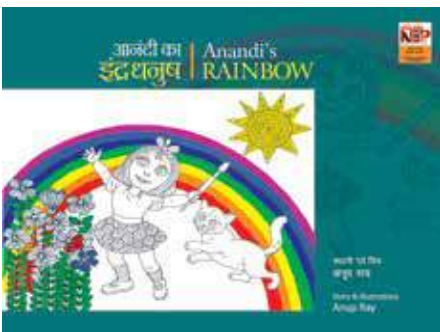


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### PICK OF THE MONTH



**Anandi's Rainbow (Bilingual)**  
Story & Illustrations: Anup Ray  
978-81-237-9642-0; Rs 45

## NBT Launches Corona Helpline



**Tips for psychological well being of children during COVID 19**

**FAMILY TIME**  
Spending time by playing with family on board games, antakshari and other indoor games.

**YOU ARE NOT ALONE**  
Free Consultation  
Call our helpline and speak with eminent psychologists and counsellors about your psycho-social concerns related to COVID-19

Phone No.  
8800409846 (10am to 4pm)  
8800409359 (4pm to 10pm)

In order to meet the psycho-social challenges of the pandemic, the National Book Trust, India has launched the NBT Corona Helpline to extend help to people who are in need of assistance regarding issues related to mental health and wellness during the second and more deadly wave of the pandemic in India.

The eminent Psychologists and Counsellors associated with the project are providing pro bono services to the callers on a rotational basis from 10 AM -10 PM on all days of the week. The team of psychologists is also assisted by a team of medical doctors to meet the requirements of medical-advice related calls.

### The initiative of the Helpline is being padded up with :

- A series of positive and motivational coping up video messages and posters as part of the Social Media campaign to create awareness and to empower

people with right kind of information and coping strategies.

- A series of webinars on various themes across different age groups and professions to engage with the youngsters, parents, teachers, professionals, senior citizens, differently-abled.
- Publishing of a series of informative pamphlets and pocket books.
- Publishing of booklets based on the data and inputs collected through the Helpline.

### Psychologists / Psychiatrists / Counsellors / Medical Doctors Associated with the Project

The Psychologists, Psychiatrists, Counsellors and Medical Doctors associated with the Project (some of whom are NBT's distinguished authors), include: Dr. Jitendra Nagpal, Dr Vidhur Kaushik, Dr Neethu Krishnan, Ms. Hemlata Suri,

Dr Swati Mukharjee, Dr. Harsheeta, Col Tarun Uppal, Ms. Rekha Chauhan, Ms. Aprajita Dixit, Ms. Sonie Sidhu, Ms. Payal Chaudhary, and Ms. Ruchi Chhibber.

### Types of Queries Being Received and Addressed through NBT Corona Helpline

Calls are being received regarding various issues circling around COVID-19, medical queries circling the pandemic and issues related to mental health arising from various social



spheres. COVID-19 aftercare; vaccination concerns; exam stress; boredom; anxiety, and related issues.

### Corona Studies Series

National Book Trust, India commenced a series of initiatives to combat COVID-19 in 2020. Following the lockdown, a set of seven books, named the “Corona Studies Series”, were created to address the psycho-social impact of COVID-19 and the books also devised methods to address the problems brought up by COVID-19.

### Helpline Numbers

**8800409846 (10 AM - 4 PM)**

**8800409359 (4 PM - 10 PM)**

## Covid-19 Cell for NBT Employees

In augmenting the efforts of the government, hospitals, health workers, individuals and other agencies, the National Book Trust, India under the initiative of its Chairman, Prof. Govind Prasad Sharma and the Director, Shri Yuvraj Malik, has set up a small Covid Cell in the office premises.

The initiative was taken keeping in view the emergency medical needs of the Trust’s employees that may arise due to Covid-19 infection. A room in the building has been converted into a Covid Cell. 24X7 Helpline numbers have been provided to NBT staff members for any Covid related help in terms of supply of

medicines, oxygen cylinders, etc.

Dr Sanchit Tyagi, Joint Director (Admn. and Fin.) and a medical professional himself oversaw the setting up of the Cell. Arrangements were made for the conversion of two vehicles into temporary ambulances to help in the transport of needy employees.

## Essay Competition on Guru Tegh Bahadur

National Book Trust, India in tune with the directives of the Ministry of Education, Government of India, launched a Pan-India Essay Writing Competition for school, college and university students on the occasion of Prakash Parv which marks the 400th Birth Anniversary of Guru Tegh Bahadur ji.

NBT invites students from schools, colleges, universities and educational institutions to write and submit a 500-700 words Essay on any one of the following topics:

- Teachings from the Life of Guru Tegh Bahadurji
- What I have learnt from his Life and his Teachings
- Relevance of Guru Tegh Bahadur’s Teachings in the Current Times.

Students were asked send the Essays in English, Hindi or any Indian language. Best three entries from each institution will be awarded by National Book Trust, India. The winners will also feature on NBT’s social media pages, and will receive books from NBT and free membership of NBT’s NCCL Library, along with free NBT Book Club membership. We have till now received more than 400 entries and a screening Committee shall be reviewing the entries.



## Third Batch of Online Book Publishing Course Concludes

“For publishers, publishing is not merely a profession, but is also a mission,” said Prof. Govind Prasad Sharma at the valedictory function of three-month online training course in publishing. The course was organised in collaboration with Atal Bihari Vajpayee Hindi University, Bhopal and was held virtually from 20 February to 16 May 2021.

Prof. Sharma added that publishers play a significant role as messengers, who bring forward the opinion of writers to the society. He further said that during freedom movement publishers played a prominent role in disseminating revolutionary ideas among people and brought crucial changes, as a result publishing has earned a great reputation.

He also pointed out that India is among ten foremost countries in the field of publishing and NBT is a leading publisher in India. Thus, he remarked that NBT promotes publishing as a mission. He also expressed his happiness that even in current pandemic situation, participants pursued the course with enthusiasm.

In his address, Prof. Ramdev Bharadwaj, Vice Chancellor, Atal Bihari



Vajpayee Hindi University said that in present times, younger generation is inclined towards ebooks, but print media too has the same importance. He was of the view that when a writer presents an incident in chronological order to the society, over the time, it becomes more important.

Highlighting the qualities of a good writer, Prof. Bharadwaj said that a writer needs to focus on creativity, quality and objectivity, so that there is no obscurity in his writings.

Speaking of the importance of publishing as a profession, Shri Yuvraj Malik, Director, NBT remarked that there are a plenty of opportunities in

publishing. One can choose a field like printing, marketing, editing, etc and become a master in it. However, he added that one needs to adopt moral values and bring out quality content. Shri Malik also said that NBT is playing a key role as the knowledge partner in the country.

In her vote of thanks address, Smt Neera Jain, Chief Editor & Joint Director, NBT said that publishing has a major role in voicing social concerns of the society. She also said that NBT will continue to organize training course to create a pool of trained professionals.

The programme was coordinated by Shri Narendra Kumar, Production Officer, NBT.

## NBT Organises Educationists' Meet

National Book Trust, India organised an online Educationist's Meet on 31st March, 2021. The aim of the session was to conduct an orientation program for schools and principals from across India and acquaint them with the various campaigns and initiatives spearheaded by NBT which further develop and encourage book reading habits among children.

Shri Yuvraj Malik, Director, NBT addressed the educationists attending the session and shared a presentation on the various initiatives being run by NBT. He said that he looked forward to more and more children participating in these events, as such collaborations with the important stakeholders of the education eco-system go ahead to facilitate capacity building of the students.

Emphasising on the importance of writing and quality content, Shri Malik



observed that writing is an art form that liberates and the creation of quality content is the basis for imparting quality education.

He also spoke about the current and planned campaigns by NBT that are focused on encouraging school students to read books and take an interest in the book publishing process like the ongoing *Shabeedi Diwas* campaign on social media that invites one-minute videos from students and an all India essay writing

competition to celebrate *Prakash Parv*, the 400th birth anniversary of Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji.

NBT will also be organising an exhibition in August 2021 on Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose wherein students shall be able to visit the NBT Headquarters in New Delhi and participate in various activities like poetry recitation, fancy dress competition and take benefit of the vast collection of books and reading material that NBT has to offer.

Shri Malik also proposed to the principals and educators to include a course on book publishing which would be supported by NBT.

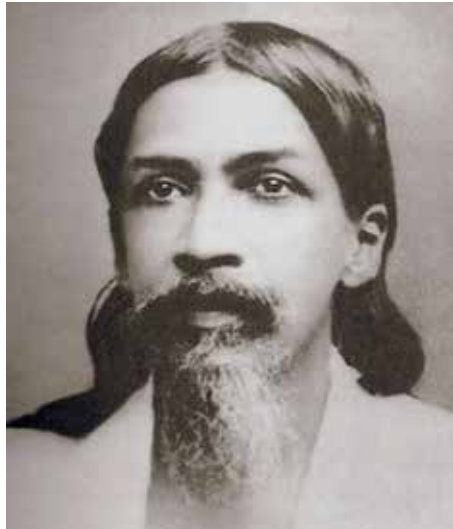
It may also be mentioned that similar course was conducted from 20 Feb. to 16 May 2021 in which several participants took part. NBT has also been organising a certificate course in Book publishing.

# 150th Birth Anniversary of Sri Aurobindo

Sri Aurobindo (1872-1950), little known, less understood, and sometimes misunderstood, touched all aspects of human life, and gave everything that he touched a timeless spiritual orientation. As the nation looks forward to his 150th Birth Anniversary, which coincides with the 75th Anniversary of India's Independence, the National Book Trust, India, looks forward to taking Sri Aurobindo to the world.

## The Master Whom the Youth Loved

Sri Aurobindo became an iconic figure for the youth of the country as soon as he decided in 1906 to jump headlong into the freedom struggle. What endeared him was that he had dreams but was not just a dreamer. He gave a blue print for the freedom struggle, which included resurrection of pride in India's cultural heritage on one hand, and passive resistance to the rulers on the other. Passive resistance makes it difficult for the rulers to rule because the cooperation of the ruled is withdrawn. The cooperation can often be withdrawn without breaking any



rules. Sri Aurobindo's passive resistance had five components: economic boycott (swadeshi), educational boycott (working out a policy of national education), judicial boycott (rejecting the courts set up by the rulers), executive boycott (rejecting the authority of the British bureaucracy) and social boycott (boycotting socially those Indians who refuse to contribute to the other four boycotts). About ten years

later, Mahatma Gandhi adapted these guidelines to work out his philosophy and practice of satyagraha.

Sri Aurobindo quit the freedom struggle in 1910, and worked for the freedom of the human race from the bondage of the ignorance that leads to sorrow and suffering in the world. For that too, he gave a blueprint which should make him an icon for the youth of today as much as his blueprint for national freedom did in 1906.

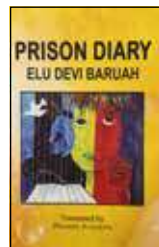
Not many know much about Sri Aurobindo. NBT, India, would do what it can to take Sri Aurobindo to the masses. Not many may find it easy to understand Sri Aurobindo. That is because of the education they have gone through. The National Education Policy (2020) would equip Indians to understand Sri Aurobindo. Finally, why is it important to understand Sri Aurobindo? Because Sri Aurobindo's teachings have the ultimate prescription for a life full of love, peace, joy and fulfillment. Young or old, who does not want that?

## Books Received

### Prison Diary

*Elu Devi Baruah*; Translated by Pradeep Acharyya  
Published by Swarnlata Prakashan, Guwahati  
Rs 300

The book is a collection of stories about prison and its inmates. The stories are based on author's experience as the first ever woman jailor in Assam. The author through her sensitive and inquisitive mind has tried to understand the lives of convicts, their nature, pain and sufferings. The stories poignantly address the compelling situations of violence and pity, weaknesses and failings of the different characters.



so dear. As he ponders existence as a refugee, a chance encounter with a forgotten treasure empowers him to make peace with his destiny.

Spring 1807, Kashmir. Young Amit dreams of restoring his ancestral trading house in Srinagar to its former glory and marrying his betrothed in Lahore. Forced into exile in Punjab under a false Muslim identity, he is anxious to return home. Must he remain a refugee, forever?

The Partition Bond weaves itself through these two stories separated in time yet secured by destiny.

### What If EDU

Viplav Baxi

Published by Outbox Press  
ISBN 978-81-94048-20-6; Rs 650

The book examines the education system from twelve different perspectives and prompts the reader to rethink education system. The book emphasizes on making the process of learning—learner centered—and not teacher or administration centered. The book also talks about adopting innovations in governance, pedagogy, techniques, technology, skills and processes to improve the education system.

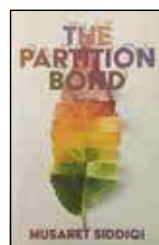


### The Partition Bond

Musaret Siddiqi

Published by Promila & Co. Publishers  
ISBN 978-93-82337-47-8; Rs 495

Summer 1946, Jullundur (East Punjab). Akbar, a devoted landlord finds himself in the midst of political and religious upheaval, spurred by the Muslim demand for a separate homeland (Pakistan). With partition on the horizon and facing an unknown boundary line, Akbar laments the fate of the land that he holds



# Obituary

**Manoj Das**, noted Odia and English author passed away on 27 April 2021. He was born on 27 February 1934 in a small village in Bhograi, Odisha. After completing his education, he served as a lecturer at Christ College, Cuttack and later joined Sri Aurobindo Ashram at Puducherry. He was professor of English Literature at Sri Aurobindo International Centre of Education, Puducherry; the Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi; and Author-consultant, Ministry of Education, Govt. of Singapore. He received recognition in the form of the Sahitya Akademi Award, 1972, in English; Orissa Sahitya Akademi Award, 1965 and 1982; Sarala Award, 1981; Vishuba Award, 1986; and Sahitya Bharati Award, 1995; Saraswati Samman, 2000; Padma Shri, 2001.

He served NBT at various capacities as member of advisory panel. Some of his books were published by NBT including *Books Forever, So Many Smiles, Stories of Light and Delight, The Fourth Friend, Legend of the Golden Valley, The Bridge in the Moonlit Night and Other Stories and Story of Krishna*.

**Arvind Kumar** passed away at the age of 91. He was born on 17 January 1930 in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh. He had edited several magazines and journals in Hindi including *Madhuri* and *Readers Digest*. He had written many poems, short stories and plays. His poetic translation of Shakespeare's Julius Caesar was performed at various literary festivals.

He is best known for his thesaurus titled *Hindi Samantar Kosha*, which

is considered the first thesaurus ever compiled in Hindi. The thesaurus was published by National Book Trust, India. He was honoured with Hindi Ratna Samman in 2018.

**Leela Nambudiripad**, noted Malayalam author and translator, known by her pen name Sumangala, passed away on 27 April, 2021. She was 86. She was honoured with 2013 Kendra Sahitya Akademi Award and Bal Sahitya Puraskar, for her contribution to children's literature. Besides translating *Panchatantra* and *Valmiki Ramayana* from Sanskrit into Malayalam, she also authored over 50 books. Her works include *Mittayi Pothi, Neypayasam, Manjadikuru, Kurinjiyum Koottukarum*, among others. She also translated the NBT title *When the World was Young* into Malayalam.

## NATIONAL BOOK TRUST BOOKLIST

### OUR HOME OUR HEARTH

Author: **Ms. Anita Bhatnagar Jain**  
Illustrations: **K. Bhushan**

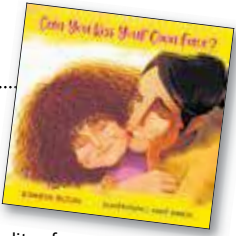
It is a collection of short stories based on environment. It is written in a very a lucid language with colourful illustrations. This book is very informative for children and will inculcate pro -environmental attitudes and habits in the future generations.



### CAN YOU KISS YOUR OWN FACE

Author: **Ramesh Bijlani**

This book brings out the reality of interdependence in a manner that even a little child can understand. Another message, no less important, implied in the book is that both giving and taking are a source of joy. Maya is happy when she gets a kiss from her mother and also when she gives a kiss to her mother.



## FUN-FILLED STORIES TOLD IN A LUCID LANGUAGE

The young readers couldn't have asked for more than what this set of books gives them. Written in a lucid language with colourful illustrations, these stories are what the children will enjoy reading most. From a sensitive tale about a pond and the marriage of two fishes to another one about an alien— each will give you a lot of fun and pleasure.

**SWEET COLOURS OF INDIA**  
Author: **Viky Arya**  
Far away from a city, in a jungle there is a honeycomb. Many honeybees live in it with their friends, brothers and sisters. There is only one queen bee but many worker bees in it. They collect nectar from flowers and make honey with it. Read to know this interesting story for kids learning to read and write. Indian names of the flowers have been highlighted in colours to help readers understand the concept of the book better.



### THE TIFFIN TREE

Author: **Mary Ann Dasgupta**  
Illustrator: **Abira Bandopadhyay**

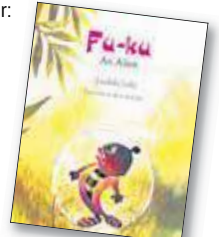
Rita and Dipu lived in a lovely small town in Assam until their father was transferred to Kolkata. In the midst of cable wires, tall buildings, the roofs and walls of other houses overlooking their windows in the big city, they really miss the chirping of birds and green trees. Read on to find out how they adjust in the new environment.



### FU-KU: AN ALIEN

Author-Illustrator: **Jagdish Joshi**

An interesting story of an alien who comes to visit the earth and meets the earthlings. He is both surprised and happy to meet new friends and to know this planet a little better.



## Books on Environment for Children

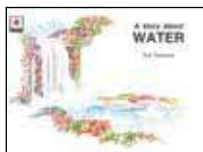
### A Story about Water

Ravi Paranjape

Rs. 30.00 16 pp

A story is woven around water, in flood and drought, introducing its different manifestations and uses. Exquisite, delicate illustrations make the book interesting.

ISBN 978-81-237-1101-0



### How Do They Evolve

Karen Haydock

Rs. 195.00 52 pp

Did you know that the kinds of vegetables and other crops we eat everyday did not always exist. Five or ten thousand years ago, there was no cabbage, cauliflower, or radish anywhere in the entire world! Where did these vegetables come from? And how do plants evolve? This interesting book will try to solve the mystery and will give some answers about the evolution of plants. It will also help us to start exploring more about plants.

ISBN 978-81-237-7371-1



### Joy in the Jungle

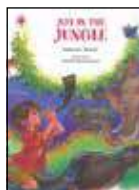
Santanoo Tamuly

Illustrator: Durlabh Bhattacharjee

Rs. 45.00 24 pp

A story about a boy called Munu who is very kind-hearted, loves nature and how he manages to help a baby rhinoceros survive.

ISBN 978-81-237-5628-8



### Our Useful Plants

K S Sekharam

Illustrator: Pulak Biswas

Rs. 40.00 36 pp

A little girl finds out how plants live and grow big, what kinds of plants can grow indoors, how they prepare their food with the help of sunlight, water and soil, and a lot more. Beautifully illustrated and intelligently told, this is an excellent introduction to plant life.

ISBN 978-81-237-1110-2



### Stripes in the Jungle

Geetika Jain

Illustrator: Suddhasattwa Basu

Rs. 35.00 16 pp

This is an interesting book on the world of tigers. It introduces us to the many members of the tiger family all over the world, their habits and habitats. It also lists the tiger reserves in India.

ISBN 978-81-237-3159-9



### The Snakes Around Us

Zai and Rom Whitaker

Rs. 25.00 64 pp

The common species of venomous and non-venomous Indian

snakes, their food habits, the myths associated with them, how snakes are useful to man, what one should do if bitten by one and

snakes as pets—all these are covered in this interesting, informative, and readable book. Over 40 photographs and illustrations of the main species, their eggs, and young ones.

ISBN 978-81-237-1108-9



### The Wonderful World of Insects

Harinder Dhanoa Motihar

Illustrator: Paulina Dhanoa

Rs. 55.00 40 pp

Beautifully illustrated book on different kinds of insects, their physical features, habits and habitats.

ISBN 978-81-237-1721-0



### The World of Trees

Ruskin Bond

Illustrator: Kallol Majumdar

Rs 80.00 64 pp

This book describes some common Indian trees, the birds that nest in them and the legends associated with them.

ISBN 978-81-237-1325-0



### The World of Turtles and Crocodiles

Zai, Rom Whitaker and Indraneil Das

Rs 35.00 64 pp

An informative, authoritative book about the locale, habits, breeding, etc., of different species of turtles and crocodiles found in India. Includes information like the differences between turtles, tortoises and terrapins and crocodiles actually taking care of their young. This

book is enhanced

by pencil sketches and photographs.

ISBN 978-81-237-0136-3



### This Earth of Ours

Laeq Futehally

Illustrator: Suddhasattwa Basu

Rs. 40.00 64 pp

A book that talks about the different forms of water, about trees, the soil and how closely these are related to each other and the integral part they play in sustaining life on earth.

ISBN 978-81-237-0172-1



### What is a Tree?

Marti

Illustrator: Pranab Chakravarti

Rs 40.00 24 pp

What do trees mean to birds, animals, children and people pursuing various ways of life, to all of mankind and to the planet earth? With the help of attractive illustrations, this book depicts the inextricable link between trees and animal and human life.

ISBN 978-81-237-0566-8



# Books on Environment for General Readers

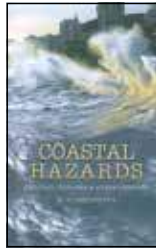
## Coastal Hazards: Cyclones, Tsunamis & Other Disasters

H N Srivastava

Rs. 205.00 172 pp

Written in a simple language, the book not only describes the coastal environment but also the many hazards, as well as the technological advances in forecasting and the early warning systems being used. To make people aware, the book also has a brief chapter on disaster management and tips on personal safety from such threats.

ISBN 978-81-237-8705-3



this book, while discussing the general nature of pollution, also examines in detail some of the major areas of pollution like air, water and soil, including thermal radiation and noise pollution and their deleterious impact on man and environment alike.

ISBN 978-81-237-1034-1

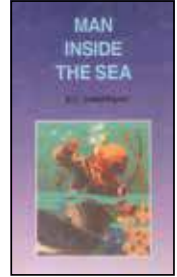
## Man Inside The Sea

B F Chhappgar

Rs. 60.00 196 pp

Man has always been fascinated by the seas and oceans and has ventured out in all kinds of vessels for a variety of purposes, like underwater research, exploration of the sea-bed, rescue and salvage operations and for commercial activities. This book discusses in a very interesting manner the steps taken by man in actual underwater living with the help of scuba diving, research submersibles, bathyspheres and bathyscaphes.

ISBN 81-237-1536-6



## Ecology and Sustainable Development

P S Ramakrishnan

Rs. 145.00 217 pp

This revised edition discusses community participation in natural resource management, which is linked to sustainable management of natural and human-managed ecosystems, with concern for sustainable livelihood of rural societies in the short-term, and sustainable development of the region as part of a long-term plan.

ISBN 978-81-237-5257-0



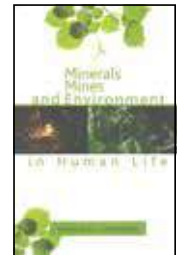
## Minerals, Mines and Environment in Human Life

K K Chatterjee

Rs 115.00 188 pp

Minerals are essentially a part of nature, used for making various industrial products, as well as required in the technologies for protecting and preserving the environment. However, there is an endless conflict between the industries and the environmentalists. This book seeks to bridge all the gaps between the mining industries and the environmentalist groups and clear the confusion in the minds of all the stakeholders by treating the subject through a blend of geology, social science and environmental science.

ISBN 978-81-237-6733-8



## Endangered Animals of India and Their Conservation

S M Nair

Rs. 65.00 110 pp

Public awareness about the rich wildlife heritage of our country, the factors affecting the survival of the species and an understanding of how we can contribute to their well-being are the keys to successful conservation. This edition provides basic information on the rare and endangered animals of India and their conservation.

ISBN 978-81-237-0187-5



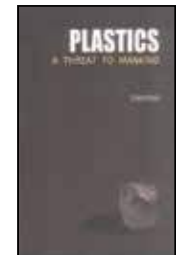
## Plastics: A Threat to Mankind

Chintan

Rs. 70.00 85 pp

This book explains the impact of plastics on the environment, human health and economy, and describes what all is being done to reduce our dependence on the plastics, which will eventually be beneficial to the mankind in the long run.

ISBN 978-81-237-4629-6



## Environmental Ethics and India's Perspective on Environment

Niranjan Dev Bharadwaj

Rs. 160.00 122 pp

In discussing the importance of environmental ethics in our life, the book reflects on how traditional Indian thought and wisdom understood the importance of this relationship and essentiality of the sense of universal responsibility towards the environment. It also looks at the many ways in which each one of us can contribute to the well being of the nature.

ISBN 978-81-237-8048-1



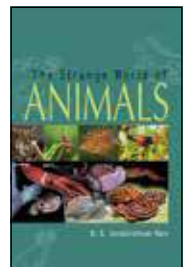
## The Strange World of Animals

G.S.Unnikrishnan Nair

Rs. 295.00 225 pp

We have been exploring the animal world since ancient times and many secrets regarding the life of animals have been revealed. Many more are yet to be found out. This book takes the readers around the animal world to see some of these creatures and their strange world.

ISBN 978-81-237-7410-7



## Environmental Pollution

N Manivasakam

Rs. 100.00 160 pp

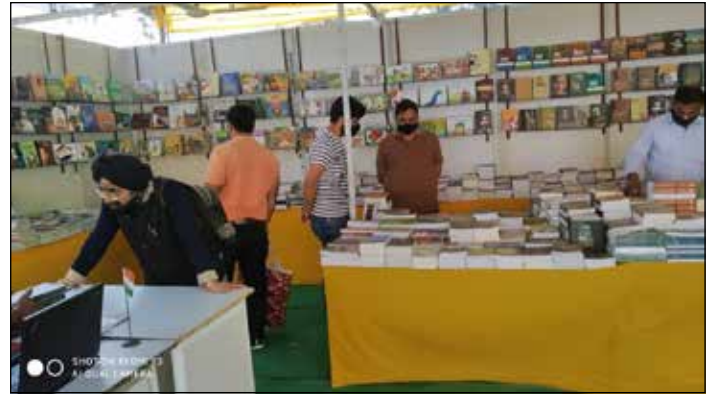
At a time when environmental pollution is increasing day by day,

## NBT Mobile Book Exhibition in Punjab

In its endeavour to make quality books accessible to public at large in remote, rural and difficult areas, National Book Trust, India operates an innovative scheme of exhibition of books through mobile vans. The Trust organised mobile book exhibitions (Pustak Parikrama) in rural parts of Punjab from 3 April to 6 May 2021. These mobile exhibitions moved across Barnala, Bhatinda, Faridkot, Fatehgarh Sahib, Fazilka, Moga, Mansa, Muktsar, Patiala, SAS Nagar and Sangrur districts in Punjab. The exhibition vans visited rural areas, schools, colleges, major bus stands, city markets, Panchayat samitis and Aanganwadi of these districts. Special discount was given on purchase of NBT publications. Over Rs 8 lakh worth of books were sold during the exhibitions.



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Date of Publication: 01/06/2021  
Posted at LPC, Delhi RMS, Delhi-110006



National Book Trust, India participated at the Pustak Mela-2021 organised by Vishav Namdhari Sangat, Gurudwara Sri Bhaini Sahib, Ludhiana (Punjab) from 30 March to 1 April 2021 on the occasion of 400th Birth Anniversary of Sri Guru Teg Bahadur. Besides, the Trust also participated at various book fairs held across the country including Bhopal, Raipur, Lucknow, Dibrugarh and Agartala.

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The views expressed in the signed articles do not necessarily reflect the official views of the Trust.

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