20TH NEW DELHI
WORLD BOOK FAIR
25 February – 4 March, 2012

In the year 2012, the much awaited New Delhi World Book Fair (NDWBF) is entering the 40th year of its foundation. The NDWBF, first organized in 1972, is scheduled to have its 20th edition from 25 February-04 March 2012 (Halls 1-14) at the sprawling Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. Organized by National Book Trust, India, an autonomous organisation founded in 1957 by the first Prime Minister of the country Shri Jawaharlal Nehru under the Ministry of Human Resource Development (then Ministry of Education), Govt. of India as the national body for book publishing and book promotion, the NDWBF has a lot of exciting opportunities to offer to the participants and the visitors.

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Be A Member of
Readers’ Club Bulletin
a bilingual magazine for children brought out by
NATIONAL CENTRE FOR CHILDREN’S LITERATURE
(A wing of National Book Trust, India)

On India Government Service

Shri H. Kamalanath (b. 1925), a doyen of publishing, printing and small scale industries in Karnataka died on 29 September 2011. He was closely associated with NBT as a member of the Advisory Committee. He was instrumental in arranging the first ever book exhibition by NBT outside Delhi, in Bangalore. A pioneer in publishing, he ventured into low-cost paperback publications during 1960s. He held various positions in industrial and cultural associations for decades. NBT conveys its condolences to the bereaved family.

NBT Newsletter is the house magazine of the National Book Trust, India — an autonomous organisation of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Higher Education, Government of India.

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

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Readers are requested to write to the editor expressing their views about the NEWSLETTER.

Printed and published by: Shri Salib Kurar, J. Grewar (Production), National Book Trust, India; published from Nehru Bhawan, 5 Institutional Area, Vasant Kunj, Phase-II, New Delhi-110020 and printed at Pracheep Press Pvt. Ltd., 119 G-SIDCUL Road, Phase-I, Okhla Industrial Area, New Delhi-110020, respectively.

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

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APRIL SUBSCRIPTION Rs 5.00; 50 paise per copy

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NBT conveys its condolences to the bereaved family.

I was born in Mumbai. My father never went to school. My first ambition was to become a gangster. Later I realised that this is not the right thing. Then I thought I should have a secure job, and then I thought of becoming a peon, then a teacher and then a professor,” said Dr. Narender Jadhav, eminent educationist and presently Member, Planning Commission, sharing his childhood dreams and ambitions with children. He was speaking at the inauguration of the week-long National Book Week celebrations at N ehu Bhawan, National Book Trust, India, on 14 Novem be 2011.

Looking back at his experiences he said that to be successful in life you need to know yourself. He also revealed his secrets to be successful in life like hard work, high objective, burning desire to achieve goal, time management, social commitments, respect for parents, positive mindset, a no to shortcuts in life and understanding ones ability to go ahead in life.

Dr. Jadhav also released an activity book for children, Colour Me Says Delhi: Colouring Book of Rhymes by Shri Shashi Shetye, recently published by NBT to celebrate the Centenary Year of Delhi as capital of modern India.

Prof. Poornam Batra from Central Institute of Education, University of Delhi, was the Guest of Honour on the occasion. She said that nowadays we first watch movies based on books like Harry Potter and afterwards read the book. She added that books help us to imagine, think and
Activity Book was distributed to the children present.

The theme of this year's National Book Week was 'Imagination', encouraging children to 'Soar High on Wings of Imagination'. In keeping with the theme the week-long programmes and activities saw many eminent illustrators, writers of children's books actively interacting with the children, enabling their imagination to soar high in a world of stories, poetry and fun-filled activities. While the children prepared their dream calendar and posters under the guidance of eminent illustrators Shri Pulak Biswas and Shri Arun Roy, they were also regaled through stories and poetry recitation sessions by Anupa Lal, Madhav Pant, Kamlesh Mohindra, Kallama Sharma, Aparna Apte Gupta and Surekha Panandikar.

Other activities for children included a quiz on books, dance and drama workshops and performances as well as a film based on the NBT publication Bridge at Borim, written by Sunanda Panandikar. This story is about the heroic deeds of Joze, a young boy from fishermen community of Goa, who fights for the liberation of Goa.


As part of the National Book Week celebration, special book exhibitions were also organised by NBT in and around 50 schools in Delhi and NCR.

The book fair coincided with the National Education Day celebrations by the state government to commemorate the birthday of the country’s first education minister, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. The book fair also saw many literary programmes being organised by the National Book Trust, India. A discussion on satirical writings was held where noted writers including Padamshri Ravindraj Hans, Anup Sivastava, Anurag Vajpayee, Girish Pandik, Mahendra Thakur, Preenamalika, Subhash Chandran, Harish Naval and Yagya Sharma participated.

In the Meet-the-Author Programme, Dr Gangaprasad Vimal and Smt Usha Kiran Khan, Sahitya Akademi awardees shared their experiences with the audience and interacted with them.

A book release function was also held where NBT’s title ‘My beautiful Island’ was released by Shri Abdus Samad, noted Urdu writer and Sahitya Akademi awardee. The release was followed by a discussion session in which Dr Gangaprasad Vimal, Imtiya Aham and Uday Prakash presented their views.

Another programme on the famous poet Faiz Ahmed Faiz — “Wade nau Bhar: D aayee Hindi mein Faiz” was held where Zahirur Reh, Arun Kamal and Aagir Wajhat presented their views on Faiz.

In the ‘Poster Making and Poetry Writing Competition’, drawings and poems were exhibited. Similar competitions were held at the Bharat Bhavan, Lucknow and Patna. The National Book Fair also witnessed a quiz on books, dance and drama performances as well as a film based on the NBT publication Bridge at Borim, which was released by Shri Abdus Samad, noted Urdu writer and Sahitya Akademi awardee. The release was followed by a discussion session in which Dr Gangaprasad Vimal, Imtiya Aham and Uday Prakash presented their views.

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LETTERS, DEBATES AND HISTORY

Three NBT books entitled Gandhi-Nehru Correspondence, edited by Prof. Arjun Dev, and Nehru-Patel Correspondence and Gandhi-Patel Letters & Speeches, both edited by Dr. N. Neerja Singh were released at a book release function held at the India International Centre, Nehru Bhawan, Delhi on 2 November 2011.

The books were released by Prof. Mridula Mukherjee, Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University. She said that “the exchange of letters between the leaders will help people reassess the leaders and make up their mind about them.”

Highlighting the significance of the books, efforts of editors and NBT, Prof. Mukherjee said that “the great advantage of bringing out these books is that these books will be easily accessible to readers, students, teachers and librarians at affordable price.” She added that the readers would not have been able to read these letters as some of them are available only in libraries and museums.

Prof. Bipan Chandra, Chairman, NBT also spoke on the occasion and said that these books are of great significance as very few people know about the relationship shared between the leaders especially Nehru-Patel and Gandhi-Patel. Prof. Sall M. Ishara, Dean, School of Liberal Studies, Ambdekar University spoke on the book Nehru-Gandhi Correspondence. He said, “We assume that we know all about them. After reading the book, I discovered many facets of their relationship.” There was no straight relationship between them as of a leader and a follower. Sometimes Nehru was critical of Gandhi. He observed that there were many differences between the two. He added that they expressed their differences openly. If the differences were not expressed then the national movement would not have been possible. Their visions were different and their ways were often dissimilar, yet they went together during the national movement.

Prof. Sucheta Mahajan, Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University spoke on the book Nehru-Patel Correspondence. She said that “the book is not only academically important but also politically significant.” She discussed in length about the differences between the two on issues related to riots in Delhi, secularism, communalism, their concern about Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs during troubled times and the core issue on Kashmir. She said that the book is ‘invaluable’ as it covers the period about which the documents are not available. It illuminates lay readers on democracy, secularism and communalism.

Dr. Vishalabhide M. Memon, Department of History, Jesus & Mary College spoke on the book Gandhi-Patel Letters and Speeches. She brought into light various humorous and interesting elements in the relationship between the two leaders given in the book. She said Ghandhi had no problem with the bantering tone used by Patel. There were lots of agreements between the two on various issues. If Patel had differences with Ghandhi, they were directly aired to him. “Amusing encounters come across in this book”, she said, “it is not in chronological order but we are able to figure out the relationship between the two”. Editors of the books, Prof. Arjun Dev and Dr. Neerja Singh also spoke on the occasion. All the speakers were of the opinion that the books would help clear many misconceptions among the general people about the relationships between Gandhi-Nehru, Nehru-Patel and Gandhi-Patel.

Earlier, Shri M. A. Sikandar, Director, NBT in his welcome address introduced the series under which these books were being published. According to him these publications are being initiated with a view to bring together in a historical context the many letters and debates, scattered in many volumes, among some of the most significant actors of the freedom movement. In the process they enable the general reader to have a clearer perspective on many important moments and issues in our freedom struggle.

NATIONAL CHILDREN’S BOOK AND ACTIVITY FAIR

Seri Sandeep Dixit, Member of Parliament, East Delhi Constituency, inaugurated the second edition of the National Children’s Book & Activity Fair on 18 November 2011 at Prerna Sanskriti Kendra, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi. The Fair was organised by the National Centre for Children’s Literature (NCCL), a wing of NBT, India.

Inaugurating the Fair Shri Dixit recollected fond memories of his childhood and said, “During my childhood I used to read many books and write letters to my friends often. I also used to receive letters from them. I still have a collection of those letters that remind me of my friends. Now we have many electronic gadgets like computers, cellphones, ipods, Electronic database in the form of e-mails, SM Ss etc which have a short span of life whereas the life of book is unlimited.”

Appreciating the efforts of the Trust in organising regular book fairs, he said that NBT is sensitive to the needs of the readers of not only central Delhi, but has also fulfilled the needs of readers and booklovers all over the NCR region by organising the Fair at east Delhi and special book fairs in a number of schools throughout the Capital and NCR. He requested NBT to organise more book fairs in east Delhi, involving more schools located in that area, so that children and booklovers need not have to travel to central or south Delhi to buy books.

Shri M.A. Sikandar, Director, NBT, welcomed the guests. “We are not only committed to provide books on varied subjects at affordable prices to people, particularly the readers from middle and lower strata of the society, but also in taking books to the unreached,” he said. He assured the Chief Guest that NBT would organise more book fairs and book related events to meet the needs of the people of east Delhi.

Students of Ahlcon International School, M. Ayur Vihar, presented an invocation song on the occasion. Besides, dance performances based on the poems of Tagore and a quiz on books were organised for the children.
NATIONAL BOOK TRUST, INDIA

The Silver Jubilee Book Fair in Jorhat

Superintendent of Police, Jorhat, Dr. Shri Ajit of Assam. Smt Sanjukta Parasar, Commissioner, Jorhat district, gave a brief history of Jorhat as the intellectual capital of Assam while inaugurating the book fair at Jorhat organised by National Book Trust, India from 15 to 23 October 2011 at Jorhat D District Association Playground. The fair was organised in association with Assam Academic Centre on the occasion of its Silver Jubilee, Jorhat District Administration and All Assam Publishers and Book Sellers Association.

While releasing the book fair souvenir “Prajagali” brought out by Assam Academic Centre, eminent historian and educationist Jogen Chetta appealed all those present to read more books. He also declared that a regional office of NBT will soon be set up at Guwahati. Amidst wide applause, Dr. P. G. Rao, Director, North East Regional Centre, said that the book fair will have an NBT book shop dedicated to the readers of northeast India. The inaugural function was preceded by a colourful book march by around 1500 school children from in and around Jorhat.

With more than 200 stalls of around 90 publishers and book sellers from Assam, Tripura, Kolkata, Delhi and Nagpur, the book fair created a record of sorts in the recent history of NBT. Book fairs elsewhere in the northeast in terms of number of stalls. In view of the International Year of Chemistry and the International Year of Forestry, a dedicated SciencePark was set up in the fair grounds where some renowned Science and research institutes showcased their achievements and innovations in the field of science and technology. On this occasion, a series of programmes on science popularization was organized involving scientist and science communicators from Vigyan Prasar, an autonomous organization of Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.

The fair witnessed two panel discussions, one on “Science Literature in Translation: An Assamese perspective” with Dr. Bijay Krishna Deva Sarma as moderator and Dr. D.C. Goswami and Dr. Santanu Tamuly as panelists and another on “Interpreting Culture: Challenges in Translating Assamese novels” with Dr. Nagen Saikia as moderator and Dr. Bibhish Choudhury and Shri Amit Jyoti Mahanta as panelists. Lohitya Nandini (Daughters of Brahmaputra), an innovative programme involving ten women poets from all over Assam enthralled the booklovers. Renowned recitation artiste Sanjib Kakaty moderated this programme.

Another highlight of the fair was a programme called “Kanthawari”, an assembly of young writers from Jorhat district. Children programmes like Ramdhun Rang, Sit and Draw competition, Malay M. Manna, Essay Competition, Aar Koli Boli, Storytelling Competition, Pasalat Daat Bhasha, Asamiya Spelling Bee Competition, Kalam aru Tulika, writing and illustration competition for a wall magazine and a quiz competition were huge draw among the school children.

Book release functions organised by various publishers, a publishers and book sellers’ meet organised by All Assam Publishers and Booksellers’ Association and a meet-the-author programme by Jorhat Sahitya Sabha also drew a large number of booklovers to the fair. Book release functions were held on various themes.

On this auspicious day, Dr. P. G. Rao, Director, North East Regional Centre, in his welcome speech, Shri Manas Ranjan Mahapatra, Editor, NBT welcomed the guests present and said, “I do hope that many such programmes will be organised in near future with LSR”. Shri Arvind Kumar, former Director of NBT also spoke on the occasion. The discussion was well attended by renowned authors, publishers, scholars, teachers and students of the college. They also interacted with the speakers regarding children’s literature on the occasion.

The programme was coordinated by Shri M. A. Sikandar, the Guest of Honour and Jorhat Sahitya Sabha also spoke on the occasion. The programme was well attended by renowned authors, publishers, scholars, teachers and students of the college. They also interacted with the speakers regarding children’s literature on the occasion.

The National Vigilance Awareness Week was observed at the Trust as per the directive of the Central Vigilance Commission. On this occasion, the officers of the Trust led by the Director Shri M. A. Sikandar took a pledge. The purpose of the Vigilance Week was to generate awareness among the officers as well as the general public on the ill’s of corruption.

M A SIKANDAR

DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND ASST. EDITOR, NBT
National Book Trust, India from 15 to 23 October 2011 at Jorhat District Association Playground. The fair was organised in association with Assam Academic Centre on the occasion of its Silver Jubilee, Jorhat District Administration and All Assam Publishers and Book Sellers Association.

While releasing the book fair souvenir, “Prayag” brought out by Assam Academic Centre, eminent historian and educationist Jogen Chetia also expressed fears that electronic media like TV, Internet and e-books will ever replace the conventional books. Shri Ramesh Chand Jain, Deputy Commissioner, Jorhat district, gave a brief history of Jorhat as the intellectual capital of Assam. Smt Sanjukta Parasar, Superintendent of Police, Jorhat, Shri Ajit Kumar Barman, President, All Assam Publishers and Book Sellers Association and Dr Bidynu Prasad Sarma, President, Assam Academic Centre also spoke on the occasion.

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Children programmes like Ramdhunen Rang, Sit and Draw competition, Molar Maman, Essay Competition, Abar Kolat Bari, Storytelling Competition, Pasalat Daat Bhangi, Asamiya Spelling Bee Competition, Kalam aru Tulika, writing and illustration competition for a wall magazine and a quiz competition were huge draw among the children. Book release functions organised by various publishers, a publishers and book sellers’ meet organised by All Assam Publishers and Book Sellers’ Association and a meet-the-author programme by Jorhat Sahitya Sabha also drew a large number of book lovers to the fair.

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Shri Anurudh Kumar, former Director of NBT also spoke on the occasion. The discussion was well attended by renowned authors, publishers, scholars, teachers and students of the college. They also interacted with the speakers regarding children’s literature on the occasion.

The programme was coordinated by Shri M Anjan Ranjan M Bhapatra, Editor (NCCL).

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Professor Dr Bijay Krishna Deva Sarma and Mr Pranab Kumar Bora, eminent writers were the guests of honour in the valedictory cum award distribution ceremony. A folk cultural night dedicated to Assam’s cultural icon Dr Bhupen Hazarika provided a grand finale to the book fair.

Having the Grown-Ups Grown Up?

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NBT NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2011

NATIONAL BOOK TRUST INDIA
LETTERS, DEBATES AND HISTORY

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Students of Aiktonon International School, M ayur Vihar, presented an invocational song on the occasion. Besides, dance performances based on the poems of Tagore and a quiz on books were organised for the children.
Activity Book was distributed to the children present.

The theme of this year’s National Book Week was ‘Imagination’, encouraging children to ‘Soar High on Wings of Imagination’. In keeping with the theme, the week-long programmes and activities saw many eminent illustrators, writers of children’s books actively interacting with the children, enabling their imagination to soar high in a world of stories, poetry and fun-filled activities. While the children prepared their dream calendar and posters under the guidance of eminent illustrators Shri Pulak Biswas and Shri Arun Roy, they were also regaled through stories and poetry recitation sessions by Anupa Lal, Madhu Pant, Kamlesh Mohindra, Kishana Sharma, Aparna Apte Gupta and Surekha Panandikar.

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A book release function was also held where NBT’s title M aulana Abdul Kalam Azad was released by Shri Abdus Samad, noted Urdu writer and Sahitya Akademi awardee. The release was followed by a discussion session in which Dr Gangaprasad Vimal, Imtiya Aham and Uday Prakash presented their views.

Another programme on the famous poet Faiz Ahmed Faiz — “Wade nau Bhar: D aaye Hind mein Faiz” was held where Zahoor Sidiqhi, Arun Kamal and Aagar Wajhat presented their views on Faiz.

Dr Lalit Kishore M andora, Hindi editor; Dr Shams Equbal, Urdu editor and Shri Rakesh Kumar, Assi Director (Sales) from NBT coordinated the Fair and the Programmes.
Readers are requested to write to the editor
Subhram Complex, Munirka, New Delhi-110 067.

Typeset and designed at Capital Creations,
Area, New Delhi-110 020, respectively.
Pvt. Ltd., 119 DSIDC Shed, Phase-I, Okhla Industrial

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On India Government Service

Dr. Narender Jadhav, eminent educationist
and presently Member, Planning Commission, sharing his childhood

work, high objective, burning desire to
achieve goal, time management, social
commitments, respect for parents, positive
mindset, a no to shortcuts in life and
understanding one’s ability to go ahead in
life.

NBT Newsletter is the house magazine of the
National Book Trust, India — an autonomous
organisation of the Ministry of Human Resource
Development, Department of Higher Education,
Government of India.
The views expressed in the signed articles do not
necessarily reflect the official views of the Trust.

Editor: Benny Kurian
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Website: www.nbtindia.org.in

Readers are requested to write to the editor expressing their views about the NEWSLETTER.

Printed and published by: Shri Salah Kumar, Jt. Director
(Production), National Book Trust, India; published from
Nehru Bhawan, 5 Institutional Area, Vasant Kunj,
Phase-II, New Delhi-110070 and printed at PrintPack
Press Pvt. Ltd., 119 DSIDC Shed, Phase-I, Okhla Industrial
Area, New Delhi-110020 respectively.

© NBT NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2011

ANNULAR SUBSCRIPTION Rs 5.00; 50 paise per copy

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ON THE WINGS OF IMAGINATION

"I was born in Mumbai. My father never went to school. M y first ambition was
to become a gangster. Later I realised that
during 1960s. He held various
positions in industrial and cultural associations for decades. NBT conveys its
codicies to the benea family.

Dr. Narender Jadhav also released an activity book for children Colour Me Says Delhi: Colouring Book of Rhymes by Shri Shashi Shetye, recently published by NBT to
celebrate the Centenary Year of Delhi as
capital of modern India.

Prof. Poonam Batra from Central
Institute of Education, University of Delhi,
was the Guest of Honour on the occasion.
She said that nowadays we first watch movies based on books like Harry Potter
and afterwards read the book. She added
that books help us to imagine, think and