

EDITORIAL

In this second part of the special issue on COVID-19 and the Environment, we have included articles related to SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19 covering various aspects such as prophylactic measures, digital literacy, online teaching-learning, awareness and immune system and vaccines.

As we are aware, COVID-19 brought about a sudden change in the mode of teaching-learning as online or virtual learning was resorted to. Much have been said about the downside of such mode of learning. However, in the article 'Re-imagining science education during COVID-19 pandemic: Role of teachers, students and parents,' the authors discuss how virtual learning environments provide broad scope for inquiry-based, investigative, and interactive science learning through systematic and equitable collaboration between teachers, students and parents using and illustration.

The article 'Plant-based dietary items with prophylactic and therapeutic action against novel Coronavirus' reviews the possibility of some food and drinks items whose bioactive molecules could serve as physiological masks against novel Coronavirus and its variants.

'People's awareness on Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in the context of its transmission and epidemiology — A study' and 'Role of scientific literacy in eradicating superstitious beliefs during ongoing COVID-19 pandemic' discuss a common person's knowledge of COVID-19 symptoms, transmission and the relation between education and awareness.

'Deliberating on environmental education and its practices during the COVID-19 pandemic' provokes the epistemological debate that exists in the field of environmental education in the context of the present pandemic situation.

This pandemic has almost rewritten teachers' job requirements, redefining the roles and responsibilities of educators once and for all. Along these lines, the articles: 'Science teaching-learning in the online mode: A study of techno-pedagogical knowledge development in teachers', 'Digital literacy as a challenge for students to attend online classes during COVID-19 pandemic: A critical analysis', and 'Online science teaching and learning among children during COVID-19 pandemic' bring out varied aspects of digitisation in teaching-learning in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Part-I of the article 'An introduction to immune system with special focus on vaccines for SARS-CoV-2' provides a broad idea of the various aspects of the immune system, such as what pathogens do to our body and how our immune system is working. Part II of this article deals with vaccines, vaccine design, how vaccines are developed and how they provide immunity to specific diseases, especially in the context of the coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2.

In addition to the articles, this issue also contains interesting findings and developments in different areas of science that are covered in Science News.

As always, we welcome your valuable suggestions. Happy reading and happy learning!