

REPORT
on
NATIONAL UNITY DAY

Nagaland University, Lumami celebrated Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day) to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. A 'Run for Unity' was organised on 31st October 2018 starting from the University Health Centre and culminating at the University's I. Ihoshe Kinimi Hall. In a brief speech before flagging off the run, Prof. Pardeshi Lal, Vice-Chancellor, Nagaland University expounded on the contributions of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel for the unity and integrity of the country, thus rightly earning the title of 'Sardar'. Following the unity run, the taking of 'Rashtriya Ekta Diwas Pledge' was led by Dr. Abemo, Registrar, Nagaland University in English and by Prof. Pardeshi Lal, in Hindi. The unity run was attended by teachers, administrative staff and students.

In addition, a debate competition on the topic "Unity in Diversity is a Myth" was organised in the Department of Economics, Nagaland University with the Vice-Chancellor as the main speaker.

The programme started with the opening remarks by the Chairperson, Mrs. Monalisa Tase (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Political Science), where she highlighted in brief the background to the celebration of the 'National Unity Day'. This was followed by the debated competition, where students from the different departments—for and against the motion—shared their opinions on the topic citing examples from history, facts, and also their personal experiences.

The debate was followed by a speech by Prof. Pardeshi Lal, Vice-Chancellor who dwelt in great detail on the life and the contribution of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel both before and after independence. He informed the audience about the efforts of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel during the freedom struggle and how he became instrumental in integrating in the country.

Ms. Neizhanuo Golmei (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Political Science), the Coordinator of the debate competition thanked each and every participant for making the programme a successful one. In her concluding remarks, she emphasized on how every one of us have a responsibility towards building a nation that is united and prosperous.

Certificates were awarded to the best debating team and also to the best speaker. The judges for the debated competition were Dr. Radharani Maibam (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Anthropology) and Ms. Dipika Paul (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Sociology).