

**Remarks by Ambassador Pavan Kapoor on the Launch of Little Guru App in
the UAE**

22 June 2021

Suprabhat / Namaskar

Mr. Sooraj Ramachandran, Vice-Chairman, Bhavans, Middle East;

Ms. Girija Baiju, Principal, Bhavans, Abu Dhabi;

Representatives and Members of Samskrita Bharati

dear students and friends,

I am pleased to address this virtual programme today organised by the Embassy, in collaboration with Samskrita Bharati and Bhavans School Abu Dhabi, to launch the interactive gamified Sanskrit learning app 'Little Guru' in the UAE.

Sanskrit, one of the oldest languages of the world, is the language of ancient Indian literary treasures, like the Vedas and Upanishadas, and to a large extent, symbolizes an important aspect of India's cultural heritage and tradition.

The grammatical structure of Sanskrit is highly evolved. It is considered as the most perfectly programmable computer language, and has attracted the interest of the Indian diaspora as well as foreigners over the years. In fact, in some recent years, I have found that foreigners are showing more interest in this language of ours than we ourselves! However, learning Sanskrit has not been easy. I recall my own school days when we had Sanskrit as a compulsory language from Class 5-8. Many of us found it very difficult because of the way it was taught. You had to learn the conjugation by rote and it was not easy. Therefore, I am very pleased that now the world's first gamified Sanskrit learning app 'Little Guru' has been developed by GamappSportswizz Technologies in collaboration with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations. I would like to congratulate Mr Anuj Sharma, CEO of Little Guru for developing this interactive app which will make learning Sanskrit much easier and more fun!

I would also like to thank ICCR, for this innovative initiative and for offering special discounted rates of subscription to the users of the app. I am told that further details about the subscription, the registration process along with a demo of the Little Guru app will be given by the Little Guru app team after the launch of the app.

I would also like to acknowledge the role of organisations such as Samskrita Bharati that have been quite active in promoting Sanskrit overseas. In UAE alone, around 5000 people of all age groups have benefitted from the efforts, since Samskrit Bharati started conducting free Sanskrit classes in 2008 . The Embassy and our Consulate in Dubai have been glad to provide necessary support to their activities on many occasions.

I am sure that the Little Guru app, will prove quite helpful and effective in imparting Sanskrit education, and generating interest towards this ancient scientific language, especially among our tech savvy youngsters.

I would like to express my thanks to Mr. Sooraj Ramachandran, Ms. Girija Baiju, teachers and students of the Private International English School or the Bhartiya Vidya Bhavans School, Abu Dhabi and representatives and members of Samskrita Bharati for working with us to organise this programme to launch the Little Guru app in the UAE.

अद्य अस्माभिः सह online माध्यमेन उपस्थितान् सर्वान् जनान् अहम् धन्यवादान् व्याहरामि।

little guru app द्वारा वयम् संस्कृतपठनस्य भिन्न शैल्या नूतन अनुभवम् निश्चयेन प्राप्स्यामः

If I could do that, anybody can!

Thank you