Seminar underlines similarity between science and religion

BY OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore, June 24: A three-day International seminar on Science and Metaphysics has begun in the city on Sunday. The seminar, with focal theme Consciousness and Genetics, intends to cover developments in the field of genetics, related ethical and moral issues and metaphysical implications of the Genome Project.

The seminar will also explore possible connections between consciousness and genetics through the fast developing neuroscience. The recent advances in science and philosophy of mind consequent to developments in physical and biological sciences will also be discussed in the session.

Delivering the inaugural lecture on Myths, Metaphysics and Science, Dr D.P. Chattopadhyaya from Centre for Studies in Civilisations, said: "In many major civilisations as Indic, Sinic, Semitic and Hellenic, the basic elements of nature is recognised by the modern science had also been recognised in a pre-experimental or intuitive manner."

The distinction between the mythical and the scientific can be best be understood through patient and perceptive linguistic analysis based on the principles of philology and etymology," he said.

A serious research approach to develop scientifically and intellectually rigorous 'dialogue between science and religion' has excellent

potential to engage a major scientific and metaphysical issue constructively, said Mr Charles L. Harper Jr, a representative from the John Templeton Foundation. He said that both religion and science have similar elements when it comes to conflict, integration, separation and dialogue.

The function was presided over by governor V.S. Rama Devi director of National Institute of Advanced Sciences, R. Narasimha gave the welcome speech.

The seminar is being jointly organised by NIAS and the John Templeton Foundation and was co-sponsored by Centre for Studies in Civilisation and the Indian Council for Rhilosophical Research.



SCIENCE OF METAPHYSICS: : Governor V.S. Rama Devi with the representative of John Templeton Foundation, Charles L. Harper (left) before the inauguration of International Seminar on Science and Metaphysics in Bangalore on Sunday. Director, National Institute of Advance Studies R. Narasimha (right) and representative of Centre for studies in Civilisation and the Indian Council for Philosophical Research D.P. Chattopadhyaya were present on the occasion. An ASIAN AGE photograph