



(13<sup>th</sup> Edition)

2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2025 Bikaner House (Ballroom)

**Festival Theme: Delhi Writes - Voices, Visions & Verses**

Program (Tentative)

**Day One: Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May**

**11:00 am – 12:00 noon:** Panel Discussion on “Delhi as an Art, Cultural & Heritage Hub: Role of Social Media” Ms. Sukhneett Wadhwa (Fashion instagrammer), Ms. Sneha Chakraborty (mural artist & reformer), Ms. Anuradha Kumar Jain (Author), and Dr. Swapna Liddle (Author) moderated by Mr. Arun Thapar – (President, A+E Networks - Network18)

**12:00 noon – 01:00 pm:** **INAUGURAL SESSION & Delhi Literature Festival Awards 2025**

**Chief Guests:** Shri Gajendra S. Shekhawat, Hon’ble Union Minister for Culture & Tourism.  
Smt. Rekha Gupta, Hon’ble Chief Minister, Govt of NCT of Delhi

**Guest of Honor:** Shri Vijendar Gupta, Hon’ble Speaker, Delhi Vidhan Sabha.  
Shri Kapil Mishra, Hon’ble Cabinet Minister for Culture & Tourism.

**Keynote Speaker:** Shri Keshav Chandra, Hon’ble Chairman, NDMC

**Special Address:** Mr. Tim Curtis, Director & Representative – UNESCO Regional Office for South Asia

**Welcome Address & Vote of Thanks:** Director, Delhi Literature Festival Trust.

**Special Address:** Shri Sanjay Kumar Mazumdar, Executive Director & CEO, ONGC Green

**01:00 pm – 02:00 pm** Lunch Break

**2:00 pm – 03:00 pm:** Janiye Sangh Ko (जानिये संघ को) (Prabhat Publications) by Author Mr.Arun Anand in conversation with Dr.Amna Mirza (academician, author, social worker)

**03:00 pm – 04:00 pm:** Mahabharat 2025 : The Secrets of Shunya (Penguin RandomHouse) by Author Divyansh Mundra in conversation with Naghma PK (Founder – The Author’s Nest)

**04:00 pm - 05:00 pm:** Coffee Break

**05:00 pm - 06:00 pm:** “Navigating the Global Tides” A Panel Discussion – Mr. Anil Trigunayat (Former Diplomat) , Dr.Harsh V. Pant (Author & VP ORF) ,Mr. Amarendra Khatua (Former Diplomat) along with Shri Sanjeev Sanyal, Member, PMEAC, Shri Ashok Motwani (Author, Journalist, Producer) - moderated by Ms. Teena Jha (Journalist and Anchor Sansad TV)

**06:00 pm - 07:00 pm:** “Indian Renaissance: The Modi Decade”, (Westland) Panel Discussion with Author Dr. Aishwarya Pandit; Shri Sudesh Verma, in conversation with Utpal Kumar (Opinion Editor, First Post & News 18).

**07:00 pm - 07:45 pm:** Ek Shaam Ghazal ke Naam, Presented by Smt. Renu Hussain



(13<sup>th</sup> Edition)

2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2024 Bikaner House (Ballroom)

**Day Two: Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May**

**11:00 am - 12:00 noon:** Rhapsody Road : Poetic Journeys Through Dreams by Author Ravi Shankar Etteth in conversation with Lipika Bhushan (Founder, MarketMyBook and Host, TheIndicPen)

**12:00 pm - 01:00 pm:** Fireside Chat on “Flowing Through Time: Healing The Yamuna” with Shri Parvesh Sahib Singh, Hon’ble Cabinet Minister, Delhi in conversation with Ms. Padmaja Joshi, (Senior Executive Editor, TV9 Group)

**01:00 pm – 02:00 pm:** Lunch Break

**02:00 pm - 03:00 pm:** “Nalanda – How It Changed The World” National Bestseller by Diplomat & Author, Amb. Shri Abhay K, in conversation with Ms. Shweta Satpathy (influencer and podcaster)

**03:00 pm - 04:00 pm:** “Swallowing the Sun” (Aleph Book) by Author Smt. Lakshmi Murdeshwar Puri (Former Diplomat) in conversation with Mr. Rahul Shivshankar (Consulting Editor, CNN News18)

**04:00 pm - 05:00 pm:** “Demography, Dialogue & Development” – Talk by Sushri Bansuri Swaraj, Hon’ble Member of Parliament, followed by – [“Writers of the New Century”, Awards for Young Authors.](#) Presented by Sushri Bansuri Swaraj and Pavleen Gujral (Actor and Presentor)

**05:00 pm - 06:00 pm:** Hindi Poetry : Itwaar Chhota Pad Gaya by Shri Pratap Somvanshi in conversation with Ms. Monika Ajay Kaul (educationist, Art critique & curator and a writer/Poet.)

**06:00 pm - 07:00 pm:** “Can we be strangers again” National Bestseller by Shrijeet Shandilya in conversation with Shreya Gupta (Co-curator, Delhi Literature festival)

**07:00 pm – 08:00 pm:** “Ratan Tata, A Life” (Harper Collins) by Dr. Thomas Mathew in conversation with Ms. Delshad Irani (Editor, StoryBoard 18).



(13<sup>th</sup> Edition)

2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2024 Bikaner House (Ballroom)

**Day Three: Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> May**

**11:00 am – 12:00 noon:** Unscripted, Unapologetic, Unfiltered: A Candid Conversation with Dr. Anand Ranganathan (Author, Political commentator) and Ms. Shivani Gupta (Senior Associate Editor, CNN News18)

**12:00 pm - 01:00 pm:** Session on “Rise of India’s New Right: Democracy, Diversity & Intellectuality” Panel Discussion with Abhijit Majumdar, Balbir Punj & Nalin Mehta moderated by Ms. Shazia Illmi (Former journalist, Current Spokesperson of BJP)

**01:00 pm – 02:00 pm :** Lunch Break

**02:00 pm - 03:00 pm:** “Catharsis” by Author and civil servant Mukul Kumar in conversation with Ms. Teena Jha (Journalist and Anchor Sansad TV)

**03:00 pm - 04:00 pm:** “Kumbha: The Traditionally Modern Mela” (Bloomsbury) by Mr. Nityananda Misra in conversation with Ms. Lipika Bhushan (Founder, MarketMyBook and Host, TheIndicPen)

**04:00 pm - 05:00 pm :** Almost Perfect but mostly not : Short Stories collection by Author Vasudha Sahgal (Rupa) in conversation with Ms. Henna Rakheja (Asst Editor, Hindustan Times)

**05:00 pm - 06:00 pm:** Session on “Burning Roses in My Garden” (Penguin) by Ms. Taslima Nasrin in conversation with Ms. Advaita Kala (Author, screenplay writer, columnist, TV debator)

**06:00 pm - 07:00 pm:** ‘Echoes of Eternity - A Journey Through Indian Thought from the Rigveda to the Present’ by Author Shri Pavan K. Varma in conversation with Mr. Gaurav Choudhury (Founder and CEO, Earshot)

**07:00 pm – 08:00 pm:** Live Ghazal Performance by Ms. Minu Bakshi

\*\*\*\*\*Festival Concludes\*\*\*\*\*

(Note: Program is subject to confirmations & changes at the last moment)