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New Delhi

PRESS RELEASE

Second day of the New Delhi World Book Fair 2021 – Virtual Edition

The second day of the New Delhi World Book Fair 2021-Virtual Edition saw a multitude of events focusing on the importance of mother tongue and regional languages in the education system. The NDWBF is up and running and Sunday's visit showed about 15,000 people on the platform!

The day began with a discussion on the **Role of Mother Tongue: Making Reading a Pleasurable Activity for Children**. Shri Prempal Sharma, Educationist and Writer; Dr. Usha Sharma, Educationist NCERT; Ms Geetanjali Kumar, Educational Psychologist and Ms Mridul Singh, Founder Secretary, Koshish Special School, composed the panel.

The theme for the NDWBF 2021 is the National Education Policy 2020. In the second event for the day Prof. Om Prakash Pandey and Dr. Sanjeev Rai conducted a session on **National Education Policy - 2020 Indian Knowledge Tradition**. The event was moderated by Shri Pankaj Chaturvedi, Hindi Assistant Editor, NBT.

Later, in a tribute to the oldest language in the world, Sanskrit, a discussion was held on the topic '**Sanskrit: Hamari Bhashaon Ki Dadi Maa**'. Speakers on the occasion were Dr. Ramesh Bijlani, Dr. Baldevanand Sagar, and Dr. Sampadanand Mishra as part of the panel. The event was moderated by Shri Bhagyendra Bhai Patel, Gujarati Assistant Editor, NBT.

In another session organized by NBT in collaboration with AICB, New Delhi, Dr J.L. Kaul, Padma Shri awardee and Secretary General, AICB spoke on the topic '**Role of Braille Books in Mother Tongue and Possibilities & Challenges for the Students**'. The session was moderated by Dr Kamlesh Kumari, Hindi Editorial Assistant, NBT. In the second part of this programme, visually impaired students recited melodious poems on Patriotism. Other speakers included Ms. Devki, Ms Abhilasha and Mr. Ankur, Mr. Rajnish Rajat, Mr. Anurag Pathak, Mrs. Sushila Negi, Mrs. Manjula Rath. All participants were gifted with NBT's Braille books.

A hybrid event was organized for a **Book Release function** of 5 new Bangla titles published by the National Book Trust, India, namely *Titas Ekti Nadir Naam* by Adwaita Mallabarman, *Anandamath* by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay, *Pather Dabi* by Saratchandra Chattopadhyay, *Rammohun Roy Nirbachito Rachna Samgrah* and *Mahatma O Kabi* by Sabyasachi Bhattacharyya. Releasing the books, Prof. Om Prakash Pandey and Dr Baldevanand Sagar, spoke about the need for making the young generation appreciate Indian values and the need for implementation of NEP through good content. The book release was followed by a lively online discussion about each book by Dr. Anathbandhu Chatterjee, Shri Abir Mukhopadhyay, Dr. Baridbaran Ghosh, Prof. Parthasarathi Bhaumik, and Dr. Nabakumar Basu. The event was moderated by Shri Bratin Dey, Bangla Assistant Editor, NBT.

In the evening, a panel event on '**Hindi Natak aur Rangmanch: Yahan Se Kahan**' was held with interactive discussions by Shri Suman Kumar, Shri Satish Anand, Shri Ravi Taneja and Smt. Mira Kant, with Dr Lalit Kishore Mandora, Hindi Assistant Editor, NBT.

The day ended with a special program by the Himachal Academy of Arts Culture & Languages, Shimla on contemporary literature.

The NDWBF 2021-Virtual Edition is being organised by National Book Trust India from 06 to 09 March 2021 on an online mode. It can be visited at www.nbtindia.gov.in/ndwbf21

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