

## Preface

The 58<sup>th</sup> Symposium on Nuclear Physics will be held this year as an International event at Mumbai during Dec. 2-6, 2013. This annual event has been instrumental in setting up a tradition for research in nuclear physics in particular, and basic sciences in general in our country. Over the years, the symposium has given birth to various other symposia and conferences in different subjects like solid state physics, accelerator physics, etc. Research in nuclear physics gained enormously when the Pelletron accelerator was set up by Bhabha Atomic Research Centre and Tata Institute of Fundamental Research. This year marks the Silver Jubilee of this accelerator, and we celebrate it during the Symposium. It is heartening to experience the enthusiasm expressed by the plenary speakers who readily accepted to travel and present their important work here. In all, the participants are from 11 countries and 17 states of India, a total touching five hundred.

There has been a quantum jump during last year in the number of contributions – this has crossed five hundred this year. There will be 35 plenary talks of half an hour duration, 480 contributed papers (posters), and 19 theses. On Dec. 1, 2013, there will be an Orientation Programme where pedagogical lectures will be delivered by Professors Martin Freer, Timo Lähde, and Bhartendu Singh. We are very grateful to them for this important contribution to our Symposium.

We thank the Board of Research in Nuclear Sciences, Department of Atomic Energy, for funding the Symposium generously. We are grateful to Dr R. K. Sinha (Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission) and Shri Sekhar Basu (Director, BARC) for their support. The venue of the Symposium will be Nabhikiya Urja Bhawan Auditorium, NPCIL (Dec. 2-5), and, Homi Bhabha Auditorium, TIFR (Dec. 6). We are grateful to Shri K. C. Purohit, CMD, NPCIL to provide the wonderful infrastructure at NPCIL to us. Professor Mustansir Barma, Director, TIFR has always encouraged and supported us and we remain grateful to him. We acknowledge the fruitful suggestions given by the members of the Organizing Committee and the International Advisory Committee.

The plenary talks will appear in a special issue of Pramana-Journal of Physics, published by the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore. We are grateful to the Editorial Board for this.

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