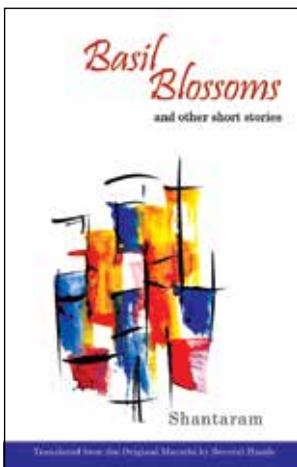


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PICK OF THE MONTH



Basil Blossoms and Other Short Stories
Shantaram
978-81-237-7226-4; Rs 200

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan at NBT



On 15 August 2014, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in his independence day address emphasised on the importance of cleanliness. Following the address, on 2 October 2014, the 145th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, he launched the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan or Clean India Mission. He called on the people to get involved in keeping their surroundings clean.

Prime Minister Shri Modi in his message to the people on 25 September 2014 said, "I am sure you have heard time and again that cleanliness is next to godliness. On 2 October we are launching Swachh Bharat Mission, a massive mass movement, that seeks to create a clean India. Now the time has come to devote ourselves towards Swachhata (cleanliness) of our motherland."

In heeding to the call, Dr M.A.

Sikandar, Director, NBT India initiated a drive to clean the premises of NBT and its neighbourhood from 26 September 2014. In his address to the employees of the Trust, Dr Sikandar said that Cleanliness is a good habit and we must make every effort to support the Swachh Bharat Mission. Keep yourself clean; your neighbourhood clean; and inculcate the habit of cleanliness in children. Every employee should give an hour a week to cleanliness.

Later the Director and the employees of the Trust took a pledge in support of the Mission to devote 100 hours every year to cleaning. Following which, all the employees of the Trust at headquarters as well as its regional offices and Book Promotion Centres across the country, took to cleaning the premises of the Trust as well as the neighbourhood areas.



Workshop on Developing Graphic Novels

The National Book Trust, India, organized a National Workshop on *Developing Graphic Novels Based on North-East Folk Traditions* on 17 September 2014 at NBT Headquarters at Vasant Kunj, New Delhi.

The workshop was inaugurated by Shri A Sethumadhavan, noted Malayalam author and Chairman, NBT. He said, "Our focus on North-East is very clear. North-East is a treasure house of folktales. We want to communicate with North-East people effectively. We wish to take the graphic novels based on North-East to the outside world." He added that, "this one day workshop is a pioneering step taken by NBT. It is a process of learning and unlearning. Though we belong to different areas we want to recapture the spirit of storytelling. We brought out a graphic novel *Sri Ratna Kim Suro* in



and Discussions on Selected Folk Tales, moderated by Dr K B Veio Pou, Asst. Professor, Shaheed Bhagat Singh College, University of Delhi; and third, *Artists' Approach to the Stories Read and Discussed in the Context of Developing Graphic Novels*, moderated by Shri Suddhasattawa Basu, eminent illustrator.

In this workshop, the speakers discussed at length about the scope of using folklore of North-East for graphic novels, the various dimensions and aspects

related to folktales of North-East, representing culture and tradition in graphic novels, danger of being lost in translation, needs of the readers and North-East and cautions to be taken while representing issues related to North-East. In the workshop, the authors

representing the state of North-East also read out the stories which could be considered for creating graphic novels and the artists drew rough sketches based on the stories discussed.

Earlier, Shri Soumitra Dasgupta, designer and filmmaker, gave a presentation on the making of a graphic novel.



The participants in the workshop included writers and illustrators from North-East including Prof. S. Pranam Singh, Benaras Hindu University, Prof. Desmond L Kharmawphlang, North-Eastern Hill University, Prof. Durlabh Bhattacharjee, Prof. Minakshi Sen Bandhopadhyay, Director, North East Centre for Oral Literature, Prof. Ngangnom Maheshkanta Singh, University of Delhi, Dr

Joy Pachauu, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Shri Utpal Talukdar, noted illustrator, Ms K Cynthia Kolakhe, freelance artist, Shri Canato Jimo, freelance artist, Shri Kasom, freelance artist, Ms Yishey Doma, noted author, Shri Swapan Nandy, illustrator, Shri Azuk Tamsang, Welfare Secretary, Indigenous Lepcha Tribal Association, Ms Marmit Lepcha, translator, Shri P Wungnaoangam, research scholar, Ms Indrim Boo, illustrator and researcher and



Korea and it was well received. This is a clear message that graphic novels have been accepted." He further added that in a diverse country like India, different folktales across the country exist and this venture will definitely recapture the spirit of the stories in olden times. As NBT is on its way to find new tools to narrate stories, in this regard, Graphic novels can surely become a medium to communicate to the readers. He was hopeful that the Workshop would have positive outcome.

The workshop was divided into three sessions: first, the *First Observations*, moderated by Shri Sanjoy Hazarika, Director, Centre for North East Studies and Policy Research; second, *Readings*



Shri Subhash Vyam, noted illustrator.

Earlier, Dr M A Sikandar, Director, NBT India, welcomed the guests and the writers, artists, scholars and researchers. He said that, "This workshop is a part of the Trust's efforts to develop its publishing programme, to innovate and create a series of books that would not only attract readers of all age groups, but would also help in appreciating the culture and literature from other parts of the country. We plan to bring out a set of graphic novels for New Delhi World Book Fair 2015."

Shri Kumar Vikram, Ms Carolyn Pao and Ms Vasundhara Lal, English editors from NBT, India coordinated the workshop.

Meet the Author: Christopher Cheng

National Center for Children's Literature of National Book Trust, India organized an interactive talk on the topic *Children's Literature: Writing and Publishing in Australia* at the Conference Room of NBT headquarters on 24 September 2014. Mr Christopher Cheng, noted Australian children's author and co-chair of the International Advisory Board for the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI), was the main speaker.

On this occasion, the Hindi and Tamil translations of the book *Water*, authored by Mr Cheng were released. It was followed by reading of the book in English, Hindi and Tamil by Mr Cheng, Dr Madhu Pant, noted author and by Dr M A Sikandar, Director, NBT, respectively.

Mr Cheng highlighted on the publishing scenario of children's books in Australia. He said that the picture books, graphic novels and digital books are very popular in Australia and therefore big as



well as small publishers are developing a range of indigenous books in different



genres. He further said that gender specific books, that is, books specifically for boys and girls are also very popular among readers.

Citing examples of the books like *Emus Under the Bed*, *One Minute's Silence*, he said that Australian publishers are developing indigenous books that talk about Australia only as they are not only popular among readers but also provide information on various aspects of Australia. He also advised

parents to read stories to their children and share their experience of reading with them.

Coordinated by Shri Manas Ranjan Mahapatra, Editor, NCCL-NBT, reading sessions from the book *Water* in English, Hindi and Tamil were also held at Oak Grove School, Mussorie, Rashtriya Indian Military College, Dehradun and Ahlcon International School, Mayur Vihar, Delhi in the subsequent days with Mr Christopher Cheng as the resource person.

Poets' Meet at BPC, Agartala



After the inauguration of the NBT Book Promotion Centre at Agartala on 2 August, 2014, the first major activity held at the Activity Centre of BPC Agartala was the Poets' Meet on 13 September 2014. The programme was organised by Akshar Publications, one of the leading publishers of Tripura and also one of the major distributor of the National Book Trust, India in Tripura.

About thirty-five local poets

participated in the event and recited their poems in Bangla, Manipuri, Kokborok and Chakma languages. About 100 people from different walks of life attended the event. The major poets who recited their poems were Shri Bimalendu Chakraborty, Shri Ratul Deb Burman, Shri Chandrakanta Murasingh, Shri Kalyanbrata Chakraborty, Shri Swapan Sengupta, Smt. Shefali Deb Barma, Shri Raghunandan Singha, Smt Kakoli Ganguly and Shri Gautam Chakma.

In his welcome address, Shri Subhabrata Deb, head of Akshar Publications, welcomed the poets and



other guests and also invited the book lovers to take initiative to coordinate and arrange book promotion activities at the NBT Book Promotion Centre, and make it popular amongst the children. He also requested the guests to visit the place with their family and friends.

Shri Sumit Bhattacharjee, Regional Manager, Eastern Regional Office, NBT, India, coordinated the programme.

NBT and Ghummakkad Narain

National Centre for Children's Literature (NCCL) of National Book Trust, India in association with Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, Nivesh (RMSAN) and Himalayan Hub for Art, Culture and Heritage (HHACH) partnered with the Ghummakkad Narain Travelling Children's Literature Festival for an event in Shillong on 9 August 2014.

Shri Frederick Roy Kharkongor, IAS, Secretary, Education, Government of Meghalaya inaugurated the Festival. He said, "I am happy to host the festival for the first time for the children and look forward to a meaningful interaction to raise the interest amongst the students in reading and writing." He urged that such activities for children may be organized in coming years too.



Ms Rachna Bisht, President, Nivesh, said, "The festival was started under the aegis of UNESCO to promote reading among those who do not have the privilege to own one. We are grateful to the National Book Trust, India for partnering with us since the inception of the festival and especially Dr M A Sikandar and Mr Manas Ranjan Mahapatra for supporting our endeavour. We hope to have a continued association with the NBT and a longer association with RMSA in times to come."

During the festival, being sponsored

by NBT, a storytelling session and a workshop on illustration was organized. The storytelling session was conducted by Ms Bina Kapoor, noted children's author. She gave different plots to children and asked them to develop a story around them. The children came up with interesting stories.

The workshop on illustration was conducted by Ms Viky Arya, well-known illustrator. She gave tips to children for developing illustrations of a story.

More than 150 children from different schools participated in the sessions. The children enthusiastically participated in the storytelling session and illustration workshop. The plots and illustrations developed by the children showed their creativity and imagination.



Hindi Week at NBT

The National Book Trust, India celebrated the Hindi Week from 22 to 28 September 2014. On 23 September 2014, an essay competition and a Hindi General Knowledge, Quiz Programme were organised in the Trust headquarters.

Shri Subhash Chander, well-known critic and Hindi Rajbhasha Consultant, was the Guest of Honour at the programme and also the judge of the competitions.

Speaking on the occasion, he expressed happiness at the number of participants turned up for the competitions, specially



those from non-Hindi regions of the country. He encouraged the officials and the employees of the Trust to increase the use of Hindi in their day-to-day work.

On 26 September 2014, Dr M.A. Sikandar, Director, NBT India gave away the prizes to the NBT employees who were winners in the competitions.

The Hindi Week programme was conducted and coordinated by Ms Uma Bansal, Editor and Hindi Officer, Ms Alpana Bhasin, Hindi translator and Shri Subhash Chander at NBT.



Shiksha Shivirs in MCD Schools

The National Book Trust, India organised a Shiksha Shivar at MCD School, Shahbad Dairy (New), North-West Delhi on 23 September 2014. The Shivar was inaugurated by Shri Shardanand Sangwan, MCD Councillor (Shahbad Dairy) where Smt. Sunita Taneja, school Principal, Dr Mange Ram, educationist and social worker, Shri Kaptan Singh Ranga, Inspector of Schools along with the officers from Education Department and school teachers were also present.

Addressing the children and the staff of the school, Shri Shardanand Sangwan congratulated the NBT for organising the Shiksha shivar. He expressed his happiness that NBT organises such programmes in schools situated in the slums and cluster areas, where organisations generally



hesitate to come and perform. Shri Kaptan Singh Ranga and Dr. Mange Ram also congratulated the NBT and spoke about the quality and affordability of NBT books.

Another Shiksha Shivar was organised at MCD School, Mangolpuri, Y-2 Block, Delhi on 23 September 2014. The Shivar was inaugurated by Smt. Manju Sharma, MCD Councillor (Mangolpuri), where Smt. Reeta Gupta, school Principal, Dr Mange Ram, Shri Kaptan Singh Ranga, along with the officers from Education Department and teachers were present.

Inaugurating the Shiksha Shivar, Smt Manju Sharma congratulated the NBT for organising such activities which promoted the habit of reading among children, and the importance of books in life. She also requested NBT to organise more Shiksha Shivirs in other schools in Delhi.

The programmes included various events for children like recitation of poetry, storytelling, drawing competition, essay writing competition, quiz competition and book discussions. About 300 school children actively participated in the activities and showed their interest in performing in the competitions. Prizes in the form of books for the winners in the competitions as well as to the participants were distributed to encourage reading habit.



Book Release at Mumbai

A book release function was organised by the National Book Trust, India in association with the Drop Dead Foundation at the Press Club, Mumbai.

Releasing the three books written and illustrated by Aabid Surti, published in Hindi by the NBT India, Shri Vishwanath Sachdeva, well-known journalist and editor, and the Chief Guest at the function, said, "It is quite a challenge to write for children. We are all fortunate that Aabid Surti has been writing for children since decades, and is quite popular with children. With the onset of technological revolution in place, it is important that we provide our children with good reading material. Aabid Surti's books and illustrations teach the children a lot many things in a fun way."

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Mahesh V Patil, eminent film director, and Special Guest at the function, was of the view that very few books on humour are available these days, but with Aabid Surti's books in place, this gap is filled easily.



Priyamvada Rastogi, editor of *Tinkle* magazine, and Special Guest at the function, said that the real education of children is beyond the classroom and the blackboard. Books like these created by Aabid Surti teach children in a better manner.

Shivani Tibrewala, organiser of creative workshops for children in the city, was of the opinion that children should be given a free hand so that they are able to

express and develop their personality well than be told what to do. She added that good books are an effective means towards that goal.

Sharing his views at the occasion, Akshay Jain, distinguished scholar, commended Aabid Surti as an eminent scholar who takes up public interest issues for the betterment of the society.

The function was coordinated by Shri Pankaj Chaturvedi, Hindi editor, NBT.

Books for Children

November 14, the birthday of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, is celebrated as Children's Day all over the country. On this occasion, the NBT, India organises the National Book Week throughout the country. During this week the Trust encourages schools, colleges and other institutions to devote the week for books and involve children in book-related activities. All schools are encouraged to participate in the various activities held during this week.

The Trust publishes a wide variety of books for children. Given below are some of the recent titles. - *Editor*

A JOURNEY

Jagdish Joshi

This book is about the story of a sheet of paper and a caterpillar. How they happen to come together and advance upon a journey to discover the world.

ISBN 978-81-237-6748-2

24 pp / Rs 25.00



FIVE FRIENDS

Shireen Rizvi

How by helping each other in their needs five animals become close friends. This story beautifully depicts the phrase 'a friend in need is a friend indeed'. Read to know how it happens. Illustrations are by Saibal Chatterjee.

ISBN 978-81-237-6882-3

24 pp / Rs 35.00



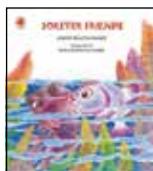
FOREVER FRIENDS

Ankeet Bhattacharjee

The frogs and the fish are born in the same pond and look similar. The frogs think they are smarter as they can live in water as well as on land. But dangers loom large . . . An interesting tale about the bonding that came to be between the frog and the fish.

ISBN 978-81-237-6720-8

16 pp / Rs 45.00



JIRO MITHE

Anvita Abbi

A popular tale from the Andaman Island which narrates an incident giving a lot of insight about the culture and beliefs of the tribal people of this region. Also informs why the Andamanese revere birds and refrain from eating them. Art is by Atanu Roy.

ISBN 978-81-237-6718-5

16 pp / Rs 35.00



LITTLE CHOPIN

Michal Rusinek

An illustrated book for children introducing them to the life of the great Polish music composer Frederic Chopin (1810- 1849), published by the Trust in an arrangement with Znak Publishers, Poland and The Frederic Chopin Institute, Poland. Illustrated by Joahna Rusinek.

ISBN 978-87-237-7007-9

36 pp / Rs 180.00



LITTLE ELEPHANT THROWS A PARTY

Meenakshi & Tanmay Bharat

An interesting tale with lively illustrations depicting the life of the animals.

ISBN 978-81-237-7045-1

20 pp / Rs 40



LITTLE WONDERS

Laxmi Khanna 'Suman'

A novella for children in their teens about how a family of dwarfs is separated from each other by the stroke of fate and how they happen to unite with the help of children. In the process they learn a lot and gain from each other's company. Illustrated by Fazaruddin.

ISBN 978-81-237-6885-4

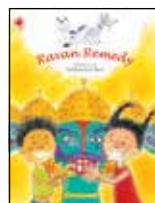
147 pp / Rs 45.00



RAVAN REMEDY

S u d d h a s a t t w a Basu

An interesting tale about the character Ravan from the epic Ramayana. Ravan, whose effigy is burnt during the Dussehra festival is symbolic burning to ashes of all that is evil, is given a humourous twist.



ISBN 978-81-237-6751-2

24 pp / Rs 50.00

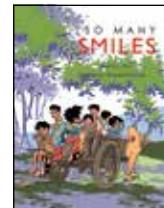
SO MANY SMILES

Manoj Das

Latbar with his robust, thick and majestically curled mustachio was a favourite with boys, who listened with rapt attention to his yarns about demons and giants, until Bapi shows them the truth of it all. An interesting read for children.

ISBN 978-81-237-7008-6

44 pp / Rs 75



THE ROYAL SWEEPER

Ramendra Kumar

A folktale retold for the benefit of children which gives the message that no job is menial; therefore we should have respect for both the work and the worker. The story has been culled from the Jagannath culture of Odisha.

ISBN 978-81-237-6679-9

16 pp / Rs 30.00



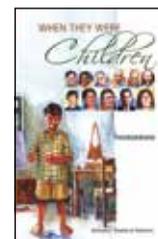
WHEN THEY WERE CHILDREN

Thangamani

This title reveals certain fascinating facts about the childhood of great Indian achievers, who have excelled in diverse fields.

ISBN 978-81-237-7001-7

180 pp / Rs 70



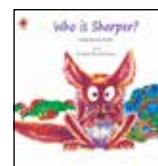
WHO IS SHARPER?

Gunamani Nath

An animal tale that dwells on the importance of wit and how it can become a tool to survive in a world lacking in mortality.

ISBN 978-81-237-6730-7

24 pp / Rs 35.00

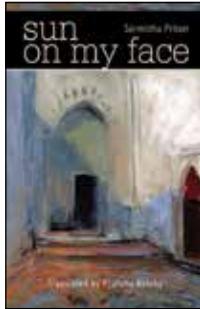


NBT Publications of the Month

Sun on My Face

Sarmistha Pritam
Prafulla Kotoky (Tr.)
978-81-237-7236-3 / Rs 165

Sarmistha Pritam suffers from spino-muscular atrophy, an illness which has left her paralysed from waist down since a very young age. Originally written in Asamiya, *Atmo-Katha* is a sensitive and poignant picture of the author's changing and challenging life beginning from early childhood. It is the story of triumph of an indomitable spirit, steeled by pain and suffering. The book reflects Sarmistha's spirit of hope, courage and perseverance against the odds of her physical limitations and disabilities. It is the delightful commentary of a keen and observant mind alive to her surroundings, nature, society and the times she lives in. An excellent piece of literature as well, the book vividly depicts the traditional Assamese culture and way of life. Simple yet an honest and touching narrative.

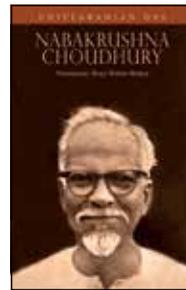


life struggles to keep pace—in the world of Shantaram, we can meet them all. The present English translation by several translators, including a few by the author himself, hopes to take these fascinating stories to a larger audience.

Nabakrushna Choudhury

Chittaranjan Das
Braja Mohan Mishra (Tr.)
978-81-237-7318-6 / Rs 185

Nabakrushna Choudhury, a veteran freedom fighter, one of the founders of the Congress Socialist Forum in Odisha, Chief Minister, personification of knowledge, love and action remains a robust specimen of revolutionary spirit wedded to humanism. He was a peerless political prodigy of his time. Nabakrushna's biography is a chapter in the political history of Odisha. He played a vital role in Bhoodan Satyagraha as the head of the government. A voracious

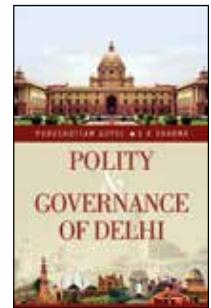


reader and Gandhian, he turned down the requests to write his autobiography. His political opponents outnumbered his followers in requesting him in this regard. This biography originally written in Odia and translated into English shows that evaluation of his life is not an evaluation of an individual, but an evaluation of a chapter in the history of Odisha.

Polity & Governance of Delhi

Purushottam Goyal & S.K. Sharma
978-81-237-7322-3 / Rs 210

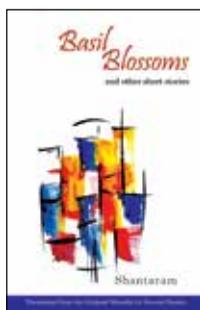
This simple and comprehensive book on Delhi presents in a lucid, non-technical language the kind of political and administrative set-up that has been provided for the national capital, the manner in which it is administered and the difficulties encountered in converting it into a fullfledged state of the Indian Union.



Basil Blossoms and Other Short Stories

Shantaram
K.J. Purohit (tr.)
978-81-237-7226-4 / Rs 200

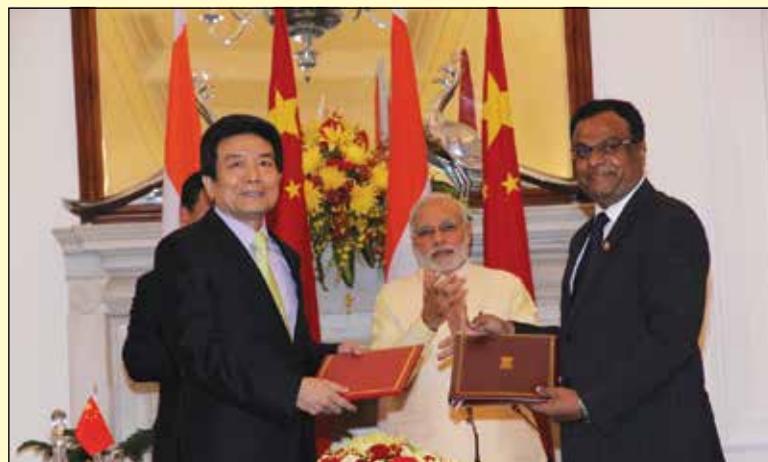
A typical Shantaram story, though set in the hustle and bustle of city life, is woven poetically where the characters are trying to come in their own by exploring some hidden, unexpressed aspects of their persona. Perhaps therein lies the charm and the secret behind the immense popularity of these stories that have enthralled the generations of Marathi readers, because a lay reader can easily identify with Shantaram characters, situations and concerns. Breaking joint-family values, strong-willed women, insipid-looking but shrewd city dwellers, acute poverty where



MoU with China

A Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation was signed between the NBT, India (Ministry of HRD), Government of India and the State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television of the People's Republic of China on 18 September 2014. The MoU was regarding the participation of China as the Guest of Honour Country at the New Delhi World Book Fair 2016. The Agreement will help provide greater access to each other's publications.

The Agreement was signed in the presence of Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, by Dr M.A. Sikandar, Director, NBT, India and Mr. Cai Fuchao, Minister from the Chinese side.



Participate at the
NEW DELHI WORLD BOOK FAIR
 Pragati Maidan, New Delhi
 14–22 February 2015



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www.newdelhiworldbookfair.gov.in

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NEW DELHI RIGHTS TABLE
 16–17 February 2015



For details, email at:
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FORTHCOMING BOOK FAIRS

Raipur Book Fair, Chhattisgarh	1-7 November 2014
Bhopal Book Fair	Oct.-Nov. 2014
Indore Book Fair, M.P.	6-14 December 2014
Cuttack Book Fair, Orissa	18-26 December 2014
Itanagar Book Fair, Arunachal Pradesh	22-30 Nov. 2014
Jammu Book Fair, J&K	November 2014
Jodhpur/Bikaner Book Fair, Rajasthan	December 2014
Ranchi Book Fair, Jharkhand	March 2015
Dehradun Book Fair, Uttarakhand	December 2014
Aizawl Book Fair, Mizoram	Dec. 2014-Jan 2015
Patna Book Fair, Bihar	March 2015

For more details please contact:

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