

Mission (GEM) 2023 began at NTPC

Auditorium in NTPC Ramagundam Permanent

government schools in villages surrounding

and self-reference programmes besides

Birth Centenary Seminar on Gour Kishore Ghosh at Kolkata

Kolkata : Sahitya Akademi organized a Birth Centenary Seminar on Gour Kishore Ghosh at its auditorium, Sahitya Akademi Eastern Regional Office, Kolkata. On the outset, Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi Eastern Region, introduced the speakers to the audience. The welcome address was delivered by Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi. He welcomed the audience and spoke in brief on the life and works of Gour Kishore Ghosh. He referred to his major writings and spoke about his life as a journalist and radical humanist. The introductory address was delivered by Dr Subodh Sarkar, eminent Bengali poet and former Convener of the Bengali Advisory Board. In his speech while speaking on the distinguished aspects of Gour Kishore's writings he tried to unfold the dimensions of two major selves of Gour Kishore: as a journalist and as a novelist. He dwelt on the his trilogy and other works in particular. Eminent Bengali historian, scholar and researcher Professor Goutam Bhadra focused on the multi-dimensional life of Gour Kishore in his keynote address. He opined that Gour Kishore cannot be confined to any single definition. He was a man of many shades. Professor Bhadra



further dwelt on the significance and politics of power. He analysed the characters created by Gour Kishore through his lively journalistic description with minute details. Sri Bratya Basu, Convener, Bengali Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi as well as the hon'ble Minister of the Govt of West Bengal, spoke in detail about the political activism of Gour Kishore Ghosh who was such a politically conscious person. He compared his writings with other classics of world literature as well as those timeless creations of Bengali literature including Keyapatar Nouka by Prafulla Ray and Nilkantha Pakhir Khonje by Atin Bandyopadhyay. He spoke on the important phases of Gour Kishore's life as well. The vote of thanks was proposed by Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi Eastern Region. In the first academic session on "Gour Kishore Ghosh: Life and Times", Ms Joya Mitra spoke in detail on the philosophy of Gour Kishore's life. She emphasized

on the radical humanism of Gour Kishore who always believed in betterment of human life-style. Mutual understanding between several communities was a key to that as per his understanding. Eminent journalist Sri Debashis Bhattacharya spoke on Gour Kishore's career as a journalist. He analysed his way of writing and approach towards the concept of news. He was champion for the uncompromising role of freedom of press. He also spoke on his life as a reporter. Eminent scholar of film-studies, columnist and journalist Sri Siladitya Sen spoke on the life and works of Gour Kishore through the point of view of the eminent filmmaker Tapan Singha. He also spoke on Gour Kishore's "Sagina Mahato" as a distinguished voice of a republic. He analysed Gour Kishore's writings from a filmmaker's point of view. The session was chaired by eminent journalist, author and editor Sri Jyotirmoy Datta.

The second session was on the

writings of Gour Kishore Ghosh. The session was chaired noted fictionist Sri Abul Bashat. In the session, eminent journalist Ms Ishani Datta Ray, editor of Anandabazar Patrika, spoke on Gour Kishore Ghosh as an editor. She emphasized on Gour Kishore's opinion on the role of newspapers. She threw light on the process of news-generation on the process and how Gour Kishore dealt with that. She focused on the truthfulness of his approach towards journalism. Eminent scholar Professor Shibaji Pratim Basu spoke on the journey of Gour Kishore Ghosh as a non-compromising writer. He focused in particular on his trilogy of Jol Pore, Pata Nore, Prem Nei and Pratibeshi along with some other novels and short stories. Eminent theatre personality and scholar Professor Sekhar Samaddar spoke on some of the novels of Gour Kishore including Ei Daha, Gariahat Bridjer Upore and Dujore. He spoke in detail on the distinguished aspects of these novels with reference to some other writings. The entire seminar was conducted by Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh. At the end the vote of thanks was proposed by Ms Sanarpita Goswami, Publication Assistant, Sahitya Akademi.