



2- Day Gojri Literary, Cultural Meet Takes Off

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Insisting that efforts were on to get Gojri language included in the 8th schedule of Indian Constitution, Minister for Forests and Environment, Mian Altaf Ahmad today asked all the stake holders to come up with the recommendations so that requisite steps are taken in this regard.

"Efforts are on to get Gojri language included in the 8th schedule of Indian Constitution. You should thoroughly discuss the measures required to be taken at government level for promotion of Gojri language and come up with the recommendations so that requisite steps are taken in this regard," Altaf said during the inaugural function of the two-day Gojri Literary and Cultural Meet held at K L Sehgal hall here on Tuesday.

"Gujjars are an important community and the government would take every measure towards conservation of their culture and heritage, including Gojri which is one of the significant languages of the state," said Minister for Housing and Culture, Raman Bhalla, who was also present on the occasion.

Earlier, welcoming the guests, Secretary Academy, Khalid Bashir Ahmad stated that the objective of the Meet was to provide an opportunity to Gojri writers, artists and intellectuals to sit together and discuss various trends emerging in global literature. He impressed upon the writers of Gojri language to publish their works so that they could also actively participate in Academy's literary Awards competitions.

While speaking on the occasion Academy's chief editor Gojri section, Dr. Javaid Rahi stated that during the last two years the Gojri section has published as many as 70 books, including some special numbers of Sheeraza Gojri and Maharo Adab.

Earlier, nine latest Gojri Books published by the Academy were also released by the ministers.

As part of the day long proceedings, a paper reading session was also held which was presided over by journalist, Zaffar Chowdhary while prominent writer, Lalit Gupta and member of Academy's central committee, Iqbal Azeem also sat in the presidium.

Those who presented their papers included Ch Hassan Parwaz, Ch Gulzar Khatana, Ch Amin Qammar, Ch Jahangeer Asghar and Ch Abdul Ghani Arif.

Later, folk artists, Ch Bashir Mastana, Parvaiz Malik, Noor un Nissa, Razia Begum and Farid Khatana entertained the audience.

The programme proceedings were conducted by Academy's senior editor Gojri, Mohammad Mansha Khaki.
