Hindi Diwas Celebration:

## Promotion of Hindi crucial for cultural connectivity: KU VC

Hindi heartbeat of our culture: Registrar



Srinagar, Sep 19 – The Department of Hindi, University of Kashmir (KU), celebrated Hindi Diwas here Thursday, with an engaging inaugural session attended by notable dignitaries and literary enthusiasts.

KU Vice Chancellor (VC), Prof Nilofar Khan, who presided over the ceremony, emphasised the significance of Hindi in both local and global contexts.

In her opening remarks, Prof Khan commended the Department of Hindi for its versatile progress and the inclusion of international students.

"The promotion of the Hindi language is crucial and the university administration stands ready to support the department's initiatives. I encourage regular workshops and national and international seminars to enhance language skills among students and researchers," Prof Khan said.

KU Registrar, Prof Naseer Iqbal, shared a personal anecdote that highlighted the importance of Hindi in daily life.

He said, "Hindi is not just a language; it is the heartbeat of our culture. I assure the department of my full support in all its endeavours."

Dean, School of Arts, Languages and Literatures, Prof Arifa Bushra, who also spoke on the occasion, reflected on her longstanding connection with the department.

Noting the significant advancements in the department since her student days, she said: "As someone who has grown alongside this department, I have witnessed its evolution and the untiring support from our esteemed faculty."

Prominent poet and broadcaster, Dr Satish Vimal, reinforced this sentiment, stating, "Hindi is a language that belongs to every Hindustani. Its versatility allows it to flourish across the globe, connecting people through shared stories and experiences."

Earlier, in her welcome address, Head, Department of Hindi, Prof Rubi Zutshi articulated the purpose of celebrating Hindi Diwas, showcasing the Department's achievements and its commitment to hosting students from diverse national and international backgrounds.

"Our Department of Hindi remains dedicated to promoting and preserving this cultural treasure in the Kashmir region, ensuring the beauty of Hindi reaches every corner, especially in non-Hindi speaking areas," Prof Zutshi reiterated.

The event also featured the release of the novel 'Sanam Tum Mil Gaye' by emerging Hindi writer Deepak Kanwal, highlighting the rich literary contributions from the region.

Hindi Diwas, celebrated annually on September 14, marks the day Hindi was declared an official language of India in 1949. This occasion is recognised worldwide through competitions and symposiums aimed at fostering a love for the language.

Faculty at the Department of Hindi, Dr Mudasir Ahmad Bhat, conducted the proceedings of the inaugural session while as, faculty at the department, Dr Shazia Bashir, proposed the formal vote of thanks.