



Dr. K.R. Sridhar

EDITORIAL

I am extremely happy to write this editorial on behalf of the news letter GREEN HORIZON launched by the Yenepoya University, which is dedicated for environmental issues. The environmental issues occupy centre stage in the life of everyone of us and every biological entity on this earth. The humble attempt is to focus environmental issues through this new letter like tree talk, art, Gaia insight, Earthshot, photo gallery and so on. The first and foremost task was initiated with Gandhiji and environment by Sri Mahesh Nayak to link environmental concerns of Mahatma through his way of life. Gandhiji always insisted upliftment of villages (Rama Rajya) for self sufficient in terms of holistic development of the country. Dr. Niveditha Rao explained her experiences (pleasures and miseries) with nature and projected human interference in tree life, struggle of trees and other life systems around us. Likewise the fascinating world of mushrooms, relationship of cancer to the environment, a cross section of early and present day environmental issues, change in climate and poems offered feelings towards environment and mother earth are the other items of interest for nature lovers. The section ARTACACIA projects beautiful artistic features of environment and environmental hazards. Under the Gaia insight, current issues like havocs caused by corona virus, gas leak in Visakhapatnam, forest fires and tiger conservation are the prime issues. The Earthshot presents the beauty of our environment, which we miss in our busy schedule as well as lifestyle. I appreciate all the contributors and editorial committee for their excellent cooperation.

There are plenty of avenues and new opportunities to nurture the nature towards prolife, provided we start thinking and working towards green space, which is inevitable to all of us. The green space is foreseeable for our survival from home to the forest. Human greediness resulted in human-wildlife conflicts and inhuman activities like killing animals without mercy has become a fashion. Who are we to trouble or eliminate an organism on this earth? Who authorized us to do so on the cost of environment and wildlife? In the history of life, does the theories "*Struggle for Existence and Survival of the Fittest*" proposed by Darwin really applicable? But, nature is constantly experimenting with biological diversity (there are five catastrophic decline of biodiversity in the history of earth). Those species do not support the environment or normal environmental functions will be certainly discarded from the sphere of earth. If so, the *Homo sapiens* will be eliminated from the earth similar to the extinction of dinosaurs, Neanderthals (*Homo neanderthalensis*) and *Ramapithecus*. Whatever progress we made on curing cancers, we learnt more about its ill effects than complete elimination. Two articles in this issue of news letter focused on the pandemic Corona virus and "Insist we are sapiens - Before extinction" cautioned directly ill side of human interference on environment.

The current year 2020 is within the International decade of Biodiversity. Let the newsletter GREEN HORIZON links biodiversity to the next decade and bring environmental wellness to enjoy human wellness.
