

Chanakya again

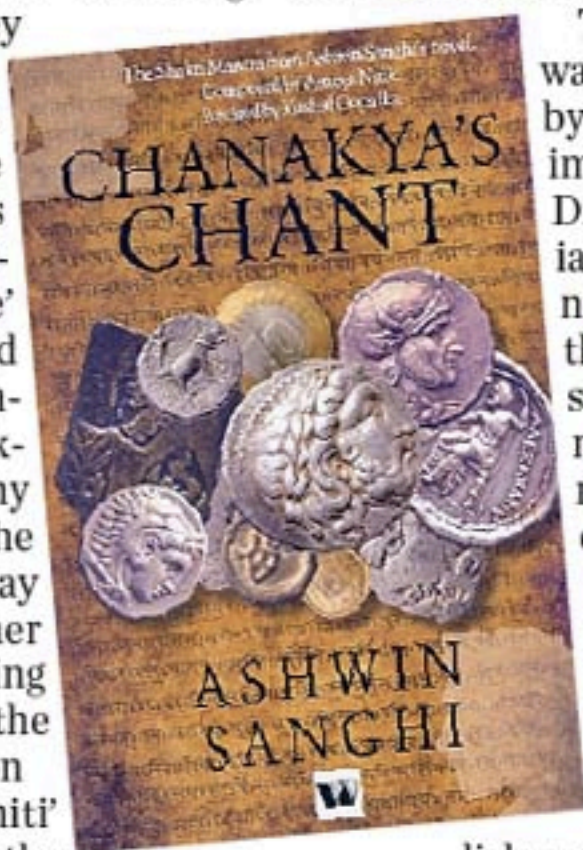
BOOKMARK Ashwin Sanghi's second book "Chanakya's Chant" launched

As most book launches go, this too was a routine affair – the unveiling of Ashwin Sanghi's "Chanakya's Chant" at India Habitat Centre in New Delhi recently. But it was the panel discussion which followed that attracted attention. Not only did the Manmohan Singh Government draw flak from the panellists for its falling credibility, they were unsparring of the media too. The media was blamed for creating a 'scare' that prevented the Government from taking any decisions for the fear that it may result in another scam. Asserting the need for the implementation of 'Chanakya-niti' as a solution to the problems faced by modern India, theatre personality-cum-socialite Suhel Seth in his signature one-liners likened the current scenario to an Ekta Kapoor scam serial!

Questioned if the modern Indian State is soft when judged by Chanakya's standards, the panel agreed on the inefficiency of the Indian procedure in bailing out justice. Cherian emphasised the need to establish the rule of law and Seth suggested a

more demonstrable means of justice and the need for society to differentiate between right and wrong.

This is Sanghi's second book, the first one, "The Rozabal Line" written under the pseudonym Shawn Haigins, was a bestseller and he said he expects a similar response from his current venture.



The book was unveiled by Seth and image guru Dilip Cherian. Renowned theatre personality Sunil Tandon read excerpts from it.

Gautam Padmanabhan, CEO, Westland, the publishers of the book, mentioned the success of Sanghi's first book and took credit for bringing to fore the writer of the bestseller.

The book, priced at Rs.195, flows through two-and-half millennia simultaneously, one of Chanakya and the other of modern day Uttar Pradesh where Gangasagar Mishra, a teacher in a small town, becomes the puppeteer to a host of ambitious individuals. The book is priced at Rs.195.