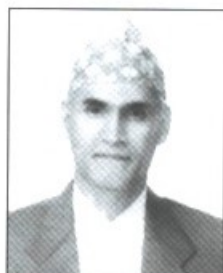


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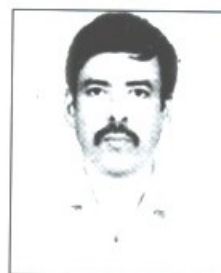
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# Editorial

Survey Department has completed 50 years of its service. To commemorate this Golden Jubilee, the Survey Department is organizing various programmes and events. In this historic moment I would like to extend my best wishes to all our technical and non-technical colleagues, our clients, partners and other stakeholders. As one of the programme of the Golden Jubilee celebration, Survey Department is publishing its regular annual publication "Nepalese Journal on Geo-informatics" as a special issue. Papers included here are written by different National and International personalities, officials and students of Geo-science in Nepalese & foreign universities. In this special issue, the Director General and Chairperson of the advisory council of the journal Mr. Toya Nath Baral has kindly provided an article titled " Surveying, Survey Department and the future mission" as a special contribution. So I would like to express my gratitude to Mr. Toya Nath Baral. Similarly I would like to express my sincere thanks to all the authors, members of the advisory council, members of the editorial board and to all who contributed towards the publication of this issue.

I would like to request all the readers to provide us with suggestions for the improvement of this journal and for providing quality papers in the coming issues.

I hope the readers will enjoy reading this journal.

**Tirtha Bahadur Pradhananga**  
**Editor-in-Chief**

# Message from Director General of Survey Department

This was a great pleasure to head Survey Department all through the golden jubilee celebrations. The fifty years of Survey Department has been a period of great upheavals in the science and technology of surveying and mapping. It was even a greater pleasure to personally witness these upheavals as an insider during the last thirty-two years of career in the profession. Not only that surveying and mapping has now generally replaced by Geomatics and Geo-informatics, the most rudimentary surveying techniques giving limited global accuracy using chain/ tapes and plane tabling required high skills and was thus a field for trained Surveyors which has now replaced with hand-held GPS receivers which can provide reasonably high accuracy at the finger-tips of a general layman. Only a decade ago it was quite a job to gain access to very old small-scale topographic maps of the country in ammonia copy media, anybody now can access to geo-referenced image of the position of a single tree on his garden not only through Ortho-photo maps provided by Survey Department but even through satellite image on Google Earth in the internet.

This is an opportunity as well as a challenge to the Surveyors and the Surveying profession in general, and Survey Department in particular. There is a great mismatch between the technology, people's demands, capacity and the state priorities; and Survey Department is trying to make the best possible balance. The golden jubilee celebrations during the year were focused on educating the users, governmental agencies and the co-professional on this dilemma.

This Special Issue of the Journal of Geo-informatics published on this occasion also focuses on this point "from chain survey to satellite mapping". I would request on all the co-professionals and the co-workers of Survey Department, our respected clients, the users of maps and Geoinformation data, and the decision-makers in different governmental units to seriously look into these issues and support us in serving the people better.

Dated: 14th Jestha, 2064  
Golden Jubilee Day

Toya Nath Baral  
Director General  
Survey Department