

Editorial

The historical peace accord reached between the Maoist and the Seven Parties has brought hope for ever-lasting peace and meaningful socio-economic transformation of Nepal. The decade long internal conflict has paved the way for and given us energy and strength to build new Nepal. The international community is equally amazed with the peace accord among the political parties and among the various races and ethnicities. Nepal's conflict management, inclusiveness among different groups, ethnicities, minorities and women have become the matter of research and discussions.

With this issue journal has entered to its second year with greater and penetrating focus on a wide range of economic issues confronting Nepal. One major issue is poverty alleviation which is sought to be achieved through various interventions. One such intervention of high significance is the microfinance access for the rural poor. So, this issue of the journal focuses on microfinance also covering issues on Nepal's foreign trade, finance and banking, macroeconomic performance and Nepalese FSS under WTO provision. It also accommodates articles as child labor and their socio-economic problems, energy vs impact on rural economy, effective communication and good governance and development issues related to Indigenous people. Lastly, book review has been incorporated in this journal.

We would like to extend our gratitude to all the authors who have contributed their view on socio-economic facet of Nepal through their research oriented and analytical articles.

Publication of a journal indeed is a very challenging and painstaking job that HARD Nepal has succeeded in their attempt and bring many scholars in one platform. Moreover, Pro-Con's logistic support is highly commendable at this juncture. Suggestions from the readers are always a welcome that we love to deal with and incorporate them in the fourth coming issues. Last but not the least, we once again request our valued readers, dignitaries and scholars living abroad to send us articles on topical issues for our next issue of the journal.

Finally, we wish that New Year 2008 would bring lasting peace in the country, and happiness and prosperity to all our readers and the general people of Nepal.

Chief Editor