



Prof. Shri Prakash Mani Tripathi
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor/Chairman : Center for Endangered Language

I am indeed happy to state that the Centre for Endangered Languages of the University is launching its own website. I believe that Information on research activities carried out by the Centre and also activities of the University will reach out to general public through this website. The pictures in the website will help the readers in understanding the unique cultures of the tribal communities to a larger extent. I also believe that this website will be successful in presenting the noble efforts and initiatives of the university with respect to conservation and promotion of endangered tribal languages to the public. I congratulate the Director of the Centre for Endangered Languages and his colleagues for this initiative.



Prof. Prasanna. K. Samal
Director : Center for Endangered Languages

The Centre for Endangered Languages of Indira Gandhi National Tribal University has been working on tribal languages of six states of India for the last seven years. In 2015, the University Grants Commission had assigned the responsibility of compilation, documentation, transcription and preservation of tribal languages of six states, i.e., Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

In this direction, questionnaires and methods of material collection were prepared for field survey in a planned manner.

In the first phase of the project, 22 languages of the concerned states were identified. It is a matter of satisfaction that for twelve of these languages like Baigani (Madhya Pradesh), Gondi (Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Telangana), Kukna (Gujarat), Bhili (Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan), Kolami (Maharashtra, Telangana), the proposed activities have been completed and out of the remaining ten, action plans have been prepared for Kathkari (Gujarat), Korwa (Madhya Pradesh), Gadba (Telangana, Andhra Pradesh) and Siddi (Gujarat, Maharashtra).

Dictionary and grammar have been prepared and documentation of folk songs, ethno medicines, lifestyle, etc., have been done from linguistic and anthropological perspective on Baigani, Gondi, Kukna and Bhili languages. Ten books have been published and six more books are to be published soon.

The Centre is also engaged in writing, editing and publishing the Adivasi Amar Balidani series. Two books of this series namely Shankar Shah-Raghunath Shah and Virangana Rani Maa Durgavati have been published. Works on 'Tantya Bhil' and other tribal freedom fighters are going on. This is a commendable initiative of the centre so that more and more people come to know about the lesser known and unsung freedom fighters from tribal communities.

I strongly believe that this website will bring to the fore the tribal centric research and services of the Center on Endangered Languages and also that of the University.

I take this opportunity to convey my deepest gratitude to the Honorable Vice-Chancellor of the University Prof. Shri Prakash Mani Tripathi for his consistent direction and encouragement. I also express my appreciation for the my colleagues of the Centre, whose continuous and sincere efforts have enabled the Centre to fulfill its goals and objectives.