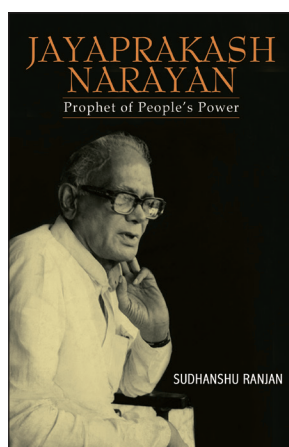


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PICK OF THE MONTH



Jayaprakash Narayan:
Prophet of People's Power
Sudhanshu ranjan
978-81-237-8254-6; Rs 315

61st Foundation Day Celebrations



“The world is complex than ever before and will become more complex,” said Dr K Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, while delivering the seventh NBT Foundation Day Lecture on ‘Books and Reading in Today’s India.’ The lecture was organized to mark NBT’s 61st Foundation Day celebrations in Vasant Kunj, New Delhi on 1 August 2018.

According to Dr K Sreenivasarao, “Today knowledge is at a crossroads. While information is available in plenty and on fingertips, yet much of the knowledge that is disseminated through

various platforms is lost in the plethora of information we receive.” He further said that there are certain issues like rash commercialization of content which needs to be addressed.

Talking about the challenges in promoting reading habit in India, he said, “When it comes to India, many talk about low literacy rate, inaccessibility of reading material especially for children.” However, he added that poverty and malnutrition are also among the causes that need to be looked into as malnourished children cannot think rationally.





Today, we can see a discernible trend in the decline of reading habit. Observers say advances in technology, particularly in the field of entertainment like television, Internet, video games, audio-visual contents, tend to draw the attention of children. At the same time, some of the products of the same technology like ebooks, can be used as a tool for inculcating habit of reading in children.

In this regard, Dr Sreenivasarao said that while the role of institutions like Sahitya Akademi and National Book Trust, India is indispensable in promoting books and reading habit, they should also

adapt to changing trends and connect with young minds.

Earlier, Dr Rita Chowdhury, Director, NBT welcomed the guests present on the occasion. She said, "Knowledge is the foundation of civilization and therefore, as individuals working in the field of knowledge, it becomes our duty to provide good content to sustain and nurture our civilization." She observed that NBT has a very wide mandate to promote books and reading habit, and is devoted to its mission of fostering reading habit amongst the people. She also remarked that the well being of an institution and its growth lies in the strength and devotion of its employees, and NBT will continue to make its contribution towards a better society.

On this occasion, the employees of the Trust who completed 25 years of their service were also felicitated. They include, Shri Samaresh Chatterjee, Ms Kanti Bisht, Shri K Raman, Shri Rampal, Shri Jagdish Rajput, Shri Rajender Singh K, Shri Debajit Das, Shri Aunp Kumar Das and Shri Devi Dayal.



This is the seventh in the series of NBT Foundation Day Lectures. This annual lecture series was initiated in the year 2013. The lecture series aims to bring about the importance of books and reading in today's context and bring in critical thinking by inviting eminent personality from among women and men of letters, scholars, intellectuals and others who have made significant contributions to the world of publishing. The earlier lectures were delivered by Dr Shashi Tharoor, Prof. Andre Beteille, Ms. Shashi Deshpande, Prof. Kapil Kapoor, Dr N K Singh and Prof. Makarand Paranjape.



Punjabi Advisory Panel Meeting

National Book Trust, India organised the Punjabi advisory panel meeting at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar on 28 July 2018.

In the meeting, the participants discussed about the publishing programme in Punjabi language. They expressed their concern over the lack of books in the dialects of Punjabi language including Poadhi and emphasized the need to promote these dialects through books. They suggested that books on topics like sports, popular science, etc. may also be published. Besides, they said that the books under various NBT series



like Aadan Pradan may also be translated into Punjabi.

The panel members included Dr Surjit Patar, noted poet; Shri Jaswant Zafar, well-known author, Prof. Manjit

Singh, Prof. Dhanwant Kaur, Prof. Rana Nayar, Prof. Ishwar Daya Gaur, Punjabi University; Shri Gurbhej Singh Goraya, Secretary, Punjabi Akademi, Delhi; Dr Sarabjinder Singh, Head, Publication Bureau; Prof. Harpal Singh Pannu and Shri Ashwani Gupta, Director, Punjab-Haryana Granth Akademi. The meeting was presided over by Prof. Baldeo Bhai Sharma, Chairman, NBT.

Ms Neera Jain, Chief Editor and Joint Director and Ms Navjot Kaur, Punjabi Editor, NBT were also present on the occasion.

Valedictory Function

National Book Trust, India organized the valedictory function of the Training Course in Book Publishing at its premises in Vasant Kunj, New Delhi on 6 August 2016.

"Publishing is a very complex process," said Shri B D Mendiratta, former Principal, Pusa Polytechnic at the function. He said that the publishing process involves various stages right from writing to editing, designing, printing and marketing. He also talked about the challenges he faced while getting his first book published and being sold. He hoped that through this publishing course, the participants would have now become familiar with the process.

Sharing her experience as an author and publisher, Dr Rita Chowdhury, Director, NBT said "When the readers see an attractive book, they cannot imagine the time spent to bring out the book." She added that though her first novel was a bestseller, she did not receive any royalty from the publisher and



therefore she had to approach another publisher. She remarked that in publishing industry, the credibility and honesty of a

publisher is very necessary. She was hopeful that after this training on book publishing, the participants would do something to promote books and contribute for the well-being of the society.

Thirty participants from across India had enrolled for the course. The experts from the industry including Shri G S Jolly, Shri Kalyan Banerjee, Ms Malini Sood, Shri Suresh Chand, Ms Atiya Zaidi among others introduced participants to various areas of publishing like copyright, editing, designing, ISBN, printing, sales, promotion, marketing, etc.

Thanking the participants, Ms Neera Jain, Chief Editor and Joint Director urged participants that there are different aspects of publishing and therefore, before commencing their journey in the industry, they should identify the field in which they wish to pursue their career.

The programme was coordinated by Shri Narendra Kumar, Production Officer, NBT.



Book Release of 'Angadh Raste'

A book release function of *Angadh Raste: Media Akshetra Mein Agam...Evam Alvida* recently published by National Book Trust, India was organised at India International Centre, New Delhi on 7 August 2018. The book is the Hindi translation of original English title *Breaking Ground: Journey into the Media and Out*, authored by Ms Rami Chhabra.

Dr. Kapila Vatsyayan, noted scholar and author released the book. The release was followed by a discussion. The other speakers on the occasion included, Dr. Alok Mehta, former President, Editor's Guild; Dr. Neerja Chowdhary, veteran journalist; Dr. Madhu Kishwar, Founder-Editor, Manushi; Ms Anita and Shri Kalyan Paul, Co-founders, Pan Himalayan Grassroots Development Foundation; Ms Rami Chhabra, author of the book and Ms Deepali Brahmi, translator. Dr Rita Chowdhury, Director, NBT was also present on the occasion.

Lecture on Financial Awareness

Money is an important factor for living a comfortable, stress-free life. The hard-earned money may not be enough to pay for the needs and wants for the future. However, wise investment helps to grow money for education, recreation, health and post retirement life. A lecture on 'Financial Awareness' was organized at NBT Conference Room, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi on 8 August 2018. The session was conducted by Dr Pramod K Verma, professional consultant, SEBI.

The lecture was organized in order to make NBT employees aware about the various financial schemes available in the market for investment like mutual funds, SIPs, PPF, etc. Dr Verma informed about the structure of security market and capital market in India. He said that earlier investors restricted their investment to fixed deposits only, but over the last few years the trend has changed. The confidence of investors has increased due to investor-friendly climate in the market. He was of the view that the investment should be made according to the target to be achieved. The fund may be managed as per short-term, mid-term or long-term requirements. He also explained the advantages of various investment schemes and encouraged employees to explore this market for better results.

Book Review

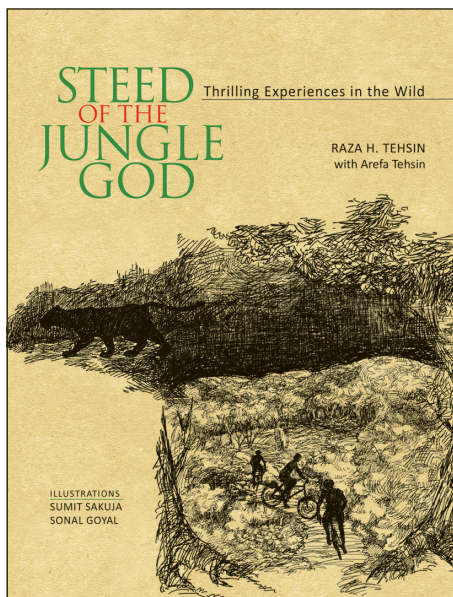
Steed of the Jungle God: Raza Tehsin presents exciting tales from south Rajasthan's wilderness

Steed of the Jungle God – Thrilling Experiences in the Wild contains stories of the forests written by someone who has spent a lot of time in and around them. The author Raza Tehsin is well versed in natural history, loves jungles and like many before him who have done so, retains his humility.

These stories, spanning more than half a century, tell us how the natural world around us has changed during this period. The author points out how the scenario prior to Independence was very different; most of the lakes in Mewar were almost full throughout the year, many rivers and nullahs of the region were perennial. The worst time for our jungles, he states, came after Independence and before the Wildlife Protection Act - 1972. The author is also well acquainted with villagers and their lifestyles. These stories offer a glimpse of life in south Rajasthan then — of guinea worms, mining, poverty and of course, people. He praises their simplicity and spirits but laments the manner in which they were being exploited.

Each of these stories is based on the author's or his family members' experiences. Two family members also contribute to the book — one chapter each. This is a family which was into guns, mines, hunting, picnics and they frequented the jungles. Some of these stories also bring out how our lives too have undergone a major shift during this period. They talk of a time when "a torch was a rare commodity to be used in emergencies" and when the gates of the walled city of Udaipur used to close at midnight! These stories make us wonder about what we have lost.

My introduction to the author was his many notes in technical journals. His love for jungles is brought out with a finesse and panache which show that he is at home with this style of writing as well. Lines which underscore this aspect are: "As much as trust is fragile, faith is resilient"



Steed of the Jungle God – Thrilling Experiences in the Wild

Raza Tehsin (with Arefa Tehsin)
978-81-237-

and "Darkness itself is invisible and so is light, we can't see light but the things it illuminates and we can't see darkness but can sense the things it hides."

The author's grasp on the natural history of the region is exemplary, and he makes connections. The stories teach us about the south Rajasthan jungles in a pleasant and easy fashion. They tell us how the Great Indian Horned Owl is a good mimic like the Hill Myna, how a pair of Murrelet fish when moving with brood seldom take bait and how langurs urinate or excrete out of fear. They also convey that like elsewhere on the planet, rules in jungles too, have exceptions.

Raza Tehsin talks of a place where hares exhibited gregarious behaviour and of a carcass which a leopard and a hyena fed on side by side. His approach is different from today's science, which tends to encourage study designs that enable one to put in less time in jungles and thus reduces complex ecosystems to isolated data sets.

This book addresses many beliefs people have about the wild and strange phenomena which are said to

occur in the forests. It tells us that people are superstitious — urban, rural and even shikaris. Tehsin was taught to "not be afraid of such things in life if he wanted to enjoy the solitude of forests". He is keen to comprehend these difficult-to-explain situations, and every time he came across a strange phenomenon, he tried to analyse it rationally. It is this lack of fear and application of rationality that made him realise that the 'demon' was in fact a langur or the 'gliding spirit' a giant flying squirrel. This line from one of the stories captures his spirit aptly: "...Believed to be haunted, this guest house delights my heart and soothes my nerves."

One or two of these stories could also be part of school textbooks. They will enable the students to look at wilderness and beliefs with a different lens and help remove the fear which the lack of familiarity with forests brings in. The last word on the topic though is that some mysteries will remain unsolved forever.

Sketches in place of photographs work for the book and add to the feel, as does the first-person, personal narrative. It makes the reader keen to spend time with the author in the jungles. The book could have done with tighter editing — especially to avoid a repeat in content. A sketch map depicting the places mentioned across the stories would also have been of help.

On the whole, the book warrants a read for all those interested in jungles. One can draw parallels with Corbett's and Anderson's tales; while they espoused Western sensibilities, the author presents a very Indian context. For me, it brought together fun and sensibility of two magazines I enjoyed reading and re-reading — one during school days and one much later — Chandamama and Sanctuary Asia.

Steed of the Jungle God – Thrilling Experiences in the Wild is written by Raza Tehsin (with Arefa Tehsin) and published by National Book Trust.

- Nimesh Ved
in *FirstPost*,

29 June 2018

<https://www.firstpost.com>

Excerpts

An interesting forthcoming publication from NBT India is *Random Curiosity* (Vol. II) authored by Prof Yash Pal and Rahul Pal. Sequel to the book *Random Curiosity* which has seen many reprints, this book provides answers to a wide range of questions on various subjects. Herein we reproduce excerpts.

Since our body too is made up of atoms, do atomic spectra influence our body in some way?

Atomic spectra are a consequence of the structure of atoms. We are creatures of the Universe and more specifically, of this planet. All the laws of the Universe are as applicable to us as to non-living things.

It is true that we live in a sheltered environment, where the light that comes down to Earth without much obstruction has the same spectral range to which our eyes are most sensitive. We are protected from ultraviolet part of the spectrum by the atmosphere and the ozone layer. The heat radiation emitted by Earth is partially retained within the atmosphere because the structure and spectra of carbon dioxide and water vapour are suited to absorbing this radiation.

Why are the keys on a computer keyboard arranged the way they are?

It has something to do with the frequency with which various letters are used in the English language. The letters that occur more frequently are placed such that the fingers of two hands can easily access them.

Why are there no waves in large lakes like in the ocean?

Waves arise from the action of wind on the surface of water. For big waves to form, a steady wind needs to act over a significant expanse of water. So the only answer that I can give you is that your large lake is not large enough.

Please enlighten me about the formation of the Aurora Borealis.

This phenomenon has a beautiful origin. We all know that the Sun is very hot even on its surface. The atoms on the surface are

highly ionised. Since most of the atoms are those of hydrogen, this leads to a plasma consisting largely of protons and electrons. Due to the high temperature, helped by turbulent electromagnetic fields, the Sun emits a mixture of protons, some nuclei of a few other atoms, and electrons. This mixture travels out into Space at a speed of a few hundred kilometres per second. Such an emission, known as the solar wind, is believed to be a common feature of all stars. Unlike light, this represents physical transport of solar material.

Now think of what can happen when this swarm of charged particles approaches the Earth? The first obstruction it encounters is the Earth's magnetic field. You know what happens when a wire carrying current interacts with a magnetic field? It is subjected to a force that is normal to the direction of both, the electric current and the magnetic field (Remember that each moving charged particle, positive or negative, is like a current). Earth's magnetic field behaves almost like a bar magnet with its poles quite near the geographic poles.

At low latitude, the magnetic field is almost parallel to the Earth's surface. As a result, the charged particles are bent away from the Earth. On the other hand, near the magnetic poles, the particles are travelling parallel to the magnetic field. Hence, they do not suffer much deflection and can sneak into the upper atmosphere. It is here that a visible drama is enacted. Charged particles ploughing through the thin air, ionizing its atoms to various degrees; de-excitation of these

atoms produces multicoloured light at different levels of the upper levels of the atmosphere. Changing density and spread of the incoming streams of protons and electrons produce dancing sheets of colour. This is the magnificent spectacle of Aurora.

Why does a "membrane" form on milk when the vessel it is contained in is left exposed to the air, but not when it is covered?

I suspect you are talking of warm milk. When milk is heated, the cream globules along with casein, being lighter come to the top. In an open vessel, there is more cooling from the surface because of evaporation and increased radiation. When hot, the cream is almost a liquid. If the water begins to evaporate, the globules of cream and casein coalesce. As they cool, the cream begins to get thicker and resembles a membrane. When the pot is covered, evaporation from the surface is dramatically reduced. The cream and casein globules remain separated by watery milk that inhibits the formation of the membrane. But, I suspect even in this case you will get a layer of malai, the membrane you refer to.

Do other planets have magnetic fields?

Earth is hot inside. It also has molten, conducting material that is subjected to convection and also to the rotation of the Earth. When you have a combination like this, generation of a magnetic field is inevitable. The movement of the conducting material is not chaotic. Planets that rotate slowly cannot produce such an organisation and, like Venus, fail to develop a magnetic field.

Why is the time period of a pendulum in an artificial satellite orbiting the Earth infinite?

In an orbit around the Earth, the bob of the pendulum will be weightless. If the bob does not fall, how will it come back to its original position? It will always stay there. In other words, its period of oscillation would be infinite. Gravitational pendulums will not work in Space.



NBT Publications on Creative Learning

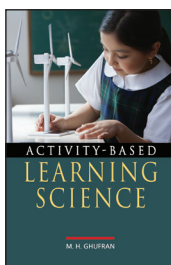
Every year September 5, birthday of Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, educationist, philosopher and also the former President of India, is celebrated as Teachers Day in India. Under its Creative Learning Series, NBT brings out books on new educational concepts and tools, specially designed for the needs of teachers and other professionals working in the field of education. Many of these books are also available in Hindi and other Indian languages.

Activity-Based Learning Science

M H Ghufan

Learning Science becomes a creative exercise only when the theoretical aspect is supported by actual experiments. This book advocates the importance of activity based learning science, for it prepares learners to become self-reliant critical thinkers and knowledge constructors. It can serve as a guide to monitor the quality of teaching learning science for parents and school managers.

978-81-237-7102-1; Rs 125.00



education by emphasising the need for an atmosphere of independence and self-reliance.

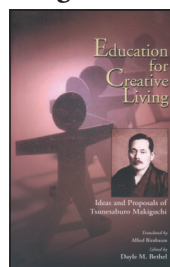
978-81-237-1237-6; Rs 45.00

Education for Creative Living

Dayle M Bethel (Ed.)

The book outlines Japanese educational philosopher of the early 20th century Tsunesaburo Makiguchi's inspiring philosophy and revolutionary proposals for reforms. The basic idea of Makiguchi that students must experience happiness in school and that school must be directly relevant to their lives is pertinent to the present day education system.

978-81-237-3650-1; Rs 95.00



its significance continues to be relevant as it dramatizes the courage to be different and the passion to transform human fate through education.

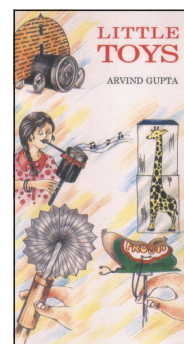
81-237-4877-9; Rs 75.00

Little Toys

Arvind Gupta

A step-by-step, well-illustrated manual which children can use to prepare innovative, low-cost and ecofriendly toys from materials like discarded tetra packs, camera roll cases, soda straws and other junk.

81-237-2060-2; Rs 45.00

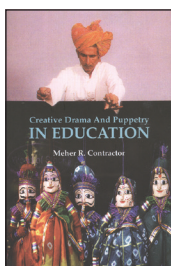


Creative Drama and Puppetry In Education

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, occupational therapy and audio-visual education for communicating ideas to both children and adults.

81-237-3422-0; Rs 60.00

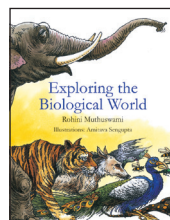


Exploring the Biological World

Rohini Muthuswami

An interesting book that explains biological concepts through various streams of science, for example why the honey comb cell is hexagonal.

978-81-237-6165-7; Rs 135.00



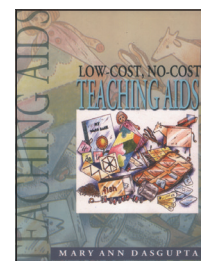
Low-Cost, No Cost Teaching Aids

Mary Ann Dasgupta

Teaching aids, an essential component of activity based learning, is a lively and interactive educational tool. This book with its clearly illustrated step-by-

step instructions serves as a practical guide for making a wide variety of many such useful and inexpensive classroom materials out of articles of everyday use.

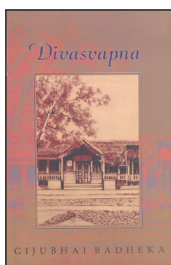
978-81-237-2054-8; Rs 110.00



Divasvapna

Gijubhai Badheka

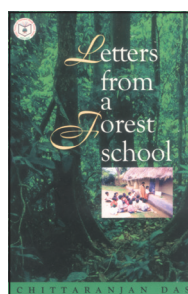
Written by Gujarat's famous educationist and teacher, this minor pedagogical classic is the story of a teacher who rejects the orthodox culture of education but remains enthusiastic towards children and continues to experiment while consciously neglecting the traditions of teaching through prescribed textbooks. First published in Gujarati in 1932, the book propounds a new theory on child's



Letters from A Forest School

Chittaranjan Das

A passionate account of an educational experiment carried out in the 1950s in a school established in a forest in Orissa. Written in the form of letters to a newspaper, it records the joys and difficulties accompanying the founding of an ideal in a world rotten with prejudice, mired in bureaucratic apathy and burdened with a mindset that is suspicious of any kind of change. The experiment continued for four years, but

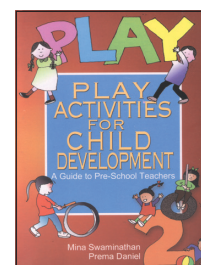


Play Activities for Child Development

Mina Swaminathan & Prema Daniel

The book provides nearly two hundred play activities for young children. It is useful for both the parents and the teachers. Tips on making teaching aids and materials are also given in the book.

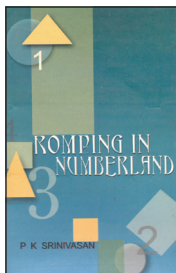
81-237-4270-7; Rs 130.00



Romping in Numberland

P K Srinivasan

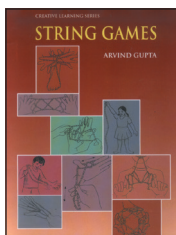
The book attempts to show how children can enter the threshold of fascinating world of numbers by using simple skills and imaginative faculties. In this book the children discover varied and interesting properties of numbers in a friendly setting. 81-237-3648-7; Rs 40.00



String Games

Arvind Gupta

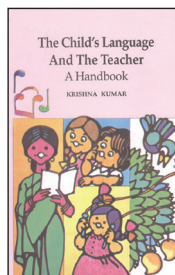
The book provides step-by-step instructions with illustrations for making diverse and interesting string figures. The funfilled figures created by using strings of all sorts not only augment memory and imagination of young children but also enrich their eye-hand coordination. 81-237-1721-0; Rs 40.00



The Child's Language and the Teacher: A Handbook

Krishna Kumar

Language plays an important role in the overall development of a child's personality and abilities. While exploring some of the basic functions like talking, reading and writing that any language performs in the lives of children, this little handbook also suggests various activities and games to hone their cognitive skills. 81-237-2863-8; Rs 50.00



Ten Little Fingers

Arvind Gupta

This book is a collation of innovative toys and science activities. It is all about cleaning up the earth of all the modern junk and recycling them into joyous toys for children. Each activity is illustrated in detail and children



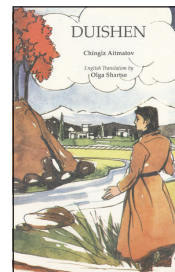
can themselves conduct several scientific experiments using waste materials in the household.

978-81-237-3421-7; Rs 135.00

Duishen

Chingiz Aitmatov

The book tells the story of Altyani, a teacher, who, inspired by the great Russian leader Lenin, decides to open a primary school in his native village and holds his forte despite resistance from all. 978-81-237-3848-2; Rs 35.00



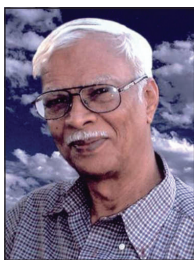
Art: The Basis of Education

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 its role in an angst-ridden society. 978-81-237-2314-3; Rs 85.00

Obituary

Sumatheendra R. Nadig, renowned Kannada writer, poet, critic and translator passed away in Bengaluru on 7 August 2018. Shri Nadig was the Chairman of National Book Trust, India from 1996 to 1999.



He was a close associate of poet Gopalakrishna Adiga, a tall figure in the modernist tradition (Navya) in Kannada literature, and was deeply influenced by him. He published 11 collections of poetry including Jade Mattu Chetana. He has to his credit nine collections of literary criticism, four collections of short stories, and eight works of children's literature. His well-known poetry collection Dampaty Geeta has been translated into various languages, including English.

He also published 10 translations from various languages, including Bangla. He taught Bangla at Viswa Bharati, Shantiniketan, as a visiting professor and was a Fellow at Jadavpur University.

He also taught English at Temple University, Philadelphia.

He received the Karnataka Sahitya Academy award thrice (1994, 1997 and 1999), besides various other awards including the Karnataka Rajyotsava Prashasti, Dinakara Pratisthana Prashasti, V.M. Inamdar Prashasti, and M.V. Si. Puraskara.

Vidiadhar Surajprasad Naipaul, distinguished writer of Indian descent passed away on 11 August 2018 in London, England. He was born in Trinidad on 17 August 1932. He won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2001. Some of his important novels include *The Mystic Masseur* (1957); *The Suffrage of Elvira*, 1958; and *Miguel Street* (1959); *A House for Mr Biswas* (1961); *A Bend in the River* (1979); *The Mimic Men* (1967); *The Enigma of Arrival* (1987); *Magic Seeds* (2004), among others. His non-fiction works include *An Area of Darkness* (1965), *India: A Wounded Civilization*

(1977), *India: A Million Mutinies Now* (1990); *The Five Societies—British, French, and Dutch—in the West Indies* (1963); and *Among the Believers: An Islamic Journey* (1981).



V S Naipaul was the Guest of Honour at the inauguration of the 16th New Delhi World Book Fair organized by the Trust in 2004. In his address, he said, "We are here to celebrate the development of printing and publishing in India." He observed that the ancient scripts were written on palm leaves and were hard to preserve; however, today, "the advent of printing led to a profusion of knowledge and with the kind of advanced printing technology available today, sales turn out to be phenomenal. This Book Fair is an asterisk of that success." He also remarked that "the nature of book production changes the nature of writing."

Mobile Book Exhibition

In its endeavour to make quality books accessible to public at large in remote, rural and difficult areas, National Book Trust, India operates an innovative scheme of exhibition of books through mobile vans. The Trust organized mobile book exhibitions (Pustak Parikrama) in rural areas of Punjab from 7 July to 17 August 2018. These mobile exhibitions moved across Ambala, Batala, Gurdaspur, Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Ludhiana, Nakodar and Tarantaran districts in Punjab. The exhibition vans visited rural areas, schools, colleges, major bus stands, city markets, Panchayat samitis and Aanganwadi of these districts. Special 20% discount was given on purchase of NBT publications in Punjabi language.



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

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New Delhi Rights Table

As part of the New Delhi World Book Fair, the NBT is organizing the 7th New Delhi Rights Table (NDRT) on 7 and 8 January 2019. The two day event brings together publishers, Rights' agents, translators and editors from India and abroad to network and explore business opportunities together.

The NDRT offers you B2B sessions in a refreshingly new business ambience. The unique format will enable participants to book their own table, meet each other and present their products and ideas.

For online Registration at the NDRT 2019, and for other details, kindly visit our website : www.newdelhiworldbookfair.gov.in.

We look forward to your participation at the NDRT 2019.

For further details please write to:
newdelhirightstable1@gmail.com

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