**Gangtok, Sikkim on June 28 and 29, 2019. This festival is organized by the Children’s Literature Festival in Gangtok, which was established in 2008.**

**NEW DELHI, 12 Jun (PTI):** Over 50,000 frauds that hit banks in India in the last 11 fiscal years, the ICICI Bank, State Bank of India (SBI) and IDBI Bank reported highest number of cases, according to an RTI query by this correspondent. Of the total 53,334 cases of fraud reported during 2008-09 and 2018-19 fiscal years, involving a whopping Rs 2.05 lakh crore, a highest number of frauds were reported by the ICICI Bank involving Rs 5,033.81 crore. The state-run State Bank of India (SBI) reported 6,793 frauds involving Rs 23,734.74 crore followed by HDFC Bank which recorded 2,497 such cases involving Rs 1,20,79,200 crore, according to the data gathered in response to an RTI query by this correspondent.

**CCC achieves 100% placement**

**SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 12 Jun:** CCC has reported 100% placement for the academic year 2018-19, securing job offers worth Rs 31.70 lakh. The institute applies for placement at various private industries and institutions.

**SMITI begins prepping for Martam-Rumtek by-election**

**SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 12 Jun:** A meeting of the working committee of SMITI and top leaders of the Martam-Rumtek by-election committee were held here today. The meeting discussed various issues related to the by-election campaign and decided to constitute a campaign committee immediately and submit the list to the party president for approval, informed on SMITI press release.

**CM calls on Modi to seek Rs 4000 cr time grant**

**SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 12 Jun:** Dr Shova Kanti Thegim, the Lepcha social activist and cultural icon, has met Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi, and sought his intervention in ensuring their early rights of the Sikkimese Scheduled Tribes (STs). The Prime Minister was quick to respond positively on Prime Minister’s presentation to attend Bookaroo, since 2009. He further made it clear that the political rights of the Sikkimese Limboos - Tamang tribes has remained stagnant from the earliest. He reiterated that despite the passing of so many years, Limboos and Tamang still remain deprived from accomplishing their constitutional rights vis-a-vis — Limboos Tamang seat reserved in the Sikkim Legislative Assembly.

**Prime Minister assured that it was owing to the faculty and an unstable stand of the hitherto State Government that this long standing demand remained unfulfilled. He however assured to work on it in coordination with the new SikkIM government.**

**The Prime Minister was quick to respond positively on Prime Minister’s presentation to attend Bookaroo, since 2009.**

**New Delhi has travelled to 12 cities, Gangtok: 12 Jun:** The New Delhi-based publisher, Haus and Khas Publishers, who published eminent historian Shovan Thangfe [Lepcha] Smitri Puraskar in 2019 for her collection of short stories, “KaloBahlapam Spondan”, has successfully travelled to 12 cities, Gangtok being the 12th city. The author was chosen at a dinner hosted by the Dr Shova Kanti Thegim [Lepcha] Memorial Committee, Gangtok and was recommended by a two-tier selection committee constituted by the Trust, a press release informed. **The award is presented on 04 July every year on the birth anniversary of Dr Thegim and carries a cash award of Rs 25,000, a Tamra Parda and a certificate. The awards ceremony will be attended by the BNZ Jyoti Roat by 26th July. This year, the Trust will also be distributing 12 scholarships to deserving students. The names were finalized by a 3-member committee.**

**12 to be felicitated this year are the late Dr Ratna Kamal Dewan, Sonam Dewan, Yenzen, Dharur Kumer Pradhan, Birla Murjina, PT Dong, Djetki Rai, Sant Mampu Limboo, Jigmee T uncertain, Thalaram Khanal and Dawa Lama.**

**HC Registry puts brakes on too many adjournments**

**SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 12 Jun:** The High Court Registry has made it clear that cases pending for a long time will not be adjourned many times for appearing for such cases not to seek adjourn- ments after being listed by the Registry. It was reported that in some cases have been listed to be deferred after hearing with- in the last 5 years but the cases have been pending since 2014 till 2016. The Supreme Court has directed courts across the country to clear backlogged cases. As of now, 106 civil cases and 87 criminal cases are pending in the Sikkim High Court. In the month of May, the High Court regis- tered 681 cases and 620 cases including appeals and has disposed of 133 civil cases and six criminal cases.

**SKM begins preparing for Martam-Rumtek by-election**

**SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 12 Jun:** A joint meeting of the working committee of SKM and top leaders of the Martam-Rumtek by-election committee was held here today. The meeting discussed various issues related to the by-election campaign and decided to constitute a campaign committee immediately and submit the list to the party president for approval, informed on SKM press release.

**The release adds that the meeting also de- cided to hold a constituency-level meeting on Thursday and increase the pace of the party pro- gramme in the constituency for the by-elections.**

**The meeting was attended by Nari Shakti convener Maya Pradhan and other leaders and workers of the party.**

**Booragoon will feature Bengal Thupa Basat, author of The Very Wiggly Tooth, who lives in the city. She will team up with the illustrator of the book, Canam Kim, to tell the story.**

**Chawdey Dorje Bhutia also from Sikkim, now a teacher at National Institute of Design in Ahmedabad, will tell the story of the Cloud Eater of Sikkim. An ad- ditonal treat for the children will be stories from neighbouring countries, Nepal and Bhutan, brought to them by Bangladesh’s Tulachan and Chador Wangmo respectively.**

**In addition, there is Kapil Pandey, singer-cum-marathon-er, cricketer and singer-storyteller, creator and Bluemoon, a first- time storyteller in Bookaroo from Chennai who will also add a sprinkling of shadow play storytelling in her present- ations.**

**Anuradha Anand, the one from the US, will be at the festival to hold a session on 20 Indians who changed the world, apart from sto- rytelling and writing workshops.**

**Janiyantillu Bharat, a Bangalore native, will hold art workshops on monsters, jungles and egg chil- dren to imagine what they would do if they had superpowers.**

**Those interested in the world of wildlife can go on an adven- ture with Deepak Dalal, the au- thor who blogs on animals, mountains, seas and forests. Deepak will write adventurous stories for older children and bird stories for young- ers.**

**Deepak Vivekanand (storyteller), Kasita Singh (storyteller), and Neetu Sharma (storyteller) from the huge number of proposals were shortlisted.**

**ین نالا (illustrator & crafts fashion designer) & Tanya (illustrator) – The Prime Minister was quick to respond positively on Prime Minister’s presentation to attend Bookaroo, since 2009.**

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Start Them Young

BOOKAROO, the Children’s Literature festival, which is organised by the Delhi-based Bookaroo trust is all set to make its debut in Gangtok, Sikkim, and will be held on June 28 and 29. There will be 18 speakers which includes storytellers, authors, illustrators and poets.

Bookaroo Gangtok will feature Reshma Thapa Gurung, author of *The Very Wiggly Tooth*, who lives in the city. She will team up with the illustrator of the book, Canato Jimo for the session. Chewang Dorjee Bhutia also from Sikkim, and a teacher at National Institute of Design, Amaravati, will tell the story of *The Cloud Eater of Sikkim*. There will be stories from neighbouring countries, Nepal and Bhutan, presented by Bandana Tulachan and Chador Wangmo respectively.

Then there is Kapil Pandey, singer-cum-marathoner-cum-storyteller-cum-signage creator, and Bhagirathy, a first-time storyteller in Bookaroo from Chennai, who will present her stories through shadow puppetry. Author Shruthi Rao, based in the US, will be at the festival to hold a session on 20 Indians who changed the world. For details, visit: www.bookaroo.in.
Gangtok to host Bookaroo children’s literature festival on June 28-29

SANJAY AGARWAL

RANGPO, June 13: Bookaroo, a children’s literature festival is set to debut in Gangtok on June 28 and 29. Organised by Delhi-based Bookaroo Trust, it is India’s first literature festival of its kind. The festival, which began in November 2008 as a solo in New Delhi, has since travelled to 12 cities across India and has completed 32 editions.

The venue for Bookaroo Children’s Literature Festival in Gangtok is the picturesque Taktse International School. Taktse and Bookaroo share a special relationship ever since 2009 when Taktse brought out its first group of students to Bookaroo Delhi. They have been coming every year since then.

Bookaroo is travelling with 18 speakers to Gangtok, and these include storytellers, authors, illustrators and poets along with 3 local speakers from Sikkim, who will be conducting 59 sessions - storytelling, drama, workshops and art and craft. This is a fabulous opportunity for 4-14-year-olds to come and meet, interact with them over art workshops, storytelling, puppetry, writing and more.

Taktse International School director Sonam Paljor Denjongpa said Taktse teachers and students have made a pilgrimage every November to Delhi, to attend Bookaroo, since 2009. “The impact of this event on Taktse students and teachers has been tremendous. They have returned more confident in speaking in public, in asking questions, in making conversations with adults and more importantly inspired to read more and write their own books.”

Bookaroo festival director Venkatesh M said stories from Sikkim will have a special place in Bookaroo in Gangtok this year. Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) North East Regional Centre, Guwahati is also collaborating with Bookaroo in this project.

“One of the main objectives ofignca is to promote and popularise education among children through culture. The North East Regional Centre of IGNC joins hands with Bookaroo Trust to fulfill this objective through the festival of children’s literature. It is their unthingsting support to culture and children’s literature that has made Bookaroo Gangtok a reality. Taktse, which has kindly agreed to offer us its resources, has been a major factor in Bookaroo’s decision to come to Sikkim,” he said.

Bookaroo Gangtok will feature Reshma Thapa Gurung, author of The Very Wiggly Tooth, who lives in the city. She will team up with the illustrator of the book, Canato Jimo, to tell the story. Chewang Dorjee Bhutia also from Sikkim, now a teacher at National Institute of Design in Amravati, will tell the story of the Cloud Eater of Sikkim.

An additional treat for the children of Sikkim will be stories from neighbouring countries, Nepal and Bhutan, brought to them by Bandana Tulchan and Chador Wangmo respectively.

In addition, there is Kapil Pandey, singer-cum-marathoner-cum-storyteller-cum-signage creator and Bhagirath, a first-time storyteller in Bookaroo from Chennai who will add a sprinkling of shadow puppetry in her storytelling sessions.

Author Shrutti Rao, based in the US, will be at the festival to hold a session on 20 Indians who changed the world, apart from storytelling and writing workshops. Award-winning illustrator Priya Kuriyan will hold art workshops on monsters, jungles and egg children to imagine what they would do if they had superpowers.

Those interested in the world of wildlife can go on an adventure with Deepak Dalal, the author who loves wildlife, nature, mountains, seas and forests. Deepak writes adventure stories for older children and bird stories for younger ones.

Feel the magic unfold as the speakers - Deeptha Vivekanand (storyteller), Kashita Singh Kail (transmedia artist), Neetu Sharma (award winning activity and picture book author - illustrator), Praba Ram (author), the Bhuli Art duo - Tanya Kotsala (illustrator & crafts fashion designer) & Tanya (nutritionist), Vinita Srimal Garg (Fantasy - Fiction writer), Asha Nehemiah (author of action-packed mysteries and funny stories for all ages) and Simrin Tamhane (creative writer/poet) - share their delightful stories and art.

Swati Roy, festival director, Bookaroo says, "In 2019-20, apart from taking Bookaroo to Sikkim we will travel to six other cities, most of which are new ones. Delhi and Shrinagar will be repeats from last year. We are additionally planning an Urdu festival in Srinagar this year in the month of September. Bookaroo will also visit Baroda and Baroda for the first time this year. The encouragement we received from Taktse in those early days reinforced our belief in our mission - to bring children and books together. Thanks to that support we feel privileged that we have been able to widen our reach to yet another new city and add more children to our family of readers. We are also thankful to the community of writers, illustrators, storytellers and publishers who have so much faith in us and travel to new and sometimes uncharted areas of the country."