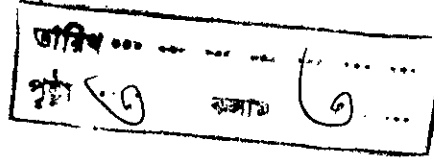


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Bangladesh Book Fair opens at Biswabharati

BSS, Shantiniketon

Bangladesh Book Fair jointly organised by Bangladesh Deputy High Commission in Calcutta and the Biswabharati University began on the campus of the university yesterday with a view to popularising Bangladeshi books in India.

Vice-chancellor Professor Sujit Kumar Basu inaugurated the five-day book fair being held at the central library building of the university, which is blessed with memories of Nobel laureate poet Rabindranath Tagore.

A total of 25 leading publishing houses of Bangladesh with about 2,500 titles have been participating in the fair. This is for the first time that a fair with books exclusively

from Bangladesh is being held at the Biswabharati, popularly known as Shantiniketon University.

Deputy High Commission of Bangladesh in Calcutta Muhammad Towhid Hussain presided over the inaugural function.

Among others, Professor Somendranath Banerji, Principal of Rabindrabhaban Swapon Majumder, Acting Librarian Professor Trishit Chakrobarti and Press Secretary of the Deputy High Commission Muhammad Sarwar Alam addressed the function.

The Vice-Chancellor Professor Sujit Kumar Basu in his inaugural speech observed that books and book fairs could be the medium of friendship between the two neigh-

bouring countries.

Professor Swapon Majumder proposed that Bangladesh literature should be included in the curriculum of the Biswabharati University.

The Deputy High Commissioner Towhid Hussain urged the Indian publishers to come forward in popularising Bangladeshi books in India.

"Indian books are available in Bangladesh, but Bangladeshi books are rare in India," he said.

The Deputy High Commission has earlier organized similar Bangladesh Book Fair in Kalyani, Jadovpur and Uttarbanga universities in the Indian State of West Bengal.