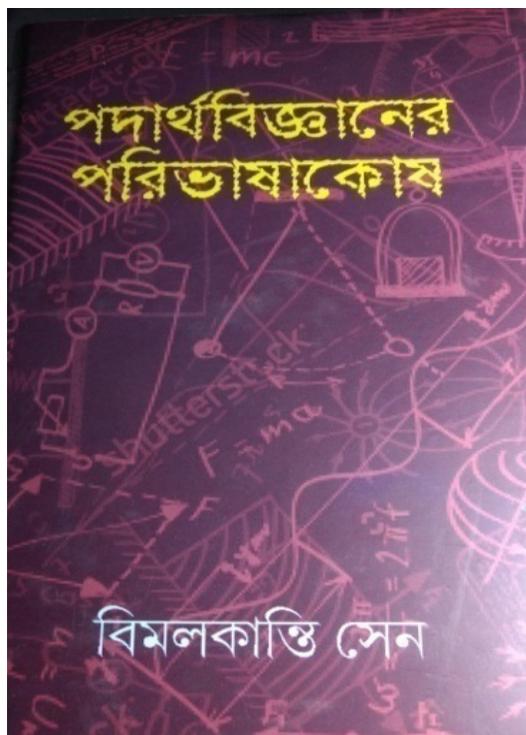


# Glossary of Physics: The New Horizon

## Book Review

Padarthvijjaner Paribhasha Kosh (An English to Bengali Dictionary of Physics) by Bimal Kanti Sen. Jnan Bichitra Pub., 11, Jagannathbari Road, Agartala 799 001, Tripura. 2017. 280 pp. Price. Rs.350/- ISBN 978-81-8266-398-5..



Once upon a time, Latin was globally accepted as principal language of science. But the situation is radically changed today, particularly in Indian context of multilingualism. Science dissemination and popularization intensely need communication in mother tongue. Today, a large number of articles, text books and reference books of science are written in mother tongue, but such attempts, in many cases are hindered due to acute lack of appropriate terminology. Sometimes, terms in mother tongue sound abstruse compared to lucid English counterparts. An acute lacuna in availability of scientific and technical terms in mother tongue thus exists, which motivated the author

Bimal Kanti Sen, the well-known lexicographer doing research in this area during last fifty years to compile English-Bengali subject dictionaries. Previously, he published two such subject dictionaries i.e. Samsad Rasayan Vijnaner Paribhasha (Chemical Terminology - English to Bengali). Kolkata: Sahitya Samsad, 2010; Granthagar o Tathyabijnaner Paribhashakosh Ingreji-Bangla (Glossary of library and information science terms English-Bengali). 2nd ed. Calcutta: Bengal Library Association, 2013. The present one is his third bilingual subject dictionary.

The first English to Bengali dictionary of physics was published by University of Calcutta in 1937. Thereafter Bangla Academy, Dhaka, Bangladesh also published English to Bengali dictionary of physics in 1959. The next dictionary was published by Debiprasad Roy Chowdhury in 1978 from Calcutta (now Kolkata) which contained 5800 terms. Till 1978 this was the most comprehensive dictionary. These dictionaries were helpful to implement science education through Bengali medium at higher secondary and general degree level. Various text books of physics have created large numbers of terms in Bengali language. These terms need proper lexical placement otherwise they cannot be dynamic and may pass into oblivion in due course. However, no English to Bengali dictionary of physics was published after 1978. The current compilation of English to Bengali dictionary of physics contains nearly 12000 terms. This itself indicates the comprehensiveness of the dictionary, the earlier dictionaries did not even contain 50% of the terms. For compiling the dictionary, the author has followed a novel approach. Instead of coining the Bengali equivalents of the English terms himself, the compiler has gleaned the terms from many Bengali textbooks in physics, that means the Bengali equivalents included in the dictionary are already in use. In some cases, the Bengali equivalents in Bangladesh are different. That also has been taken care of in the dictionary. This attempt updates the students, research scholars and teachers of physics as it contains numerous new terms. This dictionary will be helpful in writing Bengali books in physics, teaching of physics in Bengali, and physics popularization through Bengali language. Apart from West Bengal and Bangladesh, the book will be useful in Assam and Odisha, as most of the Bengali terms are likely

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to be the same in Assamese and Oriya and the new coin-  
ages included in the dictionary by and large will be accept-  
able to both the languages.

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