

Inauguration of the Study Centre

Chaudhary Charan Singh University, Meerut and Minin Nizhny Novgorod State Pedagogical University, Russia have signed an MOU and entered into a mutual agreement upon opening a study center in the campus of both the parties. In a step towards accomplishing this goal, a study Centre named “Exchange Centre for Open Education in Russian and Russian Language Teaching” was established in the premises of Chaudhary Charan Singh University on 15th September 2023. The Centre aims at imparting free knowledge to the students of Chaudhary Charan Singh University by offering a course on Russian language and culture. Under this Centre, C. C. S. University will also organise a course for Russian students in near future. In addition to educational courses, the Center will be holding some exciting events that will be accessible free of charge. Participants will learn about the works of Russian literature, create cartoons, and will be able to comprehend and reproduce the simple sentences both in writing and in speech.

A formal inaugural function was held at the CCS University campus and was attended by representatives of both countries: Russia and India. The Rector of Minin University, Dr. V.V. Sdobnyakov adorned the event as the Chief Guest. Shri Rajendra Agrawal, Honorable MP of Lok Sabha, Shri Laxmikant Bajpai, Honorable MP of Rajya Sabha and Dr. Somendra Tomar, Honorable Minister of State for Energy, graced the occasion as Presiding officer, Guest of Honour and Distinguished Guest, respectively, and inaugurated the Centre. Prof. Liliya Vladimirovna Erushkina, Honorable Vice-Rector, Minin University, Prof. Olga Vladimirovna Knyazeva, Director of the Information Office, Minin University, Prof. Petr Borisovich Chuprikov, Professor of the Department of Russian History and Prof. Ludmilla I. Simonenko, the appointed Russian Teacher in the Centre, were also present at the occasion.

At the event, members of the Russian delegation talked about the culture, literature, and art of Russia, the opportunities for higher education in Russia, and presented some of the available educational programs. The Center was launched under the auspices of the Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation.

Deputy Minister of Education of the Russian Federation Denis Gribov gave a Welcome address. He quoted *“Today we are united by this momentous event, the launch of the Exchange Center for Open Education in Russian language and Russian Language Teaching. It commences its work at one of the youngest universities in India. In this new learning space, children and adult learners will have the opportunity to study Russian free of charge, and*

students will be able to improve their command of the Russian language in order to continue their education in Russian universities. One of them, Minin University, is this Center's creator and will be providing teaching guidance in the course of its operation. All learners taking the courses will also be studying the traditions and culture of Russia, which will contribute to strengthening of the long-lasting friendship and meaningful cooperation between our countries!"

The Rector of Minin University also shared his views. He stated *"The work of the Exchange Center for Open Education in Russian and Russian language teaching will help to expand the opportunities of both school going children of this country and students. After graduating from local universities they will be able to enroll in our master's degree programs. Indian colleagues have expressed great interest in cooperation, so I would especially like to thanks Mrs. Anandiben Patel, Governor of Uttar Pradesh, for the chance to address such a respected audience about Minin University. We have already received several new interesting proposals. They are aimed at developing relations between Russia and India."*

The Vice-Chancellor of our university said that an exemplary step has been taken by both the universities in strengthening the position of the Indian and Russian languages and cultures abroad with the establishment of this Exchange Center for Open Education in Russian and Russian Language Teaching in Meerut (within the framework of the corresponding program of the Ministry of Education). She hoped that this collaboration will definitely benefit both the universities in terms of academics, research and international status.

A 10 days short-term training program entitled **"Russian Language Course for Beginners"** was organised before the formal inauguration of the Centre from 4th to 13th September 2023 wherein 20 students from different departments participated. During the inaugural function, certificates were also distributed to these students on the successful completion of the course.





