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Editorial

This issue of *Artha* brings to you a collection six academically rigorous article of contemporary relevance. The first three articles of this issue focus on the field of International Relations, more specifically the strategic relevance of India's maritime policies towards its Indian Ocean neighbours and the region. The next three articles cover varied issue of economic interest.

The first article of this issue by P K Gosh titled, *Maritime Security Trilateralism: India, Sri Lanka and Maldives*, deals with India's foreign policy towards its neighbours in the Indian Ocean Region and its implications for regional security and balance. The author, a Senior Fellow at the Observer Research Foundation, brings out new insights into a crucial strategic issue of international importance.

The next article, *China's Footprints in Maldives: Concern for India?*, by S Y Surendra Kumar traces the historical relationship that India shares with Maldives and the implications to India of the shift in China's foreign policy towards Maldives . The recent change in China's foreign policy and India's own Look East policy are analysed in this article in detail and the author suggests a few steps that India needs to take urgently to protect its strategic interests in the Indian Ocean.

Sub-regional Maritime Security Challenges: a Cooperative Approach, the third article of this issue, analyses the maritime challenges of the Indian Ocean Region and advocates a cooperative approach between India and China in managing the strategic concerns and the resources of the Indian Ocean.

The fourth article, *Dynamism in area, production and productivity of Arecanut in Kerala*, by Karunakaran, sets the tone for the rest of the articles of this issue by taking a turn towards economics. This article is a detailed study of the growth of the area under Arecanut cultivation and analyses whether the growth projected is in terms of the cultivated area/output or just monetary.

Unhealthy Eating Practices: Identification of Contributing Factors amongst the Youth in Shimla deals with the current issue of obesity and the reasons behind it. Karan Berry, the author, reveals a

disturbing diet trend amongst the youth of Shimla and analyses data to suggest steps that could avoid an impending health risk.

The last article of this issue, *A Conceptual Review of the Odd-Even Policy on Delhi's Urban Environment*, by Shahan Sud and Sindhuja Iyengar engages in a comparative analyses of the Odd-Even policy of Delhi and a similar model followed by Beijing. The articles places a few suggestions for a better implementation and result oriented approach.

We believe that the current issue would certainly be an engaging read like every other issue of Artha. We thank our contributors and reviewers for helping us bring out this academically inspiring issue.

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Issue Editors