



PRESS RELEASE

TERI offers literary treat for Delhi kids at Bookaroo festival

*The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) held a series of activities for children and book lovers at **Bookaroo**, a children's literature festival, featuring eminent authors - Ms Karim-Ahlawat, Bharat Shekhar, Abhijit Sinha, Sharmila Sinha, Suroopa Mukherjee, and three teachers from St. Mary's School, Dwarka.*

New Delhi, 23 November 2013: In a unique initiative, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) organized a series of exciting activities to introduce young kids to the wondrous realm of literature at the sixth annual **Bookaroo** festival.

Through the initiative, TERI sought to inculcate among children a spirit of sensitivity towards the environment, while encouraging them to read and explore various literary works. In this context, **Ms Mariam Karim-Ahlawat** took the children on a journey through a fascinating *Earth Song*, under the shade of the majestic Kahani Tree, at the story corner at the IGNCA.

Mariam along with a group of children sang poems such as *Blue Whale Ballad*, *Tiger in my Backyard*, *The Logic of the Tiger*, *Run Tiger Run* and at last the *Earth Song*. This lyrical performance emphasized on the need to save and conserve endangered animals for a sustainable future of Mother Earth. After this act, Mariam and **Mr Bharat Shekhar**, co-authors of a series (*Green Your Life*) launched four titles published by TERI Press – *Green Your Home*, *Green Your School*, *Green Your Neighbourhood*, and *Green Your Shopping*. The central character of the series, Green Genius, is a seven-year-old boy, who loves to keep the environment clean and green. In contrast, his careless uncle Gopu Chacha lives on junk food, doesn't care much about cleanliness, and is always wasting resources. Besides, GG's thoughtless cousin Popu throws things everywhere except in the dustbin, wastes water and electricity, loves to eat all kinds of junk food, and doesn't keep his surroundings clean. This keeps GG busy, as the young nature-lover is always seeking interesting, practical, and doable solutions to the problems he bumps into on account of his reckless uncle and cousin. In this, GG is not alone – his gang includes Gugi squirrel, her naughty babies, and the white mouse. With a touch of humour and vivid illustrations, *Green Your Life* series drives home the point that the environment around us is our own responsibility.

In a bid to spread awareness about waste management amongst the children, teachers from the St Mary's School, Dwarka led a special recycling workshop – *3Rs Extreme Challenge* – by preparing new and useful things from old, discarded material in IGNCA's Crafty Corner. The goal was to spread the message across – *We are quickly running out of space to live as we become swamped by our own garbage. It's time to learn the three Rs: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. So, what does one do with, say, a plastic bottle?* Using their innate ability to connect with kids, these teachers helped children explore various ways by which waste products can be reused in a creative way.

New Delhi, 24 November 2013: TERI hosted two more sessions on the second day of the **Bookaroo** festival. Renowned authors, **Abhijit Sinha** and **Sharmila Sinha**, held an interactive story-telling session based on their book *Danger at the Dump: Mystery of the Missing Pencil*, published by TERI Press.

The story goes like this - One day, Golu, a 14-year old ragpicker, and his wonder cat Batooni find a strange, shiny, metallic pencil in a mound of garbage. Suddenly, they find themselves being followed by mysterious men in a car, armed with an equally strange ticking object. With danger lurking at every corner, Golu and Batooni go on an escapade while trying to unravel "The Mystery of the Missing Pencil".

Ms Suroopa Mukerjee, an eminent author conducted the afternoon session titled *Supernatural Disasters*. She discussed two accounts of manmade disasters and natural calamities. First she narrated the story of Salim. He underwent a breathtaking adventure to uncover the truth behind the Bhopal gas tragedy that occurred on the night of 3 December 1984. Then she took the listeners on a trek deep into the Andaman & Nicobar Islands where people showed courage in the face of disaster to save a school from the clutches of Tsunami on 26 December 2004!

About TERI Press

TERI, The Energy and Resources Institute, is an independent not-for-profit, research organization established in 1974. TERI Press is the publishing arm of TERI. It not only refines, packages, and distributes information in printed and electronic forms but also commissions books, acquires and sells publishing rights, and develops and distributes higher education, reference, and library books, as well as a whole range of knowledge books for children - under its imprint, 'Terrapin.' All TERI Press publications fall within the institute's mandate of energy, environment, and sustainable development.

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