

**DF-ISEC one day workshop on
"Identifying the Elements of Heritage of Development Thinking in India"
on 29th October 2011 at ISEC, Bangalore**

1. Welcome note by Dr. R. S. Deshpande, Director, ISEC, Bangalore

The welcome address was delivered by **Dr. R. S. Deshpande**, Director, ISEC, Bangalore. He emphasized on the need to hunt for heritage in development thoughts. He stressed on the requirement that suitable additions, deletions or modifications could be done in order to meet this requirement of the upcoming paper. Dignitaries and participants were also warmly welcomed by **Dr. R. S. Deshpande**.

2. About the workshop by Sri. M. P. Kumar, Director, Development Foundation, Bangalore

Sri. M. P. Kumar not only brought out the importance for organising a workshop of this kind keeping in view the background for the current project, but also provided adequate information related to the activities of **Development Foundation (DF)**. The idea that he had for DF originated through his association/ involvement at the Vision for Karnataka 2020 meet. Suitable suggestions to authors, to focus on current world view, pre-colonial, colonial and post-colonial, and also need for alternatives were emphatically put forward by him. He also opined that the presentation on Integrated Human Development would help the readers/ audience to understand the background for the workshop.

3. PPT presentation on Philosophical Foundation presented by Dr. N. S. S. Narayana

(Paper and presentation is available on the Development Foundation URL www.devf.org)

Dr. N. S. S. Narayana, presented the paper on Philosophical Foundation. He also highlighted that there are sufficient literature available on governance in Ramayana. There are 24 slokas related to governance, which addressed the political chaos that arose after the death of King Dasharatha. He also mentioned that there is literature yet to be incorporated from the epic, Mahabharatha. Various literature on governance are available, few of them being, work by Dr. Subramanian, Madurai University, book on Hindu interpretation, Sangam literature, Sukraneeti sara. He also opined that, Sukraneeti sara was no where less than the neo-classical economics, public sector, micro finance/ micro

economic theory. Thirukkural dealt extensively about aspects related to farming and poverty.

Comments:

Comments by Dr. Subhash Sharma

Dr. Subhash Sharma expressed that, the write up is very comprehensive and also opined that it is a book in itself.

Comments by Dr. K. V. Raju:

Dr. K. V. Raju was very keen on bringing out the present paper with detailed references and adequate annexure. He positively highlighted that the paper presentation by **Dr. N. S. S. Narayana** was solid work. He also mentioned that the presenter beautifully took the audience through a journey of the historical perspectives, without also failing to mention, that there was a considerable lacuna for learning and understanding the perspectives of the work, as rightly pointed out by the presenter.

Dr. K. V. Raju emphatically also bore in mind the lessons learnt from previous experiences and was concerned as to what immediate changes could be implemented? Some such changes which were suggested were:

- a. Focusing on agriculture: "*The need of the hour*"
- b. Understanding the age of consumerism: *How things have changed for the World?*
- c. Happiness index
- d. Practical suggestions for re-orientation
- e. Charitable activities

Supporting Comments by Dr. N. S. S. Narayana:

Dr. N. S. S. Narayana pointed out that in his write up comprised a section dedicated to water and tank irrigation. He also expressed that in the post-colonial period, tank irrigation was completely neglected. The increase in canal irrigation, had resulted in upstream and downstream conflicts. British introduced the education system. Huge difference between oriental and western system was observed. He pointed out that Western system was for individual welfare, while oriental system was for social welfare.

Comments by Dr. Shankar Jaganathan:

Dr. Shankar Jaganathan was thoroughly concerned about how this article would lead to practicality? He also emphasized on the need for descriptions on heritage and social security standards. He also brought out the importance of various literatures like "Tirukkural" and "Shukraneeti." Dr. Shankar however recalled that, Shathavadhani Ganesh also expressed

his doubts regarding the authenticity of “Shukraneeti” because of interpolation.

Supporting Comments by Dr. N. S. S. Narayana:

As soon as the authenticity of the literature like “Shukraneeti” was questioned by **Dr. Shankar Jaganathan, Dr. N. S. S. Narayana** cleared the doubts, by saying that the article already had a disclaimer and too much of stress on the authenticity of the above mentioned literature need not be given.

Comments by Dr. R. S. Deshpande:

Immediately **Dr. R. S. Deshpande** added his views saying that these were ethically contrasting statements and that we need to be choosy/ selective in picking up what was apt with regard to the making of the paper.

Supporting Comments by Dr. N. S. S. Narayana:

Dr. N. S. S. Narayana further supported his view by adding that conflicting views about Dharma always existed. In such cases, it was always better to consult the Vedas if a conflict arose amongst the smritis.

Comments by Dr. M. R. Srinivasamurthy:

Dr. M. R. Srinivasamurthy also supported **Dr. Shankar Jaganathan’s** view by saying that contradictions are plenty. At the same time, he also provided a solution by adding that one could cultivate a certain attitude and move forward and evolve towards a way of life, nature, wealth, etc. specifying the example of the Japanese, in order to inculcate an attitude and way of life.

Comments by Dr. N. S. S. Narayana and Dr. M. R. Srinivasmurty:

When discussions/ interaction in this regard were proceeding, both **Dr. N. S. S. Narayana** and **Dr. M. R. Srinivasmurty** highlighted the importance of respecting the teacher as long as he was on agreeable terms. They also emphasized on the Indian values that blended well with the ideology of respecting the “**teacher**”

Comments by Dr. K. V. Raju:

Dr. K. V. Raju finally added that incorporating new Mantras (Dr. Shubhash Sharma’s presentation) will lead to action.

4. PPT-Presentation on Concept of Development: by Dr. R. S. Deshpande

The concept of development was ignited through the presentation by **Dr. R. S. Deshpande** who emphatically brought out issues related to:

1. Education
2. Health
3. Income

It was also noted that the terminology "Development" became popular only post World War II. The other aspect that came up during the course of the presentation was the 4th Dimension (Gandhian Principle) of Self respect.

Comments:

Comments by Dr. M. R. Srinivasmurthy:

Dr. M. R. Srinivasmurthy brought out the importance of the term development by adding that Lokakalyana should be the consequence of such development.

Comments by Dr. Shankar Jaganathan:

Dr. Shankar Jaganathan expressed if the paper could cover the roles of individual, family, community and market in development. It was also realized that the concept of development differs by and large by citing the example of the Hindu approach to life which differs at different stages of life.

Comments by Dr. K. V. Raju:

Dr. K. V. Raju preferred to have more information on as to whom the whole concept of development was applicable to? What were the other relevant aspects and what was being said towards the entire "Concept of development?" He also laid stress on various aspects of the concept of development like history, changes in the recent years, measures to refine it, development index, etc.

5. PPT presentation on Rethinking Governance in India by Dr. K. B. Akhilesh

Comments:

Comments by Dr. M. R. Srinivasmurthy:

Dr. M. R. Srinivasmurthy opined that, in terms of governance we might not have much to look into, except Janapada's during Buddhist and Greek cities. He also importunated that Dharma was documented in Shantiparva, Dharmashastra-Rajaneeti. But there are principles which are

of enormous validity today as they were earlier. He also expressed that, the present government/ governing system was either eager or reluctant towards the concept of tax. He also suggested that, greater transparency in public procurement is required. He also suggested that, ultimately we need to draw our inspiration from the principles of dharma:-

1. Principles of taxation from ancient literature
 - 1/6th of the grain for king
 - Capture part of value added
2. Corruption
 - Impartiality in enforcement of law
 - Shukraneeti deals with impartiality in enforcing law
3. Public procurement
 - Greater transparency in public procurement is required
4. War is replaced by election
 - Constitutional affairs
 - Make democracy to work

Comments by Dr. N. S. S. Narayana:

Dr. N. S. S. Narayana came up with the suggestion to look into the following literature in order to get insights:

1. Yagnavalkya smriti
2. Mitakshara and
3. Dayathaya are major source for Indian Penal Code today, while,
4. Dandaneeti-provided more information about what is meant by actual "governance"?

He also expressed that, the government is turning to be very costly. Also, governance has been found to be costly for individuals. He also pointed out that, there was inadequate use of technology and suggested that it can also apply in corruption control.

Dr. Shankar Jaganathan suggested considering the following points:

- Areas of conflict of interest and balance of power
- Management of common assets
- Building public infrastructure

5. PPT presentation on Trade and Commerce by Dr. Shankar Jaganathan

Comments from the audience related to the presentation on Trade and Commerce were highlighted, indicating that the paper should cover details from ancient India to till GATT, impacts of GATT. It was

recommended to have a section which covered points on internal trade and international trade in the ancient India.

7. PPT presentation on Natural Resources Management by Dr. Sunil Nautiyal

The audience were of the opinion that, heritage thinking was missing in the paper. Strongly recommendations to focus on the heritage thinking, ancient view/ attitude towards the nature and natural resources were put forward.

Dr. N. S. S. Narayana suggested to take a look in to the five slokas in Mantrapushpam, which purely dealt with the natural resources.

Dr. K V Raju suggested pondering into the change in the consumerism pattern.

8. PPT presentation on Science, Technology and Innovation by Dr. Prahlada

Dr. Prahlada expressed that, there were no paper documentation in the ancient India related to technology. It also became evident from his presentation that, Science and technology existed way back during the Gurukula system of education and skills were outside the Gurukulas. He also stated that, although we were good philosophers who created wealth, we did not know ways and means to protect it.

Dr. Shankara Jaganathan suggested that we rather take a deeper look into the concept of patent and difference of technology, and reason behind the concept of patent (Spiritual, Specific and Tradition practice). He also expressed his view to cover the Patent law in Indian context, creation of technology – heritage view.

The audience voiced their opinion about the ancient role in various areas like metallurgy, ship-building, fragrance, medicine, and textiles; Mathematics, Agro-based industry, astrology/ veda/ vastuscript/ medicine/ seasonal identification/ plants/ aruna/ chandramana ugadi/ agricultural practices.

Sri M. P. Kumar suggested **Dr. Prahlada** to consider the Philosophical aspects of science, attitude towards society and in turn the questioning/reasoning of the scientific community. He also added that, a holistic emphasis be laid on agriculture. Although scientific progress was

seen logarithmically, **Sri. M. P. Kumar** was also curious as to why the scientific community was so very secretive about their developments/advancement.

9. PPT presentation on Health by Dr. Rangesh Paramesh

Dr. Rangesh Paramesh brought out aspects that concentrated more on the health and well-being of the individual/ community/ society. The importance of literature like Vrikshayurveda were discussed. The definition of health from the viewpoint of WHO and Indian context were also addressed.

10. Valedictory session by Dr. K. V. Raju:

The Wrap-up/ Valedictory was handled by **Dr. K. V. Raju**, who summed up by saying that although the papers invariably covered rich historical heritage, they definitely were devoid of contemporary and futuristic perspectives. Additionally, some papers lacked historical perspectives too. Dr. Harish Kumara B. K. and Dr. B. K. Vinayachandra were directed to consolidate comments and finalise deadlines for publication. This had to be further supported by the evolving of formats for publications by mid-November/ end of December after the scripts were adequately scrutinised by the respective authors. A brain-storming workshop was proposed to be organised by January 2012.

11. PROSPECTIVE STEPS:

Sri M. P. Kumar, said that scholars like **Dr. N. S. S. Narayana** should assist the entire team in order to move forward with the various ideas/ suggestions that came up during the course of the workshop. **Sri M. P. Kumar** vehemently suggested that the present group should strive towards building the concepts or development through socio-economic models. He also was concerned about how **DF-ISEC** would focus on the relevant areas in order to convert the ideas/ suggestions to action.

Annexure 1: List of Participants

Sr. No.	Name	Organisation
1	Dr. R. S. Deshpande	ISEC, Bangalore
2	Dr. K. V. Raju	ISEC, Bangalore
3	Sri. M. P. Kumar	Development Foundation, Bangalore
4	Dr. N. S. S. Narayana	ISI, Bangalore
5	Dr. Prahlada	DRDO, Pune
6	Dr. K. B. Akhilesh	IISc, Bangalore
7	Dr. Sunil Nautiyal	ISEC, Bangalore
8	Dr. Shankar Jagannathan	Bangalore
9	Dr. Vinayachandra	SVYASA, Bangalore
10	Dr. M. R. Srinivas Murthy	GOK, Bangalore
11	Dr. Prasad	USA
12	Dr. Subhash Sharma	IBA, Bangalore
13	Dr. R. L. M. Patil	CESS, Bangalore
14	Dr. Rangesh Paramesh	Himalaya Health Care, Bangalore
