



Saturday, 8 February 2025

NBT signs MoU with ISLRTC

The National Book Trust and the Indian Sign Language Research & Training Centre (ISLRTC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to convert NBT books into Indian Sign Language (ISL) at the Theme Pavilion of the New Delhi World Book Fair.

Copies of the MoU were exchanged between Director, ISLRTC, Shri Kumar Raju and NBT Director, Yuvraj Malik at the signing event on Friday.

“It will help many students (with hearing disabilities) get the education they deserve,” said Shri Raju, while the NBT Chairman, Prof. Milind Sudhakar Marathe described the MoU as a “great initiative.”

To begin with, 500 books would be “handpicked” for conversion into the Digital Sign Format, said Shri Rajeev Sharma, Joint Secretary, Department of People with Disabilities (PwD), adding to that the Institute will ensure quality production to an extent that the readers will demand five thousand books.

Shri Sharma said, “We will translate not only syllabus books, but also story books from NBT, which will help students go beyond the classroom”.

Shri Raju said that the MoU fulfils the objective underlying the Right to Education Act, the New Education Policy (NEP), and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, besides abiding by the overarching theme of NDWBF, Republic@75.

Presenting the vote of thanks, Chief Editor, NBT, Shri Kumar Vikram, suggested that ISLRTC should conduct a workshop for NBT to ensure “seamless conversion” of the content into digital sign format.

Shri Sharma, immediately addressed his concern, saying that there was no need to restrict the writing style on the part of the editorial team. Care would be taken to ensure that there is no transmission loss in the process.



धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान
धर्मेश्वर प्रधान
Dharmendra Pradhan



75
आजादी का
अमृत महोत्सव

शिक्षा मंत्री
भारत सरकार
Minister of Education
Government of India



संदेश

मेरे लिए यह अत्यंत हर्ष का विषय है कि राष्ट्रीय पुस्तक न्यास (एनबीटी), नई दिल्ली पुस्तकों के माध्यम से भारत की समृद्ध सांस्कृतिक, भाषाई और साहित्यिक धरोहर को संरक्षित और प्रसारित करने के उद्देश्य से दिनांक 1 से 9 फरवरी, 2025 तक “नई दिल्ली विश्व पुस्तक मेला” के 32वें संस्करण का आयोजन नई दिल्ली में करने जा रहा है। खुशी की बात यह भी है कि इस वर्ष भारत का सर्वकालिक मित्र राष्ट्र रूस, नई दिल्ली विश्व पुस्तक मेला-2025 में ‘फोकस देश’ के रूप में भाग ले रहा है। इस वर्ष पुस्तक मेले की थीम “भारत: गणतंत्र@75” है, जिसके माध्यम से पुस्तक प्रेमियों के सामने भारत की गणतांत्रिक विरासत को प्रस्तुत करने का एनबीटी का एक महति प्रयास है।

आज की तकनीकी और डिजिटल दुनिया में भी पुस्तकें ज्ञान का भंडार, व्यक्तित्व निर्माण और राष्ट्रीय विकास का आधार हैं। पुस्तकें हमें न सिर्फ हमारी जड़ों से जोड़े रखती हैं बल्कि हमारे भीतर एक सकारात्मक दृष्टिकोण का विकास करती हैं और साथ ही आसपास की दुनिया को समझने, विवेकपूर्ण बनने और हमारा आत्मविश्वास बढ़ाने में भी मदद करती हैं। पुस्तकें हमारे आदर्श, मार्गदर्शक या सर्वकालिक शिक्षक के रूप में भी हमारे जीवन में शामिल होती हैं। लेखकों, समालोचकों और चिंतकों के चिंतन और सृजन से नई पीढ़ी में नई सोच, नवाचार और नई सृजन की चेतना का विकास “विकसित भारत@2047” को मूर्त रूप प्रदान करने में अत्यंत मददगार होगा।

मैं इस अवसर पर एनबीटी की पूरी टीम को मेले में पुस्तकों की सर्वसुलभता को सुनिश्चित कर पढ़ने की संस्कृति को बढ़ावा देने और समाज के प्रत्येक वर्ग तक इनकी पहुँच सुनिश्चित करने के समर्पित प्रयासों के लिए हार्दिक बधाई देता हूँ और विश्व पुस्तक मेले के भव्य आयोजन हेतु अपनी हार्दिक शुभकामनाएँ प्रेषित करता हूँ।

धर्मेन्द्र
(धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान)

सबको शिक्षा, अच्छी शिक्षा

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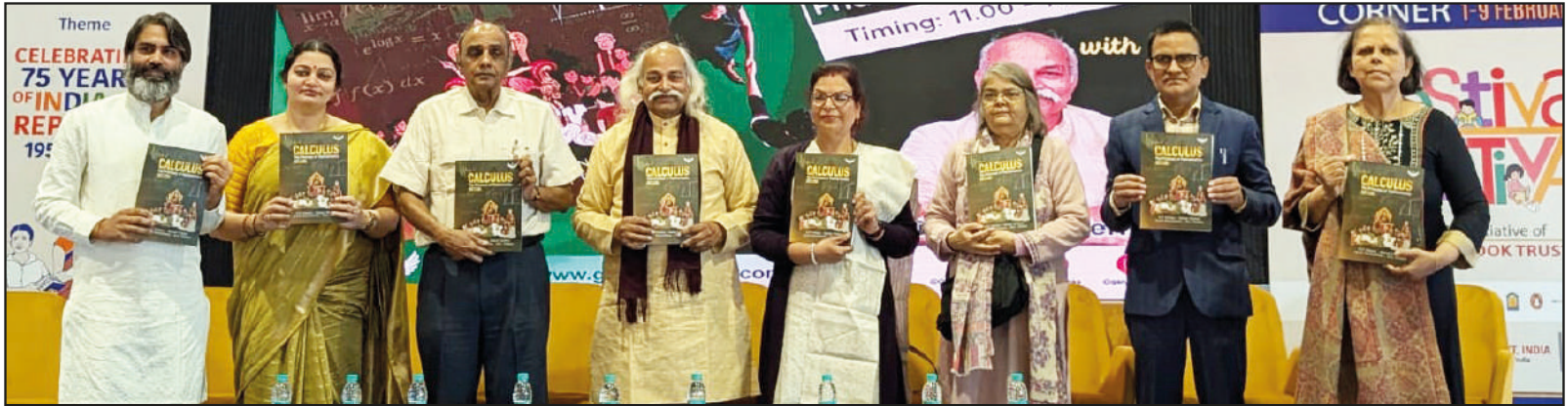
Book on Calculus launched

A new book by celebrated Physics author, Padma Shri Prof. HC Verma seeking to make Calculus easy and “accessible” to students, was launched at the NDWBF on Friday.

Prof. HC Verma, who has co-authored the book with two authors, said that the book is designed not just to teach but to

inspire critical thinking among students.

Co-authors, Dr Kiran Verma and Jyoti Panadiwal described the work as the completion of the “unfinished work” of their late father Prof. D.P. Verma, an academic.



Book on Vedic Maths for Competitive Exams

A book on Vedic Maths teaching quick and efficient calculation methods for students from Class 6 to competitive exam aspirants was launched at the Authors' Corner at the New Delhi World Book Fair.

The book, *Vedic Maths for Competitive Exams: Fast and Efficient Techniques*, aims to remove the fear of Mathematics among students, its author Dr. Yogesh Chandna claimed.

“Almost 99% students fail in Maths. Is it really all that difficult?” wondered the entrepreneur-turned educator. His research led him to Vedic Mathematics, derived from the Atharva Veda, which he sees as a “concept-based approach rather than mere tricks.”

“Vedic Mathematics is much more than just Mathematics. It is a life-changing process,” he remarked. “With its emphasis on visualization, reasoning, and logic, it transforms the way

students approach numbers, making learning not just easier but truly empowering,” he asserted.



Discussion on Arab Heritage

The Literature, Publishing, and Translation Commission of Saudi Arabia hosted a significant cultural program titled *Arab Heritage: A Discussion*, featuring Mohammed Khidr Al-Ghamdi as the keynote speaker. The discussion was moderated by Ahmed Al-Ridini. The event highlighted the profound historical roots of Saudi culture and emphasized on the need for its preservation amid challenges posed by globalization.

Al-Ghamdi underlined that Saudi culture has a rich and ancient heritage carefully maintained by its people, and it is important to understand and study Saudi cultural practices to appreciate the country's diversity and legacy. Key aspect discussed was, the preservation of traditional elements, including Saudi attire and literature. The speaker noted that the nation's cultural wealth is recognized on a global scale, with several Saudi places listed as UNESCO World Heritage sites. He

underscored the potential of Saudi literature, describing it as having “deep pockets” and soft power capable of influencing other cultures.

Al-Ghamdi remarked, “Artificial Intelligence may play a supportive role, but it is the society and individuals who hold the key to preserving their cultural identity”.



Saturday, 8 February 2025

Indians identify with *Viksit Bharat*: Minister

The Union Minister of Culture and Tourism, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat has said that 140 crore Indians proudly identify with the nation's progress and the Prime Minister's vision of *Viksit Bharat*.

"India now holds a respectable position in the world," Shri Shekhawat said at an event organized by the Bharat Literature Festival at the ongoing New Delhi World Book Fair.

The Minister spoke about India's deep-rooted culture and the need to preserve and promote the nation's rich history and cultural heritage.

When asked about the books he would recommend to youth, the Minister mentioned *Rashmirathi*, an epic poem by *Rashtrakavi* Ramdhari Singh Dinkar, and *Mritunjay* by Shivaji Sawant.

Shri Shekhawat also spoke about the Maha Kumbh Mela, calling it a symbol of India's unity that has existed for centuries.



Incredible India



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Sanatan Garv Mahakumbh Parv

Mahakumbh 2025- Bathing Dates

13.01.2025	Monday	Paush Purnima
14.01.2025	Tuesday	Makar Sankranti - Amrit Snan
29.01.2025	Wednesday	Mauni Amavasya - Amrit Snan
03.02.2025	Monday	Basant Panchami - Amrit Snan
12.02.2025	Wednesday	Magh Purnima
26.02.2025	Wednesday	Shri Mahashivratri




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जयन्त चौधरी
JAYANT CHAUDHARY



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शिक्षा राज्य मंत्री
भारत सरकार
Minister of State (Independent Charge) for
Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
and Minister of State for Education
Government Of India




संदेश

मुझे यह जानकर अति प्रसन्नता हुई कि नई दिल्ली विश्व पुस्तक मेला का आयोजन 01 से 09 फरवरी 2025 तक दिल्ली के भारत मंडपम में होगा।

मेरा मानना है कि किताबें न सिर्फ हमारे सर्वांगीण विकास में सहायक होती हैं अपितु किताबें पढ़ने से हमारा बौद्धिक और नैतिक विकास होता है। राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा नीति 2020 विज्ञान, सामाजिक विज्ञान, कला और खेल में बहु-विषयक और समग्र शिक्षा प्रदान करने का उद्देश्य रखती है। शिक्षा नीति में पुस्तक पठन-पाठन के महत्व पर बल दिया गया है।

जानकर हर्ष हुआ की इस वर्ष के पुस्तक मेला की थीम 'भारत : गणतंत्र@75' है, जो विविधतापूर्ण देश की आज़ादी के साथ ही उसके अब तक के वैश्विक सफर को रेखांकित करेगा। यह इसलिए भी महत्वपूर्ण है कि इस बदलते हुए सामाजिक परिदृश्य में पुस्तकों की महत्ता पहले से अधिक बढ़ गई है। मुझे विश्वास है कि पिछले 51 सालों की तरह इस बार भी विश्व पुस्तक मेला सफलता के नए आयाम स्थापित करेगा और देश में पढ़ने-पढ़ाने की हमारी समृद्ध संस्कृति को आगे बढ़ाएगा।

इस ज्ञानयज्ञ में सम्मिलित सभी प्रकाशकों, लेखकों, मुद्रकों, वितरकों समेत इसमें सम्मिलित सभी लोगों और संस्थाओं को इसके सफल आयोजन के लिए मेरी बहुत शुभकामनाएं।



(जयन्त चौधरी)

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Shrilal Shukla: The Timeless Satirist

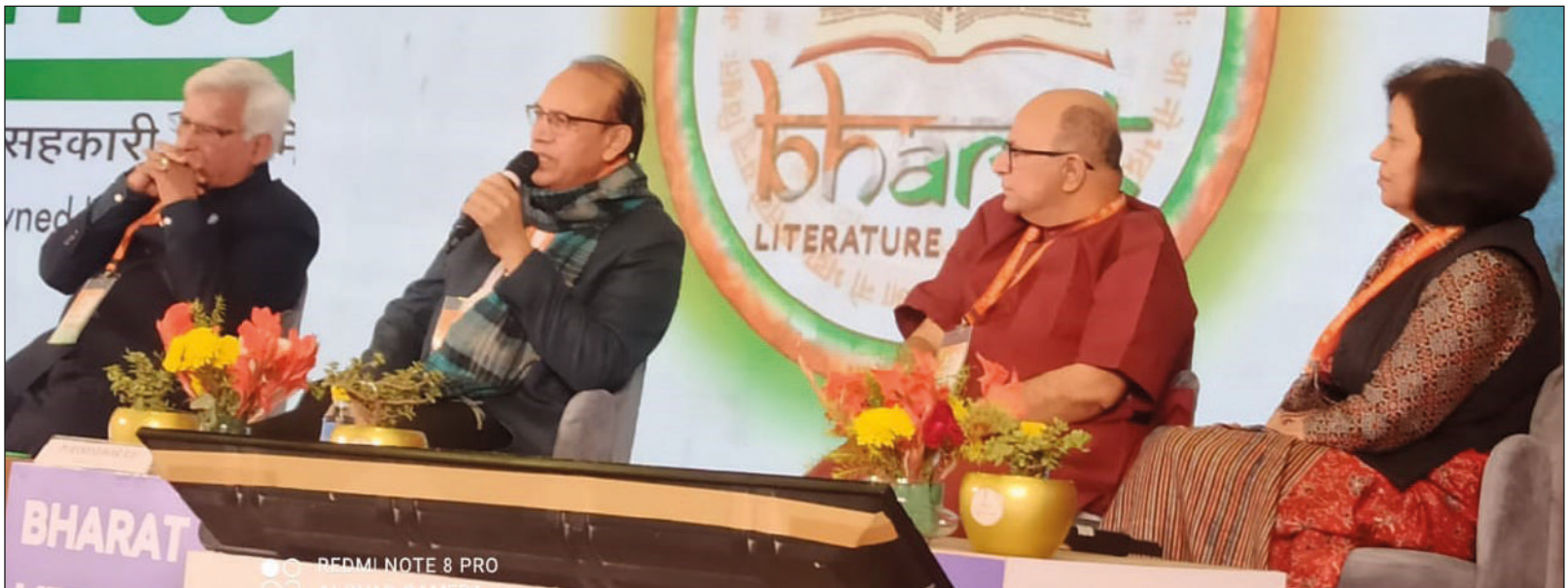
A thought-provoking discussion on “The Craftsman of Satire and Reality: Shrilal Shukla” brought together literary stalwarts Dr. Chandraprakash Dwivedi, Prof. Rameshwar Rai, Dr. Kumud Sharma, and Prem Janmejey, with Anjum Sharma as a moderator.

The panel revisited Shukla’s iconic novel *Raag Darbari*, a sharp critique of post-independence India. Dr. Kumud Sharma highlighted its unflinching portrayal of corruption and rural struggles, while Prof. Rameshwar Rai noted that despite initial rejection for lacking a traditional hero, the novel is now a Hindi literary gem.

An engaging debate unfolded on how *Raag Darbari* would translate into a film, what satire would remain, and what might be lost? Dr. Chandraprakash Dwivedi remarked, “*Satire is hard to adapt without losing its essence. Would today’s audience accept its raw realism?*”

The discussion also touched upon *Makaan*, another of Shukla’s novels critiquing urbanization. Prem Janmejey summed up Shukla’s legacy: “*He didn’t offer escapism; he made us confront reality.*”

Shrilal Shukla’s works remain deeply relevant, proving that literature’s greatest strength is its ability to reflect, question, and challenge society, one satirical stroke at a time.



NBT invites Indian Publishers for SIBF 2025

The National Book Trust has set up a stand conjoining the Sharjah Book Authority (SBA) stall inviting Indian publishers for the Sharjah International Book Fair (SIBF) 2025, slated later this year. Indian publishers can register their names and secure their pavilion for the Fair, the External Affairs Executive of Sharjah Book Authority, Shri Mohan Kumar has said.

Flanked by a huge banner serving as the backdrop, the NBT stand aims to encourage Indian publishers to register for the 11-day International Fair from 5-16 November.

Appreciating the NBT Director, Yuvraj Malik for this initiative, the SIBF representative observed that the prospects for Indian Publishers were bright given that almost one third of UAE’s population is accounted for by the Indian diaspora.

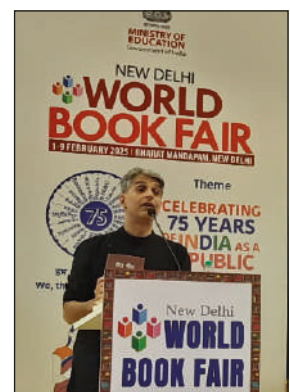
UAE has been consistently participating in NDWBF for the last 22 years, he said, adding that this year, the UAE delegation of 15 members, including H.E. Ahmed Rakkad Al-Ammeri the CEO of SBA, have held various sessions highlighting the relationship between the Arab World and India.



Catalan Language and Literature

An insightful session on the Catalan language and literature was presented by Sameer Rawal at International Events Corner, New Delhi World Book Fair. The programme was organized by Instituto Cervantes, New Delhi. The talk introduced the origin and background of the Catalan language, highlighting its historical significance and cultural identity in Spain, and parts of France and Italy. Sameer Rawal emphasized the importance of Catalan literature, particularly focusing on the novel *Diamant*.

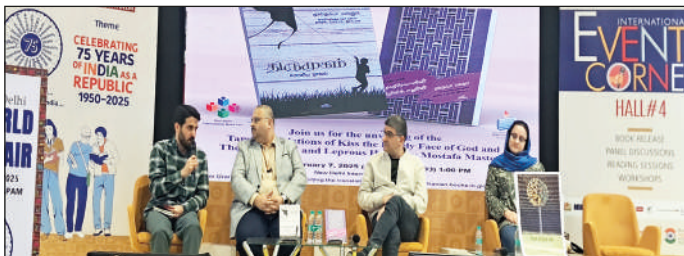
The session explored the linguistic richness of Catalan, its evolution, and its role in modern literature. The speaker also discussed how *Diamant* exemplifies the use of Catalan language in storytelling, offering a glimpse into its literary depth. He also recited excerpts from the novel, immersing the audience in the poetic and expressive nature of the language. Overall, the session served as an engaging introduction to Catalan literature, fostering appreciation for its unique linguistic and cultural heritage.



Saturday, 8 February 2025

Tamil Translations of Two Books from Iran

A book launching ceremony and literary meet was held at the International Events Corner, New Delhi World Book Fair 2025. The event was organized by the Iran Book and Literature House featuring the launch of the Tamil translation of two Iranian books: *Kiss the Lovely Face of God* and *Pig's Bone and Leper's Hands*. Mostafa Mastoor, the author of said books, Amud Maheshwari of Rajkamal Publications, and Maryam Ronagh of Saba Literary Agency shared their experiences on the journey of their collaboration in publishing these books. Mastoor discussed the books' relevance to the Indian market, highlighting the geographical and historical parallels between India and Iran.



Official Tweets on NDWBF25

Several dignitaries have been tweeting about NDWBF25.



The Governor of Rajasthan, Hon'ble Haribhau Bagade has stated in his tweet that "Books for every age and genre are available here! Even the ambience is great. Literary events like this should be held in every state."



Among the foreign delegates, Mr. Vyacheslav Volodin, the Chairman of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of Russia, visited the International Pavilion, 'Roos Se Aayi Kitabein', celebrating the rich literary connection between India and Russia.



Honorable Justice N. Kotiswar Singh of the Supreme Court of India, and Honorable Governor of Tamil Nadu, Shri R.N. Ravi, also celebrated the power of books, literature and knowledge.



The Governor of Assam, Hon'ble Shri Lakshman Prasad Acharya has tweeted: "NDWBF based on the theme 'Republic @ 75' is the live representation of the democratic journey, rich literature and cultural heritage of the country".



Rejuvenating Ganga, Reviving the Lifeline of India.

The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), under the Ministry of Jal Shakti, is leading a transformative initiative to restore and sustain the Ganga River. Through innovative wastewater treatment, urban river planning, and renewable energy projects, sustainable water management is taking shape.

Under Namami Gange, the River Cities Alliance (RCA) is driving urban river management, enhancing biodiversity, promoting eco-tourism, and fostering eco-friendly industries for a greener future.

Safe Reuse of Treated Wastewater: A Sustainable Vision

The National Framework for Safe Reuse of Treated Wastewater is empowering states like Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, and West Bengal to repurpose treated wastewater for industry and energy needs. Leading industries are adopting this vision—Indian Oil Corporation in Mathura and Thermal Power Plants like Pragati II & III and Jojobera TPS are reusing treated water, ensuring economic growth while conserving freshwater. India is paving the way for a sustainable, water-secure future!

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EVENTS TODAY

Theme Pavilion

Hall No. 5

Time	Event	Organiser
12:00 pm – 12:45 pm	Book Release-cum-discussion	Authors Guild
1:00 pm – 1:45 pm	Launch of Shri Gulab Kothari's Book <i>Stree Deh Se Aage</i> By Shri Om Birla, Followed by Panel Discussion	NBT
3:00 pm – 3:45 pm	Event by Acharya Balkrishna	NBT
4:00 pm – 4:45 pm	The Legacy Post Republic in the context of Gujarat	NBT
5:00 pm – 5:45 pm	Supreme Court 75 years of: Pillar of Justice, Mirror of Aspirations	Bharat Literature Festival
6:00 pm – 6:45 pm	The Republic of India - Strengthening Indian Languages: The case of Tamil Language	NBT

International Events/Foreign Pavilion

Hall No. 4

Time	Event	Organiser
11:00 am – 11:50 am	Drawing "en español" by África Cobos Gómez A workshop where various texts will be interpreted through drawings	Instituto Cervantes New Delhi
12:00 pm – 12:50 pm	Launch of Nepalese magazine, Pratik's Himalayan Literature Festival and Evald Flisar's novel <i>Alice in Crazy Land</i> , and reading by various poets and writers	White Lotus Book Shop, Nepal
1:00 pm – 1:50 pm	Launch and Panel Discussions on Bilingual Books (English - Russian) and (Hindi - Russian) <i>Why?</i> <i>What is a tree?</i> <i>Rupa the Elephant</i> <i>A Friend Forever</i> <i>Mitha and Her Magic Shoes</i>	NBT
3:00 pm – 3:50 pm	Launch of <i>Cata and Lina</i> and <i>Upside Down</i>	NBT in association with Embassy of Dominican Republic
4:00 pm – 4:50 pm	A Panel Discussion on 'The Role of Research and Publishing in Promoting Values of Coexistence'	The Community Centre Abu Dhabi, UAE
5:00 pm – 5:50 pm	Launch of <i>Mattainai Grandma Goes to the Magic Land</i>	NBT in association with Japan Foundation
6:00 pm – 6:50 pm	Book Launch and Discussion on <i>Three Decades in Diplomacy</i> (A Book of Practical Diplomatic Experience) authored by Mohan Krishna Shreetha <i>Ocoxal: Pine Leaves</i> authored by Dr Shrimati C Das	Walnut Publication

Authors' Corner

Hall No. 5

Time	Event	Organiser
10:00 am – 10:45 am	Making fiction more engaging	The Great Indian Book Tour (FoF)
11:00 am – 11:45 am	Asian Literary Society's Women Poetry Meet	Asian Literary Society (FoF)
12:00 pm – 12:45 pm	Evolving Poetic Expression in Visual Storytelling World	The Great Indian Book Tour (FoF)
1:00 pm – 1:45 pm	Transformation through adversity: The Alchemy of Pain	The Great Indian Book Tour (FoF)
2:00 pm – 2:45 pm	Book Launch and Discussion on <i>Manifestation</i> by Ranjan Mohapatra and Jatin	Clever Fox Publishing Private Limited
3:00 pm – 3:45 pm	Fertile Ground : Agents, Booksellers and Librarians Who Nurture Writing and Reading in the Northeast	Brahmaputra Literature Festival (FoF)

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

Saturday, 8 February 2025

4:00 pm – 4:45 pm	Universes in Words: Translators on How They Translate	Brahmaputra Literature Festival (FoF)
5:00 pm – 5:45 pm	Land, Forest, Food and Us: Evolving Perspectives on Food, Market, Place and Policy	Brahmaputra Literature Festival (FoF)
6:00 pm – 6:45 pm	Contemporary Fiction: Land and Country	Brahmaputra Literature Festival (FoF)
7:00 pm – 7:45 pm	Launch and Discussion on the book <i>Blue Economics</i> by R. N. Joe D'Cruz	R. N. Joe D'Cruz
8:00 pm – 8:45 pm	The Future of Print vs. Digital Literature	Authors' Ink Publication (FoF)

Lekhak Manch

Hall No. 2

Time	Event	Organiser
11:00 am – 11:45 am	'Cooper Compound': Book Launch and Discussion	Sahitya Vimarsh Prakashan.
12:00 pm – 12:45 pm	Book launch and discussion	Asian Literary Society (FOF).
1:00 pm – 1:45 pm	'Black Warrant'- Book discussion	Prabhat Prakashan (FOF).
1:45 pm – 2:15 pm	'Saarang'- Book Launch and Discussion	Dr Devkanya Thakur
2:15 pm – 3:00 pm	'Atmothanam'- Book Launch and Discussion	Sarvbhasha Trust.
3:00 pm – 3:45 pm	Book launch and discussion on Capt. Promad Kumar	Highbrow Publications.
4:00 pm – 4:45 pm	'It is Always Possible'- book launch	Daimond Pocket Books Pvt.Ltd.
5:00 pm – 5:45 pm	'Gadhwali Bhasha ka Rachna Sansar': discussion on Narendr Singh Negi's works	Winser Publishing Company.
6:00 pm – 6:45 pm	Stories of young accomplishers of the 21 st Century	Gullybaba Publication House Pvt.Ltd.
7:00 pm – 7:45 pm	'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav': discussion	Advik Publication Pvt.Ltd.
8:00 pm – 8:45 pm	'Shakti: Women Gender and Society in India': discussion	Bhartiya Stree Shakti Sanstha

Cultural Events

Amphitheatre 1

Time	Event	Organiser
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Maitrayee and Friends	
6:00 pm – 6:30 pm	Russian Cultural Performance by Indian Students	
6:30 pm onwards	Hargun Kaur Live	

Children's Pavilion

Hall No. 6

Time	Event	Organiser
10:00 am – 10:45 am	Pictionary Games	Piyali Dhar
10:50 am – 11:35 am	Storytelling session	Simmi Srivastav
11:45 am – 11:55 am	Meet Your Favourite Cartoon Character	Teen Titans (Robin & Starfire)
12:00 pm – 12:30 pm	Quiz on Career	Alen
12:35 pm – 12:45 pm	Meet Your Favourite Cartoon Character	Geronimo
1:00 pm – 1:45 pm	Nart epic of the Caucasus and Caucasian traditions of Education	Igor Malyshev
2:00 pm – 2:45 pm	Calligraphy Workshop in Devnagri	Raghunita Gupta
3:00 pm – 3:45 pm	Children Author's Meet	Scholastic
4:15 pm – 6:15 pm	Screening of Children's Movies	NCCL

Author's Meet with Poet and Translator Anil Janvijay

An Author's Meet featuring poet and translator Anil Janvijay was organized by the Institute of Literary Translation & the Association of Writers' and Publishers' Union of Russia at the International Events Corner, New Delhi World Book Fair. Janvijay shared his journey, beginning with a passion for poetry at age of 15 and worked as a proofreader. Despite initial challenges with English, he successfully translated six poems, gaining recognition. His academic pursuit led him to JNU for Russian studies and eventually to Moscow, where he worked in radio. Janvijay

has translated over 50 books, excelling in conveying complex ideas simply. The programme was moderated by Igor Sid.



PRAGATI MAIDAN: HOW TO REACH US

Fair Duration : 1 to 9th February 2025
 Time : 10 am to 9 pm
 Place : Hall No. 2 to 6

Hall No. 6

Children's Pavilion
 Science and Technology, Social Science and Humanities
 Children's Publishers

Hall No. 5

Theme Pavilion
 Authors' Corner
 General and Trade Publishers

Hall No. 4

International Pavilion
 Authors' Lounge
 International Events Corner

Hall No. 3 (Mezzanine)

New Delhi Rights Table

Hall No. 2

Lekhak Manch
 Indian Language Publishers

AMPHITHEATRE 1


Cultural Programmes
Entry: Gate No. 10 (near Supreme Court Metro Station)
 Free shuttle service available
 Gate No. 4 (Bhairon Marg), Gate No. 3

Note: Wheelchair service is available at Gate No. 4, 3 & 10 at Pragati Maidan. Mobile Bank ATM vehicle and Ambulance services are also available.


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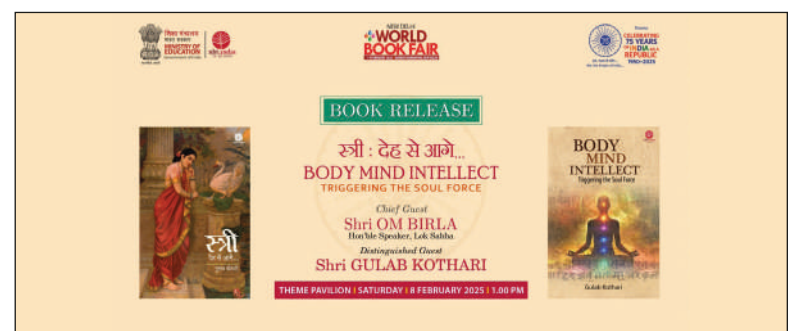
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The Martyrs of Kudopali discussed at NDWBF 2025

The Theme Pavilion at the New Delhi World Book Fair 2025 hosted a panel discussion on the book, *The Saga of Kudopali: The Unsung Story of 1857*, shedding light on a chapter of India's freedom struggle. Published by the National Book Trust, India, and compiled by the Indian Council of Historical Research, the book is a collection of essays that explore the heroic resistance against British rule in Kudopali in Sambalpur district in Odisha.

The discussion featured Shri Dipak Kumar Panda, a historian dedicated to Odisha's cultural heritage; Dr Bibhudatta Pramod Kumar Mishra, a scholar who has uncovered hidden stories of Odisha's past; and Dr Sujit Kumar Pruseth, a faculty member at IIM Sambalpur and writer of historical narratives.

The panelists highlighted the *guerilla* tactics and bravery of Surendra Sai and his fellow fighters, who had led a fierce resistance against British imperialism in 1857. The book provides a detailed socio-political analysis of that period, along with insights into the cultural impact of colonial rule. The discussion brought forth the sacrifices of 53 martyrs who were killed in battle, and four others, who were later hanged by the British.



Dispelling the Myths around Dilli ka Khana

“The tyranny of the *tandoor*, the myth of Mughlai food and the curse of curry is what I want to talk about,” declared renowned scholar, academic and food critic, Dr. Pushpesh



Pant at a discussion entitled ‘From Kitchens to Kingdoms: The Journey of Indian Food, under the aegis of the Bharat Literature Festival.

Dispelling the myth that “Dilli ka khana” is a legacy of the Mughals, the former JNU professor asserted, “The real food of Delhi is from pre-Partition Punjab; it is from Multan, and Lahore and Sind. This is food that has been consumed here since before the times of Shah Jahan. It is not Muslim.”

In conversation with author Sadaf Hussain, Professor Pant called for “balance” in food. “The strings of a *veena* have to be tuned perfectly if they have to produce music. Similarly, food has to be cooked in perfect balance,” he cautioned. “Indians experiment a lot with their recipes, which brings explosive variety in the country. But we do need to be mindful of how we cook,” he added.