

Mega book fair starts today

7-Day Event Will Feature Talk Shows, Book Launches & Poetry Meets At Riverfront

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Ahmedabad: The city is hosting a seven-day National Book Fair from Tuesday. The event is being organized jointly by the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC), National Book Trust (NBT) and Gujarati Sahitya Parishad (GSP) at Sabarmati riverfront. The venue will have 177 book stalls from all over the country, spread over an area of 4,000 square metres.

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The event will not be restricted to display of just books; a host of literary activities are also being planned for all seven days. There will be talk shows, book launches, kavi sammelans, a special section of folk literature and music, and meeting with authors. A young writers' club will also be formed to encourage young writers.

Literary figures like Varsha Das



Dhaval Bharwad

The fair is part of Gujarat's foundation day celebrations

will hold special programmes for children on how to write short stories. A lecture on translations will be given by Rita Kothari and Pradeep Khandvala. There will also be awareness seminars for book traders in Gujarat.

A special emphasis is also being laid on popularizing Gujarati children's literature. Experts like Yashwant Maheta, Sraddha Trivedi and Vijay Sevak will talk on the challenges faced by authors who write for children.

Among other interesting things

are workshops for children where they have to enact a story and paint it too. "There will be quiz programmes for children also," said a senior AMC official.

Some of the leading literary figures will also talk on the legendary creators in Gujarat's fiction world. "This will be the state's biggest book fair on the lines of the literary fests organized in Delhi or Jaipur. The main draw of the festival will be workshops that we have organized for budding writers—both in Gujarati and English," added the official.