



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

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DEPARTMENT OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND DATA SCIENCE

COURSE NAME : 19MC003 - ESSENCE OF INDIAN

TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE

III YEAR /VI SEMESTER

UNIT I – Introduction To Traditional Knowledge

Topic 3: Scope and Importance of Traditional Knowledge



Importance of TK

- For indigenous people and tribal communities, the main focus is to protect their traditional knowledge and the focal point on fundamental justice and the propensity to protect and safeguard their traditions.
- In the globalized world, traditional knowledge somehow gained special importance in the past few years which have seen an outburst in the demand for herbal medicines.
- These herbal and the traditional method for making these medicine is taking an important part of human health.



Practising Traditional Knowledge

- We use **Neem** while anybody suffering from any kind of **fungal infection on skin**.
- If we cut our fingers while chopping vegetables or got hurt while playing, immediately, **we apply turmeric paste** on the wound that is healed in a day or two.
- In case of cough and cold, we use **basil leaves (tulsi)** to get rid of it.
- People, who are living in the villages, use small branches of **Neem as toothbrush**.
- In case of complaint about indigestion or stomach ache, grandma prepares **ginger or lemon decoction** which solves the problem.



Practising Traditional Knowledge

- Bone setters **set the broken bone with herbal medicines.**
- Even the **bites of** various insects including **snakes and scorpions** are cured with the use of plants and roots.
- In India, there are so many herbs which cure so many diseases. Since from ancient time, people got closer and mingled with Nature.
- Indian people understood the importance of plants and herbs in their life so they narrated it as “**Mother Nature**”.
- These are few examples of Traditional Knowledge which is practiced by various tribal and local communities of villages in India.
- This practices last from **over 5000 years.**



IMPORTANT CHARACTERISTICS OF TK

- It is learned through continuous observation, experience and practice.
- It is inseparable part of communal and cultural life of its holders, and
- It is usually associated with the biological resources.
- It is not limited to any specific field of technology or the arts.
- It is owned by a community and its use is often restricted to certain members of that community.



SCOPE AND IMPORTANCE OF TK

- Traditional and indigenous knowledge has been used for centuries by indigenous and local communities under local laws, customs and traditions.
- TK has played, and still plays, an important role in vital areas such as medical treatment, food security and the development of agriculture.
- TK is also the cause of a great variety of artistic expressions, including musical works and handicrafts.



SCOPE AND IMPORTANCE OF TK

- TK is a central component for the daily life of millions of people in developing countries.
- Traditional Medicine (TM) serves the health needs of a vast majority of people in developing countries where access to modern health care services and medicine is limited by economic and cultural reasons.
- It is the only affordable treatment available to poor people and in remote communities.



SCOPE AND IMPORTANCE OF TK

- TK constitutes the ancient knowledge of humanity, the deepest layer on which our science and culture have developed, the local solutions that have allowed the creation and management of ecosystems and cultural landscapes on the entire surface of the planet.
- It enables the development of solutions with a low energy and resource use that are able to adapt to environmental variability and to react to emergencies at multifunctional ways.



SCOPE AND IMPORTANCE OF TK

- Today, while entire planet systems risk ecological collapse shows how to interact with the environment enhancing its resource potential without exhausting it.
- In addition, it cannot be excluded that traditional knowledge might have an industrial application, even if the tangible object to which the intangible knowledge relates has not been subject to any scientific interference or modification.
- TK is thus a valuable source of knowledge. TK may help to find useful solutions to current problems, sometimes in combination with modern scientific and technological knowledge.



Importance of Traditional Knowledge



- Traditional Knowledge plays a key role in the preservation and sustainability of diversity.
- Many activities based on traditional knowledge are important sources of income, food and healthcare for the indigenous people.
- The long term economic development of many indigenous and local communities, depend on their ability to harness their traditional knowledge for commercial benefits.
- Traditional Knowledge is being rapidly lost as local ecosystems are degraded and traditional communities are integrated into the wider society.