डॉ. के. श्रीनिवाससम् सचिव Dr. K. Sreenivasarao Secretary



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## PRESS RELEASE Pustakayan – Sahitya Akademi Book Fair Day 3 - 13 November 2022

New Delhi, Sunday, 13 November 2022, on the third day of Sahitya Akademi's Book Fair Pustakayan, a Poetry and Story Writing Workshop and a Cartoons Creation Workshop was organized. The Workshop on Poetry and Story writing was divided into two sessions. The first session with Deepa Aggarwal, eminent writer in English and who had immensely written for children as well, as the moderator, was devoted to story writing and the second with another eminent children's writer, Shyam Sushil to poetry writing. Deepa Aggarwal while addressing the large gathering of school children spoke that we have a land of stories and we have all come here to celebrate them. We live in a country that produces so many stories and that has been told and retold to generations to generations. To become a writer, we should read as many books as we can. A story is the outcome of emotions and should come from deep within from a person. She highlighted some crucial points in story writing to help connect with the readers such as writing dairy regularly, revision, writing extensively, adding social issues filled with emotions. While interacting with the children, she asked them - where do you get your ideas? Narrating her own experience, she said she often goes back to her childhood and the incidents which remained unexplained that time, she brought them into her stories with some logical and rationale end.

In the second session on poetry writing, Shyam Sushil, a noted poet who had writen a number of poems for children, said that a poet is always free and to become a poet one requires absolute freedom of words and thoughts. A poet observes each and everything around him. He further said that a poem has several meanings. It is not limited to one time and that is the reason even today we read Meera and Kabir Das again and again. He advised the children to write poetry in their own language and also recited his poetry Hawa Mein Kavita. The next session was a Cartoon Creations Workshop in which Madhav Joshi and Uday Shankar eminent cartoonist conducted a Workshop in which they taught children how to draw cartoons. During all these interactive sessions, the children actively took part in discussion with the moderators besides storytelling, poetry recitation and cartoon creations workshop.

K. Greenivasarao