

ICPR Sponsored National Workshop Proceeding on

Philosophical Issues in Science Education



Ananta Kumar Jena

"What is ultimate there and what is in between science & philosophy? Whether scientific knowledge starts with philosophy or philosophy starts with science? Think, how we can acquire and search the knowledge & truth, and how we know what we know?"

Let us see the big picture of philosophy of science and education for the better understanding.



About the Organizer cum Editor

Dr. Ananta Kumar Jena was the organizer of the National Workshop on Philosophical Issues in Science Education which was sponsored by the

Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi. Dr. Jena is recently working in the Department of Educational Sciences, Assam University, Silchar, India and he has eight more years of research experience in Philosophy and Educational Sciences. He has completed M.Sc.(Botany) from North Orissa University, India and M.Ed. with Ph.D. from Utkal University, India.



About the Sponsor



Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR) was established in 1977 by the Ministry of Education, Government of India as an autonomous organization designed to bring back the entire tradition of Indian philosophy to its pristine and original form and provide required impetus to nurture and promote new thinking through its intensive programs of research.

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Keynote Address

Values, Ethics and Environmental Issues

Biman Kumar Dutta¹

Concept of value and obligation (Environmental issues relating to over use of pesticide in agriculture).

Public concern about the area of pesticide has increased over the past several decades. Public awareness, incidence of pesticide poisoning increased use of pesticide, and evidence of inadequate govt. regulations are factors that have contributed to the public awareness about pesticides. In 1960 the public was primarily concern about the impact of pesticides on wildlife. But in 1980 over the three quarters of public concern was about the impact of pesticide in human health, farmers and wild life. Govt. laws are inadequate to tackle the situation, problem. (one step forward to ethical values). While taking about pesticide and human health effect, effect on the morning bird songs reminds

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greater detail, in order to understand the creation of
Universe.

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Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence

Pankaj Kumar Deva Sarma¹

Introduction

The amazing ability of computer to process volumes of
data and perform exceedingly fast computation which is
beyond human capacity fascinated the researchers and a
feasible idea began to emerge about making the
computer performing tasks which can be termed as
intelligent. This is not a recent idea rather it is an idea
which is about five-six decades old. The kind of tasks
which can be called intelligent can be identified by
comparing it with tasks performed by human, the most
intelligent of all beings as well as with other living
beings. Thus began the journey of a subject within the
discipline of computer science and engineering which is
subsequently known as artificial intelligence. However,
it is easier said than done. It has led to enormous
questions and debates whether the very aspiration of
creating an intelligent computer is a realistic one.

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corresponding hypothesis it need to be investigated whether it would be possible to induce the kind of intelligence which is intended for a computer to exhibit. Knowledge acquired by person has a social and cultural bearing and this need to be explored. Interpretation of the knowledge and the inferences acquired is another area of current concern. To what extent the scientific methods are adequate for modeling human intelligence? The scope of research in artificial intelligence is quite wide as has been pointed out in the above.

In this paper, an introduction of artificial intelligence is discussed along with some aspects of history and philosophy of the subject. The physical symbol system hypothesis is briefly discussed. The features of research in artificial intelligence along with some of the current research context are also pointed out. In the end it is opined that research in artificial intelligence has diverged quite a great deal and hence some kind of convergence is necessary for achieving its intended objective.

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