## Guest editors' Note and Introduction to the Special Issue

## Managing Managerial Excellence and Sustainable Growth

As organizations strive for sustainable growth and meaningful existence in today's fiercely competitive world, understanding the critical components of managerial excellence is essential. In the dynamic land-scape of business and management, the intersection of Information Technology (IT) and operational management presents numerous challenges, from adapting to technological advancements to optimizing operational efficiencies. This nexus is particularly pertinent for scholars exploring the connection between managerial finesse and sustainable expansion, as well as understanding contemporary challenges in IT and operational landscapes.

The Operational Research Society of India (ORSI) Bhubaneswar (Odisha) chapter, in association with BIITM Bhubaneswar, organized an international conference on February 17, 2024, titled ICMESG'24. This conference, themed around contemporary challenges and opportunities in management, featured scholarly deliberations on specific sub-themes such as:

- Leadership in a Dynamic Operational Environment
- Strategic Management for Sustainable Development and Growth
- Technology Integration for Operational and Managerial Excellence
- Innovations and Their Adaptation in Business Operations
- Case Studies of Best Practices in Rural Entrepreneurship for Sustainable Growth

From navigating disruptive technologies to optimizing operational frameworks and addressing critical IT and operational challenges, scholars presented valuable insights, strategies, and innovative solutions. In light of these discussions, we curated this special edition to benefit scholars in related fields, selecting the best papers through a blind review process by subject experts. This publication aims to delve into these challenges and explore innovative solutions that pave the way for sustainable business development. This special edition of the journal includes research papers, review papers, and case studies covering topics such as:

Agile Change Management Resilient IT Infrastructure Pioneering Fintech Sustainability Health Challenges and Indigenous Practices Interactional Networks to Support Sustainable Development Solving Employee Absenteeism with People Analytics Multi-country Learning Environments for International Students and Quality Teaching Inclusive Leadership and Communication Biodegradable Paper Bag Use and Related Issues Volatility Behavior of Futures Prices Changing Attributes of Online and Offline Buying Preferences Assessing the Integration of Technology in Operations Recent Cases of 'Moonlighting' Issues

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Publishing a special issue in a prestigious international scholarly journal such as JHSSR has significant academic impact. It amplifies the reach of innovative research, providing a platform for scholars to share their findings with a global audience. This special edition not only enhances the visibility of the featured studies but also fosters critical discourse among academics, practitioners, and policymakers. By addressing pressing contemporary issues in management and IT, the articles contribute to the advancement of knowledge and inform best practices across various fields.

Moreover, this special issue serves as a valuable resource for future research, offering comprehensive insights and case studies that can guide subsequent investigations. The rigorous selection and review process ensure that the published works meet high academic standards, reinforcing the journal's reputation as a leading publication in humanities and social sciences research. We sincerely hope that this special edition will receive critical appreciation and provide valuable inputs for further research on these themes.

Thank you for reading JHSSR.

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**Dr. Rabi Narayan Subudhi,** served till last month as a Senior Professor and Research Chair, at the School of Management, KIIT University Bhubaneswar, Odisha – India. He was also the Chief Editor of peer reviewed, indexed journal, Parikalpana (UGC-CARE listed Management Research journal). Prof. Subudhi was formerly, Professor of Management at Berhampur University Brahmapur (Odisha) and VIT University Vellore (Tamil Nadu). He is presently an adjunct professor and 'mentor-advisor' to the School of Management, CUTM Paralakhemundi, India. He is the former President, Operational Research Society of India (Odisha-Bhubaneswar Chapter) Bhubaneswar.

He has authored over 100 scholarly articles and 15 books. Other than one hundred scholarly research papers, he has also written over 200 popular articles in his regional language, Odia, mostly for the children.

https://ssrn.com/author=2292264

**Dr. Trần Thị Vân Dung:** A distinguished scholar and poet, is a respected member of the JHSSR editorial board and an esteemed reviewer with extensive experience in the publishing industry. She excels in academic publishing, and creative writing. She earned a Bachelor of Pedagogy in Linguistics from Hue University, a Master's degree in Vietnamese Literature from the University of Sciences, Hue University, and completed her Doctorate in Vietnamese Literature at Hanoi National University of Education in 2024.

Since 2020, Trần Thị Vân Dung has been a main lecturer at Thua Thien Hue Pedagogical College, now known as Hue College. She also serves as the Vice Chairman of the Thua Thien Hue Writers Association and



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is a valued editorial board member of the Horizon Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences Research, a leading peer-reviewed journal. Her contributions to the field span over a decade of teaching and research at various educational levels, alongside her role as a reviewer for scholarly articles in internationally recognized journals.

Known for her dedication, commitment, and meticulous attention to detail, Trần Thị Vân Dung is a passionate academic and poet who promotes Vietnamese education and culture globally. She possesses a profound understanding of ethical standards in social science, is highly disciplined, and excels in time management and goal achievement. Open-minded and a strong proponent of mutual respect, she combines leadership with proactive, flexible, and resourceful approaches to meet demanding professional requirements. Her unwavering dedication to her scientific and poetic pursuits benefits both Vietnam and the broader global community, reflecting her deep commitment to lifelong learning and cultural enrichment.

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