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12 January 2023

Press Release

All India Young Writers' Meet on 12 January 2023

Today, on 12 January 2023, Sahitya Akademi organized a All India Young Writers' Meet on 12 January 2023 on the occasion of 161st birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda at its office auditorium, Sahitya Akademi Eastern Regional Office, Kolkata. The welcome address was delivered by Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi. While focusing on Vivekananda's thoughts on the ways to motivate the youth, he informed the audience of various schemes and projects of Sahitya Akademi which are designed particularly for young writers. He also quoted for relevant writings of Swami Vivekananda and explained their significance. Dr Subodh Sarkar, eminent Bengali writer delivered the introductory address. While focusing on the influence of Swami Vivekananda's writings on younger generation, Dr Sarkar focused on the different categories of literature with regard to the medium of expression. He divided them into three categories – oral, printed and digital. He also explained the denotations and connotations of the term "digital literature". Swami Shaktipradananda, In-Charge, Vivekananda Institute of Medical Sciences, Kolkata, inaugurated the Writers' Meet. He analysed in detail Swami Vivekananda's life and works with particular focus on his preachings for the younger generation. He also dealt with some of his creative writings along with their impact over the entire world. Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi Eastern Region, proposed the vote of thanks of the inaugural session. The first session of the meet was focused on the topic "Young Generation and Digital Literature". In the session, Ms Darshini Daadawala chaired the proceedings with Sri Anirban Bhattacharya, Sri Sandeep Prasad and Ms Soorya Gopi presenting papers on various aspects of the issue. While Sri Bhattacharya focused on various aspects of the notion of digital literature along with the current scenario of Bengali digital literature, Sri Prasad emphasized on the fact the the elder generation is yet to accept completely this era of digital literature. Ms Gopi, in her speech elaborated on the notion of digital literature as something where the medium itself is the message. While summing up the session, Ms Daadawala opined that we must welcome literature at digital platforms. Instead of opting for comparative approach to understand digital literature, it would be better if we adopt it inclusively. In the second session, four short stories were presented with Sri R. Suneel Krishnan in the chair who himself read out a short story entitled "Indra Matham", a story focused on the conflict between traditional and modern values. Sri Thingnam Parshuram read out a Manipuri short story entitled "Toy Gun". Sri Vivek Kudu read out a short story entitled "Mutton of Faluda" which is love story. Ms Srutakirti Tripathy read out an Odia short story entitled "Ranga Tulir Jibana" which speaks about childhood dreams and how it materializes after facing several hurdles. In the last session, Sri Ankur Ranjan Phukan (Assamese), Si Gautom Daimary (Bodo), Sri Mahesh Bellery (Kannada), Sri Shrawan Kumar (Maithili), Ms Asha Upadhyay Baral (Nepali), Sri Priyabrata Mishra (Sanskrit), Sri Nripen Chandra Marndi (Santali), Thagulla Gopal (Telugu) and Ms Farzana Parween (Urdu) read out their poems in original along with Hindi/English translations. The session was chaired by eminent English poet and scholar Professor Sanjukta Dasgupta. Dr Mihir Kumar Sahoo, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, proposed the vote of thanks at the end of the meet.

We request you to kindly publish the matter through your esteemed media.


(Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh)