

## From HODs Desk



**Dr. C. Vaman Rao**

B.E. in Biotechnology Engineering is like a double edged sword where the students over the course of four years learn the application of engineering principles in biological processes. Our B.E. programme in Biotechnology Engineering is accredited by **National Board of Accreditation (NBA)** for a period of **5 years (2012-17)**. The department is recognized as **Center of Innovative Science in Engineering Education (CISEE)** by VGST-GOK. The departmental laboratories provide good work ambience with state of the art instruments to enable the students to carry out projects and acquire expertise in handling the instruments. The faculties and students have received prizes and honours for their excellent research work. Research has been the tradition of the department. Student's research projects have received the grants from KSCST-GOK, TRP-VGST-GOK, K-BITS till date up to **Rs. 13.54 lakhs**. Faculty members of the department have received research grants totalling **Rs. 1.5 crore** for research in the area of Biofuels, Agricultural Biotechnology and Toxicology from central government agencies such as BRNS (DAE), DBT, VGST-GOK. Udupi District Biofuel Information and Demonstration Centre, Nitte (UBIDC), sponsored by Karnataka State Biofuels Development Board (KSBDB) was established in 2011, receives a annual grants of **7.9 lakhs**. This centre is responsible for production of biodiesel (50 lit per batch capacity) from various non-edible oil seeds available in Udupi district, as well as this centre is involved in research on various blends of Biodiesel with diesel.