

NBT newsletter

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION Rs 5.00; 50 paise per copy



Volume 31 No. 11 • November 2013

Contents

Literary Cooperation among SAARC Countries	2
Training Course in Book Publishing	3
High Commissioner of Trinidad and Tobago Visits NBT	3
Readers' Club Orientation	4
Festival of Reading at Silvassa and Daman	4
Literary Festival at Keonjhar	5
Hindi Pakhwada at NBT	6
Kanyakumari Book Fair	7
Books for Children	7

PICK OF THE MONTH



From a Doctor's Diary
S.G. Kabra
978-81-237-6928-8; Rs 70

Colombo International Book Fair 2013



The 15th Colombo International Book Fair (CIBF) was held from 14-22 September at Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall in Colombo. Organized by the Sri Lanka Book Publishers' Association, the Fair was inaugurated by Prof. Sunil Ariyaratne, eminent writer, film maker and Senior Professor of Sinhala language and mass communication at Sri Jayawardanapura University.

Over the past 15 years, CIBF, an event showcasing the heart and soul of Sri Lankan literature and its publishing, has grown as an important Fair in Sri Lankan cultural and literary calendar. Spanning a duration of 9 days, this unique fair attracted millions of visitors, providing a variety of opportunities for both Sri Lankan and international publishers.

The CIBF witnessed a strong representation from India with many reputed publishers, besides the National Book Trust India, participating. Some of the important publishing houses from India included Harper Collins, Prentice Hall, McGraw Hill, Macmillan, Oxford

University Press, Pearson, Sage, Scholastic, among others.

The Colombo International Book Fair had over 400 stalls spread across 11 halls with a representation of various countries. Besides, representatives of the Sri Lanka Book Publisher's Association, Ceylon Book Sellers and Importers Association and Samastha Lanka Book Sellers Association also participated.

Shri Vijitha Yapa, President of the Sri Lanka Book Publishers' Association said that the aim of the book fair is to make publications available to a wide cross section of the Sri Lankan public. "Sri Lanka



has a literacy rate of 92 per cent and we hope activities like this, where a lot of concentration is on educational books, will enable the country to reach 100 per cent literacy soon," Shri Yapa added.

Shri M. Ramachandran, Director, India Cultural Centre, High Commission of India, Colombo and Dr. Sanjay Garg, Deputy Director, SAARC Cultural Centre, Sri Lanka were some of the dignitaries who visited the NBT stall.

The National Book Trust, India showcased about 300 titles both in English and Tamil. NBT stall attracted a



steady stream of visitors.

On the sidelines of the Fair, an anthology of Sri Lankan poetry, titled *Mirrored Images*, published by the NBT, India was released at the India Cultural Centre, Colombo. Shri Y.S Sinha, High

Commissioner, Indian High Commission released the book. The Guest of Honour at the function was Shri Vasudeva Nanayakkara, Minister for Languages and Social Integration. Shri M.A. Sikandar, Director, NBT, was also present on the occasion. Edited by Shri Rajiva Wijesinha, a Member of Sri Lankan Parliament and an eminent scholar, the book brings together representative works of some of Sri Lanka's most respected poets writing in Sinhala, Tamil and English.

Shri T. Mathan Raj, Tamil editor, represented NBT at the Fair.

Literary Cooperation among SAARC Countries

In a significant initiative, to promote exchange of literature among SAARC countries, the NBT India will associate with SAARC Cultural Centre, Colombo, Sri Lanka, to bring out literary works from SAARC countries in Indian languages. In a discussion held with Dr. G.L.W. Samarasinghe, Director, SAARC Cultural Centre; Shri M.A. Sikandar, Director, NBT broadly outlined the various areas of cooperation between the two organisations.

The major areas of cooperation proposed are: joint publications; translations in Indian languages of literary works from SAARC countries; organise joint book promotion events such as book fairs, workshops and literary festivals etc. and participate in



such events; exchange of publications.

Besides, the SAARC Cultural Centre was requested to participate regularly at the New Delhi World Book Fair. Writers from SAARC countries would be invited for various book reading sessions, book release functions and other literary events

held across these countries. The NBT would also be offering capacity building expertise to the publishing industry in SAARC countries by organising publishing courses and other specialised training programmes. It was also suggested that NBT may initiate a new series of books called 'SAARC Literature' for which SAARC Cultural Centre will provide financial assistance to support and sustain the series on a long term basis.

Shri M.A. Sikandar said that this collaboration with SAARC Cultural Centre could go a long way in familiarising the literatures and writers of these countries among each other. Further, it would establish strong cultural links among these countries and encourage exchange of ideas on a regular basis.



NEW DELHI WORLD BOOK FAIR

15–23 February 2014

NEW DELHI RIGHTS TABLE

17–18 February 2014

at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

Visit: www.newdelhiworldbookfair.gov.in

Training Course in Book Publishing

“We writers and publishers depend on the young professionals of the industry to infuse new ideas and to take forward the industry to newer achievements. As far as the publishing industry concerned, sky is the limit,” said Shri A. Sethumadhavan, Chairman, NBT while inaugurating the annual 4-week Training Course in Book Publishing organised by the National Book Trust, India at Nehru Bhawan, New Delhi from 2 to 28 September 2013.

Shri A. Sethumadhavan discussed the huge possibilities that the Indian Publishing Industry offers for aspiring professionals. “This programme will give you all a fair idea about the industry as a whole and will help to learn and hone your skills”, He added addressing the participants.

Shri M.A. Sikandar, Director, NBT welcomed the guests and the participants of the course. He said that the publishing course would be interactive and quite informative, and help participants to begin their career in publishing industry, after completion of this course. Shri Sikandar also added that NBT had been organizing the annual course for the last 17 years, and several professionals who are today heading big houses were once part of this course.



Today there is a clear need for trained professionals in different areas of publishing — editing, production, design, sales and marketing. In order to meet this demand, National Book Trust, India (NBT) has



been organising courses in publishing in Delhi as well as in other parts of the country, keeping in view the needs of the language publishing. Besides, the Trust is also collaborating with Calcutta University and Ambedkar University to offer Post-graduate Diploma courses in publishing.

The Training Course in Book Publishing is aimed at giving the participants an overview of publishing. Hands-on experience and interactive sessions form an

important segment of the course. Visits to publishing houses, library and printing press are also arranged to enhance the practical knowledge of the participants.

This year, more than 30 participants from various parts of the country enrolled in the course. Besides strengthening the knowledge in different aspects of publishing, the course also helps the participants to take up publishing as a career.

The faculty members have been chosen from leading publishing houses of the country, which includes names like Sridhar Balan, G.S. Jolly, Mukul Sehgal, B.N. Varma, Dinesh Sinha, Sharmila Abraham, V.K. Karthika, Arpita Das, Atiya Zaidi, Joseph Mathai, and others.

The publishing course was coordinated by Shri Sumit Bhattacharjee, Asst Director (Projects & Training) NBT.

High Commissioner of Trinidad and Tobago visits NBT

His Excellency Mr Chandradath Singh, High Commissioner of Trinidad & Tobago to India, visited the office of the National Book Trust at Vasant Kunj, New Delhi. He held wide ranging discussions with Shri A. Sethumadhavan, Chairman, NBT and Shri M.A. Sikandar, Director, NBT on various areas of cooperation including participating in each other's book fairs and other book related events.



H.E. Mr Chandradath Singh also visited the NBT bookshop and the NCCL Library and was impressed by the wide range of books in all Indian languages and covering large number of subjects.

He also appreciated NBT's efforts in promoting books and the reading habit in the country through various book-related activities and book exhibitions, book fairs and others.

Readers' Club Orientation Programmes

With a view to promote reading habit among children and strengthen the cause of children's literature, two orientation programmes for teachers on 'How to Run a Readers' Club' were organised by National Centre for Children's Literature (NCCL), a wing of NBT, at Kharagpur (West Bengal) and Bhavnagar in July 2013.

The Readers' Club Orientation at Kharagpur was held at the South Eastern Railway Girls Sr. Secondary School on 18-19 July 2013. Shri R.K. Kalshrestha, Division Railway Manager inaugurated this 2-day event along with an exhibition of NBT's books for Children. Shri Prempal Sharma, Executive Director, Railway Board, Shri Manoj Panday, Chief Personnel Officer and several dignitaries from the Ministry of Railways graced the session.

The 2-day event was attended by teachers, principals and librarians of over 30 schools under South Eastern Railways. Various sessions in the programme discussed about the changing trend and dimensions of reading, creative writing, storytelling skills, how to select a book



for children's pleasure reading and the methods to hold interactive sessions with authors and people connected with the world of reading. With the resource support from Dr. Kripa Sankar Chaubey and Smt. Sailabala Mahapatra, popular authors and educationists; Smt. Karabi



Mukhopadhyay, Principal, Railway Girls, Sr. Sec. School; and Shri Manas Ranjan Mahapatra, Editor, NBT-NCCL coordinated the event.

NBT and Bhavnagar Zilla Prathmik, Siksha Sangh, the district level teachers' body of Bhavnagar, Gujarat, organised the Readers' Club Orientation for teachers at Bhavnagar on 23 July 2013. Over 100 teachers and educators attended the programme.

The event was inaugurated by Dr. Nalin Pandit, former Director, GCERT. Dr Pandit spoke about the importance of books and reading as well as the book-related activities in the school libraries. The resource persons discussed the various means and modes for developing an atmosphere for children's joyful reading. Several pleasure reading promotional activities were discussed and enacted in various sessions. With the resource support from Shri Parikshit Jushi, eminent journalist and educational activist, and the various office bearers of the teachers body, the event was coordinated by Shri Bhagyendra Patel, Gujarati editor, NBT.

Festival of Reading at Silvassa and Daman

National Book Trust, India in collaboration with the Department of Art & Culture, Union Territory of Daman & Diu, organised two 2-day Festivals of Reading at Silvassa and Daman on 11-12 and 13-14 September 2013, respectively. An exhibition of books as well as art workshops, interactive sessions and Readers' Club orientation programmes for school teachers were organised as part of the Festival. The programmes were organised by the NCCL.

The Festival at Silvassa was inaugurated by Shri Sunil Saxena, Secretary, Department of Art & Culture, Daman & Diu at Govt. Higher Secondary School, Silvassa. While appreciating NBT's efforts to promote reading habit in



the country, Shri Saxena hoped that NBT will continue to organise such events in small towns and villages more often so as to reach the masses.

The Festival at Daman, held at Govt. Sr. Secondary School, Moti Daman, was inaugurated by Shri Lalubhai B. Patel, MP, Daman and Diu. Shri A. Abraham, Secretary, School Education, Shri Sunil

Saxena and Shri Aabid Surti, eminent cartoonist were the guests of honour at the occasion. Shri Patel stressed on the need to publish more books for children on Indian themes.

Shri Aabid Surti conducted workshops for teachers and children on cartoon making at both the places as well as interacted with the participants on 'Art as a Career'.

Over 30 schools of Daman were enrolled in the Readers' Club Movement on the occasion and the teacher coordinators were oriented on 'How to Run a Readers' Club'. Ms. Usha Nair, Regional Manager (WRO, NBT, Mumbai) and Shri Manas Ranjan Mahapatra, Editor, NCCL, coordinated the Festivals.

Literary Festival at Keonjhar

A two-day literary festival organised by National Book Trust, India was held on 7-8 September 2013 in the auditorium of the District Institute for Education & Training, Keonjhar, Odisha.

Inaugurating the festival, Jnanpith awardee and eminent writer in Odia and English Dr Pratibha Ray said books, the unfailing friends of humans, are the perennial source of joy, though she regretted the languishing trend of reading habit in Odisha. She further added that peoples' unscrupulous craze for material gains has turned them away from books resulting in cumulative tension and frustration.

On the occasion, four books in Odia and published by the National Book Trust, India were released by the dignitaries namely: translations of *Traditional Indian Theatre*, *Hot Days Long Nights*, *Hanged for their Patriotism* and *Selected Writings of Madhusudan Das*.

Dr Bijayanand Singh, the President of Utkal Sahitya Samaj and the Guest of Honour at the occasion, praised NBT's commendable role in organising such programmes for promotion of reading habit in rural and tribal areas of the state. Prof. Pritish Acharya focussed on the role of Madhusudan Das and the unification of Odisha.

Presiding over the meeting, Padmashri awardee Tulasi Munda, a veteran social



activist, committed to the cause of education and reading, emphasised on the need for promotion of reading habit in tribal areas and spoke on the trials and tribulations an illiterate and uneducated person undergoes.

Shri Khageswar Nayak, Principal, DIET, welcomed the guests present on the occasion. Shri Ranjan Pradhas coordinated the programme and offered the vote of thanks.

In the 'Meet the Author' programme, noted Odia poet and critic Prof. Sarat Chandra Pradhan and short story writer Dr Bourahari Das shared their deep creative experiences with the audience and happily answered the questions and queries relating to their literary creations. Dr Sangram Jena, a prominent translator presided over the meeting.

The first session on the second day of the two-day literary festival had a symposium on 'Promotion of Reading Habit in the Tribal Areas'. It was presided

over by Prof. Basudev Chhatroi, Chairman of Council of Higher Secondary Education, Odisha.

Participants in the session included Dr Bimbardhar Behera, President, Milani Sahitya Sansad, Keonjhar; Dr Paramanand Patel, researcher on tribal language and culture; Shri Ramakant Jena, a prominent literary activist in the rural areas; Shri Bhay Dwivedi, the columnist, editor

and social activist; Dr Govind Chand, children's writer; Shri Rabindra Kumar Nayak, translator, working on promotion of reading habit among students in the rural belt. All the participants unanimously stressed on the active and empathetic role of the general public, the NGOs and the governments in promotion of reading habit in tribal areas.

In the second session a Juanga community of Keonjhar District presented tribal songs through group dance.

A large number of intellectuals and litterateurs of the city, including teachers and students of DIET, Keonjhar attended the function with fervour and enthusiasm. The two-day book exhibition organised by Eastern Regional Office of the NBT was marked with tremendous eagerness from the book lovers that triggered encouraging sales of NBT books. The event was widely covered by media.

Dr Pramod Sar, Odia Editor, NBT, coordinated the programme.



Hindi Pakhwada at NBT

National Book Trust, India celebrated the annual Hindi Pakhwada from 1 to 15 September 2013, with a view to promote the use of Hindi in the government offices.

A two-day Hindi competition was held for the employees of the Trust at the Nehru Bhawan, New Delhi on 4 and 5 September 2013.

Flagging off the two-day competitions at the Trust, Shri M.A. Sikandar, Director NBT stressed on the need to use Hindi in official work more often. Ms Farida M. Naik, Joint Director (Admn. & Fin.) NBT encouraged the employees of the Trust to participate in the competitions in larger numbers.



Ms Uma Bansal, Editor & Hindi Officer, NBT welcomed the participants and spoke about the competitions to be held and their importance in promoting Hindi in the office.

An Essay Competition in Hindi was held on 4 September 2013, where the participants were given three topics to choose from and express their views on the subject in Hindi. On 5 September 2013, a Noting & Drafting competition was held, where the participants were given a printed question paper to solve, which included letter writing, official noting/drafting, and use of Hindi official terms into sentences.

Ms Rakesh Sharma, Director, Department of Hindi Official Language, Ministry of HRD, was the Chief Guest at the function. Welcoming Ms Sharma, Ms Farida Naik talked about how NBT makes efforts to use Hindi in everyday official working. Ms Rakesh Sharma expressed her happiness at the enthusiasm in the NBT employees to take part in the competition, which she said is a positive way to promote the use of Hindi in the offices.

The winners at the competitions were adjudged at first, second, third and consolation places, and were awarded cash prizes.



OBITUARY

Smt. Balwant Kaur, Shri N.S. Rajendra and Shri Vijay Pal, former employees of the Trust, passed away recently.



Smt. Balwant Kaur, Exhibition Assistant, retired from the services of the Trust in 2010 after serving for 37 years in various sections.

Shri N.S. Rajendra, retired in 2006. Joined NBT in 1989, he was the Regional Manager of Southern Regional Office, Bangalore.



Shri Vijay Pal joined the National Book Trust in 1980 and retired in 2010 as the Deputy Director (Exhibition).

We at NBT offer our deep condolences to the bereaved families.



The former Union Minister, Mohan Dharia, passed away at a hospital at Pune on 14 October 2013. He was 88 years old. He was accorded a state funeral.

Shri Dharia was born on 14 February 1925 in Raigad district of Maharashtra. A lawyer by profession, he was a part of the Praja Socialist Party during the Freedom struggle. While serving as the Minister of State in the Indira Gandhi government, he fiercely opposed the Emergency. This earned him the title of 'Young Turk'. Later, as a member of the Janata Party, he served as the Union Commerce Minister. After retiring from active politics, Shri Dharia led a movement for water conservation through his organisation, Vanrai.

Shri Dharia was also the author of many books and articles, including the book *India's Glorious Freedom Struggle and the Post-Independence Era*, published by the National Book Trust, India.

Shri Mohan Dharia was awarded the Padma Vibhushan in 2005.

We at NBT offer our deep condolences to the bereaved family.

Kanyakumari Book Fair

National Book Trust, India organized the Kanyakumari Book Fair from 19-28 July 2013 at the S.L.P. School Grounds, Nagercoil. The Fair was organised in collaboration with the District Administration, Kanyakumari.

Dr Vaigai Selvan, Hon'ble Minister for Elementary Education, Govt. of Tamil Nadu inaugurated the Fair, while Shri K.T. Pachaimal, Hon'ble Minister for Forests inaugurated the NBT stall at the Fair.

Shri S. Nagarajan, IAS, District Collector, delivered the presidential address.

In his address, Shri A. Sethumadhavan,



Chairman, NBT, talked about the initiatives and various activities of the Trust in promoting books and reading in the country.

In his welcome address, Shri M.A. Sikandar, Director NBT, said "Kanyakumari district leads as an example with 100 per cent literacy rate among the districts of Tamil Nadu. And we hope that the people would make the best use of the Fair and benefit from it."

Many literary and cultural events were organised in which many scholars, writers, theatre & film personalities participated. Speakers at these events included: Stalin Gunasekaran, Neela Padmanaban, Thoppil Muhammadu Meeran, Sukumaran, Solomon Pappaiyya, Iraiyanbu IAS, Tamil Selvan, Suki Sivam, S. Venkatesan, Malarvathi, Nellai Kannan, Thamira, Nandalala, Kanmani Gunasekaran, Samayamoorthy IAS, Arivoli, Shailendra Babu IPS, K. Gnanasambandan, M. Thirumalai, Nanjil Sampath and Sankaral IAS.

Shri T. Mathan Raj, Tamil editor, NBT, coordinated the event.



Books for Children

14 November, the birthday of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, is celebrated as Children's Day all over the country. On this occasion, the NBT, India organises the National Book Week throughout the country. During this week the Trust encourages schools, colleges and other institutions to devote the week for books and involve children in book-related activities. All schools are encouraged to participate in the various activities held during this week.

The Trust publishes a wide variety of books for children. Given below are some of the recent titles. - *Editor*

A Wet Summer Day

Ada Bhansali

A novella for young adults which dwells on a joint family situation where a lot of issues related to gender, sibling rivalry, social status, etc. crop up but an incident silences all differences.

978-81-237-6555-6; Rs 105



been developed by Shashi Shetye and it manages to glorify the 100 years of Delhi state

978-81-237-6526-6; Rs 18

Holiday... Oh No No...

Jaswinder Kaur Bindra

This book presents a situation when the Sun decides to go on a holiday and there is mess all over the world

978-81-237-6525-9; Rs 25



Magic Islands

Zai Whitaker

The Andaman and Nicobar Islands have lured many a traveller for its beauty, adventure-packed history and the indigenous tribes.

This book talks about all this in a fascinating manner.

978-81-237-6500-6; Rs 110



Mongoose Becomes King

Baldev Singh 'Baddan'

This is an interesting tale about how a little creature Mongoose manages to outwit a mighty animal like the leopard

978-81-237-6595-2; Rs 30



Sammy the Snail

Roopam Carroll

Sammy the snail ventures on a journey to find a friend and is disappointed till he trips and falls upside down from a mound. A tortoise comes to his rescue and completes the mission of Sammy.

978-81-237-6543-3; Rs 25



Strange Ways of the Honey Bee

S I Farooqi

This book explains the life pattern of bees and how they make honey.

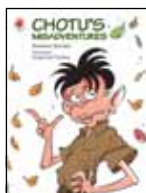
978-81-237-6603-4; Rs 30

Chotu's Misadventures

Kumkum Somani

Illustrated by Durgadatt Pandey, this informative book for children is about pollution and how it visibly affects our everyday life

978-81-237-6507-5; Rs 30



Happy 100th Birthday Delhi

Shashi Shetye

The concept and design of this book has

FROM THE WRO, NBT

An exhibition of NBT books was held at the Railway School, Kalyan from 5 to 7 September 2013. The event was a part of the Teacher's day celebrations, organized by the NCCL, the children's wing of NBT.

Many activities for children were also held, which were coordinated by the NCCL. The function was inaugurated by Dr Bal Phondke, popular science communicator and one of NBT's eminent Popular Science writers.

Shri Rajeev Tambe conducted a science workshop, for students as well as teachers. The students carried out many zero-cost experiments and experienced the science inherent in all normal activities. The teacher's workshop was an interactive session with analysis on methodology, issues and solutions for effective teaching.



RNI-39456/82
Postal Regd. No. DL-SW-1-4076/12-14
Licenced to post without prepayment.
L.No. U(SW) 21/2012-2014
Mailing date: 5/6 Same Month
Date of Publication: 01/11/2013

Forthcoming Book Fairs

Chandigarh Book Fair	13-18 Nov. 2013
Jamshedpur Book Fair	18-26 Nov. 2013
Mumbai Book Fair	28 Nov.-3 Dec. 2013
Hyderabad Book Fair	30 Nov.-7 Dec. 2013
Mangalore Book Fair	4-10 Jan. 2013



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: Binny Kurian

Editorial Associate: Kanchan Wanchoo Sharma

Production Officer: Narender Kumar



NATIONAL BOOK TRUST, INDIA

Nehru Bhawan, 5 Institutional Area,
Vasant Kunj, Phase-II New Delhi-110 070
E-mail: office.nbt@nic.in

Website: www.nbtindia.gov.in

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

Printed and published by Satish Kumar on behalf of National Book Trust, India and printed at Pushpak Press Pvt. Ltd., 203-204 DSIDC Shed, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase-I, New Delhi-110 020, and published at National Book Trust, India, Nehru Bhawan, 5 Institutional Area, Phase-II, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070. Editor: Binny Kurian.

Typeset and designed at Capital Creations, Subhram Complex, Munirka, New Delhi-110 067.

If undelivered please return to:

National Book Trust, India, Nehru Bhawan, 5 Institutional Area, Phase-II, New Delhi - 110 070

On India Government Service