It is a matter of pride to introduce the first international conference in the series of “Soft Computing: Theories and Applications (SoCTA)”, which is a joint effort of researchers from Machine Intelligence Lab, USA, and the researchers and Faculty members from Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee; Amity University Rajasthan.

The maiden conference took place in the historic city of Jaipur at the campus of research-driven university, Amity University Rajasthan. The conference stimulated discussions on various emerging trends, innovation, practices, and applications in the field of Soft Computing.

This book that we wish to bring forth with great pleasure is an encapsulation of 149 research papers, presented during the three-day international conference. We hope that the initiative will be found informative and interesting to those who are keen to learn on technologies that address to the challenges of the exponentially growing information in the core and allied fields of Soft Computing.

We are thankful to the authors of the research papers for their valuable contribution in the conference and for bringing forth significant research and literature across the field of Soft Computing.

The editors also express their sincere gratitude to SoCTA 2016 Patron, Plenary Speakers, Keynote Speakers, Reviewers, Programme Committee Members, International Advisory Committee and Local Organizing Committee, Sponsors without whose support the support and quality of the conference could not be maintained.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Prof. Sanghamitra Bandyopadhyay, Director, ISI Kolkata, for gracing the occasion as the Chief Guest for the Inaugural Session and delivering a Plenary talk.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Dr. Anuj Saxena, Officer on Special Duty, Chief Minister’s Advisory Council, Govt. of Rajasthan, for gracing the occasion as the Chief Guest for the Valedictory Session.

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Prof. Nirupam Chakraborti, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur; Prof. Ujjwal Maulik, Jadavpur University; Prof. Kumkum Garg, Manipal University Jaipur; Dr. Eduardo Lugo,
Université de Montréal; Prof. Lalit Garg, University of Malta for delivering invited lectures.

We express our special thanks to Prof. Ajith Abraham, Director, MIR Labs, USA, for being a General Chair and finding time to come to Jaipur amid his very busy schedule.

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A special mention of thanks is due to our student volunteers for the spirit and enthusiasm they had shown throughout the duration of the event.

We express special thanks to Springer and its team for the valuable support in the publication of the proceedings.

With great fervor, we wish to bring together researchers and practitioners in the field of Soft Computing year after year to explore new avenues in the field.

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