

EDITORIAL

The shadow of the pandemic left its mark on our various activities, on life in general and certainly on the academia; its retreat too, has cast another type of shadow which people call the ‘new normal’; we note sadly that it is the ever-problematic normal, that gets redefined. To come out of such shadows is even more of a challenge for a journal centred around disability and run partly by disabled people. On top of all this, the pressure put by the various administrative machineries has been relentless, leaving us reeling under its weight.

Due to such real causes, the publication of this volume took more time than scheduled. Due to an inordinate delay in administrative requirements and in receiving reviews on time, we have decided to publish this combined issue — the papers and reviews included in this volume make the issues 1.2 (from July/ August 2021) *and* issue number 2.1 (from January/ February 2022). The next issue (2.2), for obvious reasons, is therefore delayed too and is likely to be published by October, 2022. However, starting 2023, we hope the various shadows, administrative or otherwise, will retreat and will allow us to grow at our own pace.

The three main articles in this combined issue travel a wide range of issues and constituencies, ranging from construction of disability experience by women with locomotor disability in Assam, to Gujarati short stories that render their female protagonist disabled, to the connection between dyslexia and English learning in London. The two provocation pieces take up the role of disabled students in protest demonstration and how must a language issue look when we take the language of disability seriously.

Staying close to literature and culture, the reviews present characterisation of disability in literature and films, the latter, in fact from two slightly differing perspectives: a disability film festival from the ‘eyes’ of a disabled and non-disabled person.

Unlike the first issue, however, we are not able to carry a Commentary section jotted with comments and interpretations from our members on important disability related articles, a dissection in the style of the *CDSI* (Critical Disability Studies in India) reading group—the force behind the birth of this journal.

Tanmoy Bhattacharya & Anita Ghai

