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New Delhi

Press Release

Children's Books and Activities at NDWBF 2016: A Treat for Children

A large number of booklovers are visiting the New Delhi World Book Fair being held at Pragati Maidan. Today, being a working day has not deterred booklovers to visit the Fair. The booklovers at the Fair can be seen busy looking for their favourite books at the stalls of regional language books, spiritual books, self help books, textbooks, fiction and non-fiction books.

The Hall No. 14 is also drawing crowd, especially children, parents, teachers etc at the Fair. The Hall No 14 comprises of the stalls from various children's books publishers from across the country and the other interesting feature at the Hall No. 14 is the **Children's Pavilion**. Put up by the National Book Trust, India, it attracts a number of booklovers. Several activities for and by children are being organized at the Pavilion by the Trust in collaboration with various schools, NGO and other organizations working in the field. The children get an opportunity to meet their favourite authors, illustrators, have reading and storytelling sessions with them, participate in the workshops on creative writing, illustrations etc. For the children's writers, teachers, librarians, panel discussions, seminars are also being organized.

The Children's Film Society is screening the popular films for children at the Pavilion every day like *Anmol Tasveer*, *Aasman Se Gira*, *Ek Ajooba Hai*. The other special features of the Pavilion include the Illustrator's Corner put up the Riyaz Academy to encourage young artists, a corner for children as well as teachers by IL&FS informing about the learning aids, a corner by Care India making people aware about the need to educate children especially girls; Reading Corner where the booklovers can read books and know about the National Centre for Children's Literature Library which has a collection of books on children's literature etc in Indian as well as foreign languages.

The galore of events organized at the Children's Pavilion today included a workshop on animation by Ms Gioia Smid, Director, Fiep Amsterdam, Netherlands; A skit by children based on Mangu Mali aur Ambia by noted children's author Subhadra Sengupta and published by Pratham Books; A programme on girls' literacy and reading habit titled 'Beti Padhe Desh Badhe'; A panel discussion on literacy through literature, discussion on connecting children to community libraries among others.

A panel discussion on the topic 'Indian Epics as Reflected in Indian Regional Language and Literature' was organized at the Theme Pavilion. The speakers on the occasion were Shri Sanjiv Kumar, Ms Thanuja Bhattathiri and Dr Avaniresh Avasthi. The speakers discussed about the Indian epics like Mahabharata and Ramayana have been interpreted by the authors in regional languages. Ms Thanuja opined that epics are like old, black and white photographs, some are clear and some are not. Epics have highly influenced the Malayalam literature.

A talk on the book *Global Game Change*, authored by John Nasbitt and Doris Nasbitt at China Pavilion was held. The speakers including the authors and Shri Rudra Narayan Sharma of Sage Publications discussed about the book and significant issues like economic and political conditions in China and India, role being played by the entrepreneurs in fulfilling social responsibilities and changing trends in the publishing industry.

A number of books were released at the Fair including *Bal Krishan Garg Ke Bal Geet*, authored by Bal Krishan Garg, *Miraculous Power of the Subconscious Mind* authored by N K Sharma among others. The panel discussions on Hindi literature and Premchand, noted Hindi author, Poets' Meet were some of the literary events that engaged the booklovers.