

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOKSABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2918
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2017

National Book Trust

2918. SHRIBAIJAYANTJAY PANDA

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Book Trust (NBT) has launched a new scheme under which it would publish the first work of women authors in English or any of the Indian Languages mentioned in the 8th Schedule of the Indian Constitution, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the NBT has issued any advertisements for the same, if yes, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of any other scheme which promotes writing among all genders including transgenders; and
- (d) the initiatives undertaken by the Government to encourage writing amongst women in rural areas?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT
(DR.MAHENDRANATHPANDEY)

- (a) & (b): Yes Madam. The Scheme for Promotion of the Young Women Writers titled "MahilaLekhanProtsahanYojna" was advertised by NBT in 28 dailies of national level in 2 languages (Hindi and English) on 13.10.2016, inviting submission of manuscripts by 10.11.2016. The scheme invites proposals from young women writers below 40 years of age including those from rural areas in all major Indian languages included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India including English.
- (c) & (d): NBT is mandated to publish good reading material for the general readers of all ages, and invites manuscripts from writers of all genders including transgenders and women from rural areas for its regular publishing programme under well-defined series like India-The Land and the People, National Biography, Creative Learning, Nehru Bal Pustakalaya, Young India Library, Autobiography, Women Pioneers, Veergatha, World Literature, Indian Diaspora, Folklore etc. Further, in order to encourage writings by women, the theme of the New Delhi World Book Fair, 2017 was 'Writings on and by Women' to bring into focus and promote their writings at the international forum.