

Comments of Readers

2021 is exiting and 2022 is about to enter. So, adieu to one, and welcome to the other.

We all have had a mixed kind of experiences in 2021 and we may have our

hopes and apprehensions about 2022.

The Indian Panorama decided to reach out to readers to have their comment on what impacted them the

most in 2021, and what concerns them

the most in 2022.

We are glad that the response has been quite enthusiastic; we received comments from as many as 15 readers of The Indian Panorama.

So, here we go with their comment. Please note we have not edited any, and, as such, the editorial board may please not be held responsible for the mistakes, if any.

We thank the readers for their time and love, and wish them a Happy New Year.

EDITORIAL BOARD



ASHOOK RAMSARAN
PRESIDENT, INDIAN
DIASPORA COUNCIL
INTERNATIONAL, NEW YORK

IMPACTFUL ISSUE OF YEAR 2021 AND PRIMARY CONCERN FOR 2022 - BY ASHOOK RAMSARAN

Most impactful issue of 2021: The continuing spread, unknown trajectory and devastating effects of Covid-19 and its variants, inequity of Covid-19 vaccines globally and the tremendous impact on the lives and livelihoods of millions of people worldwide. The unexpected toll globally in 2021 has been hugely impactful: The unprecedented numbers of those who died, got infected, were physically and mentally affected, displaced, lost their jobs and loved ones, and experienced inordinate disruption in their way of life. Disproportionately affected were front line medical, emergency food industry workers, the poor, and working parents. Covid-19 induced poverty increased by over 100 million people worldwide. Business, travel, education and purchasing of food and goods changed dramatically in ways never before imagined. While technology allowed some sectors to continue at reduced levels, the untold consequences will have long lasting impact into the future.

Issue of primary concern in 2022: The continuing devastating effects of global climate change with continued resistance to taking necessary steps to reverse the trend and save our planet. While promises are made and broken, there is absence of a coherent strategy and global leadership on the dire impact of changing climatic conditions due to mankind's adverse influence on the environment. Developed and developing countries, as well as business self-interest, have largely failed to acknowledge science and physical changes taking place: unprecedented levels of pollution, global temperature rise, floods and droughts, forest fires, hurricanes, tornadoes and storms, increasing respiratory problems among all ages, availability of healthy foods, water and air. Climate changes will affect everyone's lives and livelihood in unprecedented ways.