

## Distinguished Lecture Series

### Lecture by Prof (Dr.) Mrityunjay Prasad

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**Prof (Dr.) Mrityunjay Prasad** addressing the students and the faculty members (Online)

The 24<sup>th</sup> Lecture of Distinguished Lecture Series was organised by Dev Sangha Institute of Professional Studies and Educational Research, Deoghar on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024, on the topic **“Higher Education and Society with reference to Indian Knowledge System”** by **Prof (Dr) Mrityunjay Prasad**, Professor, Department of Education, Vinoba Bhave University, Hazaribag, Jharkhand, India

The Bhartiya way is sustainable and strives for the welfare of all. It is important that we regain the comprehensive knowledge system of our heritage and demonstrate the ‘Indian way’ of doing things to the world. This requires training generations of scholars who will demonstrate and exemplify to the world a way of life so unique and peculiar to our great civilization. The NEP, 2020 recognizes this rich heritage of ancient and eternal Indian knowledge and thought as a guiding principle. The Indian Knowledge Systems comprise of Jnan, Vignan, and Jeevan Darshan that have evolved out of experience, observation, experimentation, and rigorous analysis. This tradition of validating and putting into practice has impacted our education, arts, administration, law, justice, health, manufacturing, and commerce. This has influenced classical and other languages of Bharat, that were transmitted through textual, oral, and artistic traditions. “Knowledge of India” in this sense includes knowledge from ancient India and, its successes and challenges, and a sense of India’s future aspirations specific to education, health, environment and indeed all aspects of life. **Prof (Dr.) Mrityunjay Prasad**, focussing on **“Higher Education and Society with reference to Indian Knowledge System”** started with the recitation of the lines from ‘Meghdutam’ the masterpiece of the great ancient poet Kalidasa emphasising upon the knowledge of poetry as part of Indian knowledge system. In course of his talk he elaborated the quality and precision of ancient teachers in the form of Rishis (Guru) in testing their students and described the anecdote of Maharshi Gautam and Satyakam Jabal. Illustrating the ancient method of learning by doing and experience he spoke of the learning of Satyakam who learned from trees, birds, cows, and the other elemental (natural) beings. He described the importance of Sanskrit language as the most scientific and ancient language of the world. Hence, he justified the inclusion of Indian Knowledge System in higher education under NEP 2020. In his lecture of more than one and half hours he presented several instances of Indian ancient knowledge which are more developed and scientific than the knowledge of modern scientific world.



The lecture was highly informative as well as interactive, though it was in online mode, and was attended by Teachers and Students of Dev Sangha Institute of Professional Studies and Educational Research. The programme was anchored by Aishwarya Anup, B.Ed. scholar. The programme was successfully coordinated by Shri Kumud Ranjan Jha, Coordinator, DLS Programme.