RESHAPING THE WORLD OF AGRICULTURE

DBS AGRICULTURE SERIES

Subject displayed subject-wise

ENVISONS A NEW ENLIGHTENED WORLD DEDICATED TO RESHAPING THE WORLD OF EDUCATION

MORE THAN 2,000,000 TITLES UNDER ONE ROOF

READ, LEAD, SUCCEED...
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Education is one of the largest activities in the world. It is as important as any other resource for a nation’s economic and industrial development. It is the key to human resource development. Through education we can empower ourselves in the field of technology.

NEED FOR LIBRARY FUNDING

The libraries serve the educational system of any nation; therefore both the educational and library systems must be in close cooperation. Then only effective and efficient formulation and implementation of policies will be established. The impact of the library can be felt at all levels in the education sector. Hence the importance of the library in the educational development of a country cannot be ignored.

Higher education plays very significant role in all round development of the nation, as it empowers the individuals with necessary competence for achieving important personal, social and higher level of professional goals. It is described as a vital factor for survival; it provides people with “an opportunity to reflect on the critical, social, economic, cultural, moral and spiritual issues facing humanity” (National Policy on Education, 1986)

The primary aim of higher education is to impart specialized and advanced knowledge to students and enable them to acquire competence and skills in various fields of human activity meant for all round social progress and enrichment of human life. The library is the heart of all the higher educational institution. But libraries can be expected to yield the desired results only if they are properly funded to provide resources to the users. The digital revolution has changed the relationship between researchers and libraries and need for such resources has arisen further straining the already meager resources.

Draft Education Policy 2019 admits that public expenditure on education in India was 2.7% of GDP in 2017-18. Public spending on education has never attained the 6% of GDP envisaged in the 1968 Policy, reiterated in the Policy of 1986, and which was further reaffirmed in the 1992 Programme of Action. Countries across the world make substantially higher public investment (expenditure) in education than India does. This is true for countries across the spectrum of economic development and of size. The annual public investment in education in India over the last 5 years has been hovering around 3% of GDP.

There is, therefore, an urgent need to double the current levels of spending on Education as a percentage of GDP is still around 3% versus the aspirational goal of 6%. Lots of developing and developed countries in the world have already been earmarking and spending close to this ballpark (as a percentage of GDP) on education.

UGC assists each eligible university for the overall development covering different aspects of higher education. Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) which is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) aims at providing strategic funding to eligible state higher educational institutions.

Ministry of Human resources Development is funding the institutions of national importance. But no funds are mentioned under library head. With the result libraries face the scarcity of funds.
for which the entire communities from children to researchers suffer for lack of resources. Not only that there has been a steady decline in funding to the libraries over the past few years. It may be added here that HEFA (Higher Education Funding Agency) for funding of central government institutes should also provide funds. Presently no funds are given for library collection development.

The library grant is a tool for turning library dreams into reality. The grant determines the services that will be offered by libraries and the resources devoted to each library program. *It is a big challenge. Revenues are dwindling, operational costs are rising and libraries are undergoing budget cuts.*

The digital revolution has changed the relationship between researchers and libraries and need for such resources has arisen. This has further straining the already meager resources of the libraries.

Education and libraries are two sides of a coin. The progress and development of a country is dependent on the availability of information. This is provided by the libraries in any country. India, since making big strides in all around development, needs well equipped libraries to fulfill the information needs which are not possible without liberal grants to the libraries in the country.

**IMPORT DUTY ON BOOKS**

Another question which is weighing high on the book industry is the imposition of custom duty on imported books. With this provision books have been equated with other products like steel and plastic. This imposition is going to have a negative effect contrary to the claim made by the government that this is being done to encourage the indigenous industry.

The fact is that a large percentage of books for higher learning and elementary activity books are imported and the imposition of custom duty will result in increasing the cost to the book industry. The resultant increase in sale price will affect the affordability and thus negatively affect the government’s drive to inculcate reading habits besides slimming down the library budgets because of resultant high prices of the books. The imposition of GST coupled with import duty levy will adversely affect the book trade and the reading public. I have written to the government to relook the policy to create a conducive environment in this field.

**BURDEN OF GST**

Another problem being faced by the book industry after the introduction of the budget for the financial year 2019-20 presented by Honorable Finance Minister is the imposition of 5 % GST on e-books. But it has a condition that it is applicable only on those books that have a print version as well.

The publishing industry uses the services of freelance experts for many aspects of editing and production – copy-editing, proofreading, type-setting, cover design, illustrations, and so on – all of whom will now have to pay 18% GST instead of 15% service tax. Since they will pass this cost on to the publisher, the expenses will rise further.

I have sent a representation to the Honorable Minister of Finance, Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman in this regard. It has been emphasized in my letter that though books are largely out of GST, the royalties paid to authors are taxed that too under RCM (Reverse Charge Mechanism). Due
to this publishers are not able to get the reverse charges as they are not required to get registered under GST unless the turnover crosses the threshold. Therefore publishers are not able to set off royalties against tax liability. I am trying to fix an appointment with the ministry to further discuss the issue.

As we know that the royalty which is payable by publishers to authors now attract GST. It was not taxed earlier. It will make a large number of publishers to register under GST when in fact under HSN 4901 printed books are 100% exempted from GST. Also a levy of GST will lead to escalation in cost which the student community can ill afford to bear.

I have communicated to the ministries concerned that if booksellers and publishers, who are otherwise exempted from GST, are asked for GST registration merely to pay royalty to authors, this will be another aspect of the book business that will make the exemption redundant and anomalous and shall be against the principle of reasonableness.

I have written to various authorities in the government to exempt GST on royalty payable by Indian publishers so that a large number of small and middle level publishers are relieved of this additional tax. As such royalty amount paid to Indian authors is very low and a small component, compared to authors of foreign publishers which may hardly add or contribute revenue to government coffers.

I urge all Associations within the FPBAI to raise these issues with the government at their level also to bring home the point that these issues are vital for the growth of book industry in India.

**ADVERTISEMENT IN NEWSLETTER**

I want to stress on another point which will give you better ROI (Return on Investment). This is about advertisement in Federation’s Newsletter. Economy of advertising in Federation’s Newsletter comes with an advantage of reaching the target audience. Advertising in a target specific magazine is read by those specialized consumers who can benefit from your product. As you may be aware that our Newsletter is sent to thousands of member publishers, book traders, libraries and other academic institutions, teachers etc; who are potential buyers of your product. Advertising in our Newsletter is like hitting the bull’s eye rather than spending your resources with dubious returns, in terms of reaching out to the target audience. You can conserve your resources by advertising through a target oriented media. This means your reach is actually wider than you know, but you don’t have to pay a cent more for it.

S.C. Sethi  
*Editor*
REVISED TERMS OF SUPPLY FOR PRINT JOURNALS AND E-RESOURCES BY APPROVED INDIAN VENDORS OF GOC

(1) No discount on publishers’ prices fixed for Indian journal subscribers.

(2) Conversion rates as per latest GOC circular prevailing on the date of billing only.

(3) Bills to remain valid for 30 days from the date of bill. Supplementary bills shall be raised in case there is any difference in the price as charged by the Publishers or if there is a delay in payment beyond the period as recommended above.

(4) Full advance payment to be made against all journal bills.

(5) Claims for missing issues of journals to be made within 90 days of the publication of the issue in case it is supplied directly by the publisher to the end user. In case of claims beyond 90 days of publication, if rejected by the publisher, the agent will not be held responsible for refund. No penal interest is payable on stray missing issues. In case of delivery from the agent, the supply will be reviewed every quarter between the library and the agent. All legitimate claims from customers to be settled by the vendors within one and a half year from the date of receipt of payment. However, this would not include titles which are published behind schedule.

(6) The customer should not insist on acknowledgements for receipt of payment from the publishers when orders are routed through approved vendors of GOC. Most publishers do not have a system of sending such acknowledgements.

(7) All subscriptions are subject to full advance payment only. No monthly, quarterly or half yearly payment will be accepted by the approved vendors from the institutes.

(8) All institutional customers are advised to route their requirement through the approved vendors of GOC and not directly through foreign publishers.

(9) In case of any grievance regarding subscription orders placed through a GOC approved agent, institutions/end customers are free to bring forth their complaint directly to the GOC for amicable settlement.

The Chairmen GOC shall have the right to initiate action against the GOC approved agent if found indulging in an unethical or unfair business practice with the customer.

S.C. Sethi
Chairman-GOC
ATTENTION PLEASE

We are pleased to inform you that Mr. S.C. Sethi, President-FPBAI expressing its solidarity with Government of India’s policy pertaining to its historic initiative of abrogating Articles 370 and 35-A from the Constitution book and converting the State of J & K in two union territories, had sent the supporting letters to Mr. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India and Mr. Amit Shah, Union Home Minister. In acknowledgment to the above, both of them have appreciated Federation’s view and wrote me back with utmost thanks. The copies of their letters are being given as hereunder:-

![Letter from Amit Shah]


![Letter from Home Minister India]


Office : Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi-110001
Tel. : 23094482, 23094486, Fax : 23094221
E-mail : hm@nic.in
Shri S.C. Sethi Ji,

Thank you for your congratulatory letter on the passage of landmark Bills pertaining to Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh. It is indeed a historic initiative through which the dream of an India truly united - in word and in deed, an India for all of us Indians alike, has been achieved.

The Bills passed by Parliament are a culmination of the dream seen together by 130 crore Indians. The motivated actions of vested interest groups had for long kept the dreams and aspirations of our brothers and sisters from Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh in shackles. The monumental injustices of the past have been brought to a grinding halt through the passage of these Bills.

Our friends from the region will now get opportunities to get integrated into the mainstream. Business will start booming, local infrastructure will get a fillip. The whole country will now get to witness the talent of youth from Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh.

This historic step is also homage to tall leaders of the past like Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Dr. BR Ambedkar and Dr. Syama Prasad Mukherjee, who dedicated their lives to fight for the unity and integrity of India.

I would also like to congratulate you, my friend, for it would not have been possible to take the decision without your undying support. It is through our collective will that we have further strengthened the unity and integrity of our country. Let us keep working together to achieve the dream of a prosperous and strong India.

Jai Hind!

Yours,

(Narendra Modi)

Shri S.C. Sethi
President, The Federation of Publishers’ & Booksellers’ Association of India
84, Second Floor, Daryaganj
New Delhi- 110002
ATTENTION PLEASE

We are pleased to inform you that anticipating the dangerous impact in the result of the recently proposed imposition of 5% custom duty on imported books by Finance Minister; the Federation proactively strived to reverse such a move. Following are the instruments of our communication with the Government, which are self-explanatory:

To,

Shri S.S. Sethi,
President,
The Federation of Publishers’ & Bookdealers’ Associations in India,
84, 2nd Floor, Daryaganj,
New Delhi – 110002.

Subject: Requesting for withdrawal of Custom Duty proposed to be imposed on imported books in Budget – 2019-20.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter dated 8th and 11th July, 2019 addressed to Hon’ble Minister of Health & Family Welfare on the above subject and to say that the same has been forwarded to Hon’ble Minister for Finance, vide Hon’ble Ministers D.O letter of even No. dated 22nd July, 2019 for sympathetic consideration (copy enclosed).

Yours faithfully,

(Sadanand)

Encl: as above
Dear Smt. Sitharaman ji,


I shall be grateful if you could kindly look into the matter sympathetically and take appropriate action in the matter.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Received)

Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, 
Minister of Finance, 
Government of India, 
Room No. 134, North Block 
New Delhi – 110001.
The Federation in its Memorandum of Association vide Articles 8, 17, is committed to organize seminars to enable the fraternity members update their information on contemporary developments and latest technologies around the world.

In view of the above, the Federation organized a seminar on Acquisition, Evaluation of Manuscript and Copy Editing, at Federation office on January 19, 2019. It proved to be a successful seminar and we got favorable comments and feed-back from the participants.

In the series of seminars, the Federation organized the second episode of the seminar at Federation office on May 31, 2019. The subject of the seminar was ‘Production & Marketing’. The seminar was organized under the overall supervision of Mr. S.K. Ghai, Chairman-Seminar Committee. The seminar was divided in two sessions; the first session was deliberated by Mr. Prabuddha Sircar on ‘Paper, Printing, Binding-Cost’. His lecture was followed by questions & answers for 30 minutes duration.

The second session, post-lunch was on Marketing. This session was further divided into two parts. The first session was on Domestic Marketing which was deliberated by Mr. S.C. Sethi, President-FPBAI.

The second part of the Marketing session was on International Marketing which was deliberated by Mr. S.K. Ghai; Chairman-Sterling Publishers (P) Ltd. Both parts of the second session were followed by questions & answers, for of 30 minutes duration.

In the end of the seminar, Mr. S.K. Ghai gave vote of thanks. In all 19 participants attended the programme, whose details are given below:

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<th>S.No.</th>
<th>NAME</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ms. Swasti Mehta</td>
<td>Computech Publications Limited</td>
<td>Delhi</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Mr. Raghvendra Agarwal</td>
<td>Kitab Mahal Publishers</td>
<td>Delhi</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Mr. Anuttam Banerjee</td>
<td>Dasgupta &amp; Co. (Pvt.) Ltd.</td>
<td>Kolkata</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Mr. Asan kumar</td>
<td>Consortium eLearning Network Pvt. Ltd.</td>
<td>Noida</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Mr. Amit K. Sengar</td>
<td>Consortium eLearning Network Pvt. Ltd.</td>
<td>Noida</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Mr. Devbrat Mandal</td>
<td>Consortium eLearning Network Pvt. Ltd.</td>
<td>Noida</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Mr. Rahul Kumar</td>
<td>Consortium eLearning Network Pvt. Ltd.</td>
<td>Noida</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Mr. Manish Kumar Jain</td>
<td>Vallabh Prakashan</td>
<td>Delhi</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Ms. Mridul Jain</td>
<td>Vallabh Prakashan</td>
<td>Delhi</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Ms. Sumedha Jain</td>
<td>Vallabh Prakashan</td>
<td>Delhi</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Ms. Rohini Bhat</td>
<td>Orient Blackswan Private Limited</td>
<td>Hyderabad</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Ms. Namrata Pant</td>
<td>Orient Blackswan Private Limited</td>
<td>Hyderabad</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Mr. Ashish Kumar Tiwari</td>
<td>Orient Blackswan Private Limited</td>
<td>Hyderabad</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Mr. Sunit Dhawan</td>
<td>Orient Blackswan Private Limited</td>
<td>Hyderabad</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Mr. Sushanta Gayen</td>
<td>KW Publishers (P) Ltd.</td>
<td>Delhi</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Mr. Sanjeev Kumar</td>
<td>KW Publishers (P) Ltd.</td>
<td>Delhi</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Mr. Deepak Udhwani</td>
<td>KW Publishers (P) Ltd.</td>
<td>Delhi</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Mrs. Barkha Arora</td>
<td>Scientific International (P) Ltd.</td>
<td>Delhi</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Mrs. Meenakshi Kohli</td>
<td>Viva Books</td>
<td>Delhi</td>
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Of all the functionaries in the publishing house the editor is usually in closest contact with the author. A good relationship with an editor can be a kind of lifeline as writers tend to be isolated people in their daily lives, their books the greatest reality and if the atmosphere surrounding this focal point, the writing, is mechanical and unsatisfactory, then it certainly can’t help the whole show.

The history of publishing is full of sunny spots of deep love and admiration between authors and their editors. The high esteem and affection the great editor Maxwell Perkins was accorded by his authors are pointers to this. Kipling’s admiration and affection for Frank Doubleday, Menken’s regard for loyalty to Alfred Knopf and Steinbeck’s confidence and trust in Pascal Covici are among the many classical examples of author publisher (editor) closeness and fidelity.

In Indian context, K.P.S Menon distinguished diplomat and celebrated writer paying tribute to Hawkins, great editor of the Oxford University Press, on his retirement referred to the closeness he had with him and as a friend and stated how a bad book could become a good book just by the work of the editor.

A good editor is the link between author and his publisher. But like vintage cars and indoor plants authors must be treated with love and care if they are to be kept. Many are shy or aggressive, others are naïve touchy or touching; some combine all these qualities. As is normal in an encounters between strangers, particularly when one is trying to sell the other something, both sides tend to be wary at this point, being careful to make clear that the approach on one side and the agreement to consider on the other do not imply any commitment on either side.

The editor should be careful in initial stages. Even when a proposal seems prima facie attractive, the editor had better restrain his enthusiasm carefully balancing the words to ensure that while author is convinced that his proposal is being taken very seriously and that the editor is personally impressed, he does not take ultimate acceptance for granted.

It is a confirmed truth that out of a thousand unsolicited manuscripts that flow into the offices of publishers barely one is publishable. Ideally, a publisher should on consideration of self-interest, if not on grounds of common courtesy enclose a gentle note saying, “the fact that it proved not to our taste does not necessarily mean your work is un publishable, but all we can do under the pressure of submitted books, is to wish you better luck elsewhere”.

The remarks like that of Mr. Samuel Johnson on a rejected manuscript that “your manuscript is both good and original but the part that is good is not original and the part that is original, is not good,” should be left to the reviewer, if the work has been published by some encouraging publisher.

Authors need to publish their works and publishers need authors to publish and develop their list. The writing of books and publishing of books are, therefore, complimentary activities. When the process of turning ideas into book starts, a symbiotic, as well as ambivalent relationship follows between editor and author. The close contact between the two is likely to create positive
bond. The editor and the copy editor are supposed to help the author make his/her manuscript more readable and more attractive to prospective readers.

The pre-publication contact between author and editor is bound to create tensions, moments of apprehension in the minds of authors who feel that editors sacrifice fine points of scholarship or refinement of style to sale appeal. Many a battle in editorial office between author and editor is fought over salability versus scholarship or artistic merit and communicability versus precision. Where a manuscript is involved and a sensitive or emotionally charged writer is concerned, it isn’t possible to achieve rapport and author’s loyalty except on a personal basis.

Authors frequently grumble about changes which editors urge them to make. It is a rare manuscript that the attention of an intelligent editor cannot improve. Faults which remain hidden to the author may be apparent to the editor. Editors work closely with authors, helping them to shape difficult manuscripts into publishable form. Authors write books and editors make them.

The purpose of changes recommended at the editorial stage is to realize the better objective of the author. Many a revision suggested are intended to facilitate the dissemination of work to the readers. Authors leave countless mistakes uncorrected. The question which gives rise to conflict between an author and editor is not what to change but how much to change. Does the author agree to editor’s judgment? Sometime yes, sometime no.

The editor, therefore, occupies a unique position, combining in his role the points of view of both author and readers. For young and inexperienced authors the editor can be an invaluable tutor in the craft of writing. This nurturing of authors is no small part of editor’s contribution to the production of knowledge.

Authors are by and large very sensitive to changes and cuts to the manuscript and feel that every word is indispensable. Any attempt to assess the author–editor relationship may have to take into account what writers want it to be. There are authors who believe that a good editor is a blessing to an author.

An impressive display of editorial talent and skill, while not fool proof, is possibly the best single guarantor of successful author-editor relationship. It must not be thought that authors and editors having separate and selfish interests on each side are natural foes. Actually they have more to pull them together than to split them apart.
In the year 1883, Paris convention was held with the view to framing some sort of an internationally recognised agreement for cooperation among nations for the protection of intellectual property. This paris convention was a landmark international event when as many as 140 states signed the Convention and agreed to implement its provisions. Article 1 (2) states, “The protection of industrial property has as its objects, patents, utility models, industrial designs, trade marks, service marks, trade names, indication of source or appellations of origin and reppression of unfair competition.”

India was not a member of Paris Convention, but having signed the Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) agreement, India is obliged to implement the provisions of Paris Convention.

The Paris convention dealt with Patents, Trake Marks, Designs and Utility Models. The Paris Convention did not deal with Copyright. Lets’ talk in brief about PATENTS.

In the second half of 19th century, new inventions in the field of art, process, method or manner of manufacture, machinery, apparatuses and other substances started proliferating and the inventors were very much interested to safeguard their inventions from being infringed by any one else, who may copy or adopt the method used by them. To save the interests of inventors, the then British rulers enacted the Indian Patents and Designs Act, 1911 (Act 2 of 1911).

After the independence, finally the law on Patents came on the Statute Book as The Patents Act, 1970, after receiving the assent of the President on September 19, 1970, and was subsequently amended several times.

The Patent refers to some privilege, property or authority made by the Government to one or more individuals. The instrument by which such grant is made is known as ‘Patent’.

Patent, under the law, is granted by the controller to the inventor for a period of 20 years. It is the exclusive right to make use, exercise and vend his invention. The Patents (Amendment) Act, 2005, defines Patent under section 2 (m) as, “Patent” means a patent for any invention granted under this Act. The Patents Rules , 2006, provide for new Form of Patent.

After the expiry of the period for which exclusive right is granted to the inventor, the invention can be put to use by any person other than the one to whom a patent had been granted. The person to whom a patent is granted is called ‘patentee.’
HONOURS FOR INDIA

India was designated as the Guest of Honour at the 29th edition of Abu Dhabi International Book Fair 2019 (April 24-30). The National Book Trust, India (under the Ministry of HRD) was the nodal agency coordinating the Guest Country Presentation at the Book Fair. A strong delegation of nearly 100 delegates comprising of authors, children writers, science communicators, artists, CMDs, Directors, senior publishing professionals of 21 publishing houses led by Professor Govind Prasad Sharma, Chairman, National Book Trust, India returned to India last week after a very successful visit.

The nearly 1100 sq. metres India Pavilion, got designed by National Book Trust, India through the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad, its design partner for the Guest of Honour Presentations, was visited on the opening day by HH Saif bin Zayed Al Nhyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, UAE; and later on by HH Sheikh Nahyan bin Mabarak Al Nahayan, Minister for Tolerance.

Earlier on the opening day, HE Saif Gobash, Undersecretary, DCT Abu Dhabi, along with Ambassador Navdeep Suri, and Chairman NBT, Professor Govind Prasad Sharma, and Dr Rita Chowdhury, Director, NBT, officially inaugurated the Indian with a lamplighting ceremony. The ceremony was followed with the release of ten children’s titles translated into Arabic and published by the National Book Trust India. The titles launched in Arabic translation included: Stories from Bapu’s Life (Anecdotes about Mahatma Gandhi), Rabindranath Tagore’s Chhutti (Holidays have come), Goa — A Story of Wonderland, This is My Story, The Rainbow, Name That Animal, Sheela and Leela, The Whole Wide World, One Day.. and My Umma’s Sari.
The guest country presentation had various literary events, children’s activities and other programmes being held throughout the duration of the book fair. The book fair saw huge sales of Indian books, and many translation agreements and copyright exchanges taking place between Indian publishers in the India Pavilion and the Arab publishers.

—The Pioneer, May 15, 2019

RAJASTHAN POLITICOS SPAR ON TWITTER OVER REVISION IN SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS

The ruling Congress and the BJP on Wednesday sparred on Twitter over the changes in school textbooks, including the removal of a picture suggesting self-immolation under the practices of Sati and Jauhar.

The Congress Government led by Ashok Gehlot has tasked a committee to make changes in the textbooks introduced by the previous BJP Government.

The prefix “Veer” has now been removed from Vinayak Damodar Savarkar’s name in Class 10 social science books.

He has now been described as someone who “plotted” the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi and furnished an apology for clemency from the British.

Similarly, a picture suggesting self-immolation under Sati or Jauhar was replaced with that of a hill fort in a Class 8 English textbook.

“The practice of Sati is banned and Jauhar has no connection with chapters of English. It wasn’t clarified if the picture was related to Sati or Jauhar,” School Education Minister Govind Singh Dotasara told PTI.

On Tuesday, BJP leader and member of the erstwhile Jaipur royal family, Diya Kumari, had entered into a war of words on Twitter on the issue.

“As far as the matter of ‘Rani Sati’ is concerned, we cannot tell our girls to do Jauhar. The custom is banned in the country,” Dotasara wrote on Twitter.

“The history of Rajasthan was golden and will remain the same. The only difference is that we are correcting the changes made by the previous BJP government, which treated the Education Department an experimental laboratory,” Dotasara added.

Reacting sharply to it, Diya Kumari tweeted Wednesday, “You are saying that we cannot teach girls about Jauhar. I wish you could understand the difference between Sati and Jauhar.”

She accused the government of covering up the Alwar gang rape while expressing concern about women by “changing the history of heroic personalities”.

The former BJP MLA also accused the minister of disrespecting Maharana Pratap and Savarkar.

“Maharana Pratap was great and will remain so. We have described his valour in a better way. As far as the question with regard to Sarvarkarji pertains, the change has been made based on evidences by the committee of educationists,” Dotasara tweeted.

On speculation about the removal of a reference to demonetisation from a Class 12 textbook, he said it is up to the committee of educationists to decide.
“We had wanted its removal but it is for the panel to decide. It is my personal view, why to mention a scheme that has failed,” Dotasara said.

The previous BJP government had introduced the reference to demonetisation in the political science book of Class 12, terming it a historic step against black money.

Meanwhile, the Sri Rajput Karni Sena and the Sri Rashtriya Rajput Karni Sena have threatened to protest if any changes are to “historical facts”.

—The Pioneer, May 16, 2019

10% EWS QUOTA IN CTET: SC SEEKS REPLIES FROM CENTRE, CBSE & NCTE

The Supreme Court on Thursday sought responses from the Centre and CBSE on a plea seeking 10 per cent reservation for economically weaker sections in the Central Teacher Eligibility Test (CTET), 2019.

Besides the Centre and the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), a vacation bench comprising Justices Indira Banerjee and Sanjiv Khanna also issued notice to the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) and asked them to respond to the petition by July 1, the next date of hearing.

The Bench was hearing a plea filed by six petitioners, who are aspiring to participate in CTET 2019 and are seeking a direction that benefits of ‘The Constitution (103rd amendment) Act 2019’ be extended to those belonging to the economically weaker sections (EWS) of the society. The amendment Act took effect on January 16.

Under the amended Act, the Centre has provided for a 10 per cent reservation to citizens from general category belonging to EWS, in addition to already existing reservation policy for benefit of other reserved categories such as Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, Other Backward Class and physically handicapped.

During the hearing on Thursday, the lawyers appearing for the petitioners told the bench that since the amended Act has been passed by Parliament, its benefit must be given to persons from EWS.

“If we will get this relaxation, we will qualify in the examination. The amendment is aimed for upliftment of the economically weaker section of the society,” the counsel said.

The Bench issued notice on the petition and said that it would be heard on July 1.

—The Pioneer, May 17, 2019

ONLINE PROCUREMENT OF NCERT BOOKS

The Directorate of Education on Tuesday asked heads of schools to inform teachers and students about the online procurement of National Council Of Educational Research And Training (NCERT) textbooks.

Listing the facilities put forward by NCERT for procurement of books, the directorate said, “All the heads of government schools will inform and make all the students aware in the morning assembly about the above mentioned facilities provided by NCERT.”
The books can be ordered using NCERT’s online portal which was launched in August 2017. “NCERT has many text books available with it in the print and digital form and has also made arrangements for home delivery of the text books,” the notice said, adding a list of around 800 book sellers that sell NCERT books all over India is also available on the website.

“This year, QR code has also been inscribed on the text books which will help in reaching to E-Pathshala material,” the notice read. The application e-pathshala, developed jointly by NCERT and HRD ministry, was developed for disseminating educational e-resources.

Awadhesh Jha, head of school of Sarvodaya Vidyalaya in Sector-8 Rohini, said, “Though students would have bought most of the books by now, there can be a chance that some books might have been out of stock or unavailable. The online procurement will help students get such books easily, without making numerous trips to the shops.”

He said that since the books would also be available in the digital form, students would be able to study more comfortably and the time spent on gadgets would be used more efficiently.

Suresh Kumar Tiwari, a resident of east Delhi whose children study in government schools, said he was not aware about the online procurement of books. “If we can buy books online, it will be more convenient. We work around 10-12 hours. After that going to the book shops and jostling with the crowds there to buy books is tiring.”

—Hindustan Times, May 17, 2019

INTO THE QUAIN'T WORLD OF RARE BOOK DEALERS

Antiquarian booksellers say that a rare book is one which is difficult to find, but is much sought after. Even a book from 1850 is not rare if no one wants it. A rare book can cost anywhere from a few thousands to a few lakhs.

Nothing excites them more than the musty smell of ageing books, which they treat as objects of beauty. They travel across continents to track down rare books that rolled off the press hundreds of years ago. They can tell you many fascinating tales of bibliomania, some involving their own hunts for books. Welcome to the quaint world of antiquarian book dealers.

“In India, most people do not understand what we do; they feel we sell secondhand books. Ours is a dying breed; only a few are left in the country,” says Delhi-based Sanjiv Jain, whose family owns Southex Books, one of the country’s oldest and well-known antiquarian booksellers in South Extension. “Most people do not know what it takes to find a rare book. Our search often takes us from the pavement book market in Delhi and Kolkata to fellow antiquarian dealers in remote European villages.”

On many occasions, Jain says, his search ended at the houses of commoners in England. “Some of them simply refused to sell their books, others asked an astronomical price. I often told them I needed it for personal use, and they relented,” says Jain.

His father GC Jain, an electrical engineer, got into the trade in 1967 in Kolkata and later shifted...
to Delhi in 1984. Today, the Jains sell mostly to collectors and government institutions. “Delhi and Mumbai have the maximum number of rare book collectors,” says Jain.

Antiquarian booksellers say that a rare book is one which is difficult to find, but is much sought after. Even a book from 1850 is not rare if no one wants it. A rare book can cost anywhere from a few thousands to a few lakhs.

In fact, most antiquarian booksellers in India got their early collections in the 1940s from the departing Britishers. Kolkata, India’s publishing hub during the 19th and a major part of the 20th century, and Shimla, once the summer capital of British India, were the places where they found some of the rarest books.

“My father started the bookshop in the 1950s and his earlier collections came from the personal libraries of British families who were leaving India. Since the weather is good in Shimla, the quality of antiquarian books, and their preservation, has never been a problem,” says Sanjiv Sud, proprietor of Maria Brothers, one of the country’s oldest antiquarian booksellers in Shimla, which boasts over 4,000 rare books — most of them Himalayan travelogues. Among his collection is a 1552 brief history of India published in French.

The internet, these antiquarian book dealers say has upended their trade, changing how books are found, valued sold and bought. There are several websites such as Abe, Shapero, Alibris that allow one to search for a rare book using keywords such as author, title, published date, and attributes such as the first edition, signed, jacket, among others.

“While such online platforms have made it very easy to locate the books, they have led to a great spike in their costs, making it difficult to buy and offer them to collectors at reasonable prices,” says Raju Singh, who runs Chapter 101 in Gurgaon, a bookshop, which offers a range of rare books. The mahogany-panelled bookstore has large posters of Mahatma Gandhi, Nelson Mandela and Bob Dylan. One can hear soft classical symphonies as one enters the shop.

“I have been collecting books since my school days, and the idea behind the shop was to create a beautiful space that inspires people to build their own personal collection. An antiquarian bookseller always keeps an eye out for bookshops. I acquire my rare books from the US and the UK. I like to touch and feel a book before I buy it,” says Singh, who opened the shop in 2016.

Antiquarian booksellers will proudly tell you that the rare books trade is not a business but a “cultural enterprise” as it helps preserve some of the history’s greatest printed materials.

But many rue that the Internet has diminished their trade in many ways.

“Everyone who approaches us think they know more than us regarding sourcing, valuation, and preserving books. But I do not think we will ever become irrelevant; the internet cannot replace the knowledge acquired through being in the trade for generations,” says Jain. “Antiquarian book dealers will remain relevant as not more than 60 per cent of rare books are available online,” says Govindraju, 83, who runs Rare Books, a bookstore in Chennai’s R A Puram. Interestingly, he sold his entire collection of 20,000 books to a fellow dealer in Chennai a few years back. “I thought I was done with book collecting and selling, but soon I realised collecting is an addiction one can never get over, and built my collection again from scratch.”

Every antiquarian book dealer has their own speciality – if some specialise in literature, others in history. Maria Brothers, for example, specialise in Himalayan travelogues. “A rare book dealer must be a booklovers. For me, there is no joy like holding a book that was printed centuries ago,” says KKS Murthy, who runs Select Book Shop in Bangalore. Set up by his bibliophilic father KBK Rao in 1945, it is one of the most famous antiquarian bookshops in the country.
The 90-year-old Murthy talks with childlike passion about what he calls his “adventures in finding rare books” while he worked as an aeronautical engineer abroad.

“I used to buy rare books for my father’s shop from dealers, pavement shops, and auctioneers in France, US, Spain,” says Murthy, who took over the shop in 1977. “In Paris, I was most happy when I found a large colour illustrated book on Dasara celebrations during the rule of Sri Krishnaraja Wodeyar, the Maharaja of Mysore. The renowned physicist Sir CV Raman, who was a regular client of my father, had asked for the book.”

The Select Book Shop has a collection of 9,000 rare books — some of them from the 15th century. While Murthy no longer goes book hunting, he says the reputation and sources he has built all over the world ensures that his rare books collection remains as good as ever.

“I cannot travel at this age, but I have a network of friends, relatives, writer, publishers and dealers, who help me locate and buy rare books. Building sources is very necessary in this profession,” says Murthy. He believes that the internet has been good for rare books business as it has made the world of rare books less rarefied. “Unlike in the past, a lot of youngsters now come to my shop. A few days ago, a young engineer walked into my shop out of curiosity. Now he works with me on the weekends. He helps me sell books online. Only yesterday, I sold 15 books online. I share a part of the profits with him,” says Murthy.

These antiquarian booksellers will tell you that one of the joys of their trade is that sometimes they find tucked inside the pages of rare books notes, love letters, tram tickets, and sometimes, important documents. “My father found a copy of the American Declaration of Independence drafted by Thomas Jefferson in 1776 among a stack of rare books he had bought,” says Sud.

Many of these antiquarian booksellers, who pride themselves on their book scouting abilities say there are books they have been searching for decades, but failed to find. “The first edition of Birds of America by John James Audubon is one such book. Similarly, Shakespeare’s First Folio is much sought after, but almost impossible to find,” says Jain. Both he and Sud also deal in rare maps. Jain has a huge collection of maps from the 16th century, by different cartographers including those by Abraham Ortelius, who published his first map in 1564. “Maps of India by James Rene’ll are most sought after.”

—Hindustan Times, June 2, 2019

WITH STRAWBERRIES & LIBRARIES, ‘BOOK VILLAGE’ ON TOURIST MAP

A cosy sofa and wicker chairs overlooking a beautiful valley, the quiet of a village, and lush strawberry fields all around — what more could a romantic soul wish for? It’s the setting for a great novel, perhaps even a great travel story. But this isn’t fiction; this is the living room of Bhiku Bhilare of Bhilar village, Maharashtra. But it offers much more than a picture perfect setting — it also doubles up as a library.

Until recently, the village, just a few kilometres from the picturesque hill stations of Mahabaleshwar and Panchgani, was known for growing the best strawberries in the country. Now, it is a unique ‘village of books’ with 25 villagers having given up a part of their homes to set up open libraries.

The idea was inspired by the Welsh village of Hay-on-Wye, which is informally known as the ‘town of books’, and has scores of second-hand and antiquarian bookstores. But the Maharashtra government has made the concept their own and expanded its scope. Its Marathi language
department’s experts meticulously put together a collection of over 30,000 books organised under various genres. Each home is allotted books of one genre. These were then distributed among the home libraries, as well as public places like temples and schools. Each home is allotted books pertaining to one genre and identified with street signs and wall paintings.

Clearly, this is a reader’s paradise, apart from being a tourist’s. And for those lucky few whose interests converge, what could be better? Just drop by a house, pick up a book and read it to your heart’s content.

The villagers, meanwhile, welcome the outsiders. At Ganpat Parthe’s house, for instance, women were sorting rice, wheat and jowar in the verandah when a family of visitors walked in. “We carry on with our work even when the visitors come. One family member shows them the books kept in the cupboards in the hall and then they can sit on the sofas or the balcony and read for as long as they want. They are not a hindrance to us,” Parthe said.

Almost all the 2,000-plus villagers share this enthusiasm. Ganpat Bhilare, a police patil (helper), said most villagers who joined the project are engaged in strawberry cultivation. “We thought it will be good for our children. They get to meet prominent thinkers, writers and attend workshops. It will help build an interest in literature,” said Ganpat, whose house has a collection of special Diwali magazines, which are a unique, century-old tradition in Maharashtra.

The success of the project, launched in May 2017, can be gauged by the number of visitors which has gone up from a few hundred during strawberry season to several thousand throughout the year. Bhushan Gagrani, principal secretary, Marathi language department, credited the villagers for its success. “There is no subsidy or incentive that they are getting. The government is just creating the social infrastructure — new roads, amphitheatre, parking space, dormitories,” he said.

So, why was Bhilar chosen for this project? Its location on a tourist trail meant it would have a captive readership, said Gagrani. “We started with 15,000 books, but the collection has grown. Many have donated from their personal collections,” he added.

One such person is Bhiku, who has added his own small collection to the library. Today, the retired 84-year-old school teacher’s living room has two huge cupboards lined with books on social reform and the history of revolutions. “During my school days, we had to travel to nearby towns to find books. Having a library open to everyone in my own home was a very different and exciting thought. We look at this concept as social work — our contribution to promoting reading,” Bhiku said.

A few metres away, Shilpa Sawant has converted a guest room in her single-storey home into a library of comics and humour books, with a collection of 850. A homemaker and avid reader herself, Sawant feels that she is doing her bit for society.

The village is also unique in the absence of fear of outsiders among the people. Mangal Bhilare’s quaint home looks as if it is straight out of a painting. The fully-grown mogra, jasmine and bougainvillea hanging from the roof and vividly painted walls draw visitors towards her home, the verandah of which contains a collection of fiction books.

“Unlike in cities, our homes are never locked. We always have someone dropping by. We are not afraid of strangers entering our homes. They just come, read a book for a few hours and go,” Mangal said.

—Times of India, June 2, 2019
KEEP CALM & READ BOOKS: MIZORAM GETS ITS 1ST BOOK CAFE IN AIZAWL

The Book Cafe, which opened its doors to public on Saturday, will provide a venue for bibliophiles to come together and enjoy their favourite titles over a cup of coffee.

Aizawl: There is a special connection between books and coffee. We all know that cozy feeling of holding a warm cup of coffee, slowly sipping it, while turning the pages of our favourite title.

Book cafes are gaining massive popularity across India, and Aizawl is also catching up. On July 13, book lovers of the picturesque capital town of Mizoram in Northeast India got their ‘fix’ when The Book Cafe, Aizawl’s first-ever book cafe, opened its doors to the public. Although the town faced a major power crisis that day, it could not dim the excitement of the bookworms as they flocked together at the café.

The ambience was perfect. As the excited guests escaped heavy downpour to a little corner in the city’s centre, they were welcomed by the smell of freshly-brewed coffee and freshly-baked cookies. Just above the coffee and cookie counter were shelves stacked with books from all genres — from Khushwant Singh’s humorous collections to serious writings from Madeleine Albright, classics to various history books and literary works.

Vanlalruata Ralte, owner of the store, said, “I have always wanted to open a book shop since 2007, but have been stalling the plan due to some inconvenience or the other. However, I was determined to open up one after I visited Gangtok’s Rajna book store in 2016.”

As a book store of this kind never existed in Aizawl or anywhere in the state, Ralte and his brothers were really nervous about it. “I believe people who love reading and love food. When I share the idea of opening a book shop with good food and coffee on Instagram, the feedback from the youths was tremendously positive,” he said, adding that finding a perfect discreet place right at the city centre helped.

John, a young guest, said that he read about the cafe in a local paper and immediately came for its grand opening.

Owner Lalrinawma graced the event with prayers and reading of the Holy Scriptures. He proudly stated that though his sons faced some financial problems, it is through sheer hard work and dedication that they were able to complete the cafe. “I’m proud to say that they even prepared all the furniture themselves,” he added.

Two young women, Kate and Irene, happily declared that The Book Café is going to be their safe haven, where they can go and escape from their daily routine.

Ralte also mentioned that the café will also sell books by local writers, creating a platform to promote them as well as encouraging more youths to take up reading habits. He added that after a few months, they will regularly organise poetry-reading events.

—Eastmojo, 16 July, 2019

THE BACK-ROOM BOOKSHOP

A ‘blink and you’ll miss it’ little store filled with books outside the mainstream

Some bookshops exist outside the mainstream, and in which you’ll come across titles almost impossible to spot elsewhere. One such place exists in the heart of the very mainstream Connaught Place.
But finding this curious shop requires some instructions. It’s tucked away in a back-corner of the People Tree boutique—which is tucked away on one side of the Regal Cinema Building in Central Delhi. (Right, got that?)

The boutique itself is small and the bookstore so small that three browsers make it feel jam-packed. But maybe this just adds to the charm of a space stocked with books otherwise not easy to find. (If they happen to be in other shops at all, they often get lost amid piles of more popular titles.)

Such as Four Arguments for The Elimination of Television. Or, An India Portia. To say nothing of that perennial favourite Negotiating Adolescence in Bangladesh.

Yet, these curious titles somehow grow on you, like the teeny-weenie shop itself, founded some 30 years ago. Its rather secretive location induces a feeling of thrill and escape. On a sweltering afternoon like today one can simply sit on the one and only mooda (cane stool) and focus on the reassuring sound of the ceiling fan. No one will disturb you.

Or perhaps gaze upon the lovely wooden ceiling, or the shop manager’s chair that is draped in a beautiful homely-looking worn-out coverlet.

Or maybe you’ll want to flip through the curiously titled paperbacks like Karl Marx on India. In any case, the shop has an impressive selection on gender studies.

It’s open daily from 11:30 am to 7:30 pm

—Hindustan Times, August 1, 2019

15 MORE UNIVERSITIES SET FOR INSTITUTE OF EMINENCE TAG

A university that Bharti Foundation plans to build in Delhi has become the second work-in-progress institution after Reliance Foundation’s Jio University to receive a letter of intent recommending it as an institute of eminence (IoE). Seven public universities and seven private ones also received similar letters issued by the UGC on Friday.

Azim Premji University (Bengaluru), Ashoka University (Sonepat), Krea University (Chennai), Indian Institute of Human Settlements (Bengaluru), and Indian Institute of Public Health (IIPH), Gandhinagar, didn’t make the cut. Among these, Krea, which has just admitted its first batch, applied under the greenfield category.

In a meeting, UGC approved the IoE status for Bharti University in the greenfield category; to Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham (Bengaluru), VIT (Vellore), Jamia Hamdard (New Delhi), Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (Bhubaneswar), OP Jindal University (Sonepat) and Shiv Nadar University (Greater Noida) in the private category; and BHU, Anna University (Chennai), Jadavpur University (Kolkata), IIT-Madras, IIT-Kharagpur, Delhi University and University of Hyderabad in the public one.
The UGC ranked the institutions as per QS-2020 World Rankings. Wherever there is a tie, it used the National Institutional Ranking Framework as a tiebreaker.

All five private universities which missed being the in the top 10 were not included because they were not ranked, according to the UGC.

“All I can say at this stage is that I am disappointed that Ashoka was not considered,” said Pramath Raj Sinha, co-founder of the varsity.

While it is clear that nine private universities had chosen based on their rankings, it was not clear how the remaining one slot had been filled up, said Kapil Viswanathan, vice chairman of the Krea University.

“...Given that research and innovation is one of the key ranking parameter, IoEs need to demonstrate being multi-disciplinary and have an orientation towards research and innovation. IoEs being given the academic, administrative and financial autonomy is a critical enabler for this,” said Anindya Mallick, a partner at the consulting firm Deloitte.

—Hindustan Times, August 3, 2019

SUNDAY BOOK MARKET VENDORS IN DELHI DEMAND HERITAGE STATUS

As per ‘The street vendors (protection of livelihood and regulation of street vending) Act, 2014, “natural markets where street vendors have conducted business for over fifty years shall be declared as heritage markets, and the street vendors in such markets shall not be relocated.”

For the past three weeks, book vendor Sumit Verma has been running around helplessly knocking doors of every possible administrative officer working in the area where he had sold books for the last 20 years- Daryaganj. Ever since the Sunday book market was shut down on the orders of the High Court, he has lost out on his sole source of income, and has been collecting as many documents and evidence as possible to demand that the market consisting of over 250 book sellers be declared a heritage market.

“In fact the 2007 MCD policy with regard to street vendors clearly mentions the Sunday book market was declared as a natural market which is providing an opportunity to have avid readers to purchase books at low cost. We want the government to recognise this,” said Verma.

The heritage market status is of prime significance to the booksellers association because as per ‘The street vendors (protection of livelihood and regulation of street vending) Act, 2014, “natural markets where street vendors have conducted business for over fifty years shall be declared as heritage markets, and the street vendors in such markets shall not be relocated.”

The book market at Daryaganj is believed to have been functioning since the mid 1960s.

“The Daryaganj book market is perhaps the best example of a natural market in Delhi, It was unique in the sense that it was established without any support, as shopkeepers and buyers started growing simultaneously” said Kanupriya Dhirung, who is a PhD scholar in School of Oriental and African Studies in London and is doing her thesis on the Sunday book market at Daryaganj. “What Daryaganj symbolised is a parallel set of sellers, printers, publishers and readers, who may not want to read Jane Austen, but want a pocket-book on self help.”

After being evicted from Daryaganj, the North Municipal Corporation of Delhi (NMCD) has been trying to relocate them. They were given the option of the Ramleela maidan, Kuchha Bagh in Chandni Chowk and Hanuman Vatika. “None of these places are suitable for us. Books are not something that people will come to buy from a maidan,” said Asarfilal Verma who has also been selling books at the Sunday book market for the past 20 years.
“Since this is a natural market that has come up on the streets, the idea of the street is very important to their identity and existence,” said Dhingra.

Apart from demanding heritage status, the book sellers also claim that proper procedures have not been followed in evicting them. “As per the new rules of the Delhi government, no street vendors can be removed without a proper survey. We were removed without any such survey,” said Verma.

While the Sunday book market vendors are demanding heritage status for their market, there is also evidence to show that Daryaganj has been a historic market since the time of the Mughals. “It became a market when Shah Jahan built this city. One of his queens, Akbarabadi begum built this market and it was known as Akbarabadi bazaar,” said historian Sohail Hashmi.

—Hindustan Times, August 14, 2019

14TH BANGALORE BOOK FESTIVAL
2nd - 8th October-2019, Palace Grounds, Bengaluru

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Other Regional Language Publications : Rs. 17,000 + 3060* = Rs. 20060
English Language Publications : Rs. 28,000 + 5040* = Rs. 33040
Non-Book Trade Category : Rs. 38,000 + 6840* = Rs. 44840
E-Commerce and Online Category : Rs. 45,000 + 8100* = Rs. 53100

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Kannada Language Publications : Rs. 13,000 + 2340* = Rs. 15340
Other Regional Language Publications : Rs. 18,000 + 3240* = Rs. 21240
English Language Publications : Rs. 30,000 + 5400* = Rs. 35400
Non-Book Trade Category : Rs. 38,000 + 6840* = Rs. 44840
E-Commerce and Online Category : Rs. 45,000 + 8100* = Rs. 53100

*GST @ 18%

- Last date for booking confirmation is 25th September 2019.
- Acknowledgments of payment will be dispatched by post.
- Stall allotment is by a draw of lots, Raffle for stall allotment will be held in the venue on 30th September at 4:00 p.m.
- All major Credit/Debit card payments will be accepted at several vantage points in the venue on behalf of all participants on a nominal commission basis.
- For more details you can get in touch with The Bangalore Booksellers & Publishers Association (Regd.), # 524/J, First Floor, 7 Block, Cross, K R Road, Jayanagar West, Bengaluru - 560 082 (Karnataka), Phone :080-2676 5598
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Demand for books is increasing...

This comes at an opportune time when the government has added more than 2,700 seats in the 2019-20 academic session in the 25 new government medical colleges, the biggest addition of the medical seats in government colleges in a single year.

“The demand for books are increasing as education is the fastest growing field. The number of higher education colleges and institutes is also increasing. We require more and more engineers, doctors, nurses, dentists, scientists, agriculturists, technicians, etc. So, there is a need of good quality books in all fields,” adds Vijay.

Need for libraries...

Talking about the libraries, Vijay shares, “Since there are new colleges coming up, there is a need for more libraries. And these libraries need more research books so that researchers, engineers, technology experts, doctors, ecologists, psychologists, agriculturists, sociologists, academicians, scholars, etc can gain up-to-date knowledge by visiting their respective libraries.”

“Since these books are expensive, we need more libraries so that students can access these books easily,” he adds.

Good quality research books: the need of the hour

“There is an increasing demand for foreign research books as they have the latest research works despite the fact that Indian publishers are also coming up with research works. DBS offers books from leading international publishers and we will continue to strengthen our repository of books so that Indian students and researchers get the best and the latest books in their fields,” concludes Vijay.