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## Editorial

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**Biographical notes:** P. Sasikumar received his ME and PhD from the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Tiruchirappalli. He was a gold medallist in his PG program. He has 19 years of teaching as well as research experience including forward, reverse and closed-loop supply chain, logistics management, multi criteria decision making, mathematical modelling, optimisation and vehicle routing problems. He has published 40 research papers in international journals, two papers in international book chapters and 48 papers in international and national conference proceedings. He has also published a book on *Reverse and Closed Loop Supply Chain Network – A Case of Recycling and Remanufacturing* in Lambert Academic Publishing, Germany. He is also a reviewer for many reputed international journals.

K.E.K. Vimal received his MTech and PhD from the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Tiruchirappalli, India. His research area includes lean and agile supply chain, sustainable manufacturing, life cycle assessment and decision-making. He has published over 20 papers in international journals and in proceedings of the leading national and international conferences, four book chapters. He is also a reviewer for many reputed international journals.

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Supply chain management is a critical aspect of conducting any business. Over the last two decades, supply chain operation has received considerable attention both from researchers and practitioners. Traditionally, a supply chain consists of all the stages involved, directly or indirectly, in fulfilling a customer expectation. The global economy and advanced information technologies have generated unprecedented opportunities for innovative methodologies in the operation of supply chain. So it is very essential for the companies to understand which technology exist and also need to assess the potential benefits of the evolving technologies for the growth of their business. Keeping this in mind, this special issue seeks to highlight the researches and practices on 'Advances in supply chain operations in emerging economies'.

The objective of this special issue is to publish research articles on broader scope of recent and advanced methodologies in supply chain operations related to emerging

economies. Researchers are encouraged to submit their papers with both theoretical and practical implications. Finally, eight research papers were selected for publications after the peer review process. Here a brief overview of the papers that appear in this issue is provided.

In the first paper, S. Hemalatha, K. Narayana Rao, G. Ramababu and K. Venkatasubbaiah used fuzzy goal programming approach to solve multi objective decision making problem and the proposed model was solved using Lingo 8.0 optimisation solver.

The second paper by B.T.D. Praveen Varma and Dalveer Singh discussed about the losses and wastage in cement manufacturing process and its rectification using lean tools and methodology.

The third paper by N.M. Sivaram considered different emergency situations in factories and used computer aided emergency management system for effective mitigation and response during an industrial disaster.

In the fourth paper, Sonu Rajak, P. Parthiban, R. Dhanalakshmi and S. Sujith proposed ant colony optimisation and simulated annealing algorithms for solving a capacitated vehicle routing problems to optimise the total distance required to deliver the goods and also the workload imbalance in terms of distances travelled by the vehicles and their loads

In the fifth paper, S. Mahendran, A. Senthilkumar and R. Jeyapaul reduced the wastage and cost and increased the productivity of the industry using lean tools JIT, Kanban, value stream mapping and man machine chart

The sixth paper by S. Gopinath, V.R. Alagu Sundaram, R. Sheshathri and K. Narashiman suggested a conceptual model to enhance the quality system in SMEs to improve the GDP.

In the seventh paper, K. Kanaga Sundara Satishwaran, M. Sivasubramanian and, S. Aravind Raj presented fault tree analysis for chance of fire accident due to leakage of LPG in storage yard of catering service and calculated the probability of fire accident

In the eight paper, G. Rajesh and P. Malliga presented a structural model for evaluation and selection of strategic supplier. SWARA and COPRAS-G were used as a MCDM tool for the selection process.

This special issue is beneficial to anyone who is interested in the subject of supply chain operations. We hope readers will find these scholarly works very interesting and useful. We hope readers will enjoy the articles of this special issue as much as we have putting them together.