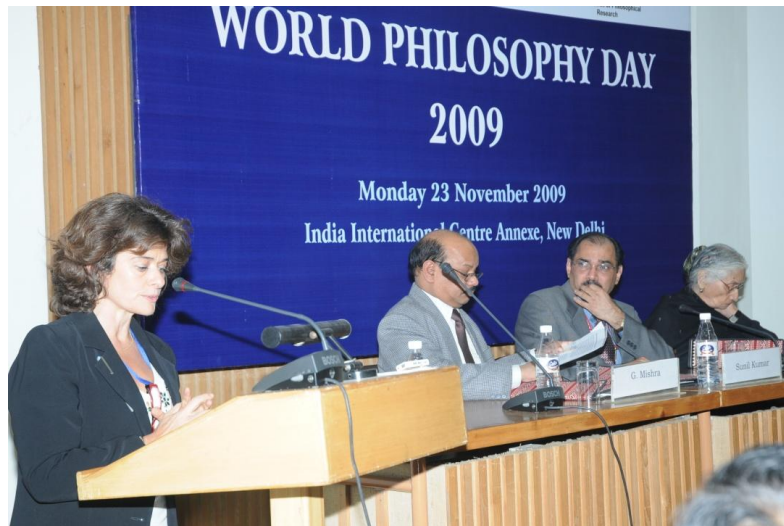


## REPORT

### Main Programme Held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2009 at IIC, New Delhi

Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi this year celebrated the World Philosophy Day in Collaboration with UNESCO, New Delhi Office. In fact since 2002, UNESCO has been celebrating World Philosophy Day as a forum for reflection which aims at promoting and popularizing Philosophy. This celebration, jointly organized by UNESCO and the Indian Council for Philosophical Research (ICPR), wishes to highlight the contribution of Indian philosophy and Indian philosophers and thinkers to the overall promotion of philosophical thinking and research and to popularize philosophical concepts.



Ms. M. Faetanini, Programme Specialist, UNESCO New Delhi, Speaking while on the dais from right Dr. Kapila Vatsyayan, *Director, Asia Project, India International Centre*, Shri Sunil Kumar, *Joint Secretary, Ministry of HRD* and Prof. G. Mishra *Member Secretary, ICPR*

The main programme held at 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2009 India International Centre Annexe, New Delhi. Shri Sunil Kumar, *Joint Secretary, Ministry of HRD* was the Chief Guest and Dr. Kapila Vatsyayan, *Director, Asia Project, India International Centre* presided over the function. There were two Round Tables held on: *Teaching and Learning Philosophy and Philosophy for the Future*. The first session of the programme started at 2.00pm - 2.30pm

and was Chaired and Moderated by Smt. Kapila Vatsyayan, Director, Asia Project, India International Centre, Prof. G. Mishra, Member Secretary, ICPR, New Delhi and Ms. M. Faetanini, Programme Specialist, Social and Human Sciences, UNESCO New Delhi gave the Welcome and Introduction address. She expressed the UNESCO view over philosophy as - The necessity of a Philosophy Programme at UNESCO was underscored from the very inception of the Organisation. One of the tasks proposed for UNESCO in 1946 by the Preparatory Commission of the first General Conference of that year was for a Philosophy Programme to “imbue the public mind with a certain number of philosophical and moral notions to be regarded as a minimum equipment, and which are calculated to reinforce respect for human personality, love for peace, hatred for narrow nationalism and the rule of brute force, solidarity, and devotion to the ideal of culture.”

There were two Round Table Programme also held. The first Round Table was on **“Teaching and Learning Philosophy”** It was Co-ordinator by Deepa Nag Haksar and participants speakers were Prof. Srinivasa Rao, National Fellow, ICPR and Dr. Ranjit Nair, Chairman Institute of Philosophy and Science. Second Round Table held on the theme **“Philosophy for the Future”** and Co-ordinated by Prof. Bhagat Oinam, JNU and participated by Prof. Douglas Allen, USA and Dr. Vandana Shiva, Mr. Armoogam Parsuraman, Director, UNESCO, New Delhi office also spoke about the *Planning for the Future*. The programme ended by the Vote of Thanks given by Dr. Mercy Helen, Director (P&R), ICPR

The Expected outcomes of this celebration programme were 1. Consolidation of annual celebration of World Philosophy Day in India, 2. Revitalised cooperation between UNESCO and Indian philosophical networks, and 3. Preparation for World Philosophy Day 2010 (Possible topics for discussion, Partnerships, Events etc.)

