

WORKSHOP ON LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL DOCUMENTATION OF ENDANGERED LANGUAGES

The two-day Workshop on the **Language and Cultural Documentation of Endangered languages** was successfully held during 18th-19th Feb, 2016 at Rajiv Gandhi University, Rono Hills, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh.



Discussion session

The workshop was organized under the initiative of the Centre for Endangered Languages (CFEL), Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU). The context for the workshop arose from the urgent need to raise awareness amongst the Research Scholars of RGU regarding the risk of language loss and knowledge systems faced by a large number of Tribal communities of Arunachal Pradesh. The objective of the workshop was also to impart multi-disciplinary approach and methodology used in various disciplines of Field Linguistics, Anthropology, folkloristics and Mass Communication in carrying out research and documentation of Language and Cultural aspects of endangered communities.

The Language groups represented during the workshop were the research scholars and resource persons who were representatives of different Linguistic groups: **TANI-** Tangam, Bokar, Bori, Galo, Apatani, Nyishi, **MISHMI:** - Idu, **BDHIS:** Sartang, Monpa, **SAL:** Nocte etc. All the languages belong to the Tibeto-Burman Language family.

The technical sessions were distributed over two days and were conducted in lecture mode series followed by interactive sessions. All the technical sessions were devoted to learning about the process of field research from Resource persons who spoke about their practical experiences in this regard and certain ethical and theoretical issues. The Resource persons emphasized on

technologically driven, ethnographically-oriented and culturally relevant language documentation activities.

A book entitled *The Tangam Language Grammar, Lexicon and Texts* compiled by Mark W. Post, Dugbang Lipir and Yankee Modi was also released by one of the author of the book who also happened to be a representative of Tangam community , a critically endangered language of Tani group. The book is a highly relevant book for language research and documentation .The Programme ended with a feedback session from the participants and certificate distribution.