

Editorial

Journal is one of the appropriate media to disseminate information. With the beginning of the new millennium, new developments in the field of Geoinformatic are rapidly gaining momentum. Therefore, the Survey Department of His Majesty's Government decided to launch the publication of a journal in order to keep abreast the activities in the field of Geoinformatics. In this connection, it is my great privilege to present this first issue of the **Nepalese Journal on Geoinformatics**, an annual publication of Survey Department to begin with. The subject of Geoinformatics encompasses all related fields of maps and geographic data handling like collection, storage, analysis and dissemination of geoinformation and therefore covers all related activities of Surveying and Mapping like Geodesy, Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing, Cartography, Global Positioning System and Geographic information System. This journal will make an attempt to include scientific papers related with all such adverse fields of Geoinformatics. It will also try to accommodate the relevant activities in this field. I believe, this Journal will help in some way to the readers to gain or enhance their knowledge on Geoinformatics in general and with specific focus on its development in Nepal through the articles and other information published in this journal.

At present, the periodicity of this journal has been planned as annual but with the support of the readers and contributors we are hopeful for its more frequent publication. The life of this journal is in the hands of all the individuals belonging to the community of Geoinformatics. They could support us by providing regularly the scientific articles, book reviews, news, information on related courses/conferences etc. so that we could publish them.

Since, this is our first attempt, we may not be able to present this in a level of your satisfaction. Furthermore, there could be a number of shortcomings, which could not be foreseen. We would heartily request all the readers to kindly point out our weaknesses and suggest us for the improvement in the next issues of the journal. Quality and continuity of the journal are the main concerns to us and, obviously, the same will be the expectations of the readers as well. In order to fulfill these expectations, we need your continuous support so that we could be able to face the challenges that may occur in the footsteps of the journal publication.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to all the authors who have kindly contributed by providing articles to this journal. I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to the members of Advisory Council for their creative advice and guidance and I thank all the editorial board members for their cooperation and understanding in bringing out this newly born Nepalese Journal on Geoinformatics. Last but not least, thanks are due to all the wellwishers of this journal.

**Jestha 2058 BS
May- June 2002 AD**

Editor in chief

**Message from Director General of Survey Department
Mr Babu Ram Acharya**

I am delighted to find that the first issue of the annual publication of Survey Department, the Nepalese Journal on Geoinformatics was brought out on the month of Jestha, 2059, the same month as the establishment of Survey Department. I take this opportunity to congratulate and thank all the members of Editorial Board of this Journal for their initiatives and hard work in publishing the journal on such a historical moment of the Department.

The objectives of this journal are to encourage members of the Geoinformatics community in Nepal in particular, to participate as an author and to disseminate information on activities of Survey Department and recent developments in the field of Geoinformatics. Some of the major activities of the Department are: to make the user community aware of the available products and services in the field of geoinformation production, to find potential customers, to reduce the government subsidy, to promote the use of maps and geoinformation data for development activities and to avoid duplication of efforts by the users. The department is continuously supporting the development programmes by supplying the maps, spatial data, and related documents for the implementation of their activities.

I am confident that the journal will play role of a bridge to communicate with the users in relation to the above issues and will also provide valuable information relating to planning and management in spatial decision support system. In the mean time, it will make considerable contributions to the promotion of geoinformatics and to enable the geoinformation data users community to keep them aware of the latest development in this field.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere request to the members of the geoinformatics community for contributions in the improvement of this journal as well as to use the geoinformation science and technology for the environment protection and poverty reduction of Nepal, so that our coming generation will be benefited with our honest devotion in this field.

**Jestha 2059BS
May- June 2002 AD**