## Editorial

It is with immense pleasure that I present the second volume of our esteemed journal, a platform dedicated to advancing the frontiers of knowledge and fostering scholarly dialogue. This volume shows the commitment of the Faculty of Education, Dayalbagh Educational Institute (DEI), to excellence in research and innovation, reflecting the evolving landscape of education and allied disciplines.

DEI has always emphasized research that bridges theory with practice, addressing contemporary challenges while aligning with sustainable and futuristic goals. The institute's thrust areas of research — Agroecology-cum-Precision Farming, Consciousness Studies, and Entrepreneurship — showcase our interdisciplinary approach to innovation. The Faculty of Education, in particular, takes pride in advancing research in Innovations in Pedagogy, Emerging Technologies in Education, and Holistic Education, ensuring the transformation of educational practices for the betterment of society.

This journal aims to provide an accessible and inclusive platform for researchers to share their innovative work, while offering readers unrestricted access to quality academic content. The spectrum of articles covered in this volume reflects a rich diversity of themes. These range from gender equality in university practices and equitable access to quality education, to the psychological toll of the COVID-19 crisis and the digitalization of learning assessments. Notably, studies explore the role of belief in a just world and achievement motivation as predictors of happiness among university students, while a comparative analysis highlights pre-service and inservice teachers' awareness of expected learning outcomes. Additionally, innovative research demonstrates the impact of statistical-based interactive instructional materials on mental imagery and academic achievement among higher secondary students. Together, these articles offer critical insights into the challenges and opportunities shaping the fields of education, psychological, and educational landscapes.

I express my gratitude to the contributors whose efforts enrich the pages of this volume. To our reviewers and editorial team, your dedication ensures the journal maintains its high academic standards. Finally, to our readers, I invite you to engage with the articles, explore new ideas, and participate in the ever-expanding discourse that shapes the future of education and allied fields.

Let us continue to learn, innovate, and inspire.

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**Prof. Sona Ahuja** Chief Editor

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