

Preface

The Society of Statistics, Computer and Applications was formed in 1997 on the occasion of 75th birthday of Dr. M. N. Das. The Society got registered within a year of its start. The Society among other scientific activities brings out a Journal, called *Statistics and Applications*.

Statistics and Applications, a Journal of the Society of Statistics, Computer and Applications is published in two issues per volume. It aims at facilitating applications of statistics for providing services in agricultural, social, medical, industrial, financial and other similar sectors and also for applied research activities in Statistics. It is intended to provide a platform for interaction between statisticians and subject matter specialists who use statistics for their activities. It also aims at exposition of suitable theoretical activities in a user-friendly manner. Computer Software is very much helpful for applications of statistical methodology. There are a number of general packages to facilitate application of statistical methodology. But the necessity of obtaining suitable algorithms and corresponding software for many problems will always remain. The journal has a section of algorithms and software related activities requiring statistical, mathematical and technological methodology. The purpose of this section is to encourage efficient and indigenous software making for problems in the above sectors. Software making is a fascinating activity. It requires efficient algorithm, which subject matter specialist alone can obtain. Statisticians and other technical experts including computer scientists are invited to send algorithms for suitable problems along with corresponding software in a manner which can be expressed conveniently in higher level languages.

Dr. Alope Dey began his research career in the late 1960s. Since then he has made enormous contributions to the subject of Statistics in general and Design of Experiments in particular. There is hardly any topic in Design of Experiments in which Dr. Dey has not made his contribution. His fascination for orthogonal arrays and fractional factorial designs is unbounded as is evident from his publications and the two text books on these topics. His other major contributions have been in the area of designs for fitting response surfaces, optimality and robustness of designs, cross over designs, etc. His contributions to the theory of block designs have been monumental and these contributions have resulted in publishing a text book on "Theory of Block Designs". Dr. Dey has produced more than 15 Ph.D. students and several M.Sc. students as major advisor. Dr. Dey has authored 5 text books: 4 in the area of Design of

Experiments and one on Understanding Mathematics. He has published more than 120 research papers in National and International Journals of repute. He is an outstanding and a very popular teacher and has been invited to deliver lectures at many Universities in India and abroad. Dr. Dey has widely travelled, particularly to Canada, USA and Taiwan as visiting Professor. His gigantic contributions have received overwhelming acceptance all over the globe. He has served on the Editorial Boards of several International and National Journals. He has been one of the Editors of Sankhya. He is a Fellow of the Indian National Science Academy and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute. In 2007, Dr. Dey superannuated from Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi Centre, Delhi.

The Executive Council of the Society of Statistics, Computer and Applications in its 10th Annual Conference held at St. Thomas College, Pala in 2007, decided to felicitate Dr. Alope Dey on his superannuation for his magnificent contributions to Statistics by bringing out a special issue of its Journal, "Statistics and Applications" with contributions from eminent statisticians all over the globe. During the conference it was also decided that Volume 06 (2008) would be the special volume in honour of Professor Alope Dey.

Many statisticians from all over the globe were invited to submit their research papers for a possible publication in the special volume in honour of Dr. Alope Dey. The response received was awesome. After the usual review process 20 research papers have been accepted for publication and are published in this volume. We would like to express our sincere thanks to all the authors for responding to our request. In fact this volume has been possible because of the contribution from each one of them.

The reviewers have also made a very big contribution by way of finishing the review process in a short span of time. We are indebted to all the reviewers and thank them profusely for their support. We would like to place on record our highest admirations for Dr. M. N. Das, President of the Society and all members and office bearers of Executive Council of the Society for entrusting the responsibility of bringing out this special issue in Honour of Professor Alope Dey, an illusionary in Statistics.

Guest Editors

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