

EDITORIAL

We are aware that we are behind schedule in publishing Social Science Gazetteer and efforts are made to make it up-to-date. As a result we have brought out three volumes this year and by the end of next year, it will be up-to-date. In this volume, we are publishing seven articles of which six are award winning papers presented in the Professor Radha Kamal Mukerjee Young Social Scientist Award Contest held during the Conference: Science, Technology and Society held at Indore Christian College, Indore on January 6 and 7, 2018.

Aasif Ali Naikoo in his paper, *Development of Society under Modern Technology*, tries to study the relationship between society and technology. Technology has completely revolutionized present era in the area of education, communication, business, art and literature, and has resulted in the enhancement in the core spheres of life. In fact, technology has brought our society close to each other where we can take any initiative about any social issue or discuss any matter of concern regarding the society by sitting in our homes like using video or audio conferencing.

In the paper, *Technological Impact on Socio-Economic Development of Farmers - A Multivariate Study*, Vilas Balganonkar highlights the impact of science and technology in bringing about social and economic development and empowerment, especially in the rural areas. The study concludes that technology has impacted socio-economic status of the people by poverty reduction and by increasing current household consumption. It is leading to greater investments in household enterprises, increases in children's schooling and empowering dependents of farmers leading to social development.

The objective of the paper of Subhasis Sahoo and Sital Mohanty, *Should Necessity Triumph Ethics? Perceptions on Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) among Women in Eastern India*, is to understand the context(s) and process through which ART is introduced to the arena of public health, the assumed and expected functions and roles of such technology and risks that such technology may have on the users. The paper argues that the technology is in fact instrumental in 'fixing' bodies, making them fit for the demands of the society (to enact the potential identity), to the extent that medicalization of the infertility is designed to deal with 'incapacity', with failure and with a flawed body.

The article by Ruchika Kumari and Rachana Gangwar, *A Study of Impact of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) on Environment: In context of Opportunities and Development as well as Challenges*, points out to issues and challenges related to environment such as climate change, waste management, improving energy efficiency, air pollution, loss of habitats, issues and challenges related to transport and areas of urban rural system etc. The paper concludes that smart ICT and their application have both negative and positive impact on environment. So, data must be collected, analysed and interpreted, transformed into information that enables individuals to make smarter greener choices and communicated to individuals in such a way as to inform and educate, influence and change behaviours.

The paper by Neeraja K.S., *Science, Communities and Sustainable Management: Case of Kabani River Management in Wayanad*, considers the existing hierarchies within a community for a fair distribution of rights over the life supporting systems. The paper explores the different interventions in the river in a small village in Wayanad, Kerala and the implications over the life of different *Adivasi* communities who directly depend on the river for their cultural and physical means. The paper concludes that the sustainable development tools need to be developed in a way that can primarily recognise the much marginalised sections of the community and the local politics of the existing management practices.

The paper by Achsah John and Sylvia Daisy, *Challenges Faced by the Parents of Special Children*, examines the causes of intellectual disability and suggests remedies. Intellectual disability is caused by genetic conditions, problems during pregnancy, problems during childbirth or illness or injury. Remedies include learning everything one can about intellectual disabilities, encouraging the child's independence, getting the child involved in group activities, staying involved and getting to know other parents of intellectually disabled children.

Vibha Joshi in her paper, *Gender Perspective of Population Ageing in India*, analyzes the demographic transition of population from young population to more elderly population and examines the emerging phenomenon of feminisation of ageing in India.

- Editors