

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **WEBLINE LITERATURE SERIES: SAHITYA AKADEMI'S GERMANE INITIATIVE**

New Delhi, 23 December 2020. We all are well aware that the world has been fighting against the Covid-19 pandemic during the current times. Some months ago the time was frozen, as it were, for all of us. Gradually, we have begun to get back to our very own world. In such times of futility and anxiety it was literature that came to our rescue. Our interaction through the social media helped us a lot to keep our own self up. It is literature that invariably came to support us firmly in the times when the mankind, humanity was in trouble. Literature played a very significant role during this time as well. New platforms were also made available for establishing contacts, and teaching-learning, etc.

The Weblines Literature Series initiated by Sahitya Akademi was such an experiment which created a virtual platform for the literary connoisseurs of not only India but also of the world to connect and share their feelings with one another. To begin with, Sahitya Akademi conducted programmes such as Literary Forum, Yuva Sahiti, Nari Chetana, Asmita, Kavisandhi, Kathasandhi, Book Discussion, Dalit Chetana, Tribal Poets' Meet, etc., that included only two to five writer-poet-participants. A little later, through this platform, the Akademi organized symposia and seminars also, which were proved to be very successful. The Akademi has 423 programmes to its credit as of now, the ones that were conducted through the virtual platform. 11 lakhs literary connoisseurs viewed these programmes on Twitter, five lakhs on Facebook, and two lakhs on YouTube until the date.

The Akademi organized a number of Pravasi Manch programmes through this platform. The Indian writers settled abroad took part in the Pravasi Manch programmes. Transcending limitations of time schedule, travel, number of audience, the Akademi's platform of Weblines Literature Series enabled the audience of the entire world to take its benefit.

The Media from across the nation encouraged Sahitya Akademi by covering all the programmes with details on their news platforms. Feeling encouraged by this thumping support, the Akademi relentlessly continues to webcast this series by which the literature lovers of India and abroad may get benefitted.

(K. Sreenivasarao)