



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107

An Autonomous Institution

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND DESIGN

COURSE NAME : 19MC003 ESSENCE OF INDIAN TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE

III YEAR / VI SEMESTER

Unit I- Introduction to traditional knowledge

Topic 4 : Indigenous Knowledge (IK), characteristics



Introduction to Indigenous Knowledge (IK)

- Definition: Indigenous Knowledge (IK) refers to the unique, local knowledge developed by indigenous communities over generations.
- Embedded in cultural traditions, languages, and experiences.
- Used for survival, adaptation, and problem-solving in specific environments



Scope of Indigenous Knowledge

- **Agriculture:** Traditional farming techniques, seed saving.
- **Medicine:** Herbal treatments, traditional healing methods.
- **Ecology:** Sustainable resource management, biodiversity conservation.
- **Handicrafts:** Traditional textiles, pottery, and tool-making.
- **Governance & Social Systems:** Indigenous leadership, dispute resolution.



Importance of Indigenous Knowledge

- **Environmental Sustainability:** Promotes harmony with nature.
- **Cultural Identity & Heritage:** Preserves languages, customs, and beliefs.
- **Health & Well-being:** Offers alternative healing practices.
- **Economic Contributions:** Supports traditional industries and crafts.
- **Disaster Resilience:** Provides adaptive strategies for natural calamities.



Characteristics of Indigenous Knowledge

- 1. Locally Grounded** – Developed within specific ecological and cultural contexts.
- 2. Orally Transmitted** – Passed down through generations via storytelling and practice.
- 3. Holistic & Integrated** – Connects environmental, social, and spiritual aspects.
- 4. Adaptive & Evolving** – Changes with time while retaining core values.
- 5. Practical & Hands-On** – Rooted in experience and real-world applications.
- 6. Collectively Owned** – Shared within the community, not individual property



Challenges in Preserving Indigenous Knowledge

- Threats from modernization and globalization.
- Loss of native languages and cultural erosion.
- Lack of legal protection for indigenous intellectual property.
- Climate change affecting traditional practices.



Strategies for Preservation & Promotion

- Documentation and digital archiving.
- Supporting indigenous rights and governance.
- Integrating IK into formal education.
- Legal frameworks for knowledge protection.



Conclusion

- Indigenous Knowledge is a valuable asset for sustainability and cultural diversity.
- Urgent need for preservation and recognition.
- Collaboration between indigenous communities, researchers, and policymakers is essential.



Any Query????

Thank you.....