

Punjabi Theatre - Condition and direction :Lack of money

The era of Covid-19 changed every phenomenon but it is also true that life never stops. Work and education all began to advance through technology. That is why seminars conducted by colleges and other institutions have been replaced by webinars. In this context, the Punjabi Department of Sri Guru Nanak Dev Khalsa College, Dev Nagar organised a webinar on Punjabi Theatre: Conditions and Directions, the keynote speakers of which have been associated with the theatre for a long time. Prof. from Jalandhar. Veena Arora and Delhi-based actor Ravi Taneja shared their views on the subject. Prof. Veena Arora has been involved in theatre research for a long time, covering both the East and West Punjab theatres. She mainly shed light on the theoretical aspects of theatre.

Veena Arora said that the first theatre in western Punjab was more flourishing. Now it has come down, despite the fact that there are commercial and serious plays and at least 30 drama groups are involved. He also said that Preetnagar Theatre has played a major role in Punjabi theatre and is still active today.

Mr. Ravi Taneja while shedding light on the entire journey of Punjabi theatre said that Punjabi drama has always been up to date. It has always adapted to the changes that come with time. Gurdial Singh Khosla, Sheila Bhatia and Paritosh Gargi were the first to start performing Punjabi plays in Delhi and carried it forward with limited resources. But he also said that the biggest problem for the theatre is money, in which one has to spend Rs 2.5 lakh to Rs 3 lakh. Veena Arora also said that the enthusiasm of the people towards theatre is declining because it does not generate money.

The moderator of this webinar and convener of Punjabi department of the college Dr. Barjinder Chouhan also admitted that he came to Delhi because of his association with the theatre but he was advised by Charandas Sidhu to come here only after arranging his first job.

The head of IQAC of the college, Dr. Deepak Sharma said that these two speakers expressed their views so easily that even though I did not know Punjabi well, I became well versed in the subject. The acting principal of the college, Dr. Gurmohinder Singh said that instead of government help, we have always had to make efforts to take such arts forward. Dr. Mr. Chauhan, Principal Sir, Dr. He thanked Deepak Sharma and the faculty and students of various colleges who attended. Among the audience was Prof. from Patiala University. Yashpal Sharma and Delhi Academy Secretary Gurbhej Singh Goraya were also present.