

CITIZENS' CHARTER

National Book Trust, India (NBT), an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, is a highly professional multilingual publishing institution working in the field of quality publication and for the promotion of Indian books and dissemination of book culture in India.

Headquarters of the National Book Trust, India:

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Regional Offices:

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OUR VISION

NBT came into being on 1st August 1957, a decade after India attained Independence and since then it has made a steady progress in accordance with the vision that First Prime Minister of India, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru had which he shared while addressing the gathering at the Foundation Day of NBT on 1st August 1957, at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. He said, “National Book Trust, India will make available books recognized to be good at a low cost and create climate for book reading and book buying among the vast number of the people in the country...it will also serve as a kind of ‘book hospital’ for finding out what generally stood in the ways of the books being purchased and read.”

OUR MISSION

- To promote books and culture of book reading.
- To publish books in all major Indian languages for all segments of society and age groups with special emphasis on children’s books.
- To promote the publication of reasonably priced books for higher education.
- To promote Indian books abroad.

SERVICES PROVIDED

Publishing Course: NBT conducts a one-month introductory course in book publishing to help aspirants develop their skills for better future in the field.

NBT Book Club: The members of this club can avail a special discount on purchase of NBT books and also a discount on postal charges on the receipt of books through VPP. The life membership fee for the club is only Rs. 50 for an individual. Besides, all members are also entitled to receive monthly Hindi and English newsletters of the Trust, which keep them abreast of its activities.

Assistance to Authors and Publishers: To promote the publication of reasonably priced books for higher education, NBT provides financial assistance to the authors and publishers of text books and reference material.

Under this scheme, only such books are subsidized for which a definite need is felt and subject areas were books of an acceptable standard are either not available or are so expensive as to be beyond the means of the students. So far, we have subsidized the publication of about 932 titles, mostly in English.

The scope of the scheme has been widened to provide assistance for the publication in Indian languages, of thought-provoking works of non-fiction, including dictionaries and encyclopedias etc.

BOOK RELATED ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY NBT

NBT undertakes various book related activities for the publication and promotion of books in Indian and abroad.

Activities Related to the Promotion of Books and Reading:

- Organizes book fairs/ exhibitions throughout the country at various levels. We have so far organized 18 World Book Fairs, 31 National Book Fairs and nearly 60 Regional Book Fair. The 18 New Delhi World Book Fair was held from 2-10 February 2008 at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi;
- Organises book fairs for children and also for the youth;
- Participates in various international book fairs;
- Makes books available at the doorsteps of the people through mobile exhibition;
- Has established approximately 60,000 Book Clubs throughout the country;
- Provides assistance to authors and publishers;
- Organises seminars and workshop;
- Runs a National Center for Children's Literature.

We also operate an innovative scheme of exhibition of books through mobile vans called Pustak Parikrama or Books on Wheels across the country to make books to reach the very doorsteps of the public at large in remote, rural and difficult areas. Since its launch in 1992, around 8,000 exhibitions have been organized across all the states in the country including the north-eastern states.

To promote books in the north-east, we organize special book fairs and literary programmes in these areas. Book fairs in Aizwal, Barpeta, Duliajan, Itanagar, Kohima, Pathshala, Nalbari, and Shillong have so far been held.

Every year from 14 to 20 November, at our initiative, National Book Week is celebrated all over the country by educational and other institutions, and literary and publishing organizations, through book-related programmes and book exhibitions. By the use of extensive direct mailing of promotional material and generous support that we have been getting from the electronic and print media, we have been able to disseminate this concept countrywide. During the Week, a number of seminars, workshop, book exhibitions and activities for and by the children are organized throughout the country.

Activities Related to Publishing:

We publish a wide variety of books ranging from works of fiction to books on social sciences, medical science and cutting edge technology for all segments of society and age groups.

We publish moderately priced books in all major Indian languages: Asamiya, Bangla, English, Hindi, Gujarati, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Maithili, Nepali, Oriya, Punjabi, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, and Urdu,

In addition, we also publish select books for children in Bhili, Gondi, Santhali, and some north-eastern languages, such as Ao Naga, Garo, Khasi, and Mizo. It is our endeavour to publish important literature available in other regional languages of the country.

We pay special attention to those genres, which have not been adequately covered in India. These relate to books on science, technology, environment, and the land and people of India, designed for the general reader.

We publish books in the following broad categories: India- The land and the People, Young India Library, Popular Science, Andan Pradan (translation of notable works), Indian Classics, Folklore, National Biography, Nehru Bal Pustakalaya (children's literature), Books for Neo-Literates, world Literature, Continuing Education Series, Braille, General. We have recently introduced four new series – Autobiography, Indian Diaspora studies, Popular Social Science and Afro-Asian Countries – to further widen our publishing activities.

Activities Related to Promotion of Indian Books Abroad:

As the nodal agency for the promotion of books abroad, the NBT participates in various international book fairs and also organizes book exhibitions overseas by putting collective exhibit of books published by various Indian Publishers.

Since 1970, the NBT has participated in nearly 350 international book fairs including the worldwide popular book fairs held regularly at Frankfurt, Bologna, Sharjah. Within the Asian region, the NBT has been participating in all international book fairs held at places such as Beijing (China), Colombo (Sri Lanka), Dhaka (Bangladesh), Kathmandu (Nepal), Karachi and Lahore (Pakistan).

It was a matter of great pride for India to be chosen as the Guest Country at the Frankfurt Book fair 2006 – the largest international book fair in the world, held annually in Frankfurt, Germany. FBF provides a global platform for showcasing a country's strength in the field of publishing, book promotion, academic excellence, and technologies of knowledge dissemination. National Book Trust, India was designated as the Nodal Agency of the Ministry of Human Resource Development to conceptualise and coordinate the The Guest of Honour Presentation of India at the Frankfurt Book Fair, 2006. India is the only country to have been awarded this distinction twice – first in 1986 and then again in 2006.

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

We have established a special unit for children, the National Centre for Children's Literary (NCCL), to coordinate, plan and aid the publication of quality children's literature in various Indian Languages. Besides developing a library-cum-documentation centre for children's literature, the NCCL is engaged in organizing workshops, seminars, and exhibitions and promoting the habit of reading at the school level by encouraging the setting up of Readers' Clubs. The NCCL also conducts surveys and takes up research work related to children's literature.

OUR PUBLISHING PROGRAMME

We bring out books under some well-defined series as under:

Aadan Pradan: Adan Pradan is a series of particular importance because of its unique potential for forging national integration through the exchange of creative literature of the different regions. It presents well-known literary works, mainly novels and short stories,

of a particular language, to people of other Indian Languages. Since only contemporary works are published under this series, we bring out Indian classical literature under another series, titled Classics.

Afro-/Asian Countries: In the post-colonial world, countries of Asia and Africa have emerged as powerful cultural, social, political and economic forces thereby becoming a significant field of study due to similarity of concerns. The books under the series focus on the problems and prospects of sustainable development, globalization, science and technology, agriculture, education, health, strategic alliances, etc.

Asian/Pacific Co-publication Programmes: This is a novel attempt under the aegis of UNESCO, at developing books for Asian children by Asian authors. To have children in Korea share their fantasies with their counterparts in Sri Lanka is probably no small achievement. These books are steps for bridging minds and creating a common heritage for this vast continent.

Braille Books: The NBT has been bringing out select titles from its various series in Braille.

Creative Learning Series: The objective of this series is to bring out books on new educational concepts and tools that are now being actively implemented. With an orientation towards a practical mode of approach, these books are specially designed keeping in view the needs of teachers and others working in the field of education.

Continuing Education Series: The objective of this series is to bring out books for the participants of 'continuing education programme' in all major languages of India. Books in this series include collections of freedom songs, biographies, books on Indian culture, polity, industry, agriculture, etc.

Folklore: The objective of this series is to enable the readers of one region to get acquainted with the folklore which had shaped the cultural identity of those living in other regions of the country, presenting folklore under creation, as a living entity.

General Series: Significant titles, which cannot be covered under the above series, are published under General series.

Golden Jubilee Anthology Series: The year 2007 was celebrated as the golden Jubilee Year of the Trust. In marking the occasion the Trust brought out special anthologies of Post Independence writings in various Indian languages.

During the year 16 anthologies of poetry, short story and drama were published. These include anthologies of post independence poetry from Gujarati, Himachali, Marathi, Manipuri, Kashmiri, Sindhi, Dogri, Malayalam, Rajasthani, and Urdu; anthologies of post independence plays from Urdu and Oriya and anthologies of post independence short stories from Rajasthani, Maithili, dogri and Malayalam.

Indian Diaspora Studies: The book under this series focus on the works of and about Indian diasporic community as settled across globe. The studies seek to bring out the salient features of the impact of cross-cultural interaction, alienation and exile, displacement, immigration, etc. Emerging as a significant field of study, NBT's foray into this area of publishing is a pioneering effort.

Indian Literature Series: Since only contemporary works are published under Aadan Pradan series, Classical Indian Literature is brought out under this series.

Indian-The Land of the People: Books of this series introduce the varied physical environment, the diverse cultural traditions and the flora and fauna, which have enriched the composite and colorful character of India. These books, written in a lucid style by experts, provide authentic and up-to-date information to readers who may not be familiar with the subject.

National Biography: The aim of this series is to bring out biographies of Indian women and men have made outstanding contribution towards the development of the Indian society, culture, science, economy, polity as also a modern Indian sensibility.

Nehru Bal Pustakalaya: This series aims at creating a treasure house of enjoyable and informative literature for children. It also promotes national integration by providing common reading material on a wide range of subjects in their mother tongue to children all over India.

Books in this series cater to four age-groups: pre-school, 6-8, 9-11 and 12-14. All books carry colour and/or black and white illustrations, line drawings and photographs. In the case of books for pre-school children, the text, if any, revolves around multi-coloured pictures, which tell a story by themselves.

Books for Neo-literates: Most books published under this series are the outcome of workshops organized in rural areas with participation of the local people. Titles are also assigned to authors/experts and suitable books adapted and abridged. To make the books relevant to the need of neo-literates, the books are written in an idiom familiar to them and are field-tested. These are also extensively illustrated.

Popular Science: This series aims at enabling the average educated reader to understand the world around him/her, appreciate the progress of science, and learn about the role science and technology contribution to the field. The books in this series are written in an easy-to-understand style, and illustrated with anecdotes and analogies from daily life. Diagrams, sketches and photographs further elucidate the text.

Popular Social Science: The books under this series introduce popular concepts and ideas of social sciences to the general reader. A variety of emerging subject areas like gender studies, tribal studies, peace and conflict studies, development economics, social formation, etc. are the major focus of the series.

World Literature: Anthologies of contemporary writing from the Asian, African, and Latin American countries are included in this series.

Young India Library: The main objective of publishing books under this series for young readers of the 18+ age-group is to introduce the social, economic and political concepts, issues and choices which will confront them in the years to come. Stories of adventure and travel, and books on career opportunities are also included.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION:

NBT is covered under the Right to Information Act, 2005 and has allowed access to information under the provisions of the said Act.

GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL SYSTEM

The NBT staff will extend courteous and helpful services. If you have any complaints to make, you are welcome to register your complaints with the following officers:

Name : Shri Amar Mudi

Designation : Joint director (Administration & finance)

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