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It gives me immense pleasure to introduce this particular edition of *Ushus Journal of Business and Management*, having a specific focus on '*Quantitative Finance and Analytics*'. The papers present various facets of the same theme. Starting from Louis Bachelier in 1900, Benoit Mandelbrot in 1963, Eugene Stanley/Rosario Mantegna in 1995, Didier Sornette in 2002 and JP Bouchaud in 2005 the story moves on. It's matured and gathered the critical mass to move to greater heights in recent years. This issue is entirely focused on similar lines.

The story unfolds by identifying subtle evidence of fear in G7 countries; moreover the interplay between fixed income and equity with 'fear gauge' remains the highlights of this work by Shriya Janardan which she discusses in her article, *Evidence of Fear in Fixed Income and Bourses: A Study on Certain G-7 Economies*.

Financial forensics unearths the hidden financial irregularities from an apparently docile financial time series. Pooja Golait, in her article, *Financial Forensics: Revelations from CNX Nifty,* delved into the same to find some interesting outcome. This empirical work is based on 'asymmetry of information' embedded in any financial time series. More often than not it has been observed that a younger stock market tends to dictate its older counterpart in true sense.

The next empirical analysis is undertaken by Anjali Verma and Treesa Joseph wherein they suggest that the Belgian stock market drives their older cousin French markets. Though counter-intuitive, it remains a fact that younger indices with new-age corporations tend to outperform and over-run their older counterparts with a dated traditional mindset.

The next study, *Interlinking between the Shariah-Compliant Stocks in India: by Granger Causality*, echoes similar thought by drawing insights from inside the uncharted world of Shariah-compliant stocks of India. Taran Matharu uncovers the hidden and often ignored driver-driven relationships of Shariah-compliant stocks in India.

We have Mayuree Barik and Aparna Rao presenting a curious case of decoupling of INR-USD, related to major events in their article, *Coupling of Currencies: An INR and USD Perspective*. Currency markets emerged as far more matured compared to financial markets, as they don't react much to unrelated events. Hence, the currency markets exhibit fare bit of consistency in behaviour. Credit Pit is a financial 'Black Hole'; once in, it is extremely difficult to come out. Sfoorti Jain portrays the saga of identification of such a pit in French markets. Credit default swap and forward rate agreement mostly move in tandem keeping the crash possibilities at bay. However, they exhibit sudden divergence only in case of real crashes. Artificial neural network becomes useful in these contexts to detect both the credit pit and its dubious threshold. She discusses these ideas and arguments in her article, *Credit Pit Detection in Subordinate Securities: A French Perspective*.

I thank the reviewers and authors for contributing to this issue. We encourage our readers to share, read and contribute to our onward journey.

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Issue Editor