Indian Philosophy

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Lecture - 21

Self Assessment Questions & Possible Answers

1. What is samavyāpti?

Ans.: It is an equipollent concomitance relation between hetu and sādhya. We can argue from one to the other and vice versa. Here, we find the equal extension of these two terms. It is a universal proposition where subject and predicate distribute. It would correspond to the Universal Affirmative and Universal Negative propositions of western logic.

2. What is anvya?

Ans.: It is an affirmative inference. It is based on Universal Affirmative proposition. In this case, invariably we perceive hetu and sādhya together. For example, whatever is smoky is fiery.

3. What is vyatireka?

Ans.: It is a negative inference. It is based on Universal Negative proposition. It contradicts to Anvya. The contradicting process is to contradict the predicate part of the Anvya and placed in the subject part of Vyatireka and contradicts the subject part of the Anvya and placed in the predicate part of Vyatireka. Example; whatever is not fiery is not smoky.

4. Explain the concept 'paksatā' in a few sentences.

Ans.: 'Paksatā' is considered as the psychological ground of inference. It is primarily concerned with the possibility of inference. It is the relation between paksa and hetu. In this case we want to infer something on the minor term.