

## PREFACE

The absence of a wide-ranging but brief survey of Indian law dealing with its various branches has been acutely felt not only by the reader in India, but more so by the foreign scholar who browses in a law library or comes all the way to this country in search of light. It is to fill this vacuum that the Indian Law Institute undertook to prepare a book which gives in a few hundred pages the outlines of Indian law. The Institute was fortunate in securing the services of eminent scholars who are experts in their chosen field. A contributory work like this suffers from the inherent limitation of getting all the contributions on time. Since the contributors are eminent, they are overworked. We faced this difficulty acutely in the present work which took much more time than we had planned in bringing out the book. We are glad that the work has been ultimately completed and that a book delineating the outlines of Indian law is now readily available.

Though effort has been made to follow a uniform pattern in the presentation of material in all the contributions, some contributors preferred their own method of dealing with the subject-matter so that in a few instances certain topics have been dealt with in depth, contrary to the initial plan of the book. Perhaps a fuller doze of something essentially good may not do any one any harm. It may, however, be mentioned that neither does the editor nor the Institute take any responsibility for the views expressed by individual contributors.

Dr Joseph Minattur, Research Professor at the Institute, took pains to collate and coordinate the available materials and generally edit the several contributions. He has also seen the book through the press in which task he was assisted by Shri J.C. Khurana, Research Associate at the Institute. We are grateful to them.

S.N. JAIN  
*Director*

