

ASIAN JOURNAL OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES

Journal homepage: https://www.sab.ac.lk/ajms/ DOI: http://doi.org/10.4038/ajms.v2i1.40 Faculty of Management Studies Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka



Editorial Note

MSM Aslam

On behalf of the editorial board of the Asian Journal of Management Studies (AJMS) and managing editors, as the Editor-in-Chief it is an immense pleasure and privilege to launch the 1st issue of the second volume of the AJMS in March 2022. The digital revolution led the world to be more technologically advanced human and machine interacted 4th Industrial Revolution. This compels human society to look beyond the traditional borders of knowledge to embrace inclusive, interactive and innovative channels of scientific communication. AJMS is blessed to be an interactive and innovative online journal, which is very closely available for our multi-disciplinary readership. Although pandemic led the world to undergo severe devastation, technological privileges helped us to release the 1st issue of the second volume of the AJMS as per the schedule. This assures the researchers and academics to earmark their prompt scientific and research contribution in building the trust between AJMS and its stakeholders. As usual prompt double-blind peer-reviews along with an efficient editorial process facilitated the authors to showcase their latest research findings in our open access bi-annual peer-reviewed journal published by the Faculty of Management Studies, SUSL. The journal is obsessed with a platform to publish new, high-quality and original conceptual and empirical research papers.

© Faculty of Management Studies Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka

15 March 2022

The first issue in the second volume of the journal also accommodates three types of papers: empirical papers, conceptual papers and review papers that adopt quantitative, qualitative and/or mixed methods approaches. The conceptual and empirical papers are more common and derived through sound theoretical, practical and/or methodological intensification and make a clear contribution to the Management discipline. In addition, Review papers provide a critical and concise yet comprehensive and contemporary review of a particular theme specific to management.

The first issue in the second volume of AJMS comprises six research papers and a book review that critically ascertain contemporary management and/or business issues in both local and overseas contexts. The first article Customer Capabilities and Value Co-Creation Practices in Self-service Technologies (SST): Insights from Commercial Banks in Sri Lanka. Although self-service technologies are quite old to the world, lack of scholarly work curtails the further growth and advancement of consumers towards SST. This has been empirically investigated by this study among the fifty commercial customers in Western Province to elucidate naturalistic interpretations on customer capabilities and value co-creation in SST. The second paper unveils the significance of the globally popular alternative job design, telecommuting and its impact on creativity of professional employees in software developing industry in Sri Lanka. The mix methodological approach reveals the theory formation on telecommuting and it also reported that telecommuting has both positive and negative effects on the creativity of professional employees. Accordingly, enhanced personal identity helps to generate novel ideas and declined team identity lead to devalue the ideas.

The third article aims to detect the relationship between health-related behavior and the adoption of mobile payments in life insurance during the COVID-19 pandemic concerning the Sri Lankan context. This is the first study to elucidate the impact of health-related behavior on the adoption of mobile payments in life insurance. The self-administered questionnaire survey among 203 life insurance policyholders enabled the study interpret positive relationship between health-related behavior and adaption of mobile payment in life insurance. This also identify the gender as moderator of the relationship between health-related behavior and the adoption of mobile payments in life insurance during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The fourth article stands to examine the impact of financial development and foreign inflows on economic growth in the following SAARC nations: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka from 2006 to 2019. The connection between financial development, foreign influx, and economic growth has been examined through the Autoregressive Distributed Lag Model, as economic tool. Findings from the Pedroni panel cointegration test revealed that the variables are cointegrated in the long run and the estimation of Pooled Mean Group (PMG) has suggested on the one hand the broad money positively effects economic growth on the other hand gross savings have an undesirable influence on economic growth. The fifth paper investigate improving oral hygiene habit through gamification model in make them as change agent to influence the adults' behavior to adapt good oral hygiene habits. This study unveils vast potentials of gamification as a motivation tool integrate carefully and deliberately among the children to improve the sustainable behavior of adults and children. Gamification model has been identified to help children of Sri Lanka to improve their oral hygiene habits, thereby acting them as a change agent to influencing adults' behaviors to have good oral hygiene habits.

The next paper in the issue is a book review; when outgrowth of COVID-19 pandemic devastated each and every sector with any exception, reviewing the profound contribution of Paul Krugman's "The Return of Depression Economics and the Crisis of 2008" published in 2009. The 2008 Nobel Prize Laureate in Economics, is remarkable piece of scholarly work to understand and interpret a series of global economic disturbances entangled primarily with financial crises. The book review elucidates commonalities between impact of financial crisis 2008 and outgrowth of Covid-19, even though it is a health crisis. Finally, the issue embraces with an article that deal with reality of poverty and myths of poverty alleviation since Second World War II. Chronic and continuation of relative poverty along with social welfare-based economic policies have led Sri Lanka to embrace with different poverty alleviation programmes or projects by every successive government. As rural areas are accumulated with socio-cultural and environmental capital while continuing with poverty alleviation programmes that has been identified as the Infinite Game of Poverty Alleviation (IGPA). The article further identified IGPA as a vital political strategy or power gaining tool for political parties.

At this significant juncture, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the authors for their valuable contribution through research articles, the reviewers for their constructive comments that helped to improve the quality of the papers. I also like to express my sincere thanks to the editorial team and the language editors for their services rendered to the Journal.