep the work initiated by him continues uninterrupted. Yes, Professor Brij Gopal the erstwhile Chief Editor was pleading with all the fellows of the National Institute of Ecology the Society which publishes this journal to take the responsibility as he seems to be worried about the physical health of both personal and the Journal which was very close to his heart. He has invested a large part of his time and energies in rearing a niche for the journal in the international academia and wanted to see that it continues to exist and grow even after him. I have to fill in his shoes as he left some work unfinished for the last issue of Volume 46 of the journal and gather courage to take forward the Volume 47 of 2021 with several submissions that were being handled by him. New submissions that were constantly coming in motivated me to do the required work. With the help of all scientific colleagues of NIE and others we were able to bring the Journal issues in time and also with an acceptable scientific rigour. Now with full responsibility as Chief Editor of IJEES, I am looking forward to take his legacy of keeping good academic content in the Journal with timelines that are not too long from the submission to final decision to encourage the young researchers looking for an outlet to display their scientific work. A bio-sketch of Prof. Brij Gopal is published in this issue.

Discussion on the ecological concepts is the need of the hour as most of our young researchers are struggling to clearly understand the concepts. The commentary "ORGANISMIC AND CONTINUUM VIEWS OF PLANT COMMUNITY, THE CENTENNIAL DEBATE OF ECOLOGY" presents the views of Prof. S.P. Singh and the comments by Prof. Donald B. Zobel. I am sure this debate will ignite the scientific community to look at the fundamental concepts in ecology.

We will be moving from quarterly to bimonthly schedule with increased frequency from this issue itself. While the issues will be containing the regular articles, reviews and others, during the year we also plan to bring some special issues on select topics which will be coordinated by guest editors and I will be focussing more on improving the reach of the Journal with inclusion of DOI, indexing services etc.

Looking forward to your academic contributions to strengthen the Journal.

**K.S. Rao**  
*Chief Editor – IJEES*

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