



Lyricist Gulzar and Planning Commission member Dr Narendra Jadhav at the release of Jadhav's Marathi translation of Rabindranath Tagore's poems at IUCAA, University of Pune, on Saturday.

Express Photo

Gulzar releases Marathi translation of Tagore poems

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"KAVIGURU Rabindranath Tagore's poetry has been instrumental in shaping up the course of my life and I want the same to happen to the present generation. There is an immediate need to educate the present generation about geniuses like Tagore and Kalidas," said Gulzar at the book release of Dr Narendra Jadhav's Marathi translation of Rabindranath Tagore's poems. Dr Jadhav has translated 151 of Tagore's poems in his book *Bhayshunya Chitt Jeth*.

Speaking at the occasion, Dr

Jadhav recounted how Tagore's *Gitanjali* had inspired him to start reading Tagore's work. "Tagore's work has been appreciated worldwide. However, very few of his poems have been translated in Marathi and thus we have been deprived of Tagore's treasures," said Jadhav.

Jadhav has mainly translated the poems from Tagore's English translations of his own poems. "Tagore has written around 2,500 poems and almost an equal number of songs. He has written on different moods like love, worship, swadeshi and even death. 99 per cent of Marathi people do not even know that Tagore

wrote a brilliant five-page poem on Shivaji Maharaj," added Jadhav.

After releasing the book, Gulzar also spoke about how Tagore's poetry had been instrumental in shaping the course of his life. "As a child, I started reading story books till I got my hands on one of Tagore's books one fine day. I have had a long association with Bengali literature. It inspired me in such a way that from that day my choice of books underwent a complete change. I learnt to read in Bengali so that I could understand Tagore's poems better," said Gulzar.

Pointing at the importance

in educating the present generation about people like Tagore, Gulzar said, "I am not against children learning about Shakespeare. But in the process, they should not miss out on the magic of Tagore and Kalidas. There is a need of introducing their works in our children's text books today. Even I am trying to translate Tagore's work and bring out a book for children. And I am thankful to Dr Jadhav because his work will be able to help me in my translation too."

Jadhav's book has been published by Granthali and sketches have been done by Anand Jog, Chairman of Darode-Jog.