INDIAN CRITICS SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

You may prefer to print out this questionnaire in order to consider the various questions at leisure. Then you could return to this text in a word-processor and insert your responses and, finally, mail them to Dr. S. Sreenivasan, Reshmi, Pattathanam, Kollam, Kerala - 691 021. or jla1@vsnl.com or joperry2@aol.com

Full name and/or pen name: Ganesh Narayandas Devy (G N Devy)
Preferred postal address: 6 United Avenue, Near Dinesh Mills, Baroda 390 007, India
Email: ganesh.devy@yahoo.com
Present age (optional, as are all questions except list of publications certifying current critical activity): 53
Institutional affiliation(s), if any, with dates of entry, etc.; and/or current business or professional activity: Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda--Lecturer (1980-86), Reader (1987-91), Professor (1992-96); Chairman, Bhasha Research and Publication Centre (1997-2002), Director, Tribal Academy (1999 till date), Visiting Professor, Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of Information and Communication Technology; Director, Sahitya Akademi Project on Tribal Literature and Oral Traditions.
Birthplace: Bhor (District, Pune) Maharashtra, India
First and/or present oral language(s): Marathi, Gujarati
Language(s) read: Marathi, Gujarati, Hindi, English
Language most used for criticism: English
Other language(s) written: Marathi, Gujarati
AREA(S) of greatest research/writing interest/activity in recent years: Tribal Literature and Literary Theory

E.g., ethnic, national, or regional literatures; genres, techniques; formal or social issues; etc.:
Latest academic degree (dates), whether or not related to your critical work: Ph.D. (Sri Aurobindo as a Romanticist)
4 or 5 PUBLICATIONS in above chosen AREA(S) of criticism (books, essays, reviews, commentary) since 1990 (please list in order of importance, giving full bibliographical data; please omit academic syllabus study guides/aids and dited collections of writing by only others.):
Tradition and Change in Indian Literary Criticism After Amnesia (Orient Longman, 1992/94);
India Between Tradition and Modernity, (edited with Fred dalmyer), Sage, 1998
Indian Literary Criticism: Theory and Interpretation, Orient Longman, 2002
Painted Words, An Anthology of Literature of Adivasis and denotified tribals, Penguin, 2002

Specific or general PROJECTS in Criticism currently in process, planned, or of special interest: A new book entitled Rebirth, Essays on Influence in Poetry

CRITICAL APPROACHES, perspectives, analytical techniques, methodologies, etc., presently employed or being developed, and their AIMS, ideological and/or otherwise. (Please explain fully, citing examples from your work and, if possible, from progenitors and/or others now employing similar critical methods and ideas. Your extended response to this and the following items we hope will help substantially to stimulate more awareness of community and facilitate connections and communications among critics throughout India.): I have always kept the multilingual and comparative perspective in view while writing my critical pieces.

Elements of criticism in your chosen areas of interest with which you are fairly satisfied, with examples, if possible drawn from other critics' work: I like my book "Of Many Heroes" immensely.

Critical issues for criticism today and/or elements of criticism with which you are dissatisfied, and why: The lack of social sensitivity. Today, the literary criticism has become an extremely self-engrossed activity. Those involved in it tend to forget that there is a highly problematic world surrounding them.

Suggestions, if any, for ameliorating the unsatisfactory situation, with indications, if possible, of particular approaches, methods, etc., and/or critics that might be most helpful: To reduce seminars and to increase participation with the community issues.

General suggestions for achieving more productive interactions among critics in India: To read more from Indian languages

How did you come to know of the Survey? Through Prof. Oliver Perry