



OUTGOING DIRECTOR

As Mr. Abul Hasan, Director of Afro-Asian Book Council, ever since its inception, has not been keeping well for some time, he submitted his resignation as Council's Director. The Council admires Mr. Hasan's dedicated services to the strengthening of ties between the Afro-Asian publishing and authorship. In addition to looking after the Council's Secretariat, Mr. Abul Hasan participated in almost all the international book fairs and successfully conducted workshops in various countries. After his resignation, Mr. Abul Hasan has agreed to members' request to act as Advisor.

Mr. Abul Hasan has served the book industry of Asia and Africa for five decades: 32 years with Government of India mostly as book promotion officer, three years of consultancy (which included working as Acting Director, Unesco Regional Office for Book Development in Asia) and 15 years as Honorary Director of this Council. During his tenure, the Council has fully established its identity and is now a going concern.

COUNCIL'S NEW DIRECTOR

Mr. Saumya Gupta, Managing Director of New Age International (P) Limited, Publishers, took over as Director of Afro-Asian Book Council in December 2004. His appointment was confirmed by the Council's Executive Committee in the 30th Meeting held on November 16, 2004. Mr. Saumya Gupta, who passed his B.E. in Chemical Engineering from Punjab University, Chandigarh, did his M.S. in Publishing from New York, the publishing capital of the world, where he submitted his thesis on E-Books. He worked with Laxmi Publications Pvt. Ltd. for two years and Thomson Delmar Learning for one and half years. He has visited China, England, Germany, USA and Middle East either to participate in the international book fairs or for marketing of Indians books.