

Preface

As convener of the IX International Congress of the Jurassic System and co-editor of this volume of *Volumina Jurassica* containing proceedings of the Congress, I feel proud and privileged to write this foreword. At the outset, I would like to sincerely thank Professor Franz T. Fürsich (Erlangen) for inspiring and supporting me both morally and academically, Dr. Matthias Alberti (Kiel) who always stood by for any help in editing and preparing the field guides of the Kachchh and Jaisalmer basins. I deeply thank all the participants who attended the IX International Congress of the Jurassic System held in Jaipur, January 6–9, 2014, the pre-congress fieldtrip in the Kachchh Basin from December 29, 2013 to January 4, 2014 and the post-congress fieldtrip to the Jaisalmer Basin, January 11–14, 2014.

I would also like to thank the University of Rajasthan, Jaipur and all the members of the Organising Committee including the geology students whose whole-hearted support was instrumental in conducting the congress smoothly and successfully. In fact, the success of any congress is judged on the quality of research presentations. I am happy to share with all of you that the feedback I received from the eminent Jurassic workers and chairmen of individual sessions during the congress was exceptionally good, which only could have been possible because of the keen interest and hard work of the Jurassic geoscientists. It is good to know that we, the Jurassic workers, are part of one big family.

Quite a large number of the research papers on various aspects of Jurassic system presented during the congress were received for publication in the proceedings. In this situation, we have decided to publish the proceedings in two parts as it happened previously, *e.g.* on the occasion of the Cracow Congress in 2006. The papers which have been included in this part are those received timely and required no further revision. The second volume will be published sometime at the end of this year. We sincerely regret the delay and expect the authors to understand the difficulties faced by the editors in getting the articles reviewed.

The Organising Committee is grateful to all the organisations that financially supported this mega event, which was held for the first time in India. Last but not least, the organising committee is grateful to the editors of *Volumina Jurassica* who kindly agreed to publish the proceedings in their journal and also invested their valuable time in editing the articles.

Dhirendra K. PANDEY

