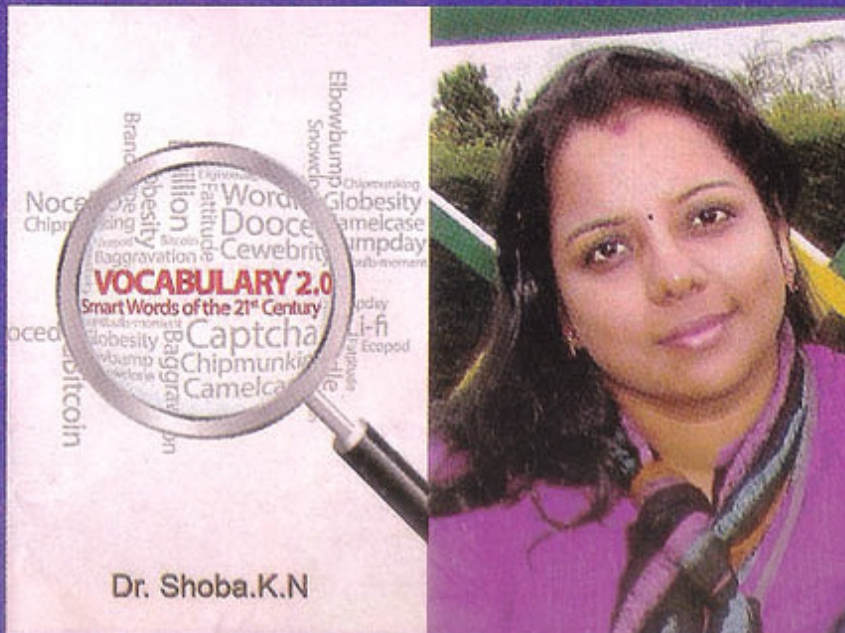


PASSIONATE WORDSMITH



K N SHOBA

Meet K N Shoba, an English professor, who has written a book on modern vocabulary

TALK TEAM

English is a passion for Kolathur resident K N Shoba, it can be said. She turned her passion into profession. She works as an assistant professor of English in Velammal Engineering College, Surapet.

It is the passion for the language that drove her to write a book 'Vocabulary 2.0-Smart Words of 21st Century' which was launched at a book fair held in Chennai recently.

This neighbourhood news weekly spoke to her to know more about the book and her liking for English language.

'The book introduces new words we encounter in today's world. It takes a peek into the ongoing process of wordsmithing, which is so much a part of our everyday life,' she begins.

With the globe shrinking virtually, there is an insatiable thirst to communicate, share and exhibit your thoughts. To do this you have to turn to words. Moreover, new words like 'selfie' 'Captcha' 'Elbowbumping' have come into vogue, we need to know what they mean. To know what these words convey, the book is a good portal.

What made her write the book? The constant need to

update ones knowledge of the language combined with confrontation of new words creates an urge to know more.

'The more we learn, more is our urge to share our earned know-how and the book is a natural outcome. When your passion becomes your profession, everyday becomes a process of fine-tuning,' she explains.

There were a few challenges she encountered while working on the book. 'I remember a publisher questioning the need for a physical book when everything is available a click away. I had to prove my point that a book of this kind would be a ready reckoner to anybody interested in words and in a way a language perennially evolves. Her another passion is reading. 'I thoroughly enjoy reading the likes of Thomas Friedman, Malcolm Gladwell and Daniel Kahneman,' she says.

As for her future plans, she also plans to collaborate with NGOs and other volunteering organisations in contributing her academic assistance in their pursuits – like conduct open workshops for learners from economically challenging backgrounds. 'I would be more than happy to offer my support this way,' she signs off.