Vidya Vistar Scheme

Webinar on

"Andaman aur Nicobar dweepsamuho ki bhashaayi sanskriti aur Hindi" to commemorate

'International Mother Language Day' 25th February 2022

REPORT

Under the aegis of Vidya Vistar Scheme of Delhi University, Janki Devi Memorial College in collaboration with Mahatma Gandhi Govt College, organized a webinar "Andaman aur Nicobar dweepsamuho ki bhshaayi sanskriti aur Hindi" on the occasion of 'International Mother Language Day' on 25th February 2022.

The webinar began with a welcome Address by Dr Shilpa Chaudhary, Nodal Officer, V2S, JDMC. Ms Pearl, a atudent of B.A. (Hons) Sociology welcomed the Principals of the two colleges. Prof Sandhya Garg, Vice-Principal, JDMC and the Programme Coordinator welcomed the gathering and emphasized the role of mother language in an individual's life. She welcomed the emphasis on mother language as proposed by the NEP as the mother tongue is the language closest to our heart and soul.

Prof. Swati Pal, Principal, JDMC gave an introductory address to the webinar. She thanked the Organizing Team from both the colleges for choosing a very relevant theme. Prof Pal emphasized the glory of mother tongue and that we should be proud of it as it is an integral part of our identification and keeps us attached to our roots.

Prof B. Prabhuram, Principal, MGGC thanked Prof Swati Pal and the organizing team. He shared his thoughts on mother tongue and added that even though we learn new languages, we should remain in touch with our roots thereby adding to cultural richness.

Dr. V. Rajyalakshmi, Sociology Department, JDMC coordinatoed the next section of the programme wherein teachers from both the colleges narrated a few lines about mother tongue in their own 'maatri bhasha', namely Hindi, Bangla, Tamil, Oriya, Marathi, Punjabi, Tamil, Kannada, Telugu, Rongmei.

The main speaker of the session were then invited. Dr Shashi Singh, Hindi Department, MGGC enlightened the audience with the historical significance of Andaman and Nicobar islands. The islands are not much discussed in media although they are popular tourist destination. The territory is divided into three districts: the Nicobar District with Car Nicobar as its capital,

the South Andaman district with Port Blair as its capital, and the North and Middle Andaman district with Mayabunder as its capital. Dr Singh spoke about the rich variety of inhabitants of the region. The majority of inhabitants are natives of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal who come here in search of trade and employment. People from Punjab, UP, Bihar and Jharkhand have also settled down here.

Dr Singh talked about the variety of languages spoken in the territory. People usually talk in Hindi while official communication takes place in English. Most signboards in the territory are in English. Hindi is taught in schools and colleges and Punjabi is taught as a third language in some parts. Most people in the region are multi-lingual. Dr Shashi Singh also spoke about some native languages that are disppearing from the region. He then described the indigenous version of Hindi that is used by people, that has traits from other languages and may not be the pure form of Hindi. He also narrated interesting examples of daily usage of Hindi language and some local meanings that have come to be attached to certain words/phrases. He also described the libraries in the region and cultural festival organized in the capital city. He ended by saying that people from all parts of India have come and settled down here and have added to the cultural richness of the territory, hence this region is rightly called min-India.

Prof Sandhya Garg thanked Dr Shashi Singh for an extremely inspiring and engaging discussion, describing so vividfully the culture and languages of the region.

The session ended with a vote of thanks by Dr Shilpa Chaudhary.



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Some Glimpses

















