

GOING BACK TO VILLAGES

Digital media is raising rural issues

Neelesh Mishra as founder of the biggest platform for rural media talked about several narratives of contemporary challenges of the rural lives

A gathering of literature connoisseurs from country and abroad paused for rural concerns at a session at Jaipur literature festival on Friday evening. At a session termed as 'Gaon Connect' the rural concerns expressed gratitude for the digital advancement.

"Digital media has shrunk the world and is helping to address the rural voices," founder of Gaon Connection said during session at Jaipur literature festival.

The session focused to address the rural distress had Neelesh Mishra, a senior journalist discussing rural India that continues to remain in social and media consciousness as a tale of agrarian woes. Amid the discussions on nuances of literature and deliberations of free speech, the session had issues of provisional potable water put on table ahead of the gathering.

Examining the causes for the indifference towards the majority population residing in the rural and sub-urban areas, the session attempted to reach a solution for the imbalance. The issues were, however, plenty ranging from slower output growth to vulnerability to climate change. It also held the narratives for man animal conflict and issue of farmer distress.

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Speakers interact during the session on Gaon Connect.

—DALBEER SINGH NEGI/DNA

eral narratives of contemporary challenges of the rural lives.

However, on sidelines of the festival there were others that still felt for more impetus to get core issues of rural public to attention of decision makers.

"We had been writing and raising our voice against the dominant caste and class of people but still the situation has not come to an appropriate change," said author Manoranjan Byapari while talking to DNA. Byapari have earned repute of an author

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from ranks of a daily bread earner was among a representatives of the rural life among an elite gathering of international authors at JLF. The assurance of loan waiv-

ers and subsidies to farmers did not appeal the authors who still displayed an adherence to rural roots. They sought a higher level of integration of the technological advancements with the needs of rural lives. While the rural concerns were under discussion at one session, the depiction of the same was not limited to the session at the literature festival. A gathering of literature connoisseurs, the literature festival of Jaipur continued to display its affection and respect to the traditional rural life.