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**MEETING OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR PROMOTION OF SINDHI  
LANGUAGE (NCPSL) HELD**

**MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT UNDERLINES TASKS FOR  
PROMOTION OF SINDHI LANGUAGE**

18<sup>th</sup> February, 2015

The first meeting of the newly reconstituted Governing Council of National Council for Promotion of Sindhi Language (NCPSL) was held recently in New Delhi under the Chairpersonship of Human Resource Development Minister, Smt Smriti Irani. The meeting was attended by 21 members who are eminent scholars of Sindhi language and culture from across the country.

The Minister in her capacity as Chairperson, NCPSL, has taken several important decisions in the Council meeting including

- 1) Increasing the Award money from Rs. One Lakh to Rs. Five Lakh for Lifetime Achievement Award (Sahityakar Samman) presented to Sindhi writers for his/her outstanding lifetime contribution in the Sindhi literature;
- 2) Increasing the Award money from Rs. One Lakh to Rs. Five Lakh for Lifetime Achievement Award (Sahitya Rachna Samman); and
- 3) Increasing the Award money from Rs. 50,000/ to Rs. One Lakh for 10 numbers of Literary Awards presented to eminent writers in recognition for their contribution in the field of Sindhi Literature. The increase in Award money in all the cases will be effective w.e.f. 2014-15.

It was also decided in the Meeting to provide Rs.1.00 crore for the establishment of Sindhi Chair in Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati University, Ajmer.

The Human Resource Development Minister also suggested many activities which will be undertaken for the promotion and development of Sindhi Language. (i) E-learning curriculum in Sindhi Language will be developed under which foundation course of Sindhi language will be provided free of cost; (ii) Young and upcoming Sindhi writers shall be associated with promotion of the language and their books will be published by the National Book Trust. The books of new writers will be exhibited in the next World Book Fair; (iii) A competition amongst young Sindhi knowing students will be conducted and the top three winners will be sent on Shodh Yatra accompanied by a writer and a historian in the Asian continent to study the roots of Sindhi language, culture and its civilization. Their experiences in the form of books will also be published by the Government of India; (iv) One Cultural Club in major clusters of Sindhi speaking people will be made functional in which the younger Sindhi generation shall participate in the activities like drama, poetry, writing, acting, plays, music and performing arts etc. A National level competition will be held for these activities and an award of Rs. One Lakh has been earmarked for the competition; and (v) It has also been decided to upload rare books of Sindhi language under the National E-Library and such rare books will also be published by the National Book Trust for circulation.

The task of standardization of prescribed text books for schools in Sindhi language using Devanagari script will also be undertaken by Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL).

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**DS/RK/NCPSL**