

**Minutes of the Advisory Committee Meeting-I**  
**of Science And Technology in Ancient Indian Texts (SATAIT)**  
**(30<sup>th</sup> December, 2009)**  
**at Special Center for Sanskrit Studies, J.N.U.**

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A meeting of the advisory committee of SATAIT seminar was held in the committee room of Special Center for Sanskrit Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University on 31/12/2009 at 3:00 p.m.

The current Advisory Committee includes the following members  
(<http://sanskrit.jnu.ac.in/conf/stait/AdvisoryCommittee.htm> )

- **Mrs. Swarnlata**, HoD, Technology Development for Indian Languages (TDIL), Ministry of Communications & Information Technology (MCIT)
- **Radhavallabh Tripathi**, Professor & Vice Chancellor, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi
- **K. Ramakrishna Rao**, Professor & Chairman, Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR), 36 Tughlakabad Institutional Area, New Delhi – 110 062
- **Rajendra Prasad**, Rector, J.N.U. & Professor, School of Life Sciences, J.N.U.
- **V.K Jain**, Registrar, J.N.U. & Professor School of Environmental Sciences, J.N.U.
- **Vacaspati Upadhyay**, Professor & Vice Chancellor, Sri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth, New Delhi
- **M. M. Agrawal**, Professor & Head, Dept of Sanskrit, Dean, Faculty of Arts, University of Delhi
- **Balram Singh**, Director, Center for Indic Studies & Botulinum Research Center, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, USA
- **Michel Danino**, Swarnambika Layout, Ramnagar, Coimbatore, TN
- **Shukla Mukherjee**, Associate Professor & Project Officer, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi
- **Kapil Kapoor**, Professor & ex-Rector, J.N.U.
- **Sankar Basu**, Professor & Dean, School of Languages Literature & Culture Studies, J.N.U., Chairperson, Special Center for Sanskrit Studies, J.N.U.
- **Shashiprabha Kumar**, Professor, Special Center for Sanskrit Studies, J.N.U.
- **Girish Nath Jha**, Associate Professor, Special Center for Sanskrit Studies, J.N.U., (Hon. Professor, Center for Indic Studies, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth for SATIAT)

The following members attended the first advisory committee meeting on 30/12/2009

1. **Bal Ram Singh**
2. **Vacaspati Upadhyay**
3. **Sankar Basu**
4. **Shashiprabha Kumar**
5. **Shukla Mukherjee**
6. **Girish Nath Jha**
7. **Umesh Kumar Singh** (Research Associate, SATIAT)

- The meeting started with the permission of the chair (Prof Bal ram Singh who participated from Dartmouth, USA through telephone and Skype). Dr. Girish Nath Jha gave a brief introduction of the forthcoming SATAIT seminar. Prof. Bal Ram Singh explained the goal and the philosophy behind the SATAIT initiative. He expressed his thoughts about the necessity of communication between modern scientists and traditional Sanskrit scholars. Among other things, Prof Singh also emphasized on the role philosophy had to play in this initiative.
- Prof. Vachaspati Upadhyaya expressed his happiness on such initiatives and promised that he will try to get more sub-areas and texts related to ancient Indian Science in the curriculum of his university. He further added that there was need to focus on fewer areas than explore all the areas under SATIAT
- Prof. Sankar Basu gave best wishes to such efforts and promised that being the Chairperson of Special Centre for Sanskrit Studies he will provide all the support to the initiative.
- Prof. Shashiprabha Kumar said that in the Vaisheshika philosophy, there are many useful matters related to physics, chemistry, ecology etc. She said that being a philosopher, she will help in achieving the goals of SATIAT. She referred to many works as a resource like Swami Satya Prakash Saraswati's works, *Hindu Chemistry* by B. N. Seal, *Founders of Sciences in Ancient India* by Swami Satya Prakash Saraswati (former Prof. Satyaprakash of the chemistry dept. of Allahabad University). She also recommended the name of Dr. Ramprakash (former V.C. of Kurukshetra University) as a resource person for his works related to *Yajna* and Chemistry.
- Dr. Shukla Mukharjee said that being a Project Officer of Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi she is in contact with many people

working in the field of scientific Sanskrit. She promised that she will do her best to make such people in touch.

- Dr. Girish Nath Jha highlighted the importance of electronic resource search in Indian texts for deciphering the actual meaning of scientific Indian text. He said that making available of texts in searchable form is also very necessary. In computerized searchable form one can access any text in many ways.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks