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**MINUTES OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> (2024-25) MEETING OF THE PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE  
HELD AT 1500 HOURS ON 29 NOVEMBER 2024 THROUGH ZOOM**

The following were present:-

Dr D C Pande	Chairman
Dr J K Mandal	Co-Chairman
Prof Baswaraj Gadgay	Member
Dr Ajay Kumar	Member
Brig V K Panday	Member
Dr R K Sinha	Member
Dr K Jaya Sankar	Co-opted Member

The following were unable to attend:-

Shri G Narendra Nath	Member
Dr M H Kori	Member

Secretariat:

Gp Capt Sonpal Singh (Retd)	Secretary General
Mrs Sandeep Kaur Mangat	Assistant Secretary (A&P)
Shri Sanjay Setia	Member Staff

**ITEM-1 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 3<sup>rd</sup> (2023-24) MEETING  
OF THE PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE HELD ON 05 JULY 2024  
THROUGH ZOOM**

1.1 It was informed that the Minutes were distributed, but no comments had been received. The previous Committee Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> (2023-24) Meeting were confirmed by the Committee.

**ITEM-2 ACTION POINTS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING AND PROGRESS  
MADE**

2.1 The Committee was briefed about the following points:-

a) **IETE Publications encountered several challenges** over the course of the previous year (2023–24). The underlying factors were:-

1. **Consistent delays in the printing, publishing and processing of payments for the IETE Journals**
2. **The working printer stopped printing in between** due to delays in the release of his payments.
3. **New quotations were solicited for printing of IETE Journals** even though the printer in question had the printing contract approval until June 2025.
4. **Considerable Time spent in selection & finalizing the printer**, which affected the printing of journals. Approval given on 13 Aug 2024.
5. **Resignation of the Editors-in-Chief of the IETE Journal of Research due to their personal reasons.**
6. As a result, there was **no work done on the 2024 issues at all in the first four months of the year.**

b) The Editor-in-Chief (EIC) IETEJR were requested to attend a meeting at IETE HQs on April 27, 2024, to address Publications Section issues, as per the recommendations of the Special Meeting of the IETE Publications Committee conducted on April 2, 2024. The meeting was attended by **Prof Shibani K Koul**, Editor-in-Chief of IETEJR; **Prof Arun Kumar** and **Prof Ranjan K Mallik**, both Deputy Editors-in-Chief; **Prof AK Saini**, Immediate Past President; **Prof S L Kapoor**, Vice President; **Shri Gurmukh Singh**, Chairman of Publications; and **Gp Capt Sonpal Singh**, Secretary General. The meeting resulted in a positive outcome, as the current EIC and Dy EICs consented to collaborate and provide support to IETE Publications. The following decisions were reached:

- 1) **Three new Deputy Editors-in-Chief will be appointed to facilitate the clearance of backlog: Dr Nagendra Pathak** (IIT Roorkee), **Prof. (Dr.) Monika Aggarwal** (IIT, New Delhi), and **Dr. Parul Garg** (NSUT, New Delhi). They will join the current EIC and Dy EICs of the IETE Journal of Research, who are already engaged in this process.
- 2) **The editorial content for eight issues of the IETEJR, spanning January to August 2024, will be completed by the end of May 2024.** IETE Publications completed the task by the end of May 2024 to reduce the delays.
- 3) **Approximately 500 submissions were to be allocated equally among EIC and Dy EICs for further processing, as instructed.** The section fulfilled the task as directed.
- 4) **The Chairman of the Publications Committee and the EIC will constitute a "Special Issues" Committee/Advisory Committee,** which has not yet been formally established.
- 5) The EIC of IETE JR intended to publish 100 articles per issue to address the backlog; however, T&F refused to support this workload. The IETEJR edition, comprising 80 articles per issue, was set for implementation in Jan 2024, with agreement of all parties involved.

- 6) The Chairman of the Publications Committee will regularly supervise the Publications Section to assess the advancement of current tasks.
- 7) **Invite EIC and Dy EICs as special invitees to Publications Committee meetings to improve coordination.** The process has begun.
- 8) **Informal meetings with editors based in Delhi/NCR for future cooperation,** have commenced.
- 9) **The substantial workload of journals,** coupled with the departure of an employee, **will require the addition of another staff member in the section.**

c) The Members were informed regarding the **IETE Publication Ethics Committee**, which was established in the previous year. This committee met on 22 August 2024 in a hybrid meeting format, chaired by Shri Sunil, who was the President Elect of IETE at that time, due to the absence of Prof A K Saini, the then President of IETE. The objective was to address several ethical concerns identified in the submitted papers of IETEJR. The IETE EICs members were also present. The Issues were discussed in detail and later Taylor & Francis (T&F) was informed of the IETE Ethics Committee's decisions regarding the cases. Following the receipt of T&F's final findings, recommendations will be disseminated to the Publication Committee and G C Members. The details are provided in **Annexure "A"**.

d) The Committee was apprised of the status of retracted Supplement Issue of IETE JR titled "**Federated Learning for Block-chain Systems and Industrial Internet of Things**" that was completed in 2022-2023 but due to T&F's finding of unethical peer review manipulation and an insufficient degree of editorial assessment of the papers, the issue had to be retracted. The Section collected approximately Rs. 40 lakhs from 36 authors whose papers were accepted in the subject Issue in accordance with the Article Processing Fees (at 1500 US dollars/ per accepted article). After discussions between IETE & T&F it was determined during (2023-24) that the authors should be returned their paid APC Fees. IETE contacted all authors to obtain their bank details for reimbursement. Only 10 contributors responded & out of which the authors from India have been refunded the amount, and three authors from foreign countries have had the funds sent to them. However, the process is taking longer than anticipated due to some banking inquiries, and conformation from the authors is still pending. Approximately **Rs 12,66,966/-** had been returned in total to the 10 authors.

2.2 The Committee members after due deliberations recommended the following: -

- a) **The Members observed the reasons for the delay in publications in 2023-2024 and recognized its repercussions it will have in 2024-25. But members expressed satisfaction that IETE Publications, through their consistency and support of EICs, have accelerated progress and realigned the issues effectively. They concurred that**

delays affected IETE in multiple ways and recommended that IETE should ensure timely publications in the future as it is very important for the young researchers.

b) The Committee noted the points and relevant actions in progress.

c1) After careful consideration, the Committee has decided that the IETE Publication Ethics Committee should reassemble to re-examine the instances, go over the replies from the relevant parties, and then report back to T&F to ask for their verdict on these matters. The members expressed a collective decision that IETE should exercise utmost caution in matters concerning cases like Dr. Vijay Nath, given the recent challenges faced in relation to a retraction of a Supplement issue in the IETE Journal of Research.

c 2) As a further step, the Committee suggests resharing the cases with the newly formed Pubs Committee and scheduling a formal meeting of the IETE Ethics Publication Committee to discuss the guidelines/ cases in hand and safeguard future legalities. In addition, it was suggested that the establishment of a permanent IETE Publication Ethics Committee, complete with permanent/ yearly members should be duly announced for the benefit of everyone involved.

d) The Committee acknowledged the current status and recommended that a final letter be mailed to authors who have not submitted their bank details for reimbursement. This letter serves to notify that IETE is issuing its final call for responses prior to concluding the Retraction Issue cases after nearly one year. In the future, no further inquiries concerning this specific subject will be accepted.

2.2 This is for the information and approval of the Governing Council.

### **ITEM 3 MAPCON 2024 AT HYDERABAD**

3.1 Members were informed of IETE's attendance at MAPCON 2024, which will take place in Hyderabad from December 9–13, 2024. The IETE President will also deliver an address during the inaugural session on December 10, 2024. IETE will receive a booth and complimentary registrations for advertising and participation, as in previous years. Additionally, IEEE organizers will receive 800 pen-drives from IETE, which will comprise the 2024 issues of IETE journals (IETE Journal of Research, IETE Technical Review, and IETE Journal of Education). These drives will be distributed to conference delegates in their kits. This is consistent with the mutual understanding and exchanges between IEEE and IETE. In addition, IETE will distribute approximately 100 copies of the most recent issues of IETE JR and TR to individuals who visit their booth as a means of encouraging them to subscribe and become members.

3.2 The Chairman requested that the President, IETE should converse with Dr. Goutam Chattopadhyay, Fellow IEEE, JPL, NASA, USA, regarding the IETE's intention to establish a Chapter in California, USA during their meeting in MAPCON 2024 in Hyderabad.

3.3 This is for information of the Governing Council.

**ITEM 4 RELEASE OF 'THE MEMOIRS OF IETE PRESIDENTS' ON 71<sup>st</sup> IETE FOUNDATION DAY**

4.1 The Members apprised about the release of the Souvenir "The Memoirs of IETE Presidents" on 71st IETE Foundation Day 2024 celebrations on 5<sup>th</sup> Nov 2024 at IETE HQs. It was distribution to Past Presidents, G C Members, EICs, and Centre Chairpersons to ensure wider publicity of completion of 70 years of operations of IETE. Around 225 copies were printed.

4.2 The Chairman voiced his deep appreciation for the Publication staff's tireless efforts and dedication for the publication of the **Memoirs**, which were so well received by all the members.

4.3 This is for the information of the Governing Council

**ITEM-5 PUBLISHING SCHEDULE OF IETE PUBLICATIONS**

5.1 The Members were apprised about the publishing status of IETE journals which comprised of IETEJR-12 issues; IETETR-6 issues, IETEJE-2 issues and IETE NL- 3 issues.

Publications	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
IETE Newsletter	Vol.26 no.2&3 (May-Dec24) Under compilation							
IETE Journal of Research	Vol 70(5) May' 24 Despatched	Vol70(6) June' 24 Despatched	Vol 70(7) July'24 Being Desaptached	Vol 70(8) Aug'24 Being Desaptached	Vol 70(9) Sep'24 Being Desaptached	Vol 70(10) Oct' 24 Being Desaptached	Vol70(11) Nov'24 <u>Under final correction</u>	Vol 70(12) Dec'24 <u>Proofread and corrections being incorporated</u>
IETE Technical Review	Vol 41 No 3 (May-June) Printed & dispatched to subscribers		Vol 41 No 4 (Jul-Aug) Printed & dispatched to subscribers		Vol 41 No 5 (Sep-Oct) Printed & dispatched to subscribers		Vol 41 No 6 (Nov-Dec) Being Desaptached	
IETE Journal of Education	Vol.65 (1) Jan - June'24 Printed & dispatched to subscribers		Vol.65 (2) July -Dec'24 awaiting Editorial from the EIC					

5.2 The Chairman commended the publication's staff for their persistent and hard work in clearing the backlog of issues.

5.3 This is for information of the Governing Council.

#### ITEM-6 REVENUE GENERATED FROM THE SECTION

6.1 The revenue achieved so far this year, in comparison to previous years was informed as under:

REVENUE GENERATED FROM THE SECTION FOR 2024 (as on 20-11-2024)						
Particulars	Amount (Rs) 2024 (Jan – 20 Nov)	Amount (Rs) 2023 (Jan-Dec)	Amount (Rs) 2022 (Jan-Dec)	Amount (Rs) 2021 (Jan-Dec)	Amount (Rs) 2020 (Jan-Dec)	Amount (Rs) 2019 (Jan-Dec)
Subscription	56,48,806/-	51,05,880/-	34,40,200/-	22,76,375/- (as on 10 Dec 2021)	21,84,950/-	29,70,495/-
Extra page charges	79,37,407/-	68,16,083/-	92,39,636/-	12,63,539/- (as on 22 Dec 2021)	6,99,116/-	10,73,875/-
Grant-in-Aid from SERB, DST (TR/JR)	Rs 4,00,000/- has been sanctioned this year, which will come shortly. The amount this year has decreased as the new DST Chairman is either not granting grants to older candidates or decreasing the amount.	4,00,000/-for TR ( ) Received on 5 Nov 2022 for the year 2023.  3,00,000/-for JR ( ) Received on 1 Feb 2023  4,00,000/-for TR ( ) Received on 15 Sep 23 for the year 2023.  3,50,000/-for JR ( ) Rcvd on 15 Sep 23 for the year 2023	6,00,000/- (for TR: & also for 2020-21) on 28 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2022 because TR fund was not released previous year.  Rs 3,00,000/-for the JR ( ) ) on 11 Feb 22	2,00,000/- (for JR) (2020-21)	4,00,000/- (for TR/JR)	4,00,000/- (for JR/TR)



subscription rates and extra page charges. The decline in revenue in 2024 can likely be attributed to delays in publishing, printing, payment, and dispatching.

6.3 The Committee determined that the revenue generated was good enough despite the challenges encountered throughout the year.

6.4 This is for the information of the Governing Council.

**ITEM-7 EXPENSES INCURRED IN THE SECTION**

7.1 The expenditure on dispatch of IETE Publications this year in comparison with previous years showed was as follows:-

S. no	Consolidated expenditure Cost incurred for IETE JR/TR/JE/News Letter	2024 in Rs ( as on 19 Nov 2024) JR- 2+10 TR-6 JE-1 NL-1	2023 in Rs (as on 23 Oct 2023 ) JR- 10 TR-6 JE-2 NL-2	2022 in Rs (Jan-Dec)JR- 6 TR-6 JE-2 NL-3	2021 in Rs (Jan-Dec)JR- 6 TR-6 JE-2 NL-3
1	Printing Cost JR(11, 12(2023) Rs 10,82,844  Printing cost JR 1-10 (2024) Rs 32,67,682	43,50,526/-	46,13,794/-	4072650	10,09,807
2	Printing Cost IETE TR(1,2,3,4,5,6)	3,60,373/-	5,62,184/-		
3	Printing Cost IETE JE( 1)	36,509/-	77,927/-		
4	Printing Cost IETE NL ( 3 (2023) and 1 (2024)	30,049/-	32,890/-		
5	Envelopes cost (JR,TR& JE) @Rs 33 incl GST)	Will not be requiring the envelopes anymore as now we use carton boxes.	66,080/- (2000 envelopes)	1,30,407	
6	Carton boxes	38,283/-	12,913/-		
7	Postal Charges -2024)	6,50,344.16	3,69,768/-	3,98,150	1,37,789
8	Annual Fee to T&F of previous year ( Bill rcvd on 16 Apr'24) file put up 18 <sup>th</sup> Apr'24)	8,37,334/- ( sent on 13 Aug 2024)	8,22,200 released on 16 Jun,23 ( dollar rates increased)	7,25,000	7,41,214
9	Supplement issues APC Charges refunded to 10 authors as in Nov 2024 plus	8,82,756+379710+ 4500 = 12,66,966/-	( SI APC charges to be returned )	2800309	

	CA charges for 15CA & 15 CB form		Approx Rs 40,00,000/-		
10	Royalty NBT (2/3 money of 52,451/- will go to author)	34,967/-	45,871/- out of 67,607	Rs 23847/-	Rs 26,059/=
11	Honorarium (JE Authors) Vol 64 No 1&2(Jan-Dec) 2023 issues	Stopped	18,000/-	7000	5000
12	Amt spent on printing of Souvenir 'The Memoirs of IETE Presidents'	2,05,669.035	-	-	-
	<b>*TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	78,11,020.195/-	65,55,547/-	81,33,516	18,93,810
		10 authors' APC fees refunded, 26 authors' balance (39000 US dollars equivalent amt in Indian rupees to be given if bank details are provided by them)	Rs 40,00,000/- yet to be given back to authors		

7.2 The income over expenditure was informed to be **Rs 77,08,330.48/-** till the date for IETE Publications in the year Jan-Dec 2025.

7.3 This is for the information of Governing Council.

#### **ITEM-8 BOOK PROPOSAL BY PROF S C DUTTA ROY, DFIETE**

8.1 The Committee was apprised of the third book that Prof. S. C. Dutta Roy, DFIETE, intended to publish with IETE, which is entitled "**Topics in Circuit Theory - Passive, Active, and Distributed.**" He had previously authored two volumes for the IETE Book Series. M/s Springer is currently reviewing the Contract agreement for this book, as the previous Committee had suggested modifications to the Clauses of the Agreement. The Members were informed of this information. A follow-up is being conducted by IETE with Springer.

8.2 This is for the information of Governing Council.

#### **ITEM-9 2023 IETE JOURNALS IMPACT FACTOR**

9.1 The New members were apprised of the Impact factor of IETE Journals:

a) The 2023 **IETE Journal of Research** Impact Factor is 1.3 (Journal Citation Reports® Clarivate Analytics, 2024).

*IETE Journal of Research* comparative rankings:

94/119 TELECOMMUNICATIONS,

264/352 ENGINEERING, ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONIC

b) The 2023 **IETE Technical Review** Impact Factor is 2.5 (Journal Citation Reports® Clarivate Analytics, 2024).

*IETE Technical Review* comparative rankings:

62/119 TELECOMMUNICATIONS,

165/352 ENGINEERING, ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONIC

c) Comparison with previous years:

IMPACT FACTOR OF IETE JOURNALS											
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
IETE TR	0.925	0.888	1.304	1.330	1.339	1.618	1.845	2.200	1.932	2.4	2.5(highest ever)
IETE JR	0.189	0.185	0.284	0.909	0.829	0.793	1.125	2.333	1.877	1.5	1.3

9.2 This is for the information of the Governing Council.

## ITEM 10 ANUSANDHAN: A NEW IETE JOURNAL PROPOSAL ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN HINDI

10.1 The Committee members briefed about the proposal of Shri Puneet Mishra who urged IETE to establish, manage, and lead a new IETE Journal that will be dedicated to Research and Development in Hindi. According to him this will grant IETE a unique advantage over other national professional organizations. IETE will gain direct visibility in these organizations, and professionals from these organizations will be encouraged to join and attend IETE events. Shri Puneet says ISRO has approximately 300 Hindi technical papers. Similar situations may exist for DRDO, DAE, DST, and CSIR Labs. All of these must promote Hindi technical paper writing. IETE can sign a Memorandum of Understanding with these organizations to submit technical seminar papers to IETE for archiving in the IETE Digital Library, like IEEE Xplore.

10.2 Shri Puneet Mishra is prepared to volunteer and assume the main role in this initiative.

10.3 After careful consideration, the Committee Chair recommended that IETE does not possess the necessary financial and human resources to launch a new journal, particularly in Hindi. IETE will be unable to proceed due to the absence of a Hindi editorial team and other constrained resources. He stated that though Shri Puneet Mishra has spoken to President IETE, he will also communicate directly with Shri Puneet Mishra.

10.4 This is for the approval of the Governing Council.

#### **ITEM-11 STATUS OF SPECIAL /SUPPLEMENT ISSUES (SI) IN IETE JR/TR**

11.1 The Committee was informed of the recommendation from Prof Koul, EIC IETEJR, that on February 7, 2024, it was determined that IETEJR would cease accepting Supplement Issue proposals because of backlog challenges in the journal. The members were presented with the number of proposals that have been refused or rejected since March, as detailed in **Annexure "B"**.

11.2 It was additionally communicated that six proposals for Supplement Issues in IETEJR, which had been previously verified and validated, were re-submitted to T&F for a second review and have also been rejected. T&F chose not to proceed with either of these proposals based on ethical concerns, following the advice from their COPE Committee.

11.3 The Committee recommended that IETE prioritize the clearing of the backlog prior to considering the Supplement Issue proposals. In addition, it was suggested that IETE headquarters reject/regret all conference paper submissions for a Special Issue, which might be published on a platform similar to Xplorer.

11.4 This is for the information and approval of the Governing Council.

#### **ITEM-12 ANNUAL RETURNS TO REGISTRAR OF NEWSPAPERS OF INDIA**

12.1 Members were informed of that the annual statement for IETE Publications (TR, JR, and JE) was submitted on schedule at the RNI Site. However, the Newsletter's annual returns could not be completed due to the periodicity not being displayed on the website. The Publications team was conducting consistent follow-ups. The issue was brought to the attention of President IETE, who spoke with the concerned individual in the I&B Ministry. IETE is optimistic that the issue will be resolved in the near future.

12.2 This is for the information of the Committee

**ITEM 13** There being no other point, the Meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

Ref: IETE/J-216/1<sup>st</sup> 2024-25)/Pubs

Date: 03 Dec 24



Gp Capt Sonpal Singh (Retd)  
Secretary General

Distribution:

Chairman and Members of Publications Committee  
President, IETE & Members of Governing Council

**IETE PUBLICATONS  
ETHICS COMMITTEE  
MEETING  
22 Aug 2024, 4 pm  
at IETE Hqs**

**AGENDA**

1. Discussion on articles of IETE Journal of Research that have raised ethical concerns.
2. To deliberate and decide further course of action including intimation to T&F.

**Members of the Committee:**

Shri Gurmukh Singh	Chairman
Dr J K Mandal	Member
Dr R D Kharadkar	Member
Prof A Q Ansari	Member
Dr M Marjit Singh	Member
EICs/Dy EICs	Spl Invitee
(Prof Shiban K Koul, Prof Arun Kumar & Prof Ranjan K Mallik)	

**Need for development of Ethical Guidelines for IETE Publications was discussed in detail**

- Current status
- As of now, every submission that has been accepted is forwarded to T&F for originality checks. Once the checks have been completed, T&F shares the similarity report of the paper with IETE and EIC, as well as the concerns that they have brought up.
- On the basis of the report, the EIC makes a decision regarding whether or not to reject the accepted paper before production.
- The COPE ( Committee on Publications Ethics) Committee of T&F may also prompt for the proper course, based on the outcome of exceptional circumstances. ( like when the papers are required to be retracted)
- However, over the course of the past few years, there has been a notable rise in the number of instances in which ethical conduct has been violated.
- The IETE Publications setup does not yet possess a rule book for publication ethics of its own at this time
- The EICs are of the opinion that the IETE ought to establish a Publications Ethics committee with specialists in order to examine the instances and determine the final destination of papers of this nature
- Hence, it is necessary to have developed guidelines for this.
- Decision: Start framing the guidelines depending on the issues as they come up and then set rules depending on each outcome

The IETE Journal of Research has a few cases that need the attention of the Ethics Committee.

Case No.1: Unethical practice-Golu Sumro/ Ajay Yadav, NIT Jamshedpur

Case No.	Author	Title	Editors	Issue	Journal	Status
1	Golu Sumro	Design of Holographic Condenser Lens for Visible Light Lithography	Dr. R. D. Kharadkar, Dr. M. Marjit Singh	July 2024	IETE Journal of Research	Under Review

Current Status: The paper will not be allocated to any issue until IETE confirms it to T&F; it was published online on July 28, 2024.

Case No 2 Multiple submissions by Dr Vijay Nath, (BIT MESRA, RANCHI) in IETEJR

- As part of the first round of general checks of the 1st case, IETE discovered that Dr Vijay Nath, who was a co-author of the paper "Design of Holographic Condenser Lens for Visible Light Lithography," had submitted a number of papers to IETEJR
- This individual has been the subject of some suspicion in IETE
- Following discussion with T&F (Neelanjana), and the EICs the decision was made to temporarily halt all of Dr Vijay Nath's papers
- He has a registered website called Indian Society for VLSI Education (ISVE) wherein he states that papers chosen for his conferences would be published in the IETE Journal of Research. For more information, please go to the following link <https://www.isve.in/page?page=adminsite&pid=27>





## Multiple Submissions: Identified Features

**Over-citation:** These submissions include references that both do not relate to what they're talking about, but also references for obvious statements, such as "The sky is blue (reference)". An example can be seen in this TCIV article:

Rogers et al. 2019. The heat pump in the residential sector that drives industry, and energy to other sectors for...  
 calculations for calculating the losses throughout the system...  
 ready. The...  
 carbon... that they...  
 at approximately 17°C. Meng et al. 2020. Heat temperature is affected when...  
 under... to the

- Quite often these articles will include 40+ references, that aren't necessary. In some, I have noted they like a number of references that end in 0 (i.e. 20, 30, 40), regardless of their relevance.
- Where they do include references that are relevant, they will be potentially outdated;

**Methods:** They will include 2021/2022 references for long-standing methods that have been used for decades (this is a papermill favourite).

**Meandering Content:** Quite often the article will suggest they are going to talk about one topic, only to end up on a completely different tangent by the end- this may be due to the template they're using.

**IEEE:** Whilst there are obviously quality IEEE articles, many of these papers have an incredible reliance on IEEE articles (80-90% of references will come from IEEE articles).

**IEEE Template:** If the editorial teams look at the original files of some of these submissions, in the document properties- many of them are an IEEE template. Again, this isn't an indicator of bad behaviour, but potentially adds weight that they're coming from the same place.



**Retracted References:** Many of these articles are citing articles which have been retracted (for tortured phrases, compromised special issues) or have Pubpeer comments;

- Many appear to have reference links to the [Hindawi special issues](#);
- Institutional computers permitting, I would **strongly** recommend editorial teams get the Pubpeer plug in: <https://pubpeer.com/static/extensions>;
- Whilst citing a retracted reference isn't an indicator necessarily of bad behaviour, it's something Editors should be aware of.

**Title Template:** Many of these submissions seem to follow a similar pattern

- [Deep learning algorithm/Optimisation] + [animal] method + [random topic]
- [Deep learning/combined/comparative] + [approach] + [animal] + [optimisation of technique]
- It may be that this is entirely legitimate research, but given the frequency and intensity of these submissions with similar titles, it is an issue of concern

**Author Identities:** Many of the authors seem to be following the same pattern:

- [Author surname] + [initial] + [number] + [gmail.com/outlook.com]
- Again this may not be an indicator of misbehaviour, but in the volume we have seen this, it's concerning
- Most of these submissions have not provided a first name for the author, they have not submitted to the journal previously and I've struggled to find evidence of them anywhere else.
- These individuals are making multiple submissions of the same paper; we have even seen evidence of them rewording the title of an article that has previously been accepted, to resubmit it to the same journal again.

**Reviewers:** These submissions seem particularly keen to use author-suggested reviewers;

- Citation stacking – I have seen additional citation stacking by reviewers suggesting IEEE articles which have Pubpeer comments (due to tortured phrases or irrelevant references);
- I have yet to assess whether these submissions are subject to undue influence by reviewers- when selecting reviewers, I would suggest that Editors choose reviewers not based in the same country as the authors (where possible).

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- If possible, enable Extended Author Checks on the journals;
- If possible, enable rthenticate as standard;
- Ensure that the ability for authors to create reviewer accounts is switched off;
- Consider if a reviewer pool cleanse would be worthwhile;
- Editors to Google both the authors and the article titles- has a version of it been published already?
- Editors to scrutinise references- are they relevant, and appropriate.
- If a paper (or proposal) seems odd, it probably is.

## CAS Early Warning list

- Since 2020, the National Science Library of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (NSLC) has published an annual Early Warning List of International Journals (commonly known as the 'grey list') as an accompaniment to their 'white list', which is intended to support their researchers in choosing appropriate platforms for their work, as well as encouraging publishers to strengthen the quality management for their journals.
- The recommendations of the NSLC are widely adopted by Chinese Universities and we have previously seen an impact on submissions authored and co-authored by Chinese research groups to listed journals.
- As such, we carefully monitor the potential risk to our journals as part of our ongoing performance analysis, as well as actively engaging with NSLC to better understand of the process that they follow to evaluate research publications and to help them better understand our journals portfolio.

## IETE JR

- Journals included in the Early Warning List are divided into three levels—high, medium and low risk—based on meeting a range of criteria, including possible concerns related to publishing ethics, a high proportion of Chinese authorship, and rapid recent growth.
- *IETE Journal of Research* has been flagged by NSLC as a high-risk title, based on the criteria of "Paper Robot". NSLC utilize a tool called the Problematic Paper Screener to make this determination. Flagging is based on having 10+ papers in a year that meet the criteria.

## Discussion & Questions

A. List of proposals received for Supplement issues in IEEE Journals between MARCH- JULY 2024 ( total-36)

1. **Special Issue Proposal on 5G and emerging 6G Technologies and Its Applications to develop New systems** Dr.Osamah Ibrahim Khalaf Al-Nahrain University, Iraq Dr. Klugsey A. Ogudo University of Johannesburg, South Africa ( No Confirmation from chairman) JR
2. **Special Issue Proposal on Personalized Healthcare through Explainable AI in medical Diagnosis** by Dr.ZohaibMushtaq Assistant Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering, College of Engineering and Technology, University of Sargodha, Sargodha, 40100, Pakistan ( No confirmation from proposer after APC mail) JR
3. **Special Issue Proposal on State-Of-The-Art Wireless Information Networks and Technical Community in Telecommunications** Dr. Muhammad Zakarya (Lead GI), Assistant Professor, Faculty of Computing and Information Technology, Sohar University, Oman.( Technical Review) **REJECTED BY EIC**
4. **Special Issue Proposal on Energy-efficient Routing Protocols for Blockchain-Enabled Vehicular Ad hoc Networks (VANETs)** by Dr.TarekMoulahi Professor (Associate), Department of Information Technology, College of Computer, Qassim University, Buraydah, Saudi Arabia (TR) **REJECTED BY EIC**
5. **Special Issue Proposal on "Massive MIMO Systems for Microwave Communications"** Dr.Harleen Kaur Associate Professor Department of Computer Science and Engineering, School of Engineering Sciences and Technology, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi, India (JR ) Not approved by EIC
6. **Special Issue Proposal on "Energy efficient Routing Protocols for Blockchain Enabled Vehicular Ad hoc Networks (VANETs)"** (same proposal in TR also rejected by EIC Jagadeesh Kumar) but proposer not replied reg APC mail (MGE) Dr.TarekMoulahi Professor (Associate), Department of Information Technology, College of Computer, Qassim University, Buraydah, Saudi Arabia. (JR)
7. **Special Issue Proposal on CAD-Driven Innovation in Autonomous System Development** Dr AbduSaif, Assistant professor, Department of Communication and Computer Engineering, Faculty of Engineering and IT, Taiz University, Taiz P.O. Box 6803, Yemen (TR)-**REJECTED BY EIC**
8. **Special Issue Proposal on Securing, Preserving Privacy, and Managing Trust in Wireless Communication Networks** by Dr. Muhammad Hamza Zafar, Department of Engineering Sciences, University of Agder, Norway (JR) **SEND THIS PROPOSAL TO PUBS COMMITTEE & CHAIRMAN**
9. **Special Issue Proposal on Emerging AI-Enabled Smart Healthcare Systems from Cloud to Edge** Jing Chai Yunnan University, Kunming PR China (JR) **REJECTED BY EIC**
10. **Special Issue Proposal on Social implications of the telecommunications in software protocols and services** by Dr Stephen S Oyewobi Department of Telecommunications Engineering, Federal University of Technology, Niger, Nigeria. (**REJECTED BY EIC**)
11. **Special Issue Proposal on Insights of Modern Telecommunications and Technical Advances in Knowledge Society** by Dr Shadi Mahmoud Faleh Al-Zubi Assoc. Professor of Dept of Computer Science Faculty of Science and Information Technology Al-Zaytoonah University of Jordan, Amman Jordan. (**REJECTED BY EIC**)

12. Special Issue proposal on "Computing the Earth - interdisciplinary Approaches in Computer Science and Geographic Information Systems" by Dr.KarthickAnandBabu, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science, Tamil University, Tamilnadu. ,(REJECTED BY EIC)
13. Special Issue Proposal on Predictive Analytics for Early Detection and Intervention using Real-time Patient Data by Dr.ZohaibMushtaqAsst Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering, College of Engineering and Technology,University of Sargodha, Sargodha. ,(REJECTED BY EIC)
14. Special Issue proposal on Harnessing IOT for Global ManufacturingDr.SobiaWaissan School of Equipment Engineering, Jiangsu Urban and Rural Construction Vocational College, Changzhou, China. ,(REJECTED BY EIC)
15. Special Issue Proposal on Advancements in Multi-Modal Fusion Techniques for Enhanced Remote Sensing Imagery Interpretation by Dr.Weijiang Assistant Professor School of Information and Communication Engineering,Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications,Beijing, China (REJECTED BY EIC)
16. Special Issue proposal on Use of machine learning algorithms in optimizing routing protocols for sensor networks by Dr.FahadTaha AL-Dhief School of Electrical Engineering Faculty of Engineering, UniversitiTeknologi Malaysia (UTM), Johor Bahru, Johor, Malaysia (TR) REJECTED
17. Special Issue Proposal on Adaptive Intrusion Detection System using Machine Learning in Wireless Sensor Networks by Dr.OpeyemiOsaniye, Department of Computer Engineering, Nile University of Nigeria, Abuja, Nigeria.(JR) REJECTED BY EIC
18. Special Issue Proposal on 5G and Beyond Networks for Smart Environmental Real-Time Monitoring Systems by Dr. Alfred Daniel J Associate Professor, Karpagam Academy of Higher Education,Coimbatore, India.(JR) REJECTED BY EIC
19. Special Issue Proposal on AI and IoT-empowered Innovative Solutions for Aquaculture Production and Farm Management by Dr.JosephBamideleAworunde, Department of Computer Science, Faculty of Information and Communication Sciences,University of Ilorin, Ilorin 24003, Kwara State, Nigeria (JR) REJECTED BY EIC
20. Special Issue Proposal on Sustainable Power Microgrid Infrastructures OF 2024 International Conference on Innovations in Infrastructures (ICII 24)November 15-17, 2024 at IITRAM Ahmedabad, Gujarat by Ashutosh K Giri Government Engineering College Bharuch Gujarat Technological University Gujarat (JR) REJECTED BY EIC
21. Special Issue Proposal on Smart Cyber security powered by artificial intelligence, Dr.MuhammadKhuramShahzad Associate Professor Department of Computing, National University of Sciences and Technology, Islamabad, Pakistan (TR) REJECTED
22. Special Issue Proposal on Lightweight Intrusion Detection Systems (IDS) in Battery-powered IoT Devices by Muhammad ZunnurainHussainAsst Professor Department of Computer ScienceBahria University Lahore Campus, Pakistan (TR) REJECTED BY EIC
23. Special Issue proposal on Advanced Signal Processing Techniques for V2X Communication,Dr. Ajay Kumar G Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Advanced Imaging Science, Multimedia and Film, Chung-Ang University, Seoul, Korea.(JR) REJECTED BY EIC

## PROPOSALS RECEIVED AFTER JULY 2024

1. **Special Issues proposal on Enhancing Secure Transactions in Mobile Apps with WSN-Based Anomaly Detection** Dr.Zhiyuan Chen Faculty of Science and Engineering, School of Computer Science, University of Nottingham Malaysia, Semenyih, Malaysia (JR) **Regretted by EIC**
2. Special Issues proposal on Blockchain Technology for Securing Computational Processes in Distributed Systems. Dr. Arnold Adimabua Ojugo, Federal University of Petroleum Resources Effurun, Delta State, Nigeria. (JR) **Regretted by EIC**
3. Special Issues proposal on Smart City Traffic Management Using VANET and IoT Integration. Dr.Muhammad Asim Saleem Assistant Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok 10330, Thailand (JR) **Regretted by EIC**
4. Special Issues proposal on Transfer Learning Approaches in Natural Language Processing for Low-Resource Languages. Dr. Jawad Khan, Assistant Professor, Gachon University, Seongnam, South Korea.(TR) **Regretted by EIC**
5. Special Issues proposal on Scalability Challenges in Large-Scale Wireless Sensor Networks. Dr. Mehdi Gheisari Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran.(TR) **Regretted by EIC**
6. Special Issue proposal on Transfer Learning Approaches in Natural Language Processing for Low-Resource Languages. Dr. Jawad Khan, Assistant Professor, Gachon University, Seongnam, South Korea (JR) **Regretted by EIC**
7. Special Issue proposal on RBUCON, Computing'25. Dr. (Ms) Urmila Shrawankar, General Chair, RBUCON, Computing'25 Director and Professor, School of Computer Science and Engineering, Ramdeobaba University (RBU), Nagpur - 440 013 (M.S.), India. (TR) **Regretted by EIC**
8. Special Issue proposal on The Genome Era: Advances and Applications in Bioinformatics. Dr. Joseph Bamidele Awotunde Department of Computer Science Faculty of Information and Communication Sciences, University of Ilorin, Ilorin 240003, Kwara State, Nigeria. (TR) **Regretted by EIC**
9. Special Issue proposal on Performance Assessment and Reliability Enhancement of Grid-integrated Hybrid Renewable Energy Systems. Dr. R.K. Saket FIE (India), FIETE (India), SMIEEE (USA), MIET (UK) Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology (Banaras Hindu University), Varanasi-221005, (UP) India. (JR) **Regretted by EIC**
10. Special Issue proposal on Envision of a Hyper-Connected Ecosystem With Heterogeneous Sensor Devices **Dr. Stephen S. Oyewobi** Department of Telecommunications Engineering, Federal University of Technology, P. M.B. 65, 920101, Minna, Niger, Nigeria. (JR) **Regretted by EIC**
11. Special Issue proposal on IoT-enabled Fuzzy Logic Systems for Predictive Maintenance in Industrial IoT (IIoT) Environments. Dr. Noshina Tariq Assistant Professor Air University, Islamabad, Pakistan. (TR) **Regretted by EIC**
12. Special Issue proposal on Implementing RPL Protocol in Wireless Sensor Networks for Efficient Data Transmission. Dr. Noshina Tariq Assistant Professor, Air University, Islamabad, Pakistan. (JR) **Regretted by EIC**

13. Special Issue proposal on "Wearable Sensor Networks: Technological Advances and Personal Health, Kabupaten Sukoharjo, Jawa Tengah 57521, Indonesia Dr. Fahmi Hakim, Professor, Faculty of Public Health and Health Sciences, Universitas Veteran Bangun Nusantara, Kabupaten Sukoharjo, Jawa Tengah 57521, Indonesia. (JR) **Regretted by EIC**

**B. Following Proposals which were approved by IETE & I&F Earlier now stand REJECTED.**

1. Human Behaviour Analysis Using Fuzzy Neural Networks by Dr MM Kamruzzaman, **Saudi Arabia**
2. Explainable Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning assisted Blockchain Computing: Concepts, Advancements and Future Perspectives by Dr Amandeep Kaur, Sri Gurm Gurm Sahib World University; Dept of CSE, Chandigarh University, **Mohali**
3. Cognitive Communication Networking Technologies for Mobile Multimedia Systems by Dr Khalid Haseeb, Islamia College, Peshawar, **Pakistan**
4. Adaptive Role of Intelligent Control Systems for Autonomous Vehicles by Dr Bala Anand Muthu, Tagore Institute of Engineering and Technology, **Salem**
5. Artificial Intelligence Techniques for green IOT by Dr Prakash Ishwar, Boston University, **Boston, USA**
6. "The Convergence of Embedded Systems and Software Related Microarchitectural Aspects" with Guest editors- Dr Jian Su, Nanjing University of Information Science and Technology, **China**; Dr Yu Xue, Nanjing University of Information Science and Technology, Nanjing, **China**; Dr JK Aggarwal, The University of Texas at Austin, **Austin Texas, USA**