

Prof. Anvita Abbi, President, Linguistic Society of India was recently conferred the Padma Shri Award by the President of India. The Padma Shri, the nation's fourth-highest civilian honor, is given for distinguished contributions in various spheres of activity including the Arts, Education, Industry, Literature, Science, Sports, Medicine, Social Service and Public Affairs.



*Prof. Anvita Abbi receives the "Padma Shree" award from the President of India*

Prof. Anvita Abbi is a Professor of Linguistics, at the Centre for Linguistics, School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Professor Abbi's work on tribal languages and other minority languages of South Asia has been exemplary and is widely recognized in the world. Her pioneering work on the highly endangered languages of the Andaman Islands has been received with great acclaim in India and abroad. She identified a new language family of India, namely Great Andamanese.

She was awarded the prestigious Leverhulme Professor at SOAS, University of London (March – December 2011), Visiting Scientist position at the Max Planck Institute of Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany (2000, 2003, and 2010), Visiting Professor at the Cairns Institute, James Cook University, Australia (2010-2011) and was nominated Distinguished Fellow of the Institute for Advanced Study at La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia (2001) for her pioneering contribution to the languages of India. She received the prestigious *Rashtriya Lokbhasha Samman* 2003 award for her contribution towards the tribal languages of India. She has served as the advisory member of several international

organizations including *Terralingua* and UNESCO on language issues and at present, holds the position of the President of the Linguistic Society of India.