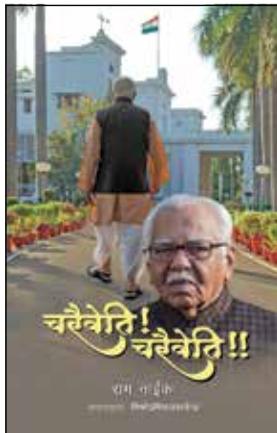


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PICK OF THE MONTH



Charaiveti! Charaiveti!!

Ram Naik

978-81-237-8153-2; Rs. 500

National Tribal Book Festival



National Book Trust, India organized the National Tribal Book Festival at Bodofa Cultural Complex, Kokrajhar, Assam from 17 to 20 March 2018. The Festival was organized in collaboration with Bodo Writers' Academy.

Dr Mangal Singh Hazowary, noted Bodo writer; Dr Azim Kohli, renowned Urdu poet; Dr Deenanath Basumantary, Director, CUDC, Bodoland University; Dr Kameswar Brahma, Padam Shri and Bodo writer; and Shri Bidyasagar Narzary

were the special guests at the inaugural function.

On this occasion 25 books for children in Bodo language, published by National Book Trust, India were also released. Dr Promod Ch. Bhattacharjee, well-known author and Shri Raj Tilak Barman were also felicitated.

During the Festival several literary and cultural programmes were organized in which writers, scholars, teachers and booklovers in large numbers participated.





On the opening day, 2-day workshop on creative writing and illustration for school children; Tribal writers' meet and Bodo women poets' meet were organized. On 18 March, symposium on role of women in Bodo society; seminar on Bodo folklore and on 19 March, 2-day workshop on Bodo

learning and teaching; and symposium on life and works of Chittaranjan Mwashahary, well-known Bodo novelist were organized.

On the concluding day, valedictory function was organized in which Dr Mangal Singh Hazowary, noted Bodo writer was the chief guest. Besides, Dr

Parmananda Rajbongshi, President, Asom Sahitya Sabha; Ms Sonia Piscayanti, well-known writer, Indonesia; Prof. Putu Kerti, and Prof. Lu Putu Artini, Ganesha University, Indonesia were the special guests.

Bologna Children's Book Fair

The 55th edition of the Bologna Children's Book Fair was held at Bologna Exhibition Center, Bologna, Italy from 26 to 29 March 2018.

This year, more than 1,300 exhibitors from 77 countries participated in the Fair. China was the Country of Honour at the Fair. Over 3000 books including, fiction and non-fiction, illustrated books, comics, books to read aloud to children, Chinese language handbooks and science books were displayed at the China pavilion. Celebrated Chinese author such as Cao Wenxuan, winner of the Hans Christian Andersen Award, Han Yuhai and Yu Hong visited the Fair.

A special pavilion Bologna Digital Media was put up at the Fair. Several events based on the theme augmented reality and digital audiobooks were



organized at the pavilion where publishers, software developers, television producers and professionals of the film industry, animation studios, artists and authors participated enthusiastically.

Designated areas were set up to organize meetings, discussions, workshops, etc. for the publishers, authors, translators among others during the Fair.

These included Authors Café for publishing, journalism, literary promotion; Digital Café for events and discussions on multimedia publishing; Illustrators Café for debates and round tables about illustration at a global level and Translators Café for seminars, workshops, and opportunities for professionals.

Some of other major highlights of the Fair were the Bologna Licensing Trade Fair; Illustrators Exhibition; the book exhibition titled 'Nurturing Young Humanism,' an exhibition dedicated to the great illustrator Gianni De Conno, Illustrators Survival Corner where artists, especially young illustrators, had a chance to meet experts of the industry to exchange ideas and experiences and to find solutions to specific illustration problems.

National Book Trust, India represented India at the Fair with a display of more than 100 recently published titles in Hindi and English languages by various Indian publishers including NBT.

Shri Imran-ul-Haque, Deputy Director (Exhibition) represented NBT at the Fair.



NBT Book Released

“In this book, Shri Ram Naik has shared his experiences, and has spelt out his philosophy — to work relentlessly, without being affected by setbacks and successes,” said Shri Ram Nath Kovind, Hon’ble President of India while receiving the first copy of the book *Charaiveti Charaiveti* at a function held at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh on 27 March 2018. The book authored by Shri Ram Naik, Hon’ble Governor of Uttar Pradesh, has recently been published in Sanskrit by National Book Trust, India. He further said that Shri Ram Naik has left a distinct impression on public life through five decades of dedicated and selfless service.

The book was released by Shri Aditya Nath Yogi, Hon’ble Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh.



Speaking of the book, Shri Ram Naik said that the book describes the functioning and role of the opposition parties and the ruling party in the country. He also thanked Dr Karan Singh for writing the foreword to the book.

Shri Baldeo Bhai Sharma, Chairman,

NBT also spoke on the occasion. He said that keeping in view one of its objectives ‘Har Hath Ek Kitab,’ NBT is expanding its activities to promote books and the culture of reading. He further said that NBT is bringing out books in several minor languages of India.

Cairo International Book Fair

The 49th Cairo International Book Fair was held at Cairo, Egypt from 27 January to 10 February 2018.

The Fair was inaugurated by Inas Abdel-Dayem, Minister of Culture, Egypt and Ezzedine Maihouby, Algerian Minister of Culture. Besides, Yasser El-Kady, Minister of Communication; Mokhtar Gomaa, Minister of Religious Affairs; Mohammed El-Assar, the Minister of Military Production, and Khaled Abdel-Aziz, Minister of Youth were present on the occasion.

More than 850 publishers from 27 countries, including Egypt, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Oman, Syria, Libya, Iraq, Yemen, Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine, Ethiopia, Sudan, Somalia, the United States, Germany, France, Italy, Greece, Paraguay, Russia, India and China, participated in the Fair.

Algeria was the Guest country. Abdel-Rahman El-Charkawi (1921-1987) was the Person of the Year. El-Charkawi was one of Egypt’s most renowned writers and poets in the 20th century, authoring many books that have been deemed gems of modern Islamic writing.



The theme of the Fair was “Soft Power: How?” Several literary and cultural programmes like poetry readings, discussions, debates, round tables, art galleries, workshops, and screenings of films by directors like Youssef Chahine, Daoud Abdel-Sayed, and Ali Badrakhan attracted the booklovers at the Fair.

A 2,000-metre platform was set up for children where a wide range of books for children were displayed. Besides, a number of workshops, book-related programmes and cultural programmes were organized for the children. Also, used books stalls where books were sold at low prices attracted the booklovers.

According to Mr Haitham al-Haj Ali, chairman of the General Egyptian Book Organization, “the largest fair in the world in terms of turnout” witnessed about 4 million visitors. State-owned General Egyptian Book Organisation, which organises the fair, is the largest book publisher in the Arab world.

CIBF was founded by the General Egyptian Book Organisation in 1969 to coincide with celebrations of the 1000th anniversary of the founding of the city of Cairo.

National Book Trust, India represented India at the Fair. More than 100 books on a wide range of subjects like Gandhi, Yoga, Science published by publishers from across the country were displayed.

On the opening day, Ezzedine Maihouby, Algerian Minister of Culture along with Inas Abdel-Dayem, Minister of Culture, Egypt visited the stall. During the fair, a large number of booklovers visited the stall and showed keen interest in books especially on Tagore and Gandhi.

Shri Pankaj Chaturvedi, Hindi Editor and Shri Tarun Davey, Assistant Director (Production) represented NBT India at the Fair.

Agriculture and Climate Change

Climate change has adverse effects on agriculture, thereby farmers are also facing several challenges to save their farming. Based on this theme, a meet with environmentalists was organised at the Theme Pavilion of the New Delhi World Book Fair. Moderated by Dr Manoj Pateriya, the speakers on the occasion were Shri G Krishna Prasad, Green champion mentor and a strong advocate of organic farming, and Shri Biswajit Roy Chowdhury, earth watch scientist.

Shri G Krishna Prasad talked about the climate change and adaptation initiatives which are being implemented to save indigenous seeds. He remarked that we have lost most of the desi varieties of seeds. He added that traditional agriculture has diverse and colourful seeds and there is a need to preserve the seeds. Referring to one of the indigenous varieties of rice in Karnataka, he said that Nereguli is a flood tolerant rice variety which can grow from seven to nine feet even in adverse climate changes.



“We consumers are ignorant about the rich nutrient value of our indigenous varieties,” said Shri G Krishna Prasad. Citing example of brown top millet which is grown in Karnataka and Bundelkhand, he said that it has more fibre than oats. He further added that earlier millets were considered poor farmer’s crop, however with recent millet revolution in South India, the situation has changed. He said several initiatives are being taken to save and promote desi seeds including active participation of farmers, organising crop melas (fairs), introducing multiple cropping systems, among others.

Shri Biswajit Roy Chowdhury talked about the adverse effects of climate change in Sundarbans. He said that Sundarbans is UNESCO World Heritage site, it has nine tiger reserves and a national park. However, due to climate change, the freshwater resources and rivers in Sundarbans are becoming saline. The native freshwater varieties of fish are decreasing and, therefore, illegal fishing in inside areas of Sundarbans is also taking place. He further said that because of these changes, the health of animals is deteriorating thereby threatening the biodiversity.

Talking about the steps being taken to save Sundarbans, Shri Chowdhury said that mangroves are being planted in large numbers in these areas, chemical-free agriculture is being promoted amongst farmers, awareness programmes are being held, post plantation monitoring is being done to guard the plantations and it enables profits to farmers without the intervention of middlemen.

Climate Change Adaptation: Is India Ready?

“Generally, when we talk about climate change, we think about glaciers, melting of ice in polar regions, temperature change,” said Shri Dinesh C Sharma while initiating the panel discussion on ‘Climate Change Adaptation: Is India Ready’ at the Theme Pavilion. There is a perception that if these things are happening far away, how will it affect us and often doubt whether climate change is a reality.

“Is our climate changing?” Dr Mustafa Ali Khan, Team leader, IHCAP said, “We have observed that the volume of glaciers is increasing and the number of glacier lakes have also increased.” He said that in a study about floods in India they have found that there is a correlation between climate change and rainfall.

Shri Raman Mehta of Vasudha Foundation remarked that because of green house effect there is a perceptible



decrease in the number of cold days besides the rising sea level. He added that we are in the middle of winter in Delhi and the kind of winter which we had 20 years ago is not happening. He said that summers are getting hotter and winters warmer.

Referring to the Indian Meteorological Department study, Shri Dinesh C Sharma said that as per the IMD study the average mean temperature has increased. There is a clear evidence of temperature rise and the change has been rapid during the last 20 years.

We may be believed to think that a one degree rise in temperature may not really matter, but in the natural world if you move or disturb anything, it will impact other things, observed Dr Mustafa Ali Khan. They are interconnected. For example, microbes do not work properly, the nutritional content of the crops suffer. He further said that traditionally people used to gradually adapt to the changes, but if there is a rapid change then communities find it difficult to adapt. With collective efforts of farmers, scientists, administrators and policy makers something can be done to cope up with the situation.

The discussion ended with a note that climate change is a global change and there needs to be a balance between our aspirations, consumption and level of sustainability. The programme was organised by Vigyan Prasar.

Launch of Mottainai Grandma

A book launch ceremony of the bi-lingual (English-Hindi) edition of 'Mottainai Grandma', published by National Book Trust, India was organised at the New Delhi World Book Fair.

Published originally in Japanese, the book was written and illustrated by Ms. Mariko Shinju. Shinju's books not only makes interesting read but also creates in children awareness on the importance of cleanliness and respect for the resources gifted by the Mother Earth. Mottainai Grandma is not just a book, it teaches the importance of reuse, reduce and recycle.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Baldeo Bhai Sharma, Chairman, NBT said that he feels immense pleasure to be associated with the launch of the book. Quoting A P J Abdul Kalam's book *India 2020*, he said that what are we leaving for our future



generations should be of concern for all. He added that this book is in tune with mission of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's Clean India Movement. With this thought he concluded that this book will motivate children to be clean, not only physically but also spiritually and mentally for their better future.

"I feel honoured to be here at this launch", said Mr. Yutaka Kikuta, Minister and Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy

of Japan. Mr. Yutaka added that this book will be loved by children in India as it is loved in Japan and will also introduce the concept of Mottainai in India.

Mr. Takayoshi Tange, Senior Representative, Japan International Co-operation Agency, said the book will help in changing the mindset of people about cleanliness and also will motivate not only children but also adults to respect the resources and use them efficiently and effectively.

Sharing her perspectives about the book Rita Chowdhury, Director, NBT threw some light on the condition of Mother Nature and added that if we as humans adapt this concept of reuse and respect, our Mother Nature will be healthy.

Later, Shinju and Prem Prakash, the translators read the English and Hindi text respectively.

India the Nature Loving Country

"India is different from other countries because there is no other culture in the world that respects nature. Which country worships animals?" asked Shri Jairam Ramesh, former Union Minister of Environment. Citing the example of Lord Ganesh riding a mouse, he observed that Indians worship the Himalayas, Ganga, the nature. India unlike the West lives in harmony with nature which today is under strain. Gandhiji once told 'we are inheritors of environment'. We should recognize this challenge and individually play the role not to disrupt the environment," he added.

He was at a panel discussion on 'Equilibrium between Sustainable Economic Development and Environment - Realistic or Utopian?' at the Authors' Corner. Discussants at the session included Dr. R. Rajagopalan, environmental economist and Prof. Shreekant Gupta, Delhi School of Economics.



Professor Gupta shared his concerns regarding the environmental issues, government policies and the way we look at Gross Domestic Product. Development will never be possible if we continue to understand it the same way as GDP. Few steps have been taken to enable the way we want it to grow but no one has come up with a clear solution. The story has to be changed in environmental issues as well, he added. Prof. Gupta pointed out that the noise that is created from the book fair

is a metaphorical way of the noise that needs to be heard – noise that concerns the environment. He also talked about the average increase in income, easy access to electronic gadgets and the rise of e-commerce. On the flipside, rivers are becoming dirtier and children are forced to stay at home and play with i-pads due to air pollution. "Good environment is good economics and good economics is good environment and bad environment policies are bad economics," he added.

According to Rajagopalan, whether we are able to work on the balance or not, at the end of the day, one should ask whether we are happy or not? Climate change and carbon issue will run out before fossil fuels disappear. One should retrospect the history of the past and be hopeful that there is possibility of change in the power of green movements. The event was organized by Oxford University Press.

Excerpts

NBT India has recently published a book entitled *Steed of the Jungle God* by Raza H. Tehsin & Arefa Tehsin. Herein we reproduce excerpts from the chapter 'Wild Mourning'

There is a shrine called Shringrishi around twenty kilometres from Udaipur on a slope of a hill. One day, a kill was reported from here. Harya, our informer, told me that a cow was killed near the top of a hill adjoining Shringrishi. The very same day, I drove down to the foothills and from there hurried up the hilly jungles on foot. Harya and some other villagers were with me. We passed a lonely hut standing on a slope. It was the home of the villager to whom the cow belonged. He too came along with us. I glanced at the tattered hut, the dry fields, and thought with dread what would happen to him and his family now that his only milch cow was dead.

When I reached the spot it was around 6 o'clock in the evening. About hundred feet from the summit strewn with boulders and Salar (*boswellia serrata*) trees there was a flat rock on the slope. This ledge was under deep shade where lay the partially eaten carcass. The place was remote and there was a good chance of the panther returning before dark. I hastily took position between two boulders around forty feet from the kill. The boulders screened both my flank and back so I was well hidden.

I turned to the villagers and instructed, "You all must leave the place and hide on the summit of the adjoining hill; keep as quiet as possible. Talk loudly while departing though." If the panther was in the vicinity it would assume that the villagers had left. The adjoining summit was three hundred meters away.

When noises of the retreating men died down, the music of the jungle took over. Puk puk puk – a coppersmith's notes echoed in the hills, like the periodic sound of a grain grinder in a village. My senses were on full alert and I expected the panther any moment. While I sat waiting, a jackal visited the kill. It took one or two mouthfuls from the dead cow and slowly

retreated from the scene. There was only one approach and retreat and he didn't want to be cornered by the panther. I find jackals quite amusing. Several times their antics bring a smile in those tense moments when you're waiting alertly on a kill or near a water hole.

This time the jackal's entry and exit was uneventful, unlike an evening two decades later in the ravine near Purohit-ji-ka-Talab. I had been awaiting a panther on its kill, a cow. After a long wait, I saw it descending on my right. Probably it noticed the unnatural construction near the kill (my blind was fifteen metres away) and sensed danger. It stopped about hundred metres away from me, almost concealed behind some bushes. After sometime it rose, took a long detour around the hide and took up its position about forty metres away. Only its tail was visible to me. Here the terrain was undulating and covered with boulders and thick bushes. Towards my left it was comparatively flat.

Just before dusk, I spotted a jackal approaching the kill from the left. It was in a highly nervous state, stepping carefully, sniffing constantly up and down and occasionally looking behind. It came to the kill and again looked around.

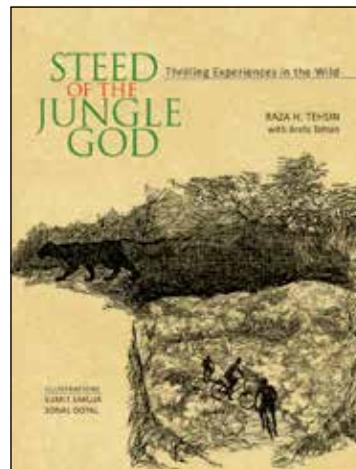
At this moment the panther gave a loud cough. The jackal turned around like lightning, made a loud whining sound and fell head over heels. Rising to its feet it tried to run but after two or three steps, it

stumbled and somersaulted. On one hand the fear of the panther forced it to run and on the other its legs gave way. I could hear its whining. It turned four somersaults, twice fell headlong on the ground, and finally disappeared from sight. The panther did not even rise. As darkness approached I left the blind and was greeted by the panther with growls.

That evening near Shringrishi, it was not the jackal that entertained me but the birds nearby. Three pairs of treepies came and perched on a Salar tree on my right. They all settled on a single branch. I watched the demeanour intently for any clues of the panther's advent. One of the birds made a call stretching its neck high. Its partner, in the same posture, answered the call. One of the birds of the second pair gave a call, which was repeated by its partner. The third pair also called in the same way. The bird from the first pair gave a call once more and the sequence took place again in the same order.

For over seven minutes, these birds repeated this act. Their melodious systematic chirps and movements engrossed me and I almost forgot about the job at hand. Suddenly the birds fell silent. The kill was in the shade and one of the elbow-shaped boughs was about six feet above the ground where the kill lay. One treepie flew from its perch and sat on this bough. It hopped down to the lowest point of the bough and bowed towards the ground where the dead cow lay. It started cawing harshly, quite unlike its previous melodious call. After a minute or so it stopped cawing and flew away to settle on a tree to my left. The partner of this bird repeated the same sequence after which it flew off and sat near the first bird. The remaining four birds repeated this. As soon as the last bird performed this and joined the group, all the treepies flew away and I lost sight of them.

A few minutes hence, seventeen crows came and settled on the same tree on my right. One of the crows flew to the same elbow-shaped branch, hopped down to the lowest point, bowed to the ground where the carcass lay and started crowing. The other crows remained silent.



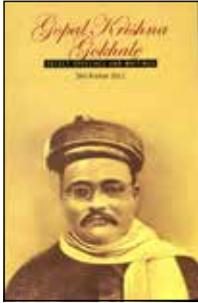
Steed of the Jungle God
ISBN 978-81-237-8145-7
Rs. 575.00

Recent Publications from NBT

Gopal Krishna Gokhale: Select Speeches and Writings

Shri Krishna (Ed.)
978-81-237-8170-9
Rs 305; 300pp

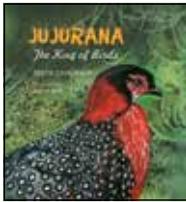
Gopal Krishna Gokhale was one of the prominent social and political leaders during the Indian Independence Movement. He was the founder of the Servants of India Society which was dedicated to inspire nationalistic feelings among his fellow countrymen. The present work is a comprehensive collection of some of his important speeches and writings on important issues like Welby Commission, education, status of depressed classes, among others.



Jujurana: The King of Birds

Anita Chauhan
978-81-237-8169-3
Rs 90; 40pp

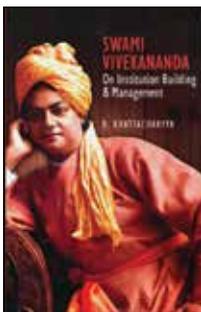
A fascinating book on Jujurana, a magnificent bird species found only in the mountains of northern India.



Swami Vivekananda - On Institution Building & Management

B Bhattacharya
978-81-237-8154-9
Rs. 180; 190pp

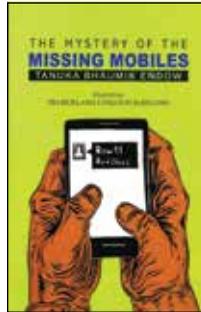
Apart from Being a great religious leader popularly known to be preaching Practical Vedanta across the world, Swami Vivekananda was successful institution-builder. A fact not generally recognised and appreciated. He was adept in modern management practices like team building, crowd-sourcing, mentoring and so on. He had definite ideas on how to remove poverty and industrialise India. This book deals with such lesser known dimensions of his personality and achievements.



The Mystery of the Missing Mobiles

Tanuka Bhaumik Endow
978-81-237-8168-6

Rs. 50; 68pp
Boots is excited to visit his aunt and uncle's home in Kolkata with his mother. He is all the more excited because he would meet his favourite cousin Alia there. But a strange thing happens at the Delhi airport. His mobile gets mixed up with someone else's. A message on the unknown person's mobile throws Boots' visit to Kolkata in a whirl and takes him to places he did not expect!



This is My Story

Viky Arya
978-81-237-2013-5
Rs 60; 24pp

Told in the first person, this appealing, colourful book portrays the activities and life of frogs.

When They Were Children

Thangamani
978-81-237-7001-7
Rs. 120; 164pp

Whenever we come across pioneers, we often wonder about their personal life, especially their childhood. Were they prodigies or grew up like other children? And did they always know what they wanted to do in life...? When They Were Children reveals certain fascinating facts about the childhood of ten great achievers, who have excelled in diverse fields.

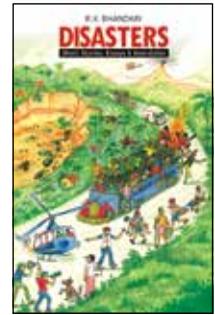


Disasters: Short Stories, Essays and Anecdotes

R.K. Bhandari
978-81-237-8089-4
Rs 210; 188 pp

This book offers important lessons and insights aimed at improving the existing

practices in disaster management across all levels. Through the breadth of its scope, the interesting facts, fascinating examples and compelling storytelling, the book will captivate the minds of readers, adult and more importantly young alike.



Environmental Ethics and India's Perspective on Environment

Niranjan Dev Bharadwaj
978-81-237-8142-6
Rs 160; 136 pp

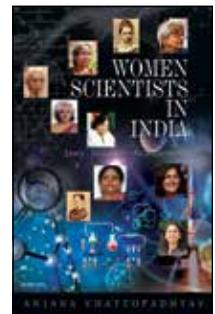
In discussing the importance of environmental ethics in our life, the book reflects on how traditional Indian thought and wisdom understood the importance of this relationship and essentiality of the sense of universal responsibility towards the environment. It also looks at the many ways in which each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



Women Scientists in India

Anjana Chattopadhyay
978-81-237-8144-0
Rs 485

Indian women have had a strong presence in the sciences for well over a century. Yet much of the remarkable achievements and contributions to the development of the science in India have either largely been ignored nor given due attention. The story of Indian women scientists has been one of struggle. This book is a collection of biographies of women scientists of India and provides factual details about their achievements and contributions.



Gaya Book Fair



National Book Trust, India organized Gaya Book Fair at Gandhi Maidan, Gaya, Bihar from 10 to 18 February 2018. Prof. Qamar Ahsan, Vice chancellor, Magadh University inaugurated the Fair. Ms Parul Priya, ADM, Gaya was also present on the occasion. Publishers from across the country displayed books in over 50 stalls at the Fair. Several workshops for children, literary and cultural programmes were also organized.

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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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Forthcoming Events

- NBT is organizing a mobile book exhibition in the state of Haryana from 22 April to 21 May 2018. During the Pustak Parikrama, the mobile exhibition vans will visit the following cities:
Rohtak (22 – 26 April); Hisar (28 – 30 April); Fatehabad (1 – 4 May); Sirsa (5 – 8 May); Kurukshetra (10 – 13 May); Kaithal (14 – 17 May); and Karnal (18 – 21 May).
Booklovers can also avail a special discount of 10% on a wide variety of books.
- NBT is organizing a Certificate Course in Book Publishing at Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh from 8 to 15 May 2018. Graduate in any discipline can apply. For more information visit NBT Website: www.nbtindia.gov.in.
- NBT is organizing a Book Fair at Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh from 12 to 20 May 2018. The venue of the Fair is Phool Bagh Maidan, Gwalior.
- NBT is organizing Imphal Book Fair (Manipur) from 26 May to 3 June 2018.

On India Government Service