

## **Editorial**

*Dear Members of ELTAI and other Readers*

*We welcome you again to go through and reflect upon the contents of yet another issue of our longstanding journal. We hope that we are offering you a good fare.*

*The salient feature of the current issue is an interview of ELTAI's National Secretary, Dr Elango, by Professor Robert Bellarmine on the former's views on the role of motivation and exposure in language learning, particularly in learning English as a second or foreign language. Based on his personal experience as a learner of English, Prof. Elango makes some insightful observations, which are worth pondering.*

*We hope you will also be eager to go through the regular columns on grammar (Grammar Guru') by Dr Saraswathi, the story of English by Dr Lal and reading activities by Dr Elango (focusing on reviewing a book in this issue). We would encourage you to file these regular features for your future reference.*

*Sangeetha Puthiyedath, in her paper, highlights the need to use the EFL/ESL classroom in order to provide a space for raising cultural awareness and strengthen multiculturalism among EFL/ESL learners, going beyond focusing on the functional aspects of English, and demonstrates how this can actually be done. She also points out how cultural awareness might be considered the fifth language skill besides listening, speaking, reading and writing.*

*Two papers included here deal with the use of technology for teaching and learning English. The one on the mobile English classroom by Akila Indurti shows how teachers of English in rural areas are disadvantaged in respect of facilities for improving their own competence in English and how this lacuna may be addressed using volunteers to help these teachers to enhance their English language proficiency via mobile teaching and learning. The second paper by Sree Prasad reports an experiment carried out by him in developing a software for enabling students at the undergraduate level to learn English vocabulary and use words and phrases confidently and appropriately.*

*In the next article on globalization of English, the authors, Mahesh Kumar and Hari Kumar, seek to clarify the real import of the term "global language" and attempt to trace the causes of English being accorded the status of a global language, such as industrialization, modernization, multiculturalism and the Internet. Prasad and Viswanatha Rao, in their short article on the importance of motivation in teaching and learning English discuss some of the ways in which the language classroom can be made motivating to learners in their efforts to learn English.*

*The last article included here is actually a brief report on a national level workshop on 'Using digital tools for developing learner autonomy' organized by ELTAI; the report is by Revathi Viswanathan and Joyceline Shermila. Before reporting the participants' feedback on the workshop, the authors have tried to discuss the concept of 'learner autonomy' and its importance in enabling learners to become lifelong learners.*

*Please send in your feedback on the articles you have read and go through the manuscript submission guidelines carefully before you send your articles/papers for consideration.*

*P. N. Ramani*