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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Huge crowds rush to buy books on the last day of the New Delhi World Book Fair 2020**

The last day of the NDWBF 2020 saw a huge rush of young and old alike thronging the fair grounds to buy their favorite books as the 28<sup>th</sup> edition of this festival of books came to an end. There were long queues at the entry points at gates 1 and 10 till late in the evening. The nine-day book fair saw a footfall of more than ten lakh people in the fair grounds. Amidst all this rush, many programmes were also held at Pragati Maidan.

#### **Theme Pavilion**

On the concluding day of New Delhi World Book Fair, a play in Maithili language, *Ek Muthia*, written by Dr Usha Kiran Khan was performed by Prakash Jha and his group at the Theme Pavilion. The play revolves around establishment of Gandhi Ashram at Darbhanga in 1919. The programme was organized by Maithili Machaan and National Book Trust, India.

#### **Author's Corner**

A discussion on the book, *Diabetes with Delight*, authored by Dr. Anoop Mishra was organized by Bloomsbury Publishing at the Author's Corner, Hall No. 8. Moderated by Praveen Mishra, the other speakers on the occasion included Alok Mehta, Satyadev Pachauri and Suman Kumar. Alok Mehta remarked that this book is a primer which contains all the information that any patient of diabetes will ever need. Dr Anoop Mishra said that he has tried to fill the gaps and voids of the problem of diabetes that people face by providing extra information that will help people in rarest of the situations.

A discussion on the topic 'Historical Fiction and Mythological Fiction' was organized by Readomania at the Author's Corner. Moderated by Dipankar Mukherjee, the other panelists on the occasion included Sutapa Basu and Pranab Mullick, well known authors of historical and mythological fiction. Talking about her book 'Padmavati,' Sutapa Basu said she did extensive research on the queen of Chittorgarh. She further said that Padmavati's thoughts and teachings are immortal. Pranav Mullick focusing on his book 'From Kanha to Krishna,' said that Lord Krishna took a form of a human being and destined his journey to kill Kansa. He added that he has been entrapped by many mythological loops and queries and looks forward to writing more exciting books.

A session on 'Women's writing' was organized by Readomania Publishing at the Author's Corner. The discussion focused on the emergence of feminism in India. The speakers talked about the struggles that women face while making important decisions in their lives. On this occasion, women writers, Dr Harshali Singh, Anupama Jain and Tripti Sharan interacted with the visitors and shared their views on women writings.

#### **Children's Pavilion**

A storytelling session on 'The Little Girl' was organized at the Children's Pavilion. Shri Vikas Dave and Ms Manjri Shukla interacted with the children and narrated interesting stories. Through these stories, they tried to highlight the struggles that a girl child often faces.

To bring out the importance of different languages, a singing programme was organized at the children's pavilion. During the programme, children recited motivational lines in English, Hindi as well as in Sanskrit

and Urdu. A large number of children from Manthan Sampoon Vikas Kendra participated in the programme. The session was organized by Divya Jyoti Jagrati Sansthan.

A skit on 'Pradushan ki Samasya,' was organized by Chetna India at the Children's Pavilion. The event began with Rishabh, a student affiliated to Chetna India singing a traditional folk song, while Pulkit Jain narrated a story. The play revolved around the initiatives that can be taken to reduce pollution like by not burning the materials that causes pollution. Yashpal recited a poem, giving the message of planting trees.

Props are interesting, so are the stories; hence Nidhi Kundra from Jiwan Books made both of them come together in a storytelling session at the Children's Pavilion. She called upon children from the audience to play the characters of a story. The masked kids portrayed the characters well and made the session enjoyable for the rest of the kids on the last day of The New Delhi World Book Fair.

A young poets' meet was organized by Rajiv Gandhi Foundation and Wonderroom at the Children's Pavilion. Pratul Vashist said that children can express their views and thoughts through poems. Young kids expressed themselves by reading out poems on childhood, stars, nature and other various topics.

### **Lekhak Manch**

A book release programme was organized by Indian Institute of Advanced Studies at the Lekhak Manch. Seven books including *Banarsi Thumri ki Parampara Mein Thumri Gaikaon ki Chaunotiyan Aur Uplabhdhiya*, by Jyoti Singh; *Approach to Conservation and Restoration Specific Focus on Cultural Heritage of Shimla* by Somya Sharma; *Al-Kindi and His Creation* by Vijay Shankar Sharma, *Himalayan Language* by J C Sharma among others, were released on the occasion. The release was followed by discussion.