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VISION AND MISSION

- Contribute to building a new social order based on human dignity and social justice.
- Work with a preferential option for the vulnerable and exploited, both locally and globally.
- Build cadre of young, competent professionals having a global perspective and a strong value base of compassion, personal integrity, moderation, tolerance and self-respect.

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EDITORIAL

This issue has been published in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic which has brought out the best and the worst of humanity. All over the world we have seen heartwarming acts of resilience, inventiveness, solidarity and kindness. But we have also seen concerning signs of stigma, misinformation and the politicization of the pandemic. It is also a time for all countries to renew their commitment to universal health coverage as the foundation of social and economic development – and to building the safer, fairer, equal, greener, more inclusive world we all want.

As a profession, we have witnessed many times how crisis situations present opportunities to rebuild better, more inclusive and more stable societies. Our role as social workers is to bring attention to the long-term social solutions. This crisis is no exception.

Surinder Verma and Sunil Prasad have made an attempt to analyze fiscal decentralization issues in local governance and the dysfunction that seems to exist in policies, programs and governance due to lack of political will.

Ronald Yesudhas and Laavanya PV have focused on the context of ethics training to social workers in India. The emphasis is on providing a certain minimum content on professional ethics and a framework for teaching it. Case examples are provided to illustrate the process of making ethical decision making.

Manju Panwar has examined the initiatives taken by India and western countries to strengthen university community engagement. The article critically explains the role universities can play in building relationships with other stakeholders like civil society organizations, government bodies, and research and other academic institutions for societal development.

The next article by Barani Daran on differently abled persons documents the life experiences of the researcher, who is affected by essential tremors in both hands, across various domains such as family, academics, employability, work and social relationships and ends with suggestions.

Finally a book review by Meghna Vesvikar takes us to another issue of factorial distribution in which labour and capital are treated as factors of production resulting in growing income inequality between workers and capitalists.

As we present the journal to our readers, we thank each one of you for your continued support in our work and trust you will send in your contributions so that the journal may continue to help professionals around the world.

Anita Panot

College of Social Work (Empowered Autonomous)

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