

## Press Release

### **Dr Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ to Inaugurate New Delhi World Book Fair 2021 – Virtual Edition**

The 29<sup>th</sup> edition of the annual New Delhi World Book Fair, organized by National Book Trust, India will be held as a Virtual Edition from 6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

**Dr Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’**, Hon’ble Minister Education, Government of India will inaugurate the Fair at a virtual ceremony on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 11.30 am. **Prof. Govind Prasad Sharma**, Chairman, NBT and **Shri Yuvraj Malik**, Director, NBT will also be present on the occasion.

The E-press conference for the New Delhi World Book Fair 2021 – Virtual Edition was held at the NBT Headquarters on 04 March, 2021.

**Prof. Govind Prasad Sharma**, Chairman NBT addressed the conference and announced the first Virtual Edition of the New Delhi World Book Fair 2021. Sharing the information pertaining to the Fair, he said that due to the pandemic restrictions in place, the Fair is being organized on a Virtual Platform this year.

**Shri Yuvraj Malik**, Director NBT welcomed the media to the conference and shared the technical details of joining the virtual platform for the Fair. He said the NBT has left no stone unturned in its endeavor to make the Fair accessible for not just Indian visitors but from all over the world also.

While answering the questions put forward by the media attendees, Shri Yuvraj Malik informed everyone that with a 360 degree immersive experience, the Virtual Edition of the Fair will be a memorable experience for the visitors.

**Theme Pavilion:** This year, the theme of the New Delhi World Book Fair 2021 – Virtual Edition is ‘National Education Policy-2020.’ The Policy is a vision document that aims to universalize the Indian Education system from Pre-Primary levels to Higher Education. The Policy endeavors to enhance the quality of education equally for all and move in the direction of strengthening India as a global superpower.

Promoting the spirit of “Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat”, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said, “Aspects such as widening the availability of scholarships, strengthening infrastructure for Open and Distance Learning, Online Education and increasing the usage of technology have received great attention in the NEP. These are vital reforms for the education sector.”

The National Education Policy has long term significance and impact on the entire eco-system of learning in the broadcast sense. It integrally impacts the culture of reading, book publishing, writing, book promotion, content creation and all other related issues. In this light, a series of programmes highlighting various aspects of NEP 2020 is scheduled to be organized during the NDWBF 2021 – Virtual Edition for all stake holders to discuss the dynamics of its implementation through publishing for various age-groups.

During the Fair, discussions on education and pedagogy, conversation with the authors, scholars, book release functions, cultural programmes, etc. will be organized.

**Foreign Countries:** Over 15+ countries including UK, USA, UAE, China, France, Iran, Nepal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Ukraine, Italy, are participating in the Foreign Publishers Hall at the Fair.

**B2B Activities:** New Delhi World Book Fair, also provides a platform for B2B activities for publishers from India and abroad. A publisher’s forum organized by NBT and FICCI, CEOSpeak will focus on challenges and opportunities for publishers in the light of National Education Policy 2020.

**Publishers:** More than 160+ publishers and exhibitors from India and abroad will participate in the fair through e-stalls, acquainting the visitors with books in all major Indian and foreign languages. The visitors will be able to visit the websites of the exhibitor/publisher directly from the e-stalls to view more products

**E-events:** Visitors to the fair will be able to view e-events like Seminars, Literary Events, Book Releases, Conversations with Authors, Panel Discussions with Embassies and Foreign Publishers throughout the 4-day duration of the fair.

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