

## Hindi Day function



NAL's Hindi Day functions are both educative and fun. The serious part of the function features the Hindi Day Lecture (this series, introduced in 1997, is shaping up very well). The fun part is when officers and colleagues make a sincere (but rather amusing) effort to speak Hindi.

This year's Hindi Day lecture was delivered by Dr J R Raol, Head, Flight Mechanics and Control Division on Flight Mechanics -- A summary. As always, Dr Raol

made a very competent presentation, with excellent slides, on flight mechanics, control, simulation, parameter identification. Best of all, he ended the lecture just when he should have.

Dr K P Singh of ADA was the chief guest at this year's function. Most chief guests say rather perfunctory things, that are quite quickly forgotten. But Dr Singh made some really interesting observations. For example, he talked of the 'oneness' of Indian languages ("I found it easier to learn Malayalam and Kannada via Hindi and the Devanagiri script; we usually make the mistake of trying to learn a second Indian language via English"). Dr Singh went on to ask why all Indian languages cannot have a common script ("our multiple Indian scripts are what really inhibit us from trying to learn a new language"). Dr Singh also likened Hindi to the dhaga of a mala that binds all Indian languages.



Dr B R Pai, Director, expressed his happiness at the increasing use of the raj bhasha in NAL and complimented his NAL colleagues for showing such dedication in the use of the official language at work.

The Hindi fortnight held at NAL (usually in the first fortnight of September) also includes a variety of very imaginative contests. There are so many prize-winners that it takes almost 15 minutes for all the gift envelopes to be distributed!

The growing success of -- and love for -- Hindi is, in large measure, because of the remarkable dedication of Dr P S R Murthy, NAL's Hindi Officer and his colleagues. As the MC at the Hindi Day functions, Dr Murthy is also very witty. He also has new ideas up his sleeve all the time. NAL, for example, will soon launch its Hindi website.

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