



Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh
Regional Secretary

साहित्य अकादेमी

क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय

4 डी. एल. खान रोड, कोलकाता 700 025

दूरभाष : (033) 24191683, 24191706

ई-मेल : rs.rok@sahitya-akademi.gov.in

वेबसाइट : <http://www.sahitya-akademi.gov.in>

Sahitya Akademi

(National Academy of Letters)

REGIONAL OFFICE

4 D. L. Khan Road, Kolkata 700 025

Phone : (033) 24191683, 24191706

E-mail : rs.rok@sahitya-akademi.gov.in

Website : <http://www.sahitya-akademi.gov.in>

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Press Release

Eastern Regional Writers' Meet on 17-18 September 2022

Today, on 17 September 2022, Sahitya Akademi has organized a Eastern Regional Writers' Meet at 2.30 p.m. at its office auditorium, Sahitya Akademi Eastern Regional Office, Kolkata.

The welcome address was delivered by Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi. In the very beginning, he welcomed the dignitaries, award-winners and the audience. He lauded the role played by eastern regional writers in enriching Indian culture and heritage. He also informed the audience of Sahitya Akademi's other activities in uplifting the eastern regional Indian literature.

The introductory address was delivered by Dr Ashok Avichal, Convener, Eastern Regional Board, Sahitya Akademi. He spoke about the makers of Indian literature like Vidyapati who lauded from the eastern India. He also spoke on the perils of digital platforms which problematizes the nature of evaluation of a writer. The inaugural address was delivered by eminent Bengali writer Sri Shankar. He informed the audience of his personal struggle as a writer. He spoke about the literatures who helped him in this regards and how he overcame the early struggles. The keynote address was delivered by Dr Subodh Sarkar, Convener of the Bengali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. He spoke on the evolving status of literature from the points of view of some classic western writers. He also spoke on contemporary aspects of the reception of creative writings, mainly on digital platform. Vice President of Sahitya Akademi Dr Madhav Kaushik also threw light on the contribution of Indian writers in maintaining the integrity of Indian culture. While speaking from the chair, Dr Kaushik spoke on the image of writers as the harbinger of the light of hope in difficult times. The vote of thanks was proposed by Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi Eastern Region, who compered the session as well.

In the first session, the chairperson was Dr Anil Kumar Boro, Convener, Bodo Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. In the session, Hindi poet Sri Yatish Kumar read out some of his untitled poems on personal realization of the outside world. Maithili poet Sri Binay Bhushan read out five poems including "Dumb People Trying to speak", "Force-Flight" and "My Vision". The poems were based on the nature as well as human feelings. Sri Harishchandra Behera read out a few poems as well among which there is a lullaby entitled "Kakabaya" and another poem on love entitled "Bangshibadak".

On the next day, there will be three sessions. On the session on "Digital Platform and Literature of Eastern Regional Languages", papers will be presented by Sri Aleendra Brahma (Bodo), Sri George Thadathil (Nepali) and Sri Rupesh Teoth (Maithili) with Sri N. Kirankumar Singh in the chair. On the session on short reading, Ms Alka Saraogi (Hindi), Sri Nalini Bera (Bengali) and Sri Babulal Tudu (Santali) will read out their recent short stories with Dr Dhrubajyoti Borah in the chair. In another session of poetry reading, Sri Bibhas Roy Chowdhury (Bengali), Ms Sofia Khatoun (English), Ms Ranjita Sarkar (Manipuri) and Sri Milan Pradhan (Nepali) will read out their recent poems with Sri Madan Mohan Soren in the chair. In the valedictory session, the valedictory address will be delivered by Dr Jiwan Namdung with Dr Bijayananda Singh in the chair.

We request you to kindly publish the matter through your esteemed media. Also please make it convenient to attend tomorrow's programme and depute one of your media personnel to cover the programme of utmost importance.

(Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh)