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## **The JCB Prize for Literature gives winning authors a chance to win Rs 25 lakhs**

The inaugural JCB Prize for Literature is open for entries. Publishers across India are invited to send in novels, giving authors a chance to win Rs. 25 lakhs. The annual prize is designed to discover and celebrate distinguished works of fiction by Indian writers.

The prize, funded by JCB India Ltd, and administered by the JCB Literature Foundation, is open for entries until May 31. Publishers can enter works written in English, and separately, for works translated into English from any other language. If the winning book is translated, the translator will be awarded Rs. 5 lakhs. The prize aims to encourage future translations (both into English and between Indian languages).

Each year, the literary director — award-winning novelist and essayist Rana Dasgupta — will appoint a jury, whose job will be to read all entries and select a longlist (in September), a shortlist (in October) and then a winner (in November). He will be supported by the Advisory

Council of the JCB Literature Foundation, chaired by Tarun Das - the former Chief Mentor of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), author Amitav Ghosh, and Harish Trivedi - Professor of English Literature, Delhi University, and art historian and environmentalist Pheroza Godrej.

This year's jury consists of award-winning film director Deepa Mehta; Rohan Murty - founder of the Murty Classical Library of India, Priyamvada Natarajan - writer and astrophysicist at Yale University; prominent novelist Vivek Shanbhag and author and translator - Arshia Sattar.

All shortlisted authors win Rs. 1 lakh each.

(For details log onto: [www.thejcbprize.org](http://www.thejcbprize.org))