

Power can help achieve progress, says author

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CALCUTTA, Aug. 28. — “Power can be a great means to achieve progress,” Professor Manoj Das, winner of the *Sahitya Akademi* Award, said today.

He was speaking on the occasion of the 125th birth anniversary of Sri Aurobindo at the Management Centre for Human Values in the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta.

Quoting extensively from Sri Aurobindo's *Life Divine*, the noted writer said most people either wield power or end up as instruments of power. But striving for power is not necessarily evil.

“However corrupt it seems, power can be put to the best use,” Prof. Das said.

A man runs after money because it gives him freedom. But he ends up being a slave to money, and eventually loses his freedom. This was how man began to distort the good into evil, he said.

“One must learn to use the good for the good,” he said.

Explaining the relevance of the oration, the IIM (C) director, Dr Amitava Bose, said: “It's difficult for a modern manager to be immune to the selfishness that comes automatically with globalisation.”
