

CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

The world is undergoing a massive churning. The worldwide outbreak of novel corona virus has brought the global economy on its knees. More than 12 million people have been infected and death count has crossed half a million mark. Though it started in China, China was quick to put all out efforts to control it within Hubei province through strict lockdown measures, comprehensive testing, isolation, arrangement of emergency hospital beds with ventilators and integrated treatment through applying both, modern medicine and traditional Chinese medicine(TCM).

The pandemic arrived in India in late spring and it was anticipated that with the warmer summer, its spread would stall. Indian government took timely measure of a prolonged national lockdown. But, once the lockdown has started getting lifted gradually, the virus has spread in several pockets of the country. We may be reaching the figure of a million infection within a week.

The trade-off between lockdown and flow of economy has complex dynamics. Similarly, the prolonged lockdown has affected the mode of education. While video tutorials were only supplements to the classroom teaching, now online classes have become new normal. Webinar and Zoom Classes are getting popular with the institutions for cost-cutting and also being adopted by students for the comfort that these offer.

In a post-pandemic world, what would be the optimal mix of virtual and real classrooms is something that needs to be pondered by our educationists, psychologists and cognitive neuroscientists. Will adoption of 5-G technology make virtual classes more exciting with augmented reality? Or will there be demand for “Back to Classroom,” politicizing the new generation of children? These are some of the challenges during coming times which require serious attention of our researchers.

In the current issue, we are carrying two papers on Covid pandemic and we hope to publish many more in coming issues!

I wish the whole team involved with the complex task of bringing out a journal in these trying times for their perseverance and dedication.



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