

*Contemporary Issues and Ideas in Social Sciences*

*January 2005*

From the Managing Editors

The journal is commencing with five items: three papers, a note and a book review. The papers are on diverse topics. The first by Dasgupta looks at the question of equilibrium in models where prospective buyers search among monopolistically competitive firms; a departure from the classic result is established. The second paper by Kundu is concerned with delineating the scope and content of right to education when it is viewed as a human right. The paper by Majumdar examines the idea of rationality in a context, more general than that of the usual one of fixed preferences, where the individual has preferences over different possible kinds of preferences that she or he could have in the future. In the Note Section, there is a contribution from Mukherji wherein he looks at the connection between the existence of competitive equilibrium and a fixed point theorem and demonstrates how existing arguments may be adapted to yield an equivalence result establishing the fact that the existence of a competitive equilibrium is essentially a non-trivial proposition. The Book Review Section contains a review by Sanyal of "A History of Capitalism: 1500-2000 by Michel Beaud. The book is an

Indian reprint of a well-known work.

The CISS would like to thank all those who have made it possible for the journal to commence. Special thanks are due to all those who submitted papers and to the referees. We hope that in the coming months this journal would be able to provide a much-needed forum for dissemination and evaluation of ideas.