

# Indian Philosophy

Author: Dr. Satya Sundar Sethy, HSS, IIT Madras, Chennai-600036

## *Lecture - 25*

### **Self Assessment Questions & Possible Answers**

1. Briefly explain Buddhist's interpretation of pessimism.

Ans.: According to Gautama Buddha, the world is full of misery. One should refrain from worldly miseries. One can lead his/her life peaceful by attaining the liberation. Thus, desiring to derive pleasure from each object of the world entices 'pessimism'.

2. Write three commonalities that found among all schools of Buddhism.

Ans.: The three commonalities among other are;

- a) Ignorance is the root cause of suffering.
- b) There is non-existence of soul (Anātmavāda)
- c) One can attain liberation while living in this earth.

3. What are the four noble truths stated in Buddhism?

Ans.: The four noble truths are;

- a) there is suffering
- b) there is a cause of suffering
- c) there is cessation of suffering
- d) there are paths leading to the cessation of suffering.

4. Briefly explain about the concept 'I'.

Ans.: The word 'I' stands for ego. It envisages the expressions, such as; it is mine, that was not mine, I have done that, etc. So in every situation, it is me, mine, myself appear which indicate that an individual is associated with the worldly objects so passionately that he/she can't bear the dissociation from those objects. But the eternal truth is, no object is permanent. Thus, one shouldn't bear the concept 'I' in any context of his/her life.