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**Dr. Jitendra Singh hails new genre of 'citizen-authors'**

The Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh said that "citizen - author" is a relatively new genre, very much like the "citizen-journalist" and the books written by "citizen - authors" offer a perspective which is exclusive and different from that of conventional authors, professional columnists or regular commentators. He was releasing a book titled "I, the Citizen" written by a civil society activist Shri R. Balasubramaniam, here today.

Dr. Jitendra Singh, who is himself a well known author having so far written five books, over three thousand published articles and several monographs, said that many a time, a book by an amateur author or a freelancer or an activist like Shri Balasubramaniam goes unnoticed because it does not carry a known celebrity name under authorship. But, it is precisely such reflections from unconditioned and unbiased writers which provide an objective and a realistic picture of the contemporary scenario.

Referring to some of the anecdotes and narratives in the book, Dr. Jitendra Singh said, the book strings together experiences prompted by deeper meaning of the present age and times with a focus on growth and development at different levels. As India looks forward to emerge as a world power, such books serve as an invitation to citizens from all sections of the society to come forward and become a part of India's grand ascent to the top.

Period based books or books written in the context of a certain period of history, Dr. Jitendra Singh said, have a future relevance also as reference documents for tomorrow's researchers and historians. To that extent, the books written in the context of India of 2015 will also be a reflection of a new era in the history of India heralded by the emergence of Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on the centre stage.

The author Shri Balasubramaniam spoke about the contents of the book and the inputs that inspired him to put his experiences into writing.

The National Vice President of BJP, Shri Vinay Sahastrabuddhe organised the book release ceremony which was attended among others by Shri Nomesh Bolia, Founder of "Vision India Foundation" and Shri Shobhit Mathur its Executive Director.

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