

UNIVERSITY OF GOUR BANGA

[Established under West Bengal Act XXVI of 2007 and Recognized u/s 2(f) and 12(B) of UGC Act]



Department of Commerce

NH 34 (Near Rabindra Bhavan) P.O. - Mokdumpur, Dist. – Malda, West Bengal, PIN – 732101, India

Editorial

The Department of Commerce, University of Gour Banga, Malda, West Bengal, India started its journey in 2012 primarily to offer M.Com. Course. Later on Ph.D. and M.Phil. Programs have been started and becomes a full-fledged Postgraduate and Research Department. A visible transition in research is taking place at the Department in the last few years. Though the Department is well aware of its situatedness in and around the countryside of Eastern India, in spite of that it has been committed for promotion of research in Commerce, Finance, Management and allied subjects. Presently, our Department is running with six full time faculties.

Our Department of Commerce of University of Gour Banga, Malda strives to integrate the thinking of academics and researchers in the shape of an International Edited Volume titled '**Sustainable Roadmap Development Strategies in India: Paving the Way for a Better Future**' in collaboration with Lincoln University College, Malaysia. We are well-aware that acting on its nationally-determined contributions, India has been striving to achieve the set sustainable development goals in all aspects. India is moving forward for achieving a world free from poverty, gender inequality and economic inequality and thereby ensuring a healthy planet for future generations. At this point in time, this multi authored Edited Volume is intended to provide numerous relevant discussions on sustainable development which will definitely be benefited to the policy makers, stakeholders, students and different cross-sections of society.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) can be regarded as a call for a more sustainable future by all countries across the globe. It has an inclusive approach that offers a total global strategy to encourage dignity, tranquility and holistic prosperity for the people and their planet, for the present and the future. It has been recognized that elimination of global poverty and hunger should be accompanied with policies that can develop resilient economic growth and

can deal with social issues comprising of 17 goals. Furthermore, it is significant to note that the SDGs also represent a critical framework for COVID-19 recovery.

At the core of its spirit are the abovementioned 17 SDGs, which calls for an urgent action by every member countries together, functioning in a universal partnership. Now, an inevitable question in recent times is where we stand in halfway to 2030? After adoption of the SDGs, some earlier favorable trends that have been emerged, reveal a decline in intense poverty, gender inequality and child mortality rates. The share of water bodies under the purview of marine protected areas witnessed a twofold increase in last five years. But, however it is quite evident that much of this advancement was very fragile and excessively slow. From the beginning of 2020, the world has experienced the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic, the Russia-Ukraine conflict and an assortment of climate-related disasters that has aggravated the global uncertainty.

After that if we look into Asian countries like India, they have been facing huge challenges in the achievement of different SDGs including zero hunger, good health and wellbeing, gender equality and sustainable cities and communities. For reference, in recent times, India had suffered on the fronts of ending hunger and achieving food security, achieving gender equality and building resilient infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization and fostering innovation.

With this backdrop, this Edited Volume intends to identify and analyse different aspects of sustainable development strategies mainly in the context of India and this Edited Volume makes a humble attempt to assimilate several studies on the SDGs and allied areas of different academic researchers in a nutshell so as to showcase them before wide spectrum of readers across the globe. The objectives of this Edited Volume are to understand the status, impact, problems, policies and prospects of few SDGs, several sustainability issues including environmental sustainability, different sustainable development programmes, ESG reporting and investments, CSR in India.

The materials and discussion made in this multi authored Edited Volume have been presented in a highly organised and lucid manner and it provides a clear and detailed analysis regarding the prevailing issues and recent trends in the context of sustainable development. This Edited Volume contains twenty research chapters (papers) to address their respective research objectives. Several research papers for the book chapters have been collected from academicians and research scholars of different provinces having common research interests to share their insights relating to this area. Contributors like, Amit Kundu examines the asymmetric volatility spillover effect of the Indian stock market to Sri Lanka-CSSE, Bangladesh-DSE. Krishanu Guha Majumder focuses on the notion and measurable aspects of urban social sustainability. Pinky Mistri and Asha Kumari Mistry highlight the sustainable development paradigm of the Blue Economy. Prabin Karkee and Biswajit Das examine the need of bonding for sustainability in community and public libraries. Chandrajyoti Sen Majumder investigates the adoption and implementation of e-governance to achieve sustainable development goals in education and health in state sectors in West Bengal, India. Sandip Majumdar reviews in visualizing sustainable and universal access to scholarly information through the prism of open access. Sudipta Saha Roy empirically assesses the

environmental, social and corporate governance (ESG) disclosures on the select public sector enterprises in India. Sukanya Bhattacharyya studies the ESG Reporting procedures that enable organizations to move towards a sustainable future. Sumi Karmakar & Susanta Kanrar attempts to highlight the students' perceptual variance on entrepreneurship as a sustainable prospect.

While, Devdeep Banerjee studies the poverty eradication in India with special reference to SDG-1, Bappaditya Biswas and Rohan Gupta makes an in-depth study with the issues and prospects of global ESG regulatory framework and sustainability. Authors like, Nilendu Chatterjee, Priyajit Kumar Ghosh, Priyanka Modak, Goutam Bhowmik, Rupak Karmakar and Jyotirmoy Koley throws scholarly light on different facets of achieving sustainable development in India. Again, some allied areas namely, economic sustainability of stock markets, environmental sustainability, role of women empowerment and corporate social responsibility in sustainable development have been deeply investigated by Dipankar Bhaumik, Raktim Ghosh, Rupa Mondal, Debashree Bhattacharya, Sharmistha Acharyya, Sweetly Sadhukhan, Lakshmi Das.

The researchers in this Edited Volume have made it clear that at this juncture of accomplishment of the 2030 agenda, the world is not on the right path to achieve majority of the SDGs by 2030. Although, there has been progress in some areas, yet, a number of SDGs still remain neglected and the progress in these sphere are far away from the targets. As per the 2030 agenda, this generation has a last chance of saving the planet and it requires an unprecedented effort and a worldwide alliance by every member countries, local authorities, civil societies, academicians, common people and more. Hope this Edited Volume can cater the needs of the policymakers both at government and at private levels in framing the strategies for successful implementation of 2030 agenda.

We are very much grateful to Dr. Shanti Chhetry, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, University of Gour Banga, India for his guidance in throughout the process and we would especially like to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to Prof. Sandeep Poddar, Hon'ble Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research & Innovation) Lincoln University College, Malaysia for your continuous support throughout this experience. Prof. Poddar, you have been a tremendous mentor for us in this academic venture. We are also grateful to our Respected Registrar, Respected Finance Officer, Respected University Librarian of University of Gour Banga who were always there to support and encourage us and our Department. We thank Prof. Manas Chakrabarti, Head, Department of Commerce, University of Gour Banga for extending his whole hearted support and assistance during this journey. Besides that we are indebted to all the learned Contributors of this Edited Volume for reposing their faith for this publication. We are thankful to the Advisory Committee which has been constituted with nine members for the said Edited Volume. We are also thankful to all the Respected reviewers for reviewing the articles following double blind review process to assure the quality of the papers according to the global standards and publishers guidelines.

We would like to thank the entire Management and Publication Team of Lincoln University College, Malaysia for composing and designing this Edited Volume. We take this opportunity to give special thanks to Ms. Dipa Saha, Publication Executive of Lincoln University College,

Malaysia for her priceless assistance. Last but not the least we thank to Sri Priyajit Kumar Ghosh, Research Scholar, Department of Commerce, University of Gour Banga to give us editorial assistance whenever necessary. We also thank to the all the team members who are directly and indirectly related to the process of this publication.

This Edited Volume is believed to have a significant socio-economic implication and is intended to cater the large audience which includes academicians, researchers, students, corporates, policymakers, investors and general readers at large.

We have taken great care to ensure that this Edited Volume is error-free. Despite our best efforts, certain accidental errors may occur, for which we take full responsibility. We apologise for any kind of shortcomings.

Bhaskar Bagchi
Biswajit Paul