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- A Statement On The Scientific Temper by P.N. Haksar and others
- Published in Mainstream ( New Delhi )
- Counter-Statement On The Humanistic Temper by Ashis Nandy
- Published in Mainstream ( New Delhi )
- and twenty-five other contributions to the discussion on the Scientific Temper Statement

## REVIEWS OF THE BOOK

NATIONAL HERALD ( NEW DELHI )	1990	Inder Jit Lall
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## SCIENTIFIC TEMPER

“A consequence of the continued permeation of science and technology in our daily life that has occurred in an increasingly rapid pace in the last hundred years or so is a feeling of alienation from the world we live in ..... if we are to get rid ourselves of such a feeling of strangeness, we must make a serious effort to understand science and its underlying principles which has given us various marvels in the present world. This how and why of science can only be understood if popularization of science is done, and through it common man comes to terms with the world he lives in. Scientific temper is an ingredient for popularization of science. And we Indians need it all the more, for in a developing country like ours, this temper is a pre-requisite for a genuine progress in all spheres of human activity. A writer of popular science, as also the common reader, has to inculcate the scientific temper in him. Pandit Nehru was an arch exponent of scientific temper and this he expressed very well in his writings and speeches.

**K.V. Subbaram** has compiled some twenty-five papers of the variegated aspects of scientific temper which saw the light of day in standard English dailies and journals during 1981-83. The compiler views that despite Pandit Nehru’s advocacy of the scientific temper we are witnessing a phenomenal growth of superstitious beliefs and obscurant practices in India. Thus, our national scene deserves a survey which these articles provide well. The scientific temper syndrome has drawn and earned wide opinions and reactions because it is a scientific term and it has a big connotation.

The compiler prefaces his argument: *“Inherent in the scientific temper is a system of value judgements. The inculcation of his temper in our society would result in our people becoming rational and objective, thereby generating a climate favouring an egalitarian, democratic, secular, and universal outlook.”* This subject otherwise involves a wide variation of views. In any case, these essays are useful for all sections of the people for creating a fruitful consciousness of the ‘temper’ notwithstanding we are sensitive to our spiritual ideas and heritage.”

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