

Conference From Home (CFH) – A glorious debut

The corona scourge in its lethal 2nd wave
Pushed the 79th AIOC to a very close shave
February deadline shaken by its ruthless 'behave'
On-again,off-again; in yo-yo our cherished conclave

With fortitude, they declared a virtual meet
Taking up cudgels with gusto & ready to beat
the adversity upon us – an indomitable, resolute feat
A sanguine,yet,untested idea of our 'scientific fleet'

Misgivings galore that it would be tough
Yet, Partha et.al – made of sterner stuff
Stuck to their guns to navigate a terrain so rough
An uncharted path replete with huff & puff

Leveraging technology to its utmost hilt
The scientific programme in a new avatar rebuilt
A clarion call for the show with confidence in-built
Fully geared up, never a hint of any wilt

And so began the spectacle on subspecialty day
All hiccups well & truly kept at bay
Delegates up & about even without a hallway!
Logging in from homes & workplaces with added leeway

A central war room swamped with myriad laptops
At everyone's beck & call, they pulled out all stops
25 eponymous halls tethered with internet props
Photography, paintings,cultural shows as backdrops

An 'in-effect' replica of the real conference room
Folks muted & unmuted in (on) full 'zoom'!
Intangibles morphing into many a tangible plume
Evey presentation coming alive in utter bloom

The 'treaters' of CVS (computer vision syndrome) got it themselves!!
After hours & days on the VDU screens ourselves
Weaving in & out of newfound realms
The shoe now on the other foot with hard-core delves

Wroom of engines,a child's cry, a hawkers call as 'background score'
Discussions, deliberations enjoyable to the core

A history of sorts brought to the fore
Everyone indulging & asking for more

An occasional presentation choppy from spotty internet
Yet in the prevailing scenario, Virtual- the best bet
A 'real' treat with new & lofty standards set
Game, set & Match for the organisers' sweat

Let's raise a toast to Partha & his retinue
For leading us all in a spanky new avenue
No praise too high for their toil & 'pursue'
This trailblazer may well be a new model to ensue

Dr. K. S. Kumar
Bengaluru (27th June 2021)

A 'Bandish' in Raag Lalith

Spare a thought for the force behind it all
Planning the program in every single hall
Answering every delegates query & call
Once couldn't help admiring his
gumption even in a pall.

Rummaging through tons of scientific abstract
Having his evaluators sift & subtract
In order that only the very best he could
attract
From his steadfast focus, he'd never detract.

Slotting thousands of speakers to their time & Place
Racking his brains for last-minute dropouts to replace
Yet trying to retain the
Programs' sheen & glaze
Many were the headaches, but he kept up the pace.

Always on his toes, an unenviable job of multitask
Dealing with huge numbers indeed a very big ask
Chairman, third umpire, watchdog-he 'd
to wear many a mask
At the end of it all, he 'd triumph & bask.

He 'd to be in many halls all at once
Yet he managed to hop, skip & bounce
Cool as a cucumber, agitated not an ounce
Amidst other assignments he 'd
awards to announce.

Year after year he kept up the Scientific culture
Peering thru' every detail like a keen vulture
Ensuring there wasn't the tiniest puncture
Adroitly steering clear of anybody's censure.

To pander to everyone's whim, fancy or ego
Or from deftly averting a friend turning foe
Was always a matter of touch & go
He ' d buckle or bow but kept away from a row

Everyone marvelled at his organizational skill Marshalling his resources & ready for the
annual drill

Of AIOC which was filled with Science, fun &
thrill

It seemed novel every year-never run of the mill

Now in his last lap, he ' d love a swansong

His name resonating with raag Lalith

& his surname nearly rhyming with warm (er) Yes, dear Lalith Verma, you have been to
AIOS Eyes- a real Surma !

Indore : We were all left asking for more

The 77th AIOC in the clean city of Indore

Was really the stuff of conference folklore

That brought the organisers' effort to the fore Exquisitely enjoyable to the very core.

Held at the Brilliant convention center

Halls A-Q studded with many a lecture A truly glorious scientific
adventure It turned out to be no ordinary venture.

The LOC left no stone unturned

Attention to every detail at no time spurned

A fare delectable & everyone's goodwill earned A lesson on hospitality-they 'd so
well learned.

Their large hearts matched by the delegates' bag

About which every guest couldn't help but brag

All round help & guidance-no room for any lag

The whole event sailing sans a snag

The Inaugural laser show- a star attraction

Dinners, banquet & street foods adding to the celebration Preview rooms, audio-visuals to
everyone's satisfaction Everyone treated with utmost affection.

Toothsome cuisine indeed so delicious

Sheer variety both sumptuous & scrumptious

Scientific deliberations no less precious The sideshows & entertainment wholly
prodigious

Missed a meal ? No worry at all!
Tea, biscuits & snacks in between every hall Pampered & spoilt, all guests had a ball
What with the LOC at our every beck & call!

Their labour & industry too very palpable
Execution of plans near unbeatable
Indore was not just clean, even lovable
Every host-so kind & warmly affable

When can their glories ever fade
Oh! The excellent fare & fair they made
Kudos to the Indore LOC brigade
For leaving a memory that 'll never fade