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साहित्य अकादेमी
(राष्ट्रीय साहित्य संस्थान)
संस्कृति मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार की स्वायत्तशासी संस्था
Sahitya Akademi
(National Academy of Letters)
An Autonomous Organisation of Government of India, Ministry of Culture



PRESS RELEASE

Asia's largest International Literature Festival – UNMESHA
will be held from 3-6 August 2023 in Bhopal, and will be inaugurated by Hon'ble President of India

More than 575 writers will participate in 75 programmes

About 100 languages will be represented

New Delhi. 26 July 2023; Asia's largest International Literature Festival – UNMESHA is being organized from 3-6 August 2023 in Bhopal city of Madhya Pradesh, the heart of India. Giving information about this, Sahitya Akademi Secretary, K. Sreenivasarao said that along with this International Literature Festival, a National Festival of Folk and Tribal Performing Arts titled *UTKARSH* is also being organized by Sangeet Natak Akademi. Both these functions will be inaugurated by Hon'ble President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu.

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, Ministry of Culture, Government of India and Department of Culture, Government of Madhya Pradesh are jointly organizing this Festival on the occasion of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. More than 575 writers in about 100 languages are participating in more than 75 events in the International Literary Festival – Unmesha, the festival of expression. Apart from India, writers from 13 other countries will also participate in the festival.

K. Sreenivasarao further informed that this is the second edition of Unmesha. The first event was organized in Shimla in June last year.

Some of the notable personalities participating in this International Literature Festival are - Arif Mohammed Khan, Hon'ble Governor of Kerala, Biswabhusan Harichandan, Hon'ble Governor of Chhattisgarh, Tamilisai Soundararajan, Hon'ble Governor of Telangana State, Ambassador of Fiji to India - Kamlesh Shashi Prakash, S. L. Bhyrappa, Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit, V. Kamakoti, Chandrashekhar Kambar, Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, Sanjoy Roy, Jayanta Mahapatra, Oscar Pujol, Tulasi Diwasa, M. A. Alwar, Suresh Goel, Girishwar Mishra, Chitra Divakaruni, Vishnu Dutt Rakesh, Ramesh Pokhariyal 'Nishank', Linda Hess, Mami Yamada, Amish Tripathi, Sonal Mansingh, Chitra Mudgal, Raghuveer Chaudhari, Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, Mamta Kalia, Mahesh Dattani, Waman Kendre, Prayag Shukla, Surjit Patar, Navtej Sarna, Vishwas Patil, Namita Gokhale, Mahendra Kumar Mishra, Sheen Kaaf Nizam, Vasamalli K., Arun Kamal, Govind Mishra, Leeladhar Jagoori and Usha Kiran Khan, etc.

In this International Literature Festival, apart from poetry and story readings, there will be sessions for panel discussion on Indian Poetry Traditions, Bhakti Literature of India, Ocean Literature, Cultural Heritage of India, Alienation Effect in Indian Plays, Unity in Diversity, Soft Power of India, Cinema and Literature, Promoting Indian literature in Foreign Languages, literature of doctors, literature and nature, Rise of machines – Author literature?, Creativity Boosting Education, Translation: Driver of Progress and Critical Thought, Yoga Literature, Importance of Mother Tongues, Fantasy and Science Fiction, E-literature. There will also be discussion and deliberations on important topics such as Feminism and Literature, Tribal Writings, Voices of the margin – the Rise of the oppressed, Value of Literature, Literature of the Exotic North-East, Indian Poetics, etc.

Sahitya Akademi books will be available for sale at attractive discounts during the festival.

(K. Sreenivasarao)