

### **From the Editor-in-Chief**

The current issue of *Vantage* (Vol 4, Issue 1) is pivoted around the theme ‘The Expanding Frontiers of Knowledge’. Continuing from the previous issue, the theme this time opens up various other facets of knowledge-frontiers. New questions and concerns continue to emerge with an ever-changing reality. It is crucial that we address them by exploring new paradigms, methodologies, and perspectives across disciplines. And this has been our consistent pursuit across all issues.

The research articles published in this issue bring fresh insights from various disciplinary standpoints. This adds complexity to the debates being explored through the central theme. As each contribution carries a unique take on knowledge-creation, they all invariably address some crucial aspect of the theme or the other.

The ‘Invited Article’ by Prof. Savyasaachi makes us rethink the relationship between production and consumption in the context of the ‘Conservation Crisis’. His article explores the dynamics of well-being, waste production, and extraction of natural resources; how each can be sustained without actually posing a threat to ecological well-being.

Contributing to the scientific debates is the significant ‘Original Research Article’ by Prof. Balram Singh, Michael Goykhman et al. Here, the authors describe a novel protocol for the ‘Molecular Weight Determination’ of native proteins and protein complexes. The proposed approach is highly efficient, reproducible, and cost-effective as compared to the standard method deploying the Ferguson Plot.

Another ‘Original Research Article’ in this issue introduces a sociological dimension. In her article, Dr. Pooja Gopal examines gender dynamics in the armed forces. In her research, she engages with the gender practices of women military members and the way these practices represent preferred forms of masculinity.

According to WHO, one in three people worldwide do not have access to safe drinking water. This is a major public health concern and requires physicochemical analysis of water at regular intervals. The original article by Dr. Archana Aggarwal and her group investigates the quality of drinking water from various zones of Delhi.

Yet another public health concern that continues to pose a major challenge worldwide including India is breast cancer. It is one of the most common forms of cancer in India and worldwide. The ‘Review Article’ by Dr. Ritu Rai and Dr. Vatsala Tripathy surveys aspects of this particular malignancy and offers insights specific to the Indian scenario.

Adding historico-political dimension to the Issue-theme, Dr Gargi Chakrabarty’s essay elucidates lesser-known aspects of the well-known freedom fighter Subhash Chandra Bose. The perspective penned by her traverses the political and personal aspects of the multifaceted leader.

As we traverse various frontiers of knowledge, the pandemic continues to be a reality that intellectuals and the common populace engage with, though in renewed forms. One such undertaking is captured in the book *Sociological Reflections on the Covid-19 Pandemic in India: Redefining the Normal*. Dr. Suraj Beri's review of the book brings to light perspectives of significant import.

As readers engage with the varied multidisciplinary intellectual currents included in this issue, I do hope they serve to expand the existing frontiers of knowledge!

Happy reading!

~Haritma Chopra

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