



আম্বেদকর কলেজ

ফটিকরায়, উনকোটি, ত্রিপুরা

Ambedkar College

A Govt. Degree College Affiliated to Tripura University
(UGC 2f & 12B recognized and NAAC Accredited)
Fatikroy, Unakoti, Tripura – 799290

**REPORT OF THE TWO-DAY NATIONAL SEMINAR
ON**

"SANSKRIT STUDIES: ITS PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO TRIPURA"
organized by the Department of Sanskrit, Ambedkar College, Fatikroy, Unakoti, Tripura,
from 28th to 29th July, 2015,
in the Seminar Hall of the college

The Seminar begins with the inaugural session at 10.30 am on 28th of July, 2015, Tuesday. This session was presided by the principal in-charge of the college in the presence of different respected invitees viz. **Pujya Swami Jushtanandaji Maharaj**, Secretary, Ramkrishna Misson Ashram, Kailashahar, Unakoti, Tripura, as inaugurator, **Smt. Tunubala Malakar**, Honorable MLA, Fatikroy Constituency, as the Chief Guest, **Dr. Sambhunath Rakshit**, Principal, Ramkrishna Mahavidyalaya, Kailashahar, as Guest of Honour, **Prof. (Rtd.) Anil Kumar Chakraborty**, Kailashahar, as distinguished Guest. In view of the declared nationwide seven days mourning due to the sudden demise of our ex-president of India Dr. A. P. J. Abdulkalam on 27th evening, the inaugural session begins with after observing two minutes silence and, followed by that, **Dr. Snigdha Das Roy**, Professor & Head, Dept. of Sanskrit, Assam University, Silchar, did deliver the keynote address and introduce the theme of the National Seminar to the learned audience and followed by speeches were delivered by aforementioned respected invitees who reflect upon the need and benefits of Sanskrit Studies in India in general and Tripura in special. Besides that, there were two lectures delivered by **Dr. Chandan Kumar Chakraborty**, Associate Professor & Head, Department of Sanskrit, Tripura University, Agartala, as plenary speaker and spoke on problems of teaching Sanskrit in Sanskrit in Tripura, and another was the special address made by **Dr. Lalita Kumar Sahoo**, Professor & Head, Department of Dharmashastra, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, Ekalavya Campus, Agartala, who did deliberate upon the relevance of Sanskrit study by expounding the scientific elements recorded in different texts of Sanskrit literature, especially in *Dhamashastra* texts.

The first technical session was started after the inaugural session and lunch break at 2.00 pm on 28th of July, 2015. This session was **chaired by** the resource person **Dr. Chandan Kumar Chakraborty**, Associate Professor & Head, Department of Sanskrit, Tripura University, Agartala and **Dr. Sahidul Ahmed**, Assistant Professor & Head in-charge, Department of Education, Ambedkar College, did perform the duty of **rappporteur**. Seven papers were planned for presentation in the first technical session, but presented only six papers, of which the first **(1)** was by **Dr. Ravi Khangai**, Assistant Professor, Department of History, Rashtrasant Tukdoji Maharaj Nagpur University, Nagpur. The primary objective of his paper was to deliberate on the importance of the study of Sanskrit texts, especially the Mahabharata to understand the origin of tribal communities of India. He did elaborate the mention of different tribal communities in Mahabharata. Second **(2)** paper presenter was **Ms. Mrinal Das Gupta**, Assistant Professor & HOD, Department of Sanskrit, Government Degree College, Dharmanagar, West Tripura. She presented her paper in Bengali language and at the beginning of her paper did glorify Sanskrit as The Oldest Language of India and the ancientness of its study in India. In the second part of her paper she did explain the nature of the study of Sanskrit in Tripura, especially the Three Years Degree Course (TDC) offered by the Tripura University and different problems related to the study of Sanskrit in different educational institutions of Tripura, viz schools, colleges etc. At the end she did suggest some remedial

measures to make the syllabus of Sanskrit language more attractive and comfortable for the degree students as well as for the common people of Tripura. Also she did highlight the importance of the study of Sanskrit in present day. Third **(3)** paper was of **Mr. Jibankrishna Patra**, Assistant Professor, Department of Bengali, Bir Bikram Memorial College, Agartala, Tripura. This paper was in Bengali language and by citing examples did narrate the influence of Rabindranath Tagore on the royal family of Tripura which had perhaps introduced the Sanskrit language in the royal family and attracted the minds of the kings of Tripura to use Sanskrit in their royal communications. Also he did focus on the fact that the 'Rajamala', the royal account of Tripura kingdom, was first written in the Sanskrit language and unfortunately it not available now, except in quotations. Fourth **(4)** paper was about the importance of the study of Sanskrit texts, especially the Upanisads, for environmental awareness and the presenter was **Mr. Manoranjan Das**, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, Bir Bikram Memorial College, Agartala, Tripura. Citing quotations for different Upanisads he did emphasize that the study of Sanskrit literatures could play a vital role to create the sense of reverence in the human minds towards the presently endangered nature which may result into the protection of world environment. Fifth **(5)** paper was about the role of Sanskrit Study to promote human values presented by **Ms. H. Leishem Sharma**, PhD Scholar, Department of Sanskrit, Assam University, Silchar. Her paper was mainly compilations of quotations from different texts of Sanskrit literature, viz. Bhagavadgeeta, Upanisads etc., pertaining to the professing of various human values like brotherhood, truthfulness, obedience, respect etc. Sixth **(6)**, the last paper of the first technical session, was on Sanskrit Studies in North-Eastern region of India presented by **Mr. Karunakanta Adhikary**, PhD Scholar, Department of Sanskrit, Assam University, Silchar. He did narrate present day's different modes of the study of Sanskrit in the states of North East, especially in Assam, and highlighted achievements of different states of North Eastern region in the area of Sanskrit Study. Also presented the list of erudite and award winning Sanskrit scholars of the various states of North East.

After all these presentations the chair of this session did invite scholars presented therein for an open discussion on each paper and at last the chair did deliberate his view points and suggestions to improve the papers. With conclusion of this session the activities of the first day, i.e. 28/07/2015, came to an end.

On 29th July 2015 the second and third technical sessions started simultaneously at 10.30 am. The second session was chaired by Dr. Snigdha Das Ray, Professor & Head, Department of Sanskrit, Assam University, Silchar and third session was chaired by Dr. Shanti Pokhrel, Associate Professor, Department of Sanskrit, Assam University, Silchar. Dr. Ravi Khangai, Assistant Professor, Department of History, R.T.M.N University, Nagpur and Dr. Pawan Kumar, Assistant Total eighteen papers were presented in both the sessions, nine papers each.

The first **(1)** paper of the second technical session was of **Dr. L. K. Sahoo**, Professor & Head, Department of Dharmashastra, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, Ekalavya Campus, Agartala. His paper was about scientific significances of different items and duties, viz. tiger skin, conch, cremation, fasting etc., prescribed in the *dharmashastra* texts of Sanskrit literature. Second **(2)** paper was about the poetic merit of the Rajaratnakaram, a Sanskrit text of Tripura origin, written by tow distinguished Sanskrit scholars of Tripura named Suresvara and Banasvara, presented by **Dr. Debaraja Panigrahi**, Assistant professor, Depart of Sanskrit, Tripura University, Agartala. In this paper he did explain in details about the definitions of a *mahakavya* as recorded in the texts of poetics of Sanskrit literature and prove that the Rajaratnakara deserve to be called *mahakavya*. Also discussed the contents of the text and its Bengali translation. The third **(3)** paper was presented by **Mr. Govinda Sharma**, Assistant Professor, Department of Sanskrit, Assam University, Silchar. He did present his paper in Sanskrit about different traditions, viz. traditional and modern, of Sanskrit study in present day and highlighted different goals, viz. preaching/spreading religion, support of British rule, of imparting Sanskrit in different periods, viz. Mughal period, Brithis period, post-independence period etc. At last did discuss the tradition of learning Sanskrit in Tripura. Fourth **(4)** paper was about the "Exequies of Sanskrit: Linguistic Nihilism is a Civilisational Error" presented by **Dr. Priyadarshi Bahinipati**, Assistant Professor & HOD i/c, Department of History, Government Degree College, Langtharai valley. In this paper he did deliberate upon the poor diminished status of Sanskrit study in present day India and different problems responsible for this situation of Sanskrit Study. Also suggested different initiatives, viz. Sanskrit should be made compulsory in school and college levels, Sanskrit should be free from

political agenda, establishment of continuity between past and present, to improve the status of Sanskrit Study in India. Fifth (5) paper presenter was **Mr. Manmohan Debnath**, Assistant Professor & HOD i/c, Department of Bengali, Ambedkar College. He did presented his paper in Bengali language about the influence of Sanskrit literature on Bengali literature by citing special reference to Gandharir Abedan and Karna-Kunti Sambad of Rabindranath Tagore. Sixth (6) paper was of **Smt. Mousumi Basfore**, Assistant Professor & HOD i/c, Department of English, Ambedkar College. She presented a paper entitled "Initiatives required to promote Sanskrit in India" and thereby ten different initiatives, viz. Sanskrit should be taught in all IIMs and IITs, teaching and learning process should be more useful, medium of instruction should be Sanskrit etc., were proposed by her. The title of the seventh (7) paper was "Principles of Taxation in Kautilya's Arthashastra" presented by **Mr. L. T. Muana Darlong**, Assistant Professor & HOD i/c, Department of Economics, Ambedkar College. There he presented a comparative study of taxation described in Arthashastra and the modern tax system. Eighth (8) paper was presented by **Mr. Bhabatosh Shil**, PhD Scholar, Department of Sanskrit, Assam University, Silchar. He did presented present and past status of Sanskrit Study in India and also hypothetically presented a picture of the future of Sanskrit Studies in India. The ninth (9) paper of the second technical session was presented by **Dr. Tarun Kumar Sinha**, Assistant professor & HOD i/c, Department of Sanskrit, Ramkrishna Mahavidyalaya, Kailashahar. His paper was about the present trend of Sanskrit studies in Tripura, in which he did highlight the history of the study of Sanskrit in Tripura and then elaborate the modern and traditional ways of Sanskrit learning still existent in post-independent Tripura. The tenth (10) paper was presented by **Dr. Susanta Ghosh**.

All papers in the third technical session were in Sanskrit language, except the first (1) one presented by **Dr. Sipra Ray**, Associate Professor, Department of Sanskrit, Tripura University. She presented her paper titled "Status of Sanskrit Studies in Tripura - Past and Present" and thereby citing quotations from Rajamala and different inscriptions she first presented the rich history of Sanskrit Study in Tripura Kingdom and then narrates the present status of the study of Sanskrit in Tripura. Second (2) paper was presented by **Dr. Govinda Pandey**, Assistant Professor, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, Ekalavya Campus, Agartala. The theme of his paper was about the initiatives, viz. Sanskrit Commission in the year 1956, establishment of Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan and other traditional Sanskrit learning institutes etc., taken by the central government to promote the study of Sanskrit in the post-independence era. Third (3) paper was about the relevance of Sanskrit Study in the present time, presented by **Dr. Pawan Kumar**, Assistant Professor, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, Ekalavya Campus, Agartala. In his paper, by citing views of different luminaries of India and world viz. R. Vekantaraman, Aurobinda Ghosh, Maxmular etc., he did elaborate the role to Sanskrit Study for the revival of past glory of India, for promotion and preservation of ancient Indian literature and for promotion of human values. At the end he concluded by citing a passage from the speech of Smt. Sushama Swaraj, Honorable minister for external affairs, delivered in the 16th World Sanskrit Conference at Thailand, where she had express her hope that "Sanskrit can play important role in developing software". Next, i.e. fourth (4), paper presenter was **Dr. Kripashankar Sharma**, Assistant Professor, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, Ekalavya Campus, Agartala. His paper was about the poetic merit of a Sanskrit text on poetics titled "Geetaganesakavya". The fifth (5) paper was about the relevance of the drama "Dharmavijaya" of Bhudeva Shukla, with special reference to North East, presented by **Smt. Namrata Upadhyay**, PhD Scholar, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, Ekalavya Campus, Agartala. In her paper mainly she did explain the content of the text and its relation with north eastern region. Sixth (6) paper was presented by **Smt. Poulami Roy**, PhD Scholar, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, Ekalavya Campus, Agartala. Her paper was about the influence of Sanskrit literature, especially *puranas* and epics, on Bengali literature, with special reference to the Bengali writer Dr. Deepak Chandra. Seventh (7) paper presenter was **Mr. Pransankar Majumder**, Teacher, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, Ekalavya Campus, Agartala. He did narrates the achievements of Samarendrachandra Barman, the prince of Tripura kingdom, and different inscriptions of Tripura written in Sanskrit to show the use and influence of Sanskrit language and literature in the ancient Tripura. Eighth (8) paper was presented by **Ms. Joysri Das**, Sikshashastri Student, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, Ekalavya Campus, Agartala. Her paper was about the importance of the study of Sanskrit manuscripts in Tripura. The last paper, i.e. eighth (8), of this session was presented by the chair himself, i.e. **Dr. Shanti Pokhrel**, Associate Professor, Department of Sanskrit, Assam University, Silchar. His paper was about the problems of teaching the Sanskrit in Sanskrit with special reference to

North East. In his paper, after a brief introduction to the study of Sanskrit in North Eastern states, he has mainly highlighted eight specific problems and their remedial majors pertaining to "teaching Sanskrit in Sanskrit" in North eastern states.

Having finished all the papers the Chair did allow the learned participants for an open discussion on all the papers and finally presented his own viewpoints on different papers presented therein.

With the conclusion of both, i.e. 2nd and 3rd, technical sessions there was a break of 45 minutes for lunch. And at 2.30pm there commenced the **valedictory session**, which was presided by Dr. Subrata Sharma, principal in-charge, Ambedkar College, along with the chief guest Dr. Ravi Khangai, guest of honour Prof. L. K. Sahoo, distinguished guest Dr. Debaraja Panigrahi and the organizing secretary Dr. Anil Kumar Acharya. There all the guests expressed their views about the seminar and certificates were distributed to the participants. This two-day seminar comes to an end with the vote of thanks by the organizing secretary.

