

# SAHITYA AKADEMI

NEWSLETTER

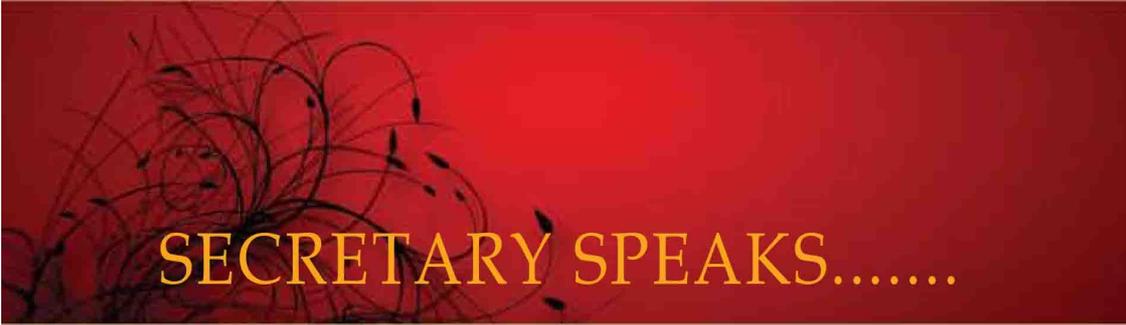


SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2015



## HIGHLIGHTS

Translation Prize   Bal Sahitya Puraskar   Yuva Puraskar  
Centenary Celebrations   Literary Forum   Symposium  
Seminar   Meet the Author   Kavi Sandhi   Through My Window



## SECRETARY SPEAKS.....

One of the major hallmarks of Sahitya Akademi is its Awards. We celebrate writing, we celebrate the writers in many ways and one of them is through the conferment of Awards on best of the best. Three of these Awards, Akademi's way of celebrating and honoring writers of different kinds, fall in India's festive season. Between September and December every years India witnesses many a festival featuring major religions of India.

Sahitya Akademi conferred Translation Prizes [for the best translations in 24 languages], Bal Sahitya Puraskar [Award for the best Children's writing] and Yuva Puraskar [Award for best young writers across the country] in the months of September and December 2015.

Continuing with Akademi's policies of remembering and honoring past doyens, Sahitya Akademi organized a number of birth centenary seminars and symposia through all its offices, continued the meets bridging litterateurs of North-Eastern regions of the country with their counterparts in other regions, continued to connect cultural and linguistic traditions spread across vast country by organizing a number of multilingual meets bringing together best minds from various regions of the country and continued to enhance the focus on minor languages, dialects, tribal and oral traditions of India. We aspire and are determined to continue our work in all these directions and more.

One more year draws closer to the end and as we wind up the season and look forward to the freshness that January brings along, it is indeed a happy opportunity for us to share with our patrons and readers what we have achieve over the past 365 days: In 2015 we organized 479 literary events (One programme every 18 hours), we organized and participated in 189 book-exhibitions across India, published 426books including reprints (that is publication of one title every 20 hours), opened a center for North-East Centre for Oralliterature at Imphal, Tribal and Oral Literature Centre at Delhi and bookshops at Kashmiri Gate and Vishwadhyaala Metro stations in Delhi, launched a revised and online edition of Who's Who of Indian Writers, conferred Fellowships (Akademi's highest honor) on Prof.S.L. Bhyrappa and Dr. C. Narayana Reddy and Honorary Fellowship onDr. JinDinghan, produced 9 documentaries on eminent Indian Writers and through all these endeavors we continued our literary service to the country and in the process thousands of writers across the country benefitted from our efforts.

I take this opportunity to thank all our patrons and readers for their continue support and encouragement. Hope you all find our newsletters useful and enjoyable. I join everyone at the Akademi in wishing one and all a very happy, peaceful and successful 2016.

***K. Sreenivasarao***  
*Secretary*

# SAHITYA AKADEMI TRANSLATION PRIZE PRESENTATION

September 4-6, 2015, Dibrugarh

**S**ahitya Akademi organized its Translation Prize, 2014 at the Dibrugarh University premises on September 4-6, 2015. Prizes were presented on 4th, Translators' Meet was held on 5th and Abhivyakti was held on 5th and 6th.



Winners of Translation Prize with Ms. Pratibha Ray, Chief Guest, President and Secretary of Sahitya Akademi

On 4th September, the first day of the event started at 5 pm at the Rang Ghar auditorium in Dibrugarh University. The Translation Prize, 2014 was held on the first day itself, where twenty four writers were awarded the Translation Prizes in the respective languages they have translated the literature into. Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, Eminent Odia writer Pratibha Ray was the chief guest, Guest of Honor Dr. Alak Kr Buragohain, Vice Chancellor, Dibrugarh University and Dr K. Sreenivasarao were present to grace the occasion.

After the dignitaries addressed the gathering, the translation prizes were presented to the respective winners. The twenty four awardees were felicitated by a plaque, gamocha (a piece of cloth of utmost respect in the Assamese culture) and a prize of Rs.50, 000.

The names of the twenty four winners of the translation prizes are

- Bipul Deori won the Translation Prize in Assamese.
- Benoy Kumar Mahanta won the Translation Prize in Bengali.
- Surath Narzary won the Translation Prize in Bodo.
- Yashpal 'Nirmal' won the Translation Prize in Dogri
- Padmini Rajappa won the Translation Prize in English



- (Late) Nagindas Jivanlal Shah won the Translation Prize in Gujarati.
- Phul Chand Manav won the Translation Prize in Hindi
- G.N.Ranganatha Rao won the Translation Prize in Kannada
- M.H.Zaffar won the Translation Prize in Kashmiri.
- Pandurang Kashinath Gaude won the Translation Prize in Konkani
- Ram Nararyan Singh won the Translation Prize in Maithili
- Priya A.S won the translation Translation Prize in Malayalam.
- Madhukar Sudam Patil won the Translation Prize in Marathi.
- Waikhom Cha Ibotombi Mangang won the Translation Prize in Manipuri
- Dambarmani Pradhan won the Translation Prize in Nepali
- Tarsem won the Translation Prize in Punjabi
- Kailash Mandela won the Translation Prize in Rajasthani
- Narayana Dash won the Translation Prize in Sanskrit
- Saro Hansdah won the Translation Prize in Santali
- Ram Kukreja won the Translation Prize in Sindhi.
- S.Devadoss won the Translation Prize in Tamil.
- Ved Rahi won the Translation Prize in Urdu
- R. Santha Sundari won the Translation Prize in Telegu

The programme ended by a presentation of Rajasthani folk music performed by Anwar Khan Manganiar.

On 5th September, 2015 the translators' meet was conducted in the morning session at 10 am. Eminent Asaamese writer Karabi Deka Hazarika was the chair for the session. The winners of the translation prizes spoke about their experiences of translating different kinds of works.

Abhivyakti programme commenced in the evening featuring a reading session where writers – poets and authors discuss about their works, their opinions and interact with the audience. There was a poetry reading session by seven poets in different languages and some of them even translated their work in English or Hindi. The poets were Jiban Narah(Assamese), Ratneshwar Basumatary(Bodo), Gurumayum Bijoykumar Sharma(Manipuri), Arun Chandra Rai(Nepali),Iyyappa Madhavan(Tamil), Kondreddy Venkateshwara Reddy(Telegu) and Raoof Khair(Urdu). The session was followed by a dance presentation by the students of the Centre for Performing Arts, Dibrugarh University. They presented three different ethnic dances of Assam.

On 6th September, three sessions were conducted in the Abhivyakti programme. The morning session called 'My World, My Writing' featuring presentations by eminent writers. Nagan Saikia, eminent writer chaired the session. The session featured presentations by Bengali writer Siladitya Sen, Malyalam writer P.Sachidanandan, Manipuri writer Irungbam Deven Singh and Marathi writer Rajan Gavas.

The second session had a short story reading with renowned Konkani playwright Pundalik Naik as the chair. The last session of the day was Poets' Meet. Renowned poet Chandra Prakash Deval was the chair. Mohan Singh(Dogri), Sanju Vala(Gujarati), Swayamprabha Jha(Maithili), Satpal Bhikhi(Punjabi), Jayasri Chattopadyay(Sanskrit) and Harish Karamchandani(Sindhi) were the poets who recited their compositions.



## BAL SAHITYA PURASKAR

November 14-16, Mumbai

### *Awards Presentation:*

Sahitya Akademi organized its Bal Sahitya Puraskar Presentation ceremony at Ravindra Natya Mandir, Prabhadevi, Mumbai, on the evening of 14th November 2015. Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the awardees, guests, audience and media and he reiterated that children are the backbone of any civilization. They should have access to rich literature which gives them knowledge of their traditions.



Winners of Bal Sahitya Puraskar with Sri Chandrakant Sheth, Chief Guest, President and Secretary of Sahitya Akademi

Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the Presidential address. He said that Akademi publishes a book in every 16 hours and organizes a literary programme in every 19 hours which exhibits how active Akademi is in the literary field. It has also opened two book shops at Delhi Metro Stations. The main motto of Akademi is to honor rich literature and litterateur. The Indian literature promotes a united family. The honors were bestowed upon the awardees in 24 languages.

Chandrakant Sheth, a renowned Gujarati writer, was the chief guest at the function. He said that a child is the human form of God. A child language has a different form which is free of any malign, pollution etc. He called Krishna leela as a main source of child language. The panchatantra and Ram Charit Manas, the epics, also depicts the children literature. The children literature is having compulsions, it delivers with a commitment. The literature should be enjoyable to child at the same time it should be educative. Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, proposed the vote of thanks

### *Writers Meet*

The writers meet was arranged on second day of the function in which all the award winning writers kept their word before the audience. The meet was chaired by Sitanshu Yashaschandra, Convener, Gujarati Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi. He proclaimed that India is a diversified country. It has many languages and different cultures but still democratic. In childhood, the children should hear the folk tales which are the roots of our civilization. There should be simplicity while designing a children language that should be a prime goal of an adult literature. Kabir, a pioneer of Indian literature has also followed the rule of simplicity while writing the dohas. He called it as a Saral Baat. The Indian children should not be influenced by the western culture which is a big challenge today.



Kartik Ghosh (Bengali): The children literature had taken a big area in the Bengali literature. All Bengali litterateurs such as Rabindranath Tagore to Upendrakishore Roychoudhry has written for children in Bengali.

Tiren Bar (Boro): An expression of thoughts in the form words is known as literature. But the thoughts should be acceptable by one and all.

Tarachand Kalandri (Dogri): He narrated the sequential events which encouraged him to become a litterateur. He wrote his first book in 2010 and has written more than 100 children poems.

Sowmya Rajendran (English): We are no longer in a world where children can afford to be silent. They must speak, they must ask, and they must never be quiet. The children literature is not only read children but also by young and adults which is its added specialization.

T.S. Nagaraja Shetty (Kannada): A juvenile literature is the fruit of human culture. The modern literature is like a tree where children's literature is like the sprout and flower without which tree is barren.

Ramnath G. Gawde (Konkani): Today's children prefer to surf internet rather to read. We should bring an interesting literature to get the reading habit back.

Ramdeo Jha (Maithili): A child is first taught to speak, and then he develops the strength of knowing language, meanings and reads different books. If he gets entertaining books, the reading habit develops in him.

N. Sivadasa (Malayalam): Today's children are demanding, they want to be successful. They expect new ideas, new dreams, new knowledge and exciting wisdom to guide them in their struggle for existence and success. The tragedy is that many children's writers are out modelled, whereas most children are gifted with more knowledge than the writers.

Thochom Thouyangba Meitei (Manipuri): One should write children literature that is enjoyable and encouraging. This will develop interest in children to read and make them strong foundations of our communities.

Mukti Upadhyay (Nepali): The rich heritage and the immense treasure of knowledge possessed by mankind must be provided to the children to answer their inquisitive nature.

Snehalata Mohanty (Odia): The future of children literature is not bright. Most of the parents prefer to send their children to dance, singing and drawing than to encourage their children to go for reading stories, essays or poems. There is no demand for children literature today as they lack to grasp the moral values or derive the theme.

Sukhdev Madpuri (Punjabi): He got inspired to write children literature by hearing lullaby, folk tales. Initially he started reading children literature in Urdu language. Child's intellectual and mental strength develops through literature.

Krishnakumar 'Aashu' (Rajasthani): He believes that lot of work is left to be done to promote children literature in Rajasthan. The parents always think that their children should be at upfront of any race and parents should also inculcate the habit of reading literature in their children.

Janardhan Hegde (Sanskrit): He worried that children literature in Sanskrit language is vanishing day-by-day as compared to other contemporary Indian languages. The main cause is lack of dailies and weekly magazines. The lack of information about children literature in Sanskrit is also one of the reasons.

Srikanta Saren (Santali): Today's children are demanding. They expect new ideas, dreams and exciting wisdom to guide them in their struggle for existence and success. The striking features of children literature must be on rhymes through which a child can be captivated.

Jetho Lalwani (Sindhi): He said that children literature is a foundation of society, country and



language. It is a mirror of time. A writer has to become a child to write children literature. He has to enter the fantasy world of a child. The modern children literature is more repetitive due to lack of reading.

Sella Ganapathy (Tamil): Any children literature will be successful only when it deals with things that the children like. The writer for children have an important task to lead the children with responsibility and pleasing manners. Children writers should do something to cultivate the reading habit among children.

Chokkapu Venkata Ramana (Telugu): He said that storytelling is foundation to children literature. Our children literature should maintain international standards. The good children stories must be powerful, imaginative and memorable. They resonate with readers of all ages and have a lasting and profound impact. The literature has got immense power to change people.

Bano Sartaj (Urdu): A writer should have to behave like a child to write children literature. The ratio of discourse and entertainment in children literature should be 5% and 95% respectively. There should be dramatization method to attract child towards literature.

The meet concluded with a vote of thanks by Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi.

## SEMINAR ON WRITING FOR CHILDREN LITERATURE: THE NEW CHALLENGES

November 15-16, 2015

Sahitya Akademi, on the occasion of Bal Sahitya Puraskar function, organized a seminar on Writing for Children with focus on challenges in producing children's literature on November 15-16, 2015 at Mumbai. In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the awardees, participants of seminar, dignitaries and media and spoke briefly about various challenges before the writers of children's literature. Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, while presiding over the inaugural session of the seminar, derived that children's literature should be popularized for which young writers should come forward and accept the challenge of writing this genre. We should always think of writing in a simplified manner so that it can reach a child. A child has a great sense of imagination and therefore, it is a big challenge for a writer for children to reach that imaginary level and write. Bhalchandra Nemade, Convener, Marathi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi was the chief guest of the session. He observed that a writer who writes children literature has to face an uphill task of remaining afloat in the field. Sane Guruji has always written for children therefore devalued. He firmly opined that Cinderella tale is originally an Indian tale exported to Europe. Panchtantra tales are translated in Prakrit and modern languages which is a great Indian heritage but not put forward in a modern perspective which is a big challenge for contemporary Indian writer. He also highlighted the opinion that Indian education system neglects Children Literature. He also believed that print capitalism lives and dies but oral literature is immortal. The inaugural session was decorated with the recitation of poems by Ano Brahma, a Bodo poet who recited The Sands of Magnet, Music is nearing (in English translation) and Everlasting (in Bodo). Raksha Dave, a senior Gujarati poet, sung her poems like Kaun Khae Kaun Khele, He Din Din Bajata Hai in a very childish manner. Pratyush Guleri, a Hindi poet recited Yeh Mere Papa Ka Ghar Hai, Chandamama hame bulana, Hum the bhai chhote chhote. H.S. Byakod, a Kannada poet, recited Putta (in Kannada) and Bird and Sun (in English). Another poet from Konkani, Nayana Adarkar recited Ho Pakho (in Konkani), Maa Tumhare Bachpan Mein, Itwar, Adbhut Baaten (in Hindi). Sayyad Sallahuddin, a Marathi Poet from rural Maharashtra recited Hamare Gaon Mein Thi Ek Hira Rani, Aisa Din Aayega Kya



Bol Na Naani?, Ek Gaon Paani Ke Vaaste Chand Par Gaya. The session was summed up with vote of thanks by Renu Mohan Bhan, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi.

On 16.11.2015, the second day of the seminar, Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, welcomed the audience and participants and invited the chair and paper readers of the first session. This session was chaired by Anant Bhave, an eminent Marathi poet. Rotindranath Goswami from Assamese, Dinesh Chamola 'Shailesh' from Hindi, Palliyara Sreedharan from Malayalam and Mahavir Jondhale from Marathi presented their papers. Anant Bhave opined that writing children literature is not considered noble and constructive profession. Rotindranath Goswami proclaimed that the children literature was introduced to Assamese literature by translating the Arabian tales. Assamese magazines have played a vital role for development of children literature. He believed that there should be a continued process of translating the literature in different languages. If the child does not develop the reading habit the trend will be followed in the adult generation too in future. Dinesh Chamola through his paper said that a child is a foundation for creating a developed country. A writer should write in such a way that a child should feel his attendance in a book while reading. A literature should inspire a child to face the challenges of life. Palliyara Sreedharan while presenting his paper described 'negligence' as a biggest threat in Malayalam literature. The writer avoids the children writing as he does not get due recognition. The elders should give full attention towards a child. Some ideal biographies can be given to him at this stage so that such stories will help very much to build a very good character influenced by the life of those characters. Mahavir Jondhale stressed the need of developing reading habit in a child. A parent should decide the good reading stuff for a child. A child should be connected to the nature and animals. We should adopt the reading culture which in turn influences the children to adopt the same. Anant Bhave, the chair, recited a children poem in a very childlike manner to sum up the session. The second session was chaired by renowned Bengali scholar Amarendra Chakraborty. He observed that the parents and guide of a child is responsible for his habits and field of interest. Harikrishna Pathak, a Gujarati writer, while presenting his paper on challenges to children literature worried about growing influence of mobiles and televisions on children mind. An era was there when there were more books for children than for adults in Gujarati. The solution to develop the interest of literature in children is to conduct the poetry and short stories workshops for them, motivate them by giving prizes and rewards. The paper in Gujarati was followed by Manipuri which was presented by Gurumayum Bijoykumar Sharma. He said that writing for children is a rewarding field but hardly any writer shows interest and seriousness. Writing books for children demand skill, technical control and creativity of different level on the part of the writer. It should be comprehensible, entertaining and good enough to entice them. The writer should know the theme, plot and stories appropriate to the children of various stages. The major difficulty in writing for children in a state like Manipur is choosing the right subject matter which will draw their attention and solicit the emotional response of the young readers. Third session was poets meet chaired by Sitanshu Yashaschandra. The poets recited some of their children compositions. The participants includes Janak Dave (Gujarati), Jameer Ansari (Kashmiri), Kiran Mhambre (Konkani), Dnyanada Asolkar (Marathi), Kamaljeet Nilon (Punjabi), Deendayal Sharma (Rajasthani), Indermohan Singh (Sanskrit), Hundraj Balwani (Sindhi) and T. Vedanta Sury (Telugu). Krishna Kimbahune, proposed the vote of thanks and thanked the audience for passionately attending all the sessions.

## YUVA PURASKAR

November 18-20, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized its Yuva Puraskar and Young Writers' Festival at the Triveni Kala Sangam in New Delhi on November 18-20, 2015.



Winners of Yuva Puraskar with Sri Vishwas Patil, Chief Guest, President, Vice President and Secretary of Sahitya Akademi

In the Awards Presentation Ceremony, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the awardees, participants of the festival, dignitaries and media and briefly spoke about the value and importance of young people for a country. He highlighted that young people are the drivers of change in all the countries and India cannot be an exception. He stated that in the digital era in which we are living it is essential to guide the youth to read and introspect and encourage them in all the fields.

In his Presidential address, Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, congratulated the award winners and observed that young writers give hope that the future is in safe hands. He stated that the young inspire, awaken and help in bringing about change and freshness.

Sri Vishwas Patil was the chief guest of the ceremony and presented the awards. Dr Chandrashekhara Kambar, Vice President, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the concluding remarks and he traced his own life's journey as a writer and expressed hope that each one of young writers would charter an illustrious journey for themselves.

The winners of Yuva Puraskar are:

Mridul Haloi (Assamese)	Veera Rathod (Marathi)
Sudip Chakraborty (Bengali)	Sapan Pradhan (Nepali)
Leben Lal Mwashahary (Bodo)	Sujit Kumar Panda (Odia)
Sandeep 'Sufi' (Dogri)	Simran Dhaliwal (Punjabi)
Hansda Sowvendra Shekhar (English)	Ritupriya (Rajasthani)
Rajesh Vankar (Gujarati)	Rushiraj Jani (Sanskrit)
Indira Dangi (Hindi)	Suchira Hansda (Santali)
Mounesh Badiger (Kannda)	Manoj Chawla 'Tanha' (Sindhi)
Shrinisha Naik (Konkani)	S. Veerapandiyan (Tamil)
Narayan Jha (Maithili)	Pasunoori Ravinder (Telugu)
Aryambika (Malayalam)	Ameer Imam (Urdu)
Angom Sarita Devi (Manipuri)	



The Young Writers' Festival began with a session 'Why do I write?' The session was moderated by Ms. Humra Quraishi, well-known author and journalist. Four noted scholars, Raka Dasgupta (Bengali), Upasana Nrav (Hindi), Remya Sanjeev (Malayalam) and Nitin Rindhe (Marathi), participated in the discussion. Sri Kumar Anupam, Hindi editor of Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience. In her introductory address, Ms. Humra Quraishi observed that writing is a personal act, there is no particular formula on how to write and one tends to put down into writing what one's mind dwells upon most. She stated that what one writes also depends upon where one is and what one is going through. Raka Dasgupta observed that writing is essentially an intimate conversation with her own self and wondered whether her creations have their own mind. She dwelt upon her experiences to highlight such a possibility and stated that writing gives one the pleasure of communicating and connecting and felt that resonance of this type binds the writer and reader in a highly pleasurable and yet inextricable way. Upasana Nirav stated that whatever one observes, one writes and added that without a sense of discontent it may not be possible to write. She highlighted the possibility of recalling as a primary value of any written work and dwelt upon the potency of a work to touch the heart of a reader. She recited a poem of Vinod Kumar Shukla and also quoted Premchand to drive home her point. Remya Sanjeev stated that a writer writes to leave footprints and added that she exists through her writings. She quoted the four reasons given by George Orwell in his now famous essay, 'Why I write?' - 1. Sheer egoism—one wants to be remembered even after death, 2. Aesthetic enthusiasm—wanting to portray the beauty of the external world, 3. Desire to be remembered by posterity and 4. Political purpose—no writing is a-political. What we write what we don't write is political. Nitin Rindhe stated that he is a reader first and the writer next and added that reading is a form of writing. He elaborated that when we read a work of another person, we often feel our experiences, emotions and start to think on the lines of the creator. So, in a sense, according to him, reader and the writer are equal and a writer, after all, tries to explore the possibilities in the world around him or her. In her concluding remarks, Ms. Humra Quraishi stressed on the importance on writing and highlighted some of the tools which unleash one's emotions. She stated that parents and teachers should encourage every child to write and opined that diary writing can be introduced in schools, colleges and even in jails.

The second session of the Young Writers' Festival was devoted to story reading and was moderated by Rahul Saini. Noted fiction writers Sri Sunder Chand Thakur (Hindi) and Sri Shubhranshu Panda (Odia) read out their stories in the session. The session started with a brief discussion on whether the thought involved in the story or the language in which it is expressed is important. Sunder Chand Thakur read out his story "Manushya Kutta Nahin Hai" and Shubhranshu Panda presented his story, "Colonel Ki Maut." Both were well received by the audience.

The third session of the Young Writers' Festival was devoted to poetry recitation and was chaired by eminent poet Sri Arun Kamal. In the session nine young and noted poets recited their compositions. Buddheswar Boro recited his poems-translated from Bodo called, "Aye Mere Dil," Kuldeep Karia recited his Gujarati poems, Dr. Jyoti Chawla recited Hindi poems "Jhoot Bolti Ladkyaan" and "Samajhdaro Ki Duniya Mein Maa Moorkh Hoti Hai," Deep Narayan Vidyarthi recited Maithili poems "Stree Hai Ya Machine," "Main Kaun Hoon Tumhari," "Bhookh," "Pardes" etc., Basudeo Pulami recited Nepali poems "Pitaji Ka Chehra," and "Eklavya Ka mantra," Dr. Gursevak Lambi recited his Punjabi poems, Om Nagar recited his Rajasthani poems "Prem Ka Sahi Sahi Naap," "Apni-Apni Chintaayein," etc., Paramba Shri Yogmaya recited her Sanskrit poems, "Sneh Akhand or love is Infinite," "Sahishnuta or Tolerance," "Prithvi or I am the Earth" and Sunita Mohinani recited her Sindhi poems "Tanha" and "Ek Toofan Se."

In his concluding remarks, Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, observed that neither he nor his contemporary poets wrote such beautiful poems when they were young. He congratulated the young writers and poets for winning the Yuva Puraskar and thanked the public for their whole-hearted support.



## MEET THE AUTHOR

September 2, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a 'Meet the Author' programme featuring distinguished Odia writer, Dr Pratibha Ray at the Akademi premises in New Delhi on September 2, 2015. Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the guest writer and introduced her to the audience. In his introductory remarks he stated that "Dr Pratibha Ray is one of the outstanding creative writers of modern India. A humanist to the core, Dr Pratibha Ray has always put 'man' at the center of all her works. Perceptions may be different but her creative genius is beyond all comparisons and judgements." Dr Pratibha Ray thanked the Akademi for the opportunity and spoke briefly about her life, early works and influences on her writing. She elaborated at length about her popular works, awards she received in her long and illustrious career and about women being branded in different ways by different communities. She highlighted the common thread which runs through varied and diverse communities of India, the inherent inclusiveness of Indian culture and the writers' responsibility to imbibe and transmit such values. She stressed upon the factor of being motivated to write from within and concluded her speech saying "I write because I am alive." A brief interactive session followed her speech.

## KAVISANDHI

September 4, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a Kavisandhi programme in New Delhi featuring eminent Urdu poet Alam Kurshid on September 4, 2015. Dr Mushtaq Sadaf, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the poet and introduced him to the audience. Sri Alam Kurshid thanked the Akademi for the opportunity and presented his popular poems and ghazals. Most of his presentations focused on the changes sweeping the world in the recent past and their influences on the common man. Sri Alam Kurshid also spoke about the creative process and about writing poetry. Dr Chandra Bhan Khayal, Convener, Urdu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked about the purpose and objective of Kavisandhi platform. Urdu poetry lovers in large number attended the event.

## ASMITA

September 7, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized an Asmita programme in New Delhi featuring Prof. Pushpita Awasthi, noted Hindi writer and Ms. Amarjit Ghumman, well-known Punjabi writer on September 7, 2015. Prof Pushpita Awasthi recited her popular poems in Hindi and the poems focused on various issues faced by modern women in the world and the dreams of those women. Ms. Amarjit Ghumman, along with Sri K.G. Verma, recited Punjabi compositions. Like Prof Awasthi's poems, Ms. Ghumman's poems also focused on the status and issues of the women. Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, expressed his happiness over the rendering by Prof Pushpita Awasthi and Ms. Amarjit Ghumman and observed that their poetry is a complete poetry and added that their poetry is not merely a feminist poetry but a poetry that straddles other spheres as well.

## LITERARY FORUM

September 8, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized its Literary Forum with renowned Japanese-Hindi Scholar Tomio Mizokami. He presented his speech on the relevance of Drama in the teaching of Hindi. His presentation through the audio-visual medium was very engaging. He presented a case study of Osaka University from 1997 to 2007 where students learning Hindi also developed a theatre group and how various theatrical enactments helped them to speak Hindi faster and better. Tomio Mizokami, along with his Hindi theatre troupe travelled to 6 countries, 39 cities and gave 70 shows. He claimed that not only the students developed deep interest in Indian tradition and culture but their basic hesitation in speaking in Hindi also got over.

## MULTILINGUAL POETS' MEET

September 9-10, 2015, Srinagar

Sahitya Akademi organized a two-day multilingual poets' meet at Markaz-i-Noor, Centre for Sheikhul Alam Studies of Kashmir University in Srinagar on September 9-10, 2015. In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi,



welcomed the participants, dignitaries and audience and spoke briefly about the importance and relevance of multilingual writers' and poets' meets. In his address, the chief guest, Prof. Khurshid Iqbal Andrabi, Vice Chancellor, Kashmir University, highlighted the role of languages in the development of personality at the individual as well as at the collective level. He also threw light on the richness of Kashmiri language and literature with reference to its Sufi tradition. In his inaugural address, Prof. Rahman Rahi, Fellow, Sahitya Akademi, stated that he was happy to be a part of such functions. In his address he appreciated the efforts of K Sreenivasarao, the Secretary, Sahitya Akademi and the Convener, Kashmiri Advisory Board, Prof. Mohammad Zaman Azurdah, in holding such a multilingual poets meet in the valley of Kashmir, that has cradled a large number of saints, rishis, poets, and intellectuals in its lap. He also stressed the need of holding more and more events to bring the literatures of different languages together. Prof Mohammad Zaman Azurdah presided over the session.

The first session was chaired by Prof. Chandra Bhan Khayal and four noted poets, Sri Ashok Ambar(Dogri), Sri Bashar Basheer (Kashmiri), Sri Madhav Kaushik (Hindi) and Sri Sheen Kaaf Nizam (Urdu) recited their compositions. The second session was chaired by Prof Rawail Singh, Convener, Punjabi Advisory Board and in the session, three noted poets, Mohammad Ahsan Ahsan (Kashmiri); Bhagirathi Nanda (Sanskrit) and Khushbir Singh "Shaad" (Urdu) recited their poems. While summing up the session, Prof Rawail Singh also presented some of his poems that highlighted the problems of migration of families from smaller place to urban spaces constantly. The third session of the symposium was chaired by Prof Lalit Mangotra, Convener, Dogri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi and in the session four noted poets Prakash Premi (Dogri), Akhtar Mansoor (Kashmiri), Om Prakash Pandey (Sanskrit) and Maher Mansoor (Urdu), recited their compositions. Summing up the session, Prof Lalit Mangotra appreciated the genuine efforts put in by the participant poets and hoped that these people will stand to gain from participating in such multilingual poetry meets. Prof Arjun Deo Charan, Convener, Rajasthani Advisory Board chaired the fourth session and in the session four noted poets, T. P. Sabitha (English), G .N. Khayal (Kashmiri), J. R. Josh (Kashmiri) and Ravindra Singh (Punjabi), recited their compositions. Prof K. Satchidanandan, Convener, English Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the fifth session and in the session three noted poets, Manas Bhattarcharjee (English), Ali Shaida (Kashmiri), and Shyam Maharshi (Rajasthani), recited their poems. Prof Mohammad

Zaman Azurdah, while concluding the poets' meet, thanked the Akademi for organizing the meet in Kashmir and the participants and dignitaries who made the meet a huge success. Ms. Gitanjali Chatterjeet, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

## KAVISANDHI

September 13, 2015, Allahabad

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with the Mithila Sanskritik Sangam, Allahabad organized a 'Kavisandhi' programme on September 13, 2015 at Allahabad. Distinguished poet Harishchandra 'Harit' recited his poems at the event. A teacher by profession, he has published two poetry collections so far. His poems reflected the dreams and aspirations, hopes and struggles of the people of Mithilanchal.

## SEMINAR ON MAITHILI LITERATURE AND PUNARJAGARAN

September 13-14, 2015, Allahabad

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in collaboration with the Mithila Sanskriti Sangam, Allahabad, organized a two-day seminar on 13-14 September 2015 at Allahabad. The seminar was inaugurated by the chancellor of Banaras Hindu University, Professor Girishchandra Tripathi. In his address he emphasized on the richness and antiquity of the Maithili language and the immense literary heritage. In the keynote address, eminent Maithili scholar Prof. Vasukinath Jha talked about the importance and relevance of Maithili Language and literature in changing times. Dharnidhar Jha, the head of Mithila Sanskriti Parishad emphasized on the role of regional languages apart from the role of the mother tongue. The seminar was divided into 4 sessions each, which was presided by Shri Ramanand Jha 'Raman' Dr. Prabhash Kumar Jha, Dr. Yoganand Jha and Dr. Umaraman Jha. Among those who presented papers were Amalendushekhar Pathak, Pankaj Parashar, Panchanan Mishra, Navin Choudhary and others. The vote of thanks was given by Dr. Bina Thakur, Convener, Maithili Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi.

## HINDI WEEK CELEBRATIONS

September 14-21, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized the Hindi week celebrations in the Head Office from September 14-21. The Chief Guest for the function was Shri Vimlesh Kanti Verma. The Secretary, Dr. K.Sreenivasarao, in his opening address to the gathering stressed that Hindi language binds us into a unified whole. He emphasized that more and more official work should be done in Hindi. Shri Brajendra Tripathi, Deputy Secretary, said that one and all should take a firm resolve to carry out work in Hindi. The chief guest for the event Prof. Vimlesh Kanti Verma said that Indians should come out of their colonial mindsets and feel proud of speaking Hindi. We need to change our mindsets and respect Hindi a lot more than we currently do, he said. We should increase the usage of Hindi into the fields of education and law courts. The Home Minister, Sri Rajnath Singh's message on this occasion, was read out by Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty and Smt. Renu Mohan Bhan Deputy Secretary of Sahitya Akademi proposed a vote of thanks. The week long celebrations included various competitions, workshops, Ghazal Path under Rajbhasha Manch, Essay writing competitions and translation competitions. The winner of these various competitions were given certificates and cash prizes by Dr Vishwanath.Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, Rajbhasha Secretary Shri Girish Shankar, Shri Ved Prakash Gaur, Director, Raj Bhasha at the Ministry of Culture and Dr. K.Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi.

## HINDI GHAZAL PATH

September 17, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi organized a Hindi Ghazal Path Programme featuring four well-known Ghazal writers, Rajendra Tiwari, Acharya Sarathi 'Roomi', Nityanand Tushar and Gautam Rajrishi on September 17, 2015 at New Delhi. The event was held under the platform, 'Rajbhasha Manch.'The Ghazals covered a vast canvas from romance to social concerns to soldiers at the frontier. Ghazals were well received by the audience.

## SEMINAR ON KATHEY TAR GADHYA-LITERATURE

September 18-19, 2015, Udaipur

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with the Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur organized a two-day Seminar on Kathetan Gadhya – literature beyond the story and the Novel on 18th and 19th September 2015 in Udaipur. The chief guest for the seminar was the President of the Sahitya Akademi, Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari. The introductory speech was given by the Convener of the Hindi Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi, Dr Surya Prasad Dixit. Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari said that without imagination, nothing creative can take birth. Research also shows that readers prefer non-fiction to fiction. Diary-writing, interviews, Epistolary literature are all very much read and appreciated. Participants in the seminar included Satish Jaiswal, Gajendra Patel, Govind Mishra, Ramashankar Dwivedi Bharti Gorey, Krishna Kumar Sharma and Madhav Hada.

## SYMPOSIUM ON CONSCIOUSNESS IN DOGRI LITERATURE

September 19, 2015, Palampur

Sahitya Akademi organized a Symposium on Consciousness in Dogri Literature at D.A.V. Girls' college, Palampur. Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, in his welcome address elaborated that one of the responsibilities of the Akademi is to make good literature available to people, even in the far-flung corners of the country. Renowned Dogri-Hindi writer Dr. Pratyush Guleri presided over the session while the keynote address was delivered by Prof. Lalit Mangotra, Convener, Dogri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. In the programme, papers were presented on Dogri Poems and Dogri Novels by Dr. Bansilal and Dr. Nirmal Vinod respectively. The principal of the K.C.B.D.A.V Girls' College, Dr. N.D. Sharma proposed a vote of thanks.

## MEET THE AUTHOR

September 19, 2015, Palampur

Sahitya Akademi organized the 'Meet the Author' programme on 19th September 2015, at D.A.V. Girl's College, Palampur, Himachal Pradesh with eminent Dogri Poet and Writer Piyush Guleri. He recounted events from his literary journey and his inspirations. He then read out from his poems. At the end of the session, he was asked questions by the literature loving audience.

## SEMINAR ON IMPLEMENTATION OF OFFICIAL LANGUAGE: CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

September 21, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a seminar on 'Implementation of official language: challenges and solutions' at New Delhi on September 21, 2015. In the inaugural session Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience. Sri Ved Prakash Gaur, Rajbhasha Director, Ministry of Culture delivered the inaugural address. Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari chaired the session. Sri Girish Shankar, Secretary, Rajbhasha section, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India also attended the proceedings. The first session was chaired by Prof. Kesarilal Verma, Director, Kendriya Hindi Nideshalaya. Participants included Dr. Jaiprakash Kardam, Director Central Hindi Training Institute and the Editor, Lalit Kala Akademi and well-known critic Dr. Jyotish Joshi. The second session was chaired by Shri Ganga Prasad Vimal. Participants included Dr. A. Arvindakshan, Dr. Rita Rani Paliwali and Dr. Chandam Ingo Singh who presented a report on Rajbhasha in South India, North India and North-East India respectively.

## SEMINAR ON MEDIEVAL RAJASTHANI LITERATURE

September 22-23, 2015, Jodhpur

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi in association with Rammat, organized a two-day seminar on 'Medieval Rajasthani Literature' at the Town Hall Art Gallery in Jodhpur on September 22-23, 2015. In the inaugural session, Dr Arjun Deo Charan, Convener, Rajasthani Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his introductory

address, stressed upon the necessity for the young scholars to first acquaint themselves with the millennium old traditions of Rajasthan. Dr Dev Kothari, who was the Chief Guest, talked about variety of medieval literary productions of Rajasthan and alluded to millennium old dohas and other materials of that period. In his keynote address, Dr Chandraprakash Deval observed that Rajasthan has been in the forefront so far as preservation is concerned and it is time for the concerned to highlight this achievement. The first session was chaired by Dr. Gajesingh Rajpurohit and papers were presented by Dr. Gajadaan Charan, Syam Sunder Bharti and Meenakshi Borana. The second session was chaired by Dr. Kundan Mali and the papers were presented by Dr. Rajendra Baarhat, Dr. Jagdish Giri and Dr. Prakash Amravat. The third session was chaired by Dr. Narpatsingh Sodha and papers were presented by Dr. Gajsingh Rajpurohit, Girdhardaan Ratna, Rajendar Kumar Vyas. The fourth session was chaired by Dr. Mangat Badal and poet Dr. Idan Singh Bhati presented several illustrations of the revival of Dingal poetry. Dr. Dhananjay Amravat presented a paper on the religious proclivity of medieval chaarans and participants included Sheen Kaaf Nizam, Zahoor Khan, Sohandaan Charan and Farooq Afridi. The valedictory session was chaired by Dr. Kiran Nahta.

## SYMPOSIUM ON NEPALI LYRICAL POETRY

September 24, 2015, Geyzing

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in collaboration with Paschim Sikkim Sahitya Prakashan, organized a symposium on Nepali lyrical poetry on September 24, 2015 at Geyzing.

The inaugural session was chaired by Shri Pradyumya Shreshtha Member, Nepali Advisory Board Sahitya Akademi and the key note address was delivered by Sri Thiru Prasad Nepal, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi. He traced the journey of Nepalese poetry and found it to be rich in expressions. He said poetry adds meaning to life. The symposium was presided over by Shri Bhupendra Adhikari. Participants include Shri Sachan Rai, Shri Vijay Kumar Subba and Sri Kamal Regmi.



## MEET THE AUTHOR

September 24, 2015, Geyzing

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with the Paschim Sikkim Sahitya Prakashan, organized a Meet the Author programme featuring Kedar Gurung, eminent Nepali poet and writer at Geyzing on September 24, 2015. Shri Prem Pradhan, Convener, Nepali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi gave a brief speech about Shri Gurung's literary journey and his immense contribution to Nepali literature by way of his books of poetry, stories etc. He has been awarded the Padmashri for his contribution to literature. Sri Gurung spoke about his early life, his works and influences on his career. A brief interactive session followed the speech.

## NEPALI RACHNA PATH

September 24, 2015, Geyzing

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with the Pashchim Sikkim Sahitya Prakashan, organized a Nepali Rachna Path programme on September 24, 2015 at Geyzing. This programme was presided by eminent Nepali writer Shri Gopichand Pradhan and eight poets participated in the proceedings which included Smt. Rikki Chamu Lepcha, Smt. Poorva Khandu Gurung, Shri Santosh Ale, Shri Govardhan Bastola, Shri U. Basnet, Shri Ch. Rai, Shri Sherman Subbe and Shri Laxmi Prasad Gurung. The poems reflected eternal human values as well as impact of modern lifestyle on Nepalese way of living.

## SYMPOSIUM ON FOLK-TALES OF RAJSTHAN

September 25, 2015, Shridungargarh

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with the Rashtrabhasha Hindi Prachar Samiti, Shridungargarh organized a Symposium on Rajasthani Folktales in the Sanskriti Bhawan auditorium, Shridungargarh on September 25, 2015. Chief Guest for the event was Dr. Sohandaan Charan while speakers included Prithviraj Ratnu, Dr. Bhawar Singh Samaur, Rameshwar Godara and others.

## SYMPOSIUM ON NEPALI DRAMA

September 26, 2015, Kalimpong

A symposium on Nepali Drama was organized by Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with Nepali Sahitya Adhyayan Samiti, Kalimpong, on September 26, 2015. In his keynote address, Sri Prem Pradhan said that Nepali drama should be given the true importance it deserves. The symposium was presided over by senior Nepali playwright Sri Nand Hangkim. Papers were presented by Sri Mukti Prasad Upadhyaya, Dr. Krishnaraj Ghatani and Dr. Mamta Lama.

## THROUGH MY WINDOW

September 26, 2015, Kalimpong

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with Nepali Sahitya Adhyayan Samiti, organized a Through My Window programme with Yuvaraj Kafley, a well-known Nepali critic, who spoke on Daan Kaling, eminent Nepali poet, on September 26, 2015 at Kalimpong. Yuvaraj Kafley threw light on the simple person of Daan Kalin and said that his poems are nature-oriented and oriented towards the betterment of man.

## KATHASANDHI

September 26, 2015, Kalimpong

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with Nepali Sahitya Adhyayan Samiti, organized a Katha Sandhi programme with Solon Karthak, eminent Nepali fiction writer, on September 26, 2015 at Kalimpong. Sri Solon Karthak read out a story and a travelogue in the session. His stories had a powerful depiction of life near the sea shores.

## NARI CHETNA

September 26, 2015, Bikaner

Sahitya Akademi, in association with the Shabd Shri Sahitya Sanstha, Bikaner, organized a 'Nari Chetna' programme featuring poetry recitation by four women poets on September 26, 2015 in Bikaner. Participating poets included Smt. Saman Kissan, Smt. Santosh Mayamohan, Smt. Monika Gaur and Smt. Ritupriya. The poets presented sensitive portrayals of various phases of women's life in their poems.



Inaugural session of the symposium in progress

## SYMPOSIUM ON URDU SHAIRI IN TAMIL NADU

September 27, 2015, Chennai

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi organized a Symposium on 'Urdu Shairi in Tamil Nadu' at New College, Chennai on September 27, 2015. In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi to promote Urdu literature in several parts of the country. Sri Chandra Bhan Khayal chaired the session. Sri Musa Raja inaugurated the symposium and evinced optimism about the future of Urdu poetry in Tamil Nadu. Well-known scholar Dr Sayeed Sajjad Hussain delivered the keynote address and presented a historical overview of Urdu poetry in Tamil Nadu. Sri Mushtaq Sadaf, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks. First session of the symposium was chaired by Shri. Musa Raja and in the session two well-known scholars Dr. K.H.Kalimullah and Dr. M.Sauduhin presented their papers. Second session was chaired by Dr.Kazi Habib Ahmad. In this session, three well-known scholars, DrM.B.Amanullah, Dr. Thaiyab Kiradi and Dr. Muzaffaruddin presented their papers.

## SYMPOSIUM ON POST INDEPENDENCE TRENDS IN NEPALI LITERATURE

September 27, 2015, Siliguri

Sahitya Akademi, organized a symposium on Post Independence trends in Nepali literature, in collaboration with Nandi Tiwari Smriti Pratishthan, on September 27, 2015 at Siliguri. It was presided over by eminent Nepali writer. Dr. Jas Yonjan 'Pyasi'. Participants included Shri Naresh Chandra Khetri, Shri Jai Kyakath, Sri Tejman Baraiyali and Sri Megnath Chettri.

## MEET THE AUTHOR

September 27, 2015, Siliguri

Sahitya Akademi, in association with Nandi Tiwari Smriti Pratishthan, organized a 'Meet the Author' on September 27, 2015 at Siliguri featuring eminent Nepali fiction writer, Dr Samiran Chhetri 'Priyadarshi'. Dr. 'Priyadarshi' has published 6 short-story collections, 2 novels, one play and one historical book. He was at the forefront of Nepali journalism. His literary works reflect a satirical take on the various societal events and occurrences.

## KAVISANDHI

September 27, 2015, Siliguri

Sahitya Akademi, in association with Nandi Tiwari Smriti Pratishthan, organized a Kavisandhi programme with Vishnu Sharma Adhikari, eminent Nepali Poet, on 27 September 2015 at Siliguri. Sri Adhikari recited his poems, reflecting his vast experience of life.

## SYMPOSIUM ON MODERN RAJASTHANI STORY

September 27, 2015, Bikaner

Sahitya Akademi, in association with Mukti Sanstha, Bikaner organized a symposium on Modern Rajasthani Story on September 27, 2015. Speakers on the occasion included Dr. Arjun Dev Charan, Chief Guest Bhanwarlal Bhramar, Mohd. Alok, Ramswarup Kisan, Madhu Acharya Ashawadi. Vote of thanks was given by veteran theatre artist Suresh Hindustani. Participants included Hiralal Harsh, Sardar ali Cadihar, Atmaram Bhati, Shamim Bikaneri and others.

## THROUGH MY WINDOW

September 28, 2015, Srinagar

Sahitya Akademi New Delhi, in association with the Akademi of Art, Culture and Languages, Jammu and Kashmir, organized a 'Through My Window' programme with Farooq Nazki and Syed Iftikhar Ahmad on September 28, at Seminar Hall, Akademi of Art, Srinagar in which Farooq Nazki spoke on the life and works of Fazil Kashmiri, and Syed Iftikhar



Ahmad talked about the life and works of Ghulam Rasool Nazki. Prof. Mohd. Zaman Azurdah, Convener, Kashmiri Advisory Board, welcomed the both speakers and presented a brief introduction of literary activities of the Akademi especially in Kashmir. Besides Secretary, Akademi of Art & Culture Dr. Aziz Hajini, Ayaz Rasool Nazki, Syed Shujaat Bukhari, Mishal Sultanpuri, Bilal Nazki, Taskeen Fazli, Inayat Gul and other dignitaries were present in the programme.

## SEMINAR ON INDIAN LITERARY HISTORIOGRAPHY

September 28-29, 2015, Tirupati

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with the Department of English, S.V. University, organized a two day national seminar on Indian Literary Historiography at the University premises in Tirupati on September 28-29, 2015. In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants, dignitaries and audience and spoke briefly about the importance of the seminar. In his introductory address, Prof Harish Trivedi talked about various attempts at historiography and traced the reasons for their failure. Prof K. Rajagopal, Vice Chancellor of the University, thanked the Akademi for choosing S.V. University to organize a prestigious seminar like this. In his keynote address, Prof Indra Nath Choudhuri, eminent scholar, presented a historical overview of literary historiography in India. Prof K. Satchidanandan unveiled the theme of the seminar. Prof Madhurantakam Narendra proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was chaired by Prof K. Satchidanandan and compered by Prof P. Kusuma Harinath, three noted scholars, Prof E.V. Ramakrishnan, Prof P.P. Raveendran and Prof Ipshita Chanda, presented their papers highlighting overview of literary historiography in South India, Malayalam literary historiography and overview of Eastern Indian literary historiography, respectively. In the second session that was compered by Prof K. Suma Kiran

and chaired by Prof M.A.K. Sukumar, three noted scholars, Prof Gopal Guru, Prof Avadhesh Kumar Singh and Prof Jatindra K. Nayak presented their papers featuring polemics of literary historiography, evolution of Hindi literary historiography and Odia literary historiography, respectively. In the third session chaired by Prof G.M. Sundaravalli, four well-known scholars, Prof Malashri Lal, Prof Arindam Chakrabarti, Prof Madhurantakam Narendra and Sri Tirupati Rao, presented their papers on English literary historiography, Sanskrit literary historiography and Telugu literary historiography respectively. In the fourth session that was compered by Prof T. Sarada and chaired by Prof E.V. Ramakrishnan, three noted scholars, Sri Lalit Kumar, Ms. Prachi Khandeparkar and Sri Hemant Dave, presented their papers on literary historiography in Maithili, Marathi and Gujarati, respectively. In the fifth session that was compered by Prof P. Usha Rani and chaired by Prof Malashri Lal, three well-known scholars, Dr Esther Syiem, Prof H.S. Shivaprakash and Sri Judhajit Sarkar, presented their papers about literary historiography in North-Eastern languages, Kannada and Bengali, respectively. The valedictory session was moderated by Prof Harish Trivedi. Prof M. Devarajulu, Registrar of the University was the Guest of Honor. A panel discussion featuring Prof K. Satchidanandan, Prof Malashri Lal, Prof Ipshita Chanda and Prof E.V. Ramakrishnan took place analyzing and summing up the proceedings of the seminar. Ms. Gitanjali Chatterjee, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.



Prof Indra Nath Choudhuri delivering keynote address



## LITERARY FORUM

September 29, 2015, New Delhi

A Literary forum programme was organized by the Sahitya Akademi with the Hungarian poet and fiction writer Gabor Lannczkor on 29 September at New Delhi. Sri Pannir Selvan, Asst Editor, Sahitya Akademi introduced Gabor Lannczkor to the audience. In his talk Gabor Lannczkor spoke about Hungarian literature and the recent trends in their writings. He said poetry writing in Hungarian Literature has a long tradition but the present writers face acute problem such as lack of financial support from the government in publishing their works. He also read out some of his poems including his English translation of "Geet Gobindha." A lively discussion followed.

## MALAYALAM-RAJASTHANI TRANSLATION WORKSHOP

October 2-6, 2015, Trivandrum

Sahitya Akademi organized a five day Malayalam-Rajasthani Translation Workshop in Trivandrum from 2nd to 6th of October 2015. Sri.N.V.Purushotham, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru, welcomed the Translators, the Director of the workshop Prof. Arjun Deo Charan, Convenor of Rajasthan Advisory Board and Prof. Thankamani Amma, -Resource Person cum Co-ordinator. Prof. Arjun Dev Charan said that Malayalam Short Stories have a very specific reputation among 24 Indian Languages of literature, it is a big task to translate them into a distant language like Rajasthan (almost like North-South pole languages). 15 short stories from great Malayalam writers like Kamala Das, Sri. Vaikom Mohammed Basheer, Sri. M. T. Vasudevan Nair, Balamani Amma etc., were selected for the workshop. He said that the corpus of works selected for the project represent milestones in Malayalam Literature in the last 100 years. In Rajasthani, English and Hindi Translations of Malayalam Literature are quite popular in the literary circles, but they are not read by the masses. This Translation workshop selected master pieces of Malayalam collection will hopefully open up the world of Malayalam literature to Rajasthani readers he said. Prof. Thankamani Amma, Resource Person cum Coordinator (Local) said that 'Translations done by

eminent authors are a rarity, especially within regional languages. The collections will be a noteworthy addition to the translation scene in India. The group of Rajasthani writers (associated to Sahitya Akademi) promised to bring out this into a book form at the earliest to reach individual Rajasthani literary persons to enjoy the originality of Malayalam literature.

## LITERARY FORUM

October 6, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a poetry recitation session with popular Hindi poets Arun Aditya and Chandrabhushan. Both the poets recited 10 poems each. The poems had varied themes and interesting titles like – Ek phool ka bio-data, Gaon mein Sapne etc. Since both the poets are journalists as well, the contexts of many of their poems had to do with small and big societal issues. A brief interactive session followed the recitations. The event was coordinated by Sri Brajendra Tripathi, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi.

## SYMPOSIUM ON NAVAN PUNJABI NOVEL

October 9, 2015, Moga

A symposium on 'Navan Punjabi Novel' was organized by Sahitya Akademi on 9th October 2015 at Jagat Sewak Khalsa College for Women, Mahina, Moga. Dr. Surinder Kumar Daweshwar, Punjab University, Chandigarh chaired the programme and Harsimran Singh Randhava, Kurukshetra University, Haryana was the guest of honour. Papers were presented by Surjit Singh, Surjit Barar and Raman Sharma. Baldev Singh Sadaknama, Punjabi Advisory Board Member of Sahitya Akademi welcomed and convened the programme on behalf of Sahitya Akademi.

On September 15, 2015, Sahitya Akademi organized interaction programme between Delhi based writers and writers from Fiji, Surinam and New Zealand in New Delhi



## SEMINAR ON BEYOND THE WRITTEN: CONFLUENCE OF AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS

October 9-10, 2015, Gangtok

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi organized a seminar on Confluence of Authors and Publishers featuring eminent authors, publishers and media personalities on October 9-10, 2015 at Tara Palace in Gangtok.

In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke about the background in which the Seminar is taking place – emergence of digital publishing, mobile publishing etc and challenges they pose, especially for vernacular publishing. In his introductory remarks, Sri Arun Maheswari, Member, General Council, talked about the problems and challenges that publishers in India face from digital publishing and enumerated the details. He also highlighted the problem of sales that all the publishers face and the underlying reason of declining readership across the country, especially among the youth of the country. In his Presidential address, Dr Baldeo Bhai Sharma, Chairman, National Book Trust India, applauded Sahitya Akademi for taking initiative to bring together publishers and authors in this hour of crisis and also for agreeing to host more conferences in future across India. He talked about despite rapid advances of digital technology and modern innovative tools for reading and writing, the traditional printed books hold several advantages and urged the publishers, organizations like Sahitya Akademi, departments of Ministries in the government of India to take more initiatives to inculcate healthy reading habits in the children and youth of the country instead of telling all the time that reading habit has declined in the country. He agreed with Dr Sreenivasarao in that writing and publishing fraternity should seriously deliberate on Richard Dawkins' assertion that science should also be treated as part of literature. He hoped this effort by Sahitya Akademi will bear wonderful fruits. In his speech, Sri Leeladhar Jagoori, eminent Hindi writer who was also the Guest of Honour of Seminar, talked about the necessity of publishers to be more helpful to the writing community in the process of production, monetarily and in all other ways. This is essential since



Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, delivering the welcome address

print or digital are ways of production and at all costs writers' interests should be protected, preserved and promoted. Ms. Gitanjali Chatterjee, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was devoted to 'Initial Phase of Publishing in Indian Languages' and chaired by Sri Arunesh Neeran, three noted editors and publishers, Sri Harsha Datta, Sri Deepchand Sankhla and Sri Ramgopal Sharma, presented their papers focusing on 'the history of book publishing in Bengal,' 'the history of book publishing in the Hindi speaking world' and 'the history of book publishing in India and impact it made on the country' respectively. In the second session that was devoted to 'Publishing in Indian Languages in 21st century: Challenges and New Directions' and chaired by Sri Prakash Dubey, two noted editors and publishers, Ms. Neeta Gupta and Sri A. Krishna Rao, talked about the publishers' point of view and the writers' perspectives on the issue and challenges before the writers, respectively. In the third session that was devoted to 'Challenges in Promoting Book Culture and Role of Media' and chaired by Sri Prakash Dubey, two media personalities, Sri Rajeev Ranjan Nag and Sri Anant Vijay, presented their papers. Sri Rajeev Ranjan Nag focused on 'Digital Media's Role in Promoting Book Culture in India' and highlighted the needs and challenges in this regard. He also talked about the influence and impact of newer technologies in reading habits, especially among youth in the country and Media's role in promoting good literature. Sri Anant Vijay, in a powerful speech, listed out the problems and challenges in the writing community, problems faced by the media houses in devoting spaces for literary events of literary organizations and literary



communities' unwillingness to embrace and adopt new technologies. A brief interactive session followed the presentations. Dr K. Sreenivasarao summed up the day's proceedings and proposed a vote of thanks. Ms. Gitanjali Chatterjee, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi initiated the proceedings of the second day and welcomed and introduced the participants of two sessions of the day. In the fourth session devoted to 'Relation between publisher and writers: Problem of copyright' and chaired by Prof Shafey Kidwai, three noted scholars, Prof Arun Kamal, Sri Arun Jakhade and Sri Akhilesh presented their papers. Prof Kidwai outlined the changing relationship between writers and publishers and also between writers and readers. Prof Kidwai highlighted challenges before the authors and publishers and especially that of copyright. He said copyright act has fixed period of copyright but e-books are forever and wondered if that means copyright is forever. Prof Arun Kamal, in his speech highlighted the issues of copyright, royalty in the publishing sector in Indian languages. He said interests of the writers and monetary benefits they deserve should be protected and promoted. He observed that like in England and other countries writers' forum or trust or association should be created in India and institutions like Sahitya Akademi should come forward to fulfil this. Prof Arun Kamal said good relationship between authors and publishers is essential for welfare of writers of all genres and ensuring production of quality books. Sri Arun Jakhade, in his speech outlined number of ways to improve the relationship between authors and publishers and observed that publishers should be considerate towards authors when it comes to the issues like copyright and royalty. He also highlighted the changing nature of commercial interests of the writers and this is akin to the role reversal and is a worrying trend. He highlighted publishers' perspective

of copyright issue. Sri Akhilesh, in his speech highlighted the problems faced by the writers at the hands of publishers. A brief but lively interactive session followed the presentations. In the fifth and final session of the seminar devoted to 'New Dimensions of Publishing: E-Books and Social Media' and chaired by Sri Maalan, three noted scholars, Sri Suresh Rituparna, Ms. Devapriya Roy and Sri Thiru Prasad Nepali, presented their papers. Sri Maalan, in his speech outlined the advantages and disadvantages of the electronic publishing and observed that print books will hold their space in publishing world. Sri Maalan highlighted that print and electronic versions are ways of production and what holds key is quality content. Sri Suresh Rituparna, in his speech observed that tensions between authors and publishers will always exist and harmonious relationship will ensure quality productions. Sri Suresh Rituparna stated that even technology is changing and despite all the benefits and advantages that technology provides to publishing, it is too premature to call for the demise of print books. He said however technology has changed the perspectives of publishing and it will be prudent for both publishers and authors use it effectively. Sri Suresh Rituparna highlighted man is the center and important and all technology is there to serve humanity and not the other way around and it is important humans use technology effectively for betterment of humanity. Ms. Devapriya Roy, in her speech talked about the adaptability by authors and publishers to newer technologies. She illustrated how technology and social media helped in her writing her own work – something that is a physical, print book. She talked about many advantages that social media and e-books provide to authors, readers and publishers in India. Sri Thiru Prasad Nepal, in his speech observed that it is print books that are real and not the digitally produced books as the latter can never give the experience of reading a book. He highlighted both in the print publishing and digital publishing the relationship between authors and publishers have been smooth in the world of Indian-Nepali Writing. Sri Thiru Prasad talked about social media as a social instrument is only capable of reflecting the society and reality and reminded writers the quality of a book does not lie in the print or digital production but in the writer. A brief and lively interactive session followed the presentations. Ms. Gitanjali Chatterjee proposed a vote of thanks.



Ms. Devapriya Roy presenting a paper in the final session



## KAVISANDHI

October 10, 2015, Jammu

Sahitya Akademi organized a Kavisandhi programme with renowned Dogri poet and Sahitya Akademi Awardee Sri Mohan Singh on October 10, 2015 at Jammu in collaboration with Dogri Sanstha, Jammu. Sri Mohan Singh who is known for his revolutionary poetry, recited his selected poems, Ghazals and tappe. He impressed everyone for the sheer intensity of emotion and poetic fervor. He also shared his writing process with the audience. Earlier welcoming the audience Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, elaborated the Kavisandhi programme, which provides platform to established poets in various languages of the country. Prof. Lalit Magotra introduced the poet in brief informed about the contribution of the poet to Dogri language and literature.

## SEMINAR ON HUMOUR AND SATIRE IN DOGRI LITERATURE

October 10-11, 2015, Jammu

A two-day literary seminar jointly organized by Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi and Dogri Sanstha, Jammu on the topic 'humour and satire in Dogri literature.' The seminar was inaugurated by Prof. Ashok Aima, Vice Chancellor, Central University, Jammu at KL Sehgal Hall, Jammu in the presence of august gathering of writers, poets critics and intellectuals. Congratulating the organizers for this first ever seminar on such an important topic, Prof. Aima said that it was obligatory on the part of CUJ to work for the promotion of one of the major languages of the Region. Amidst the thunderous applaud he disclosed that a Dogri Research Centre will soon come up in the University to fulfill this responsibility. The inaugural session of the seminar started with welcome address by Dr. Devindra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, who presented a resume of literary activities undertaken by the Akademi to promote 24 Indian languages and bring literature to the reach of people speaking different

languages. Prof. Lalit Magotra, Convener, Dogri Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi introduced the subject of the seminar and gave an introduction of the papers to be presented. Dr Veena Gupta, former HoD, Dogri Department, University of Jammu, read the key note address highlighting the prevalence of humour and satire in both folk as well as written literature of Dogri. The inaugural session was presided over by Sri Chhatrapal, President, Dogri Sanstha and conducted by Dr. Nirmal Vinod, General Secretary of Dogri Sanstha. Two paper reading sessions were held on first day of the seminar. First session was presided over by Prof. Champa Sharma. Three papers were presented in the session on poetry by Sri Prakash Premi, Sri Surjit Hosh and Dr. Bansi Lal. In the second session Sri Susheel Begana and Sri Sunil Sharma read their papers on Dogri Ghazal and Dogri essay. The third paper of Dr. Rajesh Manhas was presented by Dr. Lalit Magotra in his absence. Lively discussion and interaction was held on each paper. This session was presided over by eminent poet and intellectual Dhyana Singh. Second day, first session was presided over by renowned poet and Sahitya Akademi awardee Sri Darshan Darshi. Eminent story writer Sri Shiv Mehta read out his paper on the element of humour and satire in Dogri short story quoting various examples from the stories of eminent writers. His style of presentation was much appreciated by the audience. The second significant paper was presented by Dr. Chanchal Bhasin based on her study on Dogri novels. She identified element of satire and humour in Dogri novels and supported her paper with appropriate references. Both the papers were followed by lively discussion. Second session was chaired by a well-known litterateur Sri N.D. Jamwal. Three papers were presented by Sri Sandeep Dubey, Sri Raj Kumar Bahrupia and Dr. Rattan Basotra on Kundaliyaan, Dogri plays and one act plays respectively. Prof. Lalit Magotra, convener, Dogri Advisory Board, proposed the vote of thanks at the end of seminar.

Between October 14 and October 18, 2015, Sahitya Akademi organized literary events during the Frankfurt International Book Fair in Frankfurt featuring two-member Akademi writer delegation



## AVISHKAR

October 11, 2015, Jammu

Avishkar musical presentation of Dinubhai Pant's Dogri poetry by Brij Mohan and his group, in collaboration with Dogri Sanstha, Jammu, 11 October 2015 at Jammu (J & K)

A scintillating musical program 'Aavishkar' was organized by Sahitya Akademy in collaboration with Dogri Sanstha Jammu at KL Sehgal Hall at Jammu on 11th Oct 2015 in which eternal poetry of doyen of Dogri poetry late Dinu Bhai Pant was presented by prominent artists of Jammu. The poetry of late Pant ji was composed by noted music director Brij Mohan. Suresh Chouhan presented the popular song of Pant ji 'mere desa da shalaipa meri akkhin kanne dikkh' in his melodious voice. Vanshika Jaral sang two composition 'nikke nyaanio motiyen de daaneo' and banne par jaa bhaaiya, andar nib oh'. Sonali Dogra who gave voice to two poems of late poet 'eh kun maau da laal seeten mari geya' and 'uth madeya desa hun lo hoi gayee' was applauded by the audience for her performance. Famous poem 'tuyen ji jaalma as door chale' written by Dinu Bhai Pant in the background of Chenani agitation in mid-fifties and presented by Vivek Mohan was appreciated by one and all. The composition was an experiment in which two poems with different meter were fused in one. The artists were supported by Sunil Sharma on flute, Sanjay Pashi on Guitar, Karan Malhotra on Tabla and Brij Mohan on harmonium.

## THROUGH MY WINDOW

October 13, 2015, Lucknow

Sahitya Akademi New Delhi organized a Through My Window programme on 13 October 2015 at Lucknow Campus of Maulana Azad National Urdu University in which Prof. Anis Ashfaq, former Head, Dept. of Urdu, Lucknow University was invited to speak on the life and works of Prof. Shabihul Hasan, renowned Urdu litterateur and critic. Prof. Anis Ashfaq said that Prof. Shabihul Hasan was a multi-dimensional Urdu scholar. He was famous for his work on Nafsiyati Tanqeed (Psychological critics). He was a good human being and well-disciplined teacher. Dr. Waseem Begum, Member, Urdu Advisory Board, welcomed the speaker and the guests. The Programme was well received by the audience and the lecture was followed by the question answer session which was also very engaging and fruitful.

## WORKSHOP ON CREATION MYTHS IN UNWRITTEN LANGUAGES

October 16, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi, in association with the Center for Linguistics, JNU, organized a daylong workshop on 'Creation Myths in Unwritten Languages' at JNU, in New Delhi on October 16, 2015. In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the dignitaries, participants and audience and spoke briefly about various facets of myth creation in the oral traditions and Sahitya Akademi's initiatives over the decades to preserve and propagate oral traditions of India. Prof Anvita Abbi, Director, Center for Oral and Tribal Literature, Sahitya Akademi, talked about the importance and relevance of creation myths in the modern world. Dr Mahendra Kumar Mishra, eminent scholar, talked about how creation myths help us in understanding the psyche and make up of tribal societies. Prof Ivy Hansdak talked about the contribution of creation myths in highlighting societal dynamics of tribal societies, with specific reference to Santal society. Prof Sukrita Paul Kumar, noted poet and critic, talked about unwritten languages and literature. Many scholars across various disciplines, research students and journalists participated in the daylong workshop.

## PEOPLE AND BOOKS

October 17, 2015, Darjeeling

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with the Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling organized a 'People and Books' programme with Col. Sukul Pradhan on 17 October 2015 at Darjeeling. Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi stated in his welcome address aims and objectives of the programme. Sri Prem Pradhan, Convenor, Nepali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi introduced Col. Sukul Pradhan to the audience. Col. Pradhan told that although he didn't write literary works, many literary works influenced him and gave energy to sustain his life. He referred Bhanubhakta Ramayana and some other Nepali books alongwith few more Hindi and English works. Sri C. K. Rai, member, Nepali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi proposed the vote of thanks at the end.



## SEMINAR ON POST-MODERNISM IN INDIAN NEPALI LITERATURE

October 17-18, 2015, Darjeeling

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling, organized a two-day seminar on 'Post-modernism in Indian Nepali Literature' on 17-18 October 2015 at Darjeeling. The seminar was inaugurated by Akademi Award winner Nepali writer Sri Nand Hangkhim. The introductory address was given by Sri Prem Pradhan, convenor, Nepali Advisory Board, while Sri Karn Thami, President, Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, presided over the session. Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the gathering and briefly spoke about the activities of Sahitya Akademi. The session was compered by Sri B. Raj Sunuwar, General Secretary, Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, who also proposed the vote of thanks at the end of the session. Following Sahitya Akademi publications were also released by the esteemed guests: Murjhaye Vriksha (Hindi translation of the Akademi Award-winning Nepali novel Udasin Rukhharu of Prem Pradhan by Omnarayan Gupta), Paryavekshan (Hindi translation of the Akademi Award-winning Nepali criticism of Jiwan Namdung by Kharagraj Giri), Yo Prachin Veena (Nepali translation of O.N.V. Kurup's anthology of Malayalam poems by Monika Mukhia), Bharatiya Nepali Ekanki Sanchayan (anthology of Nepali one-act plays, edited by Krishna Pradhan) and Chowrang (Nepali translation of the Akademi Award-winning Konkani plays of Pundalik N. Nayak by Bhanu Chhetri). First session of the seminar was chaired by Dr. Jiwan Namdung, well-known Nepali poet and critic. Sri Arjun Pradhan, Ms. Monika Mukhia and Dr. Raj Kumar Chhetri presented their papers on 'Influence and consequences of Post-modernism in Indian Nepali Literature', 'Theoretical aspects of Post-modernism in Indian Nepali Literature' and 'Post-modernised writings in reference to the Contemporary Indian Nepali Literature' respectively. Sri Laxman Srimal, noted Nepali writer, chaired the second session of the seminar. Dr. Bina Hangkhim, presented her paper titled 'Post modernism in Indian Nepali poetry', while other paper on 'Post-modernism in Indian Nepali Play' was presented by Dr. Navin Paudyal. Third session of the seminar was chaired by Dr. Gokul Sinha. Dr. Binesh Pradhan presented his paper on the topic 'Post modernism in Indian Nepali novels', while Sri Gyan Bahadur Chhetri talked on 'Post

modernized Nepali literature in North-Eastern India'. Sri C. K. Rai, member, Nepali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi proposed the vote of thanks at the end.

## KAVISANDHI

October 18, 2015, Darjeeling

Sahitya Akademi, in association with the Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling organized a 'Kavisandhi' programme with Norjan Syangden, eminent Nepali poet on 18 October 2015 at Darjeeling. Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participant and audience. Sri Prem Pradhan, Convenor, Nepali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, introduced Norjan Syangden to the audience. Sri Syangden talked about his literary journey in brief and recited his eleven poems and twelve ghazals. His poetry was about the sorrowful life. Pains and pleasure, importance of life, birth and death and rebirth also were his points contained in his poems. Although the life is like pendulum but it should be made corrected, and not to escape from the tragic condition of life. He presented in ghazals and few numbers of romantic poems which he composed and his experiences felt in his life. Sri C. K. Rai, member, Nepali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi proposed the vote of thanks at the end.

## SYMPOSIUM ON CONTEMPORARY POETIC GENRES AND SANSKRIT POETRY

October 18, 2015, Ahmedabad

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with Gujarat Arts and Science College, Ahmedabad, organized a daylong symposium on Contemporary Poetic Genres and Sanskrit Poetry in Ahmedabad on October 18, 2015. Dr Radhavallabh Tripathi, Convener, Sanskrit Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired over the first session. In the session, Sri Gautam Patel presented a paper 'Gujarat ka Adhunik Samskrut Sahitya,' Sri Abhirajan Rajendra Mishra presented a paper on 'Adhunik Samskrut Mahakavya,' Sri Ramakant Shukla on 'Adhunik Samskrut Geethikavya' and Manujlata Sharma on 'Hardik tanka evam seejokavya' and Prof Arunendra Singh Rathore was the Chief Guest. Sri Vijay Pandya chaired the second session while Sri Harshdev Madhav presented a paper 'Samskrut mei monoimage kavita' and Sri Manibhai Prajapati presented a paper on 'Adhunik Samskrut Sahitya aur vidhaye' respectively.

## SYMPOSIUM ON ACHARYA KSHEMCHANDRA 'SUMAN'

October 21, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a Seminar on the Birth Centenary of distinguished writer and editor, Sri Kshemchandra 'Suman'. The symposium was chaired by eminent litterateur Sri Shyam Singh Shashi and the introductory speech was given by Indra Sengar. Others who presented their papers include Parmanand Panchal, Sudhesh, Hari Singh Pal and Dharmapal Arya. It was emphasized that Kshemchandra 'Suman' was an accomplished writer whose huge body of work is unmatched. The welcome address was given by Brajendra Tripathi and the vote of thanks was given by Hindi Editor Sri Kumar Anupam.

## NORTH-EAST AND NORTHERN WRITERS' MEET

October 24-25, 2015, Chandigarh

Sahitya Akademi, in association with the Punjab Arts Council organized a North East and Northern Writers' Meet at Randhawa auditorium in Chandigarh on October 24-25, 2015.

The meet witnessed leading voices of different languages like Tulika Chetia Yein (Assamese), Manmohan (Punjabi), Bhupinder Aziz Parihar (Urdu) and Sorokkhabam Gambhinoi (Manipuri). Earlier giving his introductory remarks eminent scholar from North East Mr. Y D Thongchi spoke about the plurality of Indian thoughts and stressed the need to understand the sentiments of North East people who are generally misunderstood. Delivering his



Inaugural session of the meet in progress

presidential address, Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, said that authors are always in search of truth though it is very difficult to achieve this goal. He expressed his confidence that Indian authors will strive to create harmony among the people. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Chandrasekhar Kambar, Vice President, Sahitya Akademi, talked about the oral traditions of the India which are always relevant in the society. Earlier Sh. Chander Trikha, eminent Hindi writer, elaborated the structure of the Akademi. Bibi Harjinder Kaur Chairperson Punjab Arts Council quoted the poetry of Sufi poets and Sikh gurus which is more relevant in the present scenario. Eminent Poet Surjit Patar and Dr. Rawail Singh also spoke on the occasion. Earlier Dr. Sarabjit Kaur Sohal, Vice President, Punjab Sahit Akademi welcomed the Guests and expressed that writers are always in search of truth. S. Gulkzar Singh Sandhu, Chairman, Chandigarh Sahit Akademi, Madhav Kaushik, Balkar Sidhu, Saradar Singh Cheema, Sukhwinder Amrit, Manjit Kaur Meet, Kashmir Kaur Sandhu, Harsimran Kaur, Swarn Singh, Nachhatar and other eminent writers from the city participated in the function. Punjabi ambience in the decoration and food fascinated North East and Northern Writers' Meet. In the evening a Cultural Show was also presented to present the Punjabi Culture to the delegates came from all over India.

## THROUGH MY WINDOW

October 27, 2015, 2015, Jammu

Sahitya Akademi, in association with Duggar Manch, organized a 'Through my Window' programme featuring Prof Lalit Mangotra, well-known Dogri writer who spoke on Narendra Khajuria, distinguished Dogri writer, on 27th October 2015 at Jammu. Sri Khajuria was a champion of the downtrodden and highlighted their cause through his writings.

## SEMINAR ON WOMEN'S DISCOURSE IN SANSKRIT LITERATURE

October 29-30, 2015, Sagar

A two day seminar was organized by the Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi in association with the Sanskrit Department of Shri Hari Singh Gaur University on 29th and 30th October, 2015. Prof. Radhavallabh Tripathi was the keynote speaker at the event. The chief guest for the event was Prof. Saashi Prabha Kumar, the Chancellor of Sanchi University. The inaugural address was given by Prof. Anand Prakash Tripathi. The first session had speakers like Dr. Naunihal Gautam, Dr. Sukhdev Vajpeyi, it was chaired by Sri Ramratan Pandey. The second session was chaired by Prof. Umarani Tripathi, Dr. Ramhet Gautamey. Dr. Poornachandra, Dr. Sanjay Kumar, Dr. Shashi Kumar Singh read the research papers. In the closing session the chief guest Prof. Abhiraj Rajendra Mishra said that women is a symbol of power. Prof. Radhavallabh Tripathi said we need a society where man and woman exist equally. And literature that is written for the welfare of the society never goes waste. Prof. Kusum Bhuria Dutta chaired the fourth session in which Prof. Saroj Kaushal, Prof. Manjulata Sharma, Dr. Archana Choudhary, Dr. Dharmendra Kumar Singh Dev read their research papers. The vote of thanks was given by Prof. A. L. Tripathi.

## SYMPOSIUM ON NINETEENTH CENTURY URDU NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES

October 31, 2015, Mumbai

On 31st October 2015, Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi organized a symposium on Nineteenth Century Urdu Newspapers and Magazines' Linguistic Study at Mumbai. Inaugural session of this symposium was chaired by Begam Abida Inamdar, Head of Deccan Muslim Institute, Pune. Keynote address was given by famous Urdu thinker and critic Shamim Tariq. He spoke about various aspects of nineteenth century

Urdu magazines and newspapers. He told that Urdu Journalism has never left the peace and tranquility, and participated in the freedom fight. In this session Sayeed Yahya Nisheeth presented an article. Sahitya Akademi's Program Officer Dr. Mushtaq Sadaf welcomed the participants and audience. Begam Abida Inamdar gave an inaugural speech thanking Sahitya Akademi for giving us an opportunity to think about the previous years' Urdu newspapers and magazines. Second session was headed by Urdu Daily 'Iklaab', Mumbai's editor Shahid Latif. In this session, Salim Shahjaad, Athar Ajiz and Shakil Rasheed presented their papers.

## HALBI LANGUAGE CONVENTION

October 31, 2015, Jagdalpur

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in collaboration with Bastar University, Jagdalpur, Chattisgarh organised a Halbi Language Convention at Jagdalpur, Chattisgarh. In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi delivered the welcome address while the inaugural address was delivered by Dr. N.D.R. Chandra, Vice-Chancellor, Bastar University. Dr. Ramsingh Thakur, noted Halbi poet was the Guest of Honour in the inaugural session while Prof. Anvita Abbi, Director, Centre for Oral and Tribal Literature, Sahitya Akademi presided over the inaugural session. Two Halbi language books translated into Hindi titled Lakshmi Jagar by Harihar Vaishnav and Andhkar Ka Desh by Sonsingh Pujari, published by the Akademi were also released during the occasion. Apart from inaugural session there were four more sessions where a number of writers/scholars have participated and presented their papers on different aspects of Halbi language and literature as well as presented their poems and short stories. In the first session that was chaired by Prof Harihar Vaishnav, five noted scholars, Yashvanth Gautam, Vikram Soni, Shivkumar Pandey, Baldev Patra and Khem Vaishnav presented their papers focusing on Written Halbi Literature, Evolution of Halbi language and script, Relationship between Halbi and Chattisgarhi, Culture of Halbi and Halba and World View of Halbis, respectively. In the second session that



was chaired by Prof Mahendra Kumar Mishra, five noted scholars, Subash Pandey, Balbir Singh Kutch, Narayan Singh Baghel, Rudranarayan Panigrahi and Rupendra Kavi, presented their papers focusing on Past, Present and Future of Halbi culture, Halbi lok sangeet, Halbi parivesh ke lok nrtya, Halbi parivesh ke tyauhar evam utsav and sociological understanding of Halba communities, respectively. In the third and fourth session devoted to Story Reading and Poetry Recitation, two fiction writers read out their stories and twelve noted poets recited their compositions, respectively. The Akademi has also organised Loka: The Many Voices programme where four different local folk groups performed the traditional folk songs and dances of Chattisgarh

## YUVA MANCH

November 4, 2015, Chandigarh

Sahitya Akademi organised 'Yuva Manch' programme on 4th November, 2015 in the Seminar Hall of Guru Govind Singh Khalsa College for Women, in Chandigarh. Introducing the programme Ms. Amarjeet Ghumman, Member, Punjabi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi told the audience that Sahitya Akademi has started diversifying its activities in all the parts of India. This programme 'YUVA MANCH' is meant for encouraging young talents in Indian Literature. Inaugurating the programme Gurdev Singh Brar, former IAS officer and Chairman of the College Governing Body thanked the Sahitya Akademi for choosing the college for the event Yuva Manch. Short Story Writers Jasbir Rana and Pukhraj Singh presented their Short Stories in Punjabi and Young Poets Raman Sandhu, Gurpreet Anandi and Sehajpreet Singh Mangat recited their compositions. Participating in the programme as Guest of Honour, Prof. Deepak Manmohan Singh said that Punjabi Literature is full of sensitivity. He asked the young authors to read more and more literature so that they may get maturity in their writings. Finally, Colonel (Retired) Jasmer Singh Bala, General Secretary College, Governing Body proposed the vote of thanks and assured Sahitya Akademi full co-operation in its future programmes.

## ALL INDIA POETRY FESTIVAL

November 6, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized an All India Poetry Festival on the occasion of Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav conducted by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India at the Akademi auditorium in New Delhi on November 6, 2015. In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi in promoting poetry including poetry festivals periodically and all over the country. In his Presidential address, Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, talked about the benefits of poetry festivals at national and international levels. Dr Padma Sachdev, in her inaugural address, talked about the relevance of poetry and poetry festivals. In the session, six eminent poets, Sukrita Paul Kumar (English), Leeladhar Jagoori (Hindi), H. S. Shivaprakash (Kannada), Sirpi Balasubramaniam (Tamil), Voleti Parvateesam (Telugu) and Abdul Ahad Saz (Urdu), recited their compositions. In the first session that was chaired by Dr Haraprasad Das, seven noted poets, Nilim Kumar (Assamese), Ganga Prasad Vimal (Hindi), Raghu Leishangthem (Manipuri), Prabha Ganorkar (Marathi), Vanita (Punjabi), Malchand Tiwari (Rajasthani) and Ramakant Shukla (Sanskrit), recited their poems. In the second session that was chaired by Dr Temsula Ao, seven noted poets, Subhro Bandopadhyay (Bengali), Varsha Das (Gujarati), Fayaz Dilbar (Kashmiri), Deo Shankar Naveen (Maithili), Anvar Ali (Malayalam), Laxman Dubey (Sindhi) and Aadil Raza Mansoori (Urdu) recited their poems.

## SYMPOSIUM ON STORYTELLING AND WOMEN'S WRITING

November 9-10, 2015, Shillong

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in collaboration with the department of English of North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), organized a two-day symposium on 'Storytelling and Women's Writing' at the Old NEHU Guest House in Shillong on November



9-10, 2015. In the inaugural session, Sri Santanu Gangopadhyay, Assistant Editor, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience. In her introductory address, Dr Esther Siyem, talked about the importance of both storytelling and women's writing in the modern world and the interconnection between them. Prof. Badaplin War, Dean of department of Humanities at the university was the Guest of Honor, Prof. Sukalpa Bhattacharjee, Head, Department of English of the university chaired the session and Prof Suranjana Choudhury proposed a vote of thanks. In the first two sessions devoted to Storytelling and chaired by Moon Moon Mazumdar and Esther Siyem, six noted scholars, Bibash Choudhury, Arupkumar Dutta, Deepa Balsavar, Rupanjali Baruah, Radhika Menon and Deeyali Nayar, presented their papers. In the third and fourth sessions devoted to Women's Writing and chaired by Mala Ranganathan and Jyotirmoy Prodhani, six noted scholars, Nandana Dutta, Tamsula Ao, Anupama Basumatary, Lanosangla, Jahnvi Baruah and Uddipana Goswami, presented their papers.

## SCREENING OF SANTALI FILM 'FOUR SANTALI WRITERS'

November 14, 2015, Kolkata

Sahitya Akademi organized a film screening programme on 14 November 2015 at Akademi Auditorim, Regional Office in Kolkata. The documentary film 'Four Santali Writers', produced by the Akademi, was screened on the occasion. The film is based on the life and works of four eminent Santali writers, namely Dharendra Nath Baskey, Shobha Nath Beshra, Bhaiya Hansda and Thakur Prasad Murmu. Ms. Sangita Dutta, director of the film was also present there. Ms. Dutta and Sri Gangadhar Hansda, Convenor, Santali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi delivered introductory speeches before the screening.

## SYMPOSIUM ON SANTALI CHILDREN LITERATURE

November 14, 2015, Kolkata

Sahitya Akademi organized a symposium on 'Santali Children Literature' at Akademi Auditorim, Sahitya Akademi Regional Office, Kolkata on 14 November 2015. Sri Gautam Paul, Officer-in-charge, Regional Office, Kolkata welcomed the gathering. The keynote address was given by renowned Santali writer Sri Badal Hembram. In his address he mentioned the role of children's literature in the evolution of Santali literature. In this session Sri Purna Chandra Kisku and Sri Bipin Chandra Murmu recited their Santali poems for children, while Sri Panchu Gopal Hembram read out his short story for children. Sri Pradhan Murmu, Secretary ASECA, West Bengal also told a story for children, while proposing the vote of thanks. The first session of the symposium was chaired by Sri Shobha Nath Beshra. Sri Bishwanath Tudu and Sri Saridharam Hansda presented their papers on the topics 'children literature in Primary education' and 'modern trends in children literature.' Sri Beshra concluded the session and talked about contemporary Santali children literature. He said that literature for children should be compiled in such a way that it will not attract them to any superstitions.

## BAWA BALWANT CENTENARY SEMINAR

November 27-28, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with Bhai Vir Singh Sahitya Sadan, New Delhi, organized a seminar to commemorate the birth centenary of renowned Punjabi Poet Bawa Balwant. The seminar was held on 27-28 November, 2015 in Sahitya Akademi. Renu Mohan Bhan, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcome the Guests, scholars and audience in the beginning. Dr. Rawail Singh, Convenor Punjabi Advisory Board introduced the scholars to the audience and also spoke about the literary contribution of Bawa Balwant. Dr. Satya Pal Gautam, Former Vice-chancellor Bareilly



University, UP inaugurating the Seminar expressed that Bawa Balwant's contribution to Indian Literature needs to be re-evaluated in the changed world scenario. Dr. Jaswinder Singh, Former Dean Academic, Punjabi University, Patiala while delivering the keynote address, said that progressive movement in Punjabi Literature got strengthened with the Poetry of Bawa Balwant. Prof. Bhagwan Josh of Jawahar Lal Nehru, University of Delhi chaired the inaugural session. First session was chaired by Prof. Gurcharan Singh Arshi, Former Dean, Arts Faculty, Delhi University. Prof. Paramjit Singh Dhingra presented his Paper on 'Bawa Balwant Da Kav Bhashayi Bimb' and Monika Kumar spoke on 'Bawa Balwant Kav Vich Prakish Chitran'. Second session was chaired by Prof. Jagbir Singh. Five papers were presented in this session. Prof. Sukhdev Singh presented his paper on 'Bawa Balwant Da Pragativad and Bawa Balwani', Mohanjit, 'Bawa Balwant Da Prageet Parbandh', Dr. Gurnaib Singh, 'Bawa Balwant Di Baudhik Virasat' and Dr. Yadwinder Singh spoke about the 'Bawa Balwant Di Kav Sirjan Parkiriya'. Third session was chaired by Dr. Karnajit Singh. Five scholars presented their papers in the session. Dr. Manmohan spoke about 'Bawa Balwant Di Vartak Di Vishva-Drishti' while Dr. Rajinder Pal Singh Brar, 'Bawa Balwant Di Kav-Vichardhara'; Dr. Vanita, 'Bawa Balwant Diyan Myth-Kavitavan cho Ubharda Nari Bimb'; Dr. Kulvir, 'Bawa Balwant De Drishtimoolak Pasar' and Dr. Amarjit Ghumman, presented her paper on 'Bawa Balwant Kav De Suhajatmak Adhyan.

## SYMPOSIUM ON THE STATE AND EXPECTATION OF CRITICISM IN MAITHILI LITERATURE

November 29, 2015, Bhagalpur

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with Marwari College, Bhagalpur, organized a daylong symposium on 'The State and Expectation of Criticism in Maithili Literature' at the College premises on 29 November 2015. Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, in his

welcome address elaborated Akademi's efforts in organizing programmes and book exhibitions in far and unexplored Maithili speaking regions. Dr. Awadh Kishore Roy, Pro-Vice Chancellor of Bhagalpur University inaugurated the symposium. Dr. M.S.H. John of Marwari College chaired the inaugural session. Dr. Bina Thakur, Convener, Maithili Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, highlighted the importance of Maithili literature. Dr. Devendra Jha, eminent Maithili litterateur delivered the keynote address. Dr. Shiva Prasad Yadav proposed a vote of thanks. In the academic session that followed, Prof. Keshkar Thakur was in the chair and three noted scholars, Dr. Pramod Kumar Pandey, Dr. Ramsevak Singh and Dr. Mahendra Narayan Ram presented their papers on different topics.

## ASMITA

November 29, 2015, Bhagalpur

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with Marwari College, Bhagalpur organized 'Asmita' programme featuring story readings by three women writers at the College premises on 29 November 2015. The programme was chaired by eminent Maithili writer Smt. Indira Jha, eminent Maithili writer chaired the programme and read out her story 'Charitra Pramaan Patra'. Three noted Maithili women writers, Smt. Panna Jha, Smt. Sushmita Patak and Smt. Menaka Mallik read out their stories 'Vijatheeya', 'Bisara-Bisara' and 'Sik' respectively. All the stories portrayed the feelings of women belonging to various sections of the society. Noted writers and well-known scholars attended the event.

## SYMPOSIUM ON MAITHILI SAMSKARA GEET

December 1, 2015, Saharsa

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with MLT College, Saharsa, organized a daylong symposium on 'Maithili Samskara Geet' at the College premises on 1 December 2015. Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the welcome address. The inaugural session was



chaired by eminent Maithili litterateur Dr. Dharendra Narayan Jha 'Dhir'. Dr. Bina Thakur, Convener, Maithili Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, gave introductory remarks. In his keynote address, Dr. Kulanand Jha mentioned a few 'Samskara' texts in Maithili language and also gave a brief introduction of each text. Dr. K.P. Yadav of MLT College proposed a vote of thanks. In the academic session that followed, Dr. Jagdish Yadav was in the chair and three noted scholars, Dr. Ramnaresh Singh, Dr. Ranjit Kumar Singh and Dr. Harivansh Jha presented their papers on different topics. Dr. Jagdish Yadav

## YUVA SAHITI

December 1, 2015, Saharasa

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with MLT College, Saharasa, organized 'Yuva Sahiti' programme featuring young Maithili poets at the College premises on 1 December 2015. The event was chaired by eminent Maithili writer Dr. Subashchandra Yadav. Sri Umesh Paswan, Sri Amit Kumar Mishra, Sri Umesh Mandal, Sri Narayan Jha, Sri Ragunath Mukhiya, Ms. Swati Shakambari and Ms. Nikki Priyadarshini participated and recited their poems. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi. Dr. Kulanand Jha, Member, Maithili Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

## LITERARY FORUM

December 2, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a literary interaction programme with Prof. Toshio Tanaka, Emeritus Professor, Department of Foreign Studies, Tokyo University, Japan with Delhi based eminent writers on 2nd December 2015. Many writers recalled their experience and interaction with Prof. Tanaka, who, during his long career, embraced Hindi wholeheartedly and went into great depths to find out about the origin of specific words and has great respect for Indian culture and tradition.

## POETRY AND SHORT STORY READING SESSIONS

December 5, 2015, Jamshedpur

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with Jaher Than Committee, Jamshedpur, organized a programme devoted to Santali poetry – short story reading session on 5 December 2015 in Jamshedpur. Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the welcome address. The short story reading session was chaired by Sri Gangadar Hansdah, Convener, Santali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. Three noted Santali writers, Sri Mangath Murmu, Sri Salku Murmu and Sri Lakhinarayan Hansdah read out their short stories. The poetry reading session was chaired by Sri C.R. Maji, General Secretary, Jaher Than Committee. Five noted Santali poets, Sri Govind Chandra Maji, Sri Durgai Tudu, Sri Durga Prasad Murmu, Sri Shyam Charan Tudu and Sri Ganesh Marandi recited their poems.

## MULAQAT

December 5, 2015, Jamshedpur

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with Jaher Than Committee, Jamshedpur, organized 'Mulaqat' programme featuring young Santali writers on 5 December 2015 in Jamshedpur. The programme was chaired by Smt. Joba Murmu, eminent Santali writer. Sri Shankar Soren and Sri Parimal Hansdah read out their stories while Smt. Chinmayi Hansdah, Sri Satilal Murmu and Sri Manoj Hansdah recited their

## KAVI ANUVADAK

December 5, 2015, Jamshedpur

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with Jaher Than Committee, Jamshedpur, organized 'Kavi Anuvadak' programme featuring eminent Santali poet Sri Madan Mohan Soren on 5 December 2015 in Jamshedpur. Sri Madan Mohan recited his Santali poems as well as rendered the English translation of his verses. Sri Arjun Charan Hembrem who was invited as the English translator of Sri Madan Mohan's poems



## SYMPOSIUM

December 6, 2015, Jamshedpur

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with Mithila Sanskritik Parishad, Jamshedpur, organized a daylong symposium on 'Changing Social Consciousness and Values in Maithili Literature' on 6 December 2015 in Jamshedpur. Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience. Sri B.K. Das, Vice-President of Tata Steel gave introductory remarks. Dr. Bina Thakur, Convener, Maithili Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, highlighted the theme of the symposium. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Ashok Avichal. Sri Harivallabh Singh graced to be the chief guest on the occasion. The session was chaired by Dr. Lakshman Jha, President of Mithila Sanskritik Parishad. In his presidential address, he pointed out the effects of Maithili literature on society. In the academic session that followed, Sri Braj Kishore Mishra was in the chair and three noted scholars, Dr. Ravindra Kumar Choudhury, Sri Jayant Kumar Jha and Sri Anmol Jha presented their papers. Sri Braj Kishore Mishra summed up the paper proceedings.

## POETS' MEET

December 6, 2015, Jamshedpur

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with Mithila Sanskritik Parishad, Jamshedpur, organized 'Poets' Meet' programme on 6 December 2015 in Jamshedpur. The Meet was chaired by eminent Maithili poet, Sri Budhinath Mishra. Sri Saryu Rai, Minister for Food, Public Distribution and Consumer Affairs of Jharkhand graced to be the chief guest on the occasion. Smt. Shanti Suman, Sri Vidyadhar Mishra, Sri Siyaram Saras, Sri Devkant Mishra, Sri Amalendu Shekar Patak, Sri Shivkumar 'Tillu' and Sri Shyamal Suman participated and recited their poems. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Ashok Avichal.

## SEMINAR ON DOGRI POETRY

December 12 – 13, 2015, Jammu

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with Jammu and Kashmir Akademi of Art, Culture and Languages,

Jammu, organized a two day seminar on 'Dogri Poetry' on 12 – 13 December 2015 in Jammu. Dr.

Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the welcome address. In his inaugural address, Prof. R.D. Sharma, Vice Chancellor of Jammu University talked about the importance of poetry in an individual's social life and quoted a few examples. Prof. Lalit Magotra, Convener, Dogri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, praised the Akademi for having come forward to organize such a symposium as it would expose many unaltered aspects of Dogri poetry. The inaugural session was chaired by eminent Dogri poetess Smt. Padma Sachdev and the keynote address was delivered by Sri Chatrapal. Sri Arvinder Singh Aman, Additional Secretary of J & K Akademi of Art, Culture and Language proposed a vote of thanks. The first session was chaired by Sri Deshbandu Dogra 'Nutan' and three noted scholars, Dr. Om Goswami, Sri Narendra Bhasin and Sri Surjit Hosh presented their papers on 'The Political Consciousness in Dogri Poetry until 2000', 'The Political Consciousness in Dogri Poetry after 2000' and 'Humanitarian Approaches in Dogri Poetry' respectively. In the second session, Prof. Parameshwari Sharma of Jammu University was in the chair and three noted scholars, Dr. Sunil Kumar, Dr. Yash Raina and Dr. Nirmal Vinod presented their papers on 'The Sufi Tone in Dogri Poetry', 'Myths in Dogri Poetry' and 'Dogri Poetry: The Present State' respectively. In the third session that continued on the second day, Prof. Archana Kesar was in the chair and two noted scholars Dr. Chanchal Bhasina and Dr. Ashok Ambar presented their papers on 'Women Deliberations in Dogri Poetry' and 'Urdu and Dogri Ghazals' respectively. The last and fourth academic session was chaired by Sri Jnaneshwar and two noted scholars, Dr. Joginder Singh and Sri Jagdip Dubey presented their papers on 'Time Consciousness in Dogri Poetry until 2000' and 'Time Consciousness in Dogri Poetry after 2000' respectively. A brief interactive session was followed at the end of each session.



## TRANSLATION WORKSHOP ON DALIT POETRY

December 21-23, 2015, Aurangabad

Sahitya Akademi organized a three-day translation workshop 21-23 December 2015 in Aurangabad. In the beginning of the workshop, the participants talked about the issues involved in understanding Dalit literature, poetry in specific, the scholars-translators dwelt upon Dalit poetry as the voice of anguish and protest. The scholars present endorsed the view that Dalit literature in its scope and range was not confined to Dalit writers. Dalits as an 'Imagined Community' was a shared experience of Dalit psyche. Jayant Parmar, Director of translation workshop, formally maintained that Dalit writing in Indian languages covered a wide spectrum of an ethos rooted in cultural practices. Sheen Kaaf Nizam welcomed the Dalit poetry workshop and said that it is the need of time to explore Dalit writings. Aziz Parihar referred to political institutionalization of caste in India which only perpetuated caste consciousness. Not economic betterment but caste division persisted as political agenda. Chander Bhan Khayal touched upon the problems of translating Dalit poetry not as a metaphysical discourse but as a socio political reality translated into a spontaneous protest in a language that transcends the accepted familiar fonts of literary expressions. Sri Hamid Khan summed up translation an act of faith skill experience and knowledge. In this translation workshop, Marathi, Rajasthani, Kannada, Hindi, Punjabi, Telugu, Bangla, Odia, Malayalam and Gujarati's selected poetries were translated. About 120 poems, long and short, were translated by translators. Sri Chander Bhan Khayal (Convener, Urdu Advisory Board), Sri Jayant Parmar, Sri Bhupinder Aziz Parihar, Sri Sheen Kaaf Nizam, Sri Hamid Khan and Maher Mansoor participated in the workshop.

## URDU POETRY READING

December 23, 2015, Aurangabad

Sahitya Akademi organized an Urdu Poetry reading programme on 23 December 2015 at Central Facility Building, Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad. Chander Bhan Khayal, Convener, Urdu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi chaired the programme. Jayant Parmar, Aziz Parihar, Shah Husain Nehri, Maher Mansoor, Aslam Mirza, Farooq Shamim and Khan Shamim read out their latest poetry. In the beginning Mushtaque Sadaf, programme officer, welcomed and introduced the poets to audience.

On November 2-3, 2015, Sahitya Akademi co-sponsored and participated in the National Seminar on Bharatiya Sahitya Mein Dalit Stri Ka Chitran Aur Chintayein organized by Kamla Nehru College, Delhi University at Kamla Nehru College, Delhi.

Between November 13 & 15, 2015, Sahitya Akademi organized a Translation Workshop of North Eastern Short stories into Punjabi at Shillong, Meghalaya.

Between November 14 & 21, 2015, Sahitya Akademi celebrated National Book Week 2015 in Delhi and all its Regional Office at Bangalore, Kolkata, Mumbai and sub-office at Chennai.

On November 23, 2015, Sahitya Akademi organized a literary interaction programme with three-member Russian writers' delegation with Delhi based eminent writers in Delhi.

Between November 25 & 29, 2015, Sahitya Akademi sent a 6-member Indian writers' delegation to Mauritius along with Secretary, Sahitya Akademi as coordinator to take part in the World Urdu Conference, held from 26-28 November during Festival of India in Mauritius.

On November 28, 2015, Sahitya Akademi, in association with Department of English, Maharani Laxmibai Government Girls P.G. Autonomous College, Bhopal, organized a symposium on Travel Writing and the Intangible Heritage of India at Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

## BIRTH CENTENARY SEMINAR ON UROOB

September 3-4, 2015, Tirur

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru in association with the Regional Centre of Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit at Tirur organized a birth centenary seminar on the distinguished Malayalam writer Sri P.C. Kuttikrishnan, popularly known by his penname 'Uroob' on 3rd and 4th of September 2015 at the University premises. In the inaugural session, Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru, welcomed the dignitaries, participants and audience and highlighted Uroob's significant literary contributions. In his introductory address, Sri K.S Ravikumar, Member, Malayalam Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi highlighted Uroob's life, personality and works. Sri C. Radhakrishnan, Convener, Malayalam Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, inaugurated the seminar and shared his experiences with Uroob. Sri K. Jayakumar, Vice-Chancellor of Malayalam University delivered keynote address. Sri M.C. Dileep Kumar, Vice-Chancellor of Sree Sankaracharya University chaired the inaugural session and elaborated Uroob's social, political and literary contributions. Sri Alankode Leelakrishnan, eminent Malayalam writer gave felicitations. Mr. Unnikrishna Pillai of Malayalam department proposed a vote of thanks. Sri P.K. Pokker, Professor of Philosophy in Calicut University chaired the first session in which Smt. P. Padmini presented a paper focusing on 'Family Concepts in Uroob's Writings'. The subsequent session had Sri K.P. Sankran, eminent literary critic in the chair in which



Participants of the seminar

read their papers on 'Distance Concepts in Uroob's Writings', 'Films of Uroob' and 'World of Uroob's Stories' respectively. On the first session of the second day, Sri N. Sasidharan, well known playwright was in the chair. In that session, Sri Sunil Elayidom and Ms. Suja Susan George presented their papers on 'Texture Life in Sundarikalum Sundaranmaaram' and 'New Humanitarian Concepts in Uroob's Writings' respectively. The fourth session was chaired by Sri Akbar Kakkattil, eminent Malayalam writer. Sri P. Surendran presented his paper on 'Nationalism and Humanism in the Novel Sundarikalum Sundaranmaaram' and Ms. L. Sushma presented her paper on 'Uroob in Liteary History' in that session. The valedictory session was chaired by Sri Unnikrishna Pillai and Sri C.V. Balakrishnan delivered a thoughtful valedictory address. The seminar ended with a vote of thanks proposed by Smt. Rukmini.

## LITERARY FORUM

September 5, 2015, Mumbai

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in association with the Kannada Department of Mumbai University conducted a literary forum on 'Ranga Samvada', a theatrical discussion on 05 September 2015 at University of Mumbai. Vidushi Shyamala Prakash introduced the guests. Dr. G.V. Kulkarni presided over the programme and briefed on Dr. Kalaburgi's achievements and as a mark of respect, two minutes silence was observed. Dr. Manjunath, Dr. Bharath Kumar Polipu, Sri Mohan Marnad and Ms. Ahalya Ballal participated and presented their papers. The programme was coordinated by Dr. G.N. Upadhyya, Member, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi and Prof. Poornima shetty compered the programme.

## LITERARY FORUM

September 6, 2015, Rajahmundry

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in association with Sahiti Gowtami, Rajahmundry conducted 'Telugu Short Story Writers Meet and Readings' on 06 September 2015 at Aditya Degree Arts College, Rajamundry. Prof. Sudhakar Yendluri, Member, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the participants and audience. Sri Muppidi



Prabhakar Rao, Prof. Tallavajjula Pathanjali Sastry, Sri D.R. Indra, Sri M.S. Suryanarayana and Smt. Yendluri Manasa participated and read their short stories. Dr. Karri Rama Reddy, renowned Psychiatrist graced to be the guest of honour in the programme. Sri P. Vijay Kumar, Honorary President of Sahiti Gowtami delivered the valedictory address and Smt. Joshuala Saraswathi proposed a vote of thanks.

## SYMPOSIUM ON TRENDS IN TAMIL AND MALAYALAM LITERATURE

September 7, 2015, Trivandrum

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru organized a daylong symposium on 'Trends in Tamil and Malayalam Literature' in collaboration with Trivandrum Tamil Sangam on 07 September 2015 at Trivandrum. Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru welcomed the gathering. The symposium was presided over by Prof. K. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. Sri A. Madhavan, veteran Tamil writer gave felicitations. Sri M. Muthuraman, President of Trivandrum Tamil Sangam proposed a vote of thanks. In the first session, Sri Sukumaran, eminent poet, analyzed the trends in Tamil poetry. Followed him was Dr. C.R. Prasad, who presented his paper on contemporary Malayalam poetry. Dr. K.S. Ravikumar and Dr. M. Nainar spoke on Malayalam short stories and Tamil short stories respectively. In the second session, the theme was Dr. George Onakkur presented his paper on trends in Malayalam novels. Dr. Anandakumar gave an account of modern trends in Tamil novels. Papers on children's literature in Tamil and Malayalam were presented by Dr. C. Sethupathi and Dr. S.R. Lal respectively. Prof. K. Nachimuthu chaired the valedictory session. Sri Neela Padmanabhan, Sahitya Akademi Award winner delivered an informative valedictory address. Dr. George Onakkur offered felicitations and Sri Nellai Su. Muthu, Editor, Kerala Tamil, proposed a vote of thanks.

## SYMPOSIUM ON SUBALTERN ELEMENTS IN NORTH KARNATAKA LITERATURE

September 9, 2015, Bellary

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in collaboration with Vijayanagara Sri Krishnadevaraya University organized a daylong symposium on 'Subaltern Elements in North Karnataka Literature' on 09 September 2015 in the University premises. Eminent Kannada writer Sri S.G. Siddaramaiah inaugurated the symposium and stressed the need to preserve the cultural traditions of tribal communities. Prof. T.M. Bhaskar, Registrar of the University chaired the symposium. The first session focused on 'Tribal Notions in North Kannada Literature' in which Sri Rajasekhara Halemane, Sri Venkatagiri V. Dalavai and Sri Vijay Boratti presented their papers. The second session, Sri V.B. Tarakeshwar and Sri Basavaraj Nellisari presented their papers on 'The Diverse Subaltern Groups'. Eminent Kannada writer Sri Shivaram Shetty in his speech insisted on the encouragement of writers who come forward to promote tribal literature.

## SYMPOSIUM ON 'READING AND REFLECTING MALAYALAM POETRY'

September 12, 2015, Calicut

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in collaboration with Sanghaditha, women's monthly, organized a daylong symposium on 'Reading and Reflecting Malayalam Poetry' on

12 September 2015 at Anweshi Women's Councelling Centre, Calicut. Ms. Jayanthi, Member of Kerla Sahitya Akademi welcomed the participants and gathering. Ms. Charulatha delivered introductory remarks. Smt. Savithri Rajeevan, Member, Malayalam Advisory Board inaugurated the symposium. In her keynote address, Dr. T.V. Suneetha lauded the efforts of 'Sanghaditha' magazine for having come forward to conduct the symposium. Presidential address was delivered by Ms. K. Ajitha, Managing Editor of 'Sanghaditha' and President of 'Anweshi'. The session concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by



Ms. Sreeja, Secretary of 'Anweshi'. The first session was chaired by Sri Kalpetta Narayanan wherein

Ms. V.M. Girija spoke on the works of Poetess Balamaniamma and Dr. P.M. Girish presented his paper on linguistics of poetry. In the next session, Ms. Usha Kumari spoke on feminist concepts handled in contemporary poetry. Ms. Girija Pathekkara shared the challenges she faced in publishing field. She was followed by Ms. Sheeba Divakaran, who spoke on the challenges faced by poetesses between their creative and personal lives. On the next day, the speakers presented their own poems which were evaluated by Sri Kalpetta Narayanan and Ms. V.M. Girija.

## LITERARY FORUM

September 12, 2015, Nellore

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in association with Pinakini Youth Welfare Association, Rathnamma Charitable Society conducted a literary forum on 'Indian Traditional Professions and My Short Story' on 12 September 2015 in Nellore. Sri Vommina Nagasatish Babu chaired the forum. Five writers presented their stories which were interpreted by one critic. Smt. V. Pratima read her story 'Raachapundu', Sri Vinjamuru Mastan Babu presented his story 'Akshinthalu', Sri Kothapalli Eshwar's story was 'Kannaiah', Sri Doggumati Padmakar read his story 'Pathanamkanni Manishi' and Sri Potluri Subramanyam presented his story called '4455'. A brief interactive session followed.

## LITERARY FORUM

September 15, 2015, Sringeri

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in association with JCBM College, Sringeri conducted a literary forum 'Sahitya Sourabha' on 15 September 2015 in Sringeri. The programme began with an invocation sung by Kum. Padmavathi and Smt. Leelavathi delivered welcome address.

Dr. Jayaprakash Maavinakuli, Member, Kannada Advisory Board inaugurated the forum. Dr. Veerappa Gowda presided over the event. Dr. K. Puttaiah, Dr. K.T. Parvathamma and Dr. Mohan Chandragutti

presented their papers. Sri Ramesh proposed a vote of thanks.

## LITERARY FORUM

September 17, 2015, Tirur

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in association with the Thunchan Ezhuthachan Malayalam University conducted a daylong workshop on 'Literature and Film' on 17 September 2015 at the University premises. Sri K. Jayakumar, Vice Chancellor of the University inaugurated the workshop. Dr. Pratheepan Pambirikkunnu, Member, Malayalam Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi presided over. Prof. Madhu Iravankara presented his paper on 'Word and Vision – Theoretical Approach', Sri Madhu Janardhanan spoke on 'Politics of Adaptation', Sri B. Shibu on 'Translation of Scripts', Sri Mammod Mondague on 'Literature and Culture in Shyamaprasad's Films' Sri T.K. Ummer on 'Subtitles – Language and Meaning' and Dr. MC Abdul Nazar on 'Rereading Uroob's Screenplays'. The session was compered and moderated by Prof. Anithakumari. Sri Anwar Abdulla proposed a vote of thanks.

## LITERARY FORUM

September 20, 2015, Kadapa

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in association with Lalit Kala Niketan, Kadapa organized a literary forum on 'Rayalaseema Drama – A Historical Study' on 20 September 2015 at C.P. Brown Research Centre for Languages, Kadapa. Dr. M. Mallikarjuna Reddy, Chairperson of Lalit Kala Niketan, welcomed the scholars and audience. Prof. Rachapalem Chandra Sekhara Reddy, Member, Telugu Advisory Board delivered introductory address. Dr. Rasani Venkata Ramaiah, Dr. Appireddy Harinatha Reddy, Dr. Amalladinne Venkataramana Prasad, Sri Y.G. Parkas and Sri V. Giridhar Kumar presented their papers on the social, mythological and historical dramas of Chittoor, Ananthapur and Kurnool districts of the Rayalaseema region. After paper presentations, a brief interactive session followed.

## HINDI SAPTAH

September 21, 2015, Bengaluru

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru organized 'Hindi Divas' as part of Hindi Week celebrations on 21 September 2015 at the Akademi premises in Bangalore. Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru, welcomed the guest, Dr. Bhanwar Singh Shaktawat, Assistant Professor, Jain University. In his guest address, he highlighted the need to learn Hindi language and elaborated on the richness of Hindi literature. Various competitions were held for the staff and prizes were distributed. Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar proposed a vote of thanks.

## LITERARY FORUM

September 22, 2015, Mangalore

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in association with the Mangalore University Kannada Teachers' Association organized a literary forum on 'Study of Ancient Kannada Literature – A Discourse in the Modern Context' on 22 September 2015 at Govindadasa College, Surathkal, Mangalore. Prof. Krishnamoorthi of Kannada Department delivered the welcome address. Eminent literary critic, Dr. Satyanarayan Mallipattana inaugurated the programme. Dr. B. Muralidhar Rao, Principal of the College gave his presidential remarks. Dr. Sampath Kumar, Dr. Sridhar, Dr. Meenakshi and Dr. Nagappa Gowda presented their papers. Prof. K. Rajmohan Rao delivered felicitations.

## KATHASANDHI

September 27, 2015, Warangal

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in collaboration with 'Sahridaya', Cultural and Literary Organization organized a 'Kathasandhi' with Sri Naveen, eminent Telugu fiction writer on 27 September 2015 at Vaagdevi Degree & P.G. College, Warangal. Sri L. Suresh Kumar, Programme Assistant, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru welcomed the guest speaker and introduced him to the audience. Sri

Naveen thanked Sahitya Akademi for having invited him and spoke in detail about his writings. He also quoted a few excerpts from his short stories. A brief interactive session followed. Dr. Girija Manohara Babu, Secretary of Sahridaya proposed a vote of thanks. The event was well covered in the print and electronic media.

## LITERARY FORUM

September 27, 2015, Warangal

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in collaboration with 'Sahridaya', Cultural and Literary Organization organized a literary forum on 'Telugu Katha' on 27 September 2015 at Vaagdevi Degree & P.G. College, Warangal. Sri L. Suresh Kumar, Programme Assistant, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru in his welcome speech highlighted the publication programme of the Akademi. Dr. G. Girija Manohara Babu, Secretary, Sahridaya presided over the event. Dr. K.P. Ashok Kumar spoke on Prapancheekarana, Dr. Banna Ilaiah on Telangana Katha Vikasam and Dr. Rama Chandramouli on Katha Kathanam – Katha Shilpam. Sri Kundavajula Krishnamoorthy of 'Sahridaya' proposed a vote of thanks.

## LITERARY FORUM

September 27, 2015, Vijayawada

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in collaboration with 'Sahiti Mithrulu' of Vijayawada organized a literary forum on 'A Decade of Telugu Kavitha Vikasam (2005 – 2015)' on 27 September 2015 at The Cultural Centre, Vijayawada. Sri Bandla Madhava Rao, a local poet delivered welcome address. Dr. Papineni Sivasankar, Member, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, presided over the forum. A book titled 'Dasabdi Telugu Kavitha Vikasam' was released by Smt. Munjuluri Krishnakumari, Director, A.I.R., Vijayawada on the occasion. Sri Darbhasayanam Srinivasacharya, Sri Kopaarathi Venkata Ramana Murthy and Dr. Sitharam participated and presented their papers. Sri Visveswara Rao proposed a vote of thanks on behalf of 'Sahiti Mithrulu'.

## LITERARY FORUM

September 28, 2015, Moodabidri

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in collaboration with Sri Mahaveera College, Moodabidri organized a literary forum 'Sahitya Loka' on 28 September 2015 at the College premises. Dr. Jayaprakash Mavinakuli, Member, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi inaugurated the programme. Sri Belagodu Ramesh Bhat spoke on the ancient Kannada literature. Sri Hamza Malar analyzed the origin of short stories in Kannada literature. Dr. Shuba Maravanthe in her paper examined the importance of poetry in literature. Sri Chandrashekhara Dixit, College Principal presided over the forum. Sri Harish proposed a vote of thanks.

## LITERARY FORUM

September 30, 2015, Bengaluru

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru organized a homage and tribute meet in respect of Dr. M.M. Kalaburgi, Sahitya Akademi Award winner and erudite scholar on 30 September 2015 at The Senate Hall, Central College Campus in Bengaluru. Dr. Chandrasekhara Kambar, Vice President, Sahitya Akademi presided over the meet. Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru, delivered welcome address. The forum began with the observation of a minute's silence as a mark of respect to the departed veteran litterateur. Dr. M.S. Ashadevi, Sri S.R. Vijayashankar, Dr. S.G. Siddaramaiah, Dr. Hampa Nagarajiah, Dr. Narahalli Balasubramanya and many other scholars took part in the meet paid glowing tributes to the departed legendary writer. All of them vehemently condemned the gruesome murder of Dr. M.M. Kalaburgi and stressed on the need to shun violence as such acts are big threats to communal harmony and peaceful living.

## LITERARY FORUM

October 2, 2015, Mumbai

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in association with the Kannada Department of Mumbai University organized a literary forum on 'Modern Kannada Poetry' at the University premises on 02 October 2015 in Mumbai. Dr. G.N. Upadhyaya, Member,

Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the speakers and the audience. Eminent Kannada poet Sri H. Dundiraj delivered keynote address. Sri V. Ga. Nayak, Dr. K.K. Kulkarni, Dr. Seetalaxmi Karkikodi participated and presented their papers. 3 books were also released on the occasion.

## MEET THE AUTHOR

October 3, 2015, Hyderabad

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru conducted a 'Meet the Author' programme featuring Sri Kapilavai Lingamurthy, eminent Telugu poet, critic and research scholar on 03 October 2015 at Andhra Saraswatha Parishad, Hyderabad. Dr. N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board introduced the guest speaker to the audience and spoke on his literary career. Sri Lingamurthy has thirteen satakas and kavyas to his credit and has attempted at about twenty various genres in literature which include reviews, Harikathas, Burrakathas, research works, lyrics, criticisms and so on.

## BIRTH CENTENARY SYMPOSIUM ON PALLA DURGAIAH

October 4, 2015, Hyderabad

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru organized a daylong symposium on the life and literary works of Palla Durgaiyah on 04 October 2015 at Andhra Saraswatha Parishad, Hyderabad. Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru welcomed the participants and the audience. Dr. N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board in his chair address remarked that Durgaiyah's works were commendable and also recited a few extracts from his poetry. Sri K.V. Ramanachari, Advisor to Telangana Government, in his speech highlighted his qualities and observed that Durgaiyah's works constitute a great treasure of Telangana's literature. Dr. Ammani Venugopal, Member, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, spoke on the critical observations made by Palla Durgaiyah on various Telugu poets. In the first session, Sri Manasa Chennappa chaired and also presented a paper on Durgaiyah's work 'Gangireddu' wherein Durgaiyah had depicted the travail of poor



farmers of Telangana region. Sri Sanganabhatla Narasaiah presented his paper on 'The Development of Prabandha Literature: A Research of Palla Durgaiiah' and he elaborated on the fine analysis and commentary contained in the treatise. In the second session that was chaired by Sri Bhoyi Vijaya Bharathi, papers were read by Sri Gannamaraju Girija Manohara Babu and Sri Chenna Keshava Reddy. Sri Gannamaraju's paper threw light on the way how Durgaiiah had depicted the pitiable state of farmers and Sri Chenna Keshava Reddy's paper made a deep analysis on Durgaiiah's lyrics. Dr. N. Gopi chaired the valedictory session and Sri C. Narayana Reddy, Fellow of Sahitya Akademi graced to be the chief guest of that session. Sri Narayana Reddy expressed his delight for having come forward to celebrate the birth centenary of a forgotten literary doyen. Sri Mamidi Harikrishna, Director, Department of Language & Culture, Government of Telangana, was the Guest of Honour and he remarked that he was elated at the literary activities that were being held in the newly formed Telangana state.

## KAVISANDHI

October 4, 2015, Hyderabad

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru organized a 'Kavisandhi' with Sri S.V. Satyanarayana, eminent Telugu poet, on the evening of 04 October 2015 at Andhra Saraswatha Parishad, Hyderabad. Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru welcomed the gathering. Dr. N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board gave a brief introduction of the chosen poet. Sri Satyanarayana gave a detailed description of his life and literary career. He was of the opinion that reality, beauty and philosophy are essential prerequisites for poetry. He also recited few of his poems. A brief interactive session followed.

## 150<sup>TH</sup> BIRTH ANNIVERSARY SYMPOSIUM ON PANUGANTI LAKSHMI NARASIMHA RAO

October 11, 2015, Guntur

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in collaboration with Annamayya Kalavedika conducted a daylong symposium on the 150th birth anniversary of 'Kavi Sekara' Panuganti Lakshmi Narasimha Rao' on 11 October 2015 at Padmavathi Kalyana Vedika,

Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple, Gudur. Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru delivered the welcome address. In his presidential address, Dr. N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board explored the multifaceted greatness of Sri Panuganti Rao. Dr. Papineni Sivasankar, Member, Telugu Advisory Board, in his keynote address remarked that Panuganti Rao was a source of inspiration to the writers of all ages and explained how prose form gained prominence through the pen of Panguanti. Sri Mandali Buddha Prasad, the Chief Guest and Deputy Speaker, A.P. Assembly, paid floral tributes to the photograph of Panuganti Rao. In his address, he observed that Panuganti Rao was one of the pioneers of modern Telugu Literature. He also added that Panuganti used his literary talents to reform the society. Sri Modugula Ravikrishna proposed a vote of thanks. The first session was chaired by Sri Modugula Ravikrishna. Sri Ravela Sambasiva Rao in his paper analysed on 'Humour and satire in 'Sakshi Essays' and Dr. S. Raghu read a paper on 'Panuganti as a Social Observer'. The second session was chaired by Sri Penugonda Lakshminarayana. In that session, Dr. Nariseti Venkata Krishna Rao deeply analysed Panuganti's play 'Kanthabharanam'. Smt. Koganti Uma Rani presented her paper on the life of women in his work 'Sakshi Essays'. Sri Talluri Labon Babu in his paper gave a detailed account of 'Diversity in Language in Sakshi Essays'. In the valedictory session, Dr. N. Gopi was the chief guest. Dr. Papineni Sivasankar summed up the day's proceedings. Sri Modugula Ravikrishna proposed a vote of thanks.

## KAVI SAMMELAN

October 18, 2015, Prakasam

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in association with Sahiti Sudha, Kanigiri conducted a Poets' Meet on 18 October 2015 in Kanigiri. Presidential remarks were given by Dr. Papineni Sivasankar, Member, Telugu Advisory Board. Dr. Rachapalem Chandrasekar Reddy, chief guest of the programme, spoke on the role of the Akademi in encouraging and promoting literature across various genres. Sri Kondreddy Venkateswara Reddy, Sri Sivaprasad, Ms. Gayathri, Sri Papireddy and Sri Bhaskar participated and recited their poems. Sri Bikki Krishna, Sri Niyogi, Smt. Shyamala, Sri Rama Kavacham Sagar and Sri Acharya took part and analyzed their recitations. Sri Hanuma Reddy, President, Prakasam District Writers' Association proposed a vote of thanks.

## SYMPOSIUM ON GURAJADA'S LITERARY CRITICISM

November 1, 2015, Srikakulam

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in collaboration with the Telugu Department of Gurajada Educational Society organized a daylong symposium on "Gurajada's Literary Criticism" on 01 November 2015 in Srikakulam. Sri Suresh Kumar, Programme Assistant, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru welcomed the audience and dignitaries. Sri N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, presided over the inaugural session and spoke on Gurajada's literary reformations. Sri G.V. Swamy Naidu, Chairman of Gurajada Educational Society delivered the inaugural address.



Symposium in progress

Sri Rachapalem Chandrasekhara Reddy, Member, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his keynote address analyzed his greatest work 'Kanyasulkam'. Sri Ampalam Srinivasa Babu proposed a vote of thanks in the inaugural session. Sri Attada Appala Naidu chaired and presented a paper on 'A Review of the Literary Criticism on Gurajada's Short Story' in the first session. Two other scholars, Sri B.V.A. Rama Rao presented a paper on 'Gurajada's Life and Literary Personality' and Sri Kalidasu Purushottam presented a paper on 'A Review of the Literary Criticism on "Kanyasulkam"' in the first session. Sri Ganteda Gowri Naidu chaired and presented a paper on 'A Review of the Literary Criticism on Gurajada's Poetry' in the second session. Two other scholars, Sri A. Gopala Rao presented a paper on 'A Review on Negative Criticism on

Gurajada's Literature' and Sri K. Sanjeeva Rao presented a paper on 'An Evaluation of Gurajada's Literary Criticism' in the second session. At the end of the second session, a short film "Kamalini" (Gurajada's Diddu Batu) was screened. Dr. N. Gopi chaired the valedictory session. Sri G.V. Swamy Naidu was the guest of honour in the valedictory session. Sri B. Gowrisankar Rao, in his address, summed up the day's proceedings. Sri Phulakandam Srinivasa Rao proposed a vote of thanks.

## PALAGUMMI PADMARAJU BIRTH CENTENARY SYMPOSIUM

November 14, 2015, Ganapavaram

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in collaboration with Rudraraju Foundation organized a daylong symposium on 'Palagummi Padmaraju' to commemorate his birth centenary. Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru, welcomed the audience and gathering. Dr. N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, presided over the inaugural session and highlighted Palagummi Padmaraju's literary achievements. Sri R.V.S. Raju, Founder Chairman of Rudraraju Foundation delivered the inaugural address. Smt. C. Mrunalini, Member, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired and presented a paper on 'Padmaraju as Political Writer' in the first session. Two other scholars, Sri P.L.N. Prasad presented a paper on 'Bathikina College – An Analysis' and Sri Vedagiri Rambabu presented a paper on 'Technique in Short Stories of Padmaraju' in the first session. Sri Rasa Raju chaired the second session and three noted scholars presented their papers. Sri Ch. Kumaraiah's topic was 'Humour in Padmaraju's Writings', Smt. Vadrevu Veeralakshmi Devi's paper focused on 'Influence of English Literature on Padmaraju's Writings' and Sri R.S. Venkateswararao presented a paper on 'Padmaraju's Dramas'. Sri Yendluri Sudhakar delivered the valedictory address and Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar proposed a vote of thanks.

## NATIONAL BOOK WEEK

November 14–21, 2015, Bengaluru

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in association with City Central Library, to commemorate National Book Week organized weeklong book exhibition and literary programmes between 14th and 20th November 2015 at Sri Vidyaranya Bhavan, Hampinagara, Bengaluru. In the inaugural session, Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Bengaluru, delivered the welcome address. The programme was inaugurated by Sri Siddhalingaiah, eminent Kannada poet. Dr. Narahalli Balasubramanya, Convener, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi chaired the inaugural session. Sri Bolwar Mahammed Kunhi, eminent writer and Sri Na. Damodara Shetty, Member, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, delivered guest lectures. On 17th November 2015, a programme “Book Culture – A Dialogue” was organized. Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar welcomed the participants and dignitaries. In this programme, four noted scholars, Sri Girish Wagh, Sri K. Satyanarayana, Sri Prakash Kambathalli and Sri Rajashekhara Badigannavara participated and presented their papers. The valedictory programme was organized and Dr. Chandrashekar Kambar, Vice President, Sahitya Akademi chaired the session. He talked on the importance of promoting book culture and emphasized on holding literary interactions to enhance book culture. Sri Satish Kumar Hosamani, Director, Department of Library, Government of Karnataka delivered the valedictory address and thanked the Akademi for coming forward to host literary programmes. Dr. Narahalli Balasubramanya and Smt. C. Parvathamma, Deputy Director, City Central Library, delivered guest lectures.

## BUCHI BABU BIRTH CENTENARY SEMINAR

November 15, 2015, Eluru

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in association with Sahithi Mithrulu, Eluru organized a daylong seminar on Buchi Babu, to commemorate his birth centenary on 15 November 2015 Hotel Madhulatha Conference Hall, Eluru. Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru, delivered the welcome

address. Dr. N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the inaugural session and spoke on how Buchi Babu's works have been influencing generation of writers from time to time. Sri Lanka Venkateswarulu, President of Sahithi Mithrulu delivered inaugural address and Smt. Sivaraju Subbalakshmi was the guest of honour in the inaugural session. Keynote address was delivered by Smt. Katyayani Vidmahe, eminent Telugu writer. In the first session, Sri Addepalli Rama Mohana Rao chaired and presented a paper on “Aesthetics in Buchi Babu's Writings”. Two other scholars, Smt. K.N. Malleswari presented a paper on “Short Stories of Buchi Babu and Family Relations” and Sri Y. Rama Krishna Rao presented a paper on “Chivaraku Migiledi – Stream of Consciousness “in the first session. In the second session, Sri Thallavajjala Patanjali Sastry chaired and presented a paper on “Short Stories of Buchi Babu – Psychological Analysis”. Two other scholars, Sri R. Seetharama Rao presented a paper on “Buchi Babu's Writings – Existentialism” and Smt. Putla Hemalatha presented a paper on “Essays of Buchi Babu”. The valedictory session was chaired by Sri N. Gopi and Sri Yendluri Sudhakar, Member, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the valedictory address.

## SYMPOSIUM ON TELUGU LITERATURE IN KALINGANDHRA

November 22, 2015, Berhampur

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in association with Vikasam, Berhampur, organized a daylong symposium on “Telugu Literature in Kalingandhra” on 22 November 2015 at Rotary Centennial Hall, Berhampur. Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru, delivered the welcome address. Dr. N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his chair message elaborated on Akademi's ventures in promoting Telugu literature. Sri D. Sahadeva Rao was the guest of honour in the inaugural session and the keynote address was delivered by Sri Vijaychandra, Secretary of Vikasam. Sri Sripathi chaired and presented a paper on “Kalingandhra Short Story, Novel Echo of Social Identity” in the first session. Sri P. Dinakar presented a paper on “Tapi Dharma Rao: A Reformist Writer”, Sri Tatiraju Venkateswar



Rao presented a paper on “Uppala Lakshmana Rao’s ‘Athadu – Aame’ – Focus on Nationalist Movement, Gender Equality” and Sri Medipalli Ravi Kumar presented a paper on “Modern Telugu Poets of Kalingandhra” in the first session. Sri Chaganti Tulasi chaired and presented a paper on “Translations and Literary Exchanges with Neighbouring Languages” in the second session. Sri D. Sahadeva Rao presented a paper on “Literary Contribution of Panchagnula Adinarayana Sastry”, Sri Guda Sriramulu presented a paper on “Scales and Parameters in Literary Criticism” and Smt. Turlapati Rajeswari presented a paper on “Primitivity of Telugu in Kalingandhra” in the second session. Sri N. Gopi chaired the valedictory session and Sri M.V. Kameswara Rao, Vice President of Vikasam delivered the valedictory address.

## SYMPOSIUM

November 28, 2015, Bengaluru

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru organized a symposium on “Ikkiwein Sadi Mein Urdu Nazm” on 28 November 2015 at Al-Ameen College, Bengaluru. Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru, welcomed the participants and dignitaries. The first session was chaired by Sri Mushtaf Iqbal Tausifi and three scholars, Sri Haqqani Ul Qasami, Sri Maher Mansoor and Sri Suleman Kumar presented their papers. The first session concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Shaista Yusuf. Post lunch, the second session was chaired by Dr. Shaista Yusuf and three noted scholars, Dr. Afaq Alam Siddiqi, Dr. Zubaida Begum and Sri Sajeed Hameed presented their papers. Dr. Shaista summed up the day’s proceedings and proposed a vote of thanks.

## LITERARY FORUM

December 4, 2015, Tumkur

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in association with Dr D.V. Gundappa Centre for Kannada Studies, Tumkur University, organized a literary forum on ‘Bharatiya Kavya Meemanse (Indian Poetics)’ at Science College Campus, Tumkur University in Tumkur on December 4, 2015. In her inaugural lecture, Dr B N Sumitra Bai, a renowned Kannada critic and feminist writer, said that the basic concepts of Bharateeya

kavyameemamse should come out of Sanskritised clutches and grow in our plural linguistic environment. The studies of Natyashastra and Alamkara have been negligent in these days, whereas conducting deeper studies in these subjects lead to new lights and heights she said. She spoke on the tradition of Indian poetics. Prof. A H Raja sab, Vice Chancellor of Tumkur University opined that the very knowledge of Kavyameemamsa is in Sanskrit and sincere effort should be made in all our local dialects to reach common man and those who are interested. Kavyameemamsa should reflect our plural voices, he narrated. Prof. P V Narayana, a veteran writer spoke on “Cognizance of Rasa”. He picked several examples from Pampa Bharata to endorse his points. Dr. R Lakshminarayana, ancient and modern Kannada scholar spoke on T. N Shrikanthaiah’s other writings and Kuntaka’s Vakrokti Jivita. In his talk on facets of Indian poetics and special reference to Dhwanyalooka of Anandavardhana, Dr. J Srinivas murthy, a Sanskrit and Kavyameemamsa scholar from Bengaluru narrated the very relationship between Kavyameemamsa and Darshanas. In his valedictory address Prof. S G Siddharamaiah, renowned Kannada critic said that the debate on ancient literary aspects and modern thinking should be conducted in the departments, so that it could ignite young minds. The programme was witnessed by hundreds of literary students of Kannada and English and people interested as well. Dr. Annamma, the chairperson of Dr. D V Gundappa Kannada Adhyayana Kendra and the staff of the department, Prof. D V Paramashiva moorthy, and professor, Dr. Nityananda B Shetty, Dr. P M Gangadharaiah, and Dr. Nagabhushan were present. The programme was compeered and conducted by Dr. Shripad Bhat, Dr. D V Gundappa Kannada Adhyayana Kendra, Tumkur University.

## LITERARY FORUM

December 12, 2015, Bengaluru

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in association with Atta Galatta, Bengaluru, organized a literary forum: A Colloquium with Dr. Neal Hall, eminent doctor and writer on 12 December 2015 at Atta Galatta Bookstore, Bengaluru. Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru delivered the welcome address. Smt. Ambika Ananth, eminent bilingual writer gave introductory remarks. Dr. Neal Hall recited some of his poems and a brief interactive session followed the speech and recitations.



## LITERARY FORUM

December 15, 2015, Bengaluru

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in association with the Hindi department of Jain University, Bengaluru organized a poetry reading session featuring Sri Rajendra Upadhyay, renowned Hindi poet on 15 December 2015 at the Universtiy premises. Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru, delivered welcome address. Dr. Maithili Rao of Hindi department introduced the guest poet to the audience. Sri Rajendra recited some of his poems. An interactive session followed the recitations. Dr. Premi proposed a vote of thanks.

## NARI CHETNA

December 19, 2015, Mumbai

The Regional office of Sahitya Akademy at Bengaluru in association with Kannada Department, Mumbai University organised Nari Chetana Programme at J.P.Nayak Bhavan, Mumbai University on 19th Dec 2015. Dr.G.N.Upadhya, Member, Kannada Advisory Board welcomed the guest writer and audience. He spoke in brief about activities of the Sahitya Akademi. Scholar and noted critic Dr. Mamata Rao, Asst Prof. Dr.Poornima.S.Shetty, Poet Hema Sadanand Amin, writer Anasuya Galagali expressed challanges before women writers and literature, freedom and identity crisis among women. There was a brief interactive session followed by the lecture of well-known writers like Dr.Vyasrao Ninjoor, Dr. G.D.Joshi, and Dr. Shivarama Shetty. Kannada Department Research Scholars attended the event. Durgappa Kotiyavar proposed vote of thanks.

## SYMPOSIUM ON DALIT WRITINGS OF SOUTH INDIA

December 29, 2015, Bengaluru

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in association with Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Study and Research Centre, Bangalore University organized a daylong symposium on “Dalit Writings of South India” on 29 December 2015 at Jnanabharati campus, Bangalore. Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional



Inaugural session of the symposium in progress

Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru delivered welcome address. Prof. B. Thimmegowda, Vice Chancellor of Bangalore University inaugurated the symposium. Dr. Chandrashekar Kambar, Vice President, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the inaugural session. Prof. K.K. Seethamma, Registrar, Bangalore University and Dr. Narahalli Balasubramanya, Convener, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, were the chief guests on the occasion. Dr. Siddalingaiah, Director of the Research Centre delivered the keynote address. Dr. Sharada proposed a vote of thanks at the end of the inaugural session. In the first session, Sri S. Anilkumar presented a paper on “Dalit Fiction in Malayalam” and Dr. M.B. Manoj presented a paper on “Dalit Poetry in Malayalam”. In the second session, Sri Chilukuri Devaputra presented a paper on “Dalit Fiction in Telugu” and Dr. Putla Hemalatha presented a paper on “Dalit Poetry in Telugu”. Post lunch, the third session continued wherein Sri Ravikumar presented a paper on “Dalit Fiction in Tamil” and Dr. Aranga Mallika presented a paper on “Dalit Poetry in Tamil”. In the fourth and last session, papers were presented by Dr. Mogalli Ganesh on “Dalit Fiction in Kannada” and Dr. K. Anusuya Kamble on “Dalit Poetry in Kannada”.



## POETS' MEET

September 4, 2015, Mayiladuthurai

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai, in association with the AVC College, Mayiladuthurai, organized a Poets' Meet on September 4, 2015 at the college premises in Mayiladuthurai. Prof K. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the meet and briefly talked about the poetic traditions of Tamil Nadu and Sahitya Akademi's initiatives to promote such traditions. Dr. Durai Gunasekaran, Head, Dept. of Tamil, AVC College, welcomed the participants and audience. Prof Ramaswamy, Principal, AVC College, felicitated the poets. Noted poets, Arasianban, Panneerselvam and A. M. Jawahar, recited their compositions. A brief interactive session followed the recitations. Dr. S. Tamilvelu proposed a vote of thanks.

## LITERARY FORUM

September 16, 2015, Tiruppur

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai, in association with the Chikkanna Govt Arts College, Tiruppur, organized a literary forum on 'Modern Tamil Literature' on September 16, 2015 at the college premises in Tiruppur. Prof K. Shanmugasundaram, Principal, Chikkanna Govt Arts College, inaugurated the forum and spoke about various literary perspectives of Tamil literature. Noted Tamil litterateurs, Subrabharathimanian, Kulandaivelu and Thandavkon, spoke about 'Tamil novel and its modern aspects,' 'Modern Tamil stories and marginalized people's world in it' and 'Media and modern Tamil Literature' respectively. Prof N. Balasubramanian, Head, Dept of Tamil, Chikkanna Govt Arts College, proposed a vote of thanks.

## CELEBRATION OF HINDI WEEK

September 16, 2015, Chennai

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai celebrated Hindi week on September 16, 2015 at the Akademi premises in Chennai. Sri K. P. Radhakrishnan welcomed the guest, Sri Sourji Rajan

and talked briefly about Akademi's efforts to promote Hindi across India. Sri Sourji Rajan, talked about the importance and relevance of Hindi and the need for every citizen of India to learn the language. Various competitions were held for the staff of the Chennai Sahitya Akademi staff and Sri Sourji Rajan distributed the prizes.

## NORTH EAST AND SOUTHERN WRITERS' MEET

September 19-20, 2015, Puducherry

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai, in association with the Pondicherry Institute of Linguistics and Culture, organized a North East and Southern Writers' Meet at the Pondicherry State Cooperative Union Hall in Puducherry on September 19-20, 2015.

In the inaugural session, Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and presented overview and rationale of Sahitya Akademi organizing North East and Writers of other regions of India. He highlighted several cultural and literary commonalities between North Eastern States and other parts of India especially Tamil Nadu. In his introductory address, Prof K. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, observed that literature can be a solid bridge between the communities of North Eastern India and other parts of the country and highlighted dearth of quality translators is impeding the enhanced understanding between these regions and rest of India. In his inaugural address, Prof Manoj Das, eminent Odia writer and Fellow of Sahitya Akademi, talked about varied linguistic and literary traditions of India and praised Sahitya Akademi's efforts in uniting and integrating them. He highlighted a significant fact



Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, delivering welcome address



that the meet will see the interaction of Tamil, one of the oldest language of the country and Kokborok, youngest language of the country. A delightful interactions such as these are the factors drive meets of this type. In his Presidential address, Dr. Chandrasekhara Kamar, Vice President, Sahitya Akademi, talked about sustained efforts to unite cultures and traditions and observed that though individuals and institutions have been translating, adopting etc, he felt that this might not be enough. He said all such efforts should not only aim at uniting traditions but to bring back originality to various linguistic and literary traditions of the country. Prof K. C. Baral, in his special address on confluence of minds and traditions, talked about the similarities of cultural, linguistic and literary traditions with rivers and like the confluence of rivers and oceans, confluence of these traditions also provide magnificent output. He talked about various non-alienable traits of North Eastern traditions and culture and how similarities can be found in various traditions across India. Sri Sundara Murugan, Member, Tamil Advisory Board, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the session, four noted poets, Sri Prema Narayan Nath (Assamese), Ms. Jogamaya Chakma (Chakma), Sri Nagathihalli Ramesh (Kannada) and Sri N. Sukumaran (Tamil) recited their compositions.

In the first session, that was a panel discussion on translating culture and chaired by Dr. Narahalli Balasubramnya, three noted scholars, Basavaraj Donur (Kannada), Sri Ranjit Thokchom (Manipuri) and Dr. R. Sambath (Tamil) presented perspectives from the languages point of view.

In the evening at 'Loka: The Many Voices' an Assamese troupe presented Bihu songs and dances.

In the second session devoted to short story reading and chaired by Sri G.P. Sarma, five noted short story writers, Sri Halemane Rajasekhar (Kannada), Sri Susmesh Chandroth (Malayalam) Ms. Surma N. Devi (Manipuri), Dr. C. Sethupathi (Tamil) and Sri Datla Devadanam Raju (Telugu), readout their short stories.

In the third session devoted to 'Why do I Write?' and chaired by Sri G.P. Sarma, four noted scholars, Sri Debabrat Das (Assamese), Sri Samsher Ali (Nepali), Prof K. Panchangam (Tamil) and Sri J.S. Moorthy (Telugu), presented their views on their creative life, works and the process of creative writing.

In the fourth session that was a Poets' Meet and chaired by Prof N. Gopi, seven noted poets, Sri Nabin Malla Boro (Bodo), Sri Bodhrai Deb Barma (Kokborok), Sri Haridas (Malayalam), Ms. Khwaririkpam Sunita

Devi (Manipuri), Sri Binod Raisily (Nepali), Ms. S. Vijayalakshmi (Tamil) and Sri Damera Ramulu (Telugu), recited their compositions.

## LITERARY FORUM

September 25, 2015, Trichy

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai, in association with the Bishop Heber College, Trichy, organized a literary forum on 'Literary Trends' on September 25, 2015 at the college premises in Trichy. Dr. A.C. Henry Amritaraj, Vice Principal, Bishop Heber College, presided the forum and talked about changing trends of Tamil literary milieu and provided an overview of Tamil literary trends from Sangam period onwards. Dr. R. Kamarasu, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, in his introductory address, welcomed the participants and audience and talked briefly about various efforts of Sahitya Akademi to promote Tamil literature. Noted Tamil litterateurs, Sri Anthony Cruz, Sri P. Mathivanan and Sri A. Gunasekaran, talked about 'Trends in Poetry,' 'Trends in Short Stories' and 'Trends in Novels' respectively. Dr. R. Vijayarani, Head, Dept. of Tamil, Bishop Heber College, proposed a vote of thanks.

## MEET THE AUTHOR

September 26, 2015, Chennai

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai organized a Meet the Author programme with the distinguished Tamil writer and critic, Sri Sa. Kandasamy on September 26, 2015 at the Book point auditorium in Chennai. Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the guest writer and audience and spoke briefly about various qualities of Sri Sa Kandasamy and described him as a friend of Sahitya Akademi over 30 thirty years. Sri Sa Kandasamy thanked the Akademi and spoke briefly about his early life, his works, influences on his works, the process of creative writing, commonalities in his works, the relevance of criticism and the place of man among the works of modern Tamil writers. He highlighted what he calls as fundamental literary principle that underlies all his works that "the purpose of storytelling is to convey all that has not been conveyed by the sounds of the story." Prof K. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the guest speaker and Sri Maalan, Member, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks. A brief interactive session followed the lecture by Sri Sa. Kandasamy.



## LITERARY FORUM

September 28, 2015, Puducherry

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai, in association with the Pondicherry Institute of Linguistics and Culture, organized a literary forum on 'Language and Literature' at the Institute premises in Puducherry, on September 28, 2015. Dr. R. Sambath, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi to promote language and literature in the country and highlighted the Akademi's efforts to promote Tamil literature. Three noted Tamil litterateurs, Sri Arimapandian, Sri Na. Mu. Thamizhmani and Ms. Poongodi Parangusam, presented various modern perspectives on language and literature in Tamil literary and cultural milieu. Sri Sundara Murugan, Member, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

## SEMINAR ON YOUNG WRITING IN TAMIL

September 30 & October 1, 2015, Madurai

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai, in association with the Department of Tamil, Lady Doak College, Madurai, organized a two-day seminar on Young Writing in Tamil at the college auditorium in Madurai on September 30, 2015 and October 1, 2015.

In the inaugural session, Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi to promote young writers, poets, playwrights and translators across the country and in all the 24 officially recognized languages of India. In his Presidential address, Prof. K. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked about the necessity to promote literature by youth as young people are backbone of any civilization. He praised the Akademi for promoting young writing in all the languages and highlighted the impact of Sahitya Akademi's Yuva Puraskar on young authors across the country. In his keynote address, Sri M. Rajendran, Editor, Kanaiyazhi, presented an overview of the evolution of young writing in Tamil over the years and highlighted some of the important young Tamil writers in the current scenario.

In the first session devoted to 'Myself and My Writing' and chaired by Ms. Andal Priyadarshini, three noted young writers, Sri R. Abilash, Sri Ke. Veerapandian and Ms. Lakshmi Saravanakumar talked about their creative world and shared their experiences as creative writers.

In the second session devoted to 'Young Writing Today in Tamil' and chaired by Ms. Tamilselvi, two noted young scholars, Sri Sureshkumara Indrajit and Ms. Chandra, presented their papers on current young writing in Tamil.

In the third session devoted to readings and chaired by Prof P. Sivakami, young staff members of Lady Doak College presented readings of their select short stories and poems.

In the fourth session devoted to 'Promising Young Writing' and chaired by Sri N. Sivasubramanian, three noted young writers, Sri B. Anandakumar, Sri K. Parthibha Raja and Sri Stalin Rajangam presented their papers on the theme.

In the fifth session devoted to 'Future of Young Writing in Tamil' and chaired by Sri D. Seenichamy, three noted young writers, Sri N. Jeyabaskaran, Ms. Mubin Sadhika and Ms. Vidhya, presented their papers.

In the valedictory session, Dr. R. Kamarasu, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the session, Sri Vannadasan, eminent Tamil writer, delivered the valedictory address, Sri Su. Venkatesan, well-known Tamil writer, presented felicitations and Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan proposed a vote of thanks.

## POETS' MEET

October 3, 2015, Vedaranyam

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai organized a 'Poets' Meet' at the Pensioners' Association Office in Vedaranyam on October 3, 2015. Dr. R. Kamarasu, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the meet and spoke briefly about various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi to promote Tamil literature before introducing the poets to the audience. Five noted poets, Sri Puyal Kumar, Sri Vaimainathan, Sri Vetriperoli, Ms. Era Pe. Vetrichelvi and Ms. Pu. Indira Gandhi, participated in the meet and recited their compositions. Sri Puyal Kumar delivered the introductory address and also recited few of his recent compositions. Prof K. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, offered felicitations and talked about how Sahitya Akademi acts as a bridge that connects people and literature by carrying best of Indian literature to all nook and corner of India. Sri Ambikapathi proposed vote of thanks.

## NARI CHETNA

October 16, 2015, Tiruvarur

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai, in association with the Rabiyyammal Ahamed Maideen College for Women, organized a 'Nari Chetna' programme featuring three noted young Tamil writers at the college premises in Tiruvarur on October 16, 2015. Prof D. Masilamani, Head, Dept. of

Tamil, welcomed the participants and introduced them to audience. Prof K. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the event and talked briefly about various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi to promote young women writers in India, especially in Tamil. He also spoke about the importance of promoting women's writing in the country. Prof A. Valliyammai, Principal of the College, offered felicitations and thanked the Akademi for organizing the event in the college. Three noted women writers, Ms. Thenmozhi, Ms. Nitha Ezhilarasi and Ms. Nagai Kavini, spoke about various facets of Tamil women writing, struggle of women in general and women writers in particular. Sri S.M. Miskin, Secretary of the College proposed vote of thanks.

## HOMAGE MEETING

October 23, 2015, Chennai

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai paid homage to Sri Venkat Swaminathan, distinguished Tamil critic, on October 23, 2015 at the Akademi office premises. After the observation of a minute's silence as a mark of respect for the departed writer, Dr S. Rajmohan, Assistant Editor, Sahitya Akademi, talked about immense contribution of Sri Venkat Swaminathan in his long and illustrious career, his works, his contributions to Tamil literature, art and movies and his long association with Sahitya Akademi.

## VIGILANCE AWARENESS LECTURE

October 29, 2015, Chennai

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai organized a lecture of vigilance awareness by Sri A. Venkatesan, Senior Accounts Officer (Vigilance), Chennai Telephones, as part of Vigilance Awareness Week at the Akademi office premises in Chennai on October 29, 2015. Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai, welcomed and introduced the guest speaker to the staff of Chennai office of Sahitya Akademi. In his lecture, Sri Venkatesan talked about corruption, roots of corruption, necessity of staff to maintain vigilance, various preventive mechanisms and measures enshrined in the services and observed that despite various checks and balances available, the onus is ultimately on the individual. He said that officers should maintain strict vigil over the staff and check the signs of corruption at the early stages to prevent any misdeed by any staff. A brief interactive session followed the lecture. Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan proposed vote of thanks.

## CENTENARY SYMPOSIUM ON HAIKU

November 3, 2015, Karaikal

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai, in association with Avvaiyar Government College organized a daylong symposium at the college premises in Karaikal on November 3, 2015.

In the inaugural session, Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai, welcomed the participants, audience and other dignitaries and spoke briefly about various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi to promote various forms of poetry across India and in 24 languages. In his address, Dr R. Sambath, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, who also chaired the inaugural session, traced the similarities between Haiku and ancient Tamil poetry, especially those composed during the Sangam age. He cited the examples of Tholkappiyam, Pathupaattu, Ettu Thogai etc. He highlighted that great Tamil poet of modern India, Sri Subramania Bharathi, has written about Haiku in Sudesamitran and observed that it is very appropriate that Sahitya Akademi is commemorating the centenary of Haiku in Tamil language. He also enumerated on the nature of Haiku and grammar involved. Prof V. Anandhan, Principal, Avvaiyar Government

College for Women, offered felicitations, thanked the Akademi for organizing the symposium in the college and appealed to the Akademi to organize more literary events in Karaikal. Prof V. Anandhan released the book on poet Kambathasan, published by Sahitya Akademi and Sri Sayubu Maraikar, noted Tamil writer received the first copy. Sri Sundara Murugan, Member, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked about the forms of Haiku and proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session, Dr N. Ilango, Head, Dept. of Tamil, Avvaiyar Government College for Women, chaired the session and presented a paper on 'Social Thoughts in Haiku.' He drew parallels between Haiku and ancient Tamil poetry and also cited the examples of Koans. In the session, two noted poets, Sri Thamizh Nenjan and Ms. G. Thenmozhi, presented their papers on 'Origin of Haiku – Puducherry' and 'Outcry in Haiku' respectively. Both the papers focused on various forms of Haiku expressions, their social relevance in 21st century and the benefits of Haiku over traditional poetry in the modern world. The second session was chaired by Sri Seenu Thamizhmani, noted Haiku poet and presented a paper on 'Genre of Haiku.' He highlighted various types of Haiku written by Haiku poets of Puducherry. In the session, two noted Haiku poets, Ms. Oviyam Thamizhselvi

and Sri Pa. Thirunavukarasu, presented their papers 'Haiku-A Feminist Approach' and 'Haiku-An Aesthetic Approach' focusing on the role of women poets in the genre of Haiku and a number of aesthetic elements present in Haiku, respectively. A large number of writers, scholars and poets from Karaikal attended the symposium.

## LITERARY FORUM

November 6, 2015, Tiruvarur

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai, in association with the Central University of Tamil Nadu, organized a literary forum (a story reading session) at the University premises in Tiruvarur on November 6, 2015. Prof P. Velmurugan, Associate Professor in the University, welcomed the participants and audience. Prof K. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the forum and spoke about various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi in promoting Tamil language and literature. He introduced the participants to audience. In the story reading session, three noted Tamil fiction writers, Sri Sivakumar Muthaiah, Sri R. Kariappa and Sri Arangarasan, read out their short stories. A brief interactive session followed the readings. Prof K. Jawahar, Assistant Professor in the University, proposed a vote of thanks.

## NATIONAL BOOK WEEK

November 14-20, 2015, Thiruvananthapuram

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai, to commemorate National Book Week organized a weeklong book exhibition, literary programmes and documentary screenings at the YMCA Hall in Thiruvananthapuram on November 14-20, 2015. In the inaugural function held on November 14, 2015, Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai, welcomed the participants and audience. Sri Neela Padmanabhan, eminent Tamil and Malayalam writer, delivered the inaugural address. Smt. Savitri Rajeevan, Member, Malayalam Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the function. Sri C.P. Nair, eminent Malayalam writer, was the Guest of Honor. All the speakers talked about importance, relevance and role of books in one's life. On November 15, 2015, documentary films on Sri U.R. Ananthamurthy directed by Krishna Masadi, on Sri Neela Padmanabhan directed by Sri V. Gowthaman and on Sri Thakazhi Siva Sankara Pillai directed by Sri M.T. Vasudevan Nair were screened. On November 16, 2015, a poets' meet featuring noted Malayalam poets was held. Distinguished poet and scholars. Sri Puthussery Ramachandran chaired the Meet and three noted Malayalam poets, Sri Neelam Peroor Madhusoodhanan Nair, Smt. Prabha Varma and Sri N. Sukumaran, recited their compositions. On November 17, 2015, documentary films on Smt. Kamala Das directed by Sri Suresh Kohli, on Sri Sunil Gangopadhyay directed by Utpalendu Chakraborti and on Sri Vaikom Muhammad Basheer directed by Sri M. A. Rahman were screened, On November 18, 2015, a Nari Chetna programme featuring noted women Malayalam writers was held. Smt. Chandramathi chaired the programme and three noted Malayalam women writers, Smt. Savitri Rajeevan, Smt. Rosemary and Smt. Rati Saxena, participated and spoke about various issues concerning women writing in Kerala. On November 19, 2015, documentary films on Sri M.T. Vasudevan Nair directed by Sri Hari Kumar, on Sri O.N.V. Kurup directed by Sri K. Jayakumar and on Sri Ayyappa Paniker directed by Sri Rajagopalan were screened. On November 20, 2015, a panel discussion on 'Why do I write?' featuring noted Malayalam critics was held. Sri George Onakkur chaired the session and three noted Malayalam

critics, Sri Babu Paul, Sri V. Rajakrishnan and Sri Gopi Krishnan Kottoor, spoke about various facets of creative writing and on reasons which propelled them to write.

## SYMPOSIUM ON COMPARISON OF POETS OF MODERN TAMIL AND MALAYALAM

November 20, 2015, Mahe

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi, in association with Sri Narayana College of Education, Mahe, organized a daylong symposium on 'Comparison of Poets of Modern Tamil and Malayalam' at the college premises in Mahe on November 20, 2015.

In the inaugural session, Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai, welcomed the participants, audience and other dignitaries and spoke briefly about various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi to promote various forms of poetry across India and in 24 languages. He observed that symposia of this type are important as they lead to increased understanding between litterateurs of two languages. In his speech, Dr R. Sambath, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, talked about the similarities and differences in the production, nature, genres indulged in and craft deployed by the modern poets of Tamil and Malayalam. Prof A. Unnikrishnan, Principal, Sri Narayana College of Education, offered felicitations, thanked the Akademi for organizing the symposium in the college premises and talked about essential differences in the literary productions of Tamil and Malayalam. He cited various critical works to substantiate his point. In his keynote address, Dr Ilambharathi, noted translator and Sahitya Akademi Translation Prize recipient, talked at length about commonalities between Malayalam and Tamil literature and observed that enhanced translations between these two languages will lead to increased understanding and greater cooperation. He talked about the genres of stories, novels, poems and criticism in these two languages. Sri Sundara Murugan, Member, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.



Sri M. Parameswaran chaired the first session and also presented a paper on 'Impact of Malayalam Literary and Cultural elements in Sundara Ramasamy's portrayal of children, women and men.' Two noted scholars, Sri Nirmalya and Sri Manjakkal Upendiran, presented their papers 'Poems of Sachithanandhan – Impacts on Modern Tamil Aesthetics' and 'Vallatholle and Bharathiyar' respectively. In the second session, five noted Malayalam poets, Sri A. Gangadharan, Sri Rajan Edayil Peedika, Sri Mukundan Pulari, Sri Jinachandran Chombala and Sri M. Ajaykumar, recited their Malayalam compositions. In the valedictory session, Prof Uru. Asokan chaired and talked about the confluence and influence of Malayalam and Tamil literature. Sri H. Padhmanaban delivered the valedictory address and talked about 'Regional dialects in Tamil, Malayalam Novels with special reference to the works of Suryakanthan and M.Mukundan.' Many noted writers, scholars and poets from Mahe participated in the symposium.

## NORTH-EAST AND SOUTHERN POETRY FESTIVAL

December 6, 2015, Kochi

Central Sahitya Academy organized North Eastern southern Kavyotsavu at Cochin on 6th December 2015. These days Cochin celebrated an extraordinary kavyotsavu. Cochin International pustakotsavu related to this conference. 15 famous poets participated from different state with different languages. The above 15 poet submitted their own views on poetic and inner side mind of poet Bharatiya poetic definition explained on their words through child hood youth and old age of human. Old age is a helpless time, and living alone without help. Some poet described in the society inequality and partiality and communal violence. Many opposed society's communal violence. They hoped unity in diversity will come in the future. On December 6th morning, at 11 pm Central Academy office manager, Sri. K.P Radha Krishnan did vote of thanks. According this own words culture started from Himalaya and co-ordinated different cultures

spread over on Ganga river and ultimately they united one thing as unity in Indian culture. The truth of unity, in diversity sustaining, through the exchange of all Indians. Different poet from different state presented their own poetic words. All listeners felt an extra ordinary opportunity at that time. Mr. C. Radha Krishnan also said this type of poetic conference in Kerala we can see the new foreign comers of Yhoodas, Christian and Muslim cultures welcomed and adopted at Cochin. Our cultures and routines they absorbed at that time we adopted their own goodness without any restrictions. Firstly, poets presented recitation on mother language and after translated in English. Sr. Rajeev Bora is a good professor in Assamies College. 'Thatini' Thirarkhela, Dhavum Panibhannona' three types of poems written. Also, he had written a good poem about his father's death, named as Anubhavam. This is a real picture of sadistic seen anyone occurring father's death. Manipuri poems, represented by poet Sri. Mangal sinha is a good writer and philosopher and translator. He is a good tribal officer of Tripura government. He presented a famous poem and Lekhanam. This poem subject is true love story of youth. It beautifully covering a human Pranayam. The poem also described old memories real truth experience of love and present dangerous stages of Pranayam. Malayalam poet Sri. B. Haridas presented two poems. He is a famous advocate in Trivandrum court. According to his own voice through poems "Ezhutho Ninte Kazhutho" through proclaimed If any one lose his Kazuthu, We have to strictly support and clinch for Ezhuthu without any negotiation. A famous Tamil Dalit poet Sri. N.D Rajkumar published 7 poetic books. His is an actor, Drama writer and a good singer, He is also teaching Karnatic sangeeth. His famous poem in 'Amma' through described "Dear son, this country is not living any place for goodness but living only for badness. Here, father want their daughter's cutting breast for their food. The poet mind is very sorrowful and blamed manhood his actions. Insects especially, Urumbu a small normal one can destroy an elephant without any doubt. We always remember it in our mind. Malayalam poems represented by Sri. Rafeek



Ahammed recited a poem named as “Ormmakkar Varathe”. This poems described alone and separation of our life. His poems see overall a changing face of Malayalam poems. In the afternoon session, poem recitations famous journalist and poet in Assam state Smt. Aroopa Baruva presided over the meeting and recited poems. Modern age the world is changing. So our poets are changing for changing path. Assamies poet Anupam Kumar, Mr. C .Ravunni and Mr. Chandra das ray (Nepal). Malayalam poet Smt. Aarya gopika, Karnatic poet Sathyamangalam Mahadev recited many poems. These poems touched peoples mind deeply and an extraordinary experience. Poems are weapons. These weapons whenever use it as knife we can change our nation without giving any blood. The power of poems spreading like fragmentation. Also, the poems have to win our nation with integrity without death.

## SYMPOSIUM ON CRAFT AND CHALLENGES IN TRANSLATIONS

December 9, 2015, Pollachi

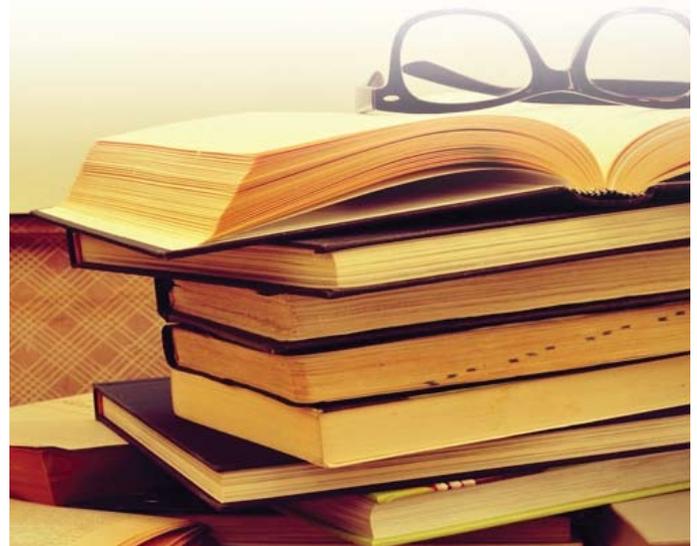
The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai, in collaboration with Arutchelvar Dr N. Mahalingam Translation Institute (AMTI), organized a daylong symposium on ‘Craft and Challenges in Translations’ at the Dr N. Mahalingam College of Engineering and Technology Campus in Pollachi on December 9, 2015. In the inaugural session, Dr S. Rajmohan, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai, welcomed the participants and audience and briefly talked about various translation initiatives of Sahitya Akademi across India. Prof K. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked about various challenges in Tamil translations. Dr M. Manickam, Chairman, AMTI, thanked the Akademi and talked at length about the aims and objectives of AMTI. Prof Sirpi Balasubramaniam proposed a vote of thanks. In the first session chaired by Sri Maalan and devoted to ‘Translating from English to Tamil,’ two noted translators, Dr Jayanthasri Balakrishnan and Sri G. Kuppuswamy presented

their papers. In the second session chaired by Prof Sirpi Balasubramaniam and devoted to ‘Translating among Indian languages,’ two noted translators, Sri Puviyarasu and Dr Thara Ganesan, presented their papers. In the valedictory session chaired by Sri C. Ramaswamy, Convener, AMTI, Prof K. Chellappan presented the valedictory address and Prof A. Senthil Kumar, Asst. Professor, AMTI, proposed a vote of thanks.

## LITERARY FORUM

December 12, 2015, Karaikudi

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai, in association with the Karaikudi Kamban Kazhagam, organized a literary forum on ‘Critics of Kamba Ramayanam’ at Sri Krishna Kalyana Mandapam in Karaikudi on December 12, 2015. Sri M. Chidambaram of Kamban Kazhagam welcomed the participants and audience. In his keynote address, Prof C. Sethupathi, Member, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, presented a historical viewpoint of critics of Kamban’s work and presented an evaluation of the contribution of the critics to the development of Tamil literature. Noted scholars, Pazha Palaniyappan, Pazha Muthappan and Yaazh Su Chandra presented their papers. Ms. C. Senthamizh Paavai proposed a vote of thanks.



## LITERARY FORUM

September 10, 2015, Kolkata

Sahitya Akademi Eastern Regional Office organized ‘An Evening with a Critic’ with Sri Alok Ray on 10 September 2015 at the Akademi Kolkata office auditorium. Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge welcomed Sri Ray and introduced his life and literary works to the gathering. Sri Alok Ray spoke in detail about the tradition and genesis of Bengali literary criticism. He also analyzed European literary criticism and its impact in Indian literary texts. After an interactive session, Dr. Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, Convener, Bengali Advisory Board delivered the concluding address and Sri Goutam Paul proposed a vote of thanks.

## HINDI WEEK CELEBRATIONS

September 17, 2015, Kolkata

Sahitya Akademi Eastern Regional Office organized ‘Hindi Divas’ as part of Hindi Week celebrations on 17 September 2015 at the Akademi premises in Kolkata. Two eminent guests, Smt. Rajani Poddar and Sri Ujjwal Singha delivered lectures on the use of Hindi as a medium of official language and its relevance in our daily lives. Various competitions were held for the staff and prizes were distributed.

## MULTILINGUAL WRITERS’ MEET

September 20-21, 2015, Gangtok

Sahitya Akademi Eastern Regional Office organized a ‘Multilingual Writers’ Meet’ in collaboration with Nepali Sahitya Parishad, Sikkim on 20–21 September 2015 Mini Theatre, Mannan Kendra, Gangtok. In the inaugural session, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge welcomed the gathering and highlighted the concept of multilingual meet. Sri Prem Pradhan, Convener, Nepali Advisory Board delivered introductory address stressed on the need for more multilingual meets. The keynote address was given by Prof. Pratap Chandra Pradhan of Sikkim University. Sri Madan Cintury, chief guest of the event, congratulated Nepali Sahitya Parishad for hosting the meet and spoke on how such meets strengthen the relations between languages.



Participants of the meet

Dr. Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, Convener, Bengali Advisory Board chaired the inaugural session. The inaugural session ended with a vote of thanks proposed by Sri Padumna Sresta, Member, Nepali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. In the first session that focused on ‘Story reading’ five noted writers read their stories to the audience. Prof. H. Behari Singh chaired the session. Sri Imran Hussain from Assam read a story called ‘Grakh’, Bengali writer Smt Ayesha Kahtun read her story titled ‘Goshti Ki Naukri’, Bodo writer Sri Debakant Ramchiary read his story ‘Proxy Class’, Sri Shyam Chandra Jha, Maithili writer read his story called ‘Home for the Old’ and finally, Sri Pawan Rai Namdung read his story ‘Jad Ki Talaash’. Next, in the poetry reading session that was chaired by Prof. Karabi Deka Hazarika, Sri Kamal Kumar Tanti, Sri Rajath Subhar, Smt. Rashmi Choudhary, Sri Kamal Mohan Thakur and Sri Biru Bangdel recited their poems. The second day began with a story reading session. Sri Gourhari Das, Convener, Odia Advisory Board chaired the session and three eminent writers, namely Sri Bhudhichandra Heisnam, Sri K.S. Ranpaheli and Sri Sadananda Tripathi read out their stories. This was followed by a poetry reading session chaired by Sri Gangadhar Hansda, Convener, Santali Advisory Board. Smt. Haobam Nalini Devi, Sri Ashok Biswa, Smt. Lalita Sharma, Sri Dasarath Majhi and Sri Bipin Nayak participated and recited their poems. In the valedictory session that was chaired by Sri Premananda Machahary, Sri Parasmani Danggal, President, Nepali Sahitya Parishad delivered the valedictory address summed up the two days meet in his speech. The programme was compered by Sri Tek Bahadur Chettri and Smt. Asha Kiran on the first and second days respectively.



## THROUGH MY WINDOW

September 24, 2015, Kolkata

Sahitya Akademi Eastern Regional Office organized a 'Through My Window' programme on 24 September 2015 at Sahitya Akademi auditorium, Kolkata featuring Sri Sachin Das, a fiction writer who spoke on Sri Prafulla Ray, eminent fiction writer. Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge in his welcome address, introduced the guest speaker as well as the writer under focus to the audience. Sri Sachin Das spoke in detail on the life and works of Sri Prafulla Ray. After his speech, Dr. Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, Convener, Bengali Advisory Board delivered concluding address and Sri Goutam Paul proposed a vote of thanks.

## SEMINAR ON NON FICTIONAL PROSE OF BODO LITERATURE - ITS PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

September 25, 2015, Dudhnoi

Sahitya Akademi Eastern Regional Office organized a seminar on 'Non Fictional Prose of Bodo Literature – Its Past, Present and Future' in collaboration with Bodo Sahitya Sabha on 25 September 2015 at Dudhnoi College, Assam. In the inaugural session, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge delivered the welcome address and the introductory address was delivered by Sri Premananda Machahary, Convener, Bodo Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi. Sri Kameswar Brahma, President, Bodo Sahitya Sabha inaugurated the seminar and the keynote address was given by Sri Bisweswar Baumatary, Vice President of Bodo Sahitya Sabha with Sri Gopal Phukan, Principal of Dudhnoi College. The inaugural session ended with a vote of thanks proposed by Smt. Kamala Kt. Mushahary, General Secretary, Bodo Sahitya Sabha. Noted scholars such as Smt. Indira Boro and Smt. Swarna Prabha Chainary presented papers in the first session with Sri Bhupen Narzaree in the chair. In the second session, papers were presented by Sri Jibeswar Koch and Sri Phukan Ch. Basumatary with Dr. Anil Boro in the chair.

## KAVISANDHI

September 25, 2015, Kokrajhar

Sahitya Akademi Eastern Regional Office organized a Kavisandhi programme with Bodo poet Sri Brajendra Kumar Brahma on 25 September 2015 at Bodoland University, Assam. Dr. Anil Kr. Boro, Associate Professor and HoD of Folklore Research, Gauhati University chaired the programme. Sri Brajendra Kumar recited few of his poems and shared his emotions and experiences with the audience. A brief interactive session followed. Dr. Anil Kr. Boro delivered concluding address and Sri Pranab Jyoti Nazary, Member, Bodo Advisory Board proposed a vote of thanks.

## KATHASANDHI

September 25, 2015, Kokrajhar

Sahitya Akademi Eastern Regional Office organized a Kathasandhi programme with Bodo fiction writer Sri Janil Kumar Brahma on 25 September 2015 at Bodoland University, Assam. Dr. Anil Kr. Boro, Associate Professor and HoD of Folklore Research, Gauhati University chaired the programme. Sri Brahma read out his two short stories 'Dumphaoni Pitha' and 'Japanni Shaima'. He discussed with the audience his experiences in writing short stories. A brief interactive session followed.

## SYMPOSIUM ON MODERN ASSAMESE DRAMA IN CONTEXT TO CONTEMPORARY INDIAN DRAMA

September 26, 2015, Kokrajhar

Sahitya Akademi Eastern Regional Office organized a symposium on 'Modern Assamese Drama in Context to Contemporary Indian Drama' in collaboration with the Department of Assamese, Bodoland University, Assam on 26 September 2015. Prof. Hemanta Kr. Baruah, Vice Chancellor of Bodoland University inaugurated the symposium by lighting the ceremonial lamp. Welcome address was delivered by Prof. Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convener, Assamese Advisory Board



and Dr. Navjyoti Sarmah gave the introductory address. Dr. Hitendra Kr. Mishra, Associate Professor, NEHU, Shillong. Dr. Satyakam Bothakur chaired the first session in which three noted scholars presented their papers, namely Dr. Jagadish Patgiri, Dr. Naren Patgiri and Dr. Ismail Hussain. The second session had Dr. Bhabendra Kalita in the chair and papers were read by Dr. Binita Bora Devchoudhuri, Dr. Indira Boro Dr. Hemanta Kr. Das and Smt. Runu Devnath. In the valedictory session with Dr. Hitendra Kr. Mishra in the chair, Dr. Sekhar Brahma graced to be the Guest of Honour and the valedictory address was delivered by Dr. Jagadish Patgiri.

## SEMINAR ON CONTEMPORARY MANIPURI POETRY

September 26-27, 2015, Imphal

Sahitya Akademi Eastern Regional Office conducted a two day seminar on 'Contemporary Manipuri Poetry' in collaboration with The Cultural Forum, Manipur on 26 – 27 September 2015 at Manipur Hindi Parishad Auditorium, Imphal. Sri Gautam Paul, Officer-in-Charge welcomed the gathering and introduced Prof. Behari Singh who graced to be the chief guest in the inaugural session. Prof. N. Khagendra Singh introduced the theme of the seminar. The inaugural session was chaired by Sri Salam Birendra Singh. Prof. Behari Singh in his address spoke on the richness of Manipuri literature and the importance of encouraging young and aspiring litterateurs. Smt. Kh. Senita Devi, General Secretary of The Cultural Forum proposed a vote of thanks. The first session began with Dr. Saratchandra Longzomba, Sri K. Radhakumar and Dr. Ng. Ekashini Devi as paper readers who presented papers on 'Trends of Contemporary Manipuri Poetry', 'Modernist Elements in the Poems of Elangbam Nilakanta' and 'Style and Diction of Ashangbam Minaketan's 'Bidai Ashirbad' and 'Asheibagee Nityapad' respectively with Professor Kh. Kunjo Singh in chair. After the lunch, the second session had Sri Th. Tarunkumar, Sri Nando Ningombam and Professor H. Nani Kumar as paper presenters who presented papers on 'Use of Irony and Living Speech in the Poems of Laishram Samarendra', 'Themes and Language of the poems of Sri Biren' and 'Impact of Folklore on the Poems of Arambam Ongbi Memchoubi' respectively with Professor N. Khagendra Singh in the chair. The seminar

continued on the second day with Dr K. Bijaylata, Dr M. Tuleshwori, Sri O. Kunjo and Sri Kh. Inaobi as paper presenters in the third session, who presented papers on 'The Innovative Aspects in the Poems of Thangjam Ibopishak', 'Themes and Poetic of R. K. Madhubir's Poems', 'The Structure of the Poems of R. K. Bhubonsana' and 'Mythology in the Poems of S. Lanchenba Meetei' respectively with Sri Kh. Prakash Singh in the chair. Post lunch, the fourth session began with Sri Ph. Khelendro Singh, Sri M. Rajesh, Sri Budhichandra Heisnam and Dr K. Shantibala as paper presenters who presented papers on 'A Critical Study of the Poems of Birendrajit Naorem', 'Themes and Language in the Poems of Raghu Leishangthem', 'Tradition and Modernism in the Poems of Naorem Bidyasagar', and 'The Importance of Poetry in Contemporary Manipuri Literature' respectively with Professor Rajen Toijamba in the chair. At the end of the fourth session, Sri Naorem Ahanjao, life member of the Cultural Forum, Manipur proposed a vote of thanks.

## SEMINAR ON ROMANTICISM IN BODO POETRY

September 27, 2015, Guwahati

Sahitya Akademi Eastern Regional Office organized a birth centenary seminar on Shri Ishan Ch. Mwshahary (1915-2015) and a National Seminar on "Romanticism in Bodo Poetry" in collaboration with the Department of Bodo, Gyanpeeth Degree College, Assam on 27 September 2015 at the college premises. In the inaugural session, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge welcomed the participants and the audience. The keynote address was delivered by Dr Anil Boro. Sri Brajendra Kumar Brahma graced to be the chief guest in the inaugural session with Dr Adaram Basumatary in the chair. The inaugural session concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Sri Pranab Jyoti Narzary, Secretary, Bodo Dept. Teachers' Association. In the first session, papers were presented by Dr. Bhowmik Ch. Boro, Dr. Sunil Phukan Basumatary, Sri Birupaksha Giri Basumatary, Dr. Nareswar Narzary and Ms. Rwiroob Brahma with Dr. Bhupen Narzary in the chair. In the second session, papers were read by Dr. Tulon Mwshahary, Dr. Rajendra Kumar Basumatary, Sri Gwgmw Brahma Kachary Sri Mihir Kr. Brahma and Ms. Dipali Kherkatary with Sri Janil Kumar Brahma in the chair.

## LITERARY FORUM

September 27, 2015, Imphal

Sahitya Akademi Eastern Regional Office conducted a literary forum on 'Sri K. Padmakumar and His Literary Works' in collaboration with Epathoukok on 27 September 2015 at Chorus Repartory Theatre, Imphal. Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge delivered the welcome address and Ms. Y. Roma Devi made an enthralling invocation. Sri K. Radhakumar, Secretary, Art and Culture, Government of Manipur delivered keynote address. In his address, Prof. Behari Singh critically analyzed the works of Padmakumar and Sri N. Jillangamba, President, Epathoukok delivered the presidential address. The first session had Prof. N. Khagendra Singh in the chair with three paper readers, namely Sri L. Joychandra Singh, Sri N. Tombi and Sri K. Hemchandra Singh. In the second session, the paper presenters were Sri I. S. Kangjam, Smt N. Aruna, Sri Jodha Chandra Sanasam and Dr. Ch. Sheelaramani. Finally, vote of thanks was proposed by T. Bangkabihari Singh, Vice President, Epathoukok. Four eminent works of Sri Padmakumar were released to mark the occasion.

## SYMPOSIUM ON G.C. TONGBRA'S PLACE IN MANIPURI DRAMA

September 28, 2015, Imphal

Sahitya Akademi Eastern Regional Office, in collaboration with the Manipuri Literary Society organized a daylong symposium on 'G.C. Tongbra's Place in Manipuri Drama' on 28 September 2015 at Manipur Hindi Parishad Hall, Imphal. Welcoming the huge gathering, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer in Charge highlighted his life and literary works. Professor H. Behari Singh, Convener, Manipuri Advisory Board, in his address as the Chief Guest, elaborated the rationale of the symposium. Sri Prahlad Sharma delivered presidential address and Sri L. Deven Singh proposed a vote of thanks. Sri A. Kholchandra, Sri L. Gojen, Sri Ranbir Maugang and Prof. I. S. Kangjam and Sri I. Tinken, Sri Budha Chingtham and Sri L. Dorendra presented their papers in the first and second

sessions respectively. Professor E. Dinamani Singh in his chair message of the last session summed up the day's proceedings.

## BIRTH CENTENARY SEMINAR ON DINANATH SHARMA

September 28, 2015, Guwahati

The eastern region of Sahitya Akademi organized a birth centenary seminar on Dinanath Sharma in collaboration with the Department of Assamese, Gauhati University, on 28 September 2015 at the University premises. In the inaugural session, the ceremonial lamp was lighted by Sri Hariprasad Sarma, Rector of Gauhati University. Welcome address was delivered by Smt Arupa Barua, General Council Member of Sahitya Akademi. The seminar was inaugurated by Professor Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convener, Assamese Advisory Board. Prof. Dipti Phukan Patgiri of Gauhati University delivered introductory address. Prof. Gobinda Prasad Sarma, eminent writer along with Prof. Taranee Deka of Gauhati University delivered keynote address. The inaugural session concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Sri Kamaluddin Ahmed, Associate Professor in Gauhati University. In the academic session, papers were presented by Prof. Tarani Deka, Smt. Jahnabi Devi, Smt. Rekha Rani Devi, Sri Pranjal Sharma Bashishtha, Smt. Sarala Seal Kalita and Sri Jayanta Pathak with Sri Umesh Deka in the chair.

## KAVI ANUVADAK

September 30, 2015, Kolkata

The eastern region of Sahitya Akademi organized a 'Kavi Anuvadak' programme featuring Nepali poet Jas Yonjan 'Pyasi' and Bengali translator Sebanti Ghosh on 30 September 2015 at Sahitya Akademi auditorium, Kolkata. Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge delivered welcome address and introduced them to the audience. Dr. Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay delivered introductory address. Sri Pyasi recited five Nepali poems which were translated by Smt. Sebanti Ghosh. An interactive session followed. Sri Goutam Paul proposed a vote of thanks.



## SYMPOSIUM ON THE LIFE & WORKS OF PANDIT N. KHELCHANDRA SINGH

October 10, 2015, Imphal

The eastern region of Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with Manipur Sahitya Parishad organized a daylong symposium on the 'Life and Works of Pandit N. Khelchandra Singh' on 10 October 2015 at Government Dance College, Imphal. Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge delivered welcome address and briefly outlined the literary achievements of Pandit N. Khelchandra Singh. Prof. H. Behari Singh, Convener, Manipuri Advisory Board in his introductory remarks revealed the multi faceted personality of Pandit Singh. Sri Th. Tombi Singh in his Presidential address asserted Pandit's relevance to the contemporary society of Manipur. The inaugural session ended with a vote of thanks proposed by Prof. L. Sadananda Singh of Manipuri Sahitya Parishad. In the first session that was chaired by Sri R.K. Jhalajit Singh, papers were read by Sri B. Kulachandra Sharma, Sri N. Indiramani and Dr. Th. Ibohambi Singh. The papers focused on the multitude contributions to Manipuri culture and literature. Prof. N. Tombi Singh chaired the second session and papers were presented by Sri L. Sharatchandra Singh, Sri Birachandra and Dr. Y. Kunjabihari Singh. Paper readers focused on the lesser known aspects of Pandit Khelchandra. The symposium ended with a vote of thanks proposed by Sri Priyobrato Singh.

## LITERARY FORUM

October 11, 2015, Imphal

The eastern region of Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with Gulapi Nata Sankirtana Academy conducted a literary forum, featuring eminent Manipuri litterateur Sri Leimapokpam Herachandra Singh on 11 October 2015 at D.M. College, Imphal. Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the participants and the audience. Sri L. Lakpati Singh, Director of Gulapi Nata Sankirtana Academy delivered keynote address. The Chief Guest of the forum was Professor H. Behari Singh, Convener, Manipuri

Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. The Guest of Honour of the programme was S. Thanil Singh, a Padmashree awardee with Sri R.K. Sanatomba Singh, President of Gulapi Nata Sankirtana Academy in the chair. The inaugural session concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by the Secretary of Nata Sankirtana Academy. In the first session Sri Hanjabam Nanda Sharma, Sri Aribam Chitreswor Sharma and Sri N. Kholo Singh presented papers and in the second session Sri R.K. Sanatomba Singh, Smt Kh. Sundari Devi and Sri P. James Singh presented their papers.

## NARI CHETNA

October 17, 2015, Bhubaneswar

The eastern region of Sahitya Akademi organized a Nari Chetna with eminent six Odia scholars on 17 October 2015 at Bhubaneswar. Dr. Mihir Kumar Sahoo, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, delivered welcome address. Dr. Gourahari Das chaired the programme and introduced the speakers to the audience. All the six speakers – Smt. Aruna Mohanty, Smt. Ira Mohanty, Smt. Mamata Mohapatra, Smt. Sangeeta Rath, Smt. Shasiprava Bindhani and Smt. Shreemayee Sweta Snigdha Mishra shared their source of inspiration and experiences with the audience. Many renowned writers and literature lovers were present in the programme.

## MEET THE AUTHOR

October 18, 2015, Bhubaneswar

The eastern region of Sahitya Akademi organized a 'Meet the Author' programme featuring eminent writer Sri Ramachandra Behara on 18 October 2015 at Bhubaneswar. Dr. Mihir Kumar Sahoo, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, delivered welcome address. Sahitya Akademi's Odia Advisory Board Convener Dr. Gourahari Das introduced the guest speaker to the audience. Sri Behara, who has seventeen short stories and fourteen novels to his credit, shared his experiences and the background behind stories which inspire him to write. Noted writers and literary connoisseurs graced the occasion.



## BIRTH CENTENARY SEMINAR ON FATURANANDA

October 18, 2015, Bhubaneswar



Inaugural session of the seminar in progress

The eastern region of Sahitya Akademi celebrated the birth centenary of Sri Phaturananda by organizing a daylong seminar on 18 October 2015 at Bhubaneswar. Dr. Mihir Kumar Sahoo, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, delivered welcome address. Sahitya Akademi's Odia Advisory Board Convener Dr. Gourahari Das introduced Phaturananda's life to the audience. Sri Soumya Ranjan Patnaik, Editor of Sambad inaugurated the seminar. Dr. Bijayananda Singh, Member of Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, delivered keynote address and elaborated the multiple aspects of Phaturananda. Odisha Sahitya Academy President Sri Satkadi Hota presided over the seminar.

In the first session that was chaired by Prof. Srinivas Mishra, Dr. Laxmikanta Tripathy discussed the poems of Phaturananda and Smt. Radhu Mishra talked on his autobiography. Dr. Bibhuti Patnaik chaired the second session wherein Prof. Ajay Kumar Patnaik discussed his translation works and Sri Mrunal Chatterjee spoke on 'Phaturananda Katha Sahitya and Sishu Sahitya'. Sri Pitabas Routray chaired the valedictory session and Prof. Nikhilananda Panigrahi delivered valedictory address.

## SEMINAR ON 'NATIONAL CONSCIOUSNESS AND ASSAMESE LITERATURE'

October 28, 2015, Guwahati

The eastern region of Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with the Assamese Department of Cinnamara College organized a seminar on 'National Consciousness and Assamese Literature' on 28 October 2015 as part of Silver Jubilee celebrations of the College. In the inaugural

session chaired by Dr. Ananda Saikia, Dr. Anjan Saikia, Principal of the College delivered welcome address and on behalf of Sahitya Akademi, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge, welcomed the participants and the audience. Dr. Lakshmi Nandan Bora, Ex – President of Asom Sahitya Sabha inaugurated the seminar. Dr. Madan Sarma of Tezpur University delivered keynote address. Sri Dipen Nath proposed a vote of thanks. In the first session that was chaired by Dr. Lakshmi Nandan Bora, Dr. Kusumbor Baruah and one of the College staff presented their papers on the creative and musical literature of Assam. In the second session, Sri Durlav Chandra Mahanta was in the chair and papers were presented by Sri Rajib Borah and Sri Padmaloson Nath on reflection of national consciousness in the socialistic thoughts found in Assamese poetry and literature. In the valedictory session chaired by Sri Ananda Saikia, Dr. Pradip Kumar Baruah delivered valedictory address and the seminar concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Bornali Borthakur.

## ASSAMESE – BENGALI LITERARY MEET

November 4 – 5, 2015, Guwahati

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with All Assam Publishers and Booksellers Association organized a Literary Meet as part of 17th North East Book Fair celebrations on 4 & 5 November 2015 in Guwahati. Sri Gautam Paul, Assistant Editor, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, welcomed the participants and dignitaries. In the first session that was chaired by Smt. Arupa Barua, Sri Sirishendu Mukhopadhyay, Sri Subodh Sarkar, Sri Kula Saikia and Sri Phanindra Dev Choudhuri participated and presented their papers. The programme continued for the second day wherein Smt. Arpita Ghosh, Sri Sekhar Samaddar, Sri Naren Patgiri and Sri Nayan Prasad presented their papers.

## LITERARY FORUM

November 7, 2015, Agartala

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with 'Marup', a local Manipuri daily organized a Literary Forum on Media and Literature on 7 November 2015 at Agartala Press Club, Agartala. Sri Gautam Paul, Assistant Editor, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, delivered welcome address and introduced the



participants. Sri Srota Ranjan Khisa graced to be the Guest of Honour while Prof. H. Behari Singh, Convener, Manipuri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, was the chief guest in the inaugural session. Sri R.K. Tarunjit Singh proposed a vote of thanks. The first session was chaired by Sri Ramgopal Singh wherein Sri Ashangbam Netrajit and Sri Birmani Singh presented their papers. In the second session, Sri Rabindra Kumar chaired and papers were presented by Sri Dharendra Singha and Sri Mongol Singha.

## NARI CHETNA

November 7, 2015, Agartala

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata organized a Nari Chetna programme with noted Bengali women scholars on 7 November 2015 at Agartala Press Club, Agartala. Sri Gautam Paul, Assistant Editor, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, delivered the welcome address. Smt. Tapati Chakraborty was in the chair. Smt. Gita Debnath, Smt. Laxmi Bhattacharya, Smt. Panchali Bhattacharya, Smt. Phulan Bhattacharya and Ms. Krishna Basu participated and presented their papers.

## UTTARPURBA

November 8, 2015, Agartala

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata organized Uttarpurba, a poetry festival on

8 November 2015 at Agartala Press Club, Agartala. Sri Gautam Paul, Assistant Editor, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, delivered the welcome address. Sri Behari Singh, Convener, Manipuri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, inaugurated the programme. Sri Chandrakanta Murasingh delivered introductory remarks and Sri Subhasis Talapatra delivered the keynote address. Sri Brajagopal Ray, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, was in the chair. In the first session that was chaired by Sri Aveek Majumder, five noted poets, Sri Mangalsingh Hazowary (Bodo), Smt. Shefalika Verma (Maithili), Sri Birendrajit Naorem (Manipuri), Smt. Bindya Subba (Nepali) and Sri Phani Mohanty (Odia) participated and recited their poems. In the second session, Sri Krishna Basu was in the chair and six noted poets, Sri Prem Gogoi

(Assamese), Sri Nabin Malla Boro (Bodo), Sri R.K. Bhubonsana (Manipuri), Sri Udai Thulung (Nepali), Sri Aditya Kumar Mandi (Santali) and Smt. Aparna Mohanty (Odia) read out their poems. Sri Saroj Chaudhury delivered the valedictory address.

## SEMINAR ON ODISA NOVEL

November 8, 2015, Cuttack

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with Sarala Sahitya Sansad organized a seminar on “Odia Novel” on 8 November 2015 at Sarala Bhawan, Cuttack. Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, delivered the welcome address. Sri Pravakar Swain of Sarala Sahitya Sansad was in the chair. Dr. Gourahari Das, Convener, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, gave introductory remarks. Prof. Sabita Pradhan of Visva Bharati University delivered keynote address. Smt. Pratibha Ray graced to be the guest of honour in the inaugural session. The inaugural session concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Sri Mihir Kumar Sahoo, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi. In the first session that was chaired by Sri Rabinarayan Senapati, three eminent scholars, Sri Hemanta Kumar Das, Sri Premananda Mahapatra and Smt. Sulochana Das presented their papers. In the second session, Sri Bipin Bihari Mishra was in the chair and two noted scholars, Sri Prasanna Kumar Swain and Smt. Sunamani Raut presented their papers. Sri Bairagi Charan Jena chaired the valedictory session and the valedictory address was delivered by Sri Baishnab Charan Samal. Sri Sanjay Kumar Patnaik proposed a vote of thanks.

## SYMPOSIUM

November 9, 2015, Agartala

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with Manipuri Sahitya Parishad organized a symposium on “Manipuri Writings outside Manipur with Special Reference to Tripura” on 9 November 2015 at Agartala Press Club, Agartala. Sri Gautam Paul, Assistant Editor, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, delivered the welcome address. The chief guest of the inaugural session was Sri



Behari Singh, Convener, Manipuri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, while Sri Suresh Sinha, President of Manipuri Sahitya Parishad was in the chair. Sri Abhiram Sinha proposed a vote of thanks. In the first session, three noted scholars, Smt. Sairta Sinha, Sri Premchandra and Sri Dilip Kumar Sinha presented their papers with Sri Kumar Sinha in the chair. In the second session that was chaired by Sri R.K. Jitendrajit Sinha, three noted scholars, Sri H. Karamjit Sinha, Sri L. Birmangal Sinha and Sri Th. Rathindra Sinha presented their papers.

## SEMINAR ON FOLK CULTURE OF ODISHA

November 13 – 14, 2015, Berhampur

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with the Department of Odia, Berhampur University organized a two day seminar on “Folk Culture of Odisha” at the University premises in Berhampur on 13 – 14 November 2015. Prof. Prasanta Kumar Pathy, Vice-Chancellor (I/C) inaugurated the seminar. Dr. Mihir Kumar Sahoo, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, welcomed the participants and dignitaries. Dr. Gourahari Das, Convener, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, gave introductory remarks. Dr. Pratibha Ray, eminent fictionist was the chief guest in the inaugural session. Prof. Prasanna Kumar Swain proposed a vote of thanks. The first session focused on the topic “Odia Loka Nataka”. Prof. Krushna Chandra Pradhan was in the chair and three noted scholars, Dr. Ashok Kumar Tripathy, Dr. Manoranjan Bisoyi and Sri Sidhartha Sankar Padhi presented their papers. In the second session, papers were presented on the topic “Odia Loka Geeta”. Dr. Manoranjan Pradhan was in the chair and four noted scholars, Dr. Dwarakanath Nayak, Sri Pradip Kumar Mishra, Dr. Samir Bhoi and Sri Ranjan Pradhan presented their papers. The seminar continued for the second day. In the third session, “Odia Lokachara” was the subject and Dr. Prasanna Kumar Swain was in the chair. Papers were presented by Sri Ashok Kumar Patnaik, Sri Krushna Chandra Nisanka, Dr. Sarat Kumar Jena and Dr. Simanchala Pradhan. The fourth session was chaired by Dr. Aswini Kumar Panda and the topic was “Odia Loka Kahaani”.

Papers were presented by Sri Alok Baral, Dr. Dilip Kumar Swain, Dr. Sangram Keshari Rout and Sri Sanjaya Kumar Bag. The valedictory session was chaired by Dr. Ashok Kumar Mohanty, Registrar of Berhampur University. Dr. Devi Prasanna Patnaik of Odia Department delivered the valedictory address. Dr. Devi Prasad Satpathy proposed a vote of thanks.

## LOKA: THE MANY VOICES

November 14, 2015, Berhampur

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with Kalinga Sahitya Samaj organized a ‘Loka: The Many Voices’ programme on “Prahllad Nataka” on 14 November 2015 at Utkal Ashram Open Theatre, Berhampur. Dr. Mihir Kumar Sahoo, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, welcomed the participants and dignitaries. Dr. Gourahari Das, Convener, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, delivered introductory address. Prof. Devi Prasanna Patnaik, Secretary, Kalinga Sahitya Samaj presided over the programme. Dr. Manoranjan Pradhan of Visva Bharati was the chief guest of the programme. Dr. Santanu Kumar Rath, Programme Executive of Doordarshan in his demonstration lecture discussed on the folk culture and Loka Nataka of Ganjam district. Prahallad Natak was performed by Sri Kanhu Charan Sadangi and his troupe. Dr. Banamali Panigrahi proposed a vote of thanks.

## SEMINAR

November 24, 2015, Tezpur

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata organized a daylong seminar on “Modern Trends in Criticism of Eastern Regional Languages” on 24 November 2015 at Tezpur University premises. Sri Gautam Paul, Assistant Editor, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, delivered the welcome address. Prof. Mihir Kanti Chaudhuri, Vice-Chancellor of the University inaugurated the seminar. Sri Srimanta Sankaradeva of Tezpur University delivered the keynote address. Prof. Pradip Jyoti Mahanta proposed a vote of thanks. The academic sessions focused on literary criticisms pertaining to north-eastern languages. Prof. Madan Mohan Sarma chaired and also presented a paper on Assamese literary criticism along with two other



A session of seminar in progress

scholars, Sri Gopinath Brahma (Bodo) and Dr. Ashok Avichal (Maithili). The second session was chaired by Prof. Bijoy Kumar Danta and four noted scholars, Dr. Kaijam Shantibala Devi (Manipuri), Sri Babaji Charan Patnaik (Odia), Dr. Naresh Chandra Khati (Nepali) and Sri Madan Mohan Soren (Santhali) presented their papers. Prof. Pona Mahanta graced to be the guest of honour in the valedictory session.

Sri Gautam Paul proposed a vote of thanks.

## LOKA: THE MANY VOICES

November 25, 2015, Nagaon

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with Mahapurusha Srimanta Sankaradeva Viswavidyalaya organized a 'Loka: The Many Voices' programme on the theme "Puppet Plays of Assam" on 25 November 2015 in Nagaon. Prof. Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convener, Assamese Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, inaugurated the programme. Dr. Gopal Ch. Barman, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, welcomed the participants and dignitaries. Prof. Prabin Ch. Das spoke on the evolution of Assamese puppet plays. A puppet show was performed by Dr. Radhakanta Barman along with his troupe. The programme ended with a vote of thanks proposed by Dr. P. Hazarika of Sankaradeva Viswavidyalaya.

## LOKA: THE MANY VOICES

November 25 – 26, 2015, Purulia

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with Srijan Utsab organized Loka: The Many Voices programme at Purulia in West Bengal over two days on November 24 & 26, 2015.

## SEMINAR ON KANCHAN BARUAH

November 27, 2015, Dibrugarh

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata organized a national seminar on "Kanchan Baruah" as part of 9th Dibrugarh Book Fair celebrations on 27 November 2015 at Dibrugarh, Assam. Dr. Gopal Ch. Barman, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata delivered the welcome address. Prof. Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convener, Assamese Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, presided over the seminar. The seminar was inaugurated by Dr. Nagen Saikia. Sri Tapan Bandopadhyaya, eminent Bangla litterateur was the chief guest on the occasion. Dr. Ananda Bormudai made on the critical analysis on Kanchan Baruah's literary works while Sri Atanu Bhattacharya spoke on the life and works of Kanchan Baruah. Dr. B.N. Borthakur, President, Milan Jyoti Sangha proposed a vote of thanks.

## SEMINAR

November 28, 2015, Guwahati

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with the Bodo Department of Cotton College and "Aalaap", organized a daylong seminar on "Bodo and Assamese: Mutual Influence and Relation in Respect of Language, Literature and Culture" on 28 November 2015 at the College premises. Dr. Gopal Ch. Barman, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata delivered the welcome address. Introductory remarks were given by Dr. Maheswar Kalita, Secretary of Aalaap. Dr. Premananda Machahary, Convener, Bodo Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the keynote address. Dr. Pramod Chandra, eminent scholar graced the session as the chief guest. Prof. Birupaksha Giri Basumatary of Cotton College proposed a vote of thanks. In the first session that was chaired by Dr. Anil Kumar Boro, three noted scholars, Dr. Swarna Prabha Chainary, Dr. Jibeswar Konch and Dr. Dilip Rajbongshi presented their papers. The second session was chaired by Dr. Tarani Deka and three scholars, Dr. Pranjal Sharma Basishtha, Sri



Pramathesh Basumatary and Dr. Maheswar Kalita presented their papers. Prof. Dhruvajyoti Saikia, Vice-Chancellor of the College was the chief guest in the valedictory session. Prof. Manju Devi Pegu chaired the session. The seminar ended with a vote of thanks proposed by Sri Nur Islam Saikia and Dr. Abu Bakkar Siddique.

## LITERARY FORUM

November 29, 2015, Shillong

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with Manipuri Sahitya Parishad organized a literary forum on “Trends of Manipuri Literature outside Manipur” on 29 November 2015 in Shillong. The welcome address was delivered by Dr. Gopal Ch. Barman, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata. Prof. H. Behari Singh, Convener, Manipuri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, was the chief guest on the occasion. The first session was chaired by Sri K.B. Yengkhom. In this session, Prof. Chiram Rajketan Singh presented his paper on “Novels and Short Stories outside Manipur with Special Reference to Meghalaya” and Sri A.C. Netrajit spoke on “Poetry Writing outside Manipur with Special Reference to Meghalaya”. The second session was chaired by Sri Rajamani Nongthomba and in this session, Sri K. Nilakanta, Smt. Santikumari Nongthombi, Sri M. Bhagat, Sri Khtrimayum Dedil, Sri Ningombam Ranjit and Sri Raju Maibam participated and recited their poems.

## SEMINAR ON BHAKTACHARN DAS

November 29, 2015, Bolgarh

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with Nandighoh, a cultural entity, organized a daylong seminar on the eminent poet Bhaktacharan Das on 29 November 2015 at Nandighosh Bhawan, Bolgarh, Odisha. Sri Mihir Kumar Sahoo, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, delivered the welcome address. Sri Haraprasad Das graced as the chief guest on the occasion and Sri Niranjana Sahoo, District Collector was the guest of honour. Sri J.B. Padhi, Vice-President of Nandighosh



Seminar on Bhaktacharan Das

presided over the inaugural session. Sri Gourahari Das, Convener, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi delivered introductory remarks. Sri Balabhadra Sahoo delivered an erudite keynote address and the inaugural session concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Sri Haribandhu Sahoo. Sri Ramchandra Mishra chaired the first session and three noted scholars, Sri Bijay Kumar Choudhury, Sri Biswanath Mallick and Sri Purna Chandra Mohapatra presented their papers which focused on the creativity in Bhaktacharan Das’s works. Sri Dukhishyam Das chaired the second session wherein three noted scholars, Sri Adikanda Sahu, Sri Kailash Chandra Bantha and Sri Pradip Kumar Patnaik presented their papers. Sri Gopal Krishna Rath, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the valedictory session. Prof. Biswa Ranjan was the chief guest and Prof. Prafulla Subudhi delivered the valedictory address. Many well-known writers and litterateurs participated in the seminar.

## MEET THE AUTHOR

December 4, 2015, Kolkata

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata organized a ‘Meet the Author’ programme featuring eminent Bengali fictionist, Sri Atin Bandopadhyay on 4 December 2015 at the Akademi auditorium in Kolkata. Sri Gautam Paul, Assistant Editor, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, welcomed and introduced the guest writer to the audience. He spoke about his life and literary works. He also shared his vast travelling experiences which influenced his style of writing. A brief interactive session followed the lecture.

## SATYENDRA NATH SHARMA BIRTH CENTENARY SYMPOSIUM

December 27, 2015, Guwahati

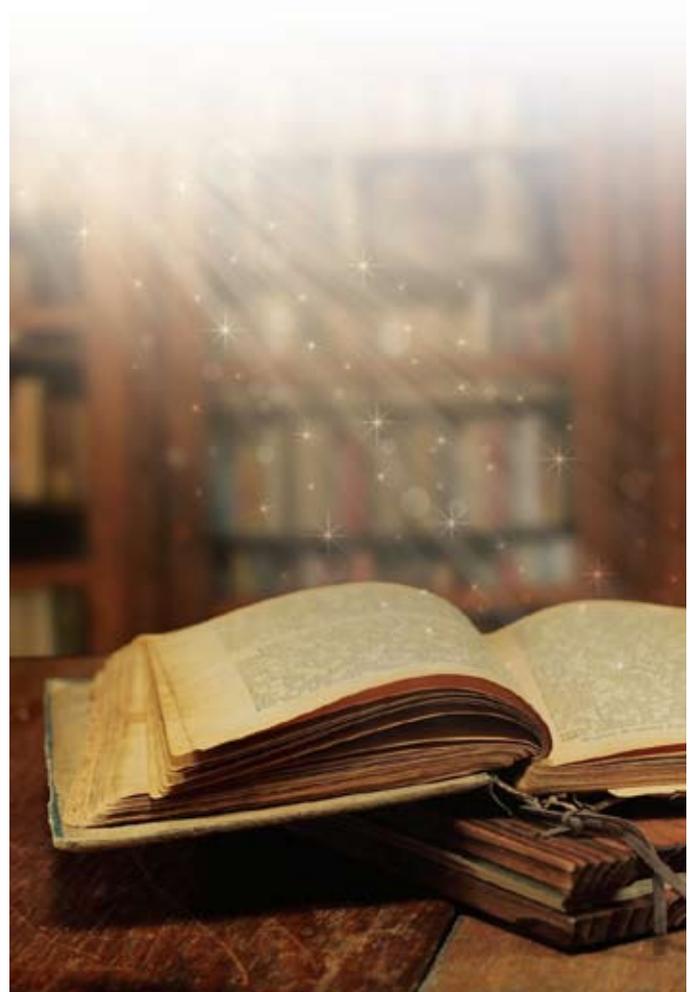
The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with Asom Prakashan Parishad organized a birth centenary symposium on Satyendra Nath Sharma as part of Guwahati Book Fair celebrations on 27 December 2015 in Guwahati. Dr. Gopal Ch. Barman, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, delivered the welcome address. Dr. Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, Convener, Bengali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, was the chief guest on the occasion. Sri Nagen Saikia, eminent scholar delivered the keynote address. Sri Gobinda Prasad Sharma, Sri Manjumala Das and Sri Sailen Bharali participated and presented their papers while Prof. Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convener, Assamese Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the academic session.

## INTERACTIVE LITERARY MEET

December 29 & 30, 2015, Kolkata

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata hosted Dr. Jiang Jingkui, Ananda Coomaraswamy Fellowship winner for 2015 and organized two interactive literary sessions with Bengali scholars on 29 December 2015 at the Akademi auditorium in Kolkata. Dr. Gopal Ch. Barman, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata delivered the welcome address and gave a brief introduction of Dr. Jiang Jingkui to the audience. An elaborate interaction took place. Dr. Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, Convener, Bengali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi gave concluding remarks and Dr. Gopal Ch. Barman proposed a vote of thanks. The interactive session continued for the second day, hosted in collaboration with the School of Languages and Culture, Rabindra

Bharati University at the University premises. Prof. Subir Dhar, Director of the School welcomed and introduced Dr. Jiang Jingkui to the audience. On both the days, Dr. Jiang Jingkui discussed on the traditions and problems in translations from and to Indian languages. Dr. Jiang Jingkui was felicitated by the faculty of the School of Languages and Culture.



## NATIONAL SEMINAR ON NATIVISM AND MARATHI NOVEL

September 1-2, 2015, Nagpur

Sahitya Akademi, Regional Office, Mumbai, in collaboration with the Department of Marathi, Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, and Girish Gandhi Pratishtan, Nagpur, jointly organized a two day National Seminar on Nativism and Marathi Novel on 1 – 2 September 2015 in Nagpur. Prof. Bhalchandra Nemade, Convener, Marathi Advisory Board, inaugurated the seminar. Dr Ganesh Devy, eminent linguist and critic, chaired the inaugural session.

At the outset Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, in his welcome address briefed the idea of nativism initiated in 1980 by Prof. Bhalchandra Nemade in his article ‘Sahityatil Deshiyata’, saying nativism emphasizes the close connection of a writer to his/her own land, people, culture, and literary traditions. Quoting Prof. Nemade, he said that nativism believes in that the greatness of a literary movement or a writer is not decided by international standards. But is determined by how many functions ranging from spiritual evaluation to linguistic experimentation it serves. In the inaugural address Prof. Bhalchandra Nemade stated that the traditions of any region cannot be neglected by labeling any

format as standard one. The traditional language will continue to be revived by the next generations. The regional language or expression suffered in the name of globalization, multinationalism. Despite these attacks the ‘deshiyata’ (Nativism) in our country has survived because of our history. Those who are trying to distort it in the name of modernization must be opposed, he professed. He further added that novel is a best medium for spreading this concept, as it has better readership compared to other genres of literature. In the keynote address Sri Ranganath Pathare, Member, Marathi Advisory Board, said that to be ‘deshiya’ (Nativist) means connected to our own land. The concept of deshiyata includes being nativist and nativism as well. He also pointed out that nativism must not be exaggerated, saying that suffering has no cast, gender or religion, he drew an analogy between suffering and nativism. He recommended two canons for nativist criticism, one being internalization, and the other uncertainty. Speaking as the chair of the session Dr Ganesh Devy, said that ‘deshiyata’ means the memory of the human being at last seventy thousand years on the basis of which human being is able to be alive. Literature aims at keeping humanity alive and for being alive ‘deshiyata’ is essential. He also said that deshiyata is not only essential in India or Africa but also in the World, and for many centuries to come. Dr Akshaykumar Kale, Member, Marathi Advisory Board, made the introductory remarks. He spoke of how literature was considered sole right of the upper cast persons. Lately the literature and the language become Anglo-Indian. Dr Shailendra Lende, Department of Marathi, Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, proposed a vote of thanks.

The first session – ‘Deshivaad : Sankalpana aani Swaroop’, was chaired by Dr Ashok Babar. Dr Shobha Naik and Sri Ravindra Ingle Chavarekar presented their papers in this session. Dr Shobha Naik’s paper discussed that nativism is a vast and multidimensional literary theory and is a laurel in the hat of human culture. Prof. Nemade’s concept of nativism respects every society, civilization, culture, language, and



(LtoR) Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Dr Ganesh Devy, Prof. Bhalchandra Nemade, Sri Ranganath Pathare, Dr Akshaykumar Kale, and Dr Shailendra Lende



strongly recommends to nurture the regional and local values of life. Sri Ravindra Ingle Chavarekar pointed out that concept of nativism appears to be incomplete, as it has nothing to suggest in the times of globalization.

The second session – ‘Deshiyata aani Marathi Kadambari : Anubandh’, was chaired by Dr Avinash Sapre. Sri Santosh Koti and Dr Alka Nathrekar Kulkarni presented their papers in this session. Sri Santosh Koti said that the roots nativism are in the philosophy of Gautam Buddha and Mahaveer. As far as the genre of novel is concerned, Deshiyata is first seen in Sane Guruji’s novel Shyamchi Aai. While thinking of deshiyata and Marathi novel we need to think of four aspects i.e. if the subject matter is deshi or not, the place where the plot takes place, structure and language, and the sensibility of the writer. Dr Nathrekar paper developed the concept of nativism referring to Rajan Gawas’ novel Bh-Balicha.

The third session – ‘Deshiyata aani Sathottari Marathi Kadambari’, was chaired by Sri Kautikrao Thale Patil. Sri Randhir Shinde and Sri Pravin Bandekar presented their papers in this session. Sri Randhir Shinde said that the native sensibility appears to be prominent in Marathi novel after 1960. The writers from various rural areas took themselves writing. This also established their commitment to their land. Sri Pravin Bandekar observed that native culture could strongly be witnessed in Vyankatesh Madgulkar’s novel Bangarwadi and Anand Yadhav’s Gotawala and further in Uddhav Shelke, D.B. Mokashi, Bhalchandra Nemade, Bhau Padhye, Manohar Talhar, Baburao Bagul and others.

The fourth session – ‘Deshiyata aani Marathi Kadambari after 1990’, was chaired by Prof. Vasudeo Sawant. Sri Nitin Rindhe and Sri Nandkumar More presented their papers in this session. Marathi novel after 1990 established a genuine perspective for investigating into modernism. The characteristics of nativism could be seen in the novels of Krishnat Khot, Ramesh Ingle Utradkar, Rajan Gawas, Ganesh Awte and Baburao Musale, observed Sri Nitin Rindhe. Sri

Nandkumar More’s paper investigated into the novels by Shyam Manohar, Vilas Sarang, Anil Damble, Makarand Sathe and Vishram Gupte.

The last session was chaired by Dr Keshav M. Sadre. Dr Sushama Karogal and Dr Prachi Gurjarpadhye presented their papers in this session. Dr Sushama Karogal presented her views on nativism and literature in Gujarati, and Dr Prachi Gurjarpadhye’s paper discussed nativism in Mahashweta Devi’s novels. Sri Suresh Dwadashiwar, delivered valedictory address. Dr Pramod Munghate, Department of Marathi, Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, proposed a vote of thanks.

## LITERARY FORUM

September 3, 2015, Vasai

Sahitya Akademi, Regional Office, Mumbai in collaboration with St. Gonsalo Garcia College, Vasai, Dist. Palghar, organized a Literary Forum on 3 September 2015, at the college. The noted poets - Dr Sejal Shah in Gujarati, Ms Philomena Samfrancisco in Konkani, Dr Mahesh Keluskar in Marathi, and Dr Sandhya Kundnani in Sindhi participated in the Forum.

Fr. Machado, speaking as Chair, said that the culture is big part of our life which gives meaning to the lives. The culture separates a human being from an animal. Poetry is also a part of culture. He emphasized that India is a country of various cultures. There is a language culture, social culture, etc. The culture gives a unique message irrespective of different languages existing in India. Language does not divide but unites. A poet is a guide to society and literature plays the role of bridging different cultures.

Dr Sejal Shah, Gujarati poet and Head, Dept. of Gujarati, Nanavati College, recited her poems Kille Ke Andar in Gujarati and its Hindi translation, City, Circle, Maine Kille Mein Pravesh Kar Liya Hai, Uljhan and Moksh Kahan Hai. The poems were well received by the audience comprising of language students and the college staff. Her poems dexterously



depicted the nature and inner feelings of a human being.

Ms Philomena Samfrancisco, Konkani poet and translator, recited her poems - Monache Nate in Konkani and its Marathi translation Manache Nate. Her other poems were If I Were a Boy (English), Teela Mee Baghun Gheinach, Mother (both Marathi), Mother (English) and Jaich Jai (Konkani) and its Hindi translation Chahiye Hi Chahiye. The poems rendered by her were sensibly portrayed the real world around weaved into her own experiences of life.

Dr Mahesh Keluskar, Marathi poet, hypnotized the audience with his unique style of reciting poems. His poems Vasai, Mee Virar Houn Karar Karto, Mee Majha, Tujha Nehamicha Jhalay Ayya Ayya (all satires in Marathi), Nathu, Fauji and Jhinjhinat were thoroughly enjoyed by the audience. His poems satirically depicted our mundane life, sensibility and craziness of the young, and the soldiers deputed on the border.

Dr Sandhya Kundnani, Sindhi poet and short story writer, recited her poems Zindagi in Sindhi and English translation, Shah, Sachal, Sami (the Sufi pioneers of Sindhi poetry), Dhari Kaum (A Different Caste) both in Sindhi, Kaash Who Shabd Sach Na Ho in Sindhi and Hindi translation, Matrubhasha in Sindhi. Her poems were insisting, and conveyed the high significance of the mother tongue.

Finally, Dr Anjali Naik, Head, Dept. of Marathi, St. Gonsalo Garcia College, proposed a vote of thanks.

## LITERARY FORUM

September 5, 2015, Barshi

Sahitya Akademi, Regional Office, Mumbai, in collaboration with Sriman Bhausheb Zadbuke College, Barshi, organized a Literary Forum at Barshi, Dist Solapur on 5 September 2015. The Forum was coupled with the inauguration of the Akademi's books exhibition. Prof. G.M. Pawar, eminent Marathi writer and critic, inaugurated the books exhibition, and Dr

Ranadhir Shinde, Member, Marathi Advisory Board, chaired the Forum.

Sri Veera Rathod, Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar winning Marathi poet, Ms Balika Dnyanadev, Ms Kalpana Dudhal, and Sri Rajendra Das participated in the Forum and recited their poems.

## AVISHKAR

September 9, 2015, Nashik

Sahitya Akademi, Regional Office, Mumbai in collaboration with Kusumagraj Pratishthan, Nashik, organized an Avishkar programme on 9 September 2015, at Kusumagraj Smarak Hall, Vidya Vikas Chowk, Nashik.

Dr Aruna Dhere, Member, Marathi Advisory Board, welcomed the audience. She recited some of her poems, and intermittently elaborated upon the inter-relation between poetry and other forms of arts such as dance, painting and music. To her, she said that, writing poetry is an instant process. The Poet writes poetry keeping in mind something unusual, the mysterious which is inexplicable out of poetry. The words of a poem are the feelings and experience of a poet while surviving as a common man. Therefore, a poet is a "transcreator" of his own experiences. She recited her poems - Devalat Vithu Nahi Aahe, Gabhara Salamat toh Murti Pachas, Sakhi Mi Harpun Basale, etc.

Ms Shama Bhate, the renowned Katthak dancer, explained the relationship between poetry and dance. She said that dance is a sacred form of art. A word is understood easily as it has intent but to know the art one has to follow the principles of tradition. She recited the poems such as Kadamb, Audumber (Balkavi's poems), Giffundan (a German poem), An Alchemist and her disciples gave a marvelous dance performance while she was reciting the poems.

Sri Chandramohan Kulkarni, a celebrated painter, briefly spoke of relation between poetry and the art of painting. He frankly shared with the audience that



while painting, for a poem in particular, he keeps aside its poet and gets involved into the multiplicity of meanings of the poem. Like poetry and dance, painting also has its own language. Every line, stroke, structure, and colour has a meaning, and it might get several shades of meanings when creatively applied in different places and contexts. The painter's assumption and the connoisseur's perception might differ, and here erupts yet another meaning. He displayed few of his paintings done on the poems - Mala Ek Mulagi Disate, Ek Swapna Punha Punha (Gulzar's poem), Tatpurvi (D.S. Vaidya).

Pt Satyasheel Deshpande, a renowned classical singer said that a word is transformed into a raga to suit a tune. A word has a simple meaning but gets a musical notion while using in a song or in lyric.

The huge audience enjoyed the talks, recitations and demonstrations with great zeal and appreciation, and witnessed the different aspects of relationship between poetry and other arts on a single platform.

## LITERARY FOURM

September 11, 2015, Dombivli

Sahitya Akademi, Regional Office, Mumbai organized a Literary Forum on Friday, 11 September 2015, in Dombivli (E), Dist Thane at Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Hall. The Forum was held during the Akademi's five day books exhibition which was inaugurated by Sri Deepak Ghare, eminent Marathi critic, on 9 September 2015.

At the outset Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, RO, Mumbai, welcomed the audience and introduced the guest-poets - Ms Sulbha Kore, Sri Narayan Lale, Sri Neelkanth Kadam and Sri Ajay Kandar - to the audience.

Sri Narayan Lale recited his poems - "Garage," 'Faarkat,' 'Ghusmat,' 'Ase Kahi Zale Ki,' 'Waatani,' 'Uparati,' 'Dummy,' 'Haircut,' 'Pakshyanchihi Asate Apli Parampara,' 'Utkhanan,' 'Manasanmadhali Kahi

Manasa,' 'Nivrutta,' 'Hospitalmadhali Sakal,' and 'Boot';

Sri Neelkanth Kadam recited his poems - 'Dhoosar Kalokhya Dhigaryawar,' 'Toparyant,' 'Swatahachya Samajutikarata,' 'Majha man Tula Kalata Ka?,' 'Akalpit,' 'Pokarale Man,' 'Aani Akher,' 'Sangata Yeil Tumhala?,' and 'Mayawi';

Sri Ajay Kandar recited his poems entitled 'Baya Panyashi Boltat,' 'Bayana Paus Nakosa Zalay,' 'Maitree,' 'Mee, Majhee Mulagi Aani Majhee Baayko,' 'Baai Mhanaje Aai aani Aai Mhanaje Bhasha,' 'Shabdanchich Muthmati Dyaa,' 'Shabda,' 'Dharma,' 'Tyaanee Ekahee Naahee Lihilaa Shabda,' and 'Raktachya Moolaashee Kaviteche Shabda';

Ms Sulbha Kore recited her poems - 'Nostalgic,' 'Pasaru Naye Poree,' 'Ekatee,' and 'Baye...' The Forum ended with a vote of thanks.

## SYMPOSIUM ON KIRAT BABANI: MAN AND LITERATURE

October 11, 2015, Mumbai

Sahitya Akademi, Regional Office, Mumbai, organized a symposium on the late Kirat Babani, renowned Sindhi writer, translator, and activist, at its auditorium on 11.10.2015. At the outset, Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, R.O. Mumbai, welcomed the gathering and participants. He described Babani as a distinctive Sindhi litterateur, a Sahitya Akademi award winner and a wonderful fusion of different personalities. He was an ambassador of Sindhi culture. Ms Kala Prakash while presiding the inaugural session shared her memory of literary interactions with Babani. Prem Prakash, Convener, Sindhi Advisory Board, delivered the key-note address. He opined that Babani was a dancing wave of a river which kept on flowing in spite of obstacles. He strived hard to keep the Sindhi legacy and culture floating after the Partition. He is considered as one of the pillars of Sindhi literature.



The first session was chaired by Laxman Dubey, and Mohan Gehani presented a paper on life and works of Babani. He was closely associated with Babani for sixty years. He opined that there should be a serious debate on various aspects of Babani's life and works. Jetho Lalwani's paper was pitched on plays and short stories written by Kirat Babani who was awarded by Akademi for his play Dharti Jo Sad . The third paper of the session was presented by Sandhya Kundnani which was based on autobiographical writings of Babani.

The second session comprised of paper readers such as Laxman Dubey, whose paper was a review on poetic form of Babani's writing. Hundraj Balwani's paper was on Sindhiyat in Babani's writings. He said that Babani's writings were truly based on Sindhi life sketches. This session was chaired by Meena Rupchandani.

The third session which was chaired by Mohan Gehani witnessed the papers on Babani's contribution to Sindhi Criticism presented by Meena Rupchandani and Babani's travelogue presented by Shobha Lalchandani.

Kala Prakash shared her experience with Babani in the last session dedicated to Moments with Kirat Babani. This session was truly a tribute to Kirat Babani and was also shared by his kith and kin of Babani also.

## THROUGH MY WINDOW

October 16, 2015, Mumbai

Sahitya Akademi, RO, Mumbai organized a Through My Window programme with Sri Ashok Shahane, distinguished Marathi critic, writer, editor, and publisher, on Friday, 16 October 2015, in Mumbai at the Sahitya Akademi Auditorium. Sri Shahane spoke of the late Arun Kolatkar, distinguished Marathi and English poet, translator. Incidentally, Shahane, by his Pras Prakashan, published all of Kolatkar's collections of poems in Marathi and in English as well. Sri

Shahane said that he had met Kolatkar between 1950 and 1960, and that Kolatkar had been writing poems for more than 60 years, and used to say, "I am a poet, and a designer only by profession." He said that Arun Kolatkar used to write on poem for at least ten times to achieve what exactly he wanted, and was extremely keen on the style of printing his poems. On this ground he had rejected to have his collection of poems published by Oxford University Press. He came to terms with me because the discriminating editor and flawless publisher in me appealed to him. Jejuri, his first collection of poems in English was not welcomed by many a critic in Marathi, for they found the poet's point of view to be of a foreign traveler, Shahane said. Shahane remembered that Kolatkar used to say that he had a pencil that had points at both the ends, he could write poems in English by the one and in Marathi by the other. Kolatkar's Arun Kolatkarchya Kavita, his first collection of poems in Marathi was published in 1969, and the next right after 21 years. But this long gap did not matter at all for his readers, for his each of poems in the first collection was heartily remembered by them. This had happened only with the saint poets, he observed. But during this gap Kolatkar very seriously wrote poems, and came up with extraordinary poems that were collected in Chirimiri. In this collection he deliberately used the Ovee form in order to go along the poetry by saints in Marathi rejecting the 700 years' control of typical Sanskrit forms, Shahane observed. Shahane also shared his genuine insight into printing of poetry, saying that the layout we opt for also adds to the meaning of a poem. On Kolatkar's bilingual poetic excellence, Shahane observed that his poems in English were pregnant with English culture and literary traditions, and poems in Marathi were, with the Marathi ones. After his talk, Shahane answered the queries by the audience.

## THROUGH MY WINDOW

October 17, 2015, Mumbai

Sahitya Akademi, RO, Mumbai organized a Through My Window programme on 17 October 2015, at the Sahitya Akademi Auditorium. The programme commenced with the welcome address by Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary. Sri Prakash Parienkar, noted Konkani writer and critic was invited to speak of the life and works of the late J.B. Moraes, eminent Konkani litterateur. Sri Parienkar, at the outset, thanked Sahitya Akademi for organizing a Konkani literary programme in Mumbai rather than in Goa, a home town of the language. He said that J.B. Moraes successfully expressed himself in almost all the genres of literature. Moraes was born in 1933, when in fact the times were not as much tumultuous when they were some years after, and still Moraes nurtured the spirit of an activist, and relentlessly thought of Konkani literature and welfare of the language, Parienkar shared. Sri Parienkar shared his early phase in the literary world, and said that he was enthralled by the poems in Bhitarte Toofan, the Sahitya Akademi award winning collection of poems by J.B. Moraes. The poems motivated him much, he said. In 1992, when Parienkar was a college student, he wrote an article on the collection. Moraes' literary work is a revelation for the young generation of Konkani literature. His poems are usually women centric, and at the same time they were socially inspired. His poems depict the various psychological phases of women. Parienkar rendered some of Moraes' poems entitled "Pilant Haath Dhuta", "Teene Tuka Janm Dila", "Teechi Amrutghadi", etc. He described Moraes' poems are in fact social message, ornaments of words of agony. Moraes was a spontaneous poet, he stated.

In spite of not being a Konkani land, he established Konkani Bhasha Mandal, a premier Konkani literary institution, in Mumbai, to spread its significance and to take Konkani literature outside Goa as well. He was of firm belief that in spite of Konkani language being used across four states with different scripts its dialect remains unique. Parienkar concluded his talk

by rendering an excerpt from the speech delivered by Moraes in 1993 during a Konkani conference. The programme was commenced with vote of thanks by Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary.

## YUVA MARATHI KAVYOTSAV

October 27-28, 2015, Mumbai

Sahitya Akademi organized its first ever Yuva Marathi Kavyotsav on 27-28 October 2015 at the Sahitya Akademi Auditorium, Sharda Cinema Bldg., MMGS Marg, Dadar (East), Mumbai. In his welcome address, K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, thanked the Marathi Advisory Board for suggesting such a unique Kavyotsav to Akademi which brought together the Marathi writers of rural and urban Maharashtra on a global platform. He recalled one of his memories where a young writer was so overwhelmed to notice that his poems were a part of syllabus in a university.



(L to R) Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Vasant A. Dahake and Vasant Patankar

Vasant Patankar, an eminent Marathi Poet and Critic, in his inaugural address reiterated that a poet doesn't misuse his freedom of thoughts. Some poems consists aesthetics and some productivity. Poet should not remain under the influence of technology and he should always search for his sovereign. Vasant A. Dahake, a renowned Marathi Poet, presided the inaugural session. He stressed that poetry is a thought of expression for a poet. Usually a poet is a pragmatic; his statements are artistic, sometime depressed, restraint, young poets believe in constructive writing



and are more secular and against the gender inequality. Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, R.O. Mumbai, proposed a vote of thanks at the end of inaugural session.

The first session was chaired by Satish Kalsekar, a renowned Marathi Poet. The poet participants include Namdev Koli, a poet from a small town of Jalgaon District rendered his poems like Panyacha Dharma, Hi Kuthali Dahashat etc. Born in a farmer's family, his poems are inspired by nature, farming, the drought, suicides by the farmers etc. Ms Balika Dnyandeo Bitale, a young poetess from Pune and working in police force, firmly believes that writing poetry is to express herself. Her poems are inspired by the current agony of working women, their hardships at work place. Being in police and writing a poetry are both the contradictory situations. Still the scenario and state of women inspired her to write the poetry. She recited Mohini Madam, Itbar Pot, Policechi Mulgi etc. Veera Rathod, another poet who belongs to a nomadic tribe, writes poetry as it is his life force. It always reminds him of doing some inspiration in life. His poems include Ha Udhalalaya Bhandara, Mee Kaljatlee Sal Baher Kadhun Thevatoy, Kiti Bhayan Andharun Aalay Bhag, Ajab Kala, Bebhavarvshyacha Rakhandar, Kharach Mitra Ajun Mala Kalali Nahi Aahe Kavita. At the end of session, Kalsekar reviewed all the poets as realistic and updated with the current social scenario. He also recited a poem Tu Tar Agadi Aamchyasarkhach Nighalach.

In the second session poets like Chandrashekhar Malkampatte, a dalit poet from Udgir, rendered his poems like Paradh, Sandnari Rikami Parat, Bhimraya Tujhi Saath Hoti. His poems are a collective folk art of the words and inspired by the Pardhi community and their hardships. He has experienced rural as well as urban miseries and developed his poems from his diversified experience. Ignatius Dais, a young poet from Vasai, is a poet of urban thoughts. His poems include phrases like log-in, shut-down, sign-in, sign-out etc. to correlate his terminology. He never thought what inspired him to write a poem, it developed spontaneously. A poet has different identities and

values. As a poet he always searches for assumptions and presumptions. He recited Gochalalelya Gavache Akherche Gaane, Mi Khir Khalli Asel Tar, Kadhun Thevtoy Majha Dhongi Chasma, Kalachi Abheddha Bhint, Pet, Stotra Geet etc. Another poet, Kalpana Dudhal, a poetess from farmer's family of Daund taluka, rendered her poems like Ropapasoon Galyaparyant, Aadhisarkhach Sangat Raha, Dharnatla Paani Aatlyavar. She enlightens the drawbacks of digitized generation. She wrote her first poem while grazing the cattle and her poems are based on farming activities, drought etc. Ganesh Vispute, a renowned Marathi Poet and Critic chaired the session. He updated the audience that present circumstances are very complex for a poet to perish. Today's poetry is vibrant; a poet must have a vision of enhancement. He rendered a satirical poem Mee Mhanat Hoto Fascist Aahes.

The Third session which commenced on 28.10.2015 started with presentation of poems by Anil Sable, a new poet in literary circle, whose poems are based on poverty of Adivasi community from where he belongs. His poems include Pragati Pustak, Gaay, Jodni, Aai Sangu Lagli, Bail Jodi, Shaale Vishayi, Avatachi Gaani, Raanti etc. His poems were followed by Felix D'Souza's poems, a poet from Vasai. He recited poems like Vihir, Nishedh, Bo (Grand mother), Varnuka (a poem in Vasai folk language). His poems are women centric as well as realistic. He opines that a human can only write a poem. His poems reflect the displacement of cities. Pruthviraj Taur, a professor at Nanded University, presented his poems like Teesrya Bahinichi Vaat Baghat, Dangali Nantarchi Sakhi, Gavatali Ek Bai, Majid Bhai, Smashanat ( a long poem). His poems are also women centric and inspired by the communal riots. He is of a beautiful thought that poem gives a word to a silence. A poem is sincere in its form and sometime expresses its displeasure. The session was chaired by Neeraja, a renowned Marathi poetess from Mumbai. She considers that a poet writes what he reads and gets inspired from. A poet's journey starts with a 'He' and ends at 'Ours'.



In the fourth session, Satyapalsingh Rajput, a poet from Bhusawal, recited Dagabaaj Vayache Sandarbha, Paratmatecha Kaala Saap, Parivahan, Adam La Havay Moksh, Shodhsatra etc. He reiterated that poetry is a readymade form of thought; a poem is a development of earnest thought of a common man. The transparency of a poem vanishes if he acts as a bizarre and the development will result in an artificial form. Balaji Sutar, a poet from drought hit district of Beed, presented poems like Vartaman, Avakash, Chhayadabai Suryabhan Landge, Akher etc. His poems depict the tyranny of helpless women, the veracity of a conservative culture. His recitation was more of an experienced poet rather than a starter and was well received by the audience. Another poet Vishnu Joshi, was not present physically, his poems like Mansanchya Garditun Ghari Parat Aalyavar, Kuthli Anamik Bheeti Gheyun phirtoy aapan, Teechya Papnyatle Bal, Shabdani Pahile, Vadh etc. were read by Vinayak Yewale. The session was chaired by Prabha Ganorkar, an eminent Marathi Poet and member of Marathi Advisory Board Sahitya Akademi. She was fascinated by the deliberation presented by the young poets. She accepted that the young generation was more diversified, acquainted and sensible compared to her contemporaries.

## MEET THE AUTHOR

October 31, 2015, Sangli

Sahitya Akademi, regional office, Mumbai organized a Meet the Author programme with Ms Saniya, renowned Marathi fiction writer, in collaboration with the Sangli branch of Maharashtra Sahitya Parishad and Chaturang Prakashan, at Garware Girls' College, Sangli, on 31 October 2015.

Dr Avinash Sapre, Member, Marathi Advisory Board, welcomed the audience and introduced Saniya to them.

Saniya said that she published her first short story – “Harawaleli Paulvat” – when she was 16, and preferred not to add surname to her name as a writer, and even later until the date she used merely her name Saniya

without any addition. She said that her mother tongue is Marathi and she loved it, and preferred to write only in Marathi. Further she added that she never bothered about being called a feminist. Feminism to her was openly sharing our opinions about women, and in this sense every one of us was feminist. She observed that in modern Marathi literature, women writers from Vibhavari Shirurkar, Kusumawati Deshpande to Vijaya Rajadhyaksha had confidently highlighted the issues of women in society with modernist, humanitarian perspective, and after 1970s the search for essence of Indian womanhood became broader, and during this decade feminist theory and feminism as movement created a new dynamic environment, whereby women were not looked at as ‘sympathetic creatures’ but as human beings in their own right, and attention was drawn to the overall exploitation of women and discrimination against them in society, religion and culture. Patriarchy and family’s role in limiting women’s growth was highlighted. Awareness about sexism and its long lasting impact is one of the most important movements amongst the ideologies which shook the modern times. She also stated that a writer should stand against injustice, which was the duty of the writer. After her talk, she interacted with the audience.

## PRABHU CHHUGANI BIRTH CENTENARY SEMINAR

November 1-2, 2015, Mumbai

Sahitya Akademi, to commemorate the Birth Centenary of pioneer of Sindhi Ghazals, Prabhu Chhugani ‘Wafa’, organized a seminar on 1-2 November 2015, at the Sahitya Akademi Auditorium, Sharda Cinema Bldg., MMGS Marg, Dadar (East), Mumbai. In his welcome address, Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, welcomed the participating litterateurs and gave a brief introduction of ‘Wafa’. Vasdev Mohi, an eminent Sindhi Poet, in his inaugural address described ‘Wafa’ as a poet (shayar) of romance. His compositions are like a rhythm. He never cheated with his words. He morphed a Ghazal into a song. He



(L.toR) Khiman Mulani, Maya Rahi, Kamla Goklani and Vimmi Sadarangani

is an inventor of Panchkada, a unique form of poetry consisting of five lines in Sindhi literature. His poems are aesthetic and full of romance. His shayari (poem) is a legacy for Sindhi poets. In his key-note address, Prem Prakash, Convener Sindhi Advisory Board explained the audience the outline of the seminar and its various sessions. The motive behind such sessions is to find the different aspects of writings of 'Wafa'. Akademi feels privileged in organizing such centenary seminars to pay homage to a renowned poet. He described 'Wafa' as a sincere poet. He never wrote travelogue, diary or any other form and stick to his own form of poetry. A reader experiences the coolness of moonlight, twinkling of stars a wave in dark sunlight while reading his poems. His poems are the journey of sentiment. He was influenced by the works of Sindhi poets like Bewas and Nawaz. His poems are included in the Sindhi films. His poems (shayari) are the like color and glow which are the mirror of his emotions.

The inaugural session was followed by release of monograph on Prabhu 'Wafa' written by Mohan Gehani on the hands of Vasdev Mohi and Prem Prakash. Kamla Goklani and Vimmi Sadarangani recited some of the poems of 'Wafa' at the end of inaugural session.

The first session was chaired by Arjan Chawla, a member of Sindhi Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi. The paper presenters were Mohan Gehani, Veena Shringi and Hundraj Balwani. Mohan Gehani,

a renowned writer and scholar, presented a paper titled 'Wafa's Life and Poetry'. He gave a conception of Wafa's inclination towards romantism. He brought suffism in Sindhi Poetry. Veena Shringi, a member of Sindhi Advisory board and a writer, gave her review on Wafa's collection of poems Jhankar. His poems depict delicacy, a hope, at the same instance distress. The book includes poems, kafiya, rubai, folk songs etc. The poems from the said collection are included in Sindhi film Abana. She recited some of the rubai's and poems from the book. Her paper was followed the paper of Hundraj Balwani, a renowned Sindhi writer. He gave his assessment on Wafa's book Parvaz (a collection of poems). The book includes nazm, bait, rubai some poems on children, poems on politics which was a contrast to the form usually written by Wafa.

The second session included the writers like Govardhan Sharma 'Ghayal', who chaired the session, Jetho Lalwani, Sandhya Kundnani and Sarita Sharma, the paper readers. Jetho Lalwani evaluated Wafa's collection of poems Surkha Gulab, Surahakhwab which won the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1981. The collection included the Wafa's creations namely Panchkadas, a poem of five lines. These panchkadas are translated in other Indian Languages also. Sarita Sagar reviewed Tun Sagar Maan Lahar again a collection of poems by Wafa. She described the poems of this collection as the waves of water, the emotions and experience of poet. Sandhya Kundnani gave her assessment on Achalji Unn, a collection of poems written by Wafa in 1992. The book included 73 ghazals, 43 poems, and also the Sindhi folk songs called Ladas and Bhagat. The session ended with reminiscence shared by the family of 'Wafa' which includes his daughters, son-in-laws, sisters etc. Shobha Lalchandani, Nand Jhaveri and Rahul Bijlani were also included in this session. They presented some of the panchkadas of Wafa.

The third session of the seminar which commenced on 2 November 2015 was chaired by Mohan Gehani. The papers were presented by Maya Rahi, Meena



Roopchandani and Vinod Assudani. Maya Rahi gave her assessment on Seeja Lahan Te Aahe, a collection of poems by Wafa. The said collection was written by Wafa in his passing age. Wafa's poems which always created a positive vibe amongst reader are little sorrowful and distressed in this collection. Meena Roopchandani, a senior Sindhi writer, gave her thoughts on Luchhe Pai Yaktare Jee Taar, a collection of Wafa's poems. This book carries 10 panchkadas, 38 ghazals, 13 poems, some Kafiya's etc. These poems takes readers in a musical aura at the same time depict the poet's sorrow of losing motherland. Vinod Assudani, a poet and scholar, presented a paper on Wafa's ghazals. He described Wafa's ghazals as sincere, of human values, soulful, musical and also of sufi values. He compared Wafa's ghazals with the poems of Wordsworth. His ghazals are bearing high sense of aesthetics, are visual imagery, of tactile sense, generates creative energy and are not influenced by post modernism. Mohan Gehani, the chair, concluded that selection and elimination are important in Art and Wafa remains in his own creative zone.

In the fourth session Kamla Goklani presented her paper on Wafa's panchkadas. She said, though panchkadas consist of words, phrases are expressive, soulful, reminds the music of an ocean, a newness of thoughts and touches the heart of a reader. The panchkadas epitomize an example of Shringar Ras, Vibhathsa Ras etc. where a silence is also having a notion. Another scholar Vimmi Sadarangani presented a paper on Wafa's poetry form 'Tissita' which is nothing but a haiku which brings a reality to its existence. The first haiku in Sindhi was written by Wafa. He brings nature in haiku also. He pays tribute to the poets like Shah Latif, Rohal through his haiku's. Khiman Mulani informed the audience about different forms of poems, baits, rubaiys in Wafa's writings. The session was chaired by Maya Rahi.

The fifth and last session comprised of Sindhi poets like Laxman Dubey, Arjan Chawla, Goverdhan Sharma 'Ghayal and Nand Chhugani and was chaired by Vinod Assudani. Dubey who is also a popular

Ghazalkar expressed that Wafa is a guide for a young poet, a thinker and poem is his religion. He is eternal romantic in line with poets like Bewas, Sachal, Shah Latif. He was a worshipper of beauty, nature but was not a philosopher as he believed that philosophy arising out of helplessness. Arjan Chawla presented his paper on aesthetics in Wafa's poems. He said that every poet wants to carve a striking creation and Wafa always adhered with this belief. Wafa is a lover's poet. His poems are sensual. Govardhan Sharma also presented his paper on same line and enlighten about the music in Wafa's poems. His creations have lyricism. Nand Chhugani reviewed Wafa's diversified form as a translator. Wafa, as a translator of Kaleel Jibran's Paigaam stands apart from other Sindhi poets. He did not disturb its originality while translating Paigaam and included some Ikhlaqi Nukte also. Vinod Assudani, who chaired the session, opined that eternal poetry is not a mere expression but a process of finding self. Poet sees life with very different angle and has a futuristic vision which can be perceived in Wafa's poetry. Prem Prakash summed up the seminar by evaluating each paper presented. The seminar was attended by very active, live and scholarly audience.

## MEET THE AUTHOR

November 5, 2015, Nagpur

Sahitya Akademi, Regional Office, Mumbai, in collaboration with Girish Gandhi Pratishthan, Nagpur, organized a Meet the Author programme with Sri Bharat Sasne, distinguished Marathi fiction writer, on Thursday, 5 November 2015, at Srimanth Baburao Dhanvathe Sabhagruha, Rashtrabhasha Sankul, Shankar Nagar, Nagpur. Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, welcomed the guest writer and audience, and invited the writer to deliver the speech. To begin with Sri Bharat Sasne thanked Sahitya Akademi for organizing the Meet the Author programme with him. He informed that he was born at Jalna, Maharashtra. He joined Indian Administrative Service in 1999, and retired as the Collector of the Beed District of Maharashtra. Although an IAS



officer, he has always made it a point to significantly contribute to Marathi literature, while doing a very high profiled administrative job. Known for his exceptional narrative technique, unconventional themes that flawlessly reflect on social circumstances and psychological predicament of mankind, Sasne spoke on the existence of the common man which is missing in today's scheme of things. He opined that a writer must be able to reflect anguish and agonized reality of a common man through his writing. Today common man is lost and we seem to look at the other side of things, like providing entertainment or its like. This is evident in poetry and other literary genres, but again the great writer had emerged to put the common man on pedestal. Common man needs to be given identity, he said. He feels that if he could see the severe complexities in human life, and if a creative writer could directly experience draught and wide spread disease, migration out of helplessness, he could educate himself into understanding his reality in a better way. After his talk, Sasne interacted with the audience.

## LITERARY EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

November 20, 2015, Mumbai

Sahitya Akademi's Mumbai regional office hosted a Cultural Exchange programme on 20 November 2015 at its meeting hall, with three writers' delegation from Russia. The delegation included the writers - Denis Karasev, Makhotin Sergey, and Marina Moskvina. The writers, poets, critics and translators in Mumbai – Dr Dilip Zaveri, noted Gujarati poet, playwright and translator, Smt Sanjivani Kher, noted Marathi writer, Sri Udayan Thakker, eminent Gujarati poet, Sri Mahesh Leelapandit, young Marathi poet, Sri Avinash Kolhe, noted Marathi writer, Dr Urvashi Pandya, eminent Gujarati poet and translator, Dr Cecilia Carvalho, renowned Marathi poet and fiction writer, Ms Philomina Samfrancisco, noted Konkani poet, Dr Sadhana Kamat, Member, Konakni Advisory

Board, Ms Devi Nangarani, noted Sindhi poet and translator participated in the programme. At the outset Sri Krishna Kimbahune welcomed the writers from Russia, and the ones in the Western zonal languages. He introduced Denis Karasev as a poet and translator, and author of books: *In the voice* and *The cold and the West*, and his works were published in the magazines *Friendship of Peoples*, *Moscow*, *Prologue*, *Khreshchatyk*. In 2008, Denis Karasev released online book called *Navy color*; many poems on the theme of Slavic were systematized and collected there and this book also contains a separate chapter of poetically treated hymns of the Rigveda. Karasev recited some his poems in Russian. While introducing Makhotin Sergey, he said that Makhotin was a poet, novelist, author of works for children. He graduated from Department of poetry of Literary Institute. He worked as a correspondent for the newspaper "Lenin sparks", in the early 80s he began to write for children and published in the journal "Fire" and "Sparkle". He worked as editor in chief of the famous children's radio program "Rabbit Island". Currently, the editor of children's programme "Malaya Sadovaya", on "Radio Russia". In 2008, Sergei Makhotin won Hans Christian Andersen Award in Copenhagen for the collection "Grumbles virus", he is also the winner of the Marshak Literary Prize. In May 2011, he participated in the 5th Book Festival in Taganrog as a guest. Kimbahune introduced Marina Moskvina saying that after graduating from the Faculty of Journalism she worked as a journalist in a press. She is the Member of the Writers' Union of Russia. For ten years, anchor the program "In the company of Marina Moskvina", "Radio Russia"; made author documentaries for television. Her prose was awarded the prize named after V. Kataev of "Youth" magazine (1995), a book of short stories "My dog loves jazz" was awarded the diploma of the International Hans Christian Andersen Awards (1998) and Prize of the magazine "Friendship of Peoples" (2001), she was nominated for the Booker Prize (2001).



## SYMPOSIUM ON WOMEN WRITINGS TODAY

November 21, 2015, Mumbai

Sahitya Akademi, Regional Office, Mumbai, in collaboration with MARUEE, New Delhi, structured a Symposium on Women's Contribution in Sindhi Literature at its auditorium at basement hall, Mumbai. While, Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, R.O. Mumbai, welcomed the guests speakers and audience. He reiterated the need to organize such women oriented events. Dr Prem Prakash, Convener, Sindhi Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi inaugurated the symposium. He humorously described that he was the only male litterateur participating in the event meant for Women. He also thanked Akademi for accepting his proposal to organize a woman oriented symposium though there was another literary event of Akademi named Asmita for woman. Veena Shringi, member of Sahitya Akademi's Sindhi Advisory Board also representing MARUEE, delivered the key-note address. She recounted that Sindhi women contributed to the literature since 1926. Some of the prominent women writers of pre-independence era named Chandra Advani, Guli Sadarangani, Devi Vaswani have written in different genre. The Sindhi literary world is celebrating their centenary. The Sindhi women writer lacks recognition as its men counterpart as they got scattered in post-independence era. Still Popati Hiranandani stands tall in the Sindhi literary circles. Sundari Uttamchandani, Rita Shahani, Kala Prakash expressed the anguish of a women through their poems, ghazals, short stories etc. Their writings are the mirror of society. The contemporary Sindhi women writer's viz. Devi Nanigrani, Sandhya Kundnani, Ritu Bhatia, Kamla Goklani, Vimmi Sadarangani, Veena Karamchandani tried the different genres such as translation, travelogue, plays etc. Krishna Kimbahune delivered vote of thanks to end the inaugural session.

The first session was chaired by Veena Shringi and paper presenters were Maya Rahi, Devi Nanigrani and Sandhya Kundnani. Maya Rahi through the light on

the genre poem of Sindhi women litterateur. These poems are thoroughly based on love, emotions etc. Devi Nanigrani described that new poem and its prologue is a medium of expression, emotions in Women literature. Sandhya Kundnani specified the genre travelogue in women literature which depicts the memoirs and experiences of a women litterateur. She illustrated some written by Popati Hiranandani, Sundari Uttamchandani, Rita Shahani and Veena Shringi. The second session was chaired by Maya Rahi. Shalini Sagar shared her experience about entering the Sindhi Literary world and how her profession of presenter at AIR helped her in doing so. She believes that women should write while doing any household work. Bharati Kewalramani shared her experience while reading Veena Shringi's book Kiyani Visarya Vethichad. Ritu Bhatia reviewed Indira Vaswani's Mittiya Khan Mittiya Tai, a book which describes Sindhi language and motherland. Shobha Lalchandani and Daya Lakhi Jashnani also shared their upbringing which created curiosity to enter the Sindhi Literary world. At the end of session a special poetry recitation session was enacted in which all the participants rendered poems, short stories etc. Prem Prakash delivered the valedictory address to conclude the symposium. The programme was attended by the Sindhi scholars, women litterateur and also the media.

## MEET THE AUTHOR

November 28, 2015, Mumbai

Sahitya Akademi, Regional Office, Mumbai, organized a Meet the Author programme with Sri Laxman Dubey, distinguished Sindhi poet, on Saturday, 28 November 2015, at the Sahitya Akademi Auditorium, Sharda Cinema Building, Mumbai Marathi Granth Sangrahalaya Marg, Dadar (East), Mumbai. Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, welcomed the guest writer and audience, and introduced the writer to the audience. Sri Kimbahune said that Sri Dubey as a Sindhi poet who writes in Hindi and Urdu as well. He said further that Sri



Dubey had 14 publications to his credit, including his Hindi translation of Umar Khayyam's Rubaiyat. Sri Kimbahune informed that Deergha, Koonj, Rachana, and Sipoon published their special issues on Laxman Dubey's poetry, and his collection of poems Ajan Yaad Ahe got the Sahitya Akademi award in 2010. He informed further that some of Dubey's works were translated into Gujarati. Sri Laxman Dubey said that he took to writing poems at the age of 15, and initially he wrote in Hindi and Urdu. He said that it was Gobind Malhi, eminent Sindhi litterateur inspired him to write in Sindhi. Upon receiving accolades his first collection of poems in Sindhi Athae Pahar Ubanko was highly praised by Gobind Malhi saying "after many years it has been so in the field of Sindhi literature. After Arjan Hasid comes Laxman Dubey. His pomes reflect novelty, freshness and are abound in enthusiasm and positivism. He writes in a simple and short way very beautifully". He said further that poetry was a sort of dedication for him, and poetry was the mother tongue of humanity. He said that poetry was synonymous to religion, truth, and beauty. He said that he revered Padmashri Kalidas Gupta "Riza", and Saint Leela Shah as his spiritual masters. He shared that he always wanted his poetry to be up to the brim with sorrow, sadness, loneliness and yet resonate love inner calmness and happiness. He stated that he and his poetry were inspirable, and poetry for him was worship, his dedication to the Creator.

## SYMPOSIUM ON CONTRIBUTION OF SONGS TO KONKANI POETRY

December 2, 2015, Mumbai

Sahitya Akademi organized one of its distinctive symposium on Konkani Poems and Songs at its basement auditorium on 2 December 2015. Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, R.O. Mumbai, welcomed the guest speakers, performers and audience. He briefed about the programme which was based on Konkani lyrical poetry. He also emphasized

upon organizing the Konkani programmes in different region and not restricting to its homeland Goa. Ajay Vaidya, a renowned Konkani Playwright, inaugurated the symposium. He viewed that prosody is a difficult form of poetry and a poem is the product free verse. Tanaji Halarnkar, Convener, Konkani Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi reiterated that Konkani songs got a wide recognition in Mumbai and its first song was broadcast on All India Radio, Mumbai as there was no facility available for song recording in Goa. Poem and song both are the same entity. Poetics has the boundaries of prosody. He said, literature was initially in the prose form and eventually it adopted a poetic form as it was easy to express in a rhyme.

The first session was chaired by Uday Bhembre, a renowned Konkani Poet. He states that a lyrical poem has the identical form irrespective of language but it concludes as per the ethnicity of language. The Konkani lyric depicts the Ramayana and the Mahabharata. The Konkani lyrical poem lacks the recognition gained by the other language poems due to its invaders. The session comprised three papers based on different forms of Konkani poet. Akshay Nayak presented a paper on Konkani devotional songs. These songs are influenced by the Marathi saint poets like Tukaram, Namdev etc. The trend of spiritual songs was started by Manohar Shirgaonkar in Konkani culture. Bindiya Vast presented a paper on emotion songs. She said that the first Konkani song of this genre was composed by Krishna Pai in 1952. These songs are worthy to express emotions, love, philosophy etc. The Konkani language has different ascent with every passing mile but the emotions are identical. Shakuntala Bharane presented her paper on the most popular form of Konkani songs named Kantar (Tiyatra). This genre of songs is the core identity of Konkani language. These songs are usually sung in parties, celebrations etc. The Kantar song is the contribution by Konkani Christians to the said culture. The songs are offbeat and influenced by western culture. The second session was one of its kinds of session with no paper presentation, it was truly a goan festival in which all the three paper readers sang the Konkani songs in their respective genres. The audience present was awestruck to witness the goan orchestra.

## LITERARY FORUM

December 20, 2015, Belgaum

Sahitya Akademi, Regional Office, Mumbai, in collaboration with Uzwaad Parivar, Belgaum organized a Literary Forum, on 20 December 2015, at the St. Paul's High School Hall, Camp, Belgaum. The forum was specially focused on literature in Konkani from the Gharmatho. Sri Tanaji Halarnakar, Convener, Konkani Advisory Board, chaired the forum. He said that mother tongue is the identity of the mankind. The man kind is identified anywhere in the world because of his/her mother tongue. It was really amazing that the people who migrated from Goa to the Ghatmatho are before 400 years had kept their mother tongue – Konkani alive. Sri Pundalik N. Naik, Sri John F. Mendonca, Member, Konkani Advisory Board Sri Louis Rodrigues, and Sri Milagrin D'souza also shared their views at the forum. The forum was followed by Loka: the Many Voices programme at which Sri Eric Ozario and his fellow artists rendered Konkani songs of the Ghatmatho area.

## SYMPOSIUM ON CHILDREN'S LITERATURE: NATURE AND CHALLENGES

December 26, 2015, Kalavan

Sahitya Akademi, Regional Office, Mumbai, in collaboration with the Institute of Knowledge Engineering, Nashik, and Arts, Science and Commerce College, Kalavan, organized a symposium on Children Literature: Nature and Challenges, on 26 December 2015 at the Arts, Science, and Commerce College, Kalavan, Nashik District. Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, welcomed the guests and audience. Mrs Mangala Warkhede made introductory remarks. Sri Baba Bhand, noted Marathi writer inaugurated the symposium. In the inaugural address he said that literature very positively influence the children's mind. He referred to two recent experiments by



Baba Bhand inaugurating the symposium, (LtoR ) Mangala Warkhede, Usha Shinde and Shashikant Pawar

Emory and Gregory Burns into Neuroscience which methodically established as to how children's way of thinking positively changes after having read short stories. He emphatically said that it was extremely difficult and challenging to write for children, and demanded that every successful writer should write for children. In Marathi there had been writers such as Sane Guruji, N.D. Thamhankar, Vinoba Bhave, Yadunath Thatte, B.R. Bhagwat, Sai Paranjpe, Vijaya Wad, and Bharat Sasne who had decidedly written for children. He professed that children's literature should be considered as significant, essential, and prestigious as what we call the main stream literature is.

The first session – 'Children Literature: Nature and Themes', was chaired by Sri G.A. Buva. Sri Navanath Tupe presented paper on 'Balakanhya Vicharaprakriyeche Manasshastra aani Bal Sahitya'. He observed that writers should not merely consider children's language but also consider children's thinking process. He also observed that literature should be available for children in accordance with their age. For instance literature for children of the age between 6 and 8 must differ from that for the children age of the between 10 to 12. Sri Narendra Lanjewar presented paper on 'Vaijnanik Ashay aani Bal Sahitya'. He said that oral story telling supports children's learning and development differently than stories read allows from picture books. It gives



children opportunity to exercise their imagination and enhance their social literacy. Sri Vidyadhar karandikar presented paper on 'Bal Rangabhoomi: Nava Ashay, Navya Disha'. He said that children theatre in Marathi has tradition of 150 years. The theatre developed from mythological, historical, and social to folk and fantasy. He suggested that the plays for children should be short that should not run into more than 15 minutes.

The second session – 'Translation, Adaptation, and other experiments in Children Literature', was chaired by Sri Eknath Pagar. Sri Pruthviraj Taur paper discussed that translated books that have attractive binding, coloured pictures, new things are liked by children. Sri Vilas Geethe paper discussed children literature in Bengali. Ms Sandhya Thaksale paper discussed experiment in children literature. Sri Bharat Sasne in his valedictory address emphasized that fantasy is the most important element in children literature. Finally, Sri Rajendra Kapade proposed a vote of thanks.

## SYMPOSIUM ON FICTIONAL LITERATURE IN MARATHI

December 29, 2015, Jalna

Sahitya Akademi, Regional Office, Mumbai, in collaboration with Smt Dankunwar Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Jalna organized a symposium on Fictional Literature in Marathi, on 29 December 2015 at College. Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, welcomed the guests and audience. In the inaugural address Sri Manohar Shahane, eminent Marathi writer, heartily thanked Sahitya Akademi for rigorously attempting for literary awareness for last so many years. In connection with the narrative he said that narration is the soul of each and every heart. The concept of narrating something to somebody was first seen in the art of painting, he added. In the keynote address Sri Avinash Sapre recommended to think of narratives on the background of the bond between literature and culture. Further he said that employing the faculty of imagination the writer/artist transforms

his reality into fiction, and this transformation is art. In any fictional literature, he said that significant elements to be considered are story, development, the nature of the narrator, the quality of narration, style of language, the nature of the reader the writer has in his mind, and finally the worldview of the writer. Ms Alka Nathrekar, Head, Department of English, Smt. Dankunwar Mahila Mahavidyalaya, proposed a vote of thanks.

The first session was chaired by Sri Avinash Sapre. Sri Vidyasagar Patangankar – 'Prachin Marathi Sahitya ki Kathanaparampara', discussed that the art of narration was developed from the dialogues between the speaker and audience, and out of the some were developed several styles and types of narration. In ancient times the types of narration prevalent were Akhyan, Pravachan, Kirtana etc., Sri Mahesh Kharat paper discussed several types of fictional literature i.e., short story and novel. Sri Raja Holkunde paper held that in fictional literature story, time and space, narrator, and style are important elements. Sri Randhir Shinde paper discussed the narrative techniques in folk literature. He observed that there were number of styles employed to narrate a story in folk literature, and it was very important that folk literature always narrated consciousness of the masses. The second session – 'Mi aani Maaje Kathanatma Sahitya', was chaired by Sri Pradeep Deshpande. Sri Krishnat Khot and Sri Asaram Lomte, shared their views about their creative writings.



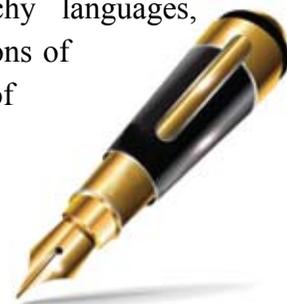
(LtoR) Avinash Sapre, Raja Holkunde and Mahesh Kharat

## LITERARY FORUMS

December 27-30, 2015, Gujarat

Sahitya Akademi organized four interconnected Literary Forums, exploring the theme of “Water” as felt in different regions of Gujarat, in collaboration with three Universities and two literary cultural Institutions including Balvant Parekh Centre, Vadodara, from the sub regions. All readings had the eminent Hindi poet, Arun Kamal, as Chief Guest. The first readings were at Bhuj, in Kutch, on 27 December 2015. Organized in collaboration with the Krantiguru Shyamji Krishna Verma Kachchh University, the Giants Group of Bhuj. Poems in Gujarati, Kutchi and Hindi were presented to a large and perceptive audience by ten poets invited by the Akademi. The theme of Water and the Runn (Desert) was explored in different ways in many of these poems. It was also noted by many poets at the program, Shyamji Krushna Verma, a pre-Gandhi Indian revolutionary leader from Kutch, was the founder of India House at London, a meeting place for Indian freedom fighters of the period. The participating poets included Arun kamal, Jaydev Shukla, Dharendra Mehta, Liladhar Gada, Yogesh Vaidya, Vanchit Kukmavala, Vishan Nagda, Madankumar Anjaria, Kuldeep Karia and Piyush Thakkar. Prof Darshana Dholakia, Chair, Gujarati, at the University, conducted the event, with perceptive comments on Kutchi, Hindi and Gujarati poems, and on eco-cultural geography of Kutch. Citizens of Bhuj attended in a large number. Second readings, on 29 December 2015, were at the Gujarat Vidyapeeth, Ahmedabad, established by Mahatma Gandhi. Vidyapeeth collaborated in the program and the Vice Chancellor, Prof Anamik Shah, presided and eminent Gujarati poet, Niranjana Bhagat, along with Arun Kamal, read from their poems. Other eminent poets’ participants included Chandrakant Topiwala, Chandrakant Seth, Yogesh Joshi, Yagnesh Dave, Neerav patel, Hemant Shah, Saumya Joshi, Sameer Bhatt and Prashant Kedar Jadav. Prof Usha Upadhyay conducted the event, with apt observations, the theme of “Jal ane Jalapatra”, exploring images of step

wells, lakes, rivers in different ways. Vidyapeeth’s students and teachers, clad in Khadi, self-spun by many, added a special dimension to the large audience. Third readings, on 30 December 2015, were in Nadiad, at Govardhanram Smriti Mandir, home of Govardhanram Tripathi, great novelist and philosopher. Arun Kamal ji and other poets joined a “sanskara yatra” of the area in the town where eminent Gujarati and Sanskrit scholars and authors, including the great philosopher Manilal Nabhubhai and Govardhanram lived. Readings were given by Arun Kamal, Sitanshu Yashaschandra, Hemant Shah, Sameer Bhatt, Piyush Thakkar and other young boys and girls. Shri Kulinchandra Yajnik, former Vice Chancellor of the Hemachanda University of North Gujarat presided. The intimate space of Govardhanram Smriti Mandir overflowed with residents of Nadiad. The fourth and final readings, on 30 December 2015, at the Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar. The theme explored by the poems was that of Water and the Tree. The poets included Arun kamal, Naresh Chandrakar, Bhagirath Brahmabhatt, Manilal H. Patel, Jayendra Shekhadiwala, Chatur Patel, Nikhil Kharod, Ashopkpuri Goswami, Vasant Joshi, Nikhil Mori and Indu Joshi. Vice Chancellor Prof Harish Padh presided. Arun Kamal ji and other poets were taken for a visit to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel’s birth place and to Gujarat’s Milk Cooperative Dairy, the birth place of India’s ‘white revolution’. Professor Pinakini Pandya coordinated the program which was attended by a large audience with a majority of young lovers of literature. Thus, the four readings explored a crucial theme and experience, in different contexts, in four cultural geographic locations in Gujarat. From the salty “white” desert of Kutch to the “baugh-e-Hindustan” in Charotar-Anand region, poems in Gujarati, Hindi and Kutchy languages, explored the many dimensions of Water in multiple contexts of both life and arts.





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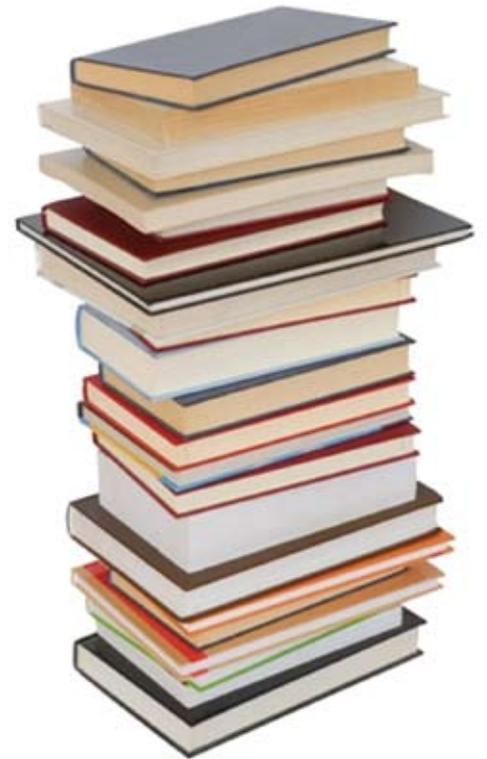
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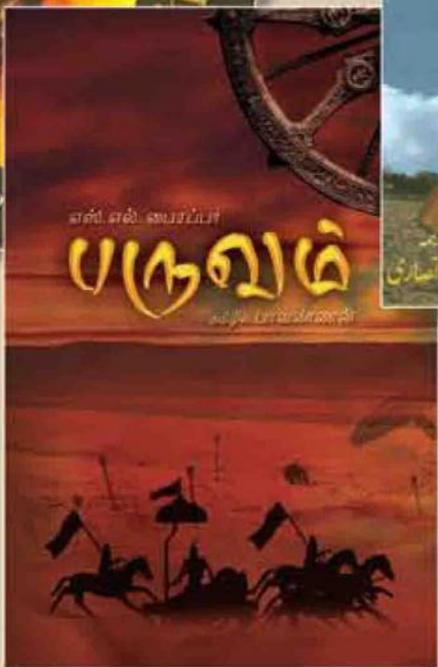
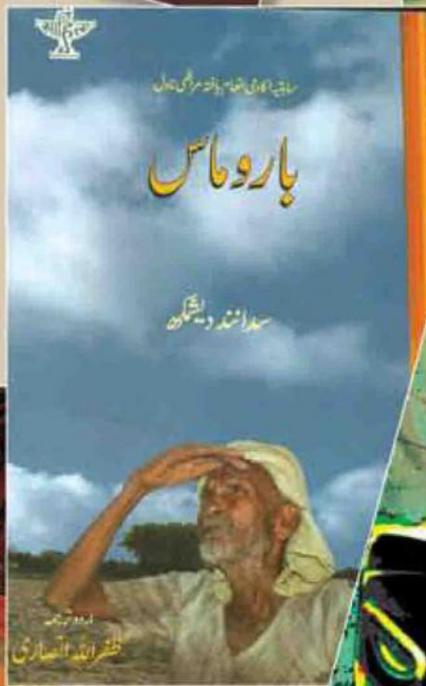
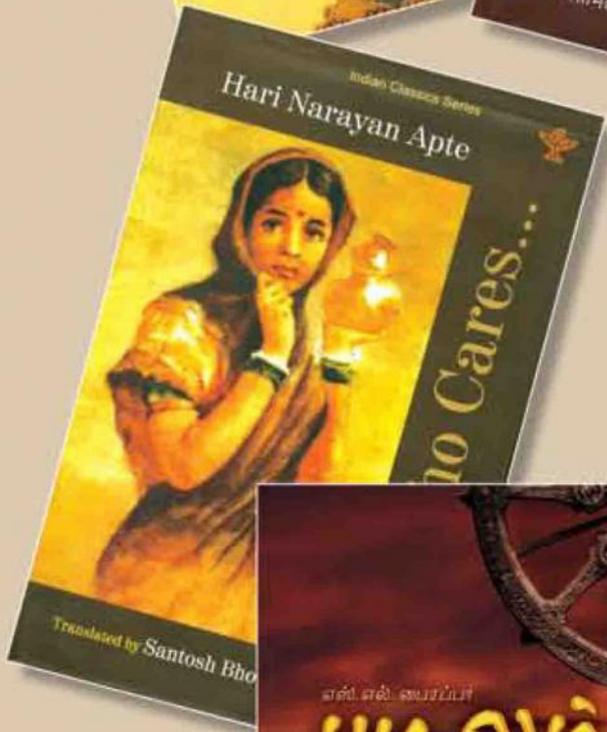
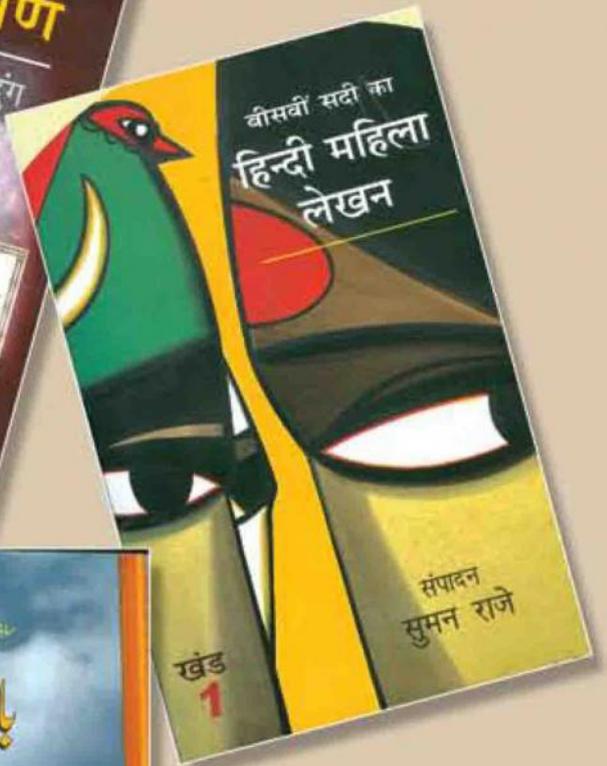
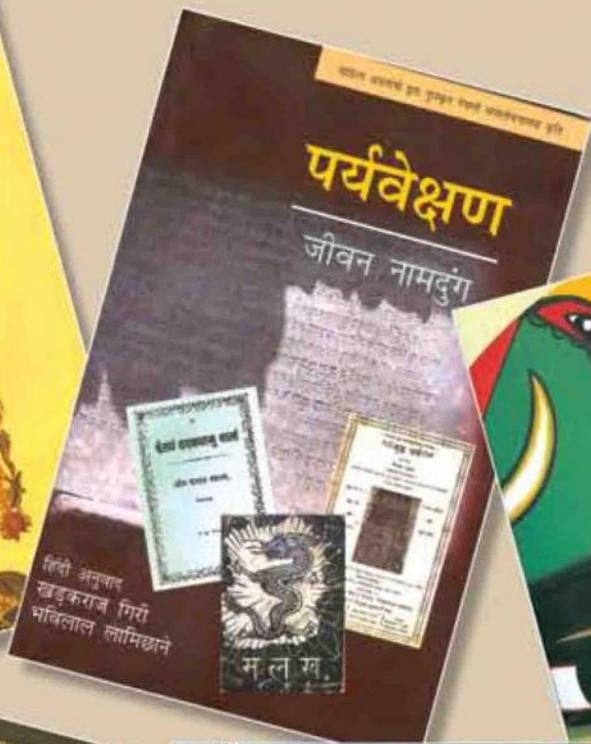
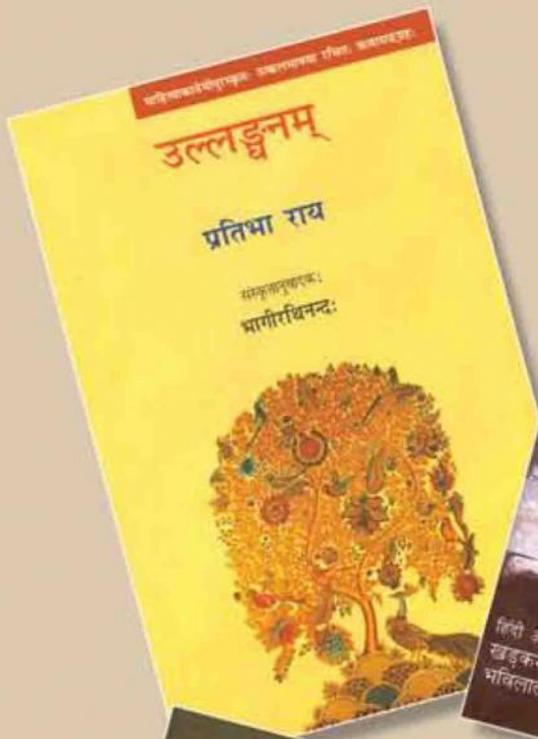
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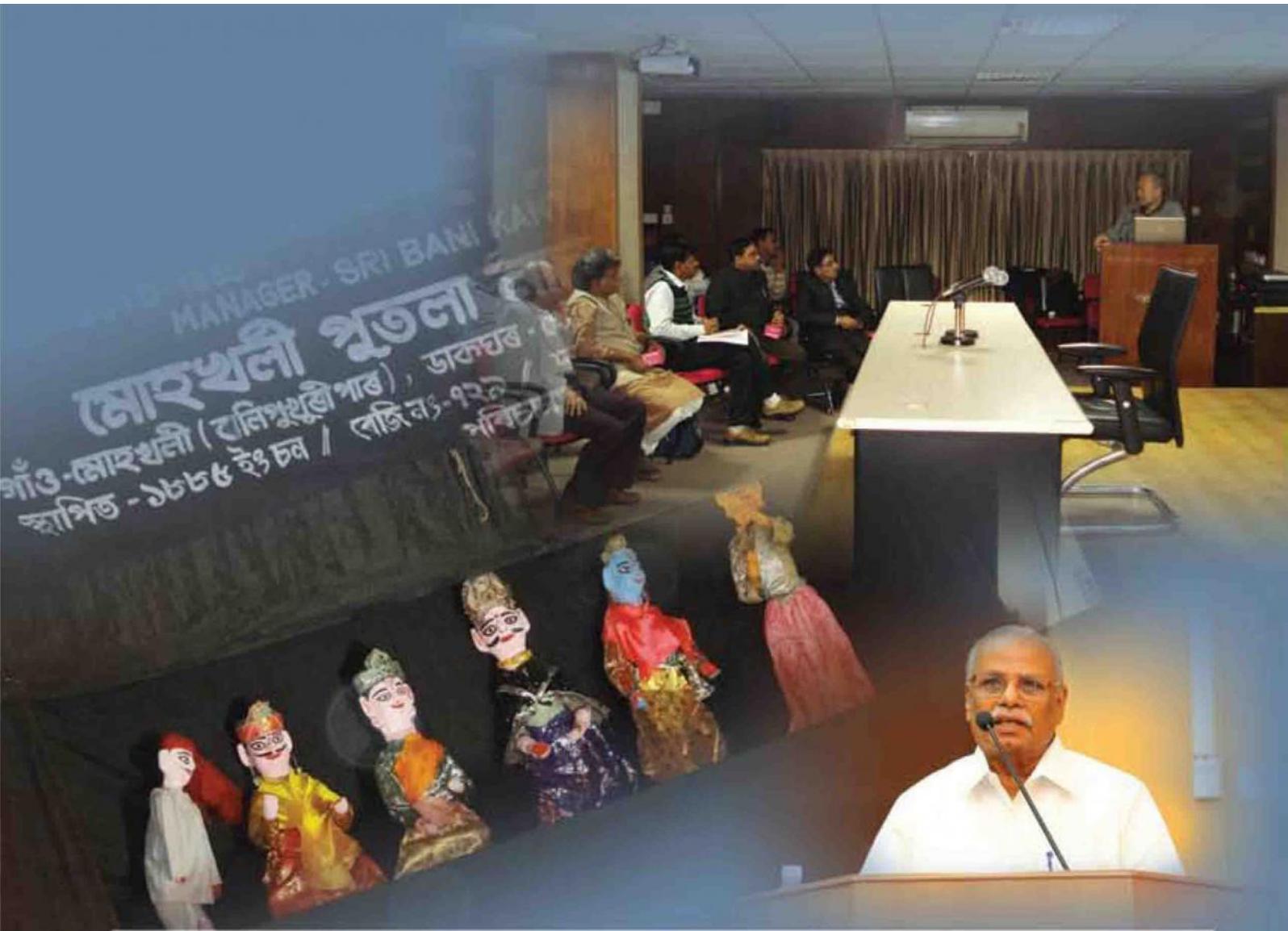
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