

Sahitya Akademi 's Yuva Puraskar 2024 presented in Bhubaneswar



Bhubaneswar/ Kolkata (PARTHA ROY): Sahitya Akademi organized presentation ceremony of its Yuva Puraskar 2024 at Maharaja Krushna Chandra Gajapati Auditorium Utkal University, Vani Vihar, Bhubaneswar, Odisha on 12th January 2025. Awards were presented to 22 Award winners by Sri Madhav Kaushik, President of the Sahitya Akademi. The awards were accompanied by an engraved copper plaque and a cheque of ₹50,000/- . Before the presentation of the awards, citations were read out by Dr K. Srinivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi. The award winners were felicitated with a bouquet by Professor Kumud Sharma, Vice President, Sahitya Akademi. The award winners were Nayanjyoti Sarma (Assamese), Sutapa Chakraborty (Bengali), Self Made Rani Baro (Bodo), Heena Choudhary (Dogri), K. Vaishali (English), Rinku Rathod (Gujarati), Gaurav Pandey (Hindi), Shruthi B. R. (Kannada),

Mohd. Ashraf Ziya (Kashmiri), Adwait Salgaonkar (Konkani), Rinki Jha Rishika (Maithili), Shyamkrishnan R. (Malayalam), W a i k h o m Chingkhengnaba (Manipuri), Devidas Saudagar (Marathi), Suraj Chapagain (Nepali), Sanjay Kumar Panda (Odia), Randhir (Punjabi), Sonali Suthar (Rajasthani), Muni Parshwasundera Vijayaji (Sanskrit), Anjan Karmakar (Santali), Geeta Pradeep Rupani (Sindhi), Lokesh Raghuraman (Tamil), Ramesh Karthik Nayak (Telugu) and Md. Javed Ahmad (Urdu). Among them, Mohd Ashraf Bhat and Muni Parshwasundera Vijaya could not be present in the award presentation ceremony. In welcome address, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, said that young writers are the flag bearers of the language and literature of any country and of the world. He also informed the audience of major projects of Sahitya Akademi like Yuva Sahiti, Navodaya Prakalpa and Travel

Grant which are specifically designed to give the young writers a wider platform. In his presidential address, Sri Madhav Kaushik, President, Sahitya Akademi, said that young writers are the future of Indian literature. They are the real captains of languages. He recalled the famous quote of Swami Vivekananda, "arise, awake and stop not till the goal is reached". A writer never stops anywhere. As long as the human civilization exists, moves on, the writers won't stop. Affluence derails sometimes. Risk & responsibility of the young writers is enormous. Diversity is the unique Identity of India, find nowhere in the world. Whole Europe manages with 5 or 6 languages, but India cherishes with as many as 24 languages. Chief Guest of the ceremony Jerry Pinto, eminent English poet, expressed his happiness for being present in this great occasion of giving recognition to the budding writers. He stressed on the translation works as it can build a bridge

between the different languages. In his speech Pinto also mentioned that the youths are lucky to have modernized book shops and large scale exhibitions are going on in different places. He also mentioned that age is not a bar in writing. During her address, Professor Kumud Sharma, Vice President of Sahitya Akademi, focused on the importance of proper guidance for the young minds. She highlighted thoughts of Swami Vivekananda on his birth anniversary with few quotes. The young authors must apply their enthusiasm in proper channel, Sharma opined. In this context, she pointed out to the fact that in this age of social media, writers are getting extended platform without much hurdle to get themselves recognized. She also mentioned that the youths are playing a bigger role in shaping the future of the country. The Award ceremony was attended by a large number of writers, scholars and literature-lovers. On 13th January 2025, Awardees meet was organised where awardees shared their creative experiences.