

Powercracy

Rajasthan CM inaugurates Jaipur Literature Festival

By Mail Today Bureau in New Delhi

Bringing literature lovers face to face with some of the best-known names in writing in 15 Indian and 35 international languages and public speaking, the 13th annual edition of the Zee Jaipur Literature Festival kicked off in the capital city. Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot inaugurated the fest by lighting the ceremonial lamp at Diggi Palace in Jaipur. Addressing the litterateurs, literature-lovers and guests from India and abroad present on this occasion, he said, "I hope that discussions and sessions on literature, culture and various other subjects in this event will inspire the new generation."

The ZEE Jaipur Literature Festival is one of the most prominent literary festivals of India and in the entire world. It was founded in January, 2006 and has visibly grown to be a multi-dimensional event which is held annually, with the same Diggi Palace playing host every year. The stately palace premises serve as a fitting setting for the series of events which unfold during the five-day programme.

On the occasion, Gehlot said that every year the authors and litterateurs, readers and art lovers wait for this festival and they come here to listen to each other and share about literature through dialogue.

The chief minister said that renowned authors and litterateurs, who have won prizes like Nobel, Man Booker, Pulitzer, Mag-saysay and Sa-



hitya Akademi, attending the festival would increase the importance of this event. Book lovers, who so far have been reading their favourite writers, can see them face to face and hear them.

Gehlot informed, "It is quite fortunate that famous Rajasthani stories 'Bataan Ri Phulwari' of our state's celebrated author Vijaydan Detha, who is renowned as 'Bijji', has been translated into English with title 'Timeless Tales from Marwar', and I have the opportunity to release this book during the inaugural function."

The CM further said that 'Bataan Ri Phulwari' contained Rajasthan's folk life, culture, tales and the life values of rural Rajasthan. With this book

being translated into English, these stories would reach the readers across the country and world. "Bijji stayed in a small village Borunda and wrote world-level literature. His global fame is a matter of pride for us all," he added.

Festival Director Sanjoy Roy welcomed the guests and shared detailed information about the event. Co-director Namita Gokhale said that authors and writers of the Indian and international languages would speak during this great literary show. Apart from this, there would be sessions on different writings of famous authors like Munshi Premchand and others.

Renowned Author William Dalrymple stated that this literature festival got phenomenal fame during these years. The huge gathering of literature lovers attending this festival was an evidence of the fact that literature had its own im-

portance in India.

Art & Culture Minister Dr. BD Kalla, State Assembly Chief Whip Mahesh Joshi, US Ambassador to India Kenneth I Juster, former vice chairman of Rajasthan Foundation Rajeev Arora, Principal Secretary Art & Culture Shreya Guha, reputed authors, writers, artists and dignitaries from India and abroad were present during the inaugural event.

In its very essence, the Jaipur Literary Festival upholds the freedom of expression in writing and embraces diverging opinions and viewpoints. Thus, part of its popularity is also attributed to the fact that all genres of writing in Indian and international writing get full support as well as a level playing field in this literary festival. Above all, it gives a much-needed space for people to engage in debate and dialogue and reflects the temper of contemporary times.

ASSIST AND GNIDA ORGANISE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT AT GR. NOIDA

ASSIST collaborated with Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority (GNIDA) to organise a 3X3 basketball tournament for 22 school teams recently in the Greater Noida Carnival 2020. To promote inclusiveness through sports, a few exhibition matches of inclusive zone basketball were also played by the ASSIST team. The event was graced by Dharendra Singh, MLA Jewar, as a chief guest.



The final match of the tournament in boys' category was played between DPS NTPC and St. Joseph School, wherein DPS NTPC emerged winner with final scores of 14-12. In the girls' category, Jaypee Public School defeated DPS NTPC with final scores of 6-1.

The tournament was interspersed with inclusive zone basketball matches, where students with differing physical and mental ability played together at Shaheed Vijay Singh Pathik Sports complex.

For the unique initiative of spreading unity in diversity through inclusive sports, GNIDA also honoured Kartikeya Goel and Parth Sarthi, founder and co-founder of ASSIST. Sensitising people on the need for 'zero discrimination', ASSIST also encouraged the wheelchair bound students to participate.

During the inaugural function of the fest, Ashok Gehlot and other guests released the English title 'Timeless Tales from Marwar' of Vijaydan Detha's 'Bataan Ri Phulwari'!

SHORT TAKES

NFL CELEBRATES 71ST REPUBLIC DAY



Manoj Mishra, CMD, National Fertilizers Limited (NFL), hoisting the National Flag on the occasion of 71st Republic Day celebrations at its corporate office, Noida.

NIOS AND FSSAI TO PROVIDE ABILITIES TO THE LEARNER



INDIAN COAST GUARD COORDINATES RESCUE OF 13 INDIAN CREW MEMBERS

Indian Coast Guard (ICG) recently coordinated the rescue of 13 Indian crew members from a distressed vessel, MT Reem-5, while on its way to Okha in Gujarat. The merchant tanker was on passage from Basrah in Iran to Hazira, Gujarat, about 210 nautical miles (NM) from Okha. The tanker had reported flooding in the engine room and was sinking quickly. Upon receiving the distress call, Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) Mumbai, immediately established contact with both the ship and MRCC Karachi as the vessel was positioned at was 90 NM inside Pakistan Search and Rescue Region.

S.B. SHASHANK RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD BY THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA

S.B. Shashank was honoured with the National Award for Election Management by the President of India, Ram Nath Kovind. The award was presented to him for his former role as chief electoral officer, Mizoram on National Voters Day on January 25, in the presence of Ravishankar Prasad, law minister and Sunil Arora, chief election commissioner. Shashank is currently serving Delhi Government.



NHPC ORGANISES A FREE MEDICAL CAMP AT VILLAGE PALI, FARIDABAD

