

Indian Philosophy

Author: Dr. Satya Sundar Sethy, HSS, IIT Madras, Chennai-600036

Lecture - 06

Self Assessment Questions & Possible Answers

1. Briefly explain about 'satkāryavāda.

Ans.: According to Sāṅkhya philosophy, what is non-existent cannot be brought into existence by the operation of cause. A particular effect can be produced out of a particular material cause. There is impossibility of all things coming out from all things. Thus, the effect subsists in the material cause even prior to the operation of cause. It is in a nutshell about the theory satkāryavāda.

2. Briefly explain about Ārambhavāda.

Ans.: Ārambhavāda is also known as asatkāryavāda. This theory is propounded by Nyāya School. Counteracting the Sāṅkhya doctrine of satkāryavāda, it enunciates that the effect is a new phenomenon. It does not exist in the material cause prior to its production.

3. Write about prakṛti parināmavāda.

Ans.: Sāṅkhya named prakṛti parināmavāda as vivartavāda, which explained that cause changed into effect is merely a superficial phenomenon. For example, cloth is nothing but the constituent of colour threads.

4. Elucidate briefly about Brahma Vivartavāda.

Ans.: Sankara proposes the concept 'Brahma vivartavāda'. It states that because of Brahman's māyā, we see different objects in the world and also discriminates one from the other. But the reality is one and the only one, i.e. Brahman, which pervades everywhere both in animate and inanimate objects.