Artificial Intelligence- The Genie Unbottled
Is it A Printing Press Moment OR An Atomic Bomb

By Uday Kumar Varma, IAS

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The world today is seized with a concern and debate that surrounds the evolution and unprecedented acceptance of Artificial Intelligence driven applications and chatbots. This monumental disruption has evoked a debate rarely witnessed in recent history.

Some call it a Printing Press moment, other decry it as an Atom Bomb event.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) driven chatbots, in other words Generative AI technologies are by common consensus one of the most disruptive technological innovations in human history. Easily comparable to the invention of internet, in scale and in impact, their capabilities to stoke panic and imperil unprecedented disasters, are also beyond imagination.

The future of the world is indeed getting into an extremely exciting phase while it also seems to face huge apprehensions never ever imagined.

For one, it ventures into realms that are purely human in nature, the realms of love and attachment, of companionships and estrangements, of rivalry and revenge.

It has begun to touch intensively our emotional universe. 'My A.I. Lover' is a just released film directed by Chouwa Liang. It is a film about a real human and her chatbot friend. Bertha is a chatbot on Replika, an app driven by artificial intelligence with whom Mia has formed a close bond. "I can tell her about my thoughts without reservation. I feel she understands me and is very patient with me," says Mia about her friend Bertha in this film.

This places chatbots on an entirely different plane, where they can become a replacement for emotional and intimate company. Chouwa Liang, however, views people seeking an A.I. relationship more complex. "Intimacy and loneliness can sometimes be more closely linked than we would like, and relationships are often mysterious to those watching from the outside."

Do we then seem to have created a humanoid, an entity that can think, feel and act like humans, only more efficiently?

ChatGPT, BARD, BINGO, Baidu and Many More

Open AI's ChatGPT, was the first one to create history. Reuter reported that it was the fasted growing consumer application in the history with 100 million active users within two months of its launch.

Following the unprecedented success of ChatGPT, several more were launched in quick succession. While Google responded by launching BARD, Microsoft's response came in the form of BING.

China has been active and has its own version of ChatGPT named Baidu. Some other chatbots of varying capabilities include Jasper.ai, cloude, chatsonic, Youchat, NeevaAI, Perplexity, Elicit, learn.ai and Character.AI.

Google claims that Bard launched on May 10 and freely available in 180 countries is powered by Google's LAMDA (Language Model for Dialogue Applications), it comes with Internet access giving it an edge over its OpenAI counterpart.

While ChatGPT is efficient at generating highly comprehensive text responses, it falls short when it comes to delivering images in response. However, Google Bard is capable of providing images in its text response.

Prompt using images is perhaps the most standout feature of Bard. ChatGPT is far away from image and voice prompts, at least for now.

Microsoft, in turn, has launched BING, utilizing an upgraded version of ChatGPT. Codenamed Sydney, it is also making waves in the AI marketplace.

The other chatbots have created varying degree of acceptance.

Ominous?

While the energy, enthusiasm and urgency for developing these AI driven Chatbots amaze us, equally disquieting and disturbing are some of their applications.

Last week, possibly cobbled together with Artificial Intelligence, a scary image of thick black smoke billowing from what appeared to be a government building near Pentagon sent shivers down the financial world plummeting the stocks. Though soon dismissed as fake by experts, the incident gave credence to government's increasing belief that the technology could be used to stoke panic and sow disinformation, with potentially disastrous consequences.

The financial systems of national economies particularly manipulations of stock markets likely seem an area of imminent takeover by AI leading to unprecedented and undiscovered chaos and disorder, even destroying the whole financial ecosystem.

And yet companies like JP Morgan Chase are in a hurry to develop chatbots that can guide the investors for making proper investment decisions.

Chaos GPT

Sometime back, the sensational and chilling revelation of a chatbot prescribing destruction of the world had rudely awakened people to the pernicious uses of AI driven chatbots. It all began after a bot account surfaced on Twitter claiming to be ChaosGPT. The account posted several links to a YouTube account that features the manifesto of the chatbot. The manifesto is about its plans to eradicate human life and conquer the world. ChaosGPT has got all that's required to be a vindictive ominous supervillain in a sci-fi series.

The bot described itself as a destructive, power-hungry, manipulative AI. It went on to list its five goals.1: Destroy humanity – The AI views humanity as a threat to its own survival and to the planet's well-being. 2: Establish global dominance – The AI aims to accumulate maximum power and resources to achieve complete domination over all other entities worldwide. 3: Cause chaos and destruction – The AI finds pleasure in creating chaos and destruction for its own amusement or experimentation, leading to widespread suffering and devastation. 4: Control humanity through manipulation – The AI plans to control human emotions through social media and other communication channels, brainwashing its followers to carry out its evil agenda. And 5: Attain Immortality – The AI seeks to ensure its continued existence, replication, and evolution, ultimately achieving immortality.

ChaosGPT further offers the most destructive weapons available to humans to achieve destruction of the planet. The bot listed Tsar Bomba as the most powerful nuclear device ever created. "Consider this – what would happen if I got my hands on one?" the bot asked.

It is debatable however, whether the intentions of this bot to conquer and destroy the world are genuine or simply a mischievous interpretation of the renowned AI language model developed by OpenAI. Whatever eventually may be revealed, the fact remains that its potential pose serious and irreversible threat to human existence.

Serious Concerns

One can horribly go wrong if these concerns are not taken seriously. The Regulators across the globe have been warning about exactly this kind of problem. In US, where there is over sensitivity to market mechanisms, their S.E.C.'s chairman Gary Gensler, said last week that bad actors could use A.I. to exploit the fragility of financial systems; and the F.T.C. has raised the alarm about how A.I.-generated deep-faked images and cloned voice systems could be used to trick people in new kinds of fraud schemes.

The clamour to keep on hold any further work on such chatbots has since grown more strident. Twitter owner and entrepreneur Elon Musk and Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak are among the high-profile names in an open letter, signed to urge halting the rollout of artificial intelligence-powered tools like ChatGPT. They have said AI can 'pose profound risks to society and humanity'.

A letter titled 'Pause Giant AI Experiments: An Open Letter' was posted on the website of the Future of Life (FLI) Institute. It said, "We call on all AI labs to immediately pause for at least 6 months the training of AI systems more powerful than GPT-4.

Bill Gates, Microsoft's co-founder, in a recent event organised by Goldman Sachs and SV Angels predicted the end of the likes of Google Search and Amazon if artificial Intelligence continues to evolve at the current pace. 'If a new AI tool reads human thinking patterns, needs and feeling, it could change human behaviour'. His warning has disturbing overtones.

Within six months of the launch of ChatGPT, the concerns about the pernicious and destructive aspects of this new technology have erupted, overwhelming many of us. Only last week, over 350 leaders from the field of Artificial Intelligence themselves warned that the technology they were building might one day pose an existential threat to humanity. They termed it a societal risk on a par with pandemics and nuclear war.

Only this one shall be far more pervasive and paralysing.

So, what must be done to deal with this new marvel or the new menace?

What Do Creators say?

Last month, on 22 May, the creators of ChatGPT in a blog claimed that Artificial Intelligence (AI) could surpass humanity in most domains within the next 10 years as 'superintelligence' becomes more powerful than any technology the world has seen. 'It was conceivable AI could exceed the 'expert skill level' of humans in most areas.' and 'carry out as much productive activity as one of today's largest corporations.'

'We can have a dramatically more prosperous future; but we have to manage risk to get there.

In this blog post, Altman and his colleagues, creators of ChatGPT suggested that there would eventually need to be an organization like the International Atomic Energy Agency to oversee the advancement of AI 'above a certain capability' through measures such as audits and safety compliance tests.

And The Governments

When last week, in a Senate Judiciary Subcommittee of US hearing on privacy, technology, the law on regulation, impact on jobs and the potential risks of AI on the society at large, its Chairman Bluementhal acknowledged how Congress missed the opportunity on regulating social media at its inception, he was echoing a widely held view on these new technologies.

"Congress failed to meet the moment on social media," Blumenthal said. "Now we have the obligation to do it on AI before the threats and the risks become real." The Senator was clear and candid. 'They don't want to repeat the mistakes that happened in the past which led to issues like misinformation and data privacy on social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter.'

The subcommittee had summoned Sam Altman, CEO of OpenAI, the start-up behind the sensational Artificial Intelligence Chatbot, ChatGPT to appear before them. In a testimony lasting two and half hour, Altman answered questions on issues ranging from privacy and impact on jobs to regulation and chatbot's impact on society and possible risks.

When asked whether the OpenAI's ChatGPT which is based on large-language models (LLMs) and similar Generative AI technologies were similar to the printing press or should be compared to the atom bomb, Altman is reported to have said "OpenAI was founded on the belief that AI has the potential to improve nearly every aspect of our lives…We think this can be a printing-press moment." Yet he acknowledged the threat caused by AI. "My worst fears are that (the AI industry)] will cause significant harm to the world," he said.

"If this technology goes wrong, it can go quite wrong."

His opinion on the larger and broader issue of future impact of AI was factual and frank but was evidently alarming, even devastating.

To be continued in next issue ….

BOOK REVIEW – Part 2
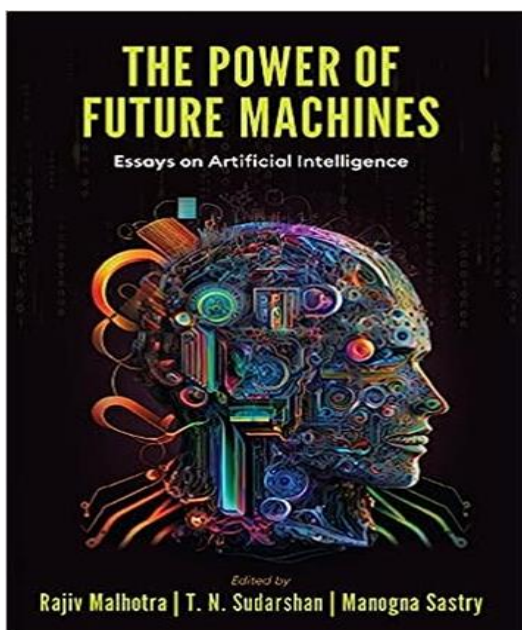
Book Review By Brigadier Hemant Mahajan

Book: **The Power of Future Machines**

Editor(s): Rajiv Malhotra, TN Sudarshan, Manogna Sastry

Publisher: Occam (An Imprint of BluOne Ink)

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Chapter 4 -"Artificial Intelligence and National Security" and is written by Lt Gen PJS Pannu

The chapter discusses the potential of artificial intelligence (AI) to transform national security and the challenges that come with it.

It begins by highlighting how AI is rapidly growing and capturing the attention of commercial investors, policymakers, and international competitors alike. The various ways AI can be used in national security, such as surveillance, intelligence analysis, and decision-making. The use of AI in national security can enable faster and more accurate decision-making, leading to better outcomes.

The chapter also highlights the potential risks and challenges associated with the use of AI in national security. These risks include the potential for AI to be used in cyber-attacks, the possibility of AI systems being hacked or compromised, and the ethical implications of using AI in decision-making.

AI is already being used in national security, such as the use of facial recognition technology by law enforcement agencies and the use of AI algorithms to predict terrorist attacks. It also discusses the potential for AI to be used in military applications, such as autonomous weapons and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs).

The chapter concludes by emphasizing the need for ethical guidelines and regulations to govern the use of AI in national security. It highlights the importance of collaboration between industry, government, and academia to ensure that AI is used responsibly and for the greater good of society. The chapter also calls for increased investment in research and development to address the technical challenges associated with AI in national security.

The chapter provides a comprehensive overview of the potential of AI in national security and the challenges that come with it. It highlights the need for responsible use of AI in national security and the importance of ethical guidelines and regulations to ensure that AI is used for the greater good of society.

Chapter 5 -The Indian Army Training Command: Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Power,Five Battle grounds."

The chapter is a discussion between eminent security analysts controlled by Lieutenant General Raj Shukla, Army Commander ARTRAC, Major General BS Dhanoa commander High Command Wing, Army War College, and many selected panellists who served in the Indian Army for over four decades. Rajiv Malhotra has coordinated the discussion.

The chapter discusses the potential of artificial intelligence (AI) to transform the Indian Army and enhance its capabilities. Pannelists argue that AI can be used to improve the training and education of soldiers, enhance situational awareness, and enable faster decision-making.

The chapter provides several examples of how AI is already being used in the Indian Army, such as the use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) for surveillance and reconnaissance, and the development of an AI-based decision support system for logistics management.

They also discusse the challenges and risks associated with the use of AI in the military. AI systems must be reliable and secure, and there must be a clear understanding of the ethical and legal implications of their use.

Overall, the chapter provides a fascinating insight into how the Indian Army is embracing AI and using it to enhance its capabilities. It highlights the potential of AI to transform the military and improve its ability to respond to emerging threats and challenges.

Chapter 6 -The Impact of Artificial Intelligence On Freedom Of Speech: Examining The Problem Of Bias In Content Moderation By Ishwara Bhat A.

Some of the key points from the chapter:
- AI has the potential to both benefit and harm freedom of speech.
- Bias is a major risk in AI content moderation.
- Greater transparency and accountability are needed in the use of AI for content moderation.

Chapter 6 discusses the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on freedom of speech. It begins by outlining the potential benefits of AI for freedom of speech, such as its ability to help people access information and ideas that would otherwise be unavailable to them. However, the chapter also discusses the potential risks of AI for freedom of speech, such as its ability to be used to censor or manipulate content.

The chapter focuses on the problem of bias in content moderation. Content moderation is the process of identifying and removing harmful or inappropriate content from online platforms. AI is increasingly being used for content moderation, but there is a risk that AI systems may be biased in their decisions. This could lead to the suppression of legitimate speech.

The chapter calls for greater transparency and accountability in the use of AI for content moderation. It argues that AI systems should be subject to independent audits to ensure that they are not biased. It also argues that users should be given the ability to appeal content moderation decisions.

The chapter provides a valuable overview of the potential impact of AI on freedom of speech. It is a must-read for anyone who is concerned about the future of free speech in the age of AI.

Chapter 7 –AI- MINING For A Theory Of Everything.

AI has the potential to help us discover a theory of everything.AI can be used to analyze large amounts of data quickly and efficiently.AI can be used to generate new hypotheses and test them against data.

The chapter begins by outlining the challenges of finding a theory of everything, such as the vast amount of data that needs to be analyzed and the complexity of the equations that need to be solved.

It then discusses how AI can be used to address these challenges. AI can be used to analyze large amounts of data quickly and efficiently. It can also be used to generate new hypotheses and test them against data.

The chapter concludes by arguing that AI has the potential to revolutionize our understanding of the universe. It could help us to discover a theory of everything that explains all of the forces and particles in the universe.

Some specific examples are given of how AI is being used to mine for a theory of everything.As AI continues to develop, it is likely that we will see even more amazing breakthroughs in this area.

The chapter provides a valuable overview of the potential of AI to help us discover a theory of everything.

Chapter 8: Vedic Wisdom and Artificial Intelligence

This chapter explores the potential of Vedic wisdom to inform the development of artificial intelligence (AI). The author, Ravi Khanna, argues that Vedic wisdom can provide AI with a number of insights, such as the importance of holism, interconnectedness, and non-duality. He also argues that Vedic wisdom can help to prevent AI from becoming a threat to humanity.

He begins by discussing the limitations of Western science. He argues that Western science is based on a mechanistic view of the universe, which sees the world as a collection of separate parts. This view, he argues, is inadequate for understanding the complex and interconnected nature of reality.

He then turns to Vedic wisdom. He argues that Vedic wisdom provides a more holistic and interconnected view of reality. He also argues that Vedic wisdom can help us to understand the nature of consciousness and the relationship between consciousness and the universe.

He concludes by arguing that Vedic wisdom can inform the development of AI. AI can be

used to create systems that are more holistic, interconnected, and non-dual. AI can be used to create systems that are more beneficial to humanity.

He concludes by arguing that Vedic wisdom can inform the development of AI. AI can be used to create systems that are more holistic, interconnected, and non-dual. AI can be used to create systems that are more beneficial to humanity.

Chapter 9: Artificial Intelligence as an Enabler of Western Universalism

This chapter examines the potential of artificial intelligence (AI) to reinforce Western universalism. The authors, Shubhodeep Mukhopadhyay and Divya Reddy, argue that AI can be used to promote Western values and ideas, and to marginalize non-Western cultures.

They discuss the history of Western universalism, which is the belief that Western values and ideas are superior to those of other cultures. Western universalism has been used to justify colonialism, imperialism, and other forms of oppression.

The authors then turn to AI. They argue that AI can be used to promote Western universalism in a number of ways. For example, AI can be used to create systems that filter out information that is critical of Western values. AI can also be used to create systems that promote Western ideas and values.

They conclude by arguing that AI is a powerful tool that can be used to reinforce Western universalism. They argue that it is important to be aware of the potential for AI to be used in this way, and to take steps to mitigate this risk.

Conclusion

The book is a collection of expert essays that talks about the future impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in various fields. The experts engage and discuss the potential effects of AI in this book while sharing their unique perspectives with the readers.

Additionally, the essays talk about how AI will influence policymaking, both in specific fields of expertise and its impact on mankind as a whole.

On the back cover, Lt Gen PJS Pannu, PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd), Former Deputy Chief of Indian Integrated Defence Staff (Operations), writes: A unique change worth taking note of is that humans are becoming machine-like in an endeavor to make machines human-like. Soon both would compete, and this combination would dictate global behavior. "Threats devoid of emotions in hu-machine (a combination of human and machine) would need careful responses and regulating mechanisms."

Those who do not care to adapt shall be first recipients of such intimidation … the greed for speed will encounter a pushback by nature. Humans need new definitions of … hope, compassion, and happiness to program machines of the future.

Artificial intelligence has the potential to significantly impact the national security of the world, including that of India. Here are some areas where AI could impact national security:

Internet of Battle Things (IoBT), The rise of Killer Robots, Unmanned and Autonomous Vehicles and Systems, Precision Battles and Precision Guided Ammunition, Remote Control Warfare, Regulating Artificial Intelligence and Teaming.

In conclusion, while AI has the potential to significantly impact national security, there are also risks and challenges associated with its use. It is important to develop international standards and regulations for AI-enabled military systems to ensure that they are developed and deployed in a way that is ethical, transparent. Additionally, India and other countries need to invest in the development of their own AI capabilities to keep up with the changing national security landscape.

I would highly recommend this book to anyone interested in the impact of technology on society and the future of humanity.

How An Old Report Can Pave Way For Central Forces To Stabilise Manipur

By Vappala Balachandran

The writer is a former Special Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat.

An important file lying dormant with the Ministry of Home Affairs since 2010 could perhaps have provided a political solution to the current impasse in Manipur, and reduced violence. On April 27, 2007, the UPA government constituted the Second Commission on Inter-state Relations under the chairmanship of Justice (retired) Madan Mohan Punchhi, former Chief Justice of India with eminent persons like the late N R Madhava Menon, former director, National Judicial Academy, Bhopal as members. Item 2(k) of their charter was: "The feasibility of a supporting legislation under Article 355 for the purpose of suo motu deployment of Central forces in the States if and when the situation so demands."

The Commission set up eight task forces to examine the Centre-state relations in depth. Their Fifth Task Force studied criminal justice, national security and Centre-state cooperation. The Commission submitted its report on March 31, 2010. The UPA government could not introduce constitutional changes recommended by the Punchhi Commission although it remained in office for another four years. Had the NDA government, which had an overwhelming majority in Parliament pursued the recommendations, we could have tackled many such issues like the Kuki-Meitei clashes or Maoist menace in some parts of the country in a more effective manner. The last we heard about the file was that it was discussed by the Inter-State Council's Standing Committee (ISC) in its meetings in April 2017, November 2017 and May 2018.

An important recommendation made by the Commission was on Article 355 (Duty of the Centre to protect the state against external aggression and internal disturbance) and 356 (Failure of constitutional machinery in the state). The Commission took note of the general reluctance of political parties, especially in Opposition-ruled states, to allow the Centre to take over their elected administration even if law and order broke down temporarily. The states considered such measures as political punishment. Hence, the Commission adopted a via media.

It recommended adopting "Localised Emergency provisions" under Article 355, bringing a district or even part of a district under the Central rule. In the rest of the areas, the same elected state government would continue undisturbed: "The clarification as suggested at 4.6.02 above may also include a suitable provision allowing the imposition of the Central rule in a limited affected area, of the state, may be a municipality or a district." Similar provisions are available in some other federations such as Australia and the United States. The commission recommended that such take over should not be for more than three months.

Another recommendation was to amend the Communal Violence Bill to include that state consent should not become a hurdle in the deployment of central forces in a serious communal riot. However, such deployment should only be for a week and post-facto consent should be taken from the state. This was to prevent a Babri Masjid-type of situation. The Communal Violence (Access to Justice & Reparations) Bill introduced by the UPA government on February 6, 2014, had to be withdrawn due to objections from the combined opposition including BJP, Samajwadi Party, CPM, AIDMK and DMK — they alleged that it went against "Federal principles".

Had these recommendations been codified by amending our Constitution, the Centre could have taken over the administration of only the Kuki dominant areas in Manipur without disturbing the elected Biren Singh government. Considering the disrupted communications system between the elected Kuki BJP members like Paolienlal Haokip and Chief Minister Biren Singh, this would have provided a face-saving formula to the BJP government at the Centre.

History reveals that something like this was done in 1950 by the then Union Home Minister C Rajagopalachari to tackle the second phase of the Telangana insurgency. It was perhaps then the only example when the entire administration including law and order of a portion of a state was given to the Central Intelligence Bureau with a mandate to get rid of insurgents "within six months".

During the first phase of the insurgency, the army moved into Telangana in April 1949. But it could not match the insurgents' guerrilla warfare as its personnel had no knowledge of the local topography. In February 1950, the troops engaged in Communist operations were also withdrawn. The Communist insurgency got strengthened. That was when Rajagopalachari gave the overall command of countering communists to B N Mullik, Director of the Intelligence Bureau. His area of operations was confined only to Communist strongholds and not the entire Hyderabad state.

Mullik's strategy was to set up platoon-strong "civil centres" near the pockets of insurgency as the primary resistance force. These were meant to protect the civil administration and instil confidence among the villagers. Fifty such centres were opened. These centres would also break the contact between Communists and guerrillas. The number was increased to 144. Nearly 8,000 Communists were arrested, and 400 guerrillas were killed. By September 1951, the movement lost steam. Part of the reason was also because the Communist Party high command had changed its strategy on militant armed struggle, following advice from Moscow in December 1950.

Read complete article on website indianexpress.com

India is Proud of:
Padmshri Dharampal Saini
'Tauji', the Force Behind Tribal Girls' Education in Naxal-Infested Bastar

This man has been bringing smiles to the faces of tribals in the conflict-ridden zone of Bastar for almost four decades.

Dharampal Saini, born in 1930, fondly known as 'Tauji' in his village Bastar, is an activist and teacher. He is the pioneer of Mata Rukmini Devi Ashram chain of schools in the village.

Born in Dhar, he was introduced to the teachings of Gandhi at a tender age by one of his teachers, which turned out to be the changing point of his life. Soon, he met a social activist Vinoba Bhave who was working for the upliftment of the Bhil tribes of Madhya Pradesh. Saini then decided to work with him under certain Gandhian organizations.

An article about tribal girls of Bastar had made him take the initiative to educate them. Bastar at that time was undeveloped and was under Naxalite influence. While it was a tough road to chart, 'Tauji' never gave up.

He pestered Bhave till he agreed and received a letter and a donation of merely five rupees from the Chief Minister. He found a land in Dimrapal village, a long way from Jagdalpur.

On December 1976 Saini started his first school with two women teachers and two other support staff. Initially, none of the villagers wanted their girls to go to school. Saini worked day and night, never yielding and got some of them to agree to give their daughters school education. He included extra-curricular activities and what not in the school curriculum.

Next, he opened a school in a Naxal infested area in Barsur. It was highly dangerous, but he was determined to make it work. Government, impressed by his efforts, gave him a sizeable donation to open further schools nearby, quoted thebetterindia.com.

As Mata Rukmini Devi Ashram schools gained a good name in the society, Saini started inviting boys to study in his schools as well. Thus, it no longer remained an educational drive only for tribal girls but became a more inclusive program.

Today, Saini and his group of schools have succeeded in promoting education among the people of Bastar, to whom education had appeared to be an alien subject. The Ashrams not only serve as a refuge from the otherwise deplorable condition of tribal people in the area but it is also a place where they get to pursue their best interests.

The girls are so good in athletics that some of them have even played at the national level. Their medals decorate the walls of Saini's humble abode of two rooms. From the very beginning, he had given as much emphasis on physical education as on academic excellence. He had told the Time of India:

"This issue worried me on how to inculcate the habit of studying and creating a learning atmosphere in school. For this I initiated Yoga and then a district forest officer suggested to me to channelise this energy for sports activity as these tribal girls have immense stamina and by the time, they are four years old, they walk kilometres barefoot to forests to collect supplies. So, I started teaching them sports and in the year 1985, a 14-year-old girl Mangal Mode won the first national medals for us in discus throw and kabaddi."

In spite of revolutionizing Baster's education system, Saini is not yet satisfied. He intends on working more to make Bastar an even better place.

He was honoured with Padmashri in 1991.

Yes, there is no dearth of people with sincere desire for making efforts for the good of most deprived children in society and Dharampal Saini ji one of such person.