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## **Launching of the International Journal of Accounting, Business and Finance (IJABF): Highlights of the December 2021 issue**

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### **Abstract**

*With the collaborative support of the editorial board members, authors, reviewers, section editors, technical editors, and production editor, we have successfully managed to launch the inaugural issue of the International Journal of Accounting, Business and Finance (IJABF). The IJABF Volume 1 Issue 1 contains five articles dealing with contemporary issues. The authors try to unlock the research questions providing empirical results and the scope for future studies. I thank all the contributors to this issue.*

**Keywords:** *Inaugural issue; IJABF; Volume 1; Issue 1*

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### **Editorial: IJABF Volume 1 Issue 1**

It gives immense pleasure to introduce the December 2021 issue of the International Journal of Accounting, Business and Finance (IJABF). The IJABF is a bi-annual journal that aims to publish high-quality research and review articles in accounting, business, and finance-related disciplines. At IJABF, we are dedicated to welcoming cutting-edge research outputs from students, research scholars, academicians, professionals, and corporates. We encourage submissions from early-career researchers and academicians. Our team is dedicated to providing the first editorial decision within two weeks of submission and a post-review decision within eight weeks from submission.

Artificial intelligence has become the need of the hour. From mobile phones to computers, LED bulbs to industrial equipment, and from wristwatches to medical equipment, artificial intelligence has now spread its wings all over. The first article of this issue (Malviya & Lal, 2021), while discussing the prospects and issues in applying artificial intelligence in accounting, reveals how the face of accounting has changed.

The second paper (Rai, Yadav, Malik, & Gupta, 2021) examines the effect of merger announcements of PSBs on the stock returns of the bidder and target banks using the standard event study method. They provide evidence of the significant impact of merger announcements on the stock returns of the bidder and target banks. Their findings are consistent with previous studies (Campa & Hernando, 2006; Pandey & Kumari, 2020; Rahman et al., 2018).

The 2008 global financial crisis badly impacted the US economy. Researchers have also found the spillover effects in emerging economies (Kumar & Vasshisht, 2009; Reddy, Nagia, & Agrawal, 2014). The third paper (Jaiswal & Dubey, 2021) provides insights into how the crisis period witnessed the deteriorating gross domestic product, exports, imports, foreign exchange rates, and fiscal deficit.

Owing to the covid-19 crisis, stock markets all over the globe experienced a sharp decline in their indices. While (Acharya et al., 2021; Ashraf, 2020; Baker et al., 2020; Chang et al., 2020; Choi & Jung, 2021; Matos et al., 2021; Pandey & Kumari, 2021a, 2021b; Phuong, 2021; Yousef, 2020) provide evidence of significant adverse impacts of the pandemic on stock markets, and (Bazán-Palomino & Winkelried, 2021) in the FX market, (Conlon et al., 2020;

Corbet et al., 2020; Dutta et al., 2020; Gharib et al., 2020; Jianyi et al., 2020; Mnif et al., 2020; Ozturk & Cavdar, 2021; Sikiru & Salisu, 2021) examine the impacts on the crypto and other financial assets. While extending the instant literature, the fourth paper (Rai & Kumari, 2021) provides an event study analysis on how the returns and volatilities of cryptocurrencies are impacted during the global pandemic declaration by the World Health Organisation. While providing evidence of cumulative negative impacts on cryptocurrencies, they also provide insights into future research.

The fifth and last paper (Hansa & Sahu, 2021) provides five dimensions of tax fairness in India with respect to the Goods and Services Tax. Using the measures of central tendency, factor analysis, and reliability analysis, they identify five robust tax fairness dimensions: General Fairness, Exchange with Government, Process Equity, Inter-Group Equity, and Tax Rate Structure. The findings are expected to empower policymakers to implement provisions promoting tax compliance and discouraging tax evasion.

It will not be justice if this Editorial ends without acknowledging the contributions of our esteemed Editorial Board members, technical editors, the production editor, and the authors. They have worked day and night to accomplish the target of timely publication of the very first issue of the IJABF. I am grateful to the reviewers who submitted their quality reviews within the prescribed time limit. Their promptness has been the key to our timely launch of the issue. As the Chief Editor of the IJABF, I sincerely thank everyone for their constructive support.

Enjoy reading!

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