

## **Hindi Stakeholders Roundtable**

The University of Fiji's Hindi Department recently coordinated a Hindi Stakeholder Roundtable meeting to discuss the future of the Hindi language and identify strategies to improve its teaching in primary and secondary schools.

The meeting was held on December 12, 2020 and included, among others, representatives from the Indian High Commission, the Hindi Teachers' Association, Ministry of Education, Arya Pratinidhi Sabha.

The Indian High Commission, Ministry of Education Hindi Officers and the Hindi Teachers' Association will hold workshops to improve the Hindi language teaching skills and techniques at the primary and secondary school levels.

In the meantime, Curriculum Development Unit officers, members of the Hindi Teachers' Association and Fiji National University and University of Fiji lecturers will address the need to review the Hindi curriculum being taught in schools and systematically developing it.

The stakeholders meeting also resolved to raise community awareness and work on a proposal to make "mother tongue" languages a compulsory lesson up to Year 10 level. There are plans to host an annual appreciation awards ceremony at which six Hindi language primary and secondary school teachers will be recognised for their commitment to the teaching of the language. Quarterly roundtable meetings, the first to be held in March, will now be held to ensure plans are in motion.