# Dr B.R. Ambedkar Jayanti (134th Birthday celebration)

Date: 14th April, 2025

Mode: Online Seminar (Google meet)

Time: 11am-1 pm

Organised by: Raidighi College NSS Unit-1

Participants: 18 Volunteers

#### **Introduction:**

On the solemn occasion of the 134th birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar—fondly remembered as the Father of the Indian Constitution—the NSS Unit of Raidighi College organized an enlightening online seminar. The event was dedicated to commemorating the life, ideals, and enduring contributions of Dr. Ambedkar. With 18 volunteers actively participating, this seminar aimed to foster an understanding of Dr. Ambedkar's vision for India, and to instill the principles of social justice, equality, and democracy in the minds of the youth.

Dr. Hamid Iqbal, the esteemed Head of the Department of Political Science at Raidighi College, served as the keynote speaker for the seminar. Dr. Arvinda Shaw, NSS Programme Officer, coordinated the program with great efficiency. The event was further enriched by the participation of Dr. Uttam Ray Mandal (ACS), who joined as a special guest.

### **Objective of the Event:**

The primary objective of this seminar was to:

- Celebrate and honour the legacy of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar on his 134th Jayanti.
- Educate NSS volunteers and students on the vision, mission, and core values advocated by Dr. Ambedkar.
- Encourage students to embrace Dr. Ambedkar's ideals as a means of strengthening national integration, peace, and social harmony.
- Promote creativity and engagement among volunteers through poster and quote-writing activities.

### **Proceedings of the Seminar**

The online seminar commenced with a warm welcome address by Dr. Arvinda Shaw, the Programme Officer of NSS Unit-I. Dr. Shaw introduced the speaker and highlighted the significance of the day, emphasizing that remembering Babasaheb is not merely a ritualistic observance but a reflection on the continuing relevance of his teachings in contemporary India.

Dr. Hamid Iqbal then took over the session with a structured PowerPoint presentation, which made the discourse visually engaging and intellectually stimulating for all attendees. His presentation was divided into several sections, each focusing on a key dimension of Dr. Ambedkar's philosophy and work.

### Vision, Mission, and Values of Babasaheb – Key Highlights of the Lecture

Dr. Iqbal began by placing Dr. Ambedkar's life in historical context. He highlighted the obstacles Babasaheb faced as a member of the Dalit community, and how those experiences shaped his lifelong battle against caste-based discrimination and social injustice.

#### 1. Vision of Dr. Ambedkar

Dr. Ambedkar envisioned an India where every individual, regardless of caste, creed, gender, or economic background, could live with dignity. His dream was of a nation built on the foundation of liberty, equality, and fraternity. He firmly believed in the power of constitutional democracy and law to bring about social transformation.

## 2. Mission of Dr. Ambedkar

The mission that drove Dr. Ambedkar's life was twofold: the annihilation of caste and the empowerment of the oppressed. His commitment to social reform was not limited to rhetoric; he worked through legislative, educational, and legal avenues to uplift marginalized communities. Dr. Iqbal noted that Ambedkar's mission continues to inspire social justice movements not just in India but globally.

## 3. Core Values of Dr. Ambedkar

Dr. Iqbal emphasized three core values that were central to Dr. Ambedkar's philosophy:

- **Equality**: Social and economic equality formed the cornerstone of his values. He believed that political democracy would be hollow without social and economic democracy.
- **Education**: He considered education the greatest weapon to combat inequality and injustice. His famous words, "Educate, Agitate, Organize," were highlighted in the presentation.
- **Justice**: Justice, for Dr. Ambedkar, was about creating fair opportunities for all, ensuring representation of the downtrodden in governance, and removing systemic barriers to progress.

#### **Integration with NSS Motto and Responsibilities**

In a particularly impactful segment of the lecture, Dr. Iqbal linked the teachings of Dr. Ambedkar with the motto of the National Service Scheme (NSS) — "Not Me, But You." He illustrated how the values of selflessness, community service, and nation-building, as encouraged by the NSS, are deeply in alignment with Ambedkarite philosophy.

He encouraged NSS volunteers to take inspiration from Dr. Ambedkar's life and work to contribute actively to society. He reminded them that their responsibilities extend beyond academic achievements—to fostering peace, harmony, and inclusivity in their communities.

## **Creative Activities by NSS Volunteers**

Following the lecture, students participated in two creative activities:

#### 1. Poster Making

Volunteers created posters depicting Dr. Ambedkar's quotes, images of key moments in his life, and illustrations of his core ideals. The posters were shared online and exhibited on the digital platforms of the college.

#### 2. Quote Writing

Students also submitted written quotes inspired by or directly from Dr. Ambedkar's works. These quotes reflected the depth of his thinking and the relevance of his ideas in today's socio-political environment.

This segment allowed students to engage more personally with Dr. Ambedkar's philosophy and express their own reflections through art and writing.

# **Reflections by Special Guest**

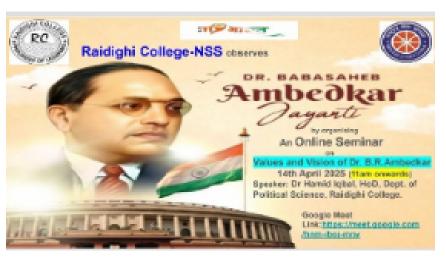
Dr. Uttam Ray Mandal (ACS), the special participant of the event, shared his thoughts towards the end of the seminar. He praised the efforts of the NSS Unit and appreciated the scholarly insights provided by Dr. Iqbal. He remarked on the importance of reintroducing Dr. Ambedkar's ideals to younger generations, especially in the face of contemporary social and political challenges.

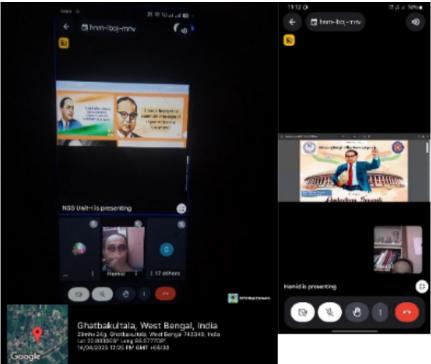
Dr. Mandal also urged the students to internalize Babasaheb's teachings—not just as academic or historical knowledge—but as guiding principles in their personal and professional lives.

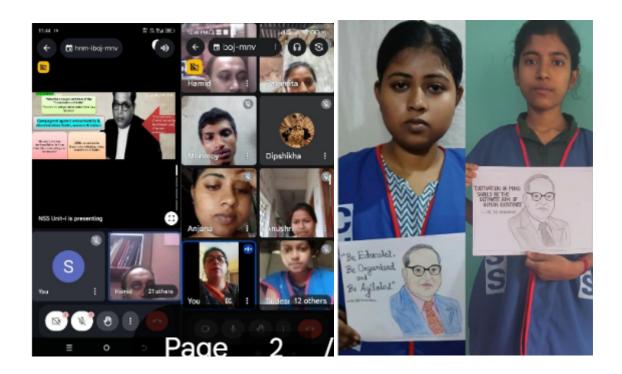
#### Conclusion

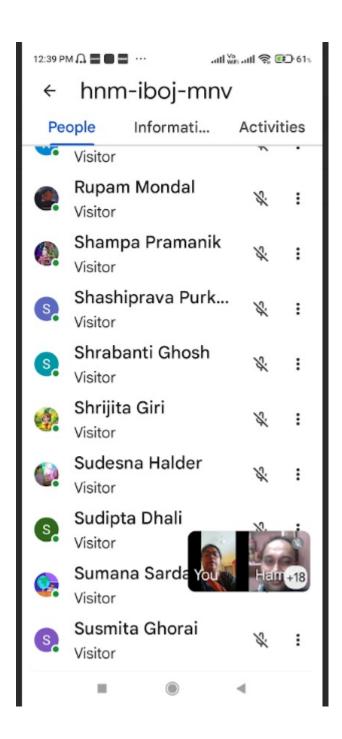
The online seminar proved to be a deeply enriching experience for all who attended. Through the well-researched and compelling presentation by Dr. Hamid Iqbal, and the active participation of volunteers, the event successfully highlighted the lasting significance of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in modern India.

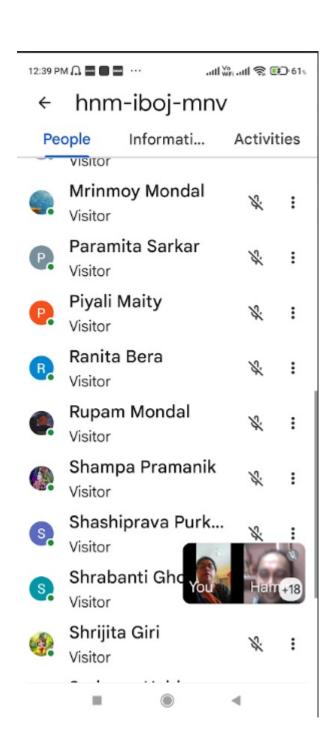
As Dr. Ambedkar himself once said, "The progress of any society depends on the progress of its weakest members." The NSS Unit of Raidighi College, through this event, has taken a significant step in spreading this message to young minds.

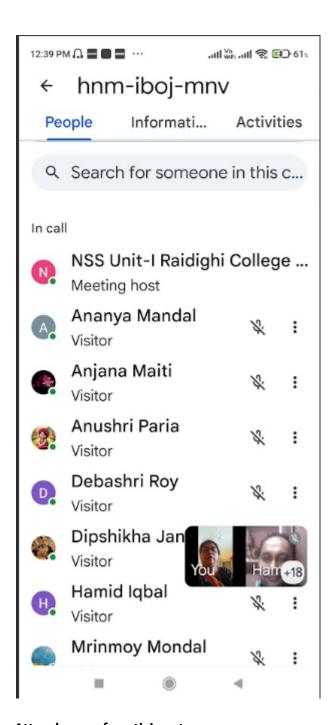












Attendance of participants.