

10th March 2015

Prestigious literary awards presented

Guwahati: The prestigious Padmanath Vidyabinod Literary Award and the Bhuparjatak (Globe-trotter) Ramnath Biswas Literary Award, given by the Ramanath Bhattacharya Foundation, Mumbai, were presented to Assamese poet Bhaben and Bengali poet Shyamalkanti Das of Kolkata respectively at a function held at the Vivekananda Kendra here on Saturday. Each of the awards carries a cash prize of Rs 51,000, a citation and a memento, besides a specially designed scarf on muga cloth.

The function, conducted by chief adviser to the foundation and veteran poet-journalist Sukumar Bagchi, was attended by distinguished personalities, a press release stated.

The welcome address was delivered by general secretary of the foundation and well-known producer of Hindi TV serials Shyamashis Bhattacharya. It was followed by a Borgeet by Mitali Dey and a devotional Bengali song by Bibhuranjan Choudhury. President of the foundation, Ramanath Bhattacharya explained the background of initiating the two awards in memory of their two renowned ancestors – Pandit Padmanath and Bhuparjatak Ramnath – both of whom were illustrious sons of undivided Assam.

A souvenir, edited by Sukumar Bagchi was released by Assamese poet and recipient of Sahitya Akademi's Children Literature Award Toshaprobha Kalita.

Poet Bhaben Barua expressed happiness for receiving the award. Ramnath Biswas Literary Award recipient Shyamalkanti Das offered thanks to the foundation authorities for their contributions in the fields of literature and culture.

The Padmanath Memorial Lecture on Sahityarathi Lakshminath Bezbaroa's national feeling and its Bengali background, was delivered by noted Assamese intellectual and editor of Janasadharan Dr Sivanath Barman. While giving the Ramnath Biswas Memorial Lecture, academician Dr Sudhangshu Shekhar Mukhopadhyay discussed the different aspects of the life and musical contributions of Swami Chandikananda.

The concluding Rabindra Sangeet was sung by Bibhuranjan Choudhury, the release added.
(THE ASSAM TRIBUNE)