

March 27, 2012

Press Release: Minister Kapil Sibal dons the hat of a Poet at Jamia

Union Minister for Human Resources Development & Communications and Information Technology, Mr. Kapil Sibal, enthralled the audiences at Jamia Millia Islamia with his poetic spark today.

Mr Sibal was reading from his latest book of poems *My World Within*. *My World Within* is his second book of poems which was launched during the recently held Book Fair in the capital.

His first book of poems titled *I Witness: Partial Observation* was released in the year 2008. He also read some of his poems from his older collection of poems. His favorite poem, he said, is a tribute he paid his mother.

The 'Session of Readings' was held today at 11.30 AM in Dr. M.A. Ansari Auditorium. The auditorium, with a capacity of 550, was overflowing with students' and teachers' who had to finally sit in the aisles, but they listened to the poet-minister with rapt attention.

Mr. Sibal read his poems, which cover a range of issues, from contemporary politics to social events, to commentary on life to love poems, to tribute to his mother and his reflections on society. He recalled many past events and embedded memories while reciting his poems.

On this occasion, Hindi and Urdu translations of his poems were also read out. The students' of Jamia Millia Islamia's Faculty of Fine Arts also put up a display of few sketches and illustrations of Mr. Sibal's poems. Please see attached photographs.

Mr. Najeeb Jung, Vice-Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia presided over the function and in his concluding remarks said, "he wanted the Jamia community to see this other side of the minister, that of a poet, a performer and a sensitive commentator on life."

Mr. Jung also reminded Mr. Sibal about the plays they had acted in while young and asked the minister to read the soliloquy from Shakespeare's *Richard III* which was by far the most enthralling performance by Mr. Sibal and immediately got the crowd on their feet.

Please find attached photographs of the event for your perusal.

Media Coordinator

Jamia Millia Islamia



