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Message from the Chief Editor

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The inaugural issue of the *Nepal Journal of Statistics and Data Sciences* (NJSD) marks an important milestone in establishing a dedicated scholarly platform for advancing statistics, data science, and their applications across science, technology, health, society, the environment, economics, and public policy.

The establishment of NJSD is guided by a simple but important vision: to bring together the ideas, knowledge, and scholarly contributions of statisticians, data scientists, and researchers in Nepal and abroad. Statistics provides a fundamental framework for understanding uncertainty, variation, and evidence, while data science, artificial intelligence, and machine learning are rapidly expanding the ways in which data can be analyzed and transformed into knowledge. The convergence of these disciplines offers significant opportunities for scientific discovery, innovation, and evidence-based decision-making.

NJSD seeks to engage with these emerging developments by providing a forum for rigorous methodological research, innovative applications, interdisciplinary scholarship, and the responsible development and use of statistical and computational methods. The journal welcomes research that demonstrates methodological rigor, originality, scientific relevance, and meaningful contributions to knowledge.

The scope of NJSD encompasses a broad range of interconnected areas, including statistical theory and methodology, applied statistics, data science, artificial intelligence, machine learning, Bayesian statistics, statistical learning, and uncertainty quantification. The journal also welcomes contributions in biostatistics, public health, medical statistics, population and social statistics, demography, environmental and climate statistics, agriculture and sustainability, economic and financial analytics, business and risk analytics, and statistical applications in governance and public policy. Interdisciplinary research involving statistics and data science is particularly encouraged.

A major objective of NJSD is to strengthen scholarly exchange between researchers in Nepal and the international academic community. Nepal has a growing community of statisticians, data scientists, and researchers working across diverse fields of science, technology, health, economics, and the social sciences. At the same time, researchers in Nepal are increasingly participating in international collaborations and interdisciplinary research networks. NJSD aims to provide a common platform through which these communities can exchange ideas, disseminate research findings, develop collaborations, and contribute to the advancement of statistics and data science.

The journal welcomes Original Research Articles, Review Articles, and Case Studies relevant to science and technology. We particularly encourage submissions that introduce methodological innovations, address important scientific or societal questions, apply statistical and data science methods appropriately, or provide valuable interdisciplinary insights. Through rigorous peer review, responsible editorial practices, and continuous improvement, NJSD is committed to maintaining high standards of scholarly quality and research integrity.

Academic integrity is fundamental to the credibility of scientific communication. Manuscripts submitted to NJSD must be original, unpublished, and not under consideration for publication elsewhere. The journal maintains policies concerning plagiarism, research integrity, and the responsible use of artificial intelligence in scholarly writing. Authors are responsible for ensuring the originality, accuracy, transparency, ethical conduct, and scientific integrity of their work and for complying with the journal's stated editorial policies.

The journal is integrated with Crossref and supports the registration of Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs), thereby strengthening the persistent identification, citation, and discoverability of published scholarly work.

The successful publication of this inaugural issue would not have been possible without the dedication and support of many individuals. I extend my sincere appreciation to the members of the editorial board and advisory teams, reviewers, authors, technical contributors, and all those who have contributed to the establishment of NJSD. Their expertise, time, and commitment provide the foundation upon which the journal will continue to develop.

As Chief Editor, I look forward to working with the statistical and data science community to develop NJSD as an open forum for knowledge exchange, methodological advancement, interdisciplinary collaboration, and scholarly communication. I warmly invite scholars from Nepal and abroad to contribute their research, share their perspectives, and participate in this growing academic community.

This inaugural issue marks the beginning of a continuing scholarly journey. Our aspiration is that the *Nepal Journal of Statistics and Data Sciences* will become a meaningful meeting point for ideas, evidence, methods, and researchers, connecting scholarship from Nepal with the wider world and contributing to the advancement of statistics and data science.

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