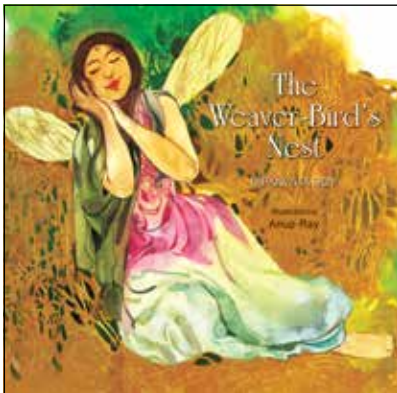


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### PICK OF THE MONTH



#### The Weaver-Bird's Nest

Dipanwita Roy

Illustrations: Anup Ray

978-81-237-7862-4; Rs 60

## Book Release in Patna



“To reinforce the concept of unity in diversity, we must make efforts for the preservation, development and expansion of the regional languages,” said Shri Ram Nath Kovind, Hon’ble Governor of Bihar at a book release function held at Karpoori Thakur seminar hall, Patna Museum, Patna on 5 September 2016. He added that this effort would strengthen Hindi as the national language.

Shri Ram Nath Kovind observed that the dialects of Hindi not only enrich its vocabulary but also expand the scope for expression. He also appreciated NBT’s translation programme and urged NBT to bring out more and more books in different genres in Maithili, Bhojpuri, Magahi and other languages of Bihar.

Shri Baldeo Bhai Sharma, Chairman, NBT also spoke on the occasion. He said that Bihar had been

the centre of knowledge since ancient times and it is one of the states with the highest number of readers in the country. NBT is committed towards development of Indian languages and would also work towards publishing books in other languages of Bihar.

Padamshree Smt. Usha Kiran Khan, Shri Ripusudan Prasad Srivastava, former Vice Chancellor, Bupendra Narayan Mandal University and Shri Udai Shankar Sharma, former



Director, Magahi Academy also spoke on the occasion.

On this occasion, 15 NBT books translated into Bhojpuri, Magahi and Maithili languages were released

including 'Sardar Ballabh Bhai Patel', 'Gali Mohallon Ke Kuchh Khel', 'Baiju Mama', 'Rusty Ke Kaarnaame', 'Sabkaa Saathi Sabkaa Dost', 'Birsa Ki Kahani', 'Samta Ke Samarthak

Ambedkar', 'Samata Ke Samarthak Ambedkar' among others.

The programme was coordinated by Shri Kumar Vikram, English Editor and Shri Kamal Ahmad, Hindi Editor.

## Advisory Panel Meeting in Patna

National Book Trust, India organized the advisory panel meeting with scholars and litterateurs at Hotel Patliputra Ashok, Patna, on 5 September 2016.

During the meeting, the members gave suggestions regarding the book promotional activities to be undertaken at Book Promotion Centre, Patna. They talked about the need to promote books through various activities like book fairs, workshops on translation, mobile exhibitions in rural



areas, publishing books on tribal art and culture of Bihar in regional languages among others.

Shri Baldeo Bhai Sharma,

Chairman, NBT chaired the session. The panel members included Usha Kiran Khan, Vinay Kumar, Chandra Bhushan Rai, Brajkishore, Mahamaya Prasad Vinod, Kishore Keshav, Pawan, Sanjeev Kumar, Imtiaz Ahmad, Sanjay Sinha, Suneel Pathak, Udai Shankar Sharma, Ghamandi Ram, Dilip Kumar, Udai Kumar Bharti, Teervijay Singh, Harish Chandra Rathore and Shyam Sharma.

The programme was coordinated by Shri Kumar Vikram, English Editor and Shri Kamal Ahmad, Hindi Editor.

## Patiala Book Fair

National Book Trust, India organized the Patiala Book Fair at Sunny Oberoi Arts Auditorium, Punjabi University, Patiala from 3 to 9 October 2016. The Fair was organized in association with Punjabi University, Patiala and Sahitya Akademi.

Dr Jaspal Singh, Vice Chancellor, Punjabi University inaugurated the Fair. Dr Dalip Kaur Tiwana, Dr Rajender Prashad Mishar, Dr Chander Prakash Deval and Dr Surjit Patar were special

guests on the occasion. Dr Rita Chowdhury, Director, NBT was also present on the occasion.

During the Fair, several literary and cultural programmes were organized including Poets' Meet; Meet-the Artist, discussions on the topics Why Fiction Matters?, Nascent Writers, Culture in Our Times, Language Issues, Punjabiat in Colour,



and Children's Literature among others. More than 100 publishers participated in the Fair.





## Book Release at Hyderabad

As part of its book promotion activities, National Book Trust, India organised a book release function of *Rani Rudrama Devi* at NBT Book Promotion Centre, Hyderabad on 30th August, 2016. The book has been brought out by NBT under its newly launched Women Pioneers series.

Shri Devulapally Prabhakar Rao, Chairman, Official Language Committee, Govt. of Telangana released the book. He said that Rani Rudrama was one of the most efficient and intelligent rulers. She was not only a great warrior but also an able administrator.

Prof. Vakulabharanam Ramakrishna, former member, NBT Telugu advisory panel and Editor, Andhra & Telangana Comprehensive History; Shri Tripuraneni Hanuman Chowdhary, Chairman, Pragna Bharati; and Dr. Alekhya Punjala, author of the book were the speakers on the occasion.



Shri Baldeo Bhai Sharma, Chairman, NBT presided over the function. He said that Rani Rudrama Devi was a brave ruler who fought



fiercely against the invasions by adjoining kingdoms. He also said that NBT has been publishing several books introducing India's literature, history and culture to the young generation. He also urged parents and teachers to encourage children to read good books and gain knowledge about our rich culture and literature.

Earlier, Dr Rita Chowdhury, Director, NBT welcomed the guests. Talking about the role of women in the development of the family and country, Dr Rita Chowdhury said that Rani Rudrama undertook dual responsibilities. On one hand she ruled the country with extreme courage while on other she performed her duties towards her family also.

Dr. Pathipaka Mohan, Telugu Editor, NBT coordinated the programme.

## School Children Visit NBT

National Centre for Children's Literature (NCCL) a wing of NBT India, organized a visit of school children at NCCL Library, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi on 18 October 2016. More than 50 children from The Indian School along with their teachers visited the library.

On this occasion, Shri Baldeo Bhai Sharma, Chairman, NBT also interacted with children. He said that books are man's best friends. They are written by authors who have seen life closely and share their experience with readers.

Talking of the importance of books, he said that one cannot attain knowledge merely



by reading a book, one needs to understand the book and assimilate knowledge from it. He urged children to read at least one book every year besides their textbooks and gift books to their loved ones. He also informed them about the new series initiated by NBT including Veergatha series on Paramveer Chakra awardees and Women Pioneers on great women personalities like Ahilyabai Holkar, among others.

The children also recited poems and later, visited NBT's book shop.

The programme was coordinated by Smt Mithilesh Anant, Library-cum-documentation officer, NCCL.

## Kalaburagi Book Fair

National Book Trust, India organised the Kalaburagi Book Fair at Nutan Vidyalaya Grounds, Kalaburagi from 17 to 25 September 2016, in collaboration with the Zilla Sahithya Parishat, Kalaburagi.

While inaugurating the Fair, Smt. Nadoja Geetha Nagabhushana, President, Zilla Sahithya Parishat, said that the feeling that the reading habit is declining amongst the youth as they are inclining towards electronic media to gain knowledge is only half truth. She added, "As a writer I strongly believe that there is no other better alternative for reading other than books." She also said that people of Kalaburagi should make use of the opportunity, especially the women folk who are confined to their homes to visit the book fair, buy books and nurture the habit of reading.

Shri Veerabhadra Simpi, President, Kannada Sahitya Parishat and Dr. Sarvottam Rao, President, Nutan Vidyalaya Society also spoke on the occasion.

Earlier, Dr Rita Chowdhury,



Director, NBT, welcomed the guests present on the occasion. She said that the place reminds her of her school days when she read about the history of Bahmani Kingdom –one of the greatest medieval kingdoms of India. Shri S R Veenesh, Regional Manager, SRO, Bengaluru proposed the vote of thanks.



Several cultural and literary programmes were organized during the fair including three meet-the author sessions with eminent Kannada authors viz. Dr Nataraj Hulyar, Dr Rahamath Tarikere and Dr Mogalli Ganesh held on 18th, 19th and 20th September 2016 respectively. The authors talked about philosophy of Mahatma

Gandhi and Dr Ambedkar; and various significant social issues like democracy, poverty and health conditions in the country. A poets' meet 'Bahu Bhasha Kavya Goshthi' was also organized in which well-known poets of Hindi, Urdu, Marathi, Telugu and Kannada languages participated. The meet was chaired by Prof Vasant Kushtigi, renowned poet and columnist.

More than 60 publishers, distributors and booksellers displayed books of different genres during the Fair.

The Fair was coordinated by Shri Nagarajappa, Kannada Editor and Shri S R Veenesh, Regional Manager, Southern Regional Office, NBT.

## Swachh Bharat Abhiyan

As part of Government of India's initiative on cleanliness drive across the nation, National Book Trust, India observed Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (Clean India Mission) from 1 to 15 October 2016. On this occasion, Shri Baldeo Bhai Sharma, Chairman, NBT and Dr Rita Chowdhury,

Director, NBT addressed the employees of the Trust. They urged employees to participate enthusiastically in this drive for the well-being of the society. The premises of the Trust, storeroom, work stations, etc. were cleaned by the employees.





## Excerpts

NBT India is publishing a book titled *A Touch of Glass* written by Sukanya Datta. Herein we reproduce an excerpt from the chapter 'Making Glass'. —*Editor*

Glass has the distinction of being one of the earliest artificial materials made by human beings. It is likely that ancient humans experimented with various materials in an attempt to replicate natural glass and that over time, they perfected various formulae. Initially, they would have begun with sand (Silica) and soda. Even today, Silica sand, lime and soda are the raw materials that are used to make glass. Impurities such as Iron, Manganese and Sulphur in beach sand would have given them coloured glass. Yellow, brown and green would have been common colours.

Interestingly, the origin of the word 'glass' derives from the Old English word *glæs* and the Proto-Indo-European word *gel* meaning 'to shine.' This is also the root work for the Irish and Welsh word *glas* meaning green and blue respectively.

The oldest known formula for making glass comes from the library of the Assyrian King Assurbanipal (reigned 668 BC-627 BC). In this library there are clay tablets covered in cuneiform script that spell out the oldest existing recipe to make glass. In English, the instructions read: 'Take 60 parts sand, 180 parts ash from sea plants, 5 parts chalk and you get glass.' Ancient chemists have left behind detailed descriptions of the basic composition of glass, the know-how to colour it, and even instructions on how a glass furnace must be constructed.

Glass Furnaces: Furnace designs have changed over time. Wood was used to heat glass furnaces until the 17th century and after that, coal came into use. From the 1860s onwards gas-fired furnaces were used. Modern furnaces are sophisticated structures.

In the ancient days, there were only two basic types of furnaces: pot

furnaces and tank furnaces. Most furnaces were pot furnaces. These had shelves on which containers, known as pots or crucibles were kept. These pots contained the melted glass. Some pot furnaces had a central fire and ash pit; these were commonly circular in plan. Other pot furnaces were rectangular in shape or else had an elongated fire trench and parallel platforms, known as 'sieges', on each side for the pots. Tank furnaces had a built-in tank to contain the molten glass.

Contemporary furnaces bear no resemblance to their humble ancestors. A modern industrial glass melting furnace is made up of many subsections. This includes foundations, superstructure, refractory brick work and retaining walls. It also includes raw material charger systems, heat exchangers, melter cooling system, exhaust system, fuel supply and electrical boosting equipment. There are integral control systems and instrumentation; and also systems for conditioning and distributing molten glass. In some glassworks, the machinery used can even include forming apparatuses. It is a sophisticated, computer-controlled set-up. ...

It is generally accepted that the process of melting glass was discovered around 5000 BC in Mesopotamia or in Egypt, most probably by potters firing their pots. The 'glass' so formed would



actually have been only a thin, shiny glaze on the surface of the pot. The next major milestone in glassmaking was the creation of solid glass beads. By 1500 BC, craftsmen in Mesopotamia and Egypt were making small brightly coloured vessels. They would do so by first forming a core of sand or clay into the desired shape. Then, layers of glass would be built around this core, probably by dipping it repeatedly into molten glass. This was done until a reasonably thick wall of glass was formed around the core. Then the object was cooled and the inner core removed to yield a hollow container. In time this came to be known as the core-mould process.

Around 300 BC, a genius glassmaker figured out that a hot blob of molten glass gathered at the end of a hollow tube could be blown into different shapes. Ancient Syrians are most widely credited with the discovery that molten glass could be blown from the end of a hollow tube into different shapes. This revolutionized the ancient Glass Industry.

In ancient times, a wood-guzzling furnace was used to keep the glass in a molten state. It takes a lot of wood to heat a furnace to over 1000° Celsius. Specific details about just how much wood would be needed to maintain high enough temperature is not available. However, according to an estimate, the wood needed to fire a furnace for one run could well be enough to build a two-storey house. No wonder, glassmaking was seriously bad news for trees! Perhaps this was a reason why glassmakers were itinerant; moving from place to place in search of wood and raw materials. This of course meant that their ideas, style and expertise travelled with them and that there was a lot of cross-fertilization of ideas, styles and learning along the way. Any specific style of making glass soon spread because the workers were constantly changing their techniques, or learning new techniques from each other.

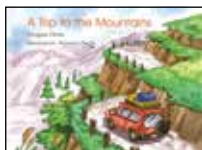
## Books for Children

November 14 is celebrated as Children's Day all over the country. The Trust publishes a wide variety of books for children under Nehru Bal Pustakalaya series. Given below are some of the recent titles published by NBT India. - Editor

### A Trip to the Mountains

*Swapna Dutta*

A story about the mountains and how it feels to be holidaying there. It also brings to light the special features of the mountains children should learn to appreciate. Illustrated by Ratnakar Singh.  
978-81-237-7217-2; Rs 35



### Little Elephant Throws a Party

*Meenakshi & Tanmay Bharat*

Disturbed by the frequent brawls that take place between various animals of the jungle, the elephant decides to throw a party to reunite everyone. Lively illustrations by Debabrata Ghosh enliven the text.  
978-81-237-7045-1; Rs 40



### So Many Smiles

*Manoj Das*

Latbar with his robust, thick and majestically curled moustachio is a favourite with boys, who listen with rapt attention to his yarns about demons and giants, until Bapi shows them the truth of it all. An interesting read for children illustrated by Durgadatt Pandey.  
978-81-237-7008-6; Rs 75



### Goa: Story of My Wonderland

*Shashi Shetye*

An illustrated book on Goa: one of the most important tourist attractions in India with its beach and architectural marvels.  
978-81-237-7893-8; Rs 65



### Little Wonders

*Laxmi Khanna 'Suman'*

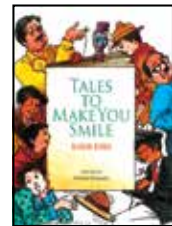
A novella for children in their teens about how a family of dwarfs is separated from each other by the stroke of fate and how they happen to unite with the help of children. In the process they learn a lot and gain from each other's company. Illustrated by Fazaruddin.  
978-81-237-6885-4; Rs 45



### Tales to Make You Smile

*Ruskin Bond*

A collection of seven humorous tales about circumstances in life which when viewed in retrospect invariably make us smile. Illustrated by Amitava Sengupta.  
978-81-237-7188-5; Rs 90



### Kavya Makes Up Her Mind

*Ramesh Bijlani*

Little Kavya is fascinated by the vocations the grown-ups around her are pursuing and keeps changing her mind about what she would like to do when she grows up. She discusses her feelings with her Nana who triggers her imagination and makes her understand the true meaning of a profession. Illustrated by Mohit Suneja.  
978-81-237-7218-9; Rs 55



### Nature's Gift

*Utpal Talukdar*

A tale about two friends; a bird and an elephant. The elephant wishes to fly and the bird tries to help him. But both fail miserably only to realise that everyone is made differently by Nature. Illustrated by the author himself.  
978-81-237-6933-2; Rs 45



### The Story of a Mouse

*Utpal Talukdar*

An interesting tale about a mouse who over indulges in eating and bears the adverse consequences! Illustrated by the author himself.  
978-81-237-6906-6; Rs 45



### Little Chopin

*Michal Rusinek*

A book introducing to children the life of the great Polish music composer Frederic Chopin (1810-1849) published by NBT in arrangement with Znak Publishers, Poland and The Frederic Chopin Institute, Poland. Illustrated by Joanna Rusinek.  
978-81-237-7007-9; Rs 180



### Rahul and the Dream Bat

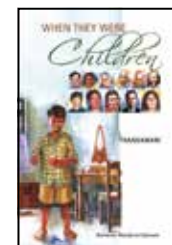
*Ken Spillman*

Rahul is a fan of the game of cricket. He keeps dreaming about cricket all the time. In one such session, while he encounters failure he also learns how to cope with dismal realities of life. The book intends to make children combat disappointment with a smile.  
978-81-237-7183-0; Rs 50

### When They Were Children

*Thangamani*

A book that reveals certain fascinating facts about the childhood of eleven great Indian achievers, who have excelled in their respective fields. Illustrated by Manobhram Chakravarti.  
978-81-237-7001-7; Rs 70



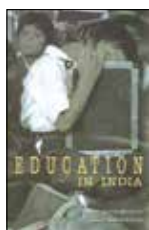
## Books on Education

November 11 is National Education Day. The Trust has published a range of books on education and creative learning under various series. Given below are some of the titles on education, useful for teachers and students. - *Editor*

### Education in India

*Padma Ramachandran & Vasantha Ramkumar*

A thorough study of the theory and practice of education in the context of present day Indian realities, this exhaustive volume provides an



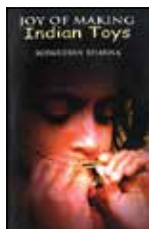
authoritative

insight.  
81-237-4443-9; Rs 130

### Joy of Making Indian Toys

*Sudarshan Khanna*

This simple activity book teaches two things, namely, how to make 101 handmade toys which are playthings even today in remote corners of our country and how toys, simple in design and based on science and technology, can be made at home with discarded materials.

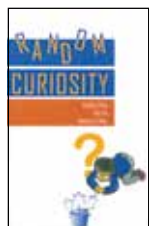


978-81-237-2244-3; Rs 90

### Random Curiosity

*Yash Pal with Rabul Pal*

Curiosity is the fundamental basis for the process of learning. It helps children to explore questions and often wonder about the world they live in. The book puts together many such questions randomly posed to Prof. Yash Pal. Covering a wide array



of subjects, this book with about 300 questions arranged randomly, makes an interesting read for all.

978-81-237-6106-0; Rs 140

### CABE: Reports of the Central Advisory Board of Education (2 vols.)

The book presents reports of CABE Committees in various areas of education pertaining to Girls' education and the common school system, universalisation of secondary education, integration of culture education in school curriculum, regulatory mechanisms for textbooks and parallel textbooks taught in schools outside the Government system, autonomy of higher education institutions, and financing of higher and technical education.

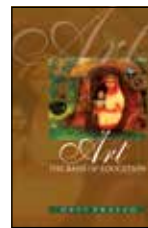


978-81-237-5564-9; Rs 300

### ART: The Basis of Education

*Devi Prasad*

A pioneering study on the importance of art as a foundation for the education of the individual. The book also takes a detailed look at the various stages of its expression in a child, its importance in shaping the individual's thinking and cognitive faculty, the role of teachers and parents and most



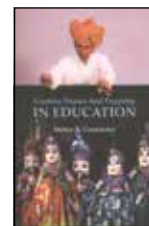
importantly its role in an angst-ridden society.

978-81-237-2314-3; Rs 85

### Creative Drama and Puppetry in Education

*Meher R Contractor*

The book provides a general guide to help those who want to conduct training courses in puppetry and creative drama or to use these techniques in education, social work, recreation,

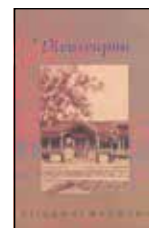


81-237-3422-0; Rs 60

### Divasvapna

*Gijubhai Badheka*

This pedagogical classic is the story of a teacher who rejects the orthodox culture of education but remains enthusiastic towards children and continues to experiment while consciously neglecting the traditions of teaching through prescribed textbooks. The book propounds a new theory on child's education by emphasising the need for an atmosphere of independence and self-reliance.



978-81-237-1237-6; Rs 45.00

The nation celebrated the 141st birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on 31 October. Popularly known as the Iron Man of India, Patel played a significant role during India's freedom struggle as well as post independence years. Two books brought out by NBT, bring out the personality of Sardar Patel.

### Gandhi-Patel: Letters and Speeches; Neerja Singh (Comp.)

This collection brings out some of the significant correspondences between Gandhi and Patel, their mutual respect for each other and also the differences between the two on various matters of policies and strategies.

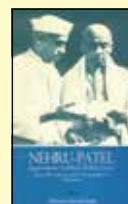
978-81-237-5556-4; Rs 80



### Nehru-Patel: Agreement Within Differences; Neerja Singh (Ed)

This collection brings together the correspondence between Nehru and Patel. Set against the tumultuous backdrop of India's freedom struggle, these conversations engaged with some of the most challenging debates of the day. What is striking about these exchanges is the candour and high intellectual acumen with which they addressed many of these issues. Disagreements were aplenty, but they also display a willingness to set these aside for the common pursuit of national goals. A collection that inspires as much as it informs.

978-81-237-5874-9; Rs 95





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## Forthcoming Book Fairs

New Delhi World Book Fair	Delhi	7-15 Jan. 2017
Aizawl Book Fair	Mizoram	Feb./Mar. 2017
Udaipur Book Fair	Tripura	Feb./Mar. 2017
Ranchi Book Fair	Jharkhand	Feb./Mar. 2017

*For more details please contact:*

**Dy. Director (Exhibitions)**  
National Book Trust, India  
Nehru Bhawan, 5 Institutional Area, Phase-II  
Vasant Kunj, New Delhi - 110070  
Tel.: 011-26707700 / 26707778  
Website: [www.nbtindia.gov.in](http://www.nbtindia.gov.in)



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**Editor:** Binny Kurian

**Editorial Associate:** Surekha Sachdeva

**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](mailto:office.nbt@nic.in)

Website: [www.nbtindia.gov.in](http://www.nbtindia.gov.in)

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