

Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar for Jamshedpur, H'bag writers

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Jamshedpur: Two young Jharkhand writers, one from Jamshedpur and another from Hazaribag have won Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar 2022 for their books.

From Jamshedpur, 32-year-old assistant professor, Salge Hansda (32), has been chosen for her first book, a Santhali novel titled, 'Janam Disom Ujaroj Kana' (Exploitation of the Motherland). The book is themed on the negative impact of the rapid industrialization and urbanisation on the lives of the agrarian tribals.

Daughter of (late) Galuram Hansdah and Sita, Salge is the youngest of the five siblings and teaches Santhali at the private SRM Degree College in Chalukia.

The other writer, Mihir Vats from Hazaribag, won the prestigious award for his book in English — 'Tales of Hazaribag'.

Talking to TOI, an elated Salge said, "The 102-page book narrates how the tribal people, who are basically an agrarian community, are being driven to sell their farm lands to the corporates for factories



Salge Hansda (32) has been chosen for the award for her first book, 'Janam Disom Ujaroj Kana'

and township. Besides, the book also highlights the pain of the tribals on being deprived of farming and ownership of land, which they consider it their mother."

She said the conditions prevailing in the surrounding of her native place, Barigora, a peripheral of Telco area in Jamshedpur, provided her material to develop a plot for the novel.

"Automobile, cement and power factories, besides several median industries, have come up in the surroundings of Barigora in the past several years. The consequence is agriculture land was taken away for the industry, landowners were relocated, and the agriculture activity came to an end," Salge said.

She added, "It took me two

years to complete the book in 2021."

Meanwhile, Vatsa is hardly 23 years old and he was a former student St Xavier School, Hazaribag. In his book, one of the bestsellers getting appreciations from the Library of Congress, Washington DC, and Britain's Darham University, Vatsa describes the natural beauty of Hazaribag.

Father Rosner, the principal of the St Xavier, said Vatsa has brought laurels for the school and the state. Currently Vatsa is doing his PHD from the Delhi University. After winning the award, Vatsa said it would encourage him to write more books, a journey likely to start once he completes the doctoral degree.

TOI