



## EDITORIAL

The world is going through a very tough phase. Almost no country could escape the impact of COVID-19 pandemic. And the worse part is that we still don't know how long it will continue and how much impact it is actually having and what its aftereffect will be.

Earlier in this year, many claims were made regarding the possibility of finding a vaccine very soon. But, as of now, the good news has not come. While it is very necessary to be optimistic, this situation has also, somehow, exposed our shortcomings. Is it because our work culture has changed from what it used to be 80 years ago? I mentioned 80 years because during that time USA in its Manhattan Project could make an atom bomb (though I don't support destructive use of nuclear power) in an unimaginably short time, without any computer and without any sophisticated laboratory. To put this in other words, under the same circumstance, i.e., same level of infrastructural development and same level of available knowledge, can USA come up with an atom bomb now, within that short time? Answer is probably "No". Is it because the success of Manhattan project was only a matter of mere chance? But it's not only this Manhattan project, there are a number such examples from that period of time. Is it because the time was that of world wars and these researches were crucial necessities? May be yes, considering that fact that human beings come up with innovations under stress and difficult times. But the current situation is also a very difficult time for the human race. Then, why are we not succeeding now, although we succeeded in similar situations earlier even with limited knowledge and limited infrastructure? May be what I said in the beginning regarding our work culture is true. We need to retrospect.

Nevertheless, I must say that everything is transient and this pandemic is not an exception to this truth. We shall again have normal life. May be by the time it goes away it would teach many lessons to us to become a better race.

I am happy that the current issue of JAFS could come on time in spite of the difficulties due to the said COVID-19 pandemic. It contains many selected articles from a recent conference, Trends in Modern Physics 2020.

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