Ambedkar Study Circle (ASC), SLC (2020-21)

<u>Two-Day Program Of Ambedkar Study Circle (Asc) Organized On the Occasion of</u> <u>Constitution Day</u>

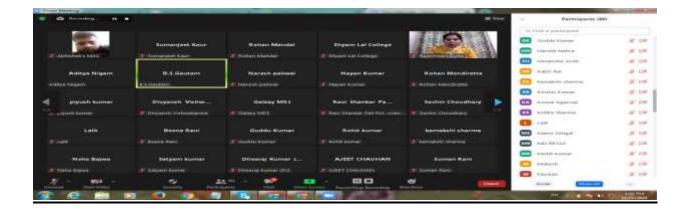
Day-1, Webinar on, "Indian Constitution & Contemporary Challenges", 25th November, 2021

As a part of Constitution Day celebration on the first day, 25th November, the ASC in collaboration with college IQAC organized a National Webinar on the topic, "Indian Constitution & Contemporary Challenges", at 12:30 p.m. on Zoom Platform. Renowned scholar and CSDS affiliated Prof. Aditya Nigam and Prof. Balwan Gautam, Professor at Ramanujan College and former Chair Professor of the Ambedkar Chair at Himachal Central University were invited to deliver the lecture. At the commencement of the webinar, Convenor, ASC Dr. Rohan Mandal introduced the guest speakers, teachers and students about aims and objectives of Ambedkar Study Circle and activities organized under it and expressed gratitude to all the members of ASC and Students Volunteers for their contribution. Thereafter, Dr. Rajeshwari, Associate Professor, Department of English and member of ASC anchored the programme. After welcoming all the dignitaries and the audience she invited Coordinator, IQAC Prof. Kusha Tiwari and Principal and the Head of the Institution, Prof. Rabi Narayan Kar to welcome the gathering. Prof. Tiwari in her address underlined the importance of Ambedkar Study Circle. Prof. Rabi Narayan Kar in his address emphasized the need for the young generation to know more about the Constitution and Dr. Ambedkar and said that the Indian Constitution is a very well thought out and detailed constitution but there are very few books on it. He hoped that lectures by the scholars present will definitely help in generating more understanding about the constitution. Prof. Aditya Nigam in his lecture highlighted the objectives of the constitution the unraveled the entire socio-political concerns involved in the process of making of the Indian constitution. He pointed out three particular aspects of Indian Constitution. First, that Indian Constitution welcomes all the good ideas of the world. He held that many developed countries of the world have adopted progress things in their constitutions which is not a criticism but a matter of praise. He cited the Rig Vedic verse which teaches welcoming best ideas from all directions. He said by the provision of amendments the Indian Constitution has the ability to adapt and change according to contemporary situation and in this sense it is a living document.

Second important aspect is that all sections of Indian society got representation in the Constituent Assembly. At that time there were apart from national freedom stuggle against colonialism there were many others struggles which were not directed against foreign power, rather these were internal struggles. The representatives of all these groups got representation in the constituent Assembly. The constitution was adopted through an inclusive process and can be called a common social contract and is the basis of modern India. This was not possible in the monarchy or the feudal era and that's why this constitution is a common document of the Indian people. Besides, he described the incorporation of right to equality, the autonomy of individual and the right of expression and criticism enshrined in the constitution can be held to be a great achievement.

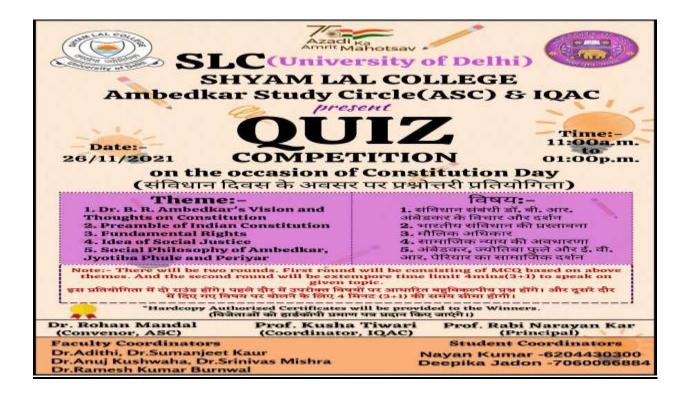
The second speaker of the webinar, Prof. Balwan Gautam described the inclusive character of the Indian constitution. It is this inclusive character which is the beauty of the constitution and provides basis to its legitimacy to it. Prof. Gautam discussed Dr. Ambedkar's approach towards Indian society and discussed the question of India's sovereignty. Dr. Ambedkar was also concerned of the factors disintegration within Indian society and whether India would be able to maintain its sovereignty in future. Prof. Gautam emphasized that Indian's have to give up hero worship which is against the democratic spirit of the Constitution. There were more than 135 participants in the webinar and 65 students participated in the event. The session ended with a question answer followed by a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Ramesh Kumar Burnwal to the eminent guest speakers by summing up their views and expressing gratitude to them for delivering such an enlightening lectures.





Day-2, "Quiz Competition", held on 26th November, 2021 to Commemorate the Constitution Day

In continuation of Constitution Day celebrations, on second day, the Ambedkar Study Circle (ASC) organized an online Quiz Competition on 26th November, 2021, in which there were 30 students participated in the quiz. This competition was conducted in two-stages. The program was moderated by Dr. Ramesh Kumar Burnwal, Assistant Professor, Hindi Department and Dr. Srinivas Mishra, Assistant Professor, Political Science Department. They were assisted by student coordinators Navan Kumar and Deepika Jadon from History (H) - IIIrd yr and BCom. (Prog)-IInd yr. respectively. In the first stage, the participants were asked attempt Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs) on Indian Constitution and on Ambedkarite Philosophy. In the second stage, selected candidates were tested of their understanding on specific themes related to Dr. Ambedkar and Indian Constitution by delivering short speeches. For the Quiz, participants were given 30 minutes for attempting 50 questions. In the speech stage, the participants expressed their views on contemporary questions of constitution and social justice in a very convincing manner. In the competition, the first place was secured by Vikram Singh Karki from B.SC (Prog)-IInd yr., Second place was secured by Trisha Kumari from B.A. (H)-IIIrd year, Political Science and Pratibha Mishra from B.A. (H)-IIIrd year secured third place. In the speech stage, they shared their views on social justice, reservation and social philosophy of Dr. Ambedkar. At the end of the quiz competition Dr. Ramesh Kumar Burnwal and Dr. Srinivas Mishra declared the results and congratulated all the winners and participants, the ASC members and especially appreciated the student coordinators Nayan Kumar and Deepika Jadon for helping immensely in the making the program a great success.





Dr. Rohan Mandal Convenor of Ambedkar Study Circle