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EDITORIAL NOTE

If we had a mission for *Social Science Researcher* when we began, it was to resist the temptation to stick to barriers set by disciplines. This was not the same as bringing out an Inter-disciplinary journal; the task we set for ourselves was to construct a room whose architecture ensured free flow of ideas and also bits and pieces of information that can, at another time and in another space, serve as nourishment to ideas. In other words, we will consider ourselves accomplished as long as all that is published here is useful, either by way of fresh ideas and perspectives or just information that will fertilise the making of ideas and perspectives.

We did not expect COVID-19 and the crisis it brought about took its toll on us. Research seemed one of the victims of the disease and the fear it caused in our midst; and teachers ended up working hard only to grapple with technology and the challenges of on-line education. We ended up with only three articles then in our previous issue and those were eclectic in terms of the subject matter. And now we seem to have landed ourselves in the grips of COVID-19 and so much so ended up with submissions dealing with that; I am not meaning the disease and the science of it which is best left to pure science to grapple with. Social Science, which is what we are concerned with should open the window to pure science and scientists of that kind.

We have Abigyan Guha, a young scholar at Jadavpur University, Kolkata putting out his perspective on the pandemic and its implication for the world, its politics and international relations. A long, well argued essay; one may agree or disagree with all that he has said, with some of what he has argued but certainly have a lot to learn from what he has said here. And Ankita Sharma, a researcher from Assam University, has an essay which simply records what



has come to become a new normal in our lives after February 2020. This new normal that she has painted should lead us to ponder and interrogate rather than take us to a slumber in the newfound comfort zone. That much due to COVID-19 and Sudarshan Pradhan from Odisha tells us about a political personality who strode the arena of Indian politics in for at least five decades after independence, BijuPatnaik, with as much information on him and his life for those who care to know him.

Well. While we *Social Science Researcher* fervently hope things return to where we were and the inertia we felt in the six months that went by is a thing of the past, here we come to you, once again. We are truncated. We have just three articles for you this issue. But then, we are determined to keep putting out our issues rather than opting for the easier course and suspend publication. No. We will not choose easy ways.

And as is our commitment, we will not hand out prescriptions; in other words, we are here to raise doubts and attempt at answering some of the questions that bother us. Ours is not an endeavour to arrive at final answers; and least of all to let the editor's opinion determine the contents and the arguments by our contributors.

Over to you dear scholars and look forward to your continued support by reading, sharing and contributing to this effort.

(Dr. V. Krishna Ananth)

Editor – in – Chief

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