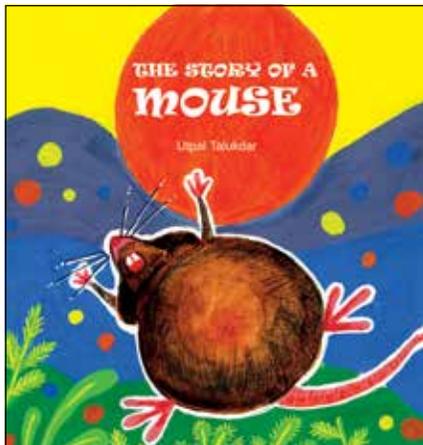


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## PICK OF THE MONTH



**The Story of a Mouse**  
Utpal Talukdar  
978-81-237-6906-6; Rs 45

## New Delhi World Book Fair 2014

**T**he New Delhi World Book Fair is here again. To be organised from 15-23 February 2014 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, this edition of the NDWBF is coming to you with many more new features that propose to attract both readers and publishers alike.

This year the Fair will focus on children's literature. The Theme Presentation, *Kathasagara: Celebrating Children's Literature*, will showcase the splendid diversity of the children's literature, its multicultural and multilingual ethos and



the rich traditions of Indian storytelling at the Children's Pavilion. *A Tale of Tales*, a specially curated illustrated panels, that depict the rich and varied treasury of Indian children's literature, will also be a part of the presentation.



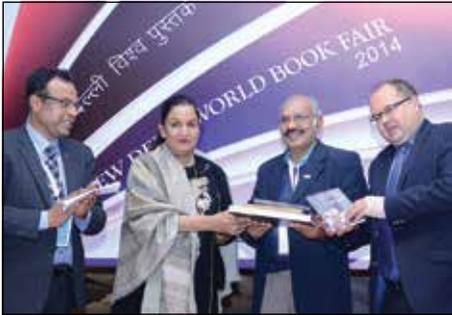
Besides, a dedicated area for children, illustrators' corner, discussions, workshops and activities by children will enliven the Pavilion for nine days. Renowned children's writers, illustrators, publishers and critics will discuss the current trends and challenges facing children's books industry in the country.

In recent history, Poland has a special connection with India. During the World War II, over 20,000 Polish people found shelter in the erstwhile Princely State of Nawanagar. This gesture was extended by the Maharaja Jam Saheb Digvijay Singh.



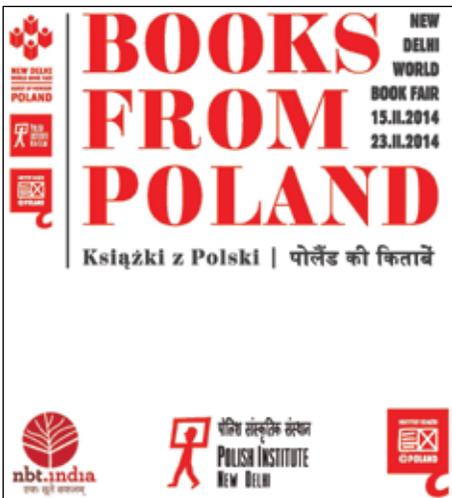
This incident has been well documented by Ms. Anuradha Banerjee in her book *The Second Homeland*.

Poland has a vibrant culture and rich artistic traditions. And importantly, its contribution to western classical music. The most well known of its composers is Frederic Chopin, the genius whose music transcended geographical boundaries and culture. To introduce Chopin to Indian readers, the NBT has recently published



a book for children on the legendary composer.

And of course some great writings of the 20 century has come from Poland. Three Nobel laureates Henry Sienkiewicz, Czeslaw Milosz and Wislawa Szymborska and a galaxy of great writers have enriched



not only Polish literature but also world literature.

At this edition of the NDWBF, Poland is accorded the Guest of Honour status. Poland's presence will be augmented by well known writers, illustrators, critics, scholars and some leading publishers. The Polish delegation includes Joanna Bator, writer, journalist and columnist; Jacek Dehnel, poet, novelist, painter and translator; Wojciech Jagielski, reportage writer;



Michał Rusinek, children's writer and translator; Olga Tokarczuk, novelist and short story writer; Małgorzata Gurowska, artist and graphic designer, illustrator for children's literature; Magdalena Heydel, translator, lecturer and author; Michał Nogaś, journalist at Polish Radio; Beata Stasińska, President of W.A.B. publishing house; and Magdalena Ewa Hajduk-Dębowska, Polish Rights agency. As part of its presentation, Poland will showcase some of its most important writings both well known and contemporary, cultural events, discussions and readings. Together, visitors to the Fair will be treated to a glimpse of contemporary Poland.

Author's Corners at dedicated areas will bring together some of the new as well as established writers through the days of



the Fair. Visitors will get to interact and hear their favourite authors reading from their books at these corners.

The business sessions—the CEO Speak and the New Delhi Rights Table—will set the ball rolling on furthering commercial interests and the future of publishing. The CEO Speak to be attended by CEOs and heads of publishing houses will discuss some of the current trends as well as challenges facing the industry. The



New Delhi Rights Table brings together participants both from India and across the world at a special forum of B2B sessions. Translation rights, copublishing arrangements and business opportunities are discussed and negotiated during the forum.

Besides, the Fair will host a series of book release functions, literary events, seminars, conferences and discussions, including a seminar on translation organised by NBT in association with Indira Gandhi National Open University.



The NBT in association with Sangeet Natak Akademi will organise *Desaj'14* that will showcase cultural performances from across the country.

Spread over an area of 36,000 sq.m. with over 1500 participants both Indian and foreign, the annual New Delhi World Book Fair is a treat for students, writers, booklovers and those associated with the book industry.

Happy Reading!

## Book on Ramanujan Released

‘Ananthathai Arinthavan,’ a biography on mathematical genius Srinavasa Ramanujan, published by the National Book Trust, India in association with Ramanujan Mathematical Society was released on 22 December 2013 at a function held at The Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Chennai.

This Tamil version of Robert Kanigel’s biography originally titled *The Man Who Knew Infinity* was translated by Dr P. Vanchinathan, Professor of Mathematics, Vellore Institute of Technology.

Releasing the book, Shri N. Ram, Chairman of Kasturi and Sons Ltd., said, “Hardy can claim a lot of credit for recognising the genius of Ramanujan and the great importance of his work,” he said. “It is very hard to write a biography; I think it’s an art,” he said, adding he found the biography, fascinating and insightful. C.S. Seshadri, Director-Emeritus, Chennai Mathematical Institute, received the first copy of the book.



Speaking on the occasion, Dr. P. Vanchinathan said Ramanujan was a very simple and unassuming person. “Hardy wanted to prove there was no God. He says, though Ramanujan followed some rituals, he was not quite religious. Kanigel, however, cites various instances from Ramanujan’s life that show he had faith in God.” Prof. M.S. Raghunathan, head of National Centre for Mathematics, IIT-TIFR, also spoke at the event.

Shri M.A. Sikander, Director, National Book Trust, India thanked Dr Vanchinathan and the Ramanujan Mathematical Society for their association in bringing out the book in Indian languages on Ramanujan’s birth centenary year. He also said that that the book has already been brought out in Bangla, Kannada, Marathi and Odia, and it will soon be published in other languages as well.

## Books for Neo-literates Released

The National Book Trust, India in association with the National Resource Centre, Bhopal organised a day-long literary programme on 28 December 2013, which included a book release function and a seminar.

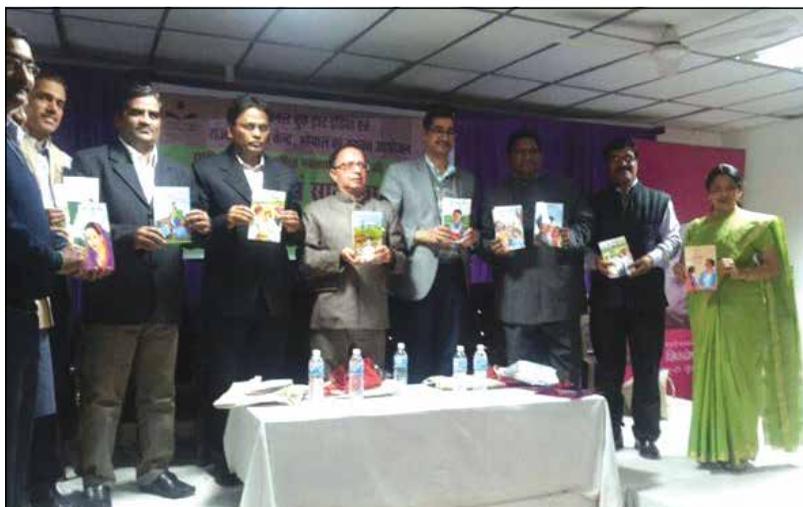
The seminar on the topic ‘Possibilities of Writing for Neo-literates in the Present Context’ was presided over by Shri Shashank, eminent litterateur, and former Director, Bhopal Doordarshan. He said that communication and technological advances are important for success in the present times, and it is necessary that people from rural areas are made aware of their advantages. Since use of mobile phones is quite a common scenario nowadays, and information is reaching them through other technical devices, it is thus

necessary to provide them with proper knowledge.

Shri Palash Surjan, Editor, *Deshbandu*, and the Chief Guest at the function said that it is one of the best efforts by NBT wherein they publish books for neo-literates which includes informative material on health, biography, women empowerment, narcotics abuse, humour, folk literature, and much more.

Shri Sanjay Singh Rathod, Director, National Resource Centre, Bhopal commended NBT for working untiringly in this field to provide suitable material for the neo-literates. The NBT was also awarded for the Excellent Publishing in the Field of Literacy, on the occasion.

In the book release session, 19 books for neo-literates, published by the NBT, India were released.



## NBW Programmes in Andhra Pradesh

As a part of the National Book Week Celebrations, the Trust organized two literary programmes at Ongole, Prakasam District and Hyderabad.

A book release function was organized by the Trust in collaboration with District Library, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Prakasam and Prakasam Zilla Samsritika Samstala Vedika at Zilla Grandalayam, Ongole on 15 November 2013.

Various competitions for school students were held on 14 and 15 November 2013 in collaboration with



local organizations, which included an essay writing competition and a painting competition.

Three titles in Telugu for children, namely *Sammy the Snail*, *Tit for Tat* and *Holidays Have Come*, published by the NBT were released on the occasion. The release was followed by a discussion on the book.

Prof. Kodati Viyanna Rao, Vice-

Chancellor, Acharya Nagarjuna University and the Chief Guest at the function released the books. Dr. Velaga Venkatappaiah, noted children's writer, Dr. Dhara Ramanatha Shastry, Natyavadhani, Sri Anabheri Rajeshwar Rao, DEO, Prakasam

Dist. Dr. Mallavarapu Rajeshwar Rao, noted children's writer and poet, and Dr. Chillara Bhavanid Devi, noted critic and poet were the Guests of Honour.

Sri S.V. Sheshaiah, President of the Zilla Grandhalaya Samsata presided over the function. Dr. Nukatoti Ravikumar also spoke at the function.

Prizes were distributed to the winners of essay and painting competitions, which included books

by the NBT, and certificates were also presented to all the participants.

On 17 November 2013, a book release and discussion session was organized by the Trust in collaboration with Sri Tyagaraya Ganasabha and Balasahitya Parishad at Hyderabad.

Prof. N. Gopi, Former Vice-Chancellor, Telugu University and Sahitya Akademi Awardee and the Chief Guest



at the function released the three titles in Telugu, published by the NBT, for the children, namely *Animals You Can't Forget*, *Daadi* and *The Royal Sweeper*.

Sri Jonnalagadda Rajagopala Rao, noted writer, popularly writing for *Chandamama*, Sri P. Chandra Shekar Azad, noted short story writer and children literature, and Dr. S. Raghu, Asst. Professor and critic attended the function as guests and speakers.

After releasing the books, Prof. S.V. Satyanarayana, HOD, Department of Telugu Osmania University, presided over the session in which Prof. Gopi, Sri Azad and Dr Ragu discussed the books released. Chief Guest Prof. Gopi spoken about NBT and its over 50 years of journey.

Dr. K.V. Deekshitulu, President, Tyagaraya Ganasabha delivered the welcome address. Sri Dasari Venkata Ramana, Secretary, Balasahitya Parishad proposed the vote of thanks.

Dr. Pathipaka Mohan, Telugu editor, NBT, coordinated both the events.

## Workshops at Dilli Haat

Interesting activities for children were organized by the National Book Trust, India at the Comics Fest held at Dilli Haat, Pitampura on 30 November 2013, drawing a large number of audience to the starry world of super heroes and villains.

Amidst the huge cutouts of super girls, demons and powerful aliens, young storyteller Jaishree Sethi threw open her bag full of stories, and made children to listen, think and answer mathematical teasers. The fascinating session comprised stories, music, drama and interactive games. Children laughed along and explained to

the narrator what they actually visualized when the story was being narrated. Music brought in zest and energy. Overall the sunny afternoon became vibrant with the colours and sounds of stories.

Shri Dwijendra Kumar, English editor,



NBT conducted a workshop on preparing a children's magazine. Children learnt the techniques of writing a story and various features of a children's magazine. Over 300 students and 50 teachers participated in the event.

## NBW Programmes in Kolhapur

As part of the National Book Week Celebrations, literary programmes and book exhibitions were held at Kolhapur city and at Danoli, District Kolhapur, Maharashtra.

### Kolhapur City

NBT organized a three-day book exhibition from 15 to 17 November 2013 at Kolhapur in collaboration with Karveer Nagar Vachan Mandir (more than 150 year-old city library) at their main Hall.

Dr. R.K. Kanbarkar, former VC, Shivaji University, Kolhapur inaugurated the exhibition, while Shri Rajabhau Joshi, President, Karveer Nagar Vachan Mandir presided over the function. Prof. Dr. Ramesh Jadhav, Shri Dada Gore were also present on the occasion. Shri Rajabhau Joshi requested NBT to organize more such programs in Kolhapur city.

A book release function was also held on the occasion where the biography of *Rajarshi Shahu Chhatrapati* published in Marathi by the NBT was released. A discussion on 'Contribution of Chhatrapati Shahu in building Modern Maharashtra' was held where Shri Rajendra Kumbhar, a well-known author and researcher, Shri Govindrao Pansare and Shri Manoj Salunkhe, Editor of *Daily Sakal*, Kolhapur edition, spoke on the topic.

In the "Meet the Author" programme, three contemporary Marathi authors—Anand Wingkar, Pravin Bandekar and Kiran Gurav—interacted with the audience. Prof. Randhir Shinde, Shivaji

University, Kolhapur, conducted the programme. Prof. Ashok Chausalkar presided over the function and Prof. Rajan Gavas, Head, Dept. of Marathi and Sahitya Akademi winner was also present.

### Danoli, Tal: Shirol, Distt. Kolhapur

A three-day NBT book exhibition was organized from 19 to 21 November 2013 by the NBT, India in collaboration with Danoli High School Danoli, at Danoli High School, Danoli, Tal: Shirol, Distt. Kolhapur.

A "Granth Dindi" (Book Procession) was organized by Danoli High School, where about 1200 students of Danoli High School, 400 girl students of Girls High School and 400 students of Primary School, Danoli participated in the procession along with their school teachers, Tehsil & Panchayat dignitaries and town residents and parents.

Sh. Satish Kalsekar, distinguished Marathi writer, inaugurated the three-day exhibition at Danoli High School, Danoli. Prof. Rajan Gavas, Head, Dept. of Marathi and Sahitya Akademi winner were present as Guests of Honour and Shri B.N. Patil, Kolhapur District Council Education Officer, Mrs. Kamble, Danol village Sarpanch, Shri Suresh Kamble, Kolhapur District Council Member, other Danoli High School Committee Members and Danoli High School Management Committee Members were also present on the occasion.

In the book release session, 10 Marathi titles for children, published by the NBT

were released by Sh. Rajabhau Shirguppe, well known Marathi author. Mrs. Sucheta Padalkar, Principal, Srujanand High School, Kolhapur and Shri Satish Desphande presented their views on the books released.

Prof. Rafiq Suraj, well-known Marathi Poet, interacted with the audience in the Meet-the-Author session. Shri Suraj spoke on his creative journey as a poet.

An interview with Prof. Vasant Keshav Patil, Marathi author, poet and translator, was conducted by Prof. Bhimrao Patil, Vice-Principal, Dr. Pantagrao Kadam College, Sangli. The form of interview as an interaction method was chosen in accordance to the format prescribed in the 9th and 10th standard curriculum for the benefit of the students.

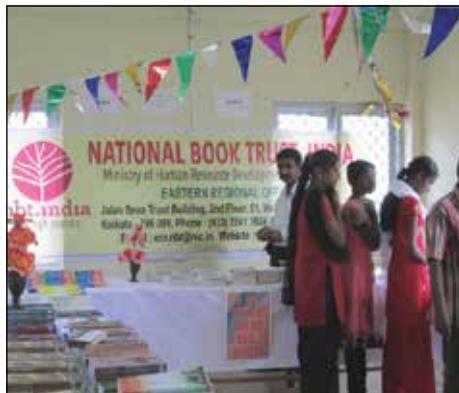
Dr. Sunil Kumar Lavte, Principal, Danoli High School, congratulated NBT for organizing such programmes in the rural areas. He said that the students in cities somehow get to know, and have access to several other means of information. But the students who live in rural areas don't have much accessibility. Thanks to the by NBT at village level, these programmes open up various new avenues for the rural students. He suggested the NBT should take up more such activities in interior areas, so that the students living in far-flung areas of our country are exposed to books and authors. It also helps to encourage and nurture reading habit among them.

Rahul Kosambi, Marathi editor, NBT coordinated both the programmes.

## Book Fair at Rangat, Andaman

A 3-day District Level Book Fair was organized by the Coordinator, BRC, Rangat under RMSA in collaboration with National Book Trust, India from 12 to 14 December 2014 at the Zonal Library, Rangat, Andaman.

Shri N.K. Bhunia, Principal of the Govt. Sr. Secondary School, Swadeshnagar, was the Chief Guest on the occasion. He called upon the students of the region to reap benefits from books on various categories displayed in the Fair



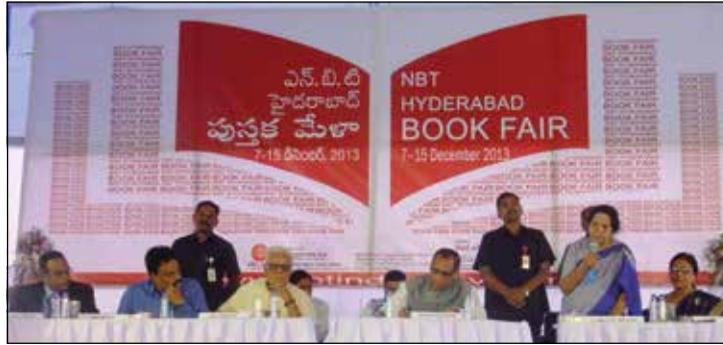
and to inculcate the reading habit. He also said that so many books are available for students in the book fair that will help them in their studies and enrich their knowledge.

Earlier, Shri M.R. Singh, Principal of Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Rangat / BRC, Coordinator, welcomed the gathering. About 2000 books in different languages and genres and children's books were on display at the Fair. NBT's Eastern Regional Office at Kolkata coordinated the Fair.

## NBT Hyderabad Book Fair

“Morality needs to be restored in society, and to usher in such a change, better quality books must be introduced,” said Shri E.S.L. Narsimhan, Hon’ble Governor of Andhra Pradesh. He was addressing a huge gathering of students and writers at the inauguration of NBT Hyderabad Book Fair. On the importance of reading as a habit, he said it must be introduced among school children. “Making book reading compulsory in schools and writing about the books will increase interest in books among children,” he added.

Others who spoke on the occasion included eminent historian Smt. Jeelani Bano, well known Urdu writer, Shri K. Srinivas, poet and editor and Ms. Vibha



Bharati, Secretary, Hyderabad Book Festival Society.

In his welcome address, Shri M.A. Sikandar, Director, NBT, spoke on some of the recent initiatives of the Trust to promote books and reading. He also said that NBT Book Promotion Centre will be opened at Hyderabad soon.

Many literary programmes and

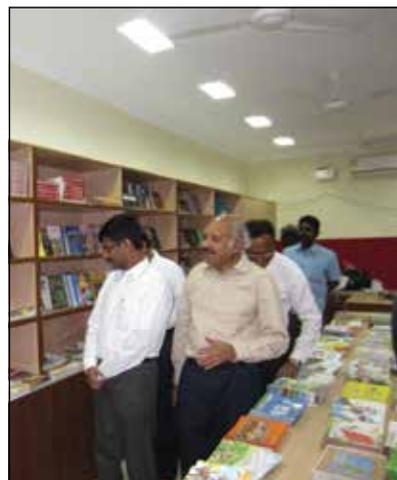
special activities for children were organized during the Fair. Kavya Ghoshti, Kavi Sandhya and book release functions were part of the programme. A story telling marathon, an illustrator and author’s meeting, essay and painting competitions, and quiz session were organized for children.

Organised in association with Hyderabad Book Festival Society, the Fair was held from 7 to 15 December 2013. With around 400 participants it was one of the biggest book fairs organized in Hyderabad.

Extensive coverage in both print and visual media and the thousands of visitors who visited the Fair made it an event to remember.



## NBT Chennai Bookshop Inaugurated



The NBT Chennai Book Shop was inaugurated by Dr. V. Irai Anbu, IAS, Principal Secretary and Director, Anna Institute of Management, in the presence of Shri C.N. Maheswaran, Chairman, Tamil Nadu Textbook Society, Shri A. Sethumadhavan, Chairman, NBT, and Shri M.A. Sikandar, Director, NBT. The Chennai Bookshop is part of the Trust’s efforts to open NBT Book Promotion Centres at various state capitals. Similar such centres will be opened at Agartala, Hyderabad and Guwahati.

## Shiksha Shivirs

### Alwar

NBT organised a Shiksha Shivir in Rajkiya Primary and Rajkiya Middle Vidyalaya, Dannpur, Alwar on 9 November 2013. More than 250 children attended the Shiksha Shivir and participated in drawing competition and paragraph writing contest. Students also recited poems to a packed audience.



Shri Jinender Jain, Principal and Shri Duli Chand, Vice-Principal from Rajkiya Primary Vidyalaya; Shri Sita Ram Meena, Principal and Shri Phool Chand, Vice-Principal from Rajkiya Middle Vidyalaya; Shri Shaddi Lal, Supervisor, Anganwadi attended the programme.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Duli Chand commended the efforts and activities of NBT. He said that event of this kind was being organised in their school for the first time.

Children from both the schools and Anganwadi were presented with NBT books. Prizes were also distributed to the winners of the drawing competition, paragraph writing and poetry contest.

The Trust also deputed a mobile exhibition van for display and sale of NBT books on special discount.

### Mursan



A Shiksha Shivir was organised at the Primary and Middle School, Mursan, Hathra Dist, Uttar Pradesh on 6 December 2013. Shri Davinder Gupta, District Basic Education Officer, and Shri S.N. Singh, District Coordinator, commended NBT's efforts in promoting reading habit among children. Smt. Sandhya, Block Coordinator, Shri Nandit Kumar Gupta, Block Education Officer, Dr. Rajesh Kumar from Govt. Degree College, Mathur, Smt. Renu Gupta, Shri Santan Swaroop and Smt. Poonam Varshney from various schools in Hatisa also attended the programme.

About 300 children participated in the event. Students from Class I-V participated in drawing competition and students from Class VI-VIII participated in paragraph writing and handwriting competitions. While prizes were distributed to the winners of the competitions, each



participant was presented with books published by the Trust. NBT books were also gifted to the school library.

### Kudak Jagir

Another Shiksha Shivir was organised on 13 December 2013 at the Government High School, Kudak Jagir, Karnal Dist. Haryana. While speaking on the



occasion, Shri Uday Pratap Singh, District Elementary Education Officer, urged the students to read more books because books can guide them towards the right path in life.

Smt. Rakesh Rana, Nodal Officer (RTE), Shri Rishi Pal, DDO, Govt. High School, Shri Satish Gaba, Govt. High School, Shri S. Kumar, Office Superintendent, NVS attended the programme.

More than 300 students took part in various competitions organised during the programme and prizes were distributed to the winners. NBT books were given to the school library and each participant was gifted with an NBT publication.

Dr. Deepankar Gupta, Asst. Director (Exh.) and Smt. Sunita Narora, Assistant, from NBT coordinated the programmes.



## NEW DELHI WORLD BOOK FAIR

15–23 February 2014

Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

Guest of Honour: POLAND

[www.newdelhiworldbookfair.gov.in](http://www.newdelhiworldbookfair.gov.in)

Focus on

**Children's Literature**

Other highlights:

**CEOSpeak**

**New Delhi Rights Table**

**Author's Corner**

**Cultural Presentations**

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## Adieu



After a long inning of 37 years in the Trust, Shri Ved Prakash retired as Superintendent on 30 November 2013. Having joined NBT as LDC on 27 March 1976, Shri Ved Prakash was promoted as UDC in 1981, and as Assistant in 1989. He worked in Accounts, Sales, Production, Exhibition and Grant-in-Aid sections of the Trust. We at NBT wish him a happy retired life.

## On India Government Service