With growing dependence on technology and decline in human values, writing in itself has become a challenging task for children,” said Ms Kshama Sharma, noted children's writer at a panel discussion held on the topic ‘Democratic Values in Children's Literature’ at Indore. The Trust organized the discussion on the occasion of World Book Day in collaboration with Shri Madhya Bharat Hindi Sahitya Samiti.

Ms Sharma further said that it is necessary that the society should do away with its double standard to help inculcate democratic values in children through children's literature.

Shri Krishna Kumar Ashthana, editor of Dev Putra presided over the function. He said that authors and children's literature have a significant role in inculcating these values in children. Therefore, he added that we need to contemplate over this issue.

Shri Vikas Dave, well-known children's author, observed that it is for the first time that a discussion on this topic has been held. He added that we have a tradition to say no which empowers our democratic system.

Besides, Shri Anil Verma, well-known author; Ms Renu Chauhan, well-known litterateur and publisher; and Prof. Surya Prakash Chaturvedi of Shri Madhya...
He added that readers are more attached to the printed books than gadgets as there are certain memories associated with them. Therefore, he remarked that gadgets cannot replace books.

Shri Mahesh Punetha, well-known educationist and Hindi advisory panel member of the Trust, said that there is a need to promote the culture of reading amongst the youth in India. He observed that both books and Internet are the mediums through which the habit of reading can be promoted.

Shri Mukul Bhatt, RM Studies Circle; Prof. Dinesh Chamola, State University, Haridwar; Dr Pangati, Principal, PG College; Shri Lokesh Thakur, coordinator, Azim Premji Foundation among others also spoke on the occasion.

Later, a poets’ meet was also organized in which well-known poets including Shri Mahesh Punetha, Shri Vikram Negi, Shri Guman, Shri Girish Chandra Pandey, Shri Lokesh Thakur and Ms Arpita Joshi participated. The session was presided over by Shri Devendra Mewari.

The programme was coordinated by Dr Lalit Mandora, Hindi Editor, NBT.

The World Book and Copyright Day, a symbolic date for World Literature, was celebrated for the first time on 23 April 1995, at Paris, when UNESCO decided to mark 23 April as World Book and Copyright Day and for paying worldwide tribute to authors and books, as well as to encourage reading habit.

Training Course in Book Publishing

National Book Trust, India organized a short-term training course in book publishing at Central University of Himachal Pradesh, Dharamshala, from 8 to 15 May 2018.

Shri Navneet Sharma, editor, Dainik Jagran was the chief guest at the inaugural function. He said that books have contributed a lot and played an important role in the lives of the successful people. He added that books teach us the art of living. We must comprehend the knowledge given in the books and contribute towards the growth of our country.

Presiding over the session, Prof. Baldeo Bhai Sharma, Chairman, NBT said that in this age of Internet, the love for printed books has not diminished amongst people. He added that recently NBT had a sale of books for about 15 lakhs in rural parts of Odisha which clearly shows that books will remain important for readers.

The other speakers present on the occasion included Dr Pradeep Nair, Dean, School of Journalism, Mass Communication and News Media and Manoj K Saxena, Dean, School of Education, CUHP.

Over 50 participants from across the state attended the course. During the programme, the experts provided insights into various aspects of book publishing including e-publishing, editing, production, ISBN, ISSN, copyright, designing, and marketing.

The valedictory function was held on 15 May 2018 in which Prof. Kuldip Chand Agnihotri, VC, CUHP, Dr Pradeep Nair and Prof. Baldeo Bhai Sharma participated.

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

The National Book Trust, India participated in the 47th edition of London Book Fair held from 10 to 12 April 2018.

This year, the Fair focused on crime fiction and audiobooks. Publishers from over 120 countries participated in the Fair. Besides, over 25,000 delegates from across the globe participated in over 200 professional events like panel discussions, seminars and training sessions.

The Baltic countries including Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania were the Market Focus for 2018. Twelve of the most prominent and engaging writers from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania including Kristina Sabaliauskaitė (Lithuania), Nora Ikstena (Latvia) and Mihkel Mutt (Estonia) participated in the Fair. Over 25 events celebrating literature and publishing in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania across LBF and an exhibition of illustrations from the Baltic Countries in the Children’s Hall were organised.

Poetry which is one of the most dynamic areas of publishing was also one of the prominent features of the Fair. The special Poets’ Corner and exhibition of poetry collections was also put up at the Fair. Imtiaz Dharker was the Poet of the Fair who interacted with the booklovers at #LBFLive studio.

A collective exhibit of books from India was put up at the Fair where more than 200 titles in English and Hindi representing the works of 20 Indian publishers including NBT were displayed. Several dignitaries including Shri Srinivas Gotru, Minister (Press Information & Culture), High Commission of India, visited the NBT stall.

London Book Fair is the global marketplace for rights negotiation and the sale and distribution of content highlights the latest trends in the industry and also sets the tune for the future. It also reflects on the importance of literature in society and social changes in the modern world, wherein renowned authors and industry leaders share their views.

Dr. Rita Chowdhury, Director who represented NBT at the Fair, had wide ranging discussions with various publishers as well as officials of the international book fairs. Amongst other things she discussed the importance of New Delhi World Book Fair as an opportunity to explore the book markets of Asia and also to source contents from India and other Asian countries.

Tehran International Book Fair


This year, Serbia was the guest of honour and and Tunis, the capital of Tunisia was the Special City Guest at the Fair. Serbia displayed over 300 titles books on Serbian literature, history, art, tourism at the Serbian stand. Over 30 Serbian officials, writers, poets, publishers, journalists among others participated in the Fair.

More than 2500 Iranian publishers and 500 publishers from 53 countries including Italy, Germany, China, Hungary, Austria, Russia and Iraq participated in the Fair. The theme of the Fair was “No, to Not Reading Books.” During the Fair, over 250 literary and cultural events were organized including book review sessions, face-to-face meetings with Iranian authors, lectures, discussions and writing workshops. In this edition of the TIBF, over 250 sessions of the kind were staged.

The Trust displayed more than 300 books on science & technology, Gandhi, Tagore, textbooks, children’s books, selected from various publishers across the country.

Shri Shri Anuj Bharti, Asst. Director (Production) and Bratin Dey (Bangla Editor) represented NBT at the Fair.
Abu Dhabi International Book Fair

National Book Trust, India participated in the Abu Dhabi International Book Fair held at ADNEC, Abu Dhabi from 25 April to 1 May 2018.

Abu Dhabi is celebrating 2018 as the Year of Zayed, and this was the theme and flavour of ADIBF 2018.

Poland was the Guest of Honour at the Fair. A wide range of authors, intellectuals and artists discussed Poland’s rich literary and cultural traditions. Over a thousand years of Polish culture, with a particular focus on the last hundred years of Poland’s independence, was reflected in presentations on the golden classics of Polish literature and works by Polish Nobel prize laureates, as well as discussions of works by the contemporary writers invited to participate in the ADIBF.

The Illustrator’s Corner was part of the Abu Dhabi International Book Fair’s strategy to make its halls and open spaces a hub for knowledge, creativity, and innovation in the field of bookmaking. This corner drew on the diverse experiences of a selected group of talented illustrators from all over the world who are interested in fostering an understanding of the images that accompany books.

The India Pavilion at ADIBF 2018 included about 20 Indian publishers comprising Capexil and other private publishers, and led by NBT India.

The India Pavilion was inaugurated on the morning of 25 April 2018 by H.E. Navdeep Singh Suri, Hon’ble Ambassador of India, Embassy of India at Abu Dhabi. He was accompanied by Prof. Baldeo Bhai Sharma, Chairman NBT India; Mr Ramesh Mittal, Ex-President Capexil; Mr Naveen Gupta, President FIP, among other officials from India.

The Hon’ble Ambassador was delighted to see the Indian presence at ADIBF and the range of books being displayed for the benefit of Indian as well as Emirati readers and visitors. The Hon’ble Ambassador, while giving an interview with the local media present for the inauguration, also mentioned that he was happy to know that India is proposed to be the Guest Country at ADIBF 2019, and he was sure that NBT India along with all Indian publishers will put up a big show next year.

The National Book Trust, India participated at the ADIBF 2018 with a collective display of books from India from over 35 Indian publishers. The NBT India stall had books in all Indian languages as well as in English across a wide range of subject areas and genres. Donning the Indian tri-colour, the NBT India stall attracted a large number of visitors and school children who were happy to have a glimpse of Indian books in Hindi and Urdu in the UAE.

The NBT delegation led by Prof. Baldeo Bhai Sharma, Chairman, NBT also met Mr. Ahmed bin Rakkad Al Ameri, Chairman of the Sharjah Book Fair Authority, at Sharjah, regarding their presentation as Guest Country at the 2019 edition of NDWBF. Prof Sharma also presented a set of NBT publications to the Indian Ambassador.

Mr Kumar Vikram, English Editor and Ms Kanchan Wanchoo Sharma, Assistant Director (Exhibitions) represented NBT at the Fair.
A wide diffusion of female education in all its branches is a factor of the highest value to the true well-being of every nation. In India it assumes additional importance by reason of the bondage of caste and custom which tries to keep us tied down to certain fixed ways of life and fixed modes of thought, and which so often cripples all efforts at the most elementary reforms. One peculiarity of the Indian life of the present day is the manner in which almost every single act of our daily life is regarded as regulated by some religious notion or another. We must eat, and sleep, and even stand, and sit, and walk only in accordance with certain religious beliefs, and the slightest departure from the accepted ideas in these matters is understood to increase the difficulties in the path of our salvation. And, naturally, these ideas have a far stronger hold on the minds of women than of men, all who know anything of Indian women know that the turn of their mind is intensely religious—a result due in no small measure to their being shut out from all other intellectual pursuits. And this combination of enforced ignorance and overdone religion not only makes them willing victims of customs unjust and hurtful in the highest degree, but it also makes them the most formidable, the most effective, opponents of all attempts at change or innovation. It is obvious that, under the circumstances, a wide diffusion of education, with all its solvent influences, among the women of India, is the only means of emancipating their minds from this degrading thralldom to ideas inherited through a long past and that such emancipation will not only restore our women to the honoured position which they at one time occupied in India, but will also facilitate, more than anything else, our assimilation of those elements of Western civilisation without which all thoughts of India's regeneration are mere idle dreams, and all attempts at it foredoomed to failure. The solution appears simple enough, and yet no problem in India is surrounded with greater difficulties or requires a more delicate and patient handling: ...

You have long left behind the period when it was necessary for anyone to demonstrate to you the necessity of vindicating the dignity of female education. And practically, at the present day, the highest education which this great country of yours can provide in different sciences and arts is freely available to your women, and is freely availed of by them. It is true that the lingering bigotry of men still tries here and there to throw small obstacles in your way, but they are, comparatively speaking, of little importance. If, for instance, men will not allow you to be called Senior Wranglers, that only enables you to claim a higher distinction—that of excelling Senior Wranglers. The freedom to acquire knowledge, and secure the culture of mind that knowledge brings, is enjoyed in this country by men and women in an equal degree, and if any individual fails to take due advantage of this freedom the responsibility for such neglect belongs to that individual, or that individual's guardians, and to no one else. In India, however, the state of things is entirely different. The position there cannot be better described than in the words of Lord Ripon's Education Commission, which ran thus:

“The social customs of India, in regard to child-marriage and the seclusion, in which women of the well-to-do classes spend their married life in most parts of the country, create difficulties which embarrass the promoters of female education at every step. The duration of the school-going age for girls is much shorter than that for boys. It usually terminates at nine and seldom extends beyond the eleventh year. At so early an age all girls’ education is scarcely begun; and in very few cases.”

“Has the married child the opportunity of going on with her education after she leaves school?” I must state here that this description does not apply to the Brahmins in Bengal, who, though Hindus by race, have broken from all Hindu traditions, and have cut themselves off from the Hindu community. It does not apply to the Parsees and the Native Christians. These three classes no longer suffer from the evils of early marriages, or, rather, early betrothals, and there is no enforced seclusion of married women among them; but, after all, numerically speaking, they are a mere drop in the Ocean. The description is essentially true of the whole Mahomedan community, and of the vast bulk of the Hindu community.

And yet, so far as the Hindus are concerned, their women occupied a much more honoured and dignified position than this at one time. There is no doubt whatever, as stated by Dr. Bhandarkar, the foremost Sanskrit scholar in Western India at the present day, that in very old times Indian women were not debarred from the highest education. In the Vedic period—the remotest past of which we have any record—about five thousand years ago they were among the inspired writers of sacred hymns, on which our religion is based. In the Upanishads—philosophical writings subsequent to the Vedas—they are mentioned as taking part in the discussion of the assemblages of learned Rishis, in which the highest problems about the world and the Supreme and the Individual Soul were discussed. In our great epic poems—descriptive of a period subsequent to the Upanishads, but still considerably anterior to the Christian era—they are represented as going through a regular course of education, of which drawing, music, and even dancing (which is now considered degrading) formed part; they mixed freely with men and entered into learned discussions with them on spiritual and other difficult subjects. When Buddhism took its birth in India by way of protest against the sacrificial and ritual part of Hinduism; we find women actively assisting the reform which Buddha had inaugurated, and discussing with him abstruse points about duty, virtue and absolution.
World Environment Day is celebrated every year on 5 June to raise global awareness to take positive environmental action to protect nature and the planet Earth. Established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1972, it is run by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). NBT India has published a number of books on environment and pollution to spread awareness among people belonging to different age-groups. Some of those books are listed below.

**Coastal Hazards**  
H N Srivastava  
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.  
978-81-237-5452-9; Rs 70

**Our Environment**  
Laeeq Futehally  
Written in an easy and lucid style, the book looks at the varied natural environment of our country in all their contours of utility and aesthetic appeal. The author emphasises, without being averse to the needs of man's dependence on Nature, that most of the damage inflicted on the environment is unwittingly done.  
978-81-237-0036-6; Rs 90

**The Planet Earth**  
S M Mathur  
The book, besides giving physical data of the Earth, gives a concise account of the broad physical features of the globe such as oceans, mountains, rivers and lakes.  
978-81-237-5858-9; Rs 45

**Ecology and Sustainable Development**  
P S Ramakrishnan  
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.  
978-81-237-5257-0; Rs 145

**Energy**  
A K Bakhshi  
The importance of energy in our daily life can never be overemphasised particularly in today's world when fossil fuels are in danger of being depleted. There is practically no activity which does not involve the transfer or transformation of energy. This book discusses its various aspects including the consequences of production and utilisation of energy on our environment.  
978-81-237-1458-5; Rs 55

**Endangered Animals of India and their Conservation**  
S M Nair  
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.  
978-81-237-0187-5; Rs 65

**Environmental Pollution**  
N Manivasakam  
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.  
978-81-237-1034-1; Rs 100

**Minerals, Mines and Environment in Human Life**  
K K Chatterjee  
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.  
978-81-237-6733-8; Rs 90

**Ocean Science and Technology**  
A K Malhotra  
An introduction to the basic principles, techniques and methods involved in offshore oil and gas production and explanation of how offshore platforms and terminals, harbours and ports are designed and operated, apart from the problems encountered in laying submarine pipelines and controlling oil pollution.  
978-81-237-0140-3; Rs 80

**Our Water Resources**  
Rama  
This book provides information on India's water resources derived largely from rainfall, which is generous but uneven in its distribution over time and place. This necessitates the need for gigantic projects for the control, storage and transfer of the available supply.  
978-81-237-0803-4; Rs 45

**Petroleum: An Introduction**  
Vijay H Pandya  
The book is an introduction to the
world of petroleum, its history and formation, the methods of drilling, various petroleum products, its benefits to humankind, its impact on environment, and the search for alternate fuels.
978-81-237-5998-2; Rs 60

**Plastics: A Threat to Mankind**  
Chintan  
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.  
978-81-237-4629-6; Rs 45

**Science of the Oceans**  
A N P Ummerkutty  
The sea and the oceans, in spite of man’s onslaughts on them, remain as mysterious, unknown and awe-inspiring as ever. This book introduces us to the science of oceanography and the immense potentialities of water around our shores for exploring and utilising them for the prosperity of our people.  
978-81-237-0468-5; Rs 75

**The Cultural Cradle of Biodiversity**  
P S Ramakrishnan  
The book considers a range of issues based on the concept of the ‘sacred’ in an eco-cultural context, emphasising upon the role of natural cultural landscapes as the basis for humans to have a cultural identity of their own.  
978-81-237-5361-4; Rs 150

**The Ailing Forests of India**  
C K Karunakaran  
In pre-historic days, the forests extended over the entire country. The original inhabitants mostly lived as denizens of the forest. Later on, greed and a growing population led to progressive shrinkage of our forest cover and to inevitable consequences in the form of erosion, floods and drought. This book analyses the human interference leading to the highly degraded status of the same today and suggests measures for its eco-restoration.  
978-81-237-6568-6; Rs 145

**We Breathe and Drink Poison**  
N Manivasakam  
Beginning with the general nature of pollution, the book discusses the major areas of pollution like air, water and soil and how thermal radiation and noise pollution are casting an impact on man and his environment, posing a danger to all living beings.  
978-81-237-1488-2; Rs 90

**Water: The Matrix of Life**  
K K Mishra  
The astonishing properties and role of water as the ‘matrix of life’ have been presented in a semi-technical style. This book provides a deeper understanding of the most ubiquitous marvel of Nature.  
978-81-237-3314-2; Rs 50

**Wind Energy**  
Suneel B Athawale  
This book, through diagrams and illustrations, introduces the readers to this non-conventional source of energy and explains how wind energy can be converted into mechanical and electrical energy by windmills for supplementing our energy needs.  
978-81-237-0679-5; Rs 75

**Environmental Ethics and India’s Perspective on Environment**  
Niranjan Dev Bharadwaj  
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.  
978-81-237-8142-6; Rs 160
International Yoga Day

The International Yoga Day will be observed on 21st June. In his address to the United Nations General Assembly, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi urged the international community to celebrate 21st June as Yoga Day. Following his initiative, UN General Assembly on 11th December 2014 unanimously passed a resolution to celebrate 21st June as International Yoga Day.

NBT publications on Yoga and exercise:

A Primer on Yoga: Theory and Practice
Ramesh Bijlani
978-81-237-4228-1; Rs 130
This book on yoga clarifies what yoga is, explains the distinguishing features of different schools of yoga, and gives a complete guidance on the physical practices of yoga as is possible through a written text and a DVD.

Exercising for Good Health
Parul R Sheth
978-81-237-6364-4; Rs 85
In the present modern world, convenience gadgets have made us cut down on our physical activities. Physical exercise together with a controlled nutritious diet as part of our daily routine can take us a long way in living a healthy life. This book aims to explain the various types of physical and mental exercises and how these exercises can help to control certain diseases and get other benefits.

New Delhi Rights Table

As part of the New Delhi World Book Fair, the NBT is organizing the 6th New Delhi Rights Table (NDRT) on 7 and 8 January 2019. The two day event brings together publishers, Rights’ agents, translators and editors from India and abroad to network and explore business opportunities together.

The NDRT offers you B2B sessions in a refreshingly new business ambience. The unique format will enable participants to book their own table, meet each other and present their products and ideas.

For online Registration at the NDRT 2019, and for other details, kindly visit our website : www.newdelhiworldbookfair.gov.in.

We look forward to your participation at the NDRT 2019.

For further details please write to: newdelhirightstable1@gmail.com

If undelivered please return to:
National Book Trust, India, Nehru Bhawan, 5 Institutional Area, Phase-II, New Delhi - 110 070