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## Press Release

### China Guest of Honour Country at New Delhi World Book Fair, 2016

“China will be the Guest of Honour Country in the next edition of the New Delhi World Book Fair”, said Mr Yuan Jiayang, Territory Sales Manager, Beijing International Book Fair at a Presentation by China on Guest Country 2016. He added that, “In the year 2010 India was the Guest of Honour Country at BIBF and after six years China will participate in the New Delhi World Book Fair. This initiative will help increase cultural ties between the two countries.”

### New Delhi Rights Table

“From last three years the number of participants has grown up and it is here to be a regular feature. It is a very important part of New Delhi World Book Fair,” said Shri A Sethumadhavan, Chairman, NBT while inaugurating the 2-day event, New Delhi Rights Table to be held from 16 to 17 February 2015 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. Mr Ramachandran, Executive Director, National Book Development Council of Singapore, Dr Anand Bhatt, Coordinator, University Granth Nirman Board and Dr M A Sikandar, Director, NBT also spoke on the occasion. Eighty participants from India and abroad including USA, Canada, Tehran, Singapore, Taiwan, Malaysia among others are holding B2B activities to sell and buy rights of books in different languages.

### Theme Pavilion

The literary activities at the Theme Pavilion are facilitating booklovers to understand the culture and literature of Northeast and are interacting with authors, illustrators and scholars from the region. Today, booklovers interacted with Shri Pankaj Thapa, noted illustrator and Head of English Department, Sikkim College. With the help of audio-visual aid, he displayed his illustrations. His work depicted the culture and literature of Sikkim. Later, a panel discussion on the topic *Bridging Gaps: Writers, Historians and Writing: History of Northeast India* was organized in collaboration with Centre for North East Studies and Policy Research, Jamia Milia Islamia. The speakers on the occasion were Prof. Sanjoy Hazarika, Prof. Sanjeeb kakoty, Prof. Tillottoma Misra and Preeti Gill. The speakers on the occasion focused on the history of Northeast and felt that a lot of research needs to be done in this field. In the evening, Khasi Film *Where the Clouds End*, directed by Wanphrang was also screened

### Children's Pavilion

Reading with fun or fun with reading, children need fun to enjoy the activities they do. At children's Pavilion several activities are being organized at the Children's Pavilion at Hall No. 7. Prof. Manoj Das, noted author interacted with the booklovers at the Children's Pavilion. He discussed about his book *So Many Smiles*, recently published by NBT. He talked about his childhood memories, rural background in his stories, psyche of children and the innocence of children. He felt that the stories that are meaningful and purposeful attract the children. During the interaction, two NBT books in English *Understanding Parkinson's Disease: A Reader's Guide* and *Basil Blossoms and Other Short Stories* were also released by Dr Anand Kumar from AIIMS and Prof. Manoj Das.

A *Storytelling Workshop with the Help of Theatre* was organized by NBT in association with Modo Meo, an NGO. The workshop was based on the poem *The Giving Tree* and was conducted by Ananya Tripathi.

The children with the help of theatrical tools were taught to understand the characters and express their feelings. The children from DPS, R.K. Puram participated in the workshop. In the next session, a *Workshop on Comics* was organized in which more than 100 hundred students from various schools from Delhi & NCR participated. The workshop was conducted by Shri Sharad Sharma, well-known illustrator of Word Comics India. He gave tips to children to draw comic strips and introduced to them in simple manner the techniques of drawing comics. Activity-based event *Book Bingo* was organized in association with an NGO, Consortium Octet at the Pavilion. The event was conducted by Dr Shekhar Sarkar. The children were given vital information about books, authors and the birthdays of major writers. NBT books and certificates were distributed amongst the participating children.

### **Foreign Pavilion**

The booklovers had an opportunity to get acquainted with the Korean culture at the Events Corner. Korean Cultural Centre organized a *KCC in India Cultural Workshop*. In this workshop the participants were given hand fans and were asked to draw drawings/paintings on them. KCC said that through these workshops they wish to inform people about the Korean art & culture.

At Singapore pavilion, an interactive session *Flash Fiction & Short Stories: The Singapore Experience* was organized. The Chinese author Chow Teck Seng and author of Indian origin Ram Kannabiran interacted with the visitors.

At the Foreign Pavilion, Japan Foundation organized a programme on famous Manga comics. The booklovers were introduced to the Hindi Translation of the comic *Wagayubi no Orchestra* written by Osamu Yamamoto. The book has been translated into Hindi by Tomoko Kikuchi. Osamu Yamamoto informed that the book has been designed for deaf people and also talked about the Japanese culture.

### **Literary Activities**

The book *Modi—Wheels of Change*, authored by ASM Shamsul Areflin, from Bangladesh was released at *Reflections*, Author's Corner, Hall No. 10. The author said that this book is very important to explain the role of India in whole region. He also said that this book is dedicated to India-Bangladesh friendship.

Shri Jairam Ramesh, Chair of the Future Earth Engagement Committee and Member of the Rajya Sabha interacted with the booklovers and talked about his book *Green Signals at Reflections*.

Deepa Salim Irfan's book *Urma* about Iranian Revolution and Ravinder Singh's *Shadi on Toes* were also released in the author's corner, Conversations.

Shri Ashok Chakradhar, noted writer read out excerpts from his book *Gandhi Mera Jeevan He Mera Sandesh Hai* at Sahitya Manch, Hall No. 8. He informed the booklovers that he got inspiration from the book *A True Story of A Man, His People and an Empire*, authored by Mahatma Gandhi.