

Thousands throng Brahmaputra Literary Festival



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Creative [writers](#), journalists, filmmakers, vivid appreciators, enthusiast observers from various parts of the globe now gather at [Brahmaputra Literary Festival](#) in the far eastern part of [India](#). First of its kinds in the alienated region of the country, the [festival](#) witnessed the gala opening on Saturday precluding all serious panel discussions on literature and related other creative activities.

Eminent authors including Randy Taguchi from Japan, Neal Hall from USA, Carlo Pizaati, Giampaolo Simi & Alessandra Bertini from Italy, Francois Gautier & Nicolos Idier from France, Carlos Penalver from Spain, Subramani from Fiji, Dhunpal Raj Heeraman & Ramdeo Dhorundhur from Mauritius, Selina Hussain & Shaheen Akhtar from [Bangladesh](#), Rajiva Wijesinha from Sri Lanka, Raj Heeramun, Ramdev Dhoorandhar & Niranjana Kunwar from Nepal, Yugyen Tshering from Bhutan have already graced Srimanta Sankardev Kalakshetra, the venue of the festival.

Many prominent Indian [writers](#) and cultural personalities like Asha Parekh, Shatrughan Sinha, Rakesh Omprakash Mehra, Damodar Mauzo, Subhash Kashyap, Makarand Paranjpe, Narendra Kohli, Khalid Mohammed, Dipa Choudhuri are scheduled to participate in various sessions of the festival including open interaction with the audience.

Some famed north-eastern creative personalities and journalists including Sanjoy [Hazarika](#), [Arup](#) Kumar Dutta, Jahnabi Barua, Mamang Dai, Pradip Phanjoubam, Monalisa Chankija, Dhruva [Hazarika](#), Yeshe Dorjee Thongchi, Leena Sarma, Jnan Pujari, Phanindra Kumar Debachoudhury, Kula Saikia, Rami Chhabra, Vimala Morthala, Aniz Uz Zaman, Monikuntala Bhattacharjya, Dileep [Chandan](#) along with Utpal Borpujari, Nilim Kumar, Suparna Lahiri Baruah, Mirza Ali Baig, Prasanta Rajguru, Mrinal Talukdar, Arindam Barkataki, Samrat Chowdhury, Nanigopal Mahanta, Imran Hussain, Ratna Barali Talukdar, Atanu Bhattacharya, Geetali Borah etc arrived at the venue for cohesive participation.

With this three-day fiesta, jointly organised by the [National Book Trust India](#) (under HRD [ministry](#)) and [Publication Board Assam](#) (under Assam's education [ministry](#)), the [city](#) has emerged [as](#) an important venue of literary festivals in the country. With brain storming panel discussions, book releases & readings, cultural events including screenings of films based on literary pieces etc, the festival is expected to enrich the literary prospect of the region to many extend.

Inaugurating the festival, the Union human resources development minister Prakash Javadekar appealed to the litterateur and authors to contribute for the mission to build a culturally sound society through their literary pieces reflecting the truth. Once a journalist, Javadekar also assured the government's support in ensuring the freedom of thought & expressions.

Assam [chief](#) minister Sarbananda Sonowal, State education minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, [celebrated](#) authors Randy Taguchi, Mamang Dai and Damodar Mauzo, NBT chairman Baldeo Bhai Sharma & director Rita Choudhury also addressed the gathering under the winter sky. Earlier a spectacular literary carnival led the participants to the festival venue in the southern part of the pre-historic [city](#).

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BY NAVA THAKURIA

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