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Editorial

It is with immense pleasure that we bring out this issue of *Mapana-Journal of Sciences*. This issue carries four articles and one review from different fields of Life Science.

The first article of this issue analyses the decolourization of Azo dyes. The authors have studied the effectiveness and efficiency of mixed culture of sewage and pure isolates of bacteria in the degradation of azo dyes. The researchers have taken both simple dyes, like methyl red and methyl orange, and a complex dye like Janus green.

The second article has reviewed the various porous scaffold fabrications methods available. These scaffold constructs showed a major impact on various biomedical applications. The bioactive porous scaffolds should have an excellent three-dimensional architecture and interconnected porous structure for cells adhesion and migration to enhance the therapeutic potential. In their review work, they have discussed the advantages and disadvantages of various commonly used scaffold preparation techniques.

The third article focuses on the effect of inoculum density and different media on the growth of hairy roots and production of Withanolide A from *Withania somnifera*. The authors have induced the hairy roots from leaf explants of *Withania somnifera* and tried to optimize the inoculum density for the culturing of hairy roots and also for the production of Withanolide A, a potent antitumor compound. They have also studied the effect of different media sources for the growth of hairy roots and production of the active metabolite.

The fourth article of this issue focuses on the Comparative account of various metals in the sewage samples of three major drains of Patna, Bihar, India. The authors have conducted the experiments to determine the level of metals in the sewage samples of three major drains namely Mandiri, Rajapur and Pahari situated in the city of Patna from March 2010 to February 2011.

The review article presents an efficient method of production of colloidal chitin for the enumeration of Chitinase Producing Bacteria.

We would like to reiterate that we are very pleased to present to yet another interesting issue of *Mapana* that collates academically rich and contemporarily relevant research in different parts of the country.

We extend our thanks to all the authors and express our sincere gratitude to all the reviewers for their contribution. We also thank our readers for their immense support and constructive criticism. We also invite all our readers to publish your valued research outcomes in the various issues of *Mapana - Journal of Sciences*.

Mapana is published both in print and electronic media. The recent intense publicity activities have also helped improve the journal's visibility. *Mapana* has wide circulation across many of the major research centers and universities in the country.

Praveen N
Issue Editor