

## Hon'ble Minister Dr Rajkumar Ranjan Singh Inaugurates New Delhi World Book Fair 2023



**H**on'ble Minister Dr Rajkumar Ranjan Singh inaugurated the New Delhi World Book Fair 2023. H.E. Mr Emmanuel Lenain, Ambassador of France to India, Mr Vincent Montagne, President, Syndicat National de L'Edition, France, Ms Annie Ernaux, Nobel Laureate, France, Shri Pradeep Singh Kharola, Chairman and Managing Director, ITPO, Smt. Saumya Gupta, Joint Secretary (NIT) and Shri Yuvraj Malik, Director NBT-India also graced the dais.

Speaking on the occasion, Hon'ble Minister Dr Rajkumar Ranjan Singh said that the New Delhi World Book Fair is one of the world's biggest stages for the harmonious amalgamation of literature and culture and it facilitates an exchange of ideas. With France as the Guest of Honour Country, the New Delhi World Book Fair 2023 will be promoting the spread of knowledge through reading not just in India but abroad in the coming 9 days.

The Hon'ble Minister launched books published under the prestigious PM-YUVA scheme and various titles under NBT-India's India@75 series commemorating the 75 years of India's independence on the occasion. A Stamp to commemorate the 50-year journey of New Delhi World Book Fair 2023 was also launched to mark the grand event. The Hon'ble Minister also inaugurated the Theme Pavilion

in Hall No. 5 after a guided walk-through the G-20 and Foreign Pavilions as well as the Children's and Language Publishers' Pavilion.

In his address Shri Yuvraj Malik welcomed all the guests and stakeholders to the Fair. He said the Fair will be a complete immersive experience and is the perfect opportunity for all publishers and book lovers. He invited readers from all walks of life to visit the fair in large numbers to partake in the beautiful world of books. He also added that the NDWBF is a platform to educate, empower and enable the citizens of the country.

H.E. Mr Emmanuel Lenain in his address said that one thing we appreciate about India is her diversity. It is owing to this diversity that French books have been published in various Indian languages. The exchange of ideas with different professional communities at the fair would lead to new avenues for collaborations between the two countries, he added.

Shri Pradeep Singh Kharola extended his welcome to all the guests and invited everyone to visit the fair to provide support in making the grand event a big success. Mr Vincent Montagne in his address said that book fairs are a collective adventure that nourish our thought processes. India's presence at the Paris Book Festival in April 2022 as the Guest of

Honour Country allowed the French to discover a variety of themes, stories, sacred texts, poetry and theater. Ms Annie Ernaux said that India is a land of preserved artistic richness and the literature celebrated here continues to enlighten and change lives across the world.

Coinciding with the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsava celebrations and the Year of India's G20 Presidency, the New Delhi World Book Fair (NDWBF) is celebrating its 50 years' journey this year. The 9-day long book fair will see a large number of Indian and foreign publishers put up a huge collection of books at the new International Exhibition Centre in the centrally located Pragati Maidan in all its glory.



## Prime Time Talk with Ashwin Sanghi at the Theme Pavilion



The inaugural day of the New Delhi World Book Fair 2023 started with an interactive discussion on his recently launched book, 'The Magicians of Mazda' in Prime Time Talk with Ashwin Sanghi, organised by National Book Trust, India at the Theme Pavillion (Hall No. 5).

He recalled how he was able to develop a habit of reading and learnt about life through the books that his Nana Ji used to send him.

He talked about how he was inspired by his visit to Srinagar to write his first novel "The Rozabal Line" which was rejected 47 times before the author decided to publish it himself.

The Author shared more such snippets of his literary journey of the past 15 years and experience as a writer who has worked hard to achieve success and make his name known in the industry. "The shortest distance between two people is a story," he said as he encouraged young writers and readers to write what they believe in if they want to become successful authors.

Sanghi held a Q&A Session afterwards where he interacted with the audience and answered their multiple

queries. During his interaction with the PM-YUVA Authors, he shared some tips for successful writing like, don't just think about writing, start writing at least 300 words daily; Don't worry about what others will say or how the trends of writing are currently. Write what you want to; Don't lose your source of income until you are sure the royalties from your book can support you completely; Don't worry about what the critics say; Keep your feet on ground when you become successful.

On being a successful fictional author, he remarked that a fictional author who researches enough to make lies believable and close to truth will only be successful in making lies pass as truth. Further, he urged everyone not to stop writing and start believing in what they are writing.

During his talk, he also commented on the relevance of Hindi and other regional language books in the contemporary market and stated that any book which can connect readers instantly can do good in the market. The session concluded as the author gave his best wishes to achieve tremendous success to the PM-YUVA Authors.



## Shri Sandhu Yadvinder Talks about Grandfather Shaheed Bhagat Singh

A session with Shri Yadvinder Singh Sandhu, grandson of Shaheed Bhagat Singh was organized by NBT-India at the Theme Pavillion (Hall 5) on 25th February 2023 in conversation with the PM-YUVA Authors. Shri Yadvinder gave invaluable insights into the life of Shaheed-e-azam Bhagat Singh and his contribution in India's freedom struggle. He stated that he is not the only heir to Bhagat Singh but the whole India is.

Talking about Shaheed-e-Azam Krantikari Bahgat Singh, he talked about his early struggles, his life and his family and how his circumstances became his inspiration fight for Bhagat Singh's mother Vidyavati's sacrifices and strength were also highlighted by Yadvinder. Bhagat Singh's last word to his mother were to not cry in front of his dead body. He assured her that he will live eternally in the hearts of Indians. "Is desh ke andar aisa diya jala kr jaa rha hu jisme na tel hai na ghee hai. Isme mera rakt hai."

While talking about Bhagat Singh's contemporaries, his grandson highlighted that they all were just young revolutionaries between the age of 23 and 26 and yet they thought and acted like mature adults fighting for the future of India.

He also shed light on the sacrifices of the mothers of these young revolutionaries and expressed his concern regarding the declining knowledge about India's freedom fighters. He expressed his gratitude to the PM-YUVA Authors who have helped bring forward these lost personalities.

Shri Sandhu also talked about Bhagat Singh's Original Jail Diary during the event which comprises of his handwritten letters which he wrote during his time in jail. These letters have helped us know how Bhagat Singh and his mates went on strike for 116 days against the unjust discrimination against



Indian and foreign prisoners, in result of which they were given papers to pen down their thoughts about an ideal nation.

He concluded his speech by reciting his last letter written 1931 which was addressed to his sister, Aman Kaur and He reiterated Bhagat Singh's ideals of not only fighting the British but also bringing substantial changes in the country "Sirf satta nhi vyavastha bhi badalni hai".

## PM YUVA Authors Share their Experiences

A National Camp for the YUVA authors has been organized by NBT-India for PM YUVA Authors wherein they are getting a chance to interact with various authors, celebrities etc. at NDWBF 2023.

The YUVA authors also talked in detail with the audience about the books that they have written and were released today by the Hon'ble Minister of State for Education – Dr Rajkumar Ranjan Singh. They spoke at length about their experiences while being mentored by established writers on the nuances of writing a book, and how they masterclasses helped them in shaping their manuscripts to the printed book form.

It is to be mentioned here that, in 2021, the Ministry of Education launched the YUVA (Young, Upcoming and

Versatile Authors) Scheme– PM's Mentorship Scheme for Young Writers, to train young potential authors to promote reading, writing and book culture in the country, and project India and Indian writings globally with an aim to bring forth the perspectives of the young generation of writers on the theme of National Movement.



# Day filled with Activities at Children's Pavilion

## A Nestful of Life

An interactive session, 'A Nestful of Light' by renowned French illustrator Joëlle Jolivet, and Khartika Nair, well known storyteller was a massive hit among school children. The event was organised at Children's Pavilion, Hall No.3.

Khartika Nair narrated a story of a boy named Raja, who tries to save the beautiful nest of two oriental magpie robins or song birds, built on a lever to provide electricity through the lamp posts.

Ms Nair made the session lively by using different voice modulations and expressions. The storytelling session was combined with illustrations made by Joëlle Jolivet. The illustrations beaming with bright shades of blue, yellow, red, and green, etc. and intricate caricatures of people, birds and sceneries kept the kids hooked to the screen. The story also made reference to a great King of Tamil Nadu who gave up his chariot to support a jasmine vine in its way. The session encouraged children to love and care for nature.

The storytelling session was followed by a Question and Answer session. When asked about her inspiration, Ms Jolivet recounted her trip to Tamil Nadu where she was mesmerised with the beautiful people and the different types of birds. The children also expressed their concern about the art of storytelling in the age of cinema. Students from different schools including K.V. Pritampura and GLT Saraswati Vidya Bal Mandir participated in the session.

After this session, the Children's Pavilion children performed classical dance in colourful attires. Later, the children also participated in drawing competition, book review and book design competitions with great enthusiasm.

## Authors' Talk at Children's Pavilion

Antanasia Orlava, renowned Russian author interacted with children and began the session on a very light note where she interacted with the children and talked about snowfall and childhood. Sharing her journey as an author, Ms Orlava said that she developed the habit reading at the age of four and at the age of seven, she wrote her first story. When she was nine years old, she sent the story for publication but she forgot about it. Three months later, she got it published in a children's journal.

When children asked her about the origin of her ideas, Ms Orlava remarked that she always tried to convert the things already present in the surrounding into meaningful words.

She also mentioned that her favourite poet and novelist as a child was Alexander Pushkin. Ms Orlava also talked about her fascination with Yoga and Sanskrit. The kids also playfully inquired about her other possible career options if she were not a writer. Orlava admitted that she would have been either a scientist or a painter. The session was concluded with enthusiastic children clicking photographs with Antanasia Orlava.

In a candid conversation, Ms Jaya Mehta, noted Odissi dancer and author talked about Odissi classical dance form. She remarked that it is one



of the major Indian classical dance form, which originated in the temples of Orissa, an east coast state of India. She also enlightened children about Indian culture, art and architecture and observed that children have immense imaginative power. Her book Nritya has recently been published by the National Book Trust.

Later Anushka Prasad, Ananya Mehta, Saanvi Mehra and Tisha performed Odissi dance at the Pavilion. Concluding the session. Ms Mehta said to children, "when you will return from the Fair, you will remember your visit as one of the best holidays."

In the session on Vexilology, Mohit Gupta talked about the study of flags in a very interesting manner with children. he also talked about the origin of the design and pattern of how each flag of many countries was derived from.

## Reduce, Reuse and Recycle

Engaging the children with storytelling through songs and music, Ms Jayashree Sethi, well known storyteller, beautifully conveyed to children the need to 'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.' While interacting with children, Ms Jayashree Sethi recalled her childhood when her Nani (grandmother) used to narrate stories to her. Then, she narrated the story of a boy named Joseph whose favourite suit is recycled into a cap, bow tie and ultimately into a button. Later, she also conducted a quiz session on the same theme. Children from various schools including Air Force School, Hindon, Ghaziabad; Mount Abu School and Air Force Bal Bharti School participated in the session.





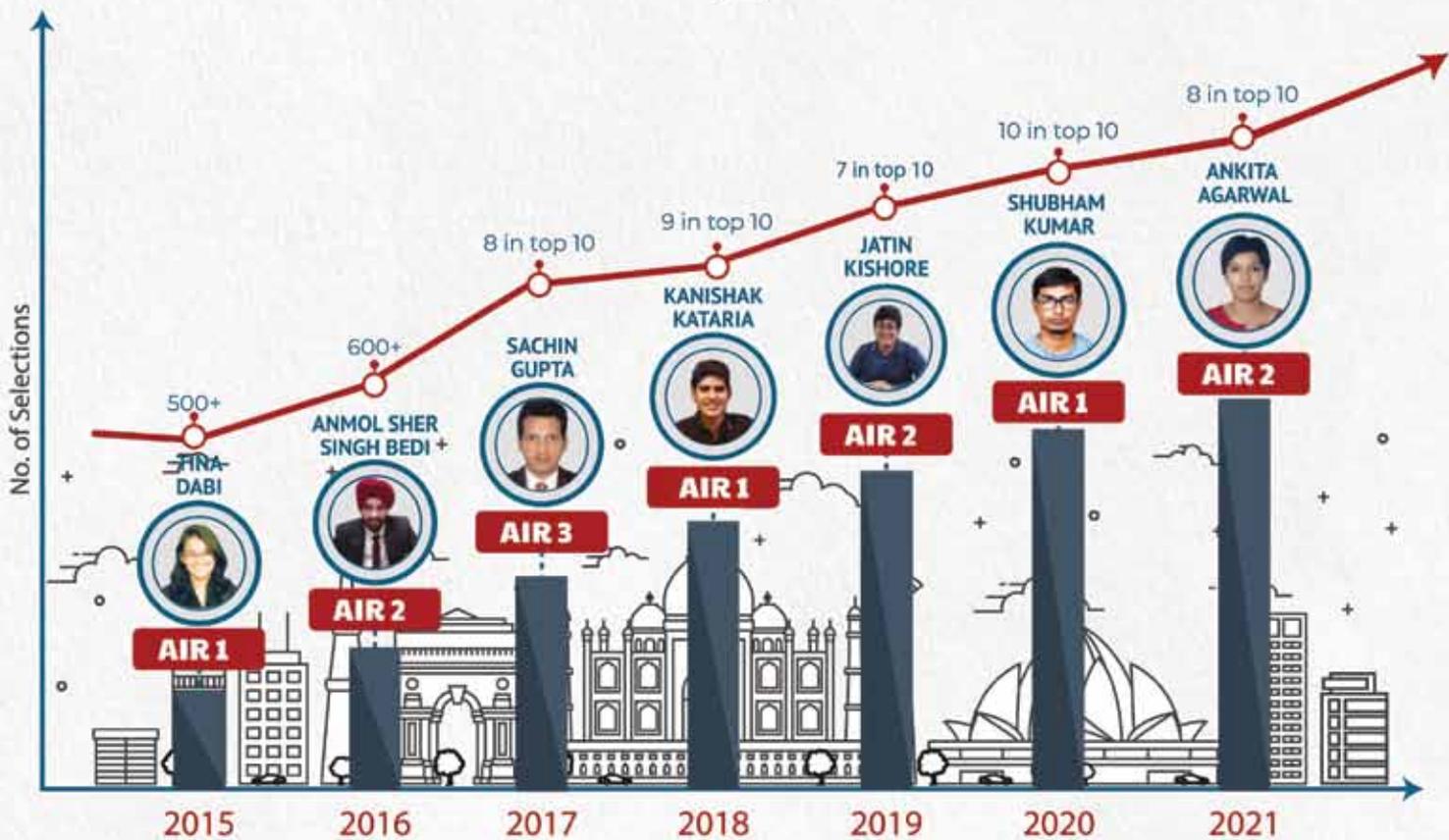
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## OUR ACHIEVEMENTS



## OTHER VENTURES



# EVENTS TODAY

International Events/Foreign Pavilion		Hall No. 4
Time	Event	Organiser
11:30 am to 12:30 pm	PM-YUVA Authors 'Session II'	NBT-India
12:30 pm to 1:30 pm	PM-YUVA Authors 'Session III'	NBT-India
2:00 pm to 3:00 pm	"France in the country of picture books!" With Susie Morgenstern, Benjamin Chaud and Laura Nsafou	France
3:00 pm to 4:00 pm	Kaleidoscope - Hungarian Contemporary Literature	Hungary
4:00 pm to 5:00 pm	Round-table on French Literature with Camille Laurens, Jean-Christophe Rufin et Raphael Confiant	France
5:00 pm to 6:00 pm	Polish Literature in Hindi	Poland
6:00 pm to 7:00 pm	Launch Pratik Magazine South Asia Issue and a couple of other books	White Lotus Book Shop, Kathmandu, Nepal
Theme Pavilion		Hall No. 5
Time	Event	Organiser
11:30 am to 01:30 pm	"Haryana: Bhasha Sahitya Evam Sanskriti" Book Launch and Discussion Author: Purn Chand Sharma Speakers: Dr. Lal Chand Gupta Mangal, Dr. Chander Trikha, Dr. Virendra Chauhan	NBT-India
2:30 pm to 3:30 pm	Prime Time Talk with Natasha Devsare, MD, Talor & Francis	NBT-India
04:30 pm to 06:00 pm	"Tribal Writers' Meet" Co-ordination: Dr. N Sureshbabu President: R Ramesh Arya (Banjara) Participants: Vishram Valvi (Bhilori), V. Ramkoti (Gorboli), Mahadev Toppo (Santali/Hindi)	Sahitya Akademi
07:00 pm to 08:00 pm	Prime Time Talk with Gaurav Sahai	NBT-India
NEP Pavilion		Hall No. 4 FF
Time	Event	Organiser
2:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Role of Academia in Strengthening G20 Presidency of India	
3:30 pm to 5:00 pm	PM-YUVA Authors 'Session IV'	NBT-India
5:00 pm to 6:30 pm	PM-YUVA Authors 'Session V'	NBT-India
6:30 pm to 8:00 pm	PM-YUVA Authors 'Session VI'	NBT-India
Children's Pavilion		Hall No. 3
Time	Event	Organiser
11:00 am to 11:45 am	Storytelling session by Anita Bhatnagar Jain	NCCL, NBT
12:00 pm to 12:45	Kids Workshop by Laura Nsafou	French Delegation
12:45 pm to 01:30 pm	Book Launch & Interactive Session on Climate Change "Everyday Stories of Climate Change" by Shailaja Srinivasan	Eklavya Foundation
01:45 pm to 02:15 pm	Storytelling by children	Wonder-room Children's Library, Rajiv Gandhi Foundation
02:30 pm to 03:15 pm	Cartoon/Caricature Workshop With Jignesh Chavda	NCCL, NBT

03:30 pm to 04:15 pm	“India’s Unsung Tribal Freedom Fighters – Storytelling” by Ved Mitra Shukla, Children’s Writer/Associate Professor, DU and Vikash Kumar Singh, Children’s Literature Scholar/Assistant Professor, GGSIPU	HELP Foundation
04:30 pm to 05:15 pm	Illustrators' Meet With Subir Roy Suddhasattwa Basu, Subir Dey Viky Arya	NCCL, NBT

### Seminars & Discussions

Hall No. 4

Time	Event	Organiser
11:30 am to 01:00 pm	Discussion on “Taking Odia Literature to the World”	Odia Media Private Limited
02:00 pm to 03:30 pm	Relevance of Messages of Lord Mahavir in Present Context (Book Release and Discussion)	Shri All India Swetamber Sthanakwasi Jain Conference
04:00 pm to 05:30 pm	Discussion on “Fun Way Methods of Teaching Mathematics”	QMATHS FOUNDATION
06:00 pm to 07:30 pm	Discussion on “Gadwali Bhasha mein Prakashan”	Winsar Publishing Co.

### Cultural Events

Amphitheatre

Time	Event	Organiser
07:30 pm to 08:00 pm	Performance by Kabir Cafe	NBT-India

### Authors’ Corner

Hall No. 5

Time	Event	Organiser
1:30 pm to 2:30pm	Book Discussion on her book “Life is Abracadabra” Speaker: Baisakhi Saha, Indian (PR of Costa Rica)	Baisakhi Saha
3:00 pm to 4:00 pm	Book Launch- The Power of Future Machines Speaker: Rajiv Malhotra	Blue One Ink
4:30 pm to 5:30 pm	NBT-India Programme	NBT-India
6:00 pm to 7:00 pm	Discussing the recent Malayalam Writings - Literary landscape of Malayalam Writings Speakers: Ravi Deecee, Govind Deece	DC Books

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11:30 से 12:30 बजे	व्यंग्य आधारित चर्चा वक्ता : सुभाष चंदर, सुरबाला, ज्ञान चतुर्वेदी, सूरज प्रकाश, हरीश नवल, प्रेम जनमजेय, गोपाल चतुर्वेदी	अद्विक पब्लिकेशन
11:30 से 12:30 बजे	व्यंग्य आधारित चर्चा वक्ता : सुभाष चंदर, सुरबाला, ज्ञान चतुर्वेदी, सूरज प्रकाश, हरीश नवल, प्रेम जनमजेय, गोपाल चतुर्वेदी	अद्विक पब्लिकेशन
2:30 से 3:30 बजे	आत्मतर्पण पर चर्चा वक्ता : उदय प्रकाश, पंकज बिष्ट नासिरा शर्मा, वीर भरत तलवार	अक्षर प्रकाशन प्राइवेट लिमिटेड; हंस हिंदी लिटरेरी मैगज़ीन
4:00 से 5:00 बजे	क्या कहूँ मैं, मैं कौन हूँ (कविता संग्रह) पर चर्चा वक्ता : राम बहादुर राय, डॉ पुष्पेश पंत, अदिति महेश्वरी	वाणी प्रकाशन
5:30 से 6:30 बजे	आदिवासी ज्ञान परंपरा और भरत का आदिवासी साहित्य एवं प्रकाशन चर्चा वक्ता : उषा किरण आत्राम, रीता क्रोचा, वंदना टेटे, श्याम टुडू, आई वी हांसदा, हीरा मीणा, सुंदर मनोज हेंब्रम, कुलदीप बमपाल, गंगा सहाय मीणा, जनार्दन गौड	प्यारा केरकेट्टा फाउंडेशन
7:00 से 8:00 बजे	साहित्य व समय के साक्षी पुस्तक लोकार्पण एवं चर्चा वक्ता : अनन्त विजय, स्मिता, प्रोफेसर हरिकेश सिंह, अजय आनंद	ब्लूबक पब्लिकेशन

## A Guide to the Visitors

*The organizers of the Fair have taken utmost care to ensure various measures to make the occasion a truly satisfying experience for the visitors.*

**Entry ticket:** Entry tickets will be available at Gate Nos 4, 5 and 10 of Pragati Maidan. (Gate No. 10 is located near the Supreme Court/Pragati Maidan Metro Station.) Entry for the school children accompanied by teacher(s) is free. Entry for senior citizens is free (with valid age proof). Entry is also free for the differently abled. Entry tickets are priced at Rs. 20 per adult and Rs. 10 for children. Tickets are also available at select metro stations

**Information Centre:** Display boards showing the details of Exhibition Halls and locations have been placed at strategic locations within the fair complex. Besides, there are Information Centres set up around the fair ground to guide the visitors. Even one can have printed information materials from there and can also buy the Fair Directory from the Information Centre. Fair Directory contains valuable information about all the participants and their location in the fair.

**Cultural Programme:** The stage will be set at Amphitheatre opposite Hall No. 5 for the various cultural programmes like folk and classical dance, open mics, army and police band performances, every evening during the entire duration of the Fair. Please check the schedule in 'Events Today' in this Fair Daily.

### Other Facilities

**Ambulance:** An emergency medical care facility and ambulance shall be available near the amphitheatre. Wheelchair facility is available near Gate No. 4 and 10. Keeping in accordance with the Theme of this Fair, the Theme Pavilion is designed in a disabled-friendly manner. Banks & ATMs: The counters of Central Bank of India and Canara Bank are available at Pragati Bhawan. Parking is available at Bhairon Marg. Free shuttles from Metro side Gate No. 10 of Pragati Maidan to new Halls.

## Round Table with French Graphic Novelists: Writing through Illustrations!

A round table with French Graphic novelists including Zeina Abirached, Simon Lamouret and Lisa Mandel was organised at the International Events corner.

"Comics are a good way to explain reality", said Lisa Mandel. She decided to orient her work towards mixing graphic novels and documentary as she believes that illustrations make complicated things easier to express. Talking about her journey as a writer, she said her journey with fiction began with graphic stories for children.

Zeina Abirached remarked that consistency and unique style of drawing are crucial to develop graphic novel characters. Talking about her book *Le dous Hiroudellas*, Zeina Abirached said that her book talks about the civil war and how it affected the citizens from the inside. She incorporated her native languages Arabic & French into an illustration depicting to fragile threads intermingling into another. Sometimes, drawing is direct and straight to the point. In comics, there's a special thing about the relationship between image and text. In France, comics have a special relationship with literature. Lisa shared, "I don't know for

the future, but people in France really like to have books in their hands. My concern is not about people reading less."

Simon Lamouret talked about the impact of AI on literature and reading culture. He shared concerns on how much will an AI be able to tell a story when it will scan a lot of words leading to copyright issues?" was a major concern put forward. A signature style is the key that is supposed to be irreplaceable.

Simon Lamouret's book 'The Alcazor' is set in Bangalore, aims to follow the tale of a worker at a construction site. He remarked, "I didn't want to appear as a journalist who comes and asks questions to the construction workers. The aim was to focus on expressing their emotions. The book released in 2020 in France, we had to wait till last year to release it in India. It has all the elements of Dramaturgy and storytelling." He further delved into overcoming language barriers by working with translators. Objectivity doesn't exist in comics, and that's what makes graphic novels such a unique and intrinsic part of literature.

The session was moderated by Ms Aditi Maheshwari.

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