A pragmatic policy design is inevitable in realizing the cherished objective relating to every aspect of human development, prosperity and growth. In the contemporary context the penetration of ICT in every sphere of human life ensured a sense of hedonism and to a great extent brought about a desired & intended change in their way of life. It is in this context there is an urgent need to explore and understand the nuances of ICT Policy Designs for Human Development. The basic comprehension of the Syntax of ICT Policy Designs for Human Development can impact the basic quality of life in all aspects.

In today’s world the effective usage of ICT for human development is imperative for any societal transformation. The tangential effects can also be multiplied by preparing a rationally correct syntax related to every dimension varying from making to implementation. It is important to understand the technicalities of policy nuances to deliver synchronically the expected humanitarian end goals. This includes the intent; implementability and improvability of any policy design. The peculiarity of ICT lies in its being end and means at the same time.

Nonetheless the architectural acumen in realizing the Syntax of ICT Policy Designs for Human Development has been a pressing issue calling for urgent attention from theoretician, politico- administrative professional, researcher, academia, civil society and the likes. Under the aegis of IJICTHD, a special issue focusing on “Syntax of ICT Policy Designs for Human Development” is being published which has captured the entire kaleidoscopic view of the globe. It meticulously delineates the cognitive groundwork from Asian, European, American and African perspectives to policy syntax. This special issue provides an insight into - the development of policy content in the realm of ICT and human development; defining intent and adaptive elements of policy; strategic interventions to reduce the gap between policy making and implementation; design special ICT policy alteration to facilitate human development in different sphere; and ensure conversion of multistage decision making into policy document.

For materializing the publication of the special issue on “Syntax of ICT Policy Designs for Human Development” papers were invited.
from various stakeholders – consultants, research institutions, administrators, academia, industry, civil society, NGOs, scholars and media. Nearly 250 authors responded to the call for papers pertaining to – model of policy designs, potential areas, prudence of policy making, policy impediments and policy nuances. All these papers were subjected to rigorous review process prior to their inclusion in this issue. Accordingly only ten were finally selected and are compiled for publication in two different issue numbers. In this issue number five articles are included.

All the articles for this issue have been knitted in this wonderful volume of which one is a concept note on neologism. This panoramic view helps in understanding the multidimensionality of policy designs that are argued, presented and discussed logically. Interestingly few commonalities emerge as an imperative of strategic interventions from different countries. As a corollary to this the major domains pertaining to craft of policy designs share similar methodology to work out the plan; however the atypical characteristics do reflect the divergences. Another appealing feature of this volume is that the cognitive inputs provided are widely substantiated by empirical evidences blended with theoretical precepts.

As unique facet it introduces a neologism which sets the future direction of research in the arena of policy. This experiment provides an impetus to evolve new notions to understand the intricacies of public policy dynamics.

The motivating dimension of policy is touched by Ari-Veikko Anttiroiko in his article “The Role of New Technologies in Reshaping Governance Platforms” outlining the potentials of technological trends in building governance platforms has also highlighted the role of new technologies in shaping the governance platforms. The article is based on such influential trends as open source movement, Web 2.0, geoinformatics and ubiquitous technologies. These trends provide new ideas and tools for the facilitation of governance processes by effective policies through e-enabled governance platforms which address the needs of a highly complex and technologically mediated society. The open source movement contributes to the creation of collaborative, ubiquitous and instructive e-governance platforms that affects the social dynamics.

The theoretical inputs are provided by Gunilla Bradley in “The Convergence Model on ICT and Psychosocial Life Environment” illustrating the continuous changes in the Net society and how the policy designs need to be addressed. Her description is structured with reference to the concepts Globalization, ICT, Life Environment, Life Role and Effects on Humans. There are four levels of analysis – individual, organisational, community, and societal. In a field of research with accelerated speed of change and complexity, there is a need for a much stronger support internationally for crossdisciplinary, cross-cultural and action-oriented research on the topic “ICT for Deepening of Humane and Societal Qualities”. Therefore analysis and design of ICT and societal systems both at local level and globally has become important.

Lech W. Zacher in his article “Society Market and Technology Nexus as Contexts of ICT Policies and Applications: Some Issues and Reflections” presents an contextual analysis of information revolution processes, mechanisms, and effects. ICTs generation, their multi-sided and multidimensional applications, and their effects depend on cultural abilities of societies to pursue information change. Human development goals, as realized by ICTs, should be analyzed at three levels: global, rational, and individual. He explains how to make ICTs serve social and human goals.

Raymon R. Bruce in his paper “Founding an Organization Theory of Work Policy as Imperative Regimes of Regulated Freedom for ITC Development” characterizes policy as an imperative regime of regulated freedom, guiding people in both objective (regulated reasoning) and subjective (heuristic commonsense freedom) decision making to guide our communities’ to achieve needed work outcomes. He further focuses on the human
work domain, which involves policy making governing our cultural and social organizations, in general, and the importance of policymaking for Information Communication Technology, in particular. The author proposes policies as human artifacts that bring the responsibility of stewardship to those who may design and impose policies of social imperative regimes of regulated freedoms on others.

Sangeeta Sharma and Pankaj Nagar as a part of experimentation have introduced the term Governometrics to understand the governmental dynamics for policy syntax. In their article “Governometrics: A Quasi-quantitative Policy Syntax for Optimal Governance” applying statistical tools have enunciated the nuances of effective policy making & implementation. They focus on designing a conceptual frame of Governometrics inculcating ethics to optimize the governance.

This volume as a quintessence of existentialistic and epistemological presentations of concepts pertaining to policy syntax would not have been possible without the support of many individual in some form or the other. We would like to place on record our gratitude to all the authors who submitted papers in response to the call for papers. Our thanks are also due on all the reviewers who painstakingly reviewed the papers and share their constructive comments in shaping the deliverance of this volume. Likewise we acknowledge the contribution of the authors, who ungrudgingly reworked on their presentation in the light of comments received from the reviewers. We appreciate the direction by Heather Probst, Senior Editorial Director, on placing ideas in a logical way. The guidance extended by Dr. Susheel Chhabra, Editor-in-Chief, is really praiseworthy who has been instrumental in bringing out and placing before you the timely publication of this journal. Last but not the least we appreciate the efforts of Dr. Sabyasachi Nayak, Deputy Director, CII for his involvement at different stages of the publication.

We are sanguine that this volume would be able to liberate readers from the frigidity of ideas. This liberation is enjoyable to see that how the notion of policy is viewed kaleidoscopically. We request readers to share their valuable feedback, suggestion and comments regarding this special issue.

Sangeeta Sharma
Pankaj Nagar
Guest Editors
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