PREFACE TO THE EDITION

The current issue of the **International Journal of Administration and Management Research Studies (IJAMRS)** presents a collection of research contributions examining emerging challenges and strategic developments in administration and management, with particular emphasis on the Indian context. The articles explore how technological transformation, leadership capabilities, environmental responsibility, and supply chain vulnerabilities are reshaping organisational practices and public policy. Collectively, they emphasise the importance of evidence-based decision-making, adaptive management, and sustainable approaches to organisational and institutional development.

The growing role of digital infrastructure in improving access to finance is examined in the article on digital payments and MSME credit access in India. By exploring the potential of the Unified Payments Interface (UPI), digital transaction records, and the Account Aggregator framework, the study highlights how financial data can help reduce information asymmetry between lenders and small enterprises. Its proposed Digital Payment–Credit Pathway Framework offers a useful perspective on the conditions under which digital payment adoption can contribute to more inclusive formal credit access.

The issue also addresses the implications of artificial intelligence for public administration through an examination of reskilling and leadership in AI-enabled government services. The article argues that successful AI adoption requires more than technological investment; it also depends on the digital-technical, human-relational, and adaptive leadership capabilities of the public workforce. The proposed AI-Ready Public Workforce Capability Framework draws attention to the importance of continuous learning, evidence-based training, and institutional support in ensuring that technological transformation contributes meaningfully to public value.

In the field of healthcare management, the contribution on emotional intelligence, nurse burnout, and retention examines the relationship between leadership practices and workforce well-being. Recognising the pressures faced by nursing professionals, the article highlights the potential of emotionally intelligent and relational leadership to support job satisfaction, reduce burnout, and strengthen employees' intention to remain in the profession. Its proposed framework underscores the importance of leadership development as part of broader efforts to improve hospital management and workforce sustainability.

Environmental responsibility and competitive strategy form the focus of the article on sustainability in India's paint industry. The study explores how regulatory requirements, market expectations, and competitive pressures influence corporate sustainability practices. By examining developments in areas such as renewable energy, water stewardship, low-emission products, and packaging responsibility, it illustrates how sustainability can extend beyond regulatory compliance to become a strategic consideration. The proposed Sustainability–Competitiveness Pathway Framework provides a basis for understanding the relationship between green capabilities and economic, environmental, and social outcomes.

The final contribution examines supply chain resilience in India's pharmaceutical industry, focusing on dependence on imported active pharmaceutical ingredients and the policy response through Production Linked Incentive schemes and Bulk Drug Parks. Drawing lessons from the disruptions exposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the study considers the progress and continuing limitations of domestic production initiatives. Its proposed Pharmaceutical Supply Chain Resilience Framework highlights the importance of reducing critical import vulnerabilities, strengthening domestic manufacturing capabilities, and improving preparedness for future disruptions.

Although the articles address distinct sectors and management challenges, they share a common concern: how organisations and institutions can respond effectively to changing technological, economic, social, and regulatory environments. From improving financial inclusion and preparing public servants for AI-enabled administration to strengthening healthcare leadership, advancing sustainable business practices, and building resilient pharmaceutical supply chains, the contributions demonstrate the interconnected nature of contemporary management decisions.

This issue is intended to provide valuable insights for academics, research scholars, management professionals, public administrators, healthcare leaders, entrepreneurs, and policymakers. It also seeks to encourage further research into the practical application of conceptual frameworks and the development of management strategies suited to evolving institutional and industry requirements.

The Editorial Team expresses its sincere appreciation to the authors for their contributions and to the reviewers for their scholarly evaluation and constructive feedback. We hope that the articles in this issue will stimulate meaningful academic discussion, encourage interdisciplinary research, and support informed decision-making across diverse areas of administration and management.

Dr. Biju John M
Chief editor

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