providing the aquifers a very different socio-ecological dimension, which is so different from the central alluvial plain. Further south is the Bundelkhand region, with its uniquely diverse set of hydrogeological settings, further compounded by dry, semi-arid climes. The growing dependencies, including a large urban groundwater footprint, challenges in groundwater quality and rising vulnerabilities require a reform in the planning, management and governance of groundwater resources, with a stronger focus on the science – community interface. Bringing in collaboration and participative experiences from other regions of India will be a crucial baby step in enabling sustainable and equitable management of groundwater from the aquifers of Uttar Pradesh.

REVIEW

Citizen's Science or Science for people The Understanding of Science Through "WORDS"

Nivedita Mehrotra



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The science at every level starts with a strict definition or a group of words clarifying the meaning of the process, phenomenon or technique understood or explained through science. At all academic levels these words or definitions are of utmost significance but need a proper vision to follow. Any subject or substream of science has been brought forwards numerous times through words specific to the idea, objective, and outcome of the same.

Now these words were particularly laid down to express the meaning of the unknown to make it known to the person partaking the knowledge of the particular science. But through the passage of time and advancement of knowledge these words instead of simplifying the meaning of science complicated the very essence of it. The subject became the liking of the elites and the knowledge given to the so called 'brilliant' group of students. This is when it began to complicate the whole essence of the learning of any and every science.

The whole meaning of learning science became a part of a system which was restricted and objectively presented as explainable and understood by a few. So now the knowledge of higher level of science became limited to tough words and definitions learned by the elite scholars. Though originally it was meant to educate people about the environmental and physical or chemical process occurring around them and the reasons and changes involved in those processes.

But words have their own power. Through time immemorial ('though time itself being a separate science') specific scientific words are commonly known to all humans. In a lifetime we are not even aware of how many scientific jargons we apply in our verbal communication on a daily basis. So the question remains that are words important or definitions important towards the knowledge of science. The social system today has made us aware of many such process or scientific terms such as "Greenhouse gasses", 'Climate change', "ozone", "Nuclear energy", "Tsunami", "Earthquake", "Dinosaur", popularly known to everyman or for that matter little children in elementary school. It is only a matter of awareness. So to make any science available or understood by citizens it is important to select words and elaborate them through simpler collection of words. The scientific community, local and national governments, international bodies, all are trying to spread awareness of various scientific processes and consequences involved. Now to alert any set of population and group for any natural or manmade phenomenon is much easier through various digital platforms. But to spread the correct "WORD" is now the responsibility of the scientist or knowledgeable personnel. To make science more understood and citizen's science we need to find the correct words and explain the meanings more clearly.