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The COVID-19 scenario continues to get grimmer as researchers continue to discover new strains of COVID-19. Simultaneously, the vaccination drive has gained some momentum. Yet experts claim it would be long before the ongoing COVID threat is normalized. WHO did produce a report this March which did not fully uncover the virus's origin but called a lab leak "unlikely". Understanding the gravity of the situation, the current US administration has taken a renewed interest in strengthening and redoubling efforts to trace its origin. As researchers have pointed out the inability to understand the origins of COVID-19 would put the world at risk of future outbreaks. Dr Anand V., in this edition, has articulated "Pervasive Geopolitics, Elusive Science: The Quest for the Origins of SARS CoV-2" which provides insights into the investigation done by the WHO and the current geopolitical clout regarding COVID-19's origin.

Furthermore, Dr Malcolm Dando & et al. highlighted the importance of engaging the life science community for articulating an aspirational (ethical) code under the BTWC in a more detailed manner within national and professional settings. Despite the existence of several mechanisms and frameworks that regulate the use and production of CBWs, they continue to exist and pose risk to environmental and human health. In this context, the article "Unprecedented Environmental impacts of Chemical and Biological Warfare," by Dr Dhanasree Jayaram and Ms Yashaswini Patel attempts to analyse the environmental implications of chemical and biological warfare, by delving into historical examples, and providing an overview of futuristic implications from an environmental point of view. Technology, that has been used to combat the deadly outbreak could also become the source to unleash bio-warfare – the so called dual edged sword. In this regard, Ms Utkarsha Mahajan has noted the role of IoT and the future risks and prospects of this technology. This issue also comprises other features like Chemical and Biological News. With our readers' feedback, we wish to publish issues in the future that focus on a subject of particular concern. Contributions and feedback are welcome and can be addressed to: cbwmagazineeditor@gmail.com.