Vidya Vistar Scheme & NEP Committee
of
Vivekananda College
(University of Delhi)

in collaboration with

Government Model College
Deithor, Assam
(University of Dibrugarh)

announce the launch of the project

LOK VIRASAT

(Life and Culture of North Eastern Regions of India)

to celebrate

Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav

PHASE I

Maati ki Khushboo: Folk Songs on Agriculture and Seasons of North East India

VIVEKANANDA COLLEGE, DELHI

You are the creator of your own destiny

Vivekananda College, accredited 'A' Grade by NAAC, has a dynamic and empowering educational environment for young women seeking an undergraduate degree in Humanities, Commerce, and Sciences. This pioneering knowledge hub of East Delhi attracts students from all over the country. Fostering and inculcating a vibrant exchange of ideas, the college seeks to ignite the minds of learners to facilitate their holistic development.

GOVERNMENT MODEL COLLEGE, DEITHOR

Established in the comparatively underdeveloped area of Karbi Anglong, Government Model College, Deithor, is an initiative of the Assam government. It has been established by the Department of Higher Education (DHE) to spread higher education in remote areas of the north-eastern states.

VIDYA VISTAR (V2) SCHEME

The Vidya Vistar Scheme, an initiative of the University of Delhi, is based on the principle of mutual respect, cooperation and sharing between two Colleges/ Departments of two universities as equal partners. Vivekananda College has signed an MoU with Government Model College Deithor, Assam as partner College under Vidya Vistar Scheme. This college has been established recently in the year 2020. The college is in its infancy and is in the process of laying the foundation for its academics, para-academics, and administration. As a partner institution, Vivekananda College will help in putting the blocks together as efficiently as possible.

Major Objectives of the V2 scheme:

Help partner institutions to develop a strategic plan with strategic goals which are **SMART** (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-framed). The proposed objectives to be achieved through the Vidya Vistar Scheme are to:

- Facilitate capacity building of faculty members
- Strengthen academic administration
- Promote academic and para-academic well-being of the students
- Usher in the culture of innovative thinking, entrepreneurship and partnerships.*

For the fulfilment of the above objectives, the Vidya Vistar Committee of Vivekananda College has planned a number of programmes under its Student Enrichment Programme. One of the objectives is the development of an e-repository: "Life and Cultures of North Eastern Regions of India". Initially proposed for Assam, it can later be expanded to include other northeastern regions.

As the first step in this direction, a programme of collection and publication of folk songs related to the main occupation, agriculture, and seasons on which it is dependent is proposed under the "Lok Virasat" Project.

NEP COMMITTEE

National Education Policy (2020) of India is the first education policy of the 21st century . It aims to address the many developmental imperatives of our country. It proposes the revision and revamping of all aspects of the education structure, including its regulation and governance, to create a new system that is aligned with the aspirational goals of 21st century education, including SDG4, while building upon India's traditions and value systems. The rich heritage of ancient and eternal Indian knowledge and thought has been a guiding light for this policy. The pursuit of knowledge (Jnan), wisdom (Pragyaa), and truth (Satya) was always considered in Indian thought and philosophy as the highest human goal . NEP 2020 emphasizes on rootedness and pride in India, and its rich, diverse, ancient and modern culture and knowledge systems and traditions.* The NEP committee is w

The NEP committee of the college is working to support the objectives of National Education Policy 2020. The committee is involved in:
- Creating awareness about the policy among students
- Providing feedback and inputs pertaining to the implementation of the policy
- Promoting dialogues among faculty members and experts
- Organizing various activities and events for supporting effective implementation of the policy at college/University level.

*Source: https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/NEP_Final_English_0.pdf

LOK VIRASAT PROJECT

India's heritage, arts and handicrafts have always been a medium to express its cultural and traditional expertise. The 28 States and 8 Union Territories spread across the country have their own special culture and traditional identity, which is reflected in different forms of art practiced there. Every region of India has its own special style and folk art. Indian folk art has a huge potential due to its aesthetic appeal and authenticity. The government of India and various institutions have made every effort to promote these forms of art (painting, architecture, cinema, music, theatre, etc.) which are an important part of India's cultural identity and a recognition of her 'soft power'.

The Lok Virasat project aims to preserve and promote the invaluable heritage of Indian culture. It will help to propagate the richness of the culture of the language group to a wider audience through showcasing the literature and facilitating its translation in different languages.

The first programme under its aegis that is proposed is to collect gems of folk songs of north east India. Folk literature is on the lips of the people of the various states. It is expressed in multiple languages and mother tongues. Indian folk literature is a rich repository of creative work, recreations, and transcriptions over centuries. Through folk tales or folk songs, the life, religion, culture, and philosophy of the people as a community are revealed. It is also the first full-fledged flowering of the exchange of words in the form of yantra-mantra, jantra-tantra, puzzle, idiom, folklore, folktales, songs, etc., through which each cultural group disseminated its culture and way of life to successive generations. This precious heritage is endangered due to the pressures of globalization and needs to be preserved for posterity.

While many such anthologies would be available in print or in audio/ video format, engaging with folk literature directly will enable students to appreciate their own heritage and that of other Indian states.

Maati ki Khushboo:
Folk Songs on Agriculture and
Seasons of North East India

In the first phase under the Lok Virasat project, a repository of folk songs related to the agricultural cycle and the seasons of the regions of the northeastern states of India shall be created.

India is a country with diverse topography and diverse people. Heavily dependent on agriculture, the farmers of the country feed and nourish the population of the entire nation with the sweat of their brow. Their long hours of hard labour in the fields to sow, nurture, and harvest the crop are accompanied by the singing of songs, usually collectively, to celebrate the bounty of nature and to derive inspiration and strength to till the land. These songs are passed from generation to generation and have seeped into the cultural imagination of the people. These folk songs not only sing of the hopes and aspirations, and joys and sorrows of the people engaged in farming, but are also a means of disseminating their cultural practices to others. The new National Education Policy also recognizes the importance of regional languages and the knowledge systems that are contained in them.

Vidya Vistar Scheme Committee and NEP Committee of Vivekananda College, in collaboration with the Government Model College, Deithor, Assam proposes to create a database of folktales and folk songs that are sung as the farmers toil on the land – prayers to the Almighty sung to bless the land for a healthy harvest, songs to ease the back-breaking work, thanksgiving verses for a bumper crop, and many others related to the different farming tasks that are in consonance with seasonal changes. The people are diverse, the crops are many, but the underlying reverence for the sacred soil unites the different parts of the country. Foregrounding these folk songs not just brings together the rural communities but also connects with the urban, metropolitan society that will get an opportunity to connect with the soil.

Selected contributions shall be duly acknowledged. They shall be a part of an online repository on the college websites as an open access e-resource.

GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPANTS :

The project is open and any citizen of India can participate in this competition.

1. It is mandatory to fill the google form for registration.
2. Folk songs should be based on the farming cycle and allied practices.
3. Folk songs should be in a language spoken in the North-East districts of India.
4. Songs which are obscene and hurt religious and national sentiments will not be entertained.
5. The submission is in three parts:
   - Song in its original script
   - Transliteration of the original work either in Hindi or English
   - Translation of the original work either in Hindi or English.
6. All documents must be typed.
   - For English language
   - Font Type: Times New Roman
   - Font Size: 14 pt.
   - Alignment: Justified
   - Spacing: Double
   - Margins: One inch (2.54 em.) in all directions (top, bottom, left and right)
   - For Hindi or North-East language
   - Font Type: Unicode
   - Font Size: I 2 pt.
   - Margins: One inch (2.54cm.) in all directions (top, bottom, left and right)
7. The last date for submission is 31st August 2022.
8. A brief description of the language and content of the song must be given.
9. If published earlier, the source must be cited along with documentary proof.
10. The name, institutional affiliation, email, phone number and AADHAR Card of the person submitting the entry must be given.
11. Contributions accepted by the organizing committee shall be suitably acknowledged.
12. Decision of the organizing committee shall be final.
13. Entries of person with special needs (VH) may be accepted in the form of voice or video recording .
14. Entries collected will be the intellectual property of Vivekananda College

Organising Team

Advisory Board Members
- Prof. Jyoti Prasad Saikia, Vice-Chancellor, Birangona Sati Sadhini State University, Assam
- Dr. Kumud Khanna, Director (Retd.), Institute of Home Economics, University of Delhi
- Dr. Vimal Rahr, Joint Director, GAD-TLC, Center of MHRD, SGTB Khalsa College, University of Delhi
- Dr. Saguna Diwan, Senior Principal Scientist, Innovation Protection Unit (IPU), Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) Headquarters, New Delhi

Principals
- Dr. Hina Nandrajog, Officiating Principal, Vivekananda College, University of Delhi
- Dr. Dipok Kumar Bora, Principal, Government Model College, Deithor, Assam

Convenor
- Dr. Sukhneet Suri, Convenor, Vidya Vistar Committee & NEP Committee, Vivekananda College, University of Delhi

Organising Team Members
- Ms. Rachna Megh, Assistant Professor, Vivekananda College
- Dr. Meena Pandey, Assistant Professor, Vivekananda College
- Ms. Vandana Rathore, Assistant Professor, Vivekananda College
- Ms. Juriti Goswami, Assistant Professor, Government Model College, Deithor, Assam
- Ms. Thoibi Phukan, Assistant Professor, Government Model College, Deithor, Assam
- Dr. Vivek Kumar Gupta, Assistant Professor, Vivekananda College
- Dr. Ratish Chandra Jha, Assistant Professor, Vivekananda College

Registration link:

https://forms.gle/1tva9qSzwjxtmyw37

LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR CONTRIBUTION:
LOK VIRASAT