

Link between philosophy, science traced

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CHANDIGARH: A two-day national seminar on the relevance of philosophy in the era of science and technology began on Monday at the ICSSR Complex of Panjab University (PU) in Chandigarh.

The PU Department of Philosophy is organising the event. On the first day of the seminar, department chairperson Dr H.P. Sah elaborated on deliberations coming up during the seminar and how the delegates will address the intimate connection between philosophy and science and how technology was impacting the domains of knowledge.

Professor Yashpal, scientist, educationalist and Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi, inaugurated the seminar and said philosophy should not be isolated passion and it should emerge from everyday life of people. "Philosophy represents attitude of knowing about nature,



(From left) Prof S.P. Gautam, Prof A. Srivastava and Dr Arvind during a national seminar at ICSSR Complex of Panjab University in Chandigarh on Monday.

However, science and technology need to be invoked in the sense of collectivity," he said.

He elaborated on the importance of philosophy in liberating the human mind from the yoke of superstition and metaphysical belief.

In the second academic session, Prof Harinder Singh Lathu from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Hyderabad, spoke on the crisis of dialogue between proponents of science and social science on the one hand and philosophers on the other.

Prof Lathu said philosophy was a creative and intellectual activity for addressing the diverse dimensions of human condition, but it should not remain armchair intellectual exercise. "It should turn into a fruitful activity where the project of modernity can be realised and human emancipation can be made possible," he said.

At the third afternoon session chaired by Professor Bhuvan Chandel, presentations were made by Professor Omam Bhagat from the JNU, Dr Anbuji Sharma of Dev Samaj College in Ferozepur and Prof Shashi Bala from Guru Nanak Dev University in Amritsar.