TIMES CITY

NBT's hunt for the best begins

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Lucknow: Navbharat Times or NBT, a sister publication of The Times of India, launched its Lucknow ke Talent programme on Friday. The programme is aimed at recognising talents of Lucknow, regardless of whether big or small, ordinary or extraordinary. Lucknowites, who have any talent and want to ry performance. The pro-

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help clarify our own vision for education.

They further suggest what actions have

change.

countries up to?

the most impact

roundtable

showcase it, could be a part of the programme. Day 1 saw talent hunt exercise at DPS (Eldeco) & Fun Mall. At DPS (Eldeco), the con-

LUCKNOW KE TALENT test was won by Ananya Dixit. to Ritesh Tripathi, the winner at Fun Mall, delighted the audience with a special mimic-

gramme will be conducted at Fun Mall & DPS (Eldeco) today. In case Lucknowites fail to take part in the event at these venues can be a part of Lucknow ke Talent by shoot-

ing a talent video and uploading it on youtube, they can go www.facebook.com/ nbtlucknow and paste their videolink url. Exciting prizes await the ones with most 'likes' and 'shares'.

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Modi will be next PM: 'Lucknow **Boy' Vinod Mehta at Lit Carnival**

Vijay Chopra TNN

Lucknow: Author of 'Lucknow Boy' Vinod Mehta was at his wittiest best as he took the stage on the second day of Lucknow Literature Carnival. As expected, Mehta's session was a blend of anecdotes, quips at self and 'friends', secrets of Bollywood stars, Tarun Tejpal and political talk. The one-hour talk was ably conducted by another Lucknow boy, Saleem

Known for his frank and fearless opinions, Mehta said it's almost inevitable that Narendra Modi will become the next prime minister, and added hastily, "I say this despite being labeled a Congress chamcha (sycophant)." He said Modi's rise is more due to inept leadership of Sonia Gandhi and her son Rahul than his own merit. The veteran editor predicted that Modi's ascendancy to the PM's post would be bad news for English media which has been after him since Gujarat riots. "Mr. Modi is not a man who forgets and forgives. For years, English media, including Outlook (which Mehta edits), has criticised him. So our jobs would be in peril if he becomes PM," he said.

Mocking the news channels, he said "50% of their content should be taken as joke". "They also serve entertainmentalong with news," he said, and quipped: "I speak rubbish



Veteran journalist Vinod Mehta in conversation with Saleem Kidwai and (right) Vandana Luthra at the Lucknow Literature Carnival

on TV debates, yet I'm called again." With great pride, Mehta shared he was the first person to start the trend of drinking during prime time TV debates.

The enticing session was punctuated with applause and laughter from the audience as he kept serving them anecdotes one after another. Mehta told the gathering

that sequel to his bestselling memoir would be released after general elections. When Saleem Kidwai asked him why the need for a sequel, prompt came the witty reply: "The idea came from Bollywood sequels." Talking about his biography of ac-

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tor Meena Kumari, the Outlook editor said he did not change a word when the book was re-released recently, 41 years after its first publication. "I admire Meena Kumari for her openness, be it her affairs or drinking habit. The most striking aspect of her personality was her sexuality," Mehta said.

When asked about Tehelka editor Tarun Tejpal, Vinod Mehta described him as "incredibly talented" but did not defend him.

'Great books come from great minds'

Arvind Chauhan & Rashi Lal TNN

Lucknow: The second day of Lucknow Literature Carnival on Saturday saw a footfall of more than 7,000 visitors. The highlight of the day was the one-hour oration by former president APJ Abdul Kalam.

"Great books ignite imagination, imagination leads to creativity, creativity leads to thinking, thinking provides knowledge and knowledge makes you great," Kalam told a packed house which comprised mainly schoolchildren.

"We humans are wired for stories; story telling requires imagination and for imagination one need to read books," Kalam said, and asked every parents and students present at the carnival to keep at least 20 books in their home and of course, read them too.

Earlier, the second day of Literature carnival, organised by Lucknow Expressions in association with The Times of India and Navbharat Times, started with a panel discussion, 'Hansa Jaaye Akela': A Tribute to Rajendra Ya**MAKING A POINT**

Whats on today

Session on military writing: 10.15-11.15am Dastangoi by Ankit Chadha:

3.00-4.00pm Talk with William Dalrymple:

5.15-6.00pm 'Humsafar' play by Salim Arif: 6.00-7.00pm

day, writer and a pioneer of the Hindi literary movement known as Nayi Kahani, who passed away recently.

The panel discussion on Contemporary Urdu Writing: 'Naya Saal Naye Sawaal' was another programme of the day. Taking part in it, panelists Rudaulvi, Muzaffar Ali, Anis Ansari, Abid Suhail, Qa-Rahman and Minu mar Bakshi traced the journey of Urdu through the pre-Independence era till date.

UPTU notice to registrar in fake affiliation case

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Lucknow: Uttar Pradesh Technical University (UPTU) vice-chancellor R K Khandal on Saturday issued a show-cause notice to university registrar US Tomer in connection with fake affiliation given to around 50 colleges. In the notice, Khandal has sought clarification of the registrar. Violating the orders of the Supreme Court, university administration has sent the files of 50 colleges seeking affiliation to the state

government. The SC has, however,

decided on May 15 as deadline for ap-

proving or refusing the approval for

neering colleges. In anticipation of approval from the state government, the university gave green signal to these 50 colleges and included them in the counseling process for admissions for academic session 2013-14. The legal department, however,

affiliation by the university for engi-

raised objections when the affiliation files reached them. Meanwhile, Khandal received an anonymous complaint alleging that the registrar had collected Rs 15 crore from the colleges and assured them that students of these colleges will appear in examination beginning December 15.









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