

INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY
REGIONAL CENTRE IMPHAL, MANIPUR

**Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat activities under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahostav: A Report
AN EXHIBITION ON THE RICH CULTURAL HERITAGE OF
MANIPUR**

Webinar – An Exhibition on the Rich Cultural Heritage of Manipur was held on 24th May 2022 and organized by Regional Centre Imphal through virtual mode. The programme began with Dr. Oinam Jayalakshmi Devi, Regional Director (i/c) requesting all to stand for the IGNOU Kulgeet.

At the outset, the coordinating RC Regional Director (i/c) of RC Imphal, Dr Oinam Jayalakshmi Devi delivers the Welcome Speech and welcomes the Chief Guest Dr. Srikant Mohapatra, Pro-Vice Chancellor of IGNOU, Programme Chair Dr. Umesh Chandra Pandey, Director Regional Services Division, IGNOU, Guest of Honour Dr. Ch. Ibohal Meitei, Director Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Professor at Manipur Institute of Management Studies (MIMS), Maniur University, Speaker Kshetrimayum Tejkeshware Singh, Producer, Educational Multimedia Research Centre (EMRC), Manipur University and paired Regional Centres Dr. S. Srinivas, Regional Director of Jabalpur, Dr. Bini Toms, Regional Director of RC Bhopal, Dr. Timir Tripathi, Regional Director of Kohima, Assistant Regional Directors of the three RCs and all the coordinators, counsellors, staffs and distinguished guests to the programme.

The welcome address was followed by address of the Programme Chair. In his opening remarks, the Programme Chair, Dr. Umesh Chandra Pandey, Director of Regional Service Division appreciated and complimented all paired RCs for initiating a webinar series under the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahostav (AKAM) Programme. He also gave a brief description about the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) activity which has been selected by Ministry of Education (MoE), Government of India to be organized as an Iconic Activity under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahostav (AKAM) programme. The Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) is a programme aimed at celebrating India's diversity through continuous, sustained engagement between people from different parts of the country. The engagements are expected to cover various aspect of life. Director, RSD took pride of the country's diversity and felt that inspite of cultural diversity we are all united as a nation and that is Bharat. He also stresses on the fact that this webinar will allow us to learn more about the rich culture of the state.

In his address, the Guest of Honour, Dr. Ch. Ibohal Meitei, Director Skill Development and

Entrepreneurship and Professor at Manipur Institute of Management Studies (MIMS), Manipur University congratulated IGNOU for organizing such a programme under the banner of AKAM-EBSB. He addresses on the topic Tourism in Manipur with Special Reference to its Culture. He presented a slide about tourism of Manipur and the scope of employment tourism is going to bring to the state. He also said that Manipur is the gateway for international connection with South-East Asia. He spoke about the different monumental sites of Manipur which will be a tourist attraction. Further he shows a slide on the rich culture and traditions of Manipur with different ethnic groups living in the state with the cuisines, celebrations, etc.

The main Webinar: Exhibition of the Rich Cultural Heritage of Manipur by Speaker Kshetrimayum Tejkeshware Singh, Producer, Educational Multimedia Research Centre (EMRC), Manipur University was presented and it can be seen on the YouTube Channel of RC Imphal.

After the presentation, Dr. Oinam Jayalakshmi Devi, Regional Director (i/c) RC Imphal opened the session for remarks from the Regional Directors and ARDs who participated.

Dr. Bini Toms, Regional Director of IGNOU RC, Bhopal remarked that the webinar was well-organized and congratulated the host for the smooth session. She also highlighted on the diverse culture of Manipur which was presented by the Guest of Honour and Speaker.

Dr. S. Srinivas, Regional Director of IGNOU RC, Jabalpur congratulated the host for organizing the webinar and also highlighted the similarities of the presentation of cuisines of Manipur with that of South India.

Dr. Timir Tripathi, Regional Director of IGNOU RC, Kohima made a remark regarding the rich culture of Manipur and also made a statement that Mount Harriet National Park which is a national park in Andaman and Nicobar Islands of India has been renamed as Mount Manipur as a tribute to the freedom fighters of Manipur.

Dr. Vivek Srivastava, Assistant Regional Director of RC Jabalpur also made a remark that he had firsthand knowledge about the state of Manipur's culture from his son's studies. He also stated that he was grateful for being a part of webinar as he had the opportunity to know more about the state.

Dr. Anita Tanwar Pahadiya, Assistant Regional Director of RC Jabalpur and Ms. Kumud Verma, Assistant Regional Director of IGNOU RC Bhopal also congratulated the host for organizing the webinar and remarked about the culture of Manipur.

Dr. Umesh Chandra Pandey, Director of Regional Services Division, IGNOU, New Delhi also

congratulated all the participants of the programme and thanked everyone. He also encourages everyone to continue hosting more webinars to learn more about one's culture and heritage.

The Webinar ended with Vote of thanks by Ms. Kumud Verma, Assistant Regional Director, Regional Centre Bhopal followed by the National Anthem