

Chairman's Messsage

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

This year we are having an International Seminar on 'Mind, Brain and Consciousness', which is very interesting, relevant, and of concern to philosophers, psychologists, psychiatrists and neuroscientists. As also all of us. Classical and modern philosophical concepts of mind and consciousness will be discussed along with evidential findings from the various neurosciences, including psychiatry/neurology, neurobiology, neuropsychology and neurophysiology.

India has something special to say about mind, soul, consciousness, pure-consciousness and Absolute consciousness. This needs serious and systematic enquiry, and exposition. I hope this seminar takes note of this.

I am sure, if all these different theories are understood and discussed properly, a new branch of knowledge will evolve which is definitely going to help future researchers, and mankind itself.

I congratulate the Dept. of Philosophy in particular, and Joshi-Bedekar College in general, on selecting such an interesting topic. I also welcome all the delegates and speakers who have come from all over the country and abroad.

I also wish to thank our co-sponsors, the *Mens Sana Monographs*, the World Psychiatric Association, and the Indian Council of Philosophical Research who have so kindly associated with us in organizing this seminar. My thanks also to all our eminent keynote and plenary session speakers. Special thanks to Dr Ajai R. Singh who has been very helpful all through in organizing this Seminar.

I wish the seminar all success.

Vijay Bedekar Chairman, Vidya Prasarak Mandal, Thane