

ZEST LECTURE: FROM NIPAH AND CORONA TO THE DREAMS OF A POST-PANDEMIC WORLD

Zest, the English Literary Society of the Department of English, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College, University of Delhi, organized the third lecture of the Zest Lecture Series 2021, “Post-Pandemic World: From Pandemonium to Paradise?” on 26th October 2021 at 7pm on the online platform, Zoom. The session was titled "**From Nipah And Corona to the Dream of the Post-Pandemic world**". The speaker was **K. K. Shailaja**, the *former health minister of Kerala*. Almost sixty attended the program including the students and the Faculty. Dr Rohith P, the Teacher-in-charge, Dr Anubha Mukherji, Dr Jayini Adhyapak, Mr Ranbeer Kumar, Mr Chandrashekhar Yadav and Dr. Ankita Pandey were also present. The program was structured as a conversation between the speaker and the participants. The session began with a welcome speech by Sneha R, the President of Zest.

The lecture was an enlightening opportunity for the participants considering the fact that it involved the speaker’s experiences on how one should deal with the situations where your near and dear ones get ill. She shared her childhood memories of the environment in which she was brought up, the values that her grandparents had polished her soul with, her struggles and responsibilities during the pandemic as the **health minister of Kerala** where the first COVID patient in India was detected. She expatiated on the Nipah virus and her experiences in containing it. But throughout her lecture, what actually stole the show was her speech on the *importance of Teamwork*, where for some it was just a knowledge gainer whereas for the rest it was a reality-check.

The Zest YouTube Team took photos of the session with teachers and students for archiving and recording purpose. The event was streamed live on the Zest YouTube channel. It was also uploaded on the Zest YouTube Channel-

<https://youtu.be/aSXzKd4U1jY>

The program ended with a vote of thanks proposed by Nandana P R, the Vice- President of Zest. K K Shailaja's team appreciated Zest for having organized the session in such a manner that the speaker could touch upon topics related to her personal as well as public life.



