

RGU witnessed Live Programme of Kashi Tamil Sangamam 2022

19 November, 2022



RAJIV GANDHI UNIVERSITY
Arunachal Pradesh, India



राजीव गाँधी विश्वविद्यालय

Rajiv Gandhi University

रोनो हिल्स, दोइमुख, अरुणाचल प्रदेश

Rono Hills, Doimukh, Arunachal Pradesh

**RGU witnessed Live Programme of Kashi Tamil Sangamam 2022 inaugurated by
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India in Varanasi dated 19 November, 2022**

The Ministry of Education, Government of India is organizing 'Kashi Tamil Sangamam' - a month-long programme from 17th November to 16th December, 2022. A month-long Kashi Tamil Sangam 2022 programme was inaugurated by Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Varanasi dated on dated 19 November 2022. Kashi Tamil Sangamam 2022 is an initiative by Government of India as a part of "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav" and to uphold the Spirit of "Ek Bharat Shreshta Bharat" Hon'ble Prime Minister said that Kashi-Tamil confluence is as holy as Ganga-Yamuna Sangam. The Kashi-Tamil Sangamam event aims at rediscovering the "centuries-old bond of knowledge" and ancient civilizational linkage between the North and the South. Speaking during the inauguration, Modi hailed Kashi and Tamil Nadu as timeless centers of culture and civilization. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said "The two regions are also the centres of the world's oldest languages Sanskrit and Tamil".

Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh under the dynamic leadership of Prof. Saket Kushwaha, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor witnessed live telecast of the programme of Kashi Tamil Sangamam 2022. The programme was hosted at two places - VC Secretariat and Mini Auditorium where more than hundred participants attended the programme along with. On the occasion, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor emphasized on the need of rediscovering ancient knowledge of two great civilizations. Prof. Saket Kushwaha also gave a message to all the participants including faculty members, students, and NSS volunteers that we should try to integrate ancient knowledge with modern thought and academics which can help in creating a valuable body of knowledge. The National Education Policy 2020 lays emphasis on nurturing a generation that is modern and in sync with the 21st century mindset, while being rooted in the Indian culture and ethos. The policy has recommended various means and mechanisms for ensuring this balanced and holistic approach to education, at both curricular and extracurricular levels. Among other things, the policy recommends research to integrate the wealth of Indian Knowledge Systems with the more recent body of knowledge. Mainstreaming Yoga, Ayurveda to bolster modern medicine, use of new technology for producing ancient crafts, integrating ancient vaastushilpa with modern archaeology or even innovative renditions of old Raagas are examples where fusion of the traditional with the modern have had enriching results.

In this regard, The Kashi-Tamil Sangamam programme aims at rediscovering the “centuries-old bond of knowledge” and ancient civilizational linkage between the North and the South. While ancient and traditional knowledge systems exist across all regions of India, across all ages and in multiple languages, Tamil Nadu and Kashi, and the area around it, are two of the oldest and most important of such centres. Both these centres have been fountainheads of knowledge in the intellectual, cultural, spiritual and artisanal realms. Varanasi, known popularly as Kashi in Tamil Nadu, is one of the oldest living cities of the world, endowed with a civilizational and cultural continuum that is unparalleled. Knowledge, philosophy, culture, devotion to Gods, literature, Indian arts and crafts have all flourished in this holy city. Tamil Nadu on the other hand is another cradle of culture, arts, crafts, literature, with a wealth of knowledge available in Tamil language, which is the most ancient language in the world.

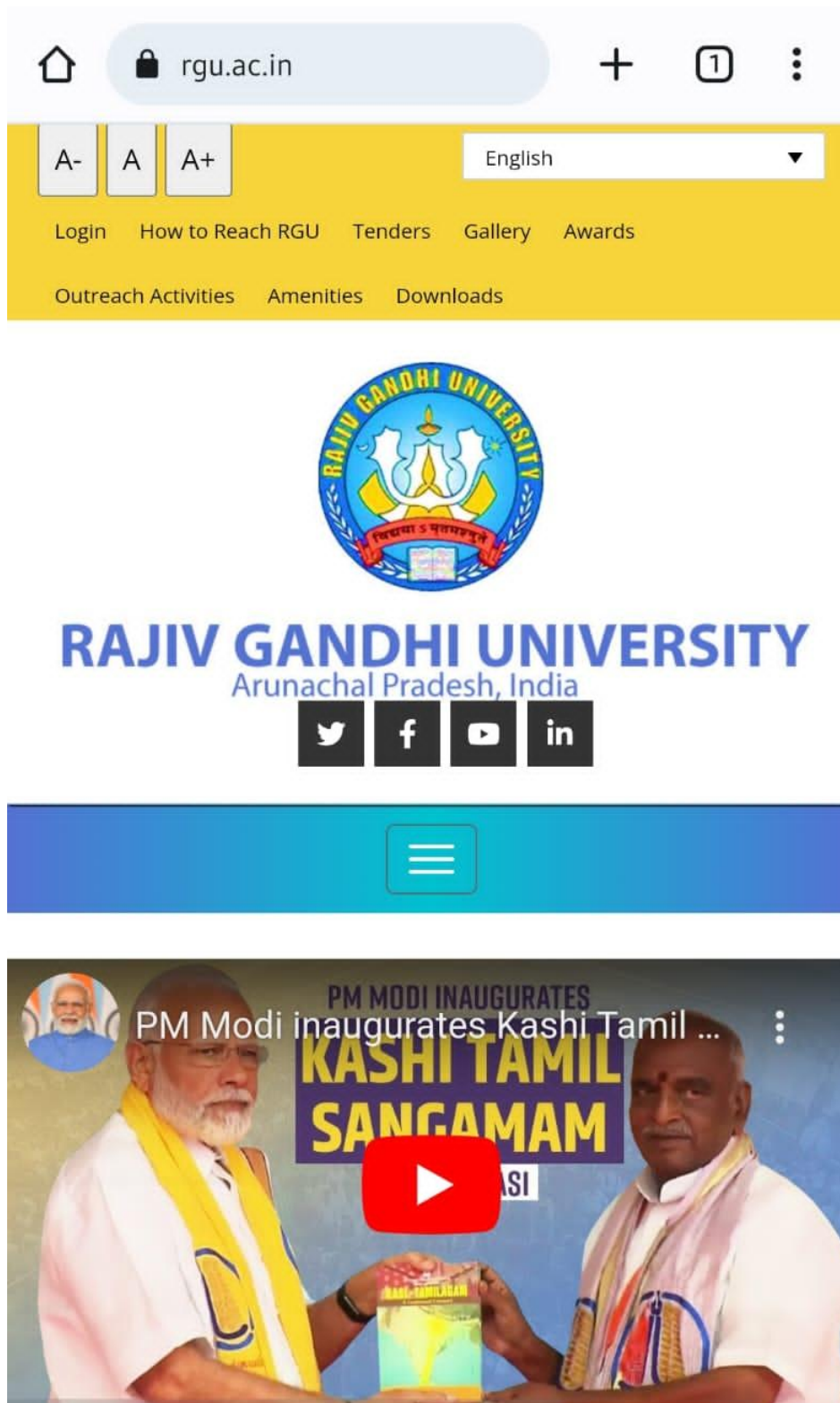
What is more important is the fact that these two manifestations of Indian Culture, though geographically distant, have had deep and vibrant links over centuries. Knowledge seekers from near and far used to come to Kashi, and places in and around like Prayagraj, Ayodhya, Gorakhpur, which are internally connected as Knowledge Hubs. Similarly, in Tamil Nadu, places like Kanchipuram, Puducherry, Madurai, Thanjavur, Rameshwaram, Srirangam, Kanyakumari, Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli, Tamraparani River have been excellent knowledge centres/ Ghatikasthanas and have contributed for various ancient industries like shipbuilding, pottery, weaving, idol making, river dams, mining, warfare, weaponry etc. The ancient connect between the two centres of knowledge is evident in many walks of life like similar themes in literature, presence of the name of Kashi in every village in Tamil Nadu etc. Many household in Tamilnadu adopted the name of Kailasanatha and Kashinatha for naming their children, like those who are living in Kashi and Uttar Pradesh. Hence exploring and rediscovering the links between these two centres can lead to the creation of important bodies of knowledge both in the intellectual and practical realms.

Knowledge, philosophy, culture, devotion to Gods, literature, Indian arts and crafts have all flourished in this holy city that is on the banks of the Holy River Ganga. Besides, Kashi has given impetus to the quest of freedom and patriotic fervour to Rani Lakshmi Bai and Mahakavi Subrayamanya Bharati and others. Saint Kumaragurupara from Sri

Vaikundam, Tutukudi District of Tamil Nadu has excelled in bargaining with Sultanate of Kashi with audacity and drove a lion to his courtyard to get back the Kedarghat and a place for consecration of Vishweshwara Lingam. He has written “Kashi Kalambakam” a grammatical composition of poems on Kashi. King Adhivēera Rama Pandiyan of Pandya Dynasty dedicated a Shiva Temple at Tenkasi of Tamilnadu after his pilgrimage to Kashi , whose ancestors have established Sivakasi. He wrote “Kashi Kandam” of Skanda Purana in Tamil poetic verses.

Bharatiya way of life is a continuous exploring and understanding the unique manifestation of common civilizational treasure among the citizens in the country. It is the pathway to experience the rich and proud heritage of India that no country in the world can showcase. It is imperative to appreciate and strengthen the bonds amongst the people of India, starting with an event at Kashi by extolling the bond between Tamil Nadu and Varanasi. Therefore, Kashi Tamil Sangamam 2022 needs to be encouraged by educational institutions.

Programme Video Uploaded at the University Website



The screenshot displays the homepage of the Rajiv Gandhi University website. At the top, a navigation bar includes a home icon, the URL 'rgu.ac.in', and a language dropdown set to 'English'. Below this, a yellow banner contains links for 'Login', 'How to Reach RGU', 'Tenders', 'Gallery', 'Awards', 'Outreach Activities', 'Amenities', and 'Downloads'. The central section features the university's circular logo, which includes a lamp and the motto 'विद्यया ऽ मृतमश्नुते' (Vidya A Mritamashnute). Below the logo, the text 'RAJIV GANDHI UNIVERSITY' is prominently displayed, followed by 'Arunachal Pradesh, India'. Social media icons for Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, and LinkedIn are also present. A blue horizontal bar with a hamburger menu icon is located below the social media links. The bottom section shows a video player with a red play button. The video title is 'PM Modi inaugurates Kashi Tamil ...', and the thumbnail image shows Prime Minister Narendra Modi presenting a book titled 'KASHI TAMIL SANGAMAM' to a man in a white shirt and shawl. The video player interface includes a small circular profile picture of PM Modi in the top left corner and a three-dot menu icon in the top right corner.

Photo Gallery of Programme at Two Places









