

# New Book Alerts

What's New at the Library



Compiled By:

Kumar Sanjay, CLDO

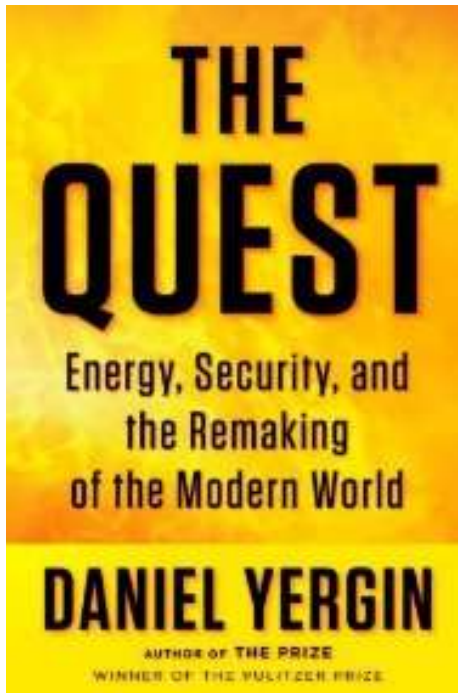
Varsha Satija, LIA

NITI AAYOG  
LIBRARY



## NEW BOOKS ADDED IN THE LIBRARY

1. **The Quest: Energy, Security, and the Remaking of the Modern World/**  
**Daniel Yergin**



A master storyteller as well as a leading energy expert, Daniel Yergin continues the riveting story begun in his Pulitzer Prize–winning book, *The Prize*. In *The Quest*, Yergin shows us how energy is an engine of global political and economic change and conflict, in a story that spans the energies on which our civilization has been built and the new energies that are competing to replace them.

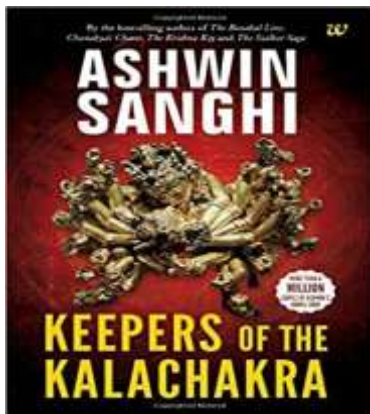
*The Quest* tells the inside stories, tackles the tough questions, and reveals surprising insights about coal, electricity, and natural gas. He explains how climate change became a great issue and leads readers through the rebirth of renewable energies, energy independence, and the return of the electric car. Epic in scope and never more timely, *The Quest* vividly reveals the decisions, technologies, and individuals that are shaping our future.

**Publisher: Penguin Books**

**Call No: 333.79Y37Q**

**Accession Number: 155823**

2. **Keepers of the Kalachakra: Book 5 in the Bharat Series of Historical and Mythological Thrillers/ Ashwin Sanghi**



A seemingly random selection of heads of state are struck down like flies by unnamed killers who work with the clinical efficiency of butchers. Except that they leave no trace of their methods. Welcome back to the shadowy and addictive world of Ashwin Sanghi. After *The Rozabal Line*, *Chanakya's Chant*, *The Krishna Key* and *The Sialkot Saga*, Ashwin Sanghi returns at last with another quietly fearsome tale—this time of men who guard the ‘Kalachakra’ or The Wheel of Time.

Sanghi describes a world of people at war with one another—a boomeranging conflict of faiths that results in acts of such slow and planned human cruelty that they defy human imagination. Caught in the midst of this madness is Vijay Sundaram, a geek scientist who is only dimly aware that the wider sky outside his laboratory is stretched taut and close to being torn apart by forces that he wants simply to have nothing to do with.

But events conspire to propel Vijay into the labyrinth of Milesian Labs, a centre of research deep in the forested hills of Uttarakhand. What he stumbles upon is a primordial clue to a galactic secret that could accelerate the downward spiral of humankind. Trapped and wholly unaware of his actual foe, Vijay races against time to save humanity—and himself.

Zigzagging from Rama's crossing to Lanka to the birth of Buddhism; from the origin of Wahhabism to the Einsteinian gravitational wave-detectors of LIGO; from the charnel-grounds of naked tantric practitioners to the bespoke suits of the Oval Office; and from the rites of Minerva, shrouded in frankincense, to the smoke-darkened ruins of Nalanda, *Keepers of the Kalachakra* is a journey that will have you gasping for breath—but one that you cannot abandon till all the pieces of the jigsaw come together.

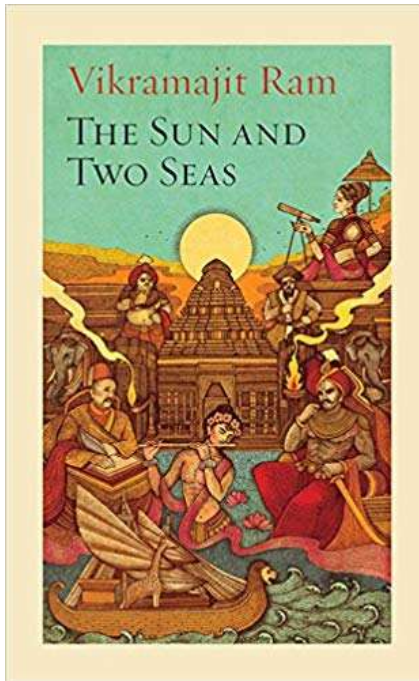
Till you come up gobsmack against an end that you simply did not see coming.

**Publisher: Westland**

**Call No: 823.S617K**

**Accession Number: 155830**

### 3. **The Sun and Two Seas/ Vikramajit Ram**



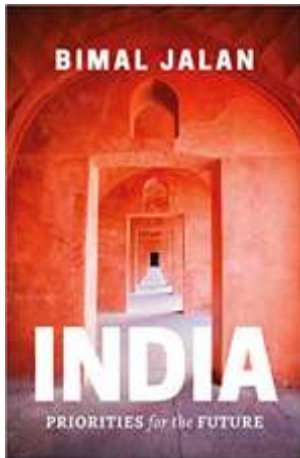
It is the thirteenth century AD. The kingdom of Kalinga is flourishing, having recently defeated Turkish forces encroaching from the North and established thriving ties as far afield as Africa. King Narasimha Ganga plans to immortalize himself by building the magnificent Sun Temple at the edge of the sea. However, unable to decide on the perfect design and beset by financial woes, he decides to focus on something more congenial: sending a royal gift of prime cattle to an African Sultan. Meanwhile, his neglected consort searches for solace by studying the stars and her young cousin drifts aimlessly through the palace, playing the flute and flirting with handsome soldiers. When Narasimha's childhood friend, the Crown Prince of Parijatapuri arrives, pursued by a band of assassins, to keep him out of harm's way, Narasimha dispatches both him—as his Envoy—and his feckless cousin-in-law—as Superintendent of the Cattle—on the voyage to Africa. They must deliver the cattle and bring back a zarafa, an exotic four-legged animal with 'the neck of a snake' which, according to the half-Chinese Royal Scrivener, is 'a harbinger of fortune and serenity'. Before the voyage is over, all the characters are transformed as they juggle clandestine love affairs and treasonous plots, endure arduous journeys and have terrifying encounters with unknown monsters. Written in lush, vivid prose, leavened by wry humour and teeming with memorable characters, *The Sun and Two Seas* is an enchanting read.

**Publisher: Speaking Tiger**

**Call No: 823.R165S**

**Accession Number: 155834**

#### 4. **India: Priorities for the Future/ Bimal Jalan**



Bimal Jalan's formidable analysis of the last four decades of India's economic journey illuminates the nation's transition from a strictly regulated, slow-growth state enterprise to one of the fastest-growing economies in the world. Dr. Jalan has had a ringside view of financial governance during his long and distinguished career, which included stints as Union Finance Secretary and Governor of the Reserve Bank of India. Drawing on this vast experience he compares two distinct periods: 1980–2000 and 2000–15, to examine the core changes and their significance and considers their lessons for the immediate future.

Dr Jalan suggests six critical issues where change can make a difference: revisit the anti-defection law so parties that join a coalition cannot defect without having to seek re-election; make the states—rather than the centre—responsible for financial development programmes and poverty-alleviation schemes; establish rules to make Parliament's proceedings orderly and purposeful; ensure a stable and competitive economic environment; make sure ministries are accountable for actual performance; and, finally, rationalize the system of delivery of public services to persons below the poverty line.

With such measures, India can become one of the fastest-growing emerging global powers and ensure that the benefits of such growth reach all her people.

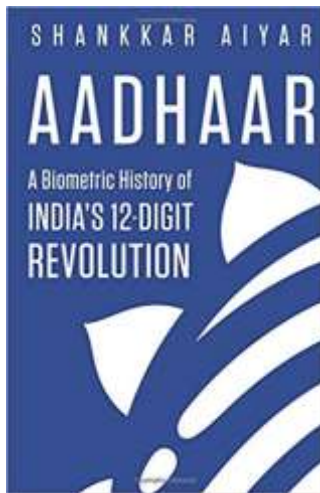
**Publisher: Penguin Random House**

**Call No: 338.954J26I**

**Accession Number: 155845**

5. **Aadhaar: A Biometric History of India's 12-Digit Revolution/ Shankkar**

**Aiya**



Aadhaar was born in July 2009, yoking modern technology and management expertise to political will. The biometric-based unique identification system, built by tech czar Nandan Nilekani and his team of innovators, was designed to enable subsidies and social spends reach their true destination, plug institutional corruption and save trillions of tax-rupees. In July 2017, Aadhaar is 1.15 billion identities and growing.

In Aadhaar: A Biometric History of India's 12-digit Revolution, senior journalist Shankkar Aiyar traces the history of this ambitious, controversial undertaking. He speaks with President Pranab Mukherjee, Prime Ministers Narendra Modi and Manmohan Singh, P. Chidambaram, Yashwant Sinha, Rahul Gandhi and others to document how politicians with diametrically opposed ideologies were equally determined to propel Aadhaar.

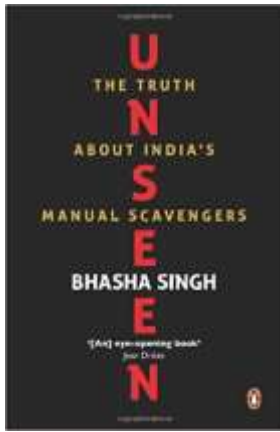
Aiyar maps how Aadhaar's application expanded beyond its original intent. He researches its ups, downs and turnarounds; discusses the concerns of activists and bureaucrats on potential misuse of the database for state surveillance; raises the urgent need for a data-protection and privacy law and spells out the solutions.

**Publisher: Westland**

**Call No: 323.44830954A311A**

**Accession Number: 155847**

## 6. Unseen: The Truth about India's Manual Scavengers/ Bhasha Singh



Keeping aside the middle-class section, society can be viewed as being divided into two classes - rich and poor. While the affluent move about in expensive cars and take pride in their designer products, the poor people of this country face the horrifying realities of life on a daily basis. One such degrading and inhuman practice that is still prevalent in India is manual scavenging.

Unseen: The Truth About India's Manual Scavengers talks about this harsh aspect of reality - manual scavenging. Manual scavenging literally means removal of human excreta from toilets without flush systems. This waste is removed by brooms and then piled into the scavenger's baskets, which they have to carry to a different location.

The book talks about the plight of these manual scavengers. The author travelled to various places and met a lot of these people. She realized that in spite of various laws being passed against this inhuman act, nothing really has been done against it and it is still prevalent in India.

Unseen: The Truth About India's Manual Scavengers is the fearless and heart-wrenching story, about this neglected section of the society. It makes readers aware that while they sit comfortably in their drawing rooms, sipping coffee with the TV on, there is still scope for improvement in their so-called developed world. This book was published by Penguin India in 2014 and is available in paperback.

### **Key Features:**

- This book was originally published in Hindi as Adrishya Bharat in 2012.
- It has received highly favorable reviews from a lot of critics and esteemed people, including Sukhdeo Thorat, erstwhile chairman, University Grants Commission.

**Publisher: Penguin**

**Call No: 305.2824850954S617T**

**Accession Number: 155864**