

**CONCEPT PAPER ON THREE DAYS SEMINAR ON INDIAN
KNOWLEDGE SYSTEM (IKS) TO BE ORGANISED BY IQAC, IIE
IN COLLABORATION WITH CDC MANIPUR UNIVERSITY**

The origin of the Indian Knowledge System (IKS) is rooted in the Vedic period (approximately 1500-500 BCE), where the Vedas, considered the foundational texts of Indian civilization, were compiled.

The NEP, 2020 recognizes this rich heritage of ancient and eternal Indian knowledge and thought as a guiding principle. The Indian Knowledge Systems comprise of Jnan, Vignan, and Jeevan Darshan that have evolved out of experience, observation, experimentation, and rigorous analysis. This tradition of validating and putting into practice has impacted our education, arts, administration, law, justice, health, manufacturing, and commerce. This has influenced classical and other languages of Bharat, that were transmitted through textual, oral, and artistic traditions. “Knowledge of India” in this sense includes knowledge from ancient India and, its successes and challenges, and a sense of India’s future aspirations specific to education, health, environment and indeed all aspects of life.

IKS, or the **Bhāratīya Jñāna Paramparā Vibhāga** is a division of the Ministry of Education of the Government of India which purports to promote indigenous Indian systems of knowledge. Indian Knowledge System (IKS) is a generic phrase that encompasses the knowledge assets that have evolved in India. It includes mathematics, science and technology, medicine, astronomy, architecture, philosophy, arts, languages, literature, cultural and social practices, traditions, etc.

The Indian National Education Policy (NEP), as enacted in 2020, emphasizes the inclusion of IKS into curriculums at all levels of education;^{[3][4][5]} in line with this, the National Credit Framework (NCF) has made it possible for students to earn credit in courses relating to ancient Indian sciences and arts.^[6] IKS is also being included under the *Vision 2047 for Bharatiya Rasayanasastra* initiative.

Embracing the rich heritage and lineage of Indian Knowledge Systems, the IKS Division aims to uphold and carry forward the wisdom that has been passed down through generations. The goal is to highlight the continuous unbroken knowledge traditions of Bhārata since time immemorial.

Under University Grants Commission (UGC) guidelines, it is advised that 5 per cent of a student's total credits should be in IKS courses at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels.^[9] The UGC aims to train 1.5 million teachers in IKS by 2025,^[2] and has launched an online IKS MOOC course. IKS has also spearheaded and funded certain research initiatives relating to traditional Indian knowledge,^[11] such as in relation to agriculture and architecture.

A country that encompasses a vast and diverse array of culture, history and diversity, India has always placed a deep value on education. Recognizing the important role of education in shaping the country's future, the Government of India implemented a comprehensive framework known as the Indian Knowledge System (IKS). The system represents a holistic approach to learning, inspired by the ancient wisdom of the nation, incorporating contemporary knowledge and global perspectives. The students can derive numerous benefits from engaging with the Indian Knowledge System (IKS).

Here are some key areas of impact:

1. Holistic Education

- **Interdisciplinary Learning:** IKS promotes a holistic understanding that integrates science, philosophy, arts, and ethics, encouraging students to see connections across subjects.
- **Critical Thinking:** Engaging with ancient texts and philosophies fosters analytical skills and critical thinking.

2. Cultural Awareness

- **Understanding Heritage:** Learning about IKS helps students appreciate their cultural roots and the rich diversity of Indian traditions.
- **Global Perspective:** IKS offers insights into universal themes of humanity, fostering respect for different cultures and philosophies.

3. Sustainable Practices

- **Environmental Awareness:** Students can learn about traditional ecological knowledge, promoting sustainability and environmental stewardship.
- **Wellness and Health:** Concepts from Ayurveda and yoga encourage holistic health practices and personal well-being.

4. Personal Development

- **Ethical Values:** Philosophies in IKS emphasize values like compassion, integrity, and social responsibility, guiding personal development.
- **Mindfulness Practices:** Yoga and meditation techniques enhance focus, reduce stress, and improve mental health.

5. Problem-Solving Skills

- **Traditional Knowledge Applications:** IKS provides examples of problem-solving in diverse contexts, offering students practical strategies for addressing modern challenges.

- **Innovative Thinking:** Exposure to ancient innovations in mathematics, science, and technology can inspire creative solutions to contemporary issues.

6. Communication Skills

- **Language and Literature:** Studying classical languages and literature enhances linguistic skills and fosters effective communication.
- **Art and Expression:** Engagement with various art forms nurtures creativity and self-expression.

7. Community Engagement

- **Social Responsibility:** Learning about social structures and philosophies encourages students to engage with their communities and contribute positively.
- **Collaborative Learning:** Many aspects of IKS promote collective learning, emphasizing teamwork and collaboration.

8. Career Opportunities

- **Interdisciplinary Careers:** Knowledge of IKS can open pathways in fields such as education, environmental science, wellness, and cultural studies.
- **Global Relevance:** Understanding IKS prepares students for careers in global contexts, where cultural competence is increasingly valued.

Organizing a seminar on Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) is vital for several reasons:

- to understand and integrate IKS in modern education,
- to promote research and innovation in traditional sciences
- to encourage a multidisciplinary approach, value-based learning
- to enhanced awareness among all stakeholders about the relevance of IKS in modern life.

In this context, IKS Cell, Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of Ibotombi Institute of Education (IIE), Canchipur in collaboration with College Development Council (CDC), Manipur University is organizing a Three Days National Workshop on **"Rejuvenating Indigenous Wisdom: Manipur's IKS under NEP 2020"**.

The seminar focuses on the revitalization and integration of Manipur's rich indigenous knowledge systems (IKS) within the contemporary educational framework as envisioned by the National Education Policy 2020.

Through this seminar, a multidisciplinary dialogue is fostered on traditional medicine, sustainable agriculture, culinary heritage, vernacular architecture, ecological practices, oral traditions, rituals, and indigenous handloom techniques. The aim is to highlight the relevance of Manipur's heritage in modern education and research, promoting a holistic, inclusive, and culturally rooted approach to learning. By engaging scholars, practitioners, and community members, the seminar advocates for the preservation, documentation, and transmission of indigenous knowledge to future generations, aligning with NEP 2020's mission to empower learners with both global and local wisdom.

After consulting the different experts/pioneers in various field, an Organising Committee has been formed and sub-theme has been identified. To formally announce a brochure is also finalized with respect to the Seminar. The brochure gives a full detail about the different aspect of the Seminar. The papers presented during the Seminar will be published by the Research and Publication Cell of IIE, Canchipur.