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Author to Editor : A story

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Hiren B. Soni has 9 years of academic and 18 years of research experience in diverse fields such as ecology, biodiversity, conservation and management of flora and fauna on a broader scale in context of habitat dynamics, and ecology and biology of prevalent taxa in varied ecosystems e.g. deserts, grasslands, forests and wetlands of Gujarat State, India. He is well-versed in hydrobiology, limnology, aquatic pollution (eutrophication), and phytoremediation of contaminated sites since 2003. He is recognized Ph.D. Supervisor in Environmental Science from S.P. University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, and in Biotechnology & Environmental Science from Uka-Tarsadia University, South Gujarat. Presently, he is working as an Assistant Professor in Environmental Science & Technology, and guiding Ph.D. Students on ecological, biological and environmental aspects of Pond and Marine Ecosystems of Gujarat. Dr. Hiren B. Soni is a Consultant in Environmental Science (Hydrology) in United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Consultant in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA – Ecology & Biodiversity) under NABET (National Accreditation Board for Education & Training), in Ministry of Environmental and Forests (MoEF), and Member of United Nations Volunteers Programme (UNVP) in United Nations Organization (UNO). He has worked as a Research Biologist in 19 Projects on multi-faceted ecological and environmental aspects. Till date, he has been credited with 125 Publications (including 30 Research Reports, 42 Research Papers (37 in International Journals), 28 Scientific Articles, 2 Books, 4 Chapters in Books, and 18 Popular Publications). He has participated in 32 Symposia, Conferences, Workshops, and Seminars at International, National and Regional levels.

Firstly, I came to know about the commencement of International Journal of Environment (IJE), published by Progressive Sustainable Development (PSD), Nepal, around January 2013. Later, I came across initiation of IJE through Yahoo Groups and an official page of IJE on Facebook. I assume that I received the first official invitation in the form of a formal e-mail from Govinda Bhandari, Editor-in-Chief (EiC, IJE) to contribute a manuscript on multi-disciplinary facets of environment.

After I came to know about the inaugural issue of IJE along with an official invitation for manuscript submission, I browsed each section of website of PSD & IJE. Later, being

acquainted with the journal's thematic areas I started a formal conversation with EiC about the journal's ethics, policy, format, and terms & conditions.

Within few days, I started working on preparation of manuscript on my expertise areas (Ecology, Environment, Biodiversity & Conservation). In no time, I was succeeding to submit my first manuscript to IJE. Within a short span of time, I received a reviewed manuscript from EiC. I revised the MS as per the prescribed guidelines of the journal and suggestions of reviewer/s. Soon I resent the revised MS to EiC, and within shortest span of time, my MS got published in inaugural issue of IJE. This shows the appreciable promptness and swift rapidity of entire team of IJE in publishing the valuable MS within projected and proper time-frame.

After publishing an accountable number of valuable MS especially on Wetland Ecology (Surface Water Dynamics, Sediment Budget, Plankton Association, Macrophyte Ecology, etc.) in IJE within a year, I joined IJE as a Reviewer. After serving as a devoted and dedicated Reviewer, I joined IJE as an Editorial Board Member. Considering my sincerity and accuracy in submitting reviewed manuscripts to EiC covering various disciplines of environment, I was credited with "Best Reviewer Award-2013" for IJE. Later, one of my co-authored research papers on "Ethnobotany of Kachchh, Gujarat, India" was credited as "Best Research Paper Award-2013" in IJE.

Recently, I joined an official page of IJE on [Facebook](#), sharing my opinions, views, ideas and suggestions for the betterment and upliftment of IJE, its entire team and a scientific community of academicians, researchers, armatures, and freelancers involved in conservation and management of prevailing environment and associated components therein.

Currently, I am a Manuscript Editor of IJE. As being an Editorial Board Member of IJE, and in spite of being an Editorial Board Member, Editor-in-Charge, Guest Editor, Panel Reviewer, and Reviewer in journals of national and international repute including Potential Reviewer in Nature Journal (Environment & Ecology) and Scientific Data Journal (Nature Publishing Group, Ecology, Environment, Biodiversity, Conservation), I found IJE as one of the distinguished international journal published by PSD, Nepal, covering almost all the facets of environment e.g. Species Dynamics, Population & Community Ecology, Habitat & Ecosystem Ecology, Habitat & Ecosystem Modelling, Environmental Toxicology, Environmental Biotechnology, Bioremediation, Molecular Biology, Atmospheric Pollution, Air, Water, Soil and Noise Pollution, Pollution Abatement, and burgeoning thrust areas of environment.

The journal itself is a signpost and landmark for achieving the milestones to highlight and combat the challenging areas of environment for the welfare of humankind. The policy, ethics and format of IJE is so lucid and articulated in a well-mannered fashion that even its goals and perceptions could be perceived by any member of scientific community in any corner of the world.

IJE is endowed with innumerable features, which has led it to the skyscraper success within no time. The reasons for the most widespread glory and incredible fame of IJE includes the most efficient and skilful EiC, amiable editorial board members, amicable and prompt actions of reviewers, incessant flow of momentous number of manuscripts from authors of each possible corners of the world, and many more. The IJE deserves all the qualities of being an outstanding journal of international standards owing to its conspicuous research quality, rapid growth of acceptance of manuscripts, vast community of authors at global level, widespread network, on-hand free access, and lucid organogram of team members.

Having a valuable experience of nine years as a Researcher in Biodiversity & Conservation of Gujarat State, India, from 1996, and an Academician since 2006 at Department of Environmental Science & Technology (EST), Institute of Science & Technology for Advanced Studies & Research (ISTAR), during day time I keep busy myself in teaching P.G. Courses on EST, and guiding Dissertation & Ph.D. Students (Wetland Ecology & Management), I spare an invaluable time mostly during night hours (probably 10 pm to 1 am) atleast five days a week in reviewing and revising manuscripts alongwith important correspondence with EiC of IJE. Whenever, I receive a manuscript/s to be reviewed or revised, I achieve the assigned task by EiC within only one to three days, keeping all other pending self-assignments reckoning a prior and must-to-do exercise for smooth execution and glorious fame of IJE world-over without rejecting or denying any of the manuscripts to be reviewed to accomplish the task of a reviewer whole-heartedly.

For the last one year, I am in a regular touch with EiC (IJE) through e-mail correspondence atleast twice or thrice a week regarding the progress of manuscripts and updates of IJE. During the off-office hours, lapse days and lag phase I also get connected with EiC using Smart Phone Technologies and relevant media platforms for the unhindered growth of IJE. The generous, noble and humane approach of EiC towards all the Editorial Board Members and Reviewers made me sparing, contributing and devoting my time for the betterment and upliftment of IJE for its momentous and gigantic success.

I render my best regards, blissful wishes and sacred blessings for the triumphant victory and glorious success of IJE among entire scientific community world-over as a prestigious bibliographic source for environmental research.

May the Journal (IJE) and PSD stride towards the glorious grandeur and stupendous success at global level.