



EDITORIAL

Fundamental research is scientific research done with pure quest for knowledge and nothing else; it has no other objective. Applied research on the other hand is mostly driven by societal need. There is no denying on the fact that applied research is most significant for immediate welfare of the society. It involves practical application of science for achieving an objective, sometimes set by a client. It gives rise to technology. In short, apparently, the standard of living that we are enjoying today with our modern life style is nothing but a gift from applied research.

Then the first question that may come to our mind is “what is the significance of fundamental research?” To get the answer to this question we need to take help from generous “history”. History shows us that fundamental research has done wonders. It is strange but fact that apparently purposeless findings (fundamental research) of so called “crazy” scientists proved to be extremely useful later (sometimes after many years, sometimes after decades and sometimes after centuries) and paved the way for most of the advanced technologies of human race. Unfortunately, in many of the cases even the scientists did survive to see the miraculous fruits of their so called “purposeless research”. The examples are numerous and countless and a little careful observation will find that it includes almost all the sophistications that have become a part of our life. One such example is our computers which are actually fruits of researches in pure mathematics done hundreds of years ago.

The bottom line is fundamental research is as important as applied research, if not more. There should be encouragement for both the types of researches. With the construction of LHC detecting Higgs’ Boson and advanced LIGO detector detecting gravitational waves and similar other setups it is understood that most of the advanced nations of the world are now supporting fundamental research together with applied research. We hope that in very near future, both these types of researches will take human race to ultimate heights.

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