

# SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING



Kurumbapalayam(Po), Coimbatore – 641 107

Accredited by NAAC-UGC with 'A' Grade

Approved by AICTE, Recognized by UGC & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

## Department of AI &DS

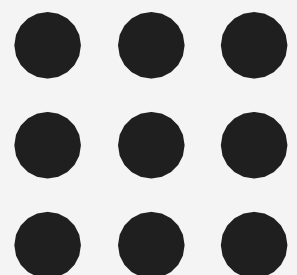
Course Name – 19AD602 DEEP LEARNING

III Year / VI Semester

Unit 2-PROTECTION OF TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE

**Topic:** The need for protecting traditional knowledge Significance of TK Protection

GULSHAN BANU.A/ AP/AI AND DS /The need for protecting traditional knowledge Significance of TK Protection/SNSCE





The protection of traditional knowledge (TK) has become increasingly significant in today's rapidly changing world. TK, which encompasses the wisdom, practices, and innovations developed by indigenous communities over generations, is a valuable resource for understanding and interacting with the environment. These knowledge systems often include insights into agriculture, healthcare, biodiversity, environmental management, and cultural practices that are deeply rooted in local contexts. As modernization and globalization continue to spread, traditional knowledge faces the risk of being lost, overshadowed, or exploited without proper recognition or compensation. Protecting TK is essential not only to preserve cultural heritage but also to ensure its continued relevance and contribution to sustainable development.



One of the primary reasons for protecting TK is its role in maintaining biodiversity and promoting sustainable environmental practices. Indigenous communities, through their intimate relationship with nature, have developed time-tested methods for conserving ecosystems, managing natural resources, and ensuring food security. For example, traditional agricultural practices such as crop rotation, agroforestry, and the use of indigenous seeds have been proven to support biodiversity and enhance resilience to climate change. These methods offer alternative solutions to the environmental degradation often caused by industrial farming, which is heavily reliant on chemical inputs and monoculture. By protecting TK, we help preserve these sustainable practices that are essential for the health of our planet.



The significance of TK protection also extends to the realm of healthcare. Many traditional healing practices, often involving the use of plants and natural remedies, have provided effective solutions to health problems, particularly in regions where modern healthcare infrastructure is limited. Many of today's pharmaceutical products have their origins in traditional remedies, with modern science confirming the medicinal value of plants like turmeric, ginseng, and aloe vera. Protecting TK in the field of medicine ensures that these invaluable resources are not only preserved but also respected, allowing for the continued development of natural medicines and the safeguarding of indigenous knowledge about healing practices that have been used for centuries.



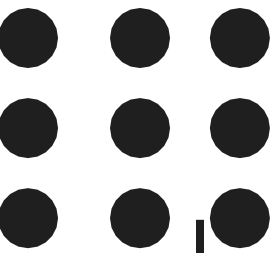
Culturally, TK plays a central role in the identity and continuity of indigenous communities. It is not just a body of knowledge but a living heritage that informs values, worldviews, and social structures. Through traditional knowledge, generations pass down their connection to the land, their customs, and their way of life. If TK is lost, entire cultural identities risk disappearing, eroding the rich diversity of human cultures. Protecting TK ensures that future generations can continue to learn from and draw strength from their cultural heritage, while also offering the opportunity for these communities to preserve and promote their unique traditions in the face of global homogenization.



Finally, the protection of traditional knowledge is increasingly relevant in the context of intellectual property rights and the exploitation of indigenous communities. In many cases, TK has been appropriated by commercial industries without fair compensation to the communities that developed and maintained it. This exploitation can take many forms, such as the patenting of traditional plants or genetic resources without recognizing the intellectual property of indigenous peoples. By establishing frameworks to protect TK, including through legal instruments like the Nagoya Protocol, societies can ensure that the knowledge and resources of indigenous communities are respected and fairly shared. Protecting TK empowers these communities, provides recognition of their contributions to global knowledge, and promotes social justice by ensuring that they benefit from the use of their knowledge and innovations.



## PROTECTION OF TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE



THANK YOU