

## EDITORIAL

The current issue of School Science journal includes articles and research studies from different disciplines.

The article, 'A Critical Reflection on the Sequencing of Content Related to the Concept of Ion in Class IX Science NCERT Textbook', is based on an action research, in which the author critically reflects on the sequencing of concepts related to the topic ion. An attempt to present an alternate sequence for the content presentation is made by the author, which may be considered by curriculum developers.

Plants are sources of various essential oils and other compounds which have numerous health benefits. Hence, instead of relying on chemicals which are synthesised, different plants are being explored for their utility as nutraceutical agents. In the article, 'GC-MS Analysis of Essential Oil of *Artemisia Annua* and Biological Activities of its Extracts', the authors investigated the chemical composition, antioxidant and antimicrobial activity of essential oil and different extracts of *A. annua*. The findings suggest that this plant can be a useful raw material for development of nutraceutical agents due to the presence of various secondary metabolites.

As in all other fields, the application of artificial intelligence (AI) is being heavily explored in the field of education. 'Artificial Intelligence in Vocational Education and Training: A Critical Analysis', is an article that aims to critically analyse the role of AI in VET, highlighting its potential benefits and drawbacks. It explores how AI can enhance the learning experience of students. It also argues that the integration of AI in VET must

be done with caution, keeping in view its adverse effects.

The article titled, 'An Analysis of the National Curriculum Framework for School Education 2023 in Context of Environmental Education', focuses on how Environmental Education (EE) has been envisaged to be implemented in the school curriculum by bringing out the highlights of the National Curriculum Framework for School Education 2023. The article proposes a framework for Environmental Education (EE) which has been modified from the one presented in the NCF-SE 2023. It focuses on the curricular goals and competencies in a more holistic and simple form, from the point of view of the stakeholders.

In the article, 'Effect of Concept Mapping Approach on Scientific Attitude and Achievement in Science Among Students with Special Needs', the authors test the effectiveness of the use of concept mapping as a pedagogical tool for development of scientific aptitude and achievement among students with special needs. A two group, pre-test or post-test, quasi-experimental design was employed for conducting this research study.

In addition to the articles, this issue also contains pathbreaking research findings in different fields of science which have been picked from Science News.

We sincerely hope that our readers will find the content of this issue interesting and informative. Your valuable suggestions, observations and comments are always welcome to bring further improvement in the quality of the journal.

Happy reading!

