From the Desk of Editor-in-Chief

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JICPR publishes articles of high standard relating to the subject of Philosophy. Philosophizing is critical thinking. In the present volume we have included articles entitled “Critical thinking and Epistemic Responsibility Revisited” by Surajit Barua. Critical thinking is important both from a Philosophical and Pragmatic point of view. The second article is titled “Downward Causation in Self-Organizing Systems: problem of Self-Causation” by Ganesh Bharate and A.V. Ravishankar Sarma. Cause constraints are termed as “Downward Causation”. The third article is entitled “A study on the Concept of ‘Māyā’ in Kashmir Śivādvayavādi Darśan” by Sukanya Boruah. It attempts to streamline the concept of Māyā in Trika Philosophy. The Śaiva philosophy of Kashmir is called “Trika Śāstra”. Dr. Soma Chakraborty outlines that Bhāṭṭa Mīmāṃsakas and Advaita Vedāntins recognize abhāva or anupalabdhi (non-apprehension) as an independent source of knowledge. Sri Sheel Kamal Chaurasia asserts in his article “Ānando Brahmeti Vyajānāt” that the nature of self is ever-blissful. Chandana Deka and V. Prabhu have tried to show that Rorty has been criticized for his pragmatic rationality. The title of the paper is “A Study in the Context of Rorty’s Private/Public Sphere’s Debate”. According to pragmatic rationality, religious belief can be rationally acceptable. Aakash Guglani in his article “Mental Causation-Problems and Buddhist Response” attempts to say that there is a mind or there are “mental states”. He provides the debate between Advaita Vedānta and Abhidharma Buddhism. He depicts the tension between enduring self and self-less stream of consciousness. A.K. Jayesh in his article “On Philosophy” demonstrates that philosophical question, unreflectively pursued, leads to contradictions. He has worked out reasoning employed by the Buddhist philosopher Nāgārjuna. The article entitled “Rights vis-à-vis Duties and Contemporary Human Rights Debate” By Abhishek Kumar and Sudhir Singh upholds that most of the philosophers conceive rights either as a claim against the state or an obligation upon the state. Progress and changing arrangement of systems complicate the status of philosophical theory of rights propounded at a particular time. The paper evaluates the notion of abstract universalism of individual rights in the light of Gandhian notion of duty. The paper entitled “A Case for Theorizing Relevance: A New Entry Point to Indian

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Classical Political Philosophy attempts to understand Indian classical Political Philosophy”. Prasasti Pandit in his article tries to suggest a more credible form of the Principle of Beneficence. The author finds that beneficence lies within the very essence of humanity. Human beings are superior to other creatures in the world due to rationality. Some of the other articles deal with Gandhi, Ashtanga Yoga, Social Relations, Human Structure, and Free Will. All articles incorporated in the JICPR have been duly reviewed by experts. Papers are of different nature but a common thread of critical thinking is running throughout this volume. Philosophizing is a process which flourishes in critical thinking.

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