



Chairman's Message

I have great pleasure in handing over this book of proceeding of the seminar to you. The college has been organizing National Seminars on various subjects, which help students and teachers, not only to enrich their knowledge, but to broaden their approach to life itself. It makes process of education enjoyable and creative.

The subject chosen for this year's seminar is very relevant today. Indian Philosophical tradition is ancient but not 'old'. It is not speculative and it differs distinctly from Western philosophy on many accounts. It encompasses the whole human existence. It has given birth to massive literature. Indian positive sciences and arts, both fine and performing, are deeply rooted in this tradition.

No wonder it has attracted and inspired many scientist and thinkers of the West. Schrodinger, Openheimer, Heisenberg and David Bohm, all great scientists, who are the architect of modern Western science, have openly appreciated and accepted the debt of Indian philosophical principles in inspiring their thought process. They did not stop at the level of appreciation but posed many awkward questions. David Bohm published his famous book *Wholeness and the Implicit Order* in the year 1980. The book is thought provoking, highly critical of Western Philosophy and appreciative of Eastern Philosophy. At one stage he asks boldly:

“Why then do we not drop our fragmentary Western approach and adopt these Eastern notions which include not only a self world view that denies division and fragmentation but also techniques of meditation that lead the whole process of mental operation non-verbally to the sort of quite state of orderly and smooth flow needed to end fragmentation both in the actual process of thought and in its content?”

Such examples are numerous.

What was relevant in the 20th century is more relevant today. We Indians need to learn and unlearn more of our rich tradition than West. India is dreaming to lead the world economically. If this dream is to be achieving, we should arise from our amnesia and appreciate the strength of our Philosophical moorings. I am sure the proceedings of this seminar will throw light on many dark corners and we would be richer in knowledge by the end of the day.

Thanking you,

Vijay Bedekar
Chairman,
Vidya Prasarak Mandal.