



TATA INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Perspectives on Science, Technology and Development

March 1–3, 2007

Venue: Conference Hall, TISS

DAY I Thursday, March 1, 2007		
10.00 am–12.15 pm Session I: Inaugural Session	Welcome and Introduction	T. Jayaraman (TISS)
	Chairperson's Remarks	S. Parasuraman (TISS)
	Science in the National Curriculum	Arvind Kumar (HBCSE)
	Self-reliance in S&T: Motivation, Execution and Assessment	A. Parthasarathi (CSSP, JNU)
	Scientific Temper in the Social Sciences	V.B. Athreya (MSSRF)
	Discussion	
12.15–1.30 pm & 2.30 pm–3.15 pm Session II: Science and Agriculture— Past Experiences and Contemporary Issues	The Role of GM Foods in Food Security	Suman Sahai (GeneCampaign)
	Technology in Development Theory: The Case of Agriculture	K. Nagaraj (MIDS)
	The Role of the State in Technological Transformation in Indian Agriculture	R. Rukmani (MSSRF)
	Discussion	
1.30–2.30 pm	Lunch	
3.15–4.30 pm Session III: Assessing India's Big Science	The Indian Space Program	R. Ramachandran (Frontline)
	The Indian Nuclear Program	T. Jayaraman (TISS)
	Discussion	
4.30- 4.45 pm	Tea	

4.45–6.00 pm Session IV: Scientists and Scientific Institutions	The Changing Social Contract between Science and Society	V.V. Krishna (CSSP, JNU)
	The Management of Scientific Institutions and the Scientific Worker	S. Chatterjee (IIA)
	Discussion	
DAY II Friday, March 2, 2007		
9.30–10.45 am Session V: Science, Scientific Temper and the Assault on Reason	Revisiting the Scientific Temper Debate: Post-modernism meets Traditionalism	Meera Nanda (Research Fellow, Templeton Foundation)
	Rational Thought, Secularisation and Democratic Values	Ram Punyani (Retd., IIT, Mumbai)
	Discussion	
10.45–11.00 am	Tea	
11.00 am–12.30 pm Session VI: Science and Science-based Movements	People's Science Movements	K.N. Ganesh (KSSP)
	Science Education from the Science Movement: Universalisation and Quality Science Education	Vivek Monteiro (Nav Nirmati)
	Free Software Movement	G. Nagarjuna (HBCSE)
	Discussion	
12.30–2.00 pm	Lunch	
2.00–3.45 pm Session VII: Contemporary Issues in Science and Technology	Science and Technology and the Asian Challenge	C.P. Chandrasekhar (JNU)
	Technology Cycles and Self-reliance	P. Purkayastha (DSF)
	Indian R&D in the Era of "Economic Reform"	Dinesh Abrol (NISTADS)
	Discussion	
4.00–4.15 pm	Tea	
4.15–5.30 pm Session VIII: Issues in Science Communication	Problems of Science Communication	T.V. Venkateswaran (DST, Govt. of India)
	Science, Politics and Language: Periyar and Singaravelu	Senthil Babu (Indo-French Institute)
	Discussion	

DAY III
Saturday, March 3, 2007

9.00–11.45 am Session IX: S&T and the Environment	Global Warming: The Science	J. Srinivasan (IISc)
	Energy, Global Warming and Development	P. Purkayastha (DSF)
	Technological Foundations of a Regenerative Eco-economy	K. R. Datye
	Discussion	
11.45 pm–1.15 pm Session X: S&T in Biology and Medicine	Opportunities and Challenges in Modern Biology	B.J. Rao (TIIFR)
	Technology in Medicine: The Double-edged Sword	C.R. Soman (Health Action by People)
	Discussion	
1.15–2.15 pm	Lunch	
2.15–3.30 pm Session XI: Valedictory Session	Notable omissions	
	Open questions, open issues, open futures	

Abbreviations used

CSSP	: Centre for Studies in Science Policy
DSF	: Delhi Science Forum
DST	: Department of science and Technology
HBCSE	: Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education
IIA	: Indian Institute of Astrophysics
IISc	: Indian Institute of Science
IIT	: Indian Institute of Tehnology
JNU	: Jawaharlal Nehru University
KSSP	: Kerala Shastra Sahitya Parishad
MIDS	: Madras Institute of Development Studies
MSSRF	: M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation
NISTADS	: National Institute of Science, Technology and Development Studies
TIFR	: Tata Institute of Fundamental Research
TISS	: Tata Institute of Social Sciences