

**Seminar, Book Discussions, Meet the Author**  
**(1<sup>st</sup> February, 2016 – 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2016)**

- a. The book “The Partition of Bengal: Fragile Borders and New Identities. Delhi: Cambridge University Press, 2016 was discussed on 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Tanika Sarkar, Retd. Prof. Centre for Historical Studies, JNU. The other discussants were Dr. Rajarshi Dasgupta, Centre for Political Studies, School of Social Sciences II, JNU; Shri. Vishwajyoti Ghosh, Graphic Artist and Editor; and Dr. Rakshanda Jalil, Writer, Critic & Literary Historian.
- b. The book “In Search of Freedom: Journeys through India and South-East Asia” by Sagari Chhabra. Noida: HarperCollins, 2015 was discussed on 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2016 under the Chairmanship of Prof. Shyam B. Menon, Vice Chancellor, Ambedkar University and the panel consisting of Prof. Dipankar Gupta, Shiv Nadar University & Director, Centre for Public Affairs and Critical Theory; Ms. Amrita Bhalla, Dept. of English, Jesus & Mary College; and Ms. Mandira Ghosh, Author discussed on an invaluable account of India’s unknown and unacknowledged freedom fighters.
- c. Meet the Author was scheduled for Shri Akshaya Mukul on 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2016 for his book “Gita Press and the Making of Hindu India”. Noida: HarperCollins, 2015. The conversation among Dr. Manisha Sethi, Associate Professor, JMI and Prof. Vasudha Dalmia, University of California, Berkeley with Shri Akshaya Mukul, Author was organised on the idea articulated by Gita Press and its publications that played a critical role in the formation of a Hindu political consciousness.
- d. The book “Half a century: My Connections with Japan: A Memoir” by Aftab Seth. Delhi: Northern Book Centre, 2015 was discussed on 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2016 under the Chairmanship of Shri Shiv Shankar Mukherji, former High Commissioner to United Kingdom alongwith the discussants Prof H.S. Prabhakar, Centre for East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University; Shri Arjun Asrani, former Indian Ambassador to Japan; and Shri Anand K Sahay, The Asian Age. The discussion was on an autobiography of a former Ambassador of India to Japan who write about half a century of connections with Japan to reach out all sections of Japanese society, of India’s relation with Japan as seen by an Indian whose knowledge about Japan is as deep as it is wide.
- e. The discussion on “Kalatattvakosa Series : A Lexicon of Fundamental Concepts of the Indian Arts” by IGNCA was discussed on 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2016 under the Chairmanship of Prof. Bettina Sharada Baumer, Indologist and Scholar of Religious Studies alongwith the panel consisting of Prof. G. C. Tripathi, Director, BhogigalLeherchand Institute of Indology; Prof. R. N. Misra, ArtHistorian ;and Prof. K. D. Tripathi, scholarof non dualistic philosophy of Kashmir, Agama, Natyasastra&Natyasastric traditional Indian Theatre. The fundamental concept of Indian art terms was discussed.
- f. The book “A State of Denial: Pakistan’s Misguided and Dangerous Crusade” by B. G. Verghese. New Delhi: Rupa, 2016 was organized on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2016

under the Chairmanship of Shri Shekhar Gupta, Editor and Columnist. The other discussants were Shri Shiv Shankar Menon, former Foreign Secretary, National Security Advisor and High Commissioner to Pakistan; Shri Shashi Tharoor, Lok Sabha MP and former Minister, Government of India; and Shri Prem Shankar Jha, Senior Journalist and Columnist. The discussion was on Pakistan relation to India and the world.

g. The discussion for “India-Myanmar Relations: Changing Contours” by Rajiv Bhatia. New Delhi: Routledge, 2016 was scheduled on 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2016. The programme was chaired by Amb. Ranjan Mathai, former Foreign Secretary. The other discussants were Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, DG, RIS; Prof. Baladas Ghoshal, former Professor at JNU; Dr. Swagato Ganguly, Editorial Page Editor, Times of India; and Dr. Rahul Mishra, ICWA. The discussion was on comprehensive evaluation of India’s multi-faceted relations with Myanmar.

h. The book “Capital in the Twenty-first Century” by Thomas Piketty. Bombay: Harvard Business School Press, 2014 was discussed on 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2016. Prof. T. K. Oommen, Professor Emeritus, JNU & Sociologist Chaired the programme and the discussants were Prof. C. P. Chandrasekhar, Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, School of Social Sciences, JNU; Prof. Bina Agarwal, The University of Manchester & Institute of Economic Growth; and Prof. Gopal Guru, Centre for Political Studies, JNU. Thomas Piketty unique collection of data from twenty countries, ranging as far back as the eighteenth century, to uncover key economic and social patterns was discussed.

i. The book “Afghanistan Post-2014: Power Configuration and Evolving Trajectories”. Editors, Harshe, Rajen and Tripathi Dhananjay. Delhi: Routledge, 2016 was discussed on 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2016 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Kavita Sharma President, South Asian University and the panel consisting of Amb. Jayant Prasad, Director General, Institute of Defense Studies and Analyses; Prof. Nirmala Joshi, Retired Professor, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University; and Prof. Gulshan Dietl, Retired Professor, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University discussed over Afghanistan’s inter-state politics of Asia as well as world politics during the past decades.

j. Collectively three books were discussed on 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2016 1. As if Women Matter: the Essential Gloria Steinem Reader, edited by Ruchira Gupta. New Delhi: Rupa, 2014. 2. River of Flesh and Other Stories: the Prostituted Woman in Indian Short Fiction. edited by Ruchira Gupta. 2016. 3. Prem Nagar: Town of Love. Anne Ch. Ostby; translated Marie Ostby. New Delhi: Supernova, 2013 under the Chairmanship of Prof Indu Agnihotri. Director, Centre for Women's Development Studies alongwith the discussants Prof Vidhu Verma, Centre for Political Studies, School of Social Sciences, JNU; Prof Baran Farooqi. Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia; Dr Kusha Tiwari. Department of English. Shyam Lal College, University of Delhi.

k. The book “The Turn of the tortoise: the Challenge and Promise of India’s Future” by T. N. Ninan. Gurgaon: Penguin, 2015 was discussed on 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2016 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Shankar Acharya , Economist & Professor, ICRIER. The other discussants were Vice Adm. Premvir Das, Retd. Commander-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command; Dr. Rakesh Mohan, Economist;

and Smt. Rami Chhabra, Journalist. The light was thrown on why the economy lost steam, the emerging trends in politics, the Chinese shadow over India, and the and the relationship between the state and the citizen.

l. The book discussion on “Diplomatic Dimension of Maritime Challenges for India in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century” by Yogendra Kumar. New Delhi. Pentagon Press, 2015 was scheduled on 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2016 under the Chairmanship of Shri Shiv Shankar Menon, former National Security Adviser, the other discussants were Amb Rakesh Sood, former Indian Diplomat; Adml Shekhar Sinha , Chairman, Indian Infosec Consortium; and Prof Varun Sahni, Professor in International Politics, JNU. The discussion was on India’s new and old maritime challenges and contextualizes them in terms of its inherent institutional strengths to cope with their bewildering complexity.

m. The book “Claiming India from below: Activism and Democratic Transformation” by Vipul Mudgal. New Delhi: Routledge, 2016 was discussed on 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2016 under the Chairmanship of Professor Satish Deshpande, Delhi School of Economics alongwith the discussants Shri Paranjoy Guha Thakurta, Editor, EPW and Author; Shri Nikhil Dey, Activism and Convenor NCPRI; and Ms. Neerja Choudhury, Senior Journalist and Commentator. The discussion was on the scope of the functioning of democracy in India.

n. The discussion on “Bose an Indian Samurai Netaji and the INA: a Military Assessment” by G. D. Bakshi. New Delhi: KW Publishers, 2016 was scheduled on 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2016 under the Chairmanship of Brig.(retd.) R. S. Chhikara, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, INA. Shri Iqbal Malhotra, Documentary Maker on Netaji; Col. R. S. N. Singh; and Shri Anuj Dhar, Author discussed Netaji subhash Chandra Bose as a military leader and the First Supreme Commander of India.

o. The discussion on “Safeguarding India: Essays in Governance and Security” by N. N. Vohra. Gurgaon: HarperCollins, 2016 was discussed on 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2016. Opening remarks was given by Shri N. N. Vohra while the programme was chaired by Cmdre C. Uday Bhaskar, Columnist & Editor alongwith the discussants Dr. C. Raja Mohan, Director, Carnegie India; Shri Prakash Singh, IPS (Retd.); and Amb. Shyam Saran, Chairman Research and Information system for Developing Countries

p. Book discussion on “Tagore’s Vision of the Contemporary World”. New Delhi: ICCR, Har-Anand, 2015 was discussed on 12<sup>th</sup> August, 2016 under the Chairmanship of Prof. Lokesh Chandra, President, ICCR chaired the programme. The discussants were Prof. Harish Trivedi, Professor of English (Retd.), DU; Prof. Alok Bhalla, Dept. of English, CIEFL, Hyderabad (retd.), visiting Professor of English at Jamia Islamia and Ambedkar University, Delhi; and Prof. Malashri Lal, Dean, Academic Activities & project, Delhi University. The discussion was on Tagore as a man and his world of creation.

q. The book “The Gene: an Intimate History” by Siddhartha Mukherjee. Gurgaon: Penguin Books, 2016 was discussed on 26<sup>th</sup> August, 2016 under the Chairmanship of Prof. Seyed Ehtesham Hasnain, Kusuma School of Biological

Sciences, IIT. The other discussants are Dr. S. Swaminathan, Director General, ICMR; Dr. Amit Sharma, International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB); and Ms. Subhra Priyadarshini, Nature India.

r. The book “Realising the Demographic Dividend: Policies to achieve Inclusive Growth in India”. Cambridge University Press, 2016 was discussed on 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2016 under the Chairmanship of Shri Bibek Debroy, Member, NITI. The discussants were Shri T K Arun, Editor, Economic Times; Dr. Rathin Roy, Director General, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy; Shri Nitin Desai, Member PMs Climate Change Advisory Council (Economist and ex Under Secretary General); Dr. Ramesh Chand, Member NITI; and Dr. Manoj Panda, Director General, Institute of Economic Growth.

s. The book “She Walks, She Leads: Women who Inspire India” by Gunjan Jain. Gurgaon: Penguin Random House, 2016 was discussed on 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2016. The discussion was among the discussants Ms. Rami Chhabra, Media Person & Social –Activist Ms. Ratna M Sudarshan, National Fellow, NUEPA; Ms. Ritu Menon, Indian Feminist, Writer, Publisher.

t. The book “India’s Long Road: the Search for Prosperity”. Gurgaon: Penguin, 2016 was discussed on 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2016 under the Chairmanship of Shri Nitin Desai, Member PMs Climate Change Advisory Council (Economist and ex Under Secretary General. The discussants were Shri Suman K. Bery, Former DG, National Council of Applied Economic Research; Dr. Surjit S. Bhalla, Chairman, Oxus Investment; Prof. Indira Rajaraman, Member, Thirteenth Finance Commission.

u. . The book “India’s Nuclear Energy Programme: Future Plans, Prospects and Concerns” ed. by R. Rajaraman. New Delhi: Academic Foundation, 2013 was discussed on 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 under the Chairmanship of Shri H. K. Dua, Senior Journalist and Former Rajya Sabha member. Prof. Ashok Parthasarathi, Formerly Secretary Government of India and Adviser to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi (S&T); Amb. Dr. Sheelkant Sharma, Former Permanent Representative to UN Office in Vienna & IAEA, and Secretary General of SAARC; Dr. Manpreet Sethi, Senior Fellow, Centre for Air Power Studies.

v. The book, “Performing Shakespeare in India: Exploring Indianness, Literatures and Culture” eds. Panja, Shormishtha & Saraf, Babli Moitra. New Delhi: Sage, 2016 was discussed on 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 under the Chairmanship of Prof. Rupin W Desai, Professor of English Literature, (retd.) Delhi University. The other discussants are Dr. Angelie Multani, Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Delhi; Prof. Christel Devadawson, Dept. of English, Delhi University; Prof. Bishnupriya Dutt, Art and Aesthetics, JNU; and Prof. Jonathan Gil Harris, Ashoka University.