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साहित्य अकादेमी  
(राष्ट्रीय साहित्य संस्थान)  
संस्कृति मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार की स्वायत्तशासी संस्था  
**Sahitya Akademi**  
(National Academy of Letters)  
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### **PRESS RELEASE**

Sahitya Akademi deeply mourns the passing away of Prof. Manoj Das, distinguished bilingual writer, scholar and Fellow of Sahitya Akademi on 27 April 2021. Doyen of modern Odia literature, foremost among the bilingual writers of the country and one of the finest minds of modern India, Prof Manoj Das was also a distinguished Sri Aurobindo scholar. Prof Manoj Das has more than 40 publications to his credit including novels, short story collections, poetry collections and travelogues. In the recent years, he focused on the role the myths and legends in all the languages of India played on the development and growth of Indian Literature from ancient times. As a culmination of this research, Sahitya Akademi published one of the important books written in the contemporary times, *Myths, Legends Concepts and Literary Antiquities of India* by Prof Manoj Das. In his long and illustrious career, Prof Manoj Das was feted and decorated with many laurels and awards, chief among which are, Padma Bhushan, Sahitya Akademi Fellowship, Sahitya Akademi Award, Odisha Sahitya Academy Award, Veda Vyas Samman, Sarala Award, Saraswati Samman, First Sri Aurobindo Puraskar and Mystic Kalinga Literary Award, among others. Prof Manoj Das was also honoured by many universities – he received D. Litt., from five universities and was the Prof Emeritus in Behrampur University. He was teaching English Literature and Philosophy at Sri Aurobindo International Centre of Education. Prof Manoj Das, through his writings in English and Odia, enriched the lives and writings of generations of writers all over the country. Sahitya Akademi pays its homage to this legendary writer.

(K. Sreenivasarao)