



SAHITYAAKADEMI

Festival of Letters

March 13, 2015

Press Release

Festival of Letters 2015 continued for the fifth day at Rabindra Bhawan complex on March 13, 2015. Day five started with the second day of the three-day seminar on 'The Region and the Nation in Indian Fiction.'

Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants of the first session of the day (third session of the seminar – "The Region and the Nation in South Indian Fiction") and audience. He spoke briefly about the first day's presentations and highlighted some of the key points made in them.

Prof K. Satchidanandan, in his introductory remarks talked about the evolution of the concepts of region and nation in Indian Fiction. He cited two reasons for the proliferation of regional fiction – a) People tend to believe that region is more real and near than a nation and b) More often than not, people's issues take local form. Prof Satchidanandan also threw light on two important perceptions – 1) Various communities and groups such as Dalits, Adivasis, Feminists and trans-sexuals have a strong view point that they do not have any nation as such and 2) Globalization has led to a loss of sovereignty though on theory, on paper they remain as canons of political discourse.

Eminent scholars like Dr Bhalachandra Nemade, Damodar Mauzo, Prof Sitanshu

Yashaschandra, M. Mukundan, M. Asaduddin, Dr. Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee and Dr Anil Kumar Boro participated in the day's proceedings.

As part of its commitment to promote and encourage literature from all the North Eastern languages and providing ample opportunities to litterateurs from North East regions to interact with writers from rest of the country, Sahitya Akademi had organized a day long "Purvottari: North-East and Northern Writers' Meet' at Rabindra Bhawan Lawns. Twenty poets from various parts of North-East and Northern India along with four noted short story writers presented their latest creations.

In the evening there was a Rajasthani Folk Singing programme by Bundoo Khan Langa and Anwar Khan Manganair.

Programmes - March 14, 2015

10.00 am:

National Seminar on *The Region and The Nation in Indian Fiction*, at Akademi Auditorium – Day 3

10.30 am:

Spin A Tale, at Rabindra Bhawan Lawns