



SAHITYA AKADEMI
RABINDRA BHAVAN, 35, FERUZESHAH ROAD
NEW DELHI – 110 001

Tele: 23386626/23387064; Fax: 23382428; E-mail: secretary@sahitya-akademi.gov.in

Dr. K. Sreenivasarao
Secretary

SA. 61/17/BS/PN/

30 August 2017

P R E S S N O T E

Sahitya Akademi Bhasha Samman

Sahitya Akademi gives six Bhasha Sammans annually in two categories, two Sammans are given to writers/scholars for outstanding contribution in the field of classical and medieval literature and four are given to scholars/writers for outstanding contribution to any four languages not recognized by the Sahitya Akademi.

Sahitya Akademi has selected the following two writers/scholars for the Bhasha Samman for 2016 in the field of **Classical and Medieval Literature** and **Tulu** language:

1. Classical and Medieval Literature

Prof. Madhukar Anant Mehendale (*born: 1918*) is an erudite scholar of Vedas and epics, Pali and Prakrit, Historical Linguistics, Mahābhārata and also Avestā. He has written more than hundred articles and 11 books in English, Marathi and Sanskrit. He has received many awards and honours besides Maharashtra State Award for Teachers (University Level), President's Certificate of Honour (Sanskrit), Prize from University of Bombay, Guru Gangeshvara National Veda-Vedanga Award, etc.

2. Tulu Language

Dr. Amrith Someshwar (*born: 1935*) is a Tulu writer and scholar. He has worked extensively for the development of Tulu language and literature and has carried out extensive research work. He has translated into Kannada some of his important collection, Padthanaas and Bhamakumara Sandhi. His important works in Tulu include *Thambila* and *Rangitha*, both poetry collections besides a collection of seven Tulu plays. He has received many awards like Karnataka Tulu Sahithya Academy Award, Talluru Kanaka Annayya Shetty award, Kannada Sahithya Parishath Centenary Award, Karnataka Rajyotsava award, Dr. Shivaram Karanth Award, etc.

The selection was made on the basis of the recommendations of the jury of scholars and writers constituted for the purpose. The jury for the Bhasha Samman in the field of **Classical and Medieval Literature (Western Region)** consisted of Professor Shrikant Shankar Bahulkar, Sri Harishchandra T. Nagvenkar and Professor Namdev Tarachandani and the jury for the Bhasha Samman in the field of **Tulu language** consisted of Dr. Chinnappa Gowda, Professor Chandrakala Nandavara and Smt. Janaki Brahmavara who had unanimously selected the above writers/scholars for the Bhasha Samman for 2016.

The Bhasha Samman carries a cash prize of Rs. 1,00,000/-, an engraved copper plaque and citation which will be presented to the awardees by the President of the Sahitya Akademi at a special function to be held later.

For favour of Publication/Broadcast/Telecast.


(K. Sreenivasarao)