

स्त्रीएसआईआर — राष्ट्रीय विज्ञान संचार एवं सूचना स्रोत संस्थान CSIR - National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources वैज्ञानिक एवं औद्योगिक अनुसंधान परिषद् Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार Ministry of Science & Technology, Govt. of India)



प्रो. रंजना अग्रवाल Prof. Ranjana Aggarwal

> निदेशक Director

Director's Message

With a rich history of over six decades, CSIR-NISCAIR today has a leadership position in the area of scholarly and public communication of science and technology. It has assumed the status of the largest institute engaged in science communication in the country and perhaps the only institution of its kind in Asia.

CSIR-NISCAIR has carved out a niche for itself over the period by bringing out 19 peer-reviewed research journals covering major disciplines of science and technology. Realizing that for knowledge to be really useful it needs to be communicated and disseminated to the masses in a language that is easy to understand. CSIR-NISCAIR has also tremendously contributed towards it by publishing 'Indian Journal of Traditional Knowledge' (IJTK) and other scientific Journals in various disciplines. CSIR-NISCAIR's monumental encyclopaedic series Wealth of India, covers India's all raw material resources, be it plant, animal or mineral. It is a ready reckoner for researchers, entrepreneurs, plant-based industrialists, policymakers and science enthusiasts.

In the present Special Issue of IJTK devoted to Traditional Knowledge in combating war against COVID-19, many reputed scientists of the country have contributed their experiences in mitigating the pandemic through Ayurveda & Unani medicine systems. This issue represents 5 sections viz., Ayush, Pharmacology/Ethnomedicine, Food Science & Nutrition, Agriculture and Others containing 20 research and review articles from various experts of the country.

A crusader for science communication in the country, CSIR-NISCAIR embraces a wide spectrum of stakeholders ranging from students and teachers to scientists and professionals, from civic and statutory bodies to decision-makers and policymakers, from industries and research institutions to even farmers and laymen. Since India has exhibited high recovery rate and low mortality rate as compared to other nations therefore India may play a very pivotal role in highlighting the importance of Traditional Knowledge in enhanced immunity to combat COVID-19. I believe that with this Special Issue once again CSIR-NISCAIR shows the importance of Indian pharmacopeia and traditional knowledge in combating COVID-19.

My sincere thanks to all the concerned departments and organizations for supporting the research efforts of CSIR-NISCAIR. It is my privilege to express my gratitude to members of our Advisory Committee for their support & guidance. I take this opportunity to thank all scientists, editors, referees and other staff members of CSIR- NISCAIR for their commitment to this unique organization.

(Dr Ranjana Aggarwal) Director

CSIR-National Institute of Science

Communication and Information Resources

New Delhi-110 012