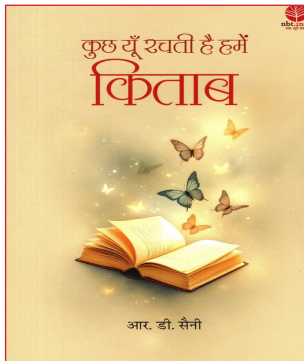


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### PICK OF THE MONTH



**Kuchh Yun Rachti Hai Hamein Kitab**  
Dr R D Saini  
ISBN 978-93-6719-619-9  
Rs 155.00

## Vivid Colours of Gorakhpur Book Festival

**G**orakhpur Book Festival was organised from 1st to 9th November at the Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gorakhpur University. Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Yogi Adityanath, inaugurated the fest and said, “Books are a person’s true companion and guide. The Gorakhpur Book



Festival will help illuminate the knowledge and tradition of sagacious wisdom from this sacred land for the next nine days. This book festival is an excellent platform to select, read, and buy books of your interest. For the next nine days, our collective effort should be to visit this festival and connect with books.”

The inauguration was also graced by the presence of Shri Ravi Kishan (Hon’ble Member of Parliament, Gorakhpur), Shri Awanish Kumar Awasthi (Advisor to the Chief Minister), Prof Milind Sudhakar Marathe (Chairman, National Book Trust, India), Prof Poonam Tandon (Vice-Chancellor, DDU Gorakhpur University), Acharya Pawan Tripathi (Member, Advisory Council, National Book Trust, India), Shri Yuvraj Malik

(Director, National Book Trust, India), and many other dignitaries.

First day of the festival saw creativity, enthusiasm and vibrant colours at the Children’s Corner. Nearly a thousand students attended the inaugural ceremony, followed by a painting competition in which around 300 students—from 15 schools, of classes 6th to 8th—participated. The young budding artists expressed their imagination and ideas through brushstrokes on the themes ‘Digital India—Smart Bacche, Smart Bharat’ and ‘Chandrayaan—Mera Garv, Mera Bharat.’ The event was a beautiful celebration of youthful energy, innovation and patriotism, leaving everyone inspired and in awe. The day also included an insightful Meet-the-

Author session with Dr Manorama Mishra discussing her book *Awadh Sanskar: Folk Customs and Folk Songs*. She spoke at length about the rich cultural heritage of the Awadh region, the social significance of its folk customs, and the emotions associated with them as expressed through folk songs. The session was moderated by Ms Yogita Yadav.

On November 2nd, the second day of the festival, a special discussion was organised titled 'Purab Bayar: Literature and Culture of Purvanchal.' The speakers at the session included Prof Ramdev Shukla, a leading name in Bhojpuri-Hindi literature worldwide, and the renowned Hindi-Bhojpuri poet and professor, Subhash Yadav. The session was moderated by Ms Akriti Vigya Arpan, who is equally active in both Hindi and Bhojpuri and is the author of the book *Lokgeet Si Ladki*. Alongside this, the Children's Corner was filled with fun, fantasy and fitness where around 300 students from 12 schools joined in the celebration. The day began with storyteller Ms Shivani Kanodia enchanting the students through her engaging session, 'Chalo Chale Kahani Ki Duniya Mein'. This was followed by 'Bacchon Ke Liye Yog Karyashala' conducted by Ms Lata Mandhyan, where students performed various *asanas* focusing on wellness, meditation, and holistic health; nurturing not only their physical fitness but also their mental and spiritual well-being.

The following day of the festival was dedicated to a special discussion on the topic, 'Women@Workplace: Another Perspective on the Discussion' where the speakers—retired police officer Dr Satya Singh from Lucknow, and physician and author Dr Nidhi Agarwal from Jhansi—elaborated on the role, success, and challenges of women in the workplace. Numerous activities were also organised at the Children's Corner to keep 500 students from 12 schools engaged throughout the day. The morning began with 'Into the Storyland,' an interactive storytelling session by Ms Shalini Bansal, where young listeners met a clever little rabbit, small in size

but sharp in wit who outsmarted everyone in the jungle. Next came an energetic 'Body and Dance Movement Workshop' conducted by Shri Hrishikesh, where students hopped, jumped, and danced freely. The day concluded with a delightful 'Fun with Origami' session led by Ms Sudha Singh, where children crafted colourful animals out of paper.

Additionally, third day at the Gorakhpur Pustak Mahotsav was made interesting by a dialogue session between television journalist Ms Nidhi Kulpati and Ms Yogita Yadav. Known for her gentle and impactful persona, Ms Kulpati expounded about her journey in television, from her early days to her long career spanning thirty-five years. This thought-provoking conversation also touched upon the changing landscape of journalism, its influence on society, and the expectations and challenges of the profession.

Day four of the festival on 4th November included a dialogue session titled 'Stories in Myths' featuring renowned poet-critic Shri Ashtabhuj Shukla and novelist-translator Ms Asha Prabhat. The session, moderated by Prof Amod Kumar Rai, delved into the underlying messages of Mount Mandara, the gods, demons, and the churning of the ocean. Adding to the shine of this day was a Meet-the-Author session with renowned writer and journalist Dr Dayanand Pandey who spoke about his writing process and when asked, 'when do you write?' wittingly replied that just as there is no fixed time for falling in love, there is no specific time

to write either. The Children's Corner was equally busy on this day with story-telling and writing sessions by Ms Shalini Bansal as well as a brief introduction to the Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya, which inspired students to explore the world of digital books.

Days five and six were even more exciting and fun-filled at the Children's Corner of Gorakhpur Book Festival. An interactive storytelling session titled 'Kahani Ke Pankhon Par' by Ms Ranjeeta Sachdeva; the 'From Waste to Wow' session by Shri Shubham Mishra from Bisleri; a stage performance of folk dance by students from seven schools; a Kamishibai storytelling session, clay modelling and calligraphy workshop and many other such events were organised to keep the young people visiting the fair engaged and enthused.

Gorakhpur Pustak Mahotsav concluded on 9th November with an electrifying lineup of events. The morning began with storytelling session by Ms Shikha Garg, where the young listeners were enchanted by the tale of the Moon and its struggle to get a kurta stitched to its size. This was followed up by a doodle art workshop conducted by NCCL (National Centre for Children's Literature), NBT India, introducing students to the fun, spontaneous, creative, and meditative world of doodling. NCCL also organised a bookmark designing workshop. Finally, an orientation session on the Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya, where Shri Satish Yadav introduced students to the digital library platform closed out the day.



## First-ever Nagpur Book Festival by NBT

In collaboration with Government of Maharashtra and Zero Mile Youth Foundation, National Book Trust, India, organised first-ever Nagpur Book Festival from 22nd to 30th November at Reshimbagh Ground, Nagpur. The festival was inaugurated by Hon'ble Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Shri Nitin Gadkari, in the presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Devendra Fadnavis. The event glittered by the attendance of Shri Chandrashekhar Bawankule (Hon'ble Minister of Revenue, Government of Maharashtra), Shri Chandrakant Patil (Hon'ble Minister for Higher and Technical Education), Prof Milind Sudhakar Marathe (Chairman, NBT, India), renowned author Amish Tripathi, Shri Yuvraj Malik, (Director, NBT, India), and Shri Ajay Sancheti (President, Zero Mile Youth Foundation), and many other dignitaries.

During inaugural ceremony Shri Nitin Gadkari shared his thoughts saying, "The thoughts that reach our hearts through books shape our personality." Shri Amish Tripathi also spoke during the event, encouraging young readers with the words: "If you want to grow and progress, you must read books, especially fiction." Over three hundred

publishers from across the country, with books from several Indian languages were made available under one roof at the festival. Appreciating the initiative

and those contributing to it, Chairman of National Book Trust, India, Prof Milind Sudhakar Marathe said, "NBT-India has identified fifty districts and talukas across the country where book and literature festivals will be organised in the coming years."

First day of the festival began on a vibrant and creative note at the Children's Corner. The space came alive with a splash of colours, imagination, and youthful energy. Nearly 500 students attended the inaugural ceremony and also enthusiastically participated in the drawing competition organised by NCCL. The young artists beautifully expressed



their creativity on the themes 'Nagpur, Tiger Capital of India' and '150 Years of Vande Mataram.'

The following day at the fest featured dialogues with noted personalities like Shri Pravin Tarde, Ms Shefali Vaidya and Shri Sunil Ambekar. Actor and filmmaker Shri Pravin Tarde talked about the changing role of Marathi cinema while elaborating on his recent work 'Mulshi Pattern' for which he drew inspiration from his father, who still works on a farm at the age of 80. Popular writer and columnist, Ms Shefali Vaidya, spoke about temple architecture, Indian culture, her intellectual journey, and her strong presence on social media. She shared how social media became a powerful tool for expressing her thoughts on society, politics and culture. Eminent author and thinker Shri Sunil Ambekar in a conversation with Shri Nikhil Chandwani said that patriotism among youth has significantly increased in recent times. "As people have gained more information about the nation in recent years, their pride in the country has grown," he said.

Third day of Nagpur Book Festival was big for the Children's Corner, where a range of interactive children's activities were



organised for around 1,200 students. The morning began with a storytelling session by Ms Esha Gupta from Scholastic, where the little ones were taken on a transformative journey of an Apple who turned from an Adamant Apple into a Patient Apple. The session ended on a joyful note as the children had a delightful meet-and-greet with Scholastic's mascot, Clifford. This was followed by a fun, creative, and artistic cartoon designing workshop conducted by Shri Ajit Narayan. The students thoroughly enjoyed the process of creating expressive cartoons out of simple stick figures. The day concluded with a poster-making competition

organised by NCCL. Students showcased their artistic talent by creating inspiring and imaginative artwork on the themes, 'A Day at Nagpur Book Festival' and 'Our Planet, Our Responsibility.'

Children's Corner featured more imaginative events for the rest of Nagpur Book Festival. The Scholastic Writers Academy welcomed youngsters to a Meet-the-Young-Author session where they engaged in an interactive meet-up and lively discussion with talented teen authors. Listening to their writing and creative journeys motivated the young minds to dream fearlessly, practice consistently, and begin crafting their own

stories. Another stimulating event organised at the Children's Corner was a voiceover workshop by Ms Neeti Shukla. The students were spellbound by her artistry of bringing many popular cartoon characters to life through her voice. She introduced them to creative and versatile techniques such as voice modulation, microphone usage, pacing, breathing, and enunciation, which the children enjoyed exploring and practising with great enthusiasm. These and more events geared towards a young audience filled Nagpur Book Festival with laughter and warmth.

## Siliguri Book Exhibition

At various Kendriya Vidyalayas across Siliguri district of West Bengal, NBT-India's Eastern Regional Office showcased a wide range of books.

The objective was to celebrate knowledge and creativity while encouraging more and more young children to discover the joy of reading.

## Champawat Book Exhibition

Champawat Book Exhibition was organised from 7th to 9th November with Hon'ble Cabinet Minister Ms Rekha Arya (Minister of Women Empowerment and Child Development, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Sports and Youth Welfare Department, Government of Uttarakhand), and District Magistrate Shri Manish Kumar visiting the stall of National Book Trust, India on the first day of the exhibition.



## Gurdaspur Book Exhibition

Inaugurated on 3rd November by Shri Vikramjeet Singh Panthay, SDM Batala, the Gurdaspur exhibition witnessed the gracious presence of Ms Paramjit Kaur (DEO, Gurdaspur), Dr Simrat Sumera (President, Vishwa Punjabi Kala Kendra), Ms Satinder Pannu (MD, Central College), and Dr Surinder Kanwal (President, Punjabi Heritage Foundation).

The exhibition aimed to celebrate the spirit of reading, culture, and literary exchange in the vibrant city of Gurdaspur.

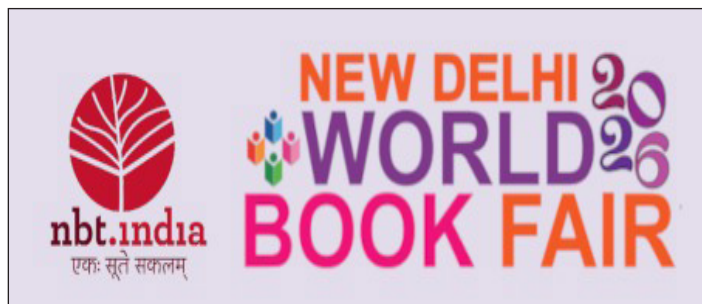


## New Delhi World Book Fair, 2026

The New Delhi World Book Fair, a cherished tradition for readers across the country, returns in 2026 with a powerful and evocative theme, “Indian Military History: Valour and Wisdom @75.” The theme will go beyond the tales of battles and bravery to celebrate India’s military legacy through institutional memory, leadership, strategic thinking, and the wisdom gained over decades of service to the nation.

The theme pavilion at the book fair, designed by the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad, will present a holistic view of India’s military journey and the invaluable sacrifices and contributions made by its soldiers in securing the frontiers of our nation.

In conjunction with the theme, a display of books covering all major aspects of the military history of India as well as the



organisational and operational dimensions will be present at the theme pavilion. Accompanying this there would be the Annotated Rights Theme Catalogue, bringing together in one place books about various operations undertaken by the Indian Armed Forces within the country and overseas, across centuries.

## Celebrating 28 Years of Word Power with Kochi International Book Festival

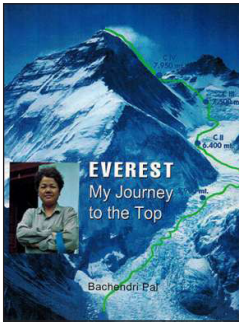
Kochi International Book Festival was organised in Ernakulathappan Ground from 1st to 10th November. A key highlight of the book festival was the Children’s Corner where on the first day over 350 students from more than ten schools of Kochi participated. They had the opportunity of attending a lively storytelling session by Ms Sangeetha, who narrated an African folktale using a puppet. Following this, Shri Vivek Kumar taught the children quick calculation techniques during his ‘Fun with Vedic Maths’ session. The day concluded with an orientation on Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya, where students and teachers explored the app and received bookmarks with QR codes to download it.

Second day of the festival on 2nd November, once again saw a jam-packed day at the Children’s Corner. Attended by 200 students from eight schools around Kochi, the day began with ‘Round the Riddle’, a fun musical drawing activity where children circled around a large paper, answered riddles, and created doodle art. Winners received children’s books published by NBT-India. This was followed by a cartoon designing workshop conducted by renowned cartoonist Shri Ajit Narayan, who taught children how to create expressive cartoons using simple geometrical shapes.



More such children’s activities decorated the schedule at Kochi International Book Festival. From a calligraphy workshop by Shri Abhishek Wardhan to a book cover design workshop and a number of storytelling session held by various talented storyteller and performers. The four days of the book festival was brimful with creativity, stories, and learning, leaving young readers inspired and eager for more.

## NBT's Autobiographies

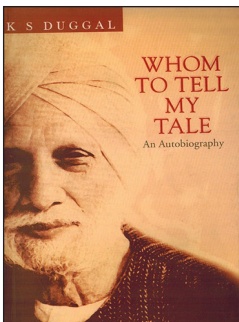


### Everest: My Journey to the Top

Bachendri Pal | 64 pp | ₹ 50

The autobiography of Bachendri Pal, the first Indian woman to have climbed Everest. It is a gripping story of a simple young woman from an impoverished family who through sheer grit and determination, not only completed her education but achieved national fame. Also published in Assamese, Bangla, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Konkani, Malayalam, Marathi, Odia, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu.

ISBN 978-81-237-1527-8

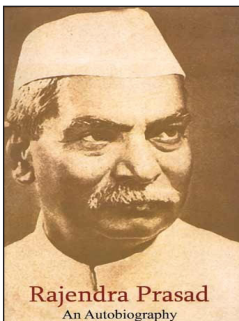


### Whom To Tell My Tale: An Autobiography

K S Duggal | 222 pp | ₹ 215 (PB)

Nominated as Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) in 1997, earlier honoured with the Padma Bhushan by the President of India, and recipient of several literary awards over the years, Kartar Singh Duggal has made an immense contribution to Indian literature. His checkered career in the broadcasting field and as an upcoming litterateur makes an interesting story. In this autobiography, he pours out his pain and pleasure while caught in the midst of the communal divide of the 1940s, leading to the Partition of India.

ISBN 978-81-237-4900-6 (PB)

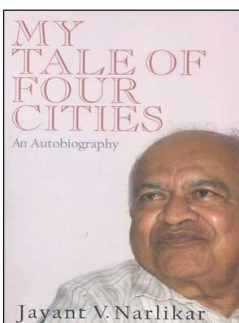


### Rajendra Prasad: An Autobiography

Rajendra Prasad | 624 pp | ₹ 425

The autobiography of the first President of India is an account of his childhood, his education in Calcutta and his subsequent involvement with Indian politics up to 1946. As a chronicle of India's freedom struggle during one of its most important periods in recent history, the book is a fascinating read.

ISBN 979-81-237-0706-8

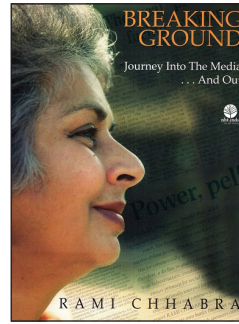


### My Tale of Four Cities : An Autobiography

Dr Jayant V. Narlikar | 513 pp | ₹ 745

*My Tale of Four Cities* is the English version of Narlikar's autobiography *Char Nagarntale Maze Vishwa* originally written in Marathi. The book is divided in four parts representing four major cities where the author has spent his life time: Banaras, Cambridge, Bombay and Pune.

ISBN 978-81-237-7845-7



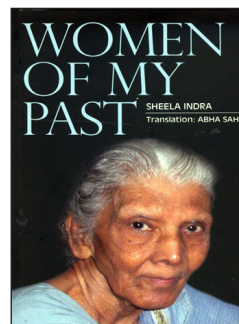
### Breaking Ground: Journey into the Media... and Out

Rami Chhabra | 470 pp | ₹ 305 (PB) ₹ 935 (HB)

The book gives an insight into the personality of Ms Chhabra, her determination and her fighting spirit to carve out her niche for herself in a male dominated society. The book also discusses her stand for the empowerment of women in Parliament, and issues related to sex workers, health policies, gender bias, and in particular the circumstances in which she worked as a journalist and activist especially in 1960s and 70s. The volume is a kind of social autobiography as it not only talks about her but also about the post-Independence society.

ISBN 978-81-237-6597-3 (PB)

978-81-237-6598-3 (HB)

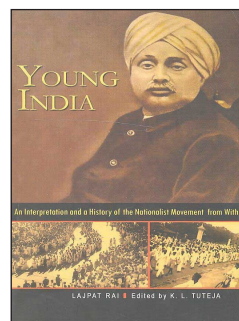


### Women of My Past

Sheela Indra | 326 pp | ₹ 350

The book traces the lives and tribulations of three generations of women, born between the years 1860 to 1930. Indra's women remain graceful fighters, passive or active. Written as a memoir, it recreates the socio-economic conditions and the often suppressive environment of those days, and paints vibrantly the gradual change that preceded today's woman.

ISBN: 978-81-237-7407-7

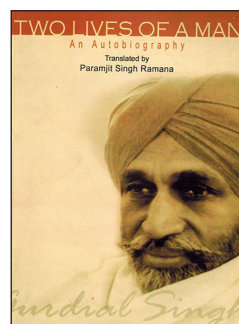


### Young India: An Interpretation and a History of the Nationalist Movement from Within

Lala Lajpat Rai | 218 pp | ₹ 235

*Young India* discusses the rise of British power in India and its consequences, origin and growth of Indian nationalism, foundation of the Indian National Congress, trajectories of Indian national movement up to 1915, Hindu-Muslim relations and finally Lajpat Rai's own vision of the Indian nation.

ISBN 978-81-237-6281-4



### Two Lives of a Man: An Autobiography

Gurdial Singh | 378 pp | ₹ 305

The present autobiography of one of the tallest figures in Indian literature is a valuable contribution. Not only as a literary text but also as a text relevant for socio-cultural understanding of the contemporary Indian society, in general, and of Punjab, in particular.

The story of a man rising from a poor family of carpenters to become through his sheer labour, struggle and self-belief a creative writer par excellence. This is a story that is not only inspirational but socially introspective as well.

ISBN 978-81-237-5979-1



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शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार  
Department of School Education & Literacy  
Ministry of Education, Government of India









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## First Hindi Language Literacy Workshop in Arunachal Pradesh

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A historic workshop on Hindi language literacy was launched jointly by National Book Trust, India, and Department of Hindi, Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh from 12th November to 14th November. This was a significant step towards promoting Hindi language and encouraging writing among newly literate individuals.

The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of Rajiv Gandhi University, Prof Jayadeb Sahoo, and the Chief Editor and Joint Director of the National Book Trust, India, Shri Kumar Vikram, initiated this commendable effort to create a reading and learning environment for neo-literates.

In his address, Shri Kumar Vikram, while discussing the workshop's objective, said, "We have come not to teach you, but to learn from you, so that readable material continues to reach neo-literate readers. Our aim is to ensure that neo-literate readers keep getting reading material so that they do not relapse into illiteracy."

Prof Joram Yalam Nabam, Head of the Hindi Department, called the workshop "a golden opportunity for our Hindi creators to learn."



The writers of Arunachal Pradesh will now enrich Hindi literature further through simple stories, thereby fostering a reading and writing environment for the newly literate in the state.

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## Sharjah International Book Fair

India made its mark at the Sharjah International Book Fair 2025. The first-ever India Stand at Expo Center, Sharjah was inaugurated by Shri Satish Kumar Sivan, Hon'ble Consul General of India, UAE, in the presence of Prof Milind Sudhakar Marathe,



Chairman, NBT-India, Rakesh Kumar, Joint Director, NBT-India and Dr Shams Eqbal,

Director, NCPUL. The India stand was a window to the vibrant world of Indian publishing and literature.

You can also find the e-Newsletter on our website [www.nbtindia.gov.in](http://www.nbtindia.gov.in)

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