

ALL ABOUT Book Publishing

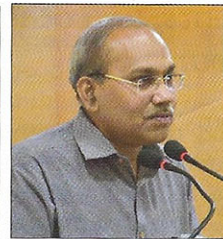
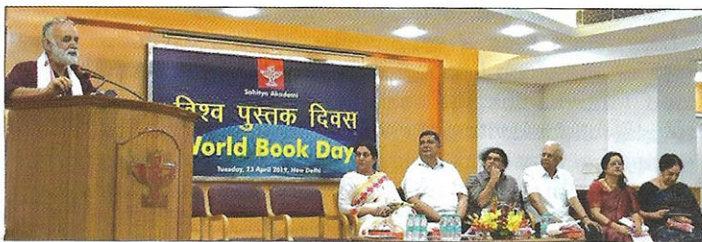
BI-MONTHLY MAGAZINE ON BOOK PUBLISHING INDUSTRY IN INDIA

Dreams and how the observations mentioned in the book can be observed in one's everyday life. M.K. Raina (eminent theatre personality), talked about several books he read and re-read during his student life, the book on Abraham Lincoln, the abridged version of Gandhi's works and how he juxtaposed Premchand's *Kafan* with *Kafan-Chor*, a Kashmiri story, and transformed it into a unique play.

Pranav Khullar (Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India) said that studying literature has made him more humane. While he mentioned that Mahabharata and other scriptures have had a great impact on us, his speech mainly concentrated on the influence of *Autobiography of a Yogi* and how it impacted great minds like Steve Jobs and Pt. Ravi Shankar. S. Venkat Narayan (eminent journalist), besides speaking about the relevance of our scriptures, brought to everyone's notice the kind of influence J.K. Rowling has on a certain generation throughout the globe. He observed that one needs a certain kind of mastery to influence a certain age group the way Rowling has been doing for all these years.

The next speaker, Satwant Atwal Trivedi (Joint Secretary, NATGRID, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India), mesmerized the audience with her rhetoric on the quotations and life lessons one gains from even books meant for kids, like *Winnie the Pooh* or Enid Blyton's works—the simplicity in such books instills a sense of tranquil and ideal examples in the reader's mind that stay with her/him for life. She also talked about the Vedas and Adi Granth, how they are, in reality, the most scientific and secular bodies of research.

Sharon Lowen (eminent Odissi, Chhau and Manipuri Dancer) talked about her love with literature and the favorable circumstances under which she familiarized herself with several great literary works. She spoke



Sahitya Akademi organized a symposium on Books that Shape our World in which eminent personalities from various fields participated. At the outset, Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, stressed on the need to read and immerse into the world of books that not only imparts vast knowledge to the reader, but also takes him/her to other regions of the earth without even physically visiting them, and above all, makes us better human beings.

K.K. Srivastava (Additional Deputy Comptroller & Auditor General, CAG) talked about Sigmund Freud's *Interpretation of*

about *Charlotte's Web* and *The Tempest*. She believed that *The Tempest* could very easily be the first Shakespeare starter, after which one can go on to read the other works of the master playwright. While, Sujata Chaudhry (Retired General Manager, Indian Post), elaborated the concept of Dharma, as described in the Ramayana. The symposium ended with a vote of thanks from Dr K. Sreenivasarao who thanked the speakers for their interesting insights and the audience.

All in all, it was a day to be celebrated and remembered by one and all! ■