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सचिव  
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Secretary

साहित्य अकादेमी  
(नेशनल अकादमी ऑफ़ लेटर्स)  
संस्कृति मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार की स्वायत्तशासी संस्था  
**Sahitya Akademi**  
(National Academy of Letters)  
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### **PRESS RELEASE**

The General Council of Sahitya Akademi, in its 88<sup>th</sup> meeting, elected two distinguished litterateurs, Dr Chandrashekhhar Kambar and Dr Madhav Kaushik, as President and Vice President of Sahitya Akademi. Their tenure is for the period of five years between 2018 and 2022.

Dr Chandrashekhhar Kambar is a prominent poet, playwright, folklorist, film director in Kannada language and the founder Vice-Chancellor of Kannada University in Hampi. He is well-known for his effective adaptation of the North Karnataka dialect of the Kannada language in his plays, and poems. He was the Chairman, Karnataka Nataka Academy and National School of Drama Society, New Delhi. After a brief stint in teaching in the University of Chicago, he taught in Bangalore University for over two decades. He has 25 plays, 11 anthologies of poems, 5 novels and 16 research works to his credit besides several scholarly write-ups on folk theatre, literature and education. His plays have been widely translated and staged in many Indian languages and published in English. He has made five feature films and many documentaries for the Government of Karnataka and Government of India, a few of which won National as well as State Awards. He also presented papers on Indian Folklore and Theatre in different universities in India and abroad. He was a Fulbright scholar and has been conferred with many prestigious awards including Padma Shri by Government of India, Jnanpith Award, Sahitya Akademi Award, Sangeet Natak Akademi Award, Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship, Kabir Samman, Kalidas Samman, Nadoja Award, Pampa Award Karnataka Sahitya Akademi Award and many more.

Dr. Madhav Kaushik is a renowned Hindi poet and writer and has more than two dozen published books to his credit including poetry collections, short stories collections, children literature etc.; some of his books have been translated into other Indian languages; also written songs and scripts for telefilms and has participated in a number of TV and radio programmes.; his works have been included in the syllabus of a few universities of Punjab; former Secretary of Chandigarh Sahitya Akademi and member, Governing Council, Haryana Sahitya Academy; recipient of several awards including Haryana Sahitya Akademi Award, Babu Bal Mukund Gupta Award; All India Balraj Sahni Award, Rabindra Nath Vashishth Samman, Rashtriya Hindi Sewi Sahstrabdi Samman and Abra Simabi Samman

The outgoing President of Sahitya Akademi Dr. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari congratulated Dr Kambar and handed over reins to him.

  
(K. Sreenivasarao)  
Secretary