

through it. After the function, when everybody had left he asked me whether I could publish a journal for ISSA and he also told me that ISSA had a journal but it was closed down because of lack of funds. I told him that I am just an ordinary lecturer from an under-graduate college and there are many professors in the universities and he could approach them. Pat came the reply, "Richard universities are dead and there are only a few lecturers like you in under-graduate colleges who can do it". Then I told him that if he had so much faith in me, I would do it. Then he thanked me and promised Rs 20,000/- as the seed money to start the journal.

The conference in Mangalore was a great success with 350 people attending it. In 2004, the ISSA conference was organised in Sagar, Madhya Pradesh. I too attended the conference. In the General Body meeting of ISSA Prof. Prasad announced that ISSA is going to start a research journal and I was made the Managing Editor of the journal. Of course, the Professors from the universities were not happy about it. The same evening while going for a walk, a Professor from Bhubaneswar directly asked me, you are only a under-graduate lecturer and how is that you are given the responsibility of editing a journal. I immediately replied that Prof. Rajeshwar Prasad knows my capacity and that is why he has given me the job.

After returning to Mangalore, I started with the work of the journal. First, I wrote to the Newspaper General of India, New Delhi and we got the title 'Social Science Gazetteer'. My job was easy because after every conference, Prof. Rajeshwar Prasad used to give me the bundle of papers presented in the conference and I had to select the best papers for publication. He also approached his past students and well wishers and both of us collected sufficient money for the journal. This went on for five years. In the mean time I also applied for ISSN number for the journal and I got it. But, after five years as few conferences were organised, I had to reduce the frequency of the journal by combining two issues which I am still continuing. With the death of Prof. Prasad, we had to select a right person to be the Chief Editor of the journal and convinced the office bearers to request Prof. Brij Mohan from the US to be the Chief Editor and he, being a student of Prof. Prasad, willingly agreed. Again,

the problem of getting quality articles continued. Then, I started getting prize winning papers which were presented in the Young Social Scientist Award competition. Though some were good, others were not and I tried to edit them and requested the prize winners to change some parts or carry out the corrections. But, some were not co-operative.

So, after bringing out Social Science Gazetteer for 15 years, I have decided to say good bye. I am happy to note that the Management of ISSA has requested Prof. Ashish Saxena from Allahabad to take up the job of Managing Editor and he has accepted the same. I thank Prof Brij Mohan (Editor), V. Basil Hans (Assistant Editor, Abhinay Prasad (Book Review Editor) and all the members of the Editorial Board for their cooperation. I specially thank Dr Suman Tyagi from Australia for sponsoring three issues of Social Science Gazetteer. I also thank Prof. Palatty (former Assistant Editor) for his painstaking editing. I wish Prof. Ashish Saxena and the members of the future Editorial Board all the best.

As this is the last volume being edited under my care, I wanted it to be special. We have not heard about such a pandemic as Covid-19 in our life time. Yet, people have somehow adjusted to this pandemic. So, I initiated a special issue on Covid-19 where all the articles are on Covid-19 and its consequences. In fact, there is dearth of research both in the medical and social field on Covid-19 pandemic. We, the members of Indian Social Science Association and others have attempted to study the social consequences of Covid-19 pandemic by studying its various aspects and thus create literature on it. I thank all the contributors.

In the first article, Richard Pais examines the effect of Covid-19 on Indian society. The article by Sumit Saurabh Srivastava delineates the short and long term impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic across the public and private spheres of the people's lives. Gerard Rassendren and V. Basil Hans put forward their reflections on the impact of Covid-19. The article by Vinay Rajath D. focuses on the impact of Covid-19 on family relations. Finally, Jayavantha Nayak examines the economic impact of Covid-19 pandemic.

Richard Pais
Managing Editor