D.O No. 15-2/2020-IS.4

07th February, 2020

Dear,

As you are aware, UNESCO has declared 21st February every year as International Mother Tongue Day to promote the dissemination of mother tongue and awareness of linguistic and cultural traditions throughout the world and to inspire solidarity based on understanding, tolerance and dialogue.

2. It has been decided to celebrate Matribhasha Diwas on 21.2.2020 to promote the use of mother tongue. The tenor would be celebratory and it could be observed in the schools across the country and at State/District level with the following objectives:

   • Highlight the linguistic diversity of our country.
   • Encourage usage, not only of the respective mother tongue but other Indian languages as well.
   • To understand and draw attention to the diversity of cultures, in India and the consequent forums of literature, craft, performing arts, scripts and other forms of creative expression.
   • To encourage the learning of languages, other than one’s own mother tongue.

3. The List of suggestive activities to be taken up on the Matribhasha Diwas is annexed. In case the schools and educational institutions are closed on 21.02.2020 on account of examination etc., they may be advised to celebrate on 20.02.2020.

4. I would request you to encourage all schools under your purview to organise the above activities to achieve the objectives of Matribhasha Diwas.

Yours sincerely

Sd/-

(Amit Khare)

To

Chief Secretary of all States and UTs
Copy to: -

1. The Chairperson, Central Board of Secondary Education
2. The Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan
3. The Commissioner, Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti
4. The Director, Central Tibetan Schools Administration (CTSA)
5. The Chairman, National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)

(Amit Khare)
List of suggestive activities

- Constitution’s Preamble reading in Matribhasha
- Reading of the “Preamble” in Matribhasha
- Group/Folk Songs
- Essay Competition
- Debate
- Exhibition on Indian languages through display boards, posters etc.
- GK competition on Indian language Heritage
- Any other activities.