Cultural Diplomacy

Leveraging India’s Soft Power

9th Pupul Jayakar Lecture
18th April 2016
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The 9th Pupul Jayakar Lecture was held by INTACH as a tribute to its Founder Member Padma Bhushan Smt. Pupul Jayakar. It is one of the annual events held at India International Centre that never fails to draw a cross section of Delhiites, and many more from the heritage conservation fields. This year several former Indian Ambassadors were in the audience as our Guest Speaker Shyam Saran, a former Foreign Secretary of the External Affairs Ministry, is held in high regard by his former colleagues. He was formally welcomed by INTACH Member Secretary C.T. Misra, with a brief introduction to INTACH activities. She recalled some of the eminent Speakers who had graced this occasion in past years like the exceptional architect and planner - the late Charles Corea; Ancient Indian Civilisation Scholar, Michael Danino; Environmentalist, Prof. Madhav Gadgil; former Chairman of the UK National Trust, Sir Simon Jenkins; Ex-Vice Chancellor Delhi University, Deepak Nayyar among others.

With a warm welcome, Chairman L.K. Gupta invited the Chief Guest to share his insights on Leveraging India’s Soft Power through Cultural Diplomacy, “a subject of infinite possibilities” he said.

Shyam Saran complimented INTACH as one of the most important centres of excellence in the country dedicated to the promotion of Indian cultural and historical legacy. He said it was no surprise INTACH owes its existence to Pupul Jayakar, like several other pioneering institutions she initiated during her lifetime. He described her as “an embodiment of the finest sensibilities bequeathed to us by India’s rich cultural and spiritual heritage………..and layered symbolism of its most classical and elevated art forms. In fact, it would be fair to say that the entire spectrum of art, from tribal to the formal, from crafts to classical forms, was to her a seamless continuity”. He said one of his treasured possessions was Pupul Jayakar’s autographed copy of the celebrated biography she wrote on her spiritual guide J. Krishnamurthi.
Shyam Saran spoke with authority on Cultural Diplomacy as he was personally involved with the Festival of India in Japan as far back as 1987-88. As many as thirty events comprising performing arts, theatre, fashion shows, film festivals and exhibitions were held in Japan simultaneously at various locations. It was covered by 100 hours on Japanese TV taking India’s living heritage into the homes of millions of Japanese. It was one of India’s most successful forays overseas leveraging the soft power of Indian diplomacy. Japanese continue to learn Indian dance. An interesting interlude was the performance of Dagar Brothers, that held the Japanese audience spell bound. Their Prime Minister expressed surprise at a Muslim singing Shiva stuthi, to which Aminuddin Dagar replied “Yes I am a Muslim but also a devotee of Shiva. I pay homage to Allah through my song in praise of Shiva”. The Japanese Festival of India was a veritable cultural feast presided by Pupul Jayakar. She acquired the moniker Czarina of Indian Culture for the various cultural contributions she made during her lifetime.

The Festivals of India have since been held in other major capitals of the world. Shyam Saran elaborated on how they demonstrated India’s “capacity to deliver impacts that often elude traditional diplomacy, to which it still plays second and even third fiddle. I believe that the role of culture in international affairs is consistently underestimated and therefore, under invested in”. He referred to the definition of cultural diplomacy in a UK study carried out some years ago to define the term. “Cultural diplomacy may be best described as a course of actions, which are based on and utilize the exchange of ideas, values, traditions and other aspects of culture or identity, whether to strengthen relationships, enhance socio-cultural cooperation, promote national interests and beyond. Cultural diplomacy can be practiced by either public sector, private sector or civil society”.

If INTACH may add, most importantly it needs to be promoted by the Government of India, specially with neighbouring countries with whom we share so many historic and cultural ties.

In this context, Shyam Saran further elaborated on how culture provides the operating text for politics, best described in his own inimitable words. “It is the prism through which people perceive each other, nations interpret each other and mediate their differences and celebrate their affinities. The State has a key role to play but not an exclusive role because culture relates to people, their deep seated attitudes and ways of living. Cultural diplomacy pursued by the State is most effective when it plays an enabling role, providing opportunities, platforms and resources for people themselves to get into the business of engaging, debating and sharing their cultural lives with counterparts in other countries”. The Speaker was of the firm view that the range of cultural exchanges really has few limits and need to be plumbed in depth.

The diplomat par excellence also pointed out that much of diplomacy is anchored in cross-cultural engagements and sensitivity to the cultural idiom of the country one is dealing with. It enables diplomats to sense shifts in moods and expressions, and find clues hidden under formal statements. He said “it demands a compelling curiosity” and some in-depth knowledge of the country in order to contain negative impacts on bi-lateral relations. And it necessitates delving into their national psyche.
Shyam Saran however was taken aback when the Kuta Governor "literally begged not to cancel the Festival saying that Bali needed the Festival more precisely because the tragedy had taken place." Diplomacy weighed down on the side of caution and security concerns, and negative reaction of Indonesians themselves after the tragic loss of so many lives. But the Governor reiterated that after such a tragic event, people needed the balm of culture to provide solace. The Governor said "many foreigners were leaving Bali in fear; would India, too, abandon Bali?".

That settled all diplomatic doubts. The Festival of India was inaugurated in Bali with the Governor’s entire cabinet in attendance. It was held at a hall meant to accommodate 750 people but crowded by several more, and countless other citizens thronged the event to watch the programmes on giant screens set up outside. Pandit Hari Prasad Chaurasia dedicated his scintillating recital to the people who had lost their lives in the recent national tragedy. A wave of goodwill swept the island with a sense of cultural and spiritual affinity with India that

Shyam Saran cited his personal experiences in many neighbouring countries like Indonesia, Nepal, Myanmar and Mauritius, and visits to Tibet and Xinjiang, that gave him added insight into the “bewildering variety” of India’s own culture. He feels “The diplomat becomes both an interlocutor and an interpreter, the medium through which cultures speak to each other and hopefully break down the persistent national stereotypes and prejudices which undermine mutual understanding and peace”.

In particular, his experience during the Bali Festival of India in 2002, one of India’s major events given the cultural linkages between our countries, best illustrates this. The inauguration had been fixed for 18th October when terrorists bombed the tourist district of Kuta, taking a heavy toll of 200 deaths. In the face of their national tragedy, the Festival of India seemed like another bombed out casualty. India’s immediate diplomatic reaction was to propose cancellation of the event in deference to local sentiments.

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therefore stressed “we need to be humble in claiming cultural parentage. Pride should be in rejoicing that our ancestors provided a cultural spark which led to such a powerful surge in creativity and artistic expression in our extended neighbourhood”. He also feels we need to acknowledge the contribution of these countries for enriching the shared culture of the sub-continent. Shyam Saran avers that exploration of history, languages and scripts, sacred literature, architectural forms and art idioms creates a sense of affinity. This in fact is one of the most important missions of cultural diplomacy.

Last but not the least is the Bollywood mania – an acknowledged international runaway success that is “legendary though treated with some disdain by votaries of high culture”. Shyam Saran said there was almost a stampede in the large stadium during the Festival in Indonesia, as this extravaganza of song and dance starred Shah Rukh Khan as the main performer. Other examples were Amitabh Bacchan who is recognized “from Africa to the Gulf to South East Asia”; or Raj Kapoor’s Awara Hoon and Nargis’ Mother India that still linger in Russian memory. Shyam Saran pointedly said that irrespective of barriers erected by Pakistan State, Bollywood resonates even with the people of Pakistan.

The Speaker attached great value to cultural diplomacy for another important reason. It helped him to discover many treasures of India’s own cultural heritage - lost in the ravages of time and history, but which lie embedded in foreign lands. There were centuries of interaction with Central Asia along
caravan routes threading through mountains and deserts. During 500 years when Central Asia was invaded by Arabs, Arabic became the *lingua franca* of the entire Islamic world stretching from the margins of Europe to the edges of the Indian subcontinent. Classic Sanskrit texts on various subjects travelled to Central Asia and were translated into Arabic by scholars like Al-Beruni. The Mughals gave India a unique Indo-Persian culture. It is a fascinating story detailed by Aududrey Truschhke in his recent book *Culture of Encounters – Sanskrit at the Mughal Court*.

While serving in Japan, Shyam Saran visited the ancient monastery town Koyasan and discovered several texts that no longer exist anywhere else in the world, in their possession. Koyasan is associated with the Buddhist monk Kobo Daishi (774-835 AD) who during his lifetime travelled to study under Chinese masters in the then capital Xian. Here he also learned Sanskrit and Buddhist literature under an Indian scholar Pandit Pranja who had come all the way from Nalanda. On his return he introduced the Sanskrit syllabus in *Siddham* script to the Japanese language. Today this forms the basis of *Katakana* - a supplemental phonetic alphabet used together with Chinese characters to write foreign words for example in Japanese. Kobo Daishi also took home with him a large stock of Buddhist scriptures, texts on diverse subjects like astronomy, medicine, etc. India's intellectual legacy has thus crossed several borders many a time. Even the 6th century Persian translations of *Panchatantra* eventually found their way to Europe to become part of the Renaissance from 12th century onwards.

Shyam Saran concluded his very thought provoking lecture by highlighting new challenges to cultural diplomacy in today's world. *At one end of the spectrum, the communications and information revolutions, have brought humanity closer than at any time in history. There are vastly expanded opportunities to directly experience other cultures through travel and to learn about them through virtual media. There is continual exposure to different ways of life, cultural norms and traditions and cuisine. The International Yoga Day has made this quintessentially Indian heritage a global phenomenon and reinforced India's soft power*. He pointed out that the UK Study mentioned earlier also states:

*“As opportunities for global contact and exchange are proliferating as never before, and because of these contacts, culture itself is changing. Cultures are meeting, mingling and morphing”. On the other hand is*
the fear of being adrift in a world that is transforming with unprecedented rapidity and the loss of individual national identity. In this particular context, Shyam Saran cited Nehru’s statement “A nation cannot prosper if it merely imitates its ancestors. What builds a nation is creative, inventive and vital activity”.

Shyam Saran believes that plural democracies like ours are well equipped to navigate an increasingly congested world. The hallmark of a great country like India is the ability of its people to adapt to different cultures without devaluing the strengths it possesses as a confident and assimilative culture. He reminded us that “Civilisations had emerged from interconnections with each other and in India more so than the others……… It is this exciting adventure of mutual discovery that cultural diplomacy is all about”.

Shyam Saran has been extensively quoted to capture the quint essentials of *Cultural Diplomacy for Leveraging India’s Soft Power*. It was best elaborated in the words of one of India’s most experienced and respected diplomats. He truly believes plural democracies like ours are better equipped to successfully navigate the increasingly congested world of international politics.

The audiences posed many questions, and received many more answers.

The evening concluded with the release of books periodically published by INTACH Divisions on diverse facets of conservation and heritage.

INTACH thanks Principal Director Nerupama Modwel and her ICHD team for this very well organized event, and heartily congratulates them.
Repositioning Brand India

MD & CEO Yes Bank Rana Kapoor is of the view that India must tell a new story in a rapidly changing global economy. Our cultural diversity is a “phenomenally untapped resource”. He feels we must not only attract the world to our doorstep with “Make in India” thrust but must also define our cultural identity with labels like “Craft in India”. He says “it will steer the debate away from the mass manufacturing model of economic growth towards an ecologically-friendly and people powered swaraj”. Virasat feels it will add to India’s soft power.

Cultural Guardians

INTACH endorses Shyam Saran’s statement that Cultural Diplomacy is about tracing the cultural links between nations. The Government has the major role to play in promoting India’s soft power. There are many examples of cultural interconnection between our neighbouring countries that could bring us closer together.

A good example is the 11 ft. tall statue of Sahasrabhuja-Arya-Avalokitesvara, the Thousand Armed Kannon who is the main deity in Sanjusangen-Do Temple in Kyoto, Japan. The temple has 1000 life-size statues of the Kannon lined in 10 rows of 50 each, on both sides of the main deity. Of these only 124 are the original statues rescued from a 1249 fire in the ancient temple. The statues are made of Japanese cypress clad in gold leaf.

Standing guard in front of the Buddhist Kannon are 28 Guardian Deities with their origins traceable to Sanskrit texts of Hinduism. Various theories exist of the spread of spiritual and cultural ideas from India to the Far East. These particular deities Naraenkengo-ou, Misshaku-kongorikishi, Hippakara-ou, Ashura-ou, Nandaryu-ou and several others trace their origin to Hindu religious mythology, and correspond to Narayana, Varuna, Vishnu, Brahma, Shiva, Garuda, Vayu, Indra and many others. They are now uniquely Japanese deities.

Diplomat Plus

Shri Shyam Saran, a career diplomat who joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1970, rose to be Foreign Secretary. Post retirement his career climbed many other peaks of civil service as Prime Minister’s Special Envoy for Nuclear Affairs and Climate Change. He was involved in other back channel diplomacy. He is former Chairman of the National Security Advisory Board. He was awarded the Padma Bhushan in 2011 for his contribution to the Civil Service in multiple capacities.

Currently, Shri Shyam Saran is Chairman of the Research and Information System for Developing Countries. A Senior Fellow at the Centre for Policy Research, he writes and speaks regularly on subjects of energy and climate security - subjects that are of special concern to INTACH which is committed to the conservation of natural heritage and resources.

Ack: Odisha Temple Pillars, from “Odissi, A Dance of Sculpture” by Michael Weston & Rekha Tandon
Dear Members,

Much of our valuable heritage—especially natural and cultural resources—are under imminent threat of loss and destruction—some are even vanishing before our eyes. It calls for special attention.

The role of INTACH Convenors and Members in fighting for public causes, since inception and despite threats, has had some significant successes in this regard.

The relentless war to save heritage, however needs to be continued vigorously by us all. To win this war, INTACH today has to be both a knowledge centre—through its Divisions (also Chapters), and an advocacy medium through its Chapters.

INTACH’s strength rests on these two arms of the organization—Divisions and Chapters. Both these arms must be used to complement each other for mutual benefit in order to take the organization forward.

Chapters often run on the expertise and interest of the Convenors and Co-Convenors. Except for a handful of Members, most do not actively participate or contribute to its activities. Many important issues are not taken up, as the local Chapters do not have the expertise or experience. In order to overcome any such shortcomings within the Chapters, Members Capacity Building Courses, fully funded by the Central Office are conducted twice a year. These have commenced since October 2015 and Chapters must avail of them.

I request Members to come forward to attend these courses, and enroll themselves with the Convenors. The details of these courses for the year 2016 are on the website.

The time has also come for the Divisions and Chapters to work through and with each other. Divisions must keep Chapters fully informed of their activities in the field like PILs filed, passion projects undertaken, etc. Likewise Chapters should exchange information on their activities with Divisions and the Central Office. Sharing of information, cooperation and collaboration amongst Chapters and with INTACH Divisions must be constant and free flowing. A new understanding between the Divisions and Chapters needs to be forged—one that shifts expertise support from Divisions to Chapters, and the readiness of Chapters to accept the responsibility and accountability.

A SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis of the Chapters may be prepared (by themselves) as a starting point to see how they may be assisted by the various Divisions.

There is also a great need to link conservation and job creation. All future policies, strategies and activities must bear this in mind and this aspect must be included and elaborated in all works taken up by INTACH. Only when this concept of social relevance finds its way in INTACH’s philosophy and activities, and is also explained to the public, will there be greater support from all quarters.

Maj. Gen. (Retd.) L.K. Gupta AVSM
Chairman INTACH
GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING

INTACH Governing Council met on 28th April at Central Office. Chairman welcomed all Members, particularly mentioning Members from the Government-DG National Museum Sonia Sethi, Ministry of Culture Jt. Secretary P.L. Sahu, and Jt. DG ASI R.S. Fonia. Chairman also welcomed the newly elected/re-elected GC Members Ms. Asha Seth, Dr. Sukhdev Singh, Shri Vedakumar Manikonda, Ms. Anuradha Reddy, Shri Sanjiv Kumar of Takshila Education Society, and Dr. S.K. Pandy from Pt. Ravi Shankar Shukla University, Raipur.

Chairman felicitated Founder Member Dr. Saryu Doshi on her appointment by the Government of India as a Trustee of the *Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts* (IGNCA), and Member of the Apex Committee in the Ministry of Culture.

Governing Council Members were briefed about State Chapter Level Meetings held in Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan and Haryana. Chairman mentioned that full assistance was being extended to Chapters through capacity building workshops to make them Knowledge Centres. In this endeavour the Central Office is partnering the School of Architecture, Deccan College at Pune; the American Institute of Indian Studies at Gurgaon, Haryana; Irwin College, Delhi and some IITs. Chapters were exhorted to similarly tie up with local institutions, NGOs and Zonal Cultural Centres to network with them and to build their own capacities.

INTACH is advising all Chapters to take up a village and promote its local heritage, taking the example of Prime Minister's advice to MPs. INTACH is also advising all Chapters to adopt a village to take this vision forward and protect its local heritage. The Ministry of Rural Development would be kept informed of any such initiatives taken.

GC Members were informed that INTACH is setting up a Committee with Governing Council Members Awantika Chitnavis and Dharmendar Kanwar, HP State Convenor Maalvika Pathania and INTACH IT/DC Advisor Dr. T.S. Randhawa. Chapters will be advised on content and presentation of INTACH website, and the use of social media for promoting INTACH activities.

INTACH was involved in a very successful programme of ICCR, Ministry of External Affairs for training Indian Foreign Service officers. Member Secretary has now written to the *Lal Bahadur Shastri Academy* for introducing the subject of heritage conservation in the training courses of Indian Administrative Services, Revenue and Income Tax probationers. A response is awaited.

WB State Convenor G.M. Kapur briefed the Governing Council on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) matters. He suggested a presentation be made to CII along with a dossier of INTACH successful projects. It was generally felt that in order to secure funds under CSR, the proposed activity/project must be a visible venture for the Corporates giving them some credit. There needs to be a linkage between the cultural proposal and the activities of the Corporates. A starting point would be for INTACH to register itself on Corporate websites. The Governing Council approved the setting up of a CSR Committee to take this important initiative forward. A shelf of project proposals in different areas within the ambit of INTACH would be prepared, and areas of possible cooperation with industries and corporate bodies would be identified as the first step.

Jt. Secretary and Acting DG National Museum Sonia Sethi mentioned that one of Prime Minister's ambitious programmes is creating virtual museums. She said any such proposal from INTACH would receive due consideration by the Museum.

The Governing Council approved the Budget Estimates for 2016-17.

*CSR - The Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs*

The Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs has published *CSR India Ready Reckoner, Comprehensive Guidelines for CSR Activities*. The Ministry of Corporate Affairs as part of its amendment to Schedule VII Notification covers: Protection of national heritage, art and culture including restoration of buildings and sites of historical importance and works of art; setting up public libraries; promotion and development of traditional handicrafts.
HERITAGE TOURISM DIVISION (HTD)

The Heritage Tourism Division facilitated the Dhar Chapter to participate in the *Kumbh Mela* 2016 that is traditionally held at Ujjain in close proximity to Dhar. It is a major festival in the cultural calendar of the region. The Division extended assistance for the publication of a multi-lingual leaflet on the *Kumbh Mela* and its significance. A booth was set up to assist tourists and visitors to the *Mela*, It also publicized information on the profile and activities of INTACH.

The ancient city of Ujjain lies on the banks of the Kshipra River. Legend has it that Ujjain was one of the *saptapuris* (seven holy cities). It hosts the *Simhastha Kumbh Mela* every 12 years, attracting devotees in large numbers from all over the country running into millions. For centuries people have been thronging these *ghats* on the river not only to take the holy bath, but to perform certain life cycle rituals as did their ancestors. In the widely held belief that participation in the ceremonies of the *Mela* grants them *moksha* or liberation from the cycle of re-births and deaths in afterlife.

The most important riverside is the *Ram Ghat* where every evening the *sandhya aarti* (an evening ritual with lighted lamps) is a spectacular sight. This is when one witnesses one of the biggest festivals of faith in India.

All year round the *ghats* are in fact a constant center for the local people for bathing, giving alms and libations. Moreover tourists, photographers, poets and pilgrims can be seen visiting the *ghats* in large numbers through the year.
**TIGER JUNCTION**

Sawai Madhopur Railway Station in Rajasthan has undergone a unique makeover. It now has paintings depicting tiger, other animals and birds adorning its walls and ceilings. This is the station that connects tourists and visitors to Ranthambore where the unpainted ones abound in real life for nature lovers. The beautiful paintings are by Narayan Singh and Gajanand Singh. The project was funded by the Wildlife Fund of India and the Railway Ministry. Tiger Junction is very much on the tourist map.

**BENGAL UNBOXED**

At the end of World War II over seventy years ago a US soldier stationed in Bengal took his jeep and went off on a photographic trip through the countryside before leaving India. Many, many years later a shoebox containing 127 prints were discovered by an artiste-photography couple Alan Teller and Jerri Zbiral during the sale of an estate in Chicago. They undertook a long journey to India and enlisted 12 local artists in Kolkata to unravel the work and details of that unknown photographer. Bengali artists lent their interpretations to this “Following the Box” project. An exhibition of their works was held with their personal touches given to the sepia toned prints turning them into traditional *patua* paintings and colourful collages worthy of an exhibition that was held in Kolkata.

**KANGRA VALLEY RAILWAY**

The Kangra Valley Railway - a narrow gauge rail corridor running between Pathankot in Punjab to Jogindernagar in Himachal Pradesh, is on the tentative list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites. It covers a distance of 164 kms. long and passes through the Dhauladhar Himalayan Range with breath-taking views. It took 3 years to construct and was finally commissioned in 1929. At present, three narrow gauge corridors – Kalka-Shimla, Siliguri-Darjeeling, and Nilgiri Mountain Rail - have received WHS status of UNESCO. The Kangra Valley Railway will be the fourth in India.

**TOY TRAIN**

The “Toy Train” as the iconic Darjeeling Himalayan Railway is fondly known was built in 1880. It opened up north Bengal’s sleepy villages and its tea estates, and soon became the site of many residential schools that exist to this day. Tourism blossomed. The Railway played a critical role during World War II transporting soldiers and supplies. It has survived natural calamities and rapid urbanisation but the more recent Gorkhaland Movement took a toll though temporarily. The Toy Train is still a great tourist attraction and survives as a ‘living heritage’. Darjeeling Himalayan Railway was declared a World Heritage Site in 1999, the second after Austria’s Semmering.

It will now be preserved for posterity through a joint effort of UNESCO and the Indian Railways. They are developing a Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan (CCMP) for this vintage train of the British era. Two global NGOs – the International Council Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and the Industrial Committee for Conservation of Industrial Heritage (ICCIH) will assist UNESCO on this project. Running on a narrow gauge, its beautiful steam locomotive still carries tourists 78 kms up and down the hill between Jalpaiguri to Darjeeling passing through historic stations like Kurseong.

During the proposed two year effort costing US $ 5.33 lakh even the intangible heritage like its craftsmanship will also be documented. Conservation guidelines will be drawn up. Despite India having a rich railway heritage like the network in Nilgiris, Kalka-Shimla and Darjeeling Himalayan Railway, to date there are no guidelines for them. This plan proposes to look into every minute detail including colour of walls and benches and even old lamp posts. A complete disaster management plan will be drawn up as there have been damages in the past due to flash floods and unpredictable earthquakes. Even the number of taxis permitted to ply will be determined imposing a uniform rate. It will be the first of its kind virtual museum – what a lovely way to chug along!
ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE DIVISION (AHD)

NAJAFGARH FORT AND CLAUDE MARTIN’S RUINS

AHD drew up a Conservation and Tourism Development Proposal for Najafgarh, situated on the southern bank of river Ganga, 40 kms. from Kanpur. Najafgarh is a historic settlement rich in medieval shrines with pavilions along the ghat. It was originally established by Najaf Khan, Wazir of Awadh with fort, palace, bazaar and shrines. Subsequently Claude Martin took possession of this settlement and built his own palace and developed estates producing indigo, itr, etc. Some of the structural remains like gateways, fort walls, indigo extracting pits and graveyards can still be seen on site.

The Rainous Lake, a big water body comprising more than 60 hectare area is in proximity to the Najafgarh settlement. Considering the ecological biodiversity and archaeological significance, Najafgarh has good potential to be developed into a heritage/eco village to both preserve this ancient heritage and attract tourism for the promotion of sustainable development of this historic settlement.

CONSERVATION OF SAMPURNANAND SANSKRIT UNIVERSITY, VARANASI

The East India Company established the Sanskrit College in Varanasi in 1791, for the development and preservation of Sanskrit grammar. It demonstrated British support for Indian education. Subsequently the university building was designed by Major Markham Kittoe and built in 1852. The University with its Gothic architecture and large symmetrical multi height structure has corner towers, staircases leading to the terraces and Gothic features like buttress, spires, pointed arch, rose window, stained glass window and gargoyles. The inside walls of the building have inscriptions in Sanskrit, English, Persian, and other Islamic languages. The gable roof is constructed in wood and walls in brick masonry. The external walls are clad in sandstone and decorative carved stone panels.

In the past the building served as a Lecture cum Convocation Hall. Currently the side rooms in the...
building serve as class rooms. The building stands in a state of decay with roofs of halls collapsed, with alterations done to the existing roofs. The external stone cladding is eroding, and internal plaster and timber roof deteriorating due to moisture and termite attack.

The Uttar Pradesh Government signed a MoU with INTACH for conservation of the building. The work started in March this year. The first phase of the project will be completed as per schedule in November 2016.

**CONSERVATION OF DEPUTY COMMISSIONER’S OFFICE, AMRITSAR**

The DC Office building is located inside the Government Complex comprising district Court, PWD Office, etc. It has been in use as DC Office since 1849. The building suffered a massive fire in November 2015 but now lies in a state of ruins. Originally the building covered a much larger area of the site, with an enclosed garden and two wings in the rear side. Today only the central block remains as the rear blocks were dismantled to construct a new DC office.

Some of the prominent features of the building are a pointed arched colonnade with large brick pillars, gothic windows, battlement parapet, corner tower, gable roof, etc.

Department of Culture, Govt. of Punjab signed a MoU with INTACH to undertake the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for conservation and reuse of the building which was submitted at end June this year.

**CONSERVATION OF GURU TEG BAHADUR HOSPITAL, AMRITSAR**

Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital is one of the oldest medical institutes established in Punjab region in 1864 and therefore is of immense heritage value. As the medical facilities were shifted from the campus to a new site, this building became dilapidated. In order to save the historic building the Punjab Government signed a MoU with INTACH. It is proposed to re-use the building by creating an *Urban Haat* and a heritage hotel, for the benefit of local citizens and visitors alike.

The conservation plan and the reuse proposal prepared by INTACH was approved by the State Government. The restoration work commenced in November 2013 and the building has been restored to its original glory. On 6th May 2016, the *Urban Haat* was inaugurated with a Punjab Cultural Festival celebrating the manifold heritage of the city. The work of Phase III comprising gazebos, fountains, food court, street furniture, etc. is on-going. The reuse has rejuvenated the site and has developed it into a tourist attraction of the city.

**CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT WORKS IN DIU**

**St. Francis Assisi’s Church**

St. Francis Assisi’s Church, built in 1593 was used as a hospital till recently. It is now proposed to be converted into a museum. Conservation work is on-going presently
Panibai School

Panibai School, the first Girls’ School in Diu, is proposed to be reused as a Vocational Training Centre. Restoration work with relaying of damaged floors is ongoing. The work is expected to be completed by December this year. The restoration work at Panikotha however is on hold till September due to current monsoon.

CONSERVATION PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR SALT GOLLAH, KOLKATA

Salt Gollah in Kolkata, a series of salt godowns for storage, was commissioned by the British along the banks of Hooghly in the vicinity of Howrah Railway Station. When this salt collection centre was shifted from Kolkata, the site lay abandoned for the last 20-30 years and now lies in a state of ruins.

The site comprises load bearing structures made in brick laid in grid iron pattern with narrow alleys in between. It is presently overgrown with dense vegetation and damages with almost all the roofs having collapsed. The Eastern Railways, who are interested in developing and reusing the site, contacted the INTACH West Bengal Chapter. AHD sent a team of architects for preliminary inspection of the site considering its potential value for re-use and development. A conservation proposal is in progress to be sent to the ERM shortly.

CONSERVING VERNACULAR BUILT HERITAGE OF ICONIC WEAVING CLUSTERS OF INDIA

This is a collaborative effort of the Architectural Heritage Division and the Community, Crafts & Heritage Division. The focus is on eight regions in five States, identified on UNESCO’s Tentative List for World Heritage Sites:
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Concerned Ministry. The objective is to bring to the forefront India's distinctive traditional architecture of such craft clusters and to showcase the unique contribution in terms of saree weaving traditions of India.

STATE OF BUILT HERITAGE OF INDIA (SoBHI)

The report on State of Built Heritage of India: The Case of Unprotected, has been prepared and internal review also undertaken. The report is an extensive document for bringing their plight and issues to the attention of Government and corporate bodies. The status report comprises information on the state of unprotected built heritage in 29 Indian States, 7 Union Territories as well as 10 thematic sections. Other than this, a Heritage at Risk Register is compiled to serve as an ongoing database for garnering future assistance. To draw special attention to the challenges deduced through this research, some

Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra and Assam. The thrust in these areas is on the vernacular architecture of iconic and traditional saree weaving clusters.

Chanderi, in Madhya Pradesh was the first town in this endeavour where detailed inventory of weaver clusters was undertaken. Documentation and mapping has been done. The traditional weaver homes from Varanasi and Islampura, UP have also been shortlisted. Reconnaissance visits to four districts of Telangana revealed prevalence of several types of vernacular built heritage in surrounding villages, rather than the main towns.

Consistent connect with Textile Departments has yielded response and support from three of the States and the

Handloom weaving set up in a traditional Islampur, Katehar, Varanasi, UP

Weaving activities in vernacular mud house, Mubarakpur, U.P.

Dilapidated Tomb, Jamal Khan Pathan at Ropar, Punjab

Dilapidated water tank, Bharuch, Gujarat
endangered cases are shortlisted for a mini film to highlight the issues through visual medium.

*Mission Municipalika* has been initiated as a recommendation of SoBHI Report, wherein cities are shortlisted for commencing the notification process for built heritage.

The Tomb of Jamal Khan Pathan is in deplorable state and a water tank in Bharuch, Gujarat is in a much neglected state and on the verge of collapse. They require remedial measures at the earliest.

**EXPERIMENTS IN BUILDING SPACES**

Architect Jurgen Mayer in collaboration with Mumbai-based firm Collaborative Architecture worked on the *Metropol Parasol Project*, as part of Block Buster, an exhibition of the Berlin based architect. It was organised by design magazine *Mondo*arc *india* and STIR. Some panels were shown in Chhattarpur, Delhi last year.

In all his works across the world, Mayer balances art with architecture, lending an organic connect to spaces. It is all about engaging the senses, he says with people initially not taking kindly to his work. For instance, the people of Seville did not like the giant waffle like parasol for the Plaza de la Encarnacion at first when it was built in 2004. They thought the materials were not designed for hot weather, or it did not fit in with their Roman ruins, or feared it would impede the Spanish *Semana Santa* procession during Easter. Few Sevillians know that it took a lot of bravado and even more research on materials to arrive at this 28.50m tall structure spread across 18,000 sqm, that took seven years to complete. It was built on an archaeological excavation site, unifying the past and the present.

Now Sevillians just love the light and shadow beneath the *Metropol Parasol*. Today it appears on their tourist post cards, fridge magnets, fashion shots and auto ads.

**LASERS RESCUE ANTIQUITIES**

Director General UNESCO Irina Bokova states with concern “*Cultural cleansing is a war crime that is now used as a tactic of war. This is not a choice between protecting people or protecting culture. It is part of the same responsibility because culture is about belonging, identity, values, common history, and the kind of world that we want to live in. The damage inflicted on antiquities in Iraq and Syria pales beside thousands of people killed and millions uprooted in countries whose structures – human, political and cultural – may never return to what they were*." Cultural cleansing has indeed become one of the new tactics of war in the Middle East. Remember the fate of the Bamiyan Buddhas next door, that once peacefully blessed Afghanistan from their mountain heights?

Program Director World Monument Fund Jeff Allen commissioned a laser scan at Babylon jointly with the Iraq State Board of Antiquities and Heritage. Flak jacketed German surveyors, armed with laser equipment scanned...
the ruins of ancient Babylon, once the capital of a Biblical king but now a pile of excavated remnants lying 50 miles from Baghdad. A 1902 photograph in a Berlin museum shows a bas-relief bull in the ruins of ancient Babylon. Babylon mostly survived because it is situated further south-east than its less fortunate ancient neighbouring towns of Nimrud, Hatra and Palmyra which are today within the jihadists “Islamic Caliphate”.

Cultural organizations are today working with Iraq and Syria to record precious cultural sites, using technology including those that lie in a conflict zone. One can only admire these conservation zealots in awe. They are striving to preserve heritage in digital form so that future generations will at least know and cherish their history.

Another notable conservationist is seventy-five year old Ben Kacyra, an Iraqi-America engineer born in Mosul. He is the founder of CyArk based in Oakland, California that has sent teams to scan high risk sites in Syria and Iraq. They plan to extend the project to many other locations in the Middle East. Kacyra recalls visits to ancient Assyrian sites like Nimrud and Ninevah with his father in his young years. His memories of Mosul are of a city with different communities living together in peace – today a painful reminder for him of the ancient Mesopotamian civilisation that shaped the modern world. He says “By destroying these heritage sites, we are not just losing the sites, we are losing the stories they tell us”.

Another such organization is the Institute of Digital Archaeology. It is setting up an open-source Million Image Database, using images taken from sites like Palmyra before destruction, to record, and even rebuild some monuments. Its Director Alexy Karenowska, a physicist at Oxford University said its volunteers are being supplied with 5000 light weight 3-D cameras to document cultural sites-at-risk throughout Middle East and North Africa. Most recently on 29th April, it installed a temporary full scale 3-D digital replica of the Temple of Baal of Palmyra at Trafalgar Square, London. It was a practical demonstration of this technology for the world to see!

Director of the Museum of Ancient Near East at the Pergamon Museum in Berlin goes a step forward. He says it would be possible one day to combine the digital model already done in Babylon and create a physical ‘walk-through exhibition’ combining every stage of the ancient city. He says “This is what is so important about the time we are experiencing. We have to learn again that cultural objects, elements of culture, have very much to do with who we are, what we identify with, how we orient ourselves in this world”.

Ann : New York Times

All this is inspirational information for India. As INTACH grows from strength to strength expanding its horizon with each passing year, perhaps one day INTACH could use such technology to recreate the many lost heritage of our country – so our future generations can take pride in what we have lost but cherish their memory.
LISTING CELL DIVISION

LISTINGS UNDERTAKEN BY CHAPTERS

Listing is presently being undertaken in Dhar and Khandwa in Madhya Pradesh; Jagannath Sadak in West Bengal; Taran Taran and Pathankot districts in Punjab; Allahabad district in Uttar Pradesh; and Jajpur, Dhenkanal and Subarnapur districts in Odisha; some districts in Haryana, and the Megaliths in Mizoram, by the respective Chapters.

A draft report for the listing of Taran Taran District, comprising 184 heritage sites, has been received from INTACH Punjab State Chapter.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC GARDENS

The site survey of Phase-I of the Historic Gardens has been completed with a total of 104 gardens identified in Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, Aligarh, Hathras and Agra. Data compilation is in progress and the first draft was completed end June this quarter. Phase-II of Listing in the States of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and parts of Uttar Pradesh are under planning for the next phase of Listing.

NATURAL HERITAGE DIVISION (NHD)

MANIMAHESHWAR LAKE

High altitude lakes (above 2500 m. above mean sea level) are mainly situated in the Himalayas. Most of them are associated with Hindu mythology and legend and thus have assumed a sacred character. Being in remote regions these lakes were accessible to few people and have thus retained their pristine ecological character. With the hunger for tourism revenues and a misplaced notion of ‘development’, the lakes are gradually being made accessible and promoted as destinations of spiritual tourism and pilgrimage. The growing anthropogenic pressures are creating stresses on the environment that is clearly revealed by the deteriorating water quality and mindless construction. Hordes of pilgrims bathing and trekking in concentrated time spans along with attendants enhances the requirements of food, fuel wood, diesel generators, pack animals, sanitation and waste disposal. Noise pollution, lopping of trees for fuel wood, grazing of hooved animals, and loosening the soil on fragile slopes are other undesirable incidentals. The environmental stress in turn is diluting the sacred character of the lake precincts.

NHD carried out a survey of 4 high altitude lakes in Himachal and Uttarakhand. *Manimahesh* in Himachal is
one such well known lake. It is a circular lake, associated with Lord Shiva, and is set in an area known as the Manimahesh Sacred Landscape. On occasions the Kailash peak can be seen from here reflecting the sun from its snow bound crest and shining like a ‘mani’ (jewel). The Natural Heritage Division survey team has recorded the spectacular sight in the following set of images.

The NHD final report is complete and contains recommendations to establish carrying capacity, buffer zones, alternative pilgrimage routes and camp site locations in order to mitigate the environmental stress. This maintains the sacred ambience while balancing the need for spiritual blessings of the pilgrims.

The Ministry of Environments, Forests and Climate Change invited suggestions/objections to the Draft Wetland Rules 2016 proposed by the Ministry to replace the unimplemented Wetland Rules 2010. INTACH has offered the following suggestions/objections to MoEF & CC:

Given the recurring drought and floods cycle and the role of wetlands in groundwater recharge and flood moderation, water storage can hardly be overemphasized along with their manifold eco-system services. Recently, the Prime Minister has also emphasized the need to protect and conserve even small water bodies as a strategic measure for drought proofing. “In fact the states have been told to number all water bodies assigning a unique identity, revive defunct traditional/historical step wells”. (Ref:http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/pm-narendra-modi-drought-crisis-maharashtra-monsoon).

The National Wetland Inventory Assessment, (NWIA)2012 has shown that since the previous assessment of 1998 the country has lost around 25% of its wetlands. This is mainly due to catchment destruction, encroachment, colonization and pollution.

The Draft Wetland Rules, 2009 had been arrived at through a widespread consultative process. In actual practice the diluted Wetland Rules, 2010 left out almost 99% of the country’s wetlands from the ambit of protection. Hence, instead of further dilution there is a crying need to strengthen the current rules by adopting the Draft Wetland Rules 2009.

The Wetland Rules 2010 had laid out a time limit of 1 year for the States to notify just a few important wetlands. The record of the States shows that there is hardly any State which has done so. Yet, the proposed rules would abdicate the Centre’s responsibility to protect wetlands to these defaulters who have failed to protect wetlands in their jurisdictions to date.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIONS/SUGGESTIONS

A comparison of the definition of wetlands in the Wetland Rules, 2010 and the proposed definition shows a major lacuna - the new definition has dropped reference to “the zone of direct influence on wetlands that is to say the drainage area or catchment region of the wetlands”. This entirely flies in the face of the professed need in Draft Wetland Rules 2016 for wise use, ecosystem approach and strategy. Can wetlands have an eco-system approach excluding their catchment area?

Restriction of the Wetland Rules to just a few Ramsar sites or other sites chosen at the whims of the States contradicts National Environmental Policy 2006, drawn up by MoEF itself that states “the need to set up a regulatory mechanism for all wetlands so as to maintain their ecological character”. Since NWIA has already completed the exercise of identifying wetlands why should the States be allowed discretion for further identification? Therefore, in view of the critical importance of wetlands, all wetlands identified by NWIA 2012 should be mandated for protection in the Wetland Rules and no discretion may be allowed to the States for cherry picking wetlands.
If the NWIA identified wetlands are taken as the base then the States should embark upon the exercise of ecological conservation of these wetlands. States must give a phased program for conservation and protection within a time frame. An open ended exercise will lead to no result.

While *Wetland Rules Draft 2009* facilitated participation by PRIs the exercise as proposed is becoming non-participatory, according to Principal Director NHD Manu Bhatnagar.

The proposed rules do not appear to reinforce Art. 51A (g) of GoI which enjoins citizens to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wild life, and to have compassion for living creatures; nor do the proposed rules reinforce Art. 48 A (GoI) wherein ‘The State shall endeavour to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forests and wild life of the country.’

Thus, NHD has made out a strong case for considering the strengthening of *Wetland Rules 2010* by incorporating the *Draft Wetland Rules, 2009* instead of completely reducing the existing rules to a level which is ambiguous, discretionary and unenforceable.

**ARAVALLI BIODIVERSITY PARK, GURGAON (ABPG)**

NHD was recently entrusted by IUCN to carry out a biodiversity assessment of *Aravalli Biodiversity Park, Gurgaon*. The ABPG is an endeavour of MCG and NGO IAmGurgaon (IAG) to create a forest ecosystem in order to rejuvenate forest flora native to the Aravalli range. The Park is situated in the northern reaches of Aravalli ranges terminating in Delhi. It covers an area of approximately 392 acres, with an undulating and hilly landscape comprising several small ridges and valleys formed by seasonal streams and quarry pits.

The project included assessment of biodiversity, strengths and challenges in the works undertaken so far by the Municipal Corporation Gurgaon, NGO IAM Gurgaon (IAG) and Haryana Forest Development Corporation (HFDC). It entailed making recommendations for future plans and financial outlays.

Prior to 2011, the area was extensively mined for quartzite stone and Badarpur sand. All the stone quarries operated in this area with stone crushers, and a large number of vehicles causing serious deforestation and environmental degradation. The area was also severely infested with *Prospis juliflora*.

IAm Gurgaon (IAG) along with HFDC carried out extensive restoration work that included protection (from grazing), intensive plantation of native species by sourcing of seeds from the wild, formation of nursery, consistent removal and control of weeds and invasive species, and significant maintenance of plantation by rigorous efforts in watering and mulching. The native trees of Aravalli being planted in the park include species like *Boswellia serrata*, *Butea monosperma*(Semal), *Striculia urens*, *Anogeissus pendula* (Dhau), *Albizia odorotissima* (Kala basa), *Dyspyros cordifolia* (Bistendu), *Grewia tenax* (Gangeti), *Mallotus phillipensis* (Sinduri), *Mitragyna parviflora* (Kaim), *Wrightia arborea* (Dudhi), etc. along with native shrubs, herbs and grasses. From a waste dumping ground it has been transformed into a habitat for native species of Aravalli and birding area in NCR Delhi.

ABPG represents a fine example of natural regeneration and successful restoration.
INTACH prepared a report through extensive field work on the current status. Baseline information on tree and shrub diversity, dominance and frequency in ABPG was assessed. A complete list of species was recorded alongwith frequency of recently planted species through quadrate sampling methods. The report includes recommendations for further work.

**THE INDIA RIVERS WEEK 2016**

Rivers are increasingly threatened the world over. In India several rivers have been engineered beyond recognition and their flow extracted to dangerous limits. INTACH along with WWF, SANDRP, Toxic Links, Yamuna Jiye Abhiyan and Peace Institute have been organizing India Rivers Week. It also honours river activists for outstanding work by awarding the Bhagirath Prayas Samman through an eminent jury based selection. This year the India Rivers Week will be held in the last week of November. The theme is ‘State of The Rivers’ for which partners in different States are assembling reports organized around a given format. INTACH is coordinating these reports, and will be organizing secondary background data. The reports will also bring out a Red List of Indian Rivers.

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**WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY, 5TH JUNE**

World Environment Day, 5th June reminded us that the world is facing an impending crisis of climate change and water scarcity - unless people wake up to its implications and its impact on our lives - and takes urgent remedial measures. It is not enough to go green or pick up the broom for a 'Swachh Bharat’ – many more conscientious measures are required by each individual in his daily life. And some stringent rules and regulations imposed by the Government.

Bottle shaped structure strung with plastic bottles at Central Park, New Delhi reminded us that plastic bottles pose disposable problems!

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**ICONIC BIG CAT**

India’s first ever leopard census was conducted only in 2015 by the Wildlife Institute of India. Now only 12,000-14,000 of these elusive big cats survive. Why did it take so long to recognize their overall global loss? Perhaps because the tiger and elephants got precedence? The leopards have almost disappeared from the Arabian Peninsula and vast areas of China and South East Asia. India needs take up a Save the Leopard campaign on the lines launched for tigers which nevertheless continue to diminish in numbers. We need to save the few thousands left – both leopards and tigers - in India from the killing fields of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand.

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**GEOHERITAGE**

The Natural Heritage Division has carried out a detailed survey of Geoheritage sites over the last two years. Principal Director Manu Bhatnagar is of the view that beyond the declaration as geo-monuments little else has been done to protect them from the onslaught of developmental activities around such sites. NHD is compiling a monograph highlighting the threats and drawing up recommendations for their listing. A draft law for protecting such geo-heritage sites is also being suggested for these spots of nature. Encouraging tourism would ensure preservation of these landscapes and result in environmental protection that is urgently required.
HARD TRUTH

Niti Aayog recently presented on the internet a thematic road map for “creating a movement for change” outlining a vision for sustainable development. Vikram Mehta in an article Over the Barrel draws attention to some “hard truths”. India is dependent on polluting fossils for the foreseeable future. He points out “its electricity demand will be met predominantly from thermal power plants; its burgeoning transportation sector will be fuelled by gasoline and diesel; and its industrial, commercial and residential establishments will turn increasingly to gas. Solar and wind will no doubt make distribution inroads but their contribution will account for a relatively small percentage. Similarly, hydro and nuclear will show robust growth but not materially reduce dependence on fossil fuels”. The country may well face a major and unpredictable challenge as it is mostly dependent on imports from a volatile Middle East, a region of conflict and warfare - looming with an unpredictable future. The writer states while this is best left to creative diplomacy of the Ministries concerned, the issue of environmental damage however “requires the creation of an ecosystem that incentivizes collaborative public private investment in ‘greening’ fossil fuels and clean-energy innovation”. This is what the USA has been doing for years harnessing the technical and scientific skills of the private sector, universities and research laboratories. The Chinese have started to do the same. The writer avers that we need a new road map that breaks the connect between energy demand and environmental degradation, with a catalytic impetus and investment of the Government.

Ack : Vikram S. Mehta, Indian Express, 2nd May 2016

INDIAN ROSE ANNUAL

The Indian Rose Federation is gifting INTACH copies of their annual publications. They propose to create “a Pan-Asia Consciousness of the Rose”. The Federation has an august list of Patrons, Executive Committee Members, Corporate and Institutional Members, and is affiliated to Rose Societies in other States. There are many myths and legends attached to this most popular flower, apart from its romantic associations. Even “each thorn’s a tongue his marvels to proclaim”!

The rose has a long association with the Indian people, and it is still debated whether the rose attar was discovered by Empress Noor Jehan or her mother Salima Sultan Begum. One of the Federation’s presentations highlighted the role of the Silk Road and distribution of rose species as well as heritage roses throughout Asia and Europe through this route once upon a time.
ICi DelhI

Conservation of Art Objects, Rashtrapati Bhavan

INTACH Conservation Institute Delhi undertook the prestigious assignment of conserving the art objects housed in the Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi.

Principal Director MHD Nilabh Sinha was invited by its officials to discuss the various objects to be displayed in the upcoming Museum of Rashtrapati Bhavan. The survey for this small project involved conservation of 8 large oil paintings, a water colour, a woven textile and a Persian carpet. INTACH was awarded this assignment on nomination basis.

Rashtrapati Bhavan Art Collection

The magnificent edifice of Rashtrapati Bhavan - the official residence of the President of India - is one of the largest buildings of its kind in the world. This red and cream sandstone structure was originally designed as the home for Viceroy’s of India. It took eight years 1921-1929 to complete the massive building. Lord Irwin was the first Viceroy to move into the Viceroy’s House, as it was then known. It was designed by the British architect Sir Edwin Lutyens, and is a combination of Indian and Western schools of architecture. The stately columns are in Roman and Greek style, the dome was adopted from Buddhist stupas, the symmetry is typical of Mughal architecture, and the broad courts characteristic of English houses. All these elements were fused to create a new style of architecture that is simple and yet imposing.

The interiors of the building including the Banquet Hall, Marble Hall, long drawing room, north drawing room, the Durbar Hall and the Ashoka Hall house unique art objects by both Indian and British artistes. The eleven art objects comprise eight oil paintings on canvas, one large mix media on paper, one woven textile depicting the Sun Temple of Konark in Odisha and a Persian carpet.

Four of the oil paintings received by NHD were mainly landscapes painted in the style of
painters like Richard Wilson (British landscape painter) and Francesco Zuccarelli (Italian baroque painter), three portraits included one of Her Majesty Queen Mary measuring 305 x 209 cm and one of Feroz Shah, and an interesting mix media work depicting President Rajendra Prasad’s first address to the Parliament in the presence of Lord Mountbatten. The large textile object received was a hand-woven traditional Ikat textile from Odisha measuring 300 x 205 cm, depicting its famous Sun Temple. A large mix media on paper depicting the scene originally painted in Ajanta Cave No 17 named Sinhala Avadana and a Persian carpet damaged due to insect infestation were also received by ICI Delhi Centre for conservation.

**Condition of the Art Objects**

Most of the art objects received had been restored earlier but problems had resulted due to former unscientific restoration. In the oil paintings, patches and inserts of incompatible materials, lining and consolidation using incompatible adhesives, uneven and thick varnish applications over painting and even use of excessive heat had resulted in extensive damage. Most of the conservation work involved careful removal of all material used in previous restoration. Poor tear mending and improper support had resulted in damage to the paper objects.
**Conservation Treatment**

Conservation treatment of oil paintings involved removal of all previous unscientific restoration work and varnish layers over paint, tear mending, etc. Cleaning the paintings included both mechanical cleaning with dry brushes to remove superficial dirt and solvent cleaning to remove ingrained accretions, and over-paint. The oil paintings were consolidated to prevent further loss of the paint layer using appropriate materials and adhesive, and strengthening by lining them to another suitable paper/cloth support. This was done to effect visual harmony, with lost areas filled and inpainted with suitable materials. Finally, a uniform coating was given to protect paintings from general wear and tear.

The main problem in the Persian carpet was insect infestation that needed insecticidal treatment to eradicate the carpet beetles and their larvae. The losses in the carpet were re-integrated.

**WALL PAINTINGS OF INDIA — DOCUMENTATION, DIGITIZATION, RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION PROJECT - A SELF GENERATED PROJECT OF INTACH**

The *Wall Painting Directory* is an NHD initiative to document the monuments adorned with paintings. India has rich historical and cultural heritage like wall paintings in the interiors of various buildings, palaces, monasteries, temples, etc. This project initiated last year by NHD is currently on-going in 6 States in Delhi, HP, MP, Karnataka, Rajasthan,
and UP covering 12 districts. With a team of 27 people, the project is moving at a fast pace. The completed Delhi Listing is being compiled in a printable format and will be ready this July. Himachal Pradesh is due for completion by October this year. Work in Haryana and Odisha are in the pipeline.

**Lime Testing Unit**

This unit, established with in-house funding, is mandated to establish ideal conservation treatment for lime base monuments, buildings, wall paintings, etc. A team is collecting samples from various quarries and sites, analysing plaster composition, studying Granulomaty, etc. Various plaster samples have been prepared according to different practices which are now being artificially aged in NHD Lab to understand the process of deterioration. The samples are also studied for presence of soluble salt, carbonation test, water absorption, including physical and biological study.

**ICI BHUBANESWAR**

**Conservation of Art Objects**

A set of three traditional *Patta* painting on paper were received for conservation at the ICI Centre.
Training and Outreach

NHD has been working as a center of excellence in imparting training in conservation. It has successfully conducted long and short term training courses and workshops on preventive and curative conservation of manuscripts at State and at National levels.

Methodology of Training

The MHD courses are intensive, practical oriented, technical, interactive and innovative. Faculties from INTACH and other Indian institutions are invited to share their expertise and impart the best of their knowledge to the students. The course comprises separate sessions in curative training course on Palm Leaf and Paper Manuscripts.

Restoration of Hukitola Building

The restoration of a British building at Hukitola, in Kendrapada District of Odisha was taken up for conservation, restoration and preservation by ICZMP Odisha. The old colonial building was constructed after the Odisha famine 1866 and used as a ware house for storing food and irrigation materials. The architectural features of the building indicate a date in the latter half of the 19th century which corroborates the local tradition. The building has a difficult
approach from Jambu on Gobari River in Kendrapada District and can only be accessed through river Gobari and the back waters of Bay of Bengal.
ICI LUCKNOW

Conservation of damaged artifacts at Study Museum, Lucknow University

The conservation of 658 artifacts at College of Arts and Crafts, Lucknow University has been successfully completed by the team from ICI, Lucknow in a short time span of one and a half years.

Conservation of Archival Records of Gandhi Smarak Sangrahalya

ICI Lucknow received this project in February this year for conservation of 34 files having 4305 archival records of Gandhi Smarak Sangrahalya, Gandhi Ashram, Ahmedabad. It is a very precious and valuable collection having writings of Mahatama Gandhi. They are in a brittle and highly damaged condition, lined by butter paper, and old repairs with cello tape. The treatment involved fumigation to remove insects and fungus, dry cleaning, removal of old repairs and stained old lining, neutralization of acidic folios, mending both side linings. To date 19 files having 1970 folios have been conserved.
Conservation of Guru Granth Sahib

It was a prestigious assignment for ICI Lucknow to receive the holy Guru Granth Sahib of a private collector for conservation. The manuscript having 860 folios (sized 36 x 31 cms and 10 cm thickness) was stuck at various places, and in a highly fragile condition of biological decay.

Before taking up this work necessary arrangements and precautions were taken as it is a holy object. Conservation work for example was carried out under a Chandova (religious canopy/covering over the Holy Granth) donated by an ancient Gurudwara, Shri Guru Teg Bahadur Sahib of Yahiyaganj, Lucknow.

ICI BENGALURU

Conservation of a Traditional Mysore Painting

A Mysore traditional painting Rama Pattabisheka measuring 113cm x 88cm was received at ICI, Bengaluru infested with woodborers. The infestation did not abate despite earlier efforts, including anoxia treatment in a cocoon bag.

Since this is a National Award winning painting, it was vital that conservation treatment did not cause aberrations in the painting. After much brainstorming, it was decided that the only way to terminate repeated infestation was to completely remove the wooden support mechanically after taking proper precautions using a wood-sanding machine and hand tools. An archival board was used as a new support for the painting. This treatment had not been attempted to date so it was a matter of great satisfaction to have executed it flawlessly.
ICI JODHPUR

A painted photograph of Raja Devi Singh of Bhadrajune was received in a deteriorated condition, backed with an acidic paper board that was completely destroyed by termites. There were paper losses at the edges and other areas. The photograph had been previously restored in an attempt to cover the termite damages further complicating ICI conservation work.

The painting was cleaned using dry method and a protective facing was given to areas where it was extremely dangerous to handle. The acidic paper board was removed mechanically and the photograph was given a lining with Nepalese tissue paper to impart mechanical strength. Lost areas were filled and the photograph was fitted on to a window cut mount.

Ivory Cigarette Case

An ivory cigarette case with painting of Maharana Bhopal Singh of Mewar, Udaipur, (1930-1955) was received in a deteriorated condition with accumulated dirt. The sticks had come apart and the cloth completely worn out. It has the following inscription “Long Live our Maharana Bhopal Singh ji Bahadur. M.R. B.S”.

ICI MUMBAI

Conservation of Papier Mache Box

The boxes dating 19th - early 20th centuries are from the collection of Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum, Mumbai. The
main problems were accumulation of dust and dirt with darkened layer of varnish. These were scientifically tested and conservation executed using suitable solvents.

RETURN OF THE IDOLS

During the Prime Minister’s recent visit to USA, two hundred ancient idols were handed back to India in a rare gesture of goodwill. Narendra Modi said “Usually it’s the present that brings nations together, but sometimes it’s heritage that brings nations closer…..My gratitude to the US Government for the sensitivity shown to Indian heritage. This will evoke great respect among the people of India”. It echoed the sentiments of his many countrymen. Among the pieces are a bronze Ganesh, a Bahubali, a statue of Hindu mystic and Chola era poet Saint Manikkavichavakar (circa 850-1250 AD) valued at Rs. 10 crore, among many others. These artifacts speak of India’s amazing culture dating back to long ago times.

US Attorney General Loretta Lynch said “the piece you see here today represent just a fraction of the collection seized by ICE under operation Hidden Idol”. Collectively the recovered objects are estimated to be $150 million in value. She said “It is my hope – and the hope of the American people – that this repatriation will serve as a sign of our great respect for India’s culture, our deep admiration for its people, and our sincere appreciation for the ties between our nations”.

It is however a sad state of affairs that the loot by heritage bandits continues to date. Pieces like a 10th century sandstone slab of Tirthankara Rishabhanata and the 8th century equestrian deity Revanta and his entourage valued at $300,000 were seized in March this year before Christie’s Asia Week, New York auction. The Ministry of Culture recently told Parliament that 101 antiquities have gone missing since 2000 from centrally protected monuments and only one case has been registered to date. Can there be a fool-proof protection when thousands of valuable unprotected properties are scattered all over India?
The exhibition *Threads of Continuity* on Zoroastrian Life and Culture was held from 22nd March to 29th May at the IGNCA, Delhi. The focus was on the philosophy of this ancient Zoroastrian faith that originated in Central Asia, tracing its geographical and chronological continuum till the present days. It is part of the living heritage of the Zoroastrian community both in India and Iran to this day.

Of special interest are the cross-cultural influences on the Indian community and in particular its impact on the Parsi communities in Gujarat and Deccan. A section displayed in detail how Zoroastrian philosophy is a sacred thread that links all creation. Another section of the exhibition also depicted the community’s contribution to the making of modern India. Rare artifacts and manuscripts from reputed academic institutions and cultural museums worldwide were on display. Even more significant were personal items loaned by individuals, installations and video recording, and practices in material life – highlighting a living culture. The exhibition gave a rare and holistic picture of Zoroastrian faith.

### CHEETAH AND STAG AT TATE GALLERY

British painter George Stubbs painted “1764 Cheetah and a Stag with Two Indian Attendants” featuring the first cheetah brought to Britain. It was a gift from the Governor General of Madras to George III. This cheetah took part in a stag hunt at Windsor Great Park. The painting shows one Indian attendant raising its hood to release the cheetah, while the other companion directs its attention to the poor stag. The cheetah was later moved to the Tower of London menagerie and was christened *Miss Jenny*. Earlier this year the painting was one of 200 others featured in an exhibition *Artist and Empire: Facing Britain’s Imperial Past*. The others in the collection were from British Isles, North America, Caribbean, the Pacific, Africa and Asia from the times when the sun never set on the British Empire.

### TALES FROM THE STREET

Delhi based photographers Ahmed Firoz and Shobha Dolly held a photography exhibition titled “StreetBeats” earlier this year at Delhi. Theirs was an imaginative effort to show streets of the world through the eyes of their lens. Avid traveller Shobha says “The subject of my photography has always been streets. I try to capture the fast moving life around me. In one of my pictures that was taken in Kochin, a man has painted different religions of the world on one wall and in between he has painted a picture of global warming. I really liked the concept of emphasizing environmental fallout over religion and thought to take the message forward”. Ahmed endorses the idea that street photography is a unique way to convey a story to not only passersby but to all beholders.
**BURNT TO CINDER**

It is a great tragedy for India and not just Delhi when the National Museum of Natural History in the capital was reduced to ashes on 26th May. A huge fire started on its 6th floor and blazed rapidly - fed by a finest collection of books on natural history and other irreplaceable leather bound volumes now charred to ashes. Among the gutted items was the museum’s iconic life size model of a dinosaur which generations of children had gazed upon with awe and wonder. Its most treasured item was a fossil bone of the Indian sauropod dinosaur found in the Deccan peninsula’s Kota region. The Museum was preparing its summer programme for school children with exhibits. The entire repository of taxidermy of animals has been lost – like cheetahs, snow leopards and lions. Also gone are the large collection of lizards and butterflies, the Indian rhino, ostrich eggs, the long billed vulture and several other specimen. The Museum housed a unique collection of books going back hundreds of years on diverse subjects of botany, zoology, anthropology, archaeology, conservation and valuable research papers. It had books on decorative art, museum studies, philosophy, religion and history. Several books were hand written copies of the British era and some ‘last prints’ totally irreplaceable. A national wealth has gone up in smoke with little hue and cry about imposing new rules as safety measures for all Museums.

The Museum had planned exhibits during this summer vacation as per school curriculum, as it is frequented by students. One can only be thankful that the fire did not take place during such visits. Most of India’s museums do not pay adequate attention to fire safety norms. This time let us hope the warning bells have tolled for all museums in the country.

**CHILDREN’S RESOURCE CENTRE MUSEUM**

While one museum burnt to cinders, another 1987 Children’s Resource Centre Museum strangely named after Nirbhaya, is already in shambles. The old model of a Tyrannosaurus Rex at its entrance leads to six dingy and shabby rooms with impressive titles – Body ad Health, History of Man, etc. It neither has a good body nor is it in good health, and certainly children are not likely to be inspired about the History of Man, Ecology, Energy Resources and Earth or the Origin of Life as some of the signages grandly proclaim outside six dingy rooms. Promised corporate funding might materialise only if the museum prepares a detailed project report (DPR) on priority.

**CRAFTS AND COMMUNITY DIVISION**

*Design development workshop for up-skilling of Warli artistes from Jawhar/Mokhada and Vikramgad*

The workshop was conducted at Rachana Sansad School of Art and Architecture for 16 Warli artistes from tribal hamlets of Jawhar/ Mokhada and Vikramgad on 5th– 6th April. The objectives were to support artisans to innovate and make their art forms more contemporary.

During the workshop, all the artistes were taken for Mumbai Darshan, a trip designed to show them some prominent Mumbai monuments such as Gateway of
The first mention of block prints is traced to 12th century. Much later India became one of the largest exporters of block printed fabrics, with Gujarat and Rajasthan becoming the most prominent centres today. In fact Gujarat started exporting printed calicos as long back as the 17th century with families in Paithapur famous for creating intricate blocks using mud resistant technique, in Dhadka for block printed ajrakh; and in Kutch for black and red designs of animals, birds and dancing girls. Today other cities are also well known for their hand block centres - Bhavnagar,Jamnagar, Porbandar, Jetpur and Rajkot. Rajasthan is known for its very popular Sanganer calico-prints, Bagru is famous for its Dabu in yellow ochre or cream with black, and Syahi-Begar prints. They are gaining international popularity because of the use of dyes made from natural materials and vegetables. And perhaps even be patronized as haute couture and fashion wear?

**INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE DIVISION (ICHD)**

The Intangible Cultural Heritage Division (ICHD) took up a number of projects for cultural mapping and ICH documentation to identify, promote and preserve diverse facets of the intangible heritage of India.

**ICH ELEMENTS IN KOZHIKODE, KERALA**

Four projects were taken up by the Calicut Chapter for the documentation of various ICH elements of Kozhikode city in the Malabar coast of Kerala. The themes ranged from ritualistic traditions and performances to indigenous medicinal practices and age old craft techniques. Through stills and video documentation, the Calicut Chapter has listed the following ICH elements:

- **Kadal Vaidyam** – An inquiry into indigenous medicinal practices of the fishing community

An interesting indigenous medicinal system has been prevalent among the fishing community living on the shores of the Malabar Coast. The generic local name for this Kadal Vaidyam, roughly translates as “sea medicine”. This system of treatment takes its cue from the traditional, ancient Ayurvedic system of medicine famous in Kerala. The treatment of different ailments common among the
fishing community are affected using medicinal herbs, locally grown plants, creepers, flowers, fruits, shells, corals, fish and other easily available local resources. The project will document this indigenous system and the various practices associated with it.

**Malappuram Dagger**

A video documentation and report were prepared on the making of *Malappuram Kathi*. The *Kaddara*, which is popularly known as *Malappuram Kathi* was used by farmers and farm labourers during earlier times. Since it originated from the district of Malappuram, it had a certain regional identity and came to be known as *Malappuram Kathi*, the knife of Malappuram. Over time, with the development of technology and changes in lifestyle, the use of *Kaddara* (a dagger like tool) has reduced resulting in the closure of many traditional smithies.

**Documentation of Kaala Kali**

On the banks of the Nila River, a folk ritual is performed called *Kaala Kali*. It is a ritual connected with agrarian tradition and is usually performed by the *Cherumar*, the agriculture labourers. The term *Kaala Kali* is derived from two Malayalam words, *kaala* which means bull and *kali* which means a play or performance. The bulls are crafted using bamboo, hay and cloth, and fitted with a wooden head. A ceremonial prayer is conducted followed by some performances. The community members then sing folk songs and dance to it carrying the ox on their head/shoulder.

**Pallipaana**

*Pallipaana/Paana* is a folk ritual performed to please the goddess *Bhadrapali* (*Kali*). This ritual is performed in the border areas where the three districts Malappuram, Palakkad and Thrissur districts meet. The important part of the ritual is singing *Tbottom*, folk songs detailing the story of the goddess *Bhadrapali*. Many temples used to earlier conduct this performance annually. Over the course of time, it was discontinued. Today only a few temples observe it as per the norms practiced by their ancestors.

**DOCUMENTATION OF THE UJJAIN SIMHASTHA 2016**

*Kumbh Mela* is a Hindu pilgrimage that is massive both in size and faith. Hindus gather to bathe in a sacred river. The *Kumbh Mela Simhastha 2016* is a grand and holy event.
Devotees thronging the river Kshipra at Ram Ghat, Ujjain (PTI Photo)

that is held at Ujjain in Madhya Pradesh, with millions of people gathering to celebrate and take a dip in the holy river. *Simhastha Mela* was organised from 22nd April to 21st May this year. Its varying time in the Hindu calendar is considered very auspicious and believed to come once in 12 years, which makes it so significant for people. The Dhar Chapter took up the initiative to document the event, with funds provided by the Heritage Tourism Division. The ICHD documentation will include the numerous speeches, holy dip, cultural programmes, and various other rituals performed at site. The audios, videos and photos will serve as valuable resource material on this rare and significant event.

**ICHD PUBLICATION**

The Division oversaw the publication of a coffee table book on Manipur *Shadow and Light—A Kaleidoscope of Manipur* by Pradip Phanjoubam, Editor, Imphal Free Press (IFP). It brings out various lesser known facets of the State, the fruits of four years of exhaustive research and hard work on the book. *Shadow and Light* was released during the Eighth Pupul Jayakar Memorial Lecture on 18th April, published by Hachette Publishing House. The objective in extending INTACH support for this publication was not merely to bring out one more coffee table book, but to document details that give glimpses into many facets of the State’s intangible heritage at ground zero. It will help the State to take some initiatives that are relevant to the North-East as a whole.

The book covers many lesser known facts, stories about Manipur essayed by various writers along with Editor Pradip, with some very rare photographs and illustrations procured and voluntarily contributed by various individuals and organisations. It covers various aspects such as the geographical landscape, history, social milieu, flora and fauna, intangible culture and various other elements. A brief introduction by Phanjoubam on the problems of the North-East, the unsettled issues of past and present, and the aftermath of World War II, is followed by a critical analysis of Robert Lyman, a war historian.

Sharmila Bose in her article tells us about the formulation of INA during World War II with some rare photographs and snippets.

Every creative aspect has been taken care of, be it the content, illustration, lucidity of thoughts and so on. There is not a single dull moment while flipping the pages, with captivating illustrations at appropriate places, interspersed with previously unknown facts. The book is a well-researched document by the people of Manipur, and for the people of Manipur in the years to come.

**OPPORTUNITY TO TRIBALS**

President Dastkari Haat Samiti and activist Jaya Jaitly once said whatever changes are being brought into the system, one should not intrude upon the older values. Once tribals are made to come out of the forest they once inhabited, it’s a brand new life for them and a difficult one to adjust to. They need to be provided opportunities to be fully integrated into our society - and not made to depend on subsides or suffer some kind of reservation. Above all they need to be given respect and earning power to reshape their lives in our midst both comfortably and happily. In short they should be mainstreamed without loss of their individual identity.

Jaya Jaitly stated at the Indian Art History Congress held last year at Coimbatore “Crafts people inspire me to inspire them”.

INTACH HERITAGE ACADEMY (IHA)

The INTACH Heritage Academy held a series of workshops through the months April-June. The focus of the workshops was on diverse facets of heritage conservation, and enrolled participants from many fields including Municipal officials. Many of the workshops were held at some of INTACH Chapters on popular request.

Principal Director Navin Piplani says generally “there is immense potential in heritage if we start looking at it as a pro development resource”. If the resources are managed sensitively, he feels they can be an effective tool to deal with issues in many fields. While heritage study is the central theme in all IHA courses, there is emphasis on management insights applicable to all professions.

HERITAGE MANAGEMENT COURSE, 30TH MARCH - 1ST APRIL

The Heritage Management Course being broad based on principles and practice of heritage management enrolls not only professionals, but also designers, students and engineers. The course taught the importance of work plans; preventive maintenance; evaluation of policy; legal instruments for evaluation of conservation; preventive maintenance; and the role of funding agencies in formulating a project.

To mention a few of the speakers - World Monument Fund Consultant Anita Baig spoke on Heritage Project Management; Chief Executive Officer Aga Khan Trust Ratish Nanda explained Management of Urban Conservation Effort; Advocate Delhi High Court Jayant Tripathi on Heritage Regulations and Policy; HOD Architectural Conservation of SPA, Delhi Dr. Priyaleen Singh on Landscape and Natural Environment; Director Cultural Resource Conservation Initiative Gurmeet Rai on Preparation of a Heritage Management Plan; Member National Disaster Management Authority Kamal Kishore on the Challenges in Disaster Management; apart from INTACH in house consultants who also lectured on related subjects. It was a broad spectrum of heritage management issues that were discussed, and thus attracted enrolment by a cross section of heritage professionals, designers, students and software engineers.

CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP, 4TH - 7TH APRIL

This workshop was organized in coordination with INTACH Chapters who nominated two Members(other than Convenor/Co-Convenor) to attend the workshop held at Central Office. The participating Chapters were Bhagalpur, Calicut, Cuddapah, Chandigarh, Dhar, Dharwad, Gorakhpur, Greater Mumbai, Kashmir, Khajuraho, Kota, and Wai Panchgani (Pune). The focus was on capacity building. The course explored various key issues that need to be tackled by Chapters like what role do various people and organizations perform with regard to heritage conservation fields in their region. The emphasis was on basic notions of value associated with cultural heritage; listing and documentation; an introduction to heritage legislation; taking up public causes; and identifying key stakeholders in conservation management in their region.

This being an in-house training course, Heads and Directors of all Divisions acquainted them with their particular heritage subjects. A practical exercise of listing was done with a field visit to Lodi Gardens by Director A. Vijaya. Conservator Nagamurthy conducted them on the visit to ICI Laboratory. Delhi High Court Advocate Jayant Tripathi, an INTACH consultant, acquainted the participants with legal issues and heritage guidelines with reference to PILs.

WORLD HERITAGE FORUM FOR YOUTH, 18TH-22ND APRIL

IHA hosted this 5 day program in collaboration with UNESCO at HSMI, Asian Games Village complex for young students and heritage professionals. State delegates from Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Kerala, Maharashtra, Telengana, Uttar Pradesh
and West Bengal attended this programme. Participants explored key aspects of *World Heritage Convention*, and nomination for inscription in the *World Heritage List*. Various experts acquainted them with management of *World Heritage Sites*, and understanding of *Outstanding Universal Value (OUV)* of such sites, with a visit to one of Delhi’s three World Heritage Sites. They collectively debated on threats posed to such sites and played the role of delegates of State Parties to understand the working of the World Heritage Committee. A unique aspect of this workshop was setting up of a Youth Model of that Committee. The course was conducted by INTACH officials to basically encourage them to thinking critically on the subject.

**INTACH - IIC RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM, 30TH APRIL**

The Colloquium was organized jointly with India International Centre, marking the end of first cycle (2014-15) of INTACH scholarships. It may be recalled that INTACH launched Research Scholarships in three categories to facilitate UK citizens visit to India for any course of advanced conservation research/study from funds generated by the transfer from INTACH UK Trust to INTACH Central Office, India.

**STUDY, USE AND CONSERVATION OF LIME, 20TH-22ND JUNE**

The *Workshop on Lime Conservation* was held at Lakota Kothla, Jamnagar in Gujarat in coordination with the local Municipal Corporation. Lime is one of the primary materials used traditionally in India in historic buildings, palatial complexes and vernacular dwellings. The course imparted knowledge on various stages of lime preparations
like slaking, sieving and mixing. The application of lime also entailed practical hands-on session at site supported by illustrative discussions. Lakota being an on-going conservation site helped in-situ discussions and illustration of a range of problems by experts on lime buildings. The participants were thus introduced to the key approaches and techniques to be followed in lime conservation. The teachers comprised IHA staff and invited guest speakers on the subject.

Conservation of Books and Manuscripts, 27th June – 1st July

The 5 day practical training programme in conservation of books and manuscripts was organized in collaboration with INTACH Bhubaneswar ICI Centre. Visakhapatnam Chapter Convenor P.V. Prasad took the initiative for holding this workshop as he felt various local schools and colleges had many books and manuscripts that needed to be preserved. He was supported by the Chief Librarian of Andhra University who assisted in conducting the workshop.

ICI Bhubaneswar was another collaborating partner for this course. Its staff taught the participants and invited guest speakers on specific aspects of the subject.

The Course was designed to deal with in-situ methods for conservation of old books and manuscripts. Practical sessions were held at the Andhra University Library, providing a unique opportunity for participants to work alongside material conservators. They were introduced to some of the key approaches and techniques after assessing problems and issues associated with old manuscripts, and gain hands-on experience on conserving them scientifically.

INTACH RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS 2016

INTACH UK Scholarships Awarded

Anna Louise Maynell: Changing Perspectives and the Evolution of Motif and Construction used by Eri Silk Weavers in North East India.

This research will investigate the indigenous craft and culture of Eri silk handweavers in the Ri-Bhoi District of Meghalaya, North East India. To understand the relationship of artisans with woven textile design, and the evolution of traditional motifs, and navigating the changes in society around them.

Heather McVicar: Likhai Woodcarvings in Kumaon Region.

The research will explore the role of Likhai woodcarvings as an outcome of local building materials used to fulfill specific functional purposes, and as a cultural tradition binding together people, places and resources in order to sustain particular cultural norms and revitalize the cultural status and practice of Likhai woodcarvings

Tara Purnima Douglas: The Tales of the Tribes: Evaluating Indigenous Media in India.

The research will firstly explore how animation can be used as a tool to sustain indigenous narrative for future generations, and secondly how to communicate the value of tribal cultures to wider audiences.

INTACH Research Grants Awarded

Alok Kanungo: Mapping Purdalpur, which has one of the most predominant glass bead industry of the world.

The study will record the whole process of bead making and map the entire village of Purdalpur vis-à-vis bead furnaces and make a model for any future archaeological problem; and record its last surviving phase and its unique technology.


The research will create an atlas of cultural-religious landscapes of Kullu Valley in Himachal Pradesh reflecting mythological, historical and current religious practices.

Deepalakshmi Jayapal: Database of Historic Temples along with its Precincts and Associated Activities: Kanchipuram.

The research aims to create a database of historic temples along with its precincts and associated activities, and
develop a holistic approach to revive and retain heritage in harmony with economic growth potential.

Diya Mukherjee: *Copper Technology from the Harappan Sites in Chautang Basin, Haryana.*

The study aims to understand copper technology of the Harappans in lieu of functional relation of sites, and socio-economic organization.


The study will evolve an appropriate method/model/guideline/planning regulation to conserve natural, socio-cultural, economic and visual processes in historic urban landscapes.


This research project will investigate how ‘the heritage idea’, its ideology and practice, is shaped by the three communities of practice, place (resident communities) and interest (heritage NGOs), at Hampi, a ‘living’ World Heritage Site.

Kshitija Pande: *Heritage in a Digital India.*

The study will carry out a detailed analysis of how various initiatives in India are promoting heritage using internet, specifically the Social Media, to engage people and change how they interact with heritage, thereby changing the dynamics of how heritage is perceived.

Pankaj Modi: *Understanding Distress Patterns in Arches and Domes.*

The research will investigate and understand the behavior, performance and distress in historical constructions of arches, domes and vaults in South India.

Ruchika Arora: *Promoting Awareness of Architectural Heritage in Educational Institutions across North India.*

The study will explore the system of architectural education in the United Kingdom to understand how heritage conservation studies are incorporated at undergraduate level, and recommendations for an exchange of knowledge between India and the UK.

Sarvar Zaidi: *Documentation of Islamic Iconography in India with focus on a Dying Form of Metal Work.*

This study will create research documentation of Islamic Iconography in India, with focus on dying metal work undertaken by artisans to make Shi’a worship related artifacts like Alams, Panjas and Zaris.

Tara Sharma: *Mapping India’s Vernacular Architecture Analysis and Mapping of National Census Housing Data.*

The project will develop a state-wise map of traditional rural vernacular architecture based on an analysis of census data and secondary research of case studies. It will provide for the first time valuable quantitative data for each district across India, and identify areas of high concentration of specific traditional building materials.


The study aims to understand the emergence and history of Araaish, its scientific composition, application and current practices towards conservation.

**INTACH Capacity Building Grant**

Sindhu Nagaraj: *Cultural History of Dutch Delftwares in India.*

The study will focus on the arrival of Dutch Delftwares (ceramic tiles) in India, its manufacture, craftsmanship and other cultural and historical points of view by taking ‘Our Lady of Good Health Church’ at Velankanni, Nagapattinam District, Tamil Nadu as the main case study.

Sudhir Bhargava: *Location of Brahmvrat and Drishadwati River is important to find earliest alignment of Saraswati River.*

This research aims to identify the Vedic state of ‘Brahmavarta’, mentioned in Sanskrit books, as the abode of many Vedic seers and where Vedic Sankriti originated.
TEACHER TRAINING WORKSHOPS

*Teacher Training Workshops* are an ongoing activity conducted by HECS in cities across India systematically covering every region through the years. Principal Director Purnima Dutt invariably is present at all these workshops to make a presentation on the aims and objectives of these programmes, with an introduction on the rich and unique facets of their city and its heritage environs, and on the aims and objectives of HECS. She also draws attention to how heritage learning has not received its due importance over the years due to the fast paced life and tightly scheduled education system.

**Ambala, 21st - 22nd March**

48 teachers from 24 schools attended the workshop held at Army Public School, Ambala. Convener Brig. G.S. Lamba welcomed the participants. Co-Convenor Col. R.D. Singh gave a brief introduction on the history of Ambala which is a major army cantonment town, and the site of the first established air force flight. The emphasis of the workshop was primarily on how to make heritage education appealing to students, stressing not only the tangible but intangible heritage as well, which does not get due importance. Teachers must form Heritage Clubs in their respective schools with the training they will get at the workshop. They can then develop innovative teaching modules in heritage education that encourages students to learn about their rich heritage through Heritage Club activities. The workshop concluded with felicitations and distribution of certificates and resource materials.

**Delhi, 19th April**

The Teacher Training Workshop was conducted for 53 teachers from 53 schools at INTACH, Delhi with a welcome address by PD Purnima Datt. The focus of the workshop was mainly on understanding art and material heritage of Delhi and the ways in which one can restore and conserve art objects from damage and deterioration. Delhi Co-Convenor Dr. Swapna Liddle spoke particularly on heritage of Qutub Complex and the roots of a composite culture. Eminent historian Dr. Narayani Gupta elaborated on heritage issues of Delhi. She emphasized that
heritage is not just beautiful architecture but also has intangible aspect. NHD Coordinator Delhi Padma Rohilla, talked about the importance of material heritage conservation, and the various methods used to conserve different types of material heritage. She gave details of how frescos paintings are different from tempura and oil paintings, and the various methods used to conserve them.

INTACH Chairman L.K. Gupta chaired the felicitation ceremony and gave certificates and resource material to the participants.

**Varanasi, 21st -22nd April**

The workshop was held at Little Flower House School, Nagwa, Varanasi in collaboration with the Varanasi Chapter for 47 teachers from 20 schools. A presentation was given by PD HECS to broaden the understanding of the different types of heritage. Ms. Mudita Agarwal and Dr. Vidula Jayaswal emphasised on the local architecture and heritage conservation in Varanasi, along with presentations on the earliest settlements in Varanasi and the holy city of Kashi. A heritage walk was conducted at the 800 year old Karmehshwar Temple, the last of 12th century temple architecture in the Nagara style and one of the oldest living temples of India. The workshop concluded with distribution of certificates and HECS publications, passports, and badges for Heritage Clubs.

**Shimla, 16th - 17th June**

A two-day teacher training workshop was organised from 16th -17th June for 12 teachers from 6 schools, along with their student participants at Auckland House School, Shimla. The workshop focused on making heritage education a part of school curriculum in a more enjoyable yet practicable way. By incorporating presentation, games and a heritage walk the workshop aimed at making heritage conservation an important aspect of our lives. The walk covered the natural heritage of Shimla including local shrubs and trees.

**Sonapur, 24th –25th June**

A two-day teacher training workshop was held from 24th –25th June for 27 teachers from 15 schools at Sahayata Sabha Bhawan, Sonapur Hr. Sec. School, Sonapur, Assam. The teachers were mainly from government-run schools and were first-time observers of a workshop in heritage education. Guwahati Convenor Jayanta Sharma welcomed all the participants. The technical aspect of the workshop was conducted by PD, HECS. The workshop was interesting as it covered the local heritage of this area including the Digaru river, as well as the unique Hira community of potters.

**COLLEGE VOLUNTEER TRAINING**

**Chandigarh, 15th March**

The workshop was organised for 70 college students to sensitize them on heritage issues. The introductory lecture was followed by Chapter Co-Convenor Prof Deepika Gandhi and artist Neeru Vij talks about cultural heritage and how the living heritage of a particular place can be from other cultures. The students were taken on a heritage walk around Chandigarh's
Capital Complex. Former Principal of Chandigarh College of Architecture Rajnish Wattas talked about the importance of greenery in the city. Students participated in an interactive quiz. PD HECS concluded the workshop stressing on the spirit of volunteerism. Certificates and HECS publications were distributed.

**ART AND CRAFT WORKSHOP**

22 Chapters from the northern and the western part of the country participated in the *Art & Craft Workshop* for the year 2015-16. Entries were received from most of the INTACH Regional Chapters ranging from paintings, embroidery, bamboo craft as well pottery. The workshops conducted by the local Chapters covered nearly 1800 Middle and Senior School children making them aware of the dwindling heritage arts and crafts of their city.

HECS selected 11 Regional Winners and three National Winners on the basis of the entries received at HECS.

**Regional Winners**

Puangurai Ruangomei, *Dehradun* – Garwhal Painting  
Neelam Gautam, *Datia* – Chitera Painting  
Oshin Sharma, *Udaipur* – Pichwai Painting  
Preeti, *Brajbhoomi* – Sanjhi Kala  
Dharni Ramesh Yelane, *Chandrapur* – Bamboo Craft  
Deep Panchal, *Udaipur* – Terracotta Craft  
Rani Yadav, *Raipur* – Jhampi  
Archana, *Mandi* – Crochet Work  
Narayani Dixit, *Pune* – Terracotta Craft  
Amey Vasist, *Allahabad* – Terracotta Craft  
Preeti, *Brijbhoomi*, Regional – Sanjhi Kala

**National Winners**

Gulamali M. Khan, *Chandrapur* – Bamboo Craft  
Jashandeep Kaur, *Amritsar* – Phulkari Embroidery  
Vishalakshi Kalyanapa Sulgdle, *Solapur* – Subhray Painting

**National Winner Entries:**  
Vishalakshi Kalyanapa Sulgdle, *Solapur*, Subhray Painting

**CLEAN MONUMENT CAMPAIGN**

The Clean Monument Poster Making Competition to date has received close to 5000 entries. HECS selected 32 Regional Winners and 10 National Winners of which 6 were from the Poster Competition, the remainder were best Monument Reports. The Chapters which made the final cut were Allahabad, Solapur, Yamunanagar, Trivandrum, Kolkata, Jaipur, Ahmedabad and Wai-Panchgani. The remaining two winners are from Delhi.

The felicitation ceremony is scheduled to be held in the month of July (6th – 8th). The 10 National Winners will travel to Delhi for the ceremony. They will also be taken on an educational excursion to famous historical sites like the Qutub Complex, Mehrauli Archaeological Complex, etc. of the city.

**National Winners – Clean Monument Campaign**

Akash Yadav, *Shree Mahaprabhu Public School, Allahabad*  
Vishalakshi K. Sulgdle, *Siddheswaram Girls’ High School, Solapur*  
Parth Garg, 9, *Dyal Singh Public School, Yamunanagar*  
Vernica Jain, 9, *Delhi Public School, RK Puram, Delhi*  
Greey Ann Mathew, 6, *St. Shantal School, Trivandrum*  
Sanjukta Das, 9, *Shri Shikshayatan School, Kolkata*  
Samadrita Shaw, 8, *Motilal Nehru Public School, Jamshedpur*

**Regional Winners – Clean Monument Campaign**

Tejal V. Laxmeswar, 9, *Baalabalaga School, Dharwad*  
E.N. Mithilesh, 7, *Bharathi Matric Hr. Sec. School, Coimbatore*  
H. Lalitnamawia, 8, *Saibunni Sailo Memorial School, Mizoram*  
Ch. Suchitra, 9, *Gayatri School, Srikakulam*  
Sambeet Suresh Rout, 8, *Saraswati Shishu Vidya Mandir, Cuttack*  
Sanjukta Das, 9, *Shri Shikshayatan School, Kolkata*  
Lavanya, *Govt. Girls Sr. Sec. School, Mandi*
J. Aruna, 9, Municipal High School, Kadapa
Shreya Goyal, 7, The British Co-Ed High School, Patiala
Pritha Singha, 7, SNSN Girl’s High School, Santnikeentan
Ayush, 9, Army Public School, Shankar Vihar, Delhi
Aditya Harishbhai Patel, 9, GSL Public School, Rajppla
G. Subarshana, 9, Mahatma School, Madurai
Saiyma Khanam, 7, Maharana Mewar Public School, Udaipur
Anirudh V. Jahagirdar, 8, St. Joseph’s Eim School, Vijaypur
Paritosh Tomar, 8, K. V. Jalipya Cantt, Barmer
Ananya Chowdhry, 7, Arya Vidya Mandir (W), Mumbai
Bhushan Rajendra Jadhav, 8, Vision English Medium School, Wai – Panchgani
Prateek Chouhan, 8, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Khandwa
Sapna Tamang, 9, Municipal Girl’s High School, Darjeeling
S. Ashwini, 8, Bhavan’s Gandhi Vidashram, Kodaikanal
Shubhang Sethi, 7, Jodhamal Public School, Jammu
Parth Garg, 9, Dyal Singh Public School, Yamananagar
Neha, 9, Kendriya Vidyalaya No. 1, Ambala
Khusbu Yadav, 8, Army Public School, Ambala
Arnab Dey, 9, Army Public School, Sp Marg, Lucknow
Satyam Gaur, NLKVM Inter College, Kanpur
Sagarika Mazumdar, 9, Manav Sthali School, Delhi
Aditi Roy, 7, St. Xavier’s High School, Bhabaneswar
Savita Punulal Maliya, 8, Hindi City High School, Chandrapur
Sudikshya Mandal, 9, Bhanipur New Govt. Girls High School, Mayurbhanj

**SOME WINNING ENTRIES**

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<td>Sudikshya Mandal</td>
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**Excerpts from Monitor Reports…**

It made us aware that any work is best done when it is carried out by the person himself. We hope that we are able to make a huge impact on society.”
*Akash Yadav, S.M.P.P.*

After designing my action plan I made the local community aware about the need to preserve it. I also approached ASI, requesting them to install proper signboards describing the history of the stupa.” – Chaneti Stupa –Parth Garg, Dayal Singh Public School.

“One of the most elegant structures in the architectural history of Delhi, the Hauz-i-alai nestles amidst a beautiful blend of modern day markets and houses, and is both a popular hangout zone and a history lover’s delight.”
*Vernica Jain, Delhi Public School, RK Puram.*
Riding on the success of the two previous Quiz Programmes of 2014 and 2015, HECS decided to conduct INTACH Quiz 2016. This year the focus will be on the States unlike previous ones that ended in a national finale. This year’s Quiz competition will culminate with local Chapters participating at a State finale. Around 75 local Chapters have been selected to conduct the Quiz independently. The main feature of this Quiz is that it would be in regional languages apart from English and Hindi in order to have greater participation from remote areas. Also, greater importance is being given to the local heritage of each state which will have more questions based on each State’s local heritage.

**FILMIT INDIA 2016-17**

*Chandigarh, 7th April*

Held in Bhavan’s Vidyalaya, the festival was attended by 52 students and 10 teachers from 6 schools. The chief guest was IAS officer Smita Mishra and chairperson of the Literary Society of Chandigarh. Students and teachers thanked INTACH for the opportunity. Chandigarh Co-Convenor, Deepika Gandhi urged the students to make films on built and natural heritage of Chandigarh, which is a garden city. Festival concluded with a felicitation ceremony headed by Principal of the host school, Vineeta Arora, Ms. Purnima Datt and Ms. Gandhi.

*Jaipur, 12th April*

The Festival was held at Maharaja Sawai Man Singh Vidhyalaya attended by students from 9 schools. The event was graced by Jaipur Convenor Dharmender Kanwar, who appreciated the efforts of the children. The Chief Guest was Thakur Ranbir Singh, a well-known historian and playwright who shared his experiences with the children and greatly appreciated their effort. The event showcased the best films made by the students and they shared their experience of working on the project. The festival ended with the distribution of awards.

**PUBLICATIONS**

Heritage Education and Communication Service published a number of *Young INTACH Newsletters* in regional languages to cater to a wider readership. Latest in the series are in Marathi and Gujarati, in collaboration with Pune and Mehsana Chapters. It is a compilation of two years of Young INTACH Newsletters covering all the four key areas of heritage: built, natural, material and living heritage. Translations in other languages in Telugu, Kannada, Tamil and Oriya are in the pipeline.

*Workshop for Mother’s International School, 5th May*

A one day workshop was conducted for 14 students and 1 teacher from Mother’s International School, Delhi. It commenced with a walk to Safdurjang Tomb, where the participants were told about the history of the rulers, builders of the monuments, and architecture of late Mughal Period. After the interactive walk, there was a session on paper conservation conducted by Conservators from Material Heritage Division who focused on how to mount and hinge a painting.
**COVENORS & CO-COVENORS ORIENTATION WORKSHOP**

*Convenors Meet* was held last quarter at Central Office to brief newly appointed Convenors and Co-Convenors on INTACH's mandate, and orient them on their role in conducting the activities and programmes to further the many objectives of heritage conservation in their respective regions. Addressing the gathering, Chairman L.K. Gupta stated that INTACH took on the duty to protect heritage as mandated in the Indian Constitution. The passionate commitment to this noble cause is the spirit that unites us all, and INTACH has received Government recognition as an institute of national importance. He gave a brief overview of how INTACH began small and grew in strength with Founder Members contributing their passion and vision, which we must continue to emulate. It has been a rewarding journey over 30 years with INTACH growing in depth and expanse of our heritage pursuits.

Chairman stated INTACH has a very small pool of resources compared to the needs of over 180 Chapters. More resources, both in terms of human and economic capital, need to be created by every Chapter through membership drives and awareness campaigns at school/college/civil society levels. He advised the new Convenors to hold regular meetings, and form committees tapping individual expertise of its Members, for effective functioning of the Chapter.

Vice Chairman Dr. Tasneem Mehta focused on Listing and Documentation of heritage assets covering both tangible and intangible heritage, followed by appropriate legislative action.

Member Secretary Dr. (Ms.) Chuden Tshering Misra presented the overview of INTACH, and the pivotal role that Convenors/Co-Convenors are expected to play in conducting Chapter activities and programmes.

Director Chapters Gp. Capt. Rahul Pathak addressed the gathering, as the main point of contact and interchange between Chapters and Central. He would be available on line for any enquiries regarding the day-to-day functioning of Chapters. There were a series of individual briefings by all Divisional Heads – on INTACH Heritage Academy by Director Navin Piplani; on Intangible Cultural Heritage by Director Nerupama Modwel on Heritage Education by Principal Director Purnima Datt; on Crafts and Community by Director Crafts & Community Bindu Manchanda; on Architectural Heritage by Principal Director Divay Gupta; on Listing and Documentation by Director A. Vijaya; and so forth.

**Note:** The *Chapters Advisory Committee* was reconstituted to review the role and activities of INTACH Chapters, to advice on norms for opening and closure of Chapters; to devise methodology for geographical expansion of INTACH; and for the establishment of new Chapters and adoption of Village Sub-Chapters.

Chapter Advisory Committee comprises: Chairman is Chhattisgarh State Convenor Lalit Surjan; and its Members are: Odisha State Convenor A.B. Tripathi, Madhya Pradesh State Convenor Dr. H.B. Maheshwari, Kerala State Convenor K.J. Sohan, HP State Convenor Maalvika Paithania, Jamnagar Convenor Air Cmde. S.S. Tyagi (Retd.), Rajasthan State Co-Convenor Dharmender Kanwar; and INTACH Director Chapters Gp. Capt. Rahul Pathak (Retd.).

**Note:** The *Second Capacity Building Workshop* for INTACH Chapter Members is scheduled to be conducted by the INTACH Heritage Academy at Central Office from 17th-19th October 2016. Training is structured to enable Members to link the training and capacity building with individual potential of Members. Convenors are requested to nominate one/two Member(s) from their respective Chapters to avail of this excellent training opportunity. Participation Forms will be dispatched shortly by Chapters Division to be filled and forwarded to IHA along with CVs of the proposed candidate/s.
Art and Material Heritage by Principal Director Nilabh Sinha; and on Natural Heritage by Principal Director Manu Bhatnagar.

It was an exhaustive overview and detailed introduction to the multifarious activities of INTACH. Member Secretary chaired the open house discussions to clarify and elaborate on some of the questions raised by the newly appointed Convenors and Co-Convenors. The Meet concluded with Chairman appreciating their keen participation. He advised them to sincerely adhere to the *Chapter Guidelines* that provide the necessary momentum and synergy for successfully conducting Chapter activities.

### ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR

Andamans Secretary (Art & Culture) Ankita Mishra Bundela was the Chief Guest at the heritage walk organised by the Chapter in collaboration with her Department. She flagged off the walk from the historic Andaman Club, describing it as a boost to tourism and creating public awareness among students and the local people. She suggested the walks should be held regularly. Principal JNRM Dr. Francis Xavier gave details of the Andaman Club and its historical significance. Eminent archival collector Mukeshwar Lal highlighted several facts on the history of Andamans, from the Battle of Aberdeen to the hoisting of the tricolor by Netaji at the Gymkhana Club. The walk ended with Director (Art & Culture) Dr. R. Deivas talking about the composite culture of the islands that has evolved through different phases of the history.

The Department of Art and Culture Convenor invited Samhita Veda Acharya as the resource person to a workshop on *Heritage Sensitization*. She gave an orientation lecture on the importance of heritage listing and documentation, and the concept of heritage tourism with Secretary Ankita Bundela as the Chief Guest. She also graced another workshop on *Heritage Sensitisation* conducted at the Cellular Jail. Director Tourism Amit Anand, Director Art and Culture D. R. Deivas and the Curator of Cellular Jail Dr. Rashiaa Iqbal were present.

### ANDHRA PRADESH

#### East Godavari

The Chapter released the Kakinada Heritage Tour Maps on *World Heritage Day*. It was a joint effort of the Chapter and the Kakinada Municipal Commissioner who got them printed and distributed to all Educational Institutions, Offices, Hotels and Public Institutions to create awareness...
about the city’s heritage. A heritage walk in which more than 400 eager walkers participated attracting considerable public attention.

District Magistrate flagging off the Heritage Walk

**CORRIGENDUM**

With due apologies, we regret that the names of two of INTACH Co-Convenors were wrongly mentioned in the last issue of Virasat.

Shri V.V.L.N. Murthy is the Co-Convenor of the East Godavari Chapter. It was his herculean efforts that ensured the successful Beach Festival being declared a State Festival. Hopefully it will set a precedent for future.

Ms. V. Rajyalakshmi is the Co-Convenor of the Guntur Chapter, a recent appointee. INTACH wishes her success for a long and fruitful association with the organization.

**Kadapa**

The Revenue Divisional Officer Chinna Ramudu flagged off World Water Day (22nd March) organised by the Chapter jointly with Regional Coordinator of Red Cross V. Bheema Sankar Reddy. INTACH Members along with 520 students from different schools of the city gathered to mark the day.

Convenor S. Elias Reddy conducted the Awareness Camp for students to mark the day. Chief Guest Chinna Ramudu and Project Director MEPMA Balasubramanyam addressed them on the importance of Saving of Water, and job opportunities related to water sources. An essay writing competition was conducted with prizes awarded to the best entries on the subject.
The Chapter celebrated *World Museum Day 18th May* at the Mahaveer Museum with Regional Director AP Tourism G. Gopalguru as the Chief Guest. He suggested that students should not merely see and draw, but learn the history of exhibits and value the educational import of museums. Despite a holiday, 55 junior and senior students participated in drawing the sculptural exhibits of the Museum. Convenor S. Elias Reddy also stressed on the value of art and culture as an important component of heritage. Prizes were awarded to the best entries. Chapter’s Executive Member M. Suresh and other participants in the programme helped to make it a popular success.

**Kurnool**

Kurnool Convenor B. Venkateswarlu organized *World Heritage Day* at the Sri Ramalayam, Peddatumbalam, Adoni. INTACH Member cum local Sarpanch B. Lakshmi and MPTC Vice Chairman D. Rajeswari participated with the local villagers. Visits to historical sites of Karakondarayuni Temple (of 1000 Pillars), Omkaram Temple, Jain Temple, and the great sculptured heritage temple of Sri Ramalayam were arranged. The Heritage Pledge was taken by all participants of the cultural programmes.

Chapter Members have jointly decided to take up scientific cleaning of temples, planting of Ashoka trees, a children’s park and the development of an Interpretation Centre. It is an admirable initiative of the Chapter. Hopefully it can tap some assistance from the local administration as it is located in the Collectorate Complex.

**Machilipatnam**

Shri Udattu Srinivasa Rao is appointed the new Convenor of the Machilipatnam Chapter. INTACH welcomes him with many good wishes for success in the conservation activities of the Chapter.

**Srikakulam**

INTACH heartily congratulates Convenor D.V. Dharma Rao for the recognition accorded by Andhra Pradesh Government for sustained contribution to heritage conservation. Every year on *Ugadi*, during the Telugu New Year heralding the onset of spring, the State Government honours luminaries, scholars, artists, poets, litterateurs and persons of distinction who have dedicated their lives to social service. On 8th April this year Chief Minister Chandra Babu Naidu felicitated the awardees with garlands, shawls and cash prizes.

Convenor Dharma Rao - poet, writer and a committed
INTACH Member - has been an activist working for cultural heritage for more than two decades. He has several publications to his credit; conducted various cultural programmes, and given talks on Radio and at public lectures. He started the awareness campaign to preserve historic buildings and forts of the region. Many of them are in a dilapidated state as the erstwhile royal families do not have financial resources for their upkeep. The campaign caught the attention of the Government and some members of the erstwhile royalty. ‘The Hindu’ gave a wide coverage resulting in a significant outreach, with some buildings now taken up for restoration.

Convenor Dharma Rao as co-sponsor gave the keynote address at the Symposium on Sreerangam Sreenivasarao, the literary genius of 20th century Telugu literature.

The Chapter launched a campaign on the plight of ancient royal buildings. It succeeded in impressing the District Administration to take up restoration of an ancient Dutch building that lies abandoned on the banks of the Nagavali River. Collector Dr. P. Lakshminarasimham garnered one crore rupees from multiple sources and restoration is ongoing. A similar effort had resulted in the restoration of the Radha Govindaswamy Temple with MP funds grant when the royal owners refused to hand over the temple to Endowments.

The Chapter with sponsorship from the district administration and in collaboration with Sampradayam - an NGO, conducted an evening of Hindustani Classical Music. The vocalist Ms. Vanirao held the audience enthralled. Convenor Dhrama Rao proposed the vote of thanks.

The Chapter celebrated Jayanthi Festival commemorating the saint poet Annamaacharya on 21st-22nd May. The Chief Whip of the Legislative Assembly Kuna Ravikumar was invited as the Chief Guest, with artistes from all over the district invited to sing on the occasion. The music duo Malladi Brothers gave a concert rendering Annamayya Krithis, with Convenor Dharma Rao’s commentary on the krithis sung.

Books on the history and culture of Srikakulam were presented to Collector Dr. P. Lakshminarasimham. He had extended total financial support to the program which he over saw and attended with his family.

ASSAM

Dibrugarh

Dr. Aradhana Katali is appointed the new Convenor of Dibrugarh Chapter. She will be
supported by Professor Himadri Burman as the new Co-Convenor of the Chapter. INTACH warmly welcomes them into our fold with many good wishes for their success in this important North East State with its richly endowed heritage.

Chairman L.K. Gupta launched the INTACH Chapter at Dibrugarh on 6th May. The introductory remarks were made by Member Manoj Jalan, a successful businessman heading Jalan Industries. He outlined the proposed projects to be taken up by the new Chapter. Its membership has many distinguished persons headed by Convenor Dr. Aradhana Kataki, a former head of the English Department of Manohari Devi Kanoi Girls College; and Co-Convenor Dr. Himadri Burman, Assistant Professor of Management Studies at Dibrugarh University. Other distinguished members are Prof. Shiela Bora who actively promoted tourism in Assam; leading scholar and member of Assam Science Society Prof. Poroma Mahanta; Advocate Nazrana Ahmed who heads a business group in the tea and hospitality industry; Rotarian Sudarshan Khoud who heads a travel agency; Gaurav Kumar Kataki who is Founder Member of Policy Group for People’s Rights (PGPR) and a freelance journalist; yoga and meditation teacher Mala Barauah; and Anisha Jalan who is involved with general welfare of tea garden labourers. With such an impressive membership, there are great expectations from this new Chapter. INTACH warmly embraces them into our fold and extends our warm good wishes for their success.

BIHAR

Patna

The Chapter commemorated World Heritage Day with a Heritage Walk to the Patna High Court to mark its centenary year. The foundation stone of this building was laid in December 1913 by the then Viceroy cum Governor General Charles Baron Hardinge. It was inaugurated 2 years later by Lord Hardinge on 3rd February 1916. It was constructed by M/S Martin Burn & Co. Several INTACH Members, students and teachers of Shoshit Samadhan Kendra School, Patna participated in the walk.

BIHAR

Patna

The last Maharaja of Darbhanga bequeathed the bulk of his estate for educational purposes, including his magnificent ancestral home the 1882 Lakshmiawar Vilas Palace (Anand Baug) for the establishment of a university to promote Sankrit. It houses his prized library. It is now known as the Kameshwar Singh Darbhanga Sanskrit University (KSDSU). The Chief Minister Nitish Kumar unveiled a 6 ft. tall marble statue of the last Maharaja. The existing statues of successive rulers, as well as that of the Maharaja’s son and his brother had been installed long ago. The origin of Darbhanga is traced to a grant of Sarkar of Tirhut to Pt. Mahesh Thakur by Mughal Emperor Akbar.
CHHATTISGARH

Kawardha

Convenor Yogeshwar Raj Singh wrote to the Chief Secretary urging him to ban any construction within 100 meters radius of Bhoram Dev Temple, Marwa Mahal and Cherki Mahal Temple complexes which date back to the 11th century and the 13th century Sillipachrahi campus. These sites are protected by the ASI and are currently under excavation. The Convenor drew attention to the Supreme Court orders and other legal provisions that ban construction within 100 meters of protected sites.

Since Chhattisgarh became an independent State with Raipur as its capital, there has been a surge in hotel and tourism industry. It has a plethora of unique cultural and ecological sites, rare wildlife, ancient monuments, caves and rock paintings – which indeed makes it a destination full of beautiful surprises. The Chapter can play a vital role in promoting these heritage assets that will accelerate setting up of more tourist facilities and overall development of the region.

Raipur

Co-Convenor Rajendra Chandak has forwarded a Hindi booklet, with a compilation of lesser known sites within a two hour drive from Raipur. Life Member Dr. L.S. Nigam coordinated the laborious work entailed in collating the information with some exquisite photographs. Research scholars Rajiv Jhon Minz and Pradip Kumar Sahu were the key persons who travelled to the locations for data collection. The Chapter forwarded a copy of the booklet to the Tourism Board with great expectations that it will trigger some developmental projects.
**Sarguja**

The Chapter held its Annual General Meeting at Ambikapur. Co-Convenor Sachin Mandilwar welcomed State Convenor Lalit Surjan and the assembled Members. He presented a report of the Chapter’s activities.

**DELI**

The Delhi Chapter has been working on the conservation of some prominent heritage landmarks of the capital.

**President’s Estate**

Presidential Secretariat commissioned INTACH Delhi Chapter to prepare a Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan (CCMP) for the Rashtrapati Bhawan and its precinct. Based on this plan and recommendation the implementation work for various buildings has started. The significance of this complex lies in the design based on the *City Beautiful Movement* and the *Garden City Movement* by Edwin Lutyens during 1912-1931. This precinct is a prototype of the larger town plan of more than 80 years old New Delhi. With time the need for extension led to many changes in buildings and surroundings with loss of its original design and character. To conserve the authenticity and integrity of the original character is a challenging work that was taken up by the Chapter. Since the complex is quite large, the work was divided into two schedules. Around 65 heritage buildings were identified out of which 15 buildings, as prototypes, have been selected from both schedules for conservation work. The Detailed Project Reports (DPR) for all the identified buildings have been prepared and submitted. Presently work on the Museum building is targeted for completion by August this year.

**Conservation of St. James Church**

Conservation and documentation of the project was initiated by the Board Members of St. James Church, Kashmere Gate. The Delhi Chapter team had been approached for a conservation proposal to restore the structure to its original glory. The historic church is a Grade I notified building. As the first church to be built in Delhi in 1836 AD, this structure speaks volumes about the associational value and also introduction of new style of architecture in Delhi. St. James Church is a fine example of the Colonial classical architecture and to be precise a *Revival Renaissance Architecture* style of the early 19th century. However, if examined closely local influence of Mughal architecture can also be detected. The church is of high antiquarian value and needs to be restored.

**Conservation of Cathedral Church of Redemption**

The *Cathedral Church of the Redemption* is an important place of worship and an iconic building. Its location and architectural style are an integral part of the Capital Complex of New Delhi. The main conservation work at the Church started with the roof comprising a dome and slope. Many segments of the roof were not accessible from within the church. Assessment of such segments could only be done after tying the scaffolding. Delhi Chapter team climbed dizzying height of 148 ft. to inspect the damage before decisions could be taken. Other conservation work like stain removal from surfaces and of decayed plaster has been completed. The work at site will be completed by July this year.
**Heritage Walks**

The Chapter collaborated with Delhi Tourism to celebrate *World Heritage Day* for two consecutive days. A ‘Free Cycle Tour’ and a ‘Free Heritage Walk’ were organized at Mehrauli village and at the Mehrauli Archaeological Park for general public on 17\textsuperscript{th} April.

A special Heritage Walk was also organized for Chapter Members at Mehrauli Archaeological Park on 17\textsuperscript{th} April.

On 18\textsuperscript{th} April, a *Heritage Walk* was organized for the Government School children of Mehrauli area. It was flagged off by the Tourism Minister Kapil Mishra at Mehrauli Archaeological Park.

**International World Museum Day**

The Chapter organized a four day Workshop (24\textsuperscript{th}-27\textsuperscript{th} May) jointly with Yes Institute, the Crafts Museum, Sanskriti Kendra and National Gallery of Modern Art for teachers and principals at the Indira Gandhi National Centre. This workshop helped teachers understand the value of cultural teaching and how to engage children in high quality museum experiences.
**Lectures & Illustrated Talks**

The Chapter initiated a series of lectures and illustrated talks on *Delhi’s History and Heritage*. The first in the series was held on 13th May at Lodi Estate with former Delhi Convenor O.P. Jain and Dr. Swapna Liddle explaining the *Oral History of Delhi* and the *Story of Delhi: Sites and Settlements* between ridge and river respectively.

**Special Heritage Walks**

A special walk was organized based on the *Symbols & Motifs of Qutub Minar Complex* at site. Dr. Swapna Liddle conducted the walk on 30th April for 28 participants.

The Delhi Chapter also designed and conducted a special Heritage Walk at Humayun's Tomb for children, conducted by a Fulbright scholar Katie Cornell on 1st May.

**MUCH DEBATED ISSUE**

Much water has flown down the lean Yamuna since the mammoth event hosted by the *Art of Living Foundation*, and the large-scale unauthorized construction on the floodplains of the Yamuna. The Delhi High Court Bench cited media reports that trees and vegetation in the zone were cut down for this event. The matter is now pending before the National Green Tribunal.

The Court also asked DDA to look into the large scale unauthorised colonies at Jaitpur and Mithapur on the Yamuna floodplains. According to DDA 20 such colonies with over 56,000 dwelling units have come up in this particular area during the last 15 years. The two areas lie on the Yamuna plain near Badarpur. Orders were issued to stop further construction. If there should be an earthquake or floods in the city “these colonies will be the major sufferers” the Court has warned. But who was responsible for their construction in the first place?

The Court has now ordered the authorities to look into “*builder mafia*” responsible for duping people and selling unauthorized houses. Too little too late.

**JEHANGIR BRIDGE**

The 400 years old Jehangir’s Bridge is considered a monument of national importance and protected by ASI, yet it is barely visible due to the parallel Barapullah elevated road that now facilitates super fast access to East Delhi. The old historic bridge is overrun by squatters, The stench, the garbage, the encroachments, the squatters and vendors, illegal car parking and no easy access, are the tale of all Indian cities with burgeoning population. Without the Mughal era pillars supporting the old Jehangir Bridge, one would not know that here is a piece of Mughal era heritage. And that too only if you deign to glance down at it from the elevated Barapullah above!
GUJARAT

Vadodara

CONDOLENCES

INTACH is grieved by the sad demise of Shri K.G. Subramanyan. Our esteemed Founder Member and a legend of modern Indian art and Emeritus Professor of Kala Bhavana Visva Bharti will be missed for ever. Our heartfelt condolences to his family members.

HARYANA

Ambala

Co-Convenor Col. R.D. Singh took up the cause of conservation of remnants of an elaborate 1820 water system located 15 km. from Ambala. Chapter Members feel that the 400 years old ‘Raja Rani’ talab built by Maharaja Ranjit Singh should also be taken up as a restoration project and developed as a tourist destination.

The Chapter organized a Members’ Meet at Narwana on 2nd April, with Chairman L.K. Gupta as the Chief Guest. He extolled the rich and diverse heritage of the country as the very basis of our present life. He said INTACH is dedicated to heritage conservation as a legacy to be preserved and protected by future generations. The Central Office will provide all guidance to Chapter projects when required.

Convenor Dr. A.R. Chaudhri apprised the audience on the Saraswati River Project. The Chapter with INTACH grant carried out search on this mystical River that yielded a fund of interesting information. At Kalayat the

Convenor Brig. GS Lamba and Students

Chairman and Members’ Meet, Narwana, 2nd April
Textural analysis of the sediments revealed the dominance of angular and sub-angular fragments. The dense minerals present in the samples were ultra high pressure minerals that usually exist in collision tectonic settings of 8-12 GPa. The minerals suggest that a trans-Himalayan river must have brought minerals from the Indus-Tsango suture zone (ITSZ) that represents the India-Eurasia collision zone. Further, in normal fluvial dynamics, dense minerals that have a specific gravity by saltation, and rolling on the river bed ensured their corners getting rounded off in the first 100 km of their fluvial transport. For this to have happened, the water in the river channel that transported them must have been highly agitated. Agitation in water flow is related to the velocity of water flow and its quantity. All these probabilities linked together match closely to the description of the Saraswati River mentioned in the Rig Veda. Interestingly, the sample sediments are visually different from the present day soil in Kalayat.

Dr. A.R. Chaudhri further added that a paleo-channel has been found quite close to the Saraswati River channel marked on the Survey of India maps. The research carried out at the Kurukshetra University reveals that the erstwhile mega river changed its character from a higher Himalayan glacier fed channel to an ephemeral rain fed channel around 10,000—12,000 thousand years B.P. - a date to be confirmed from other sites. This is a major scientifically validated piece of information regarding the antiquity of India's cultural heritage.

Yamunanagar

The Chapter actively pursued Rain Water Harvesting system with a study and research, in consultation with Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), New Delhi. A presentation on basic theory, hydro geological aspects, water recharge techniques and structures was prepared in a user-friendly method for implementation of Rain Water Harvesting System of general interest to all urban areas located in the typical plains of North India.

The Chapter is involved in making a documentary film on major Buddhist sites located in Haryana, based on a fictional travelogue.

HIMACHAL PRADHESH

Kangra

Convenor L.N. Aggarwal gave a much appreciated talk on Geo-Heritage, Geo-Diversity and Geo-Conservation at the Himachal Institute of Engineering and Technology (HIET) on World Heritage Day.

In collaboration with the Sangeetanjali Kala Kendra, Dharamshala the Chapter held a cultural event where

Convenor L.N. Aggarwal at the Conference

Documentary Film shooting underway

Principal of HIET honouring Convenor
the book on folk songs of Himachal Pradesh *Lokbhaav Sawaranjali* authored by Member Janmajay Singh Guleria was released.

Convenor L.N. Aggarwal was invited as the Guest of Honor at the International Conference on Science, organized by the Science Congress Association, at Dharamshala on 11th June.

**Mandi**

The Chapter supported various activities organized by the DAV Centenary Public School to celebrate *World Environment Day*. Students rallies drew public attention to heritage awareness to impress on them that all forms of degradation must stop. They carried placards pleading for a clean environment around main roads and residential areas. To make an emphatic point, they enacted plays, gave musical shows, recited poems and even staged a fancy dress show all related to environment. It caught the attention of local press, and hopefully the message was driven home to their elders and the authorities concerned.

Principal K.S. Guleria appreciated the inspiration provided by the Mandi Chapter. Convenor Naresh Malhotra addressed the students urging them to continue nursing this cause so vital for well being of society.

The Chapter organized a heritage walk for seventy five school students on 18th June. The event took the students to two historic temples - *Ardh Narishwar* and *Trilokinath Temples*, both built in 16th century AD. They were briefed about the historical, architectural and archaeological importance by a resource person. It was a great learning experience besides an exciting walk to historical places.

**JHARKHAND**

**Hazaribagh**

In 2010 the Chapter had undertaken the restoration project of *Old British Cemetery* in Hazaribagh that dates back to 1790-1835 period. This historically significant cemetery registers the earliest British presence in Jharkhand. As the resting place of British regimental officers it is the most prominent one in eastern India, where administrators and their families belonging to the Scottish and Aglican Church lie buried. In April-May this year, Convenor Bulu Imam once again requested the *British Association for Cemeteries in South Asia* for assistance in taking up additional restoration work that needs to be done at the site.

Bulu Imam’s wife Philomena Imam has been his major support in promoting tribal art with their famous
proposed expansion of the NIFT programme.

Hazaribagh has now become widely known for its tribal art ever since Prime Minister Modi during one of his Man-ki-Baat talks commented on the beautiful murals painted at the Hazaribagh Railway Station.

KARNATAKA

Dharwad

The Chapter marked World Museum Day in collaboration with the locally well known Hotel Mandir, with Convenor N.P. Bhat welcoming the guests. It was chaired by the former District Judge and senior poet Jinadatt Desai. Erudite epigraphist Dr. S.V. Padigar gave a special talk on the Museum and its importance to society, highlighting the significance of epigraphy in the writings of our ancient history and for understanding the socio-economic conditions of that time.

Recently a workshop for four students of the Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), Patna was conducted by Philomena Imam at the Chapter. Presumably they will use the designs effectively in textiles, ceramics, etc. in the

exhibitions regularly held overseas. Recently she painted the inner walls of the Koderma Circuit House with the traditional comb cutting style of Khovar art. With her fellow team of tribal painters, they also painted the walls of St. Joseph’s Mount Carmel School in Hazaribagh town with traditional Sohrai art.

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Hazaribagh Railway Station

Hubli Dharwad Mayor Ashwini Majjigi, Deputy Mayor Smita JadHAV, N.P. Bhat, Dr. Yashoda Bhat, Co-Convenor Brigadier S.G. Bhagwat, Co-Convenor P.H. Raykar among others

The function concluded on a musical note with the eminent exponent of Kirana Gharana Vidushi Smita Bellur from Mumbai rendering the melodious Rag Marubihag. She studied under the tutelage of several renowned musicians like the late Sangeet Ratna Arjuna Nakod, Pandit Balachandra Nakod and Vidushi Alka Dev Marulkar. She also rendered some Sufi bhajans, vachanas and the songs of Dasas. Dr. Mohan Nath gave the vote of thanks.

This successful event was anchored by Shashikala Joshi. Mandar Hotel hosted a lavish dinner for the invitees that was much appreciated by the Chapter.
**Vijaypur**

Convenor Krishna Kolhar Kulkarni was specially invited by the District Minister, who is also the State Irrigation Minister, on *World Environment Day* 5th June to the meeting convened to chalk out a programme. Vijaypur is presently one of the worst drought prone district in the country. It was decided to set up a *Vruksha Abhiyan Trust* which is under registration with Bijapur Chapter as one of its Members. A decision was taken to plant one crore trees in the next 5 year, of which 15 lakhs trees will be planted in the district within the course of this year.

A number of activities were also chalked out like awareness programmes for children with essay and painting competitions to be organised by the Chapter in city schools in association with the Deputy Director Education (DDPI), and later extended to *talukas*. A marathon run will also be programmed.

**Students participating in World Heritage Day**

**MAHARASHTRA**

**Datia**

Shri Vinod Kumar Mishra is appointed the new Convenor of the Datia Chapter. Welcome to INTACH! We wish you every success in the onerous responsibilities you have taken up as the head of the Chapter.

**Dhar**

Convenor Deependra Sharma wrote to the Chief Minister requesting that the *Jal Nagri* in Dhar be given the status of a historically important site. The district has over 12 ponds, 35 step wells and more than a 100 wells within an area of 2 km. These are listed water bodies and need to be protected.

**Gwalior**

On the occasion of *World Heritage Day*, the Chapter opened a new Heritage Club in *Bhartiyam Vidya Niketan* in the presence of 800 students. Dr. Kamakshi Maheshwari gave an introductory talk on heritage – its significance and conservation. Co-Convenor Vikas Singh highlighted the role of INTACH. The students performed a skit based on “Save Heritage” as the theme. Thirty students became members of the Club.

The Chapter organized a painting competition on *World Environment Day* 2016 on the theme *Save Natural Heritage* at the Nishi Kala Niketan, Chetakpuri. It made young people think and care about natural heritage, especially at a time when Gwalior was rated among one of India’s most polluted cities. In the 90 minutes event, 70 students in the under-15 age group participated, with INTACH providing all the required art material on the spot. Later they were served refreshments, while State Convenor Dr. H.B. Maheshwari and Nishi Gupta selected the prize winners. The event attracted considerable attention, and was covered by Doordarshan, as well as the *Dainik Bhaskar* that even featured some of the best paintings.

**MADHYA PRADESH**

**Mumbai**

INTACH Vice Chairman cum Convenor Tasneem Mehta nominated Gargi Mashruwala and Priyanka Talreja to attend the Capacity Building Workshop conducted by INTACH Heritage Academy at the Central Office in Delhi. The workshop explored key issues of different types of heritage to develop an understanding of strategies that can help influence Government policies. The workshop was a good opportunity for them to gain an insight into the
Central Office functioning and to interact with colleagues from different INTACH Chapters and Divisions.

The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) has appointed the Mumbai Chapter for undertaking repairs and restoration of the Grade I Heritage Flora Fountain which is an iconic landmark of the city. A condition mapping was initially carried out by INTACH art conservators. Vikas Dilawari is appointed as the Consultant Architect for this prestigious conservation project that will commence after the Monsoons.

**Flora Fountain**

Flora Fountain

**Pune**

Yes Bank recently expressed an interest for collaborating on heritage walks for the year 2016-17. Chapter’s Facebook Account has gathered 957 Friends and 648 Likes as on the 9th June 2016. Chapter’s

**Wellington Fountain**

The Wellington Fountain was built in 1865 in commemoration of the visit of Duke of Wellington to India in 1801 and 1804. The Mumbai Art Conservation Centre submitted a proposal for cleaning the marble panels of the Wellington Fountain. A preliminary examination revealed that the eight marble panels are covered with multiple layers of lime wash on the paint layers and have camouflaged details on the panels’ decorative carvings.

**An interactive talk on Bajirao Peshwa**

**Gond Painting Workshop**

Gond Painting Workshop
newsletters can now be viewed online at https://issuu.com/intachmumbai A website on Chapter projects and activities is being launched shortly.

On occasion of the 276\textsuperscript{th} death anniversary of Shrimant Bajirao Peshwa, an interactive talk by Dr. Uday Kulkarni was held. A sale counter for publications on Maratha History was organized at the venue, and souvenirs on Bajirao Peshwa were launched. A video recording of the talk was also launched on youtube.

Gond Painting Workshops conducted by master artist Ramesh Tekam from Bhopal were organized jointly with the Heart for Art organization at two venues in Pune on 23\textsuperscript{rd} April. Warsaa - the Chapter’s Heritage Shop celebrated its 12\textsuperscript{th} Anniversary. The Chapter held a sketching session that was open to all.

The documentary A Road to Nowhere on issues relating to the rivers of Pune was launched in three languages: English, Hindi and Marathi. It is available on youtube.

INTACH Pune is supporting a PIL filed at NGT against the proposed Metro alignment on Pune’s river bed.

\begin{center}
\textbf{CONDOLENCES}
\end{center}

The Chapter reported with great sadness the news of Madhavi Kapur passing away on 1\textsuperscript{st} June. She was an active INTACH Pune Chapter Member and an educationist of standing who dedicated her life to children’s education. She designed innovative heritage education techniques for which she will be long remembered.

INTACH sends condolences to the Kapur family, and wishes them strength and forbearance at this time of sorrow and their grievous loss. Our good wishes for the future are with them.

\begin{center}
\textbf{Chandrapur}
\end{center}

Convenor Ashok Singh Thakur forwarded a pamphlet published by the Chapter on the Natural Heritage of Chandrapur District. The region is one of the most naturally endowed areas with forest and wildlife, endangered birds, water resources, sacred groves and geological formations.

\begin{center}
\textbf{Manipur}
\end{center}

President Pranab Mukherjee was the Chief Guest on Khongjom Day 23\textsuperscript{rd} April, a day marked to remember the supreme sacrifices made by freedom fighters and to pay homage to the valiant Major Paona Brajabashi - all of whom distinguished themselves in the Anglo Manipuri War of 1891. Governor V. Shanmugarathan and Chief

\begin{center}
\textbf{SOMESHWAR TEMPLE}
\end{center}

Someshwar Temple was built by Kashibai, wife of Baji Rao Peshwa. The recent film Bajirao Mastani was mostly the love story of this Maratha warrior. There was more to Kashibai than a devoted wife who struggled to accept her husband’s relationship but could not go against the wishes of her mother-in-law. After her husband’s death she even educated their son as a warrior. She controlled the day to day running of the empire when the men were out on battlefield.

Someshwar Temple was later built by Kashibai’s brother at her suggestion in 1749, a short distance from her father’s haveli built in Maharashtrian wada style in Chaaskamaan her birth place. Its tall structure called the Deepmala has 256 diyas lit up on Tripurari Poornima which is visited by many people to this day.
Minister Okram Ibobi Singh were at hand to welcome the President. He inaugurated the War Memorial cum Tourist Centre at Khongjom. He addressed the enthusiastic audience that had awaited his arrival to celebrate the historic day when brave Manipuri fighters, though outnumbered and outclassed, had stood ground and fought to the end. It was the last battle of India’s annexation by British forces that had begun with the Battle of Plassey in 1757 and the defeat of Nawab of Bengal, and when the East India Company first came into existence. Selfless sacrifice, indomitable courage and patriotic fervor leave a long lasting imprint on the hearts and character of people for all times to come.

The British handed over Manipur to Maharaj Budhachandra Singh, who hoisted the *Dragon God Pakhangba* flag. Manipur State came into existence on 21st January 1972, and *Meitwi-lon* (Manipuri) was included in the Eighth Schedule of the official Languages of India in 1992.

**ODISHA**

**Balasore**

State Convenor A.B. Tripathy reviewed the various Chapter activities in a meeting of its Executive Committee. He advised the Committee that a consolidated listing and documentation of tangible heritage sites be compiled into a book. The Chapter should prepare project report of at least one site and submit it to Central Office for funding.

Convenor Himanshu Das chaired a meeting organized on World Heritage Day, with Co-Convenor Uday Ranjan Das explaining the importance of this day. A sizable number of the Public, college students and INTACH Members attended. The Chief Guest Vice Chancellor of Fakir Mohan University, and Guest of Honour Advisor State Planning Board R.N. Das graced the occasion. Member Anil Dhir presented a paper on the listing and documentation of the *Jagannath Sadak* connecting erstwhile Calcutta and Puri. The Chief Guest gave a scientific presentation on the causes of deterioration of monuments due to climatic and bacterial attack. In summation of the proceedings Co-Convenor U.R. Das emphasized the importance of a solid membership base for INTACH to take on indiscriminate destruction of heritage assets that is rampant in the name of development.

In association with the Balasore Art & Crafts College a summer camp was held on 1st-8th May, inaugurated by former MLA Arun Dey. Families of INTACH Members participated along with students present in large numbers. The week long camp was supervised by as many as 37 teachers from various colleges. Odisha Government Director Culture Amarendra Mishra was the Chief Guest; and Secretary Odisha Lalit Kala Academy was the...
Chief Speaker on the concluding day of this well attended workshop. Prizes were awarded to the best participants in each category.

**Bhubaneswar**

Shri S.K.B. Narayan is the new Convenor of the Bhubaneswar Chapter. He will be assisted by Co-Convenor Shri Ramhari Jena and Additional Co-Convenor Shri P.C. Dhir. Bhubaneswar is one of the great heritage cities of India. There is considerable work to be done. We wish the team every success in this challenging undertaking.

**Jajpur**

*World Heritage Day* was observed at the Trilochaneswar Temple complex attended by forty INTACH Members and a large gathering including students. A renowned story writer and recipient of the *Sarala* and *Atibadi Jaganath Das Awards* from IMFA and the Odisha Sahitya Academy was invited as the Chief Guest. Chapter Advisor Dr. Ekadash Padhi highlighted the importance of cultural heritage, stressing on conservation and restoration of decaying sites.

Convenor Balaram Mohanty and several other INTACH Members Damodar Behera, Anil Kumar Mohanty, Asoka Kumar Das, Basanta Kumar Das, Gobinda Chandra Swain and Dr. Pranati Samal elaborated on how to create greater heritage awareness among the people.

*World Museum Day* was also celebrated by the Chapter on 18th May, along with Chapter Members and invited dignitaries at the DRDA Conference Hall. Chapter Advisor Prafulla Chandra Samal presided, with Convenor, Co-Convenor and Member Prof. Damodar Behera on the dais. Chief Guest Sub Collector Maheswara Panigrahi elaborated on the necessity of museums and their utility to an Archaeological Museum in Jajpur. He said the State Government had already allocated Rs. 6 crore for construction of a museum at Jajpur.

Chapter Advisor Dr. Ekadashi Padhi as Chief Speaker further elaborated on the need for Museums, and its educational benefits to society. Members Dr. Rajkisore Panda, Prof. Udayanarayan Parida, Prafulla Chandra Parida, Dr. Aksaya Kumar Panda and Giridhari Swain spoke on different facets of heritage and the importance of the proposed museum. Co-Convenor Dr. Binoda Chandra gave the vote of thanks at the conclusion of the meeting.

**Mayurbhanj**

The Chapter celebrated its Annual Function on 17th April on the eve of *World Heritage Day*. Odisha State Convenor A.B. Tripathy was the Chief Guest. He reiterated the importance of conservation and preservation of heritage emphasising that Members should be alert to any...
discovery made of hidden heritage sites. Guest Speaker Dr. A.K. Dubey spoke on the medicinal plants found in the Similipal region.

The function and the cultural programme was presided by Convenor Major R.N. Parida. Co-Convenor Pratyus Mohanty proposed the vote of thanks.

PUNJAB

Amritsar

On the occasion of World Heritage Day, the Chapter organized a heritage walk. It developed and popularized the concept of heritage walks with a route map of the walled city of Amritsar more than a decade ago. It has thus sensitized the residents, State Government, local administration and socio-cultural organizations about the cultural heritage of Amritsar. Social scientist and INTACH Member Dr. Gurshaminder Singh Bajwa described heritage walks as a mode of social awakening which draws attention to heritage issues. The administration works only in the framework of urban development. However the local level administration needs to capitalize on this INTACH initiative, especially as it will attract a greater influx of the Punjab diaspora from overseas. The walk has even been awarded by the President of India.

The Chapter organized a Folk Song and Folk Story Telling Competition at Sri Guru Harkrishan Public School. Several prominent schools of the city participated in the widely attended event, with their well prepared students making excellent story telling presentations. The School Principal said it was very important to connect with India’s cultural heritage and drew attention to INTACH’s appreciable work in this regard. Punjab State Convenor Dr. Sukhdev Singh stressed on the long and rich cultural past of the State and the importance of linking development and change with its tradition and cultural past. Amritsar Co-Convenor Hira Singh gave the vote of thanks, pointing out that INTACH is the only organization that continually raised cultural heritage issues among the public in a holistic manner.

RAJASTHAN

RAJASTHAN STATE CONVENORS MEET 24th–25th April 2016
The Annual Rajasthan Convenors’ Meet was held at Hotel Ginger, Jaipur. State Convenor Gaj Singh was welcomed by Chairman L.K. Gupta, Convenors Dharmendra Kanwar and Hari Singh Palkiya, and Director Chapters Rahul Pathak.

Shri Gaj Singh congratulated the newly appointed Convenors and Co-Convenors who would be facing new challenges in the onerous tasks entrusted to them. It was an occasion for them to acquaint themselves with the experiences of the established Convenors.

Shri Gaj Singh proffered many useful suggestions. In particular he requested Convenors to work in groups and coordinate efforts to promote youth programmes. He advised them to familiarize themselves with simple technology like computing and e-mailing for effective functioning. He stressed the importance of involving Youth, Press and Media in all major activities of a Chapter.

Chairman L.K. Gupta in his inaugural address warmly welcomed all the Convenors.

Chairman pointed out how Rajasthan State has wisely used cultural resources as the raw material for tourism promotion. Nevertheless there are many private properties still lying untended that could be revived to further boost tourism. Listing must be a priority for all Chapters for taking up any conservation activity. Chairman gave a resume of all the new thrusts areas and shared an overview of the recent activities taken up at Central Office. He said there was a strategic change in the conservation concept - from monument-centric of early days it now embraces natural, intangible and other facets of heritage in a holistic approach.

Chapter Covenors of Jaisalmer, Rajsamand, Udaipur, Bikaner, Karauli, Barmer, Jodhpur, Bundi, Sawai Madhopur, Pali, Bilwara, Baran, Ajmer and Shekhawati discussed their individual programmes, achievements and future plans.

Rajasthan State Co-Convenor Hari Singh Palkiya felt sacred groves are of urgent concern as they are being increasingly encroached upon by Corporate Houses. He proposed bringing the Buddhist sites in Jhalawar to the attention of the Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje Scindia, as they are in her constituency.

Jaisalmer Convenor reported on the survey of monuments scattered in Pokhran, Jaisalmer, etc. and the constraints due to lack of public transport.

Jaipur Convenor Dharmender reported that the documentation of baories and other traditional water bodies in Bikaner, Sikar, Jhunjhunu and Chomu had been submitted to the PHED, Jaipur. She requested State Convenor’s intervention in the Meera Project funded by the State Government.

Bikaner Convenor Prithvi Raj Ratnu drew attention to Orans and Gochars land. As per laws she said the Government cannot interfere in their conservation.

Barmer Convenor Yashovardhan Sharma informed that the a Vegetable Dye Workshop organized by the Chapter resulted in the successful collection of 4000 documents regarding encroachment of Oran and Gochars through RTI.

Jodhpur Convenor Dr. Mahendra Singh Tanwar reported the listing of sacred groves, and was advised to prepare a report of bye-laws for submission to the proposed meeting of the Heritage Cell of IIT.

Bundi Convenor Vijay Raj Singh asked for support for conserving the remaining Bawries as there has been considerable encroachment in the Bhawaldi Bawrie area.
Sawai Madhopur Convenor Padm Nabh Khatri suggested that each Chapter should liaise with the CSR Department of Companies within their region for tapping funds. The Central Office is preparing a CSR Funding Project at national level which will shortly be provided to all State Chapters, to facilitate signing MOUs with the Rajasthan Government directly.

Thakur Ranvir Singh opined that Meera Bai has a strong cultural identity in Rajasthan. All Trusts working for this cause can be merged for a more effective involvement of the public.

Nagaur Convenor Himmat Singh informed that a six-member team is involved in Amar Singh’s Panorama.

Pali Convenor Karan Singh Chauhan drew attention to the Somnath Temple stones and the lack of conservation expertise for their conservation. He also reported the poor condition of ASI site in Nadol, and the existence of historic coins that should be housed in a museum.

Bhilwara Convenor Babu Lal Jaju suggested patronage of Phad artistes and promotion of their paintings. He felt there should be World Heritage Arts listing similar to the recognized World Heritage Sites. An interesting suggestion!

Baran Convenor Jitendra Sharma reported the on-going documentation of 13 sites not listed to date. Maandna is a dying art form that needs to be revived.

In conclusion, INTACH Chairman suggested that all Chapters should share information regarding activities, programmes and problems with their State Chapter Office. Listing and Documentation should be accorded highest priority. He suggested that State level Newsletter should be published rather than individual Chapter newsletters as it would have a greater impact and would also be cost effective.

The Rajasthan State Convenors Meet at Jaipur attracted considerable public attention. It was widely covered by the media. It portends well for a new Rajasthan Heritage Conservation Bill that is currently under consideration.

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**CONDOLENCES**

The heritage conservation movement lost a great pioneer with the passing away of John Singh (Jitendra Pal Singh) on 13th April this year. It was fashionable in those early days to also have an English name. Like the name of his cult craft-apparel stores named “Anokhi” that are flourishing in 17 cities of India, he too was a “unique” man - a heritage conservator, passionate biker, and the reviver of Sanganer and Bagru textiles. He also set up an organic café with homegrown ingredients from the Anokhi Farm. His biggest contribution was the Rajasthani International Folk Festival which gave local folk musicians a world stage. Along with his wife Faith, they were instrumental in starting the Jaipur Virasat Foundation which later transformed into the Jaipur Literature Festival, now the city’s flagship international event held annually.

Long before all these milestone events at Jaipur, John Singh was our INTACH Convenor. His efforts led to the restoration of Nahargarh and Jantar Mantar in Jaipur, and that of an old haveli using indigenous techniques that later became the Anokhi Crafts Museum. John and Faith together revived the traditional block printing which was a dying art by bringing in designers from the National Institute of Design (NID), Ahmedabad and from UK. The block printed apparels soon became designer wear in high demand.

John will be greatly missed by the people of Jaipur, his many friends and by conservationists everywhere. INTACH sends its heartfelt condolences to his wife Faith and his children, daughters Radha and Sia, and son Pritam on their grievous loss. We wish them strength and forbearance at this painful time, with many good wishes. “Anokhi John” will be best remembered forever if his family takes his pioneering works to greater heights of success.
Ajmer

Convenor Mahendra Vikram Singh marked the 850th birth anniversary of Samrat Prithviraj Chauhan by sending out greeting cards on behalf of the Chapter.

Barmer

Convenor Yashovardhan Sharma has collated a fund of information on the Wild Animals of the Great Thar. Rajasthan Desert has an unmatched variety of flora and fauna that are well adapted to its adverse climatic conditions even in summer. They include numerous species of birds, reptiles, desert scorpions, mongoose, red fox, chinkara and falcons. There are 25 species of snakes to be found in the Thar desert, the most dangerous being the scaled viper, large rat snake, black cobra and the sand boa that easily hide in the sand. The Great Indian Bustard, the blackbuck and wild cat are a few species that are vanishing from other parts of India but are spotted here. Camels long known as the ‘ship of deserts’ come to mind for a wildlife safari in the desert. The Black Buck is protected by Wildlife of India.

In fact the Thar Desert boasts of eleven national parks, the largest being the Nara Desert Wildlife Sanctuary. The Rann of Kutch is the only protected area for the Indian Wild Ass, one of the most endangered species of India. Also endangered is the flying predator, the dark and majestic Desert Eagle that preys on smaller birds. The other types of harriers are Indian vulture, falcons and buzzards. There are 23 species of lizards and 25 species of snakes. The Thar “ocean of sands” provides a perfect habitat for Indian wild cats.

Such a large variety of wildlife animals of the desert can make the Thar Desert a major wildlife destination, if promoted with proper facilities and extensive publicity like some of the African sanctuaries that draw tourists from all over the world.

The Chapter marked World Environment Day jointly with the Department of Mines and Geology – with a pledge. It was a day of planting trees for the Chapter. Convenor Yashovardhan Sharma has written to the Chief Minister regarding various issues related to forest and environment, and problems caused by open mining of lignite.

World Environment Day was celebrated at the premises of 1978 built town museum that had closed down. INTACH initiated its revival with the celebration at the venue as a step in that direction. Chief Guest Manoj Aggarwal spoke about the urgency for preserving heritage in the wake of rapid modernization. An Algoza recital was organized as this musical instrument is on verge of being lost.
The Chapter embarked on the second phase of conserving Kaga’s chhatris and the Shitlamata Temple complex. Twenty dumpers of rubbish were removed from the premises and the chhatris were carefully cleaned. Officials of Jodhpur Nagar Nigam, Mehrangarh Museum Trust, Marwar Jodhpur Chapter has taken similar initiatives to spread awareness about heritage conservation in the rural areas as they are the repository of many heritage assets.

**Jaipur**

The Chapter collaborated with NGO Cartist this year and were a part of their heritage related activities. A heritage calendar was launched as a part of heritage awareness programme. This year too, they continued with the series to provide information about the rich heritage of the Chapter and State.

*Students at the World Heritage Day celebration*

The Jaipur Municipal Corporation recently started working on the *Smart City* concept, with INTACH on its Advisory Committee. Convenor Dharmedra Kanwar is meeting the JMC Commissioner A.A. Pendnekar to discuss a bigger role for INTACH. She will also propose Heritage Walks within the Walled City, and is exploring a few other options based on her 2004 book titled *Ten Easy Walks in Jaipur*. It is a promising association with the local Government.

**Rajput Sabha, Vir Durgadas Smriti Samiti, Kaga Rajput Swargakram Samiti, Sambli Trust, Mehrangarh Pahari Paryavaran Vikas Samiti* and Lions Club took part in the activities. The event was widely reported in the media.

**Rajsamand**

The Chapter published a *Panchang* - an astrological calendar that carries dates of festivals, waning and waxing of the moon, auspicious time for conducting ceremonies, etc. The *Panchang* brought out by the Chapter is a novel concept as it contains a heritage song of Rajsamand, and photographs of various heritage sites and monuments.

**Udaipur**

*World Heritage Day* was celebrated at the Central Public Senior Secondary School, Udaipur, with the participation of students, educationists, historians and Chapter Members. Vice Chancellor Prof. U.S. Sharma of the Maharana Pratap Agriculture University, Udaipur was the Chief Guest. Other special guests were former Vice Chancellor Prof. M.L. Kalra, Director CPS Ms. Alka Sharma. They inspired the students by sharing their experiences of heritage matters and suggested broad guidelines. The meeting was presided by former Vice Chancellor of Udaipur JRN University Prof. B.P. Bhatnagar.

Convenor S.K. Verma highlighted that the objective of celebrating the *World Heritage Day* is to increase awareness...
other special invitees blessed the winners of the national and regional level competitions.

**GEOTHERMAL WELL**

A hot water well is a rare find in mostly dry Rajasthan! Earth scientists have discovered one such hot water well known as Nokhra Bera in Bichardi Village located between Beawar and Pali Districts, precisely one kilometer from Rajpur-Jhuta Village. The temperature of the watertable of 30 meters has been recorded to be above 58 degrees Celsius even in cold months. The poor owner Bhutraram of the well in his ignorance thought of the well as a curse because every day the water needed to be cooled to an ambient temperature for irrigating his fields. Such water wells are a rare geographical occurrence and are known as geothermal wells.

Retired Professor of Geology Pushpendra Singh Ranawat says both the groundwater department and the Geological Survey of India were not aware of the existence of any such well in Rajasthan. He is a member of INTACH Geo-Heritage Wing and visited the site recently. It is surmised that a deep fissure drives the ground water into the earth’s crust to form such wells.

**TAMILNADU**

**Tamilnadu Chapters Convenors Workshop** was held at the close of last quarter at Coimbatore, presided by Chairman L.K. Gupta. He lauded the Convenors and Co-Convenors from Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai, Nagercoil, Salem, Thanjavur, Nilgiris and Kodaikanal for their spirit of volunteerism and the vigour with which their Chapters in the south have been pursuing heritage programmes and pursuits. He stressed that greater emphasis needs to be placed on documenting bio-diversity and natural heritage in all cities and towns.
Convenors Tara Murli and Shankar Vanavarayar were complimented for the successful coordination of the Meeting.

**Nagercoil**

The Nagercoil Chapter published the *Heritage of Kanyakumari District*, along with the record of a few court orders on Public Interest Litigation that makes it a useful reference book. It is edited by Convenor Dr. R.S. Lal Mohan.

Kanyakumari is one of the cradles of Indian civilization, with a veritable treasure trove of historic monuments, temples, forts and palaces. The publication also covers subjects like the intangible heritage of the region, medical heritage, folklore and natural heritage contributed by 24 authors.

**Nilgiris**

Convenor Geetha Srinivasan and her illustrious husband Dr. M.R. Srinivasan were Guests of Honour at the Good Shepherd International School to celebrate *World Water Day* (22nd March). They spoke on the importance of conserving water and protecting this most vital life giving resource that is being rapidly depleted and polluted by people. Remedial measures are an urgent need of our times and calls for both public and private attention.

On a carefree note, the 12th *Summer Festival of Music and Dance* was held 3rd-5th June under the aegis of the Bharatiya Vidyta Bhavan, chaired by Dr. M.R. Srinivasan.
**Madurai**

Convenor Uma Kannan welcomed musician Anil Srinivasan, a western classical pianist, who delivered a Lecture on *Music and Its Nuances for Youngsters* at the Thiagarajar College. His nimble fingers enthralled the audience as they danced effortlessly on the keyboard while he belted out Ilayaraja and G.V. Prakash songs so popular with the local audience. He even played the nursery rhyme *Twinkle Twinkle Little Star* and the universally sung *Happy Birthday to You*. The audience was silent when questioned about their composers. He surprised them by divulging information about these widely sung songs. *Happy Birthday* for instance was penned 225 years ago by the Hill sisters, both Maths teacher, who wrote it on the spot to quiet a rowdy class! *Twinkle Twinkle* is a 275 years old song composed by a 12 year old boy who sat in a room blind-folded with a pen and paper in hand, and in the ensuing 45 minutes wrote these words even rendering 32 variations of the song. The audience was flabbergasted to know that this young composer was none other but Mozart! No wonder the musician held the audience at the Thiagaraja College spell bound with his engaging talk and music.

Anil Srinivasan drew parallels between different tunes and combined different musical notes on the keyboard. He said music is essentially an “intelligence construct” interlinking with different disciplines. To demonstrate this idea he combined popular Tamil songs with Happy Birthday and Twinkle Twinkle tunes. He shared stories about Einstein, Bach, Abdul Kalam and even housewives drawing the kolam to explain that there is architecture, science, mathematics and more in music. The best example he gave was by playing *My heart will go* from the movie *Titanic* and then switching to the local *Mankatha* theme song to demonstrate striking similarities - and called it *Mankatha Titanic*! He said the Melbourne University in Australia has introduced music as a compulsory subject, a tool for learning different subjects through the language of music!

INTACH Executive Committee Member Valli Annamalai said “If revived, Netti can be a wonderful opportunity for entrepreneurs… One major reason we are losing our traditional art forms is the lack of proper marketing”. Co-Convenor Rajesh Kanna told the students and teachers attending the workshop that it is important to save ancient craft from extinction as they are very much a part of their heritage.

**Salem**

The Chapter participated in a Music Fest *Selathil Thiruvaiyaru 2016* this quarter with 300 students taking part in classical concerts for a full week. Competitions were held in both vocal and instrumental music. INTACH was one of the sponsors for conducting these competitions and public relations.
Convenor Sharavanan informs the Chapter will be conducting music classes in Government schools and colleges this year with the assistance of the Saba. It will try to integrate traditional folklore for next year when a bigger event is planned with the participation of Periyar University to highlight the cultural importance of Salem.

**Thanjavur**

UNESCO established 18th April as the *International Day of Monuments and Sites* to draw world attention to the vulnerability of World Heritage and sites that need man’s protection. The name “Thanjavur” signifies the image of the magnificent Brahdeeswar Temple and to some extent the Thanjavur Palace. It is not surprising that this mausoleum complex of the Marathas still stands as a silent witness of past glory long after the Thanjavur’s kings and queens. Even the *Kailasa Mabal* referred to as *Raja Gori*, an astounding structure has withstood time. The Chapter joined hands with the Periyar Maniammai University to organise a mega rally to draw attention to these remnants of royal Maratha history of 1674-1855 period.

It was customary in those days to build shrines to Shiva and Parvatthi at the place of royal cremation, and 30 such monuments survive but mostly in a dilapidated condition. Built in brick and stucco over a laterite base, they have carvings of birds, animals, domes and other inspiring architectural elements. Convenor Babaji Rajah Bhonsle, who currently heads the palace temples, believes most were constructed in 1855 after Shivaji II passed away. The Chapter is looking for public support to preserve this bit of Maratha history of Thanjavur.

**TELANGANA**

**Hyderabad**

The XXI INTACH Heritage Awards 2016 function was held on 18th April with Air Commodore Suresh Badyal as the Chief Guest. It was a jubilant event because of the Stay Order on GO 183 (see Box). Convenor Anuradha Reddy welcomed the gathering saying the Stay Order had come on the day of the Awards and “warmed the cockles of hearts of one and all”. As Co-Convenor Sajjad Shahid elaborated “Many of us believed that after the creation of Telengana State, they would usher in an era of liberty”.

The *Kharkhana Zinda Tillismath* located in Amberpet, one of the oldest Unani manufacturing unit established in 1920, received INTACH Award for its associational value as birthplace of Hyderabad’s very own magic potion and the legacy of Hakeem Mohammed Moizuddin Farooqui.

St. Francis Xavier’s Church, Yapral; Ramgopal Building at MG Road; Heritage Artillery Collection, Golconda; Equestrian Centre Hyderabad Mounted Police, Saifabad; Darussalam, Nampally were the other recipients. Notable among these is the 175 years old St. Francis Xavier Church for its restoration in 2015.

INTACH Governing Council Member M. Vedakumar was invited to the *International Museum Day*, 18th May at Salarjung Museum. He said museums convey a deep message of our rich history and hoped the newly formed Telengana State will give due importance to them. There are many heritage sites evacuated at Kindapur and Kotilingala and their rich history needs to be highlighted.
Several water bodies and lakes dried up this summer in Telangana due to the severe drought that befell the region. Interestingly, Ameenpur Lake in Medak district just 30 kms. from Hyderabad is one spot that escaped. Its rich flora and fauna attracted flamingos, pelicans, painted storks, grey herons and other migratory birds seeking an oasis in parched lands. Other water bodies in the same district like Patancheru Lake and ICRISAT lake have gone dry. The birds have also deserted the dried up Osmansagar, Himayatsagar, Singur and Manjeera reservoirs which meet the drinking water needs of Hyderabad. Members of Birdswatchers Society and Hyderabad Birding Pals have also spotted black winged stilt, little egret, cormorant, Indian silver bill, oriole and several other bird flocks at Ameenpur.

The exhibition of Satavahana Coins from Kotilinga at the State Museum attracted a large gathering of officials, historians and activists. Also present was the Principal Secretary Tourism and Culture to whom M. Vedakumar suggested the excavation of the Satavahana site of Kotilingala and construction of a museum at site.

so that students and visitors can learn more about the heritage of Deccan region. He added that heritage of the capital city of Hyderabad is an inalienable social, economic and cultural asset that must be protected by generating a positive identity and civic pride. He also stressed on the importance of involving Government and NGOs in heritage activities to bring in legislation. It will pave the way for Hyderabad to acquire the status of a World Heritage City.

M. Vedakumar further elaborated on this subject on 5th May at a discussion on All India Radio titled Of Charminar and Cyberabad, the two faces of the city. Hyderabad also goes by the sobriquet of City of Pearls, he said. He was the Guest of Honour at the release of a book History of Hyderabad by S.N. Rao where the Chief Guest was Najaf Ali Khan, the grandson of the erstwhile Nizam. Subsequently on 1st June, M. Vedakumar attended the release of another book Khas Mahal to Taj Mahal with archaeologists and scholars. The Consul General of Turkey Arda Ulutas was also present.

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WATER BODIES IN TELENGANA

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Flamingos at Ameenpur Lake
SAVED IN TIME
The High Court declared that no notified heritage building shall be demolished without permission of the Court. The Order was passed on the PILs filed by the Forum for a Better Hyderabad. Petitioners had complained that Heritage Regulations that protected old structures and precincts of the city for the last 25 years had been unilaterally withdrawn, on the plea that they were not consistent with the main Act. The city would then have been left with no heritage buildings intact. The Bench has now said that no notified heritage structure can be demolished or altered without permission of the Court.

The Health Minister has assured that the plan to demolish Osmania University had been abandoned. The Chief Minister is yet to make a statement on this subject.

BIRLA ARCHAEOLOGICAL & CULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
The Birla Archaeological & Cultural Research Institute (BACRI) was set up by the philanthropist and ardent art lover, the late Padma Bhushan GP Birla and his wife Nirmala in 1969 in rented premises at Himayatnagar, Hyderabad. Today it is located centrally on Naubat Pahad, Adarshnagar overlooking the sprawling city. It has grown over the years to become a premier institute known nationally and internationally with Art, Archaeological and Science Wings. The Institute conducts excavations, has an exquisite display of carvings, jade, crystal, manuscripts, miniatures and even a centuries old jewel studded carpet. The BACRI is affiliated to Osmania University with several scholars getting their PhD working on the BACRI collection under the guidance of its Director Dr. G.Kamalakar.

Warangal
World Heritage Day 18th April was held at the Sri Someshwara Swamy Temple, Palakurthy Village. For the first time this annual event was celebrated outside Warangal town to acquaint rural folks and students with the importance of conservation. Convenor Prof. M. Pandu Ranga Rao addressed the gathering on the meaning and significance of heritage, and the role young people could assume in protecting their heritage. He informed them about development of a tourist circuit involving names of three great saint poets Palakurthy Somanathudu, Bammera Pothana and Valmiki taken up by the Telengana Government. He elaborated on the economic importance of preserving these precious architectural and natural sites as tourism sites, and the resultant opportunities for the local people that would reap economic benefits. Senior citizens addressed the gathering on the important sites in and around their own Palakurthy region, bringing home an important message to the gathering of students and to the Executive Officer of the temple and its devotees.

UTTAR PRADESH
Gorakhpur
The Central Office congratulates the Gorakhpur Chapter for publishing Virasat Sabar Gorakhpur Itihas Ke Jharokhe Se giving details of 33 listed monuments. Listing and documentation are the two most effective tools for promoting heritage conservation. The next step is notification which lends teeth to the listing.

Lucknow
Convenor Vipul B. Varshney is delighted that a State Award for Heritage Conservation was awarded to his beloved city Lucknow by the UP Governor Ram Naik. As an architect and town planner he feels a renewed sense of responsibility towards what he lovingly calls “my Lucknow”. This recognition will hopefully arouse similar sentiments in all concerned, both officials and citizens, who must cooperate and share the responsibility of preserving this historic city.

Orai

A heritage march was organized for about 155 students of Dayanand Vedic College on the occasion of World Heritage Day.

The Chapter also organized a tour to Bundelkhand Museum for 250 students of Dayanand Vedic College. Convenor Dr. Hari Mohan Purwar addressed the students on the importance of heritage protection and conservation. A Coin Exhibition was also organized which was visited by 1600 school children.

WEST BENGAL

Kolkata

Kolkata celebrated its heritage over three days on 6th-8th May with five projects and the participation of many local artistes. INTACH and The Telegraph jointly presented the tangible and intangible heritage of the city through art, performances and collaborations. A selection of them, monitored by a six member panel including restoration architect Gerard da Cunha, posted some select ones online and others were put up at heritage addresses. The comic Tana Rickshaw Trilogy was told in motion and premiered online appealing to all sensibilities. The courtyard of Daw House, a heritage project building in Jorasanko took visitors back in time though music and theatre. Tram Tales gave the temporarily shut down Gariahat tram depot a new look mixed with art installations. There were many options to delight the senses like Food in the Adda Train or watching international films and shorts in the Filmy Tram, or participate in a theatre production at the Drama Tram, or appreciating art on a Graffiti Tram, or crooning to live music in front of the Music Tram. Travel Time was another attraction offering a 16 minute documentary on Oriental Seminary. The Kolkata Attic Diaries was showcased by young poets who pasted poetry and art works over the attic and adjoining terrace of a 180 years old Calcutta House near the city’s Chandni Chowk. Kolkata was full of surprise about Calcutta!

Drawings of Writers Building

The Public Works Department (PWD) recovered the original drawings of the iconic Writers’ Building from Kolkata’s BBD Bag Office. The drawings date back to 1821 and 1910 when the original structure was designed by Thomas Lyon and underwent several changes subsequently. By that time the building graduated from being just the quarter of junior clerks known as “Writers” of the East India Company to housing the Fort William
College. The British officials had always eyed the building for its vantage location, and eventually Lt. Governors Campbell and Eden got the offices of the Secretariat shifted into it with five more blocks added to the building between 1870-1906. Statues sculpted by William Frederic Woodington were installed lining the terrace in 1883.

It took INTACH six months to restore the creased and brittle drawings on the request of the PWD. INTACH located some of the earliest sketches at the India Office Library in London, and traced how the white linear building turned red with later architectural additions. Convenor G.M. Kapur commented that years of lying untouched inside the trunk had left its mark on these invaluable documents.

**Santiniketan**

The Chapter organized a *Patachitra* workshop for students of Bolpur Girls' High School. *Patachitra* is a folk art where stories from *Puranas* are painted and often accompanied by singing. Shantanu Patua a famous painter demonstrated the techniques and explained other related nuances. His demonstration was accompanied with a song in the traditional style.

**OVERSEAS CHAPTER**

**Belgium**

The project *Lost Garden of Khajuraho* continues to thrive with the deployment of two PhD researchers who have forged a close link with the local people. Convenor Geert Robberechts writes that the involvement of the Natural Heritage Division, and especially that of the new Chapter Convenor Narayan Singh Bhayal, has been most helpful in furthering the long cherished project of his Chapter. Last quarter the Chapter organised a site workshop *Mapping a Historical Landscape : the Gardens of Rajnagar* at the site. A free lance photographer Himanshu Dhanda provided valuable lessons in architectural and landscape photography to the participants. The Chapter proposes to promote the *Lost Gardens of Khajuraho* among more building architects.

Member Johan D'Hulster travelled to India to give training to farmers at the agrarian center in Bande and also visited surrounding villages. Along with local hand Prem Singh he met Shubash Singh, a farmer’s leader from Sharbai village not far from Chhattarpur. The Chapter will be collaborating with him in finding agrarian solutions for drought ridden lands. Many local people regard drought as punishment by the Gods, but D'Huslster spoke about this phenomenon as a global situation resulting in climate change. He touched on the effects of fossil fuels, de-forestation and the role of sustainable agricultural system that was once practiced. Many farmers stood up to speak promising to do their bit. D'Huslster also visited Chhahenera, a part of a cluster of three villages. He was surprised to see *Aavatansheel Kheti*, an oasis
Prime Minister Narendra Modi stated “Yoga embodies unity of mind and body; thought and action; restraint and fulfillment; harmony between man and nature; a holistic approach to health and well being”. An idea he mooted last year that found resonance around the world - with a few exceptions of course! However many countries sang praises about International Yoga Day, which incidentally is also World Music Day. This year the United Nations Secretariat projected a series of Yoga poses on the sides of its Secretariat in New York which had passers-by stopping in their tracks. Executive Director WHO at the UN declared “Yoga is India’s gift to the world”. Mystic Yoga Master Jaggi Vasudev however said that it does not belong to India because “science cannot be Indian because of its universality and absoluteness”. He considers it a “technology for human betterment” and thinks Yoga should be treated as a proper science, not as a technology for human betterment.

Yoga in Visual Art Ack : IGNCA, Curated by V. Bangroo
cultural thing, not as a Indian thing. India’s Representative to the UN stated diplomatically “both aspects of Yoga, mindful thought and mindful action, have a direct bearing on our collective response to global problems”. No doubt this is of the most immediate relevance to our ‘terroristic’ times.

Central office invited Ms. Nisha Mahajan, a Yoga expert, to give a demonstration to INTACH staff. And some of them even struggled to keep pace with her!

GETTING TOGETHER

Finland will celebrate its centenary year to mark 100 years of its existence as an independent State on 6th December 1917. The Finland 100 Years organization has been established in the Prime Minister’s Office with a thematic call “Together”, and invites applications from other countries for subsidies offered to support any one of hundred programmes/projects to be implemented outside Finland. It is an opportunity for societies, institutes and even individuals to propose projects in the fields of culture, education, etc. that highlights their link to Finland. India could float such a concept perhaps for neighbouring countries in the year 2047 when the country celebrates the centenary of our Independence.

IVORY INFERNO

Heaps of ivory tusks costing $1000 dollars per kilo went up in flames recently in the Nairobi National Park, like pieces of log. Kenya has firmly resolved to torch the ivory trading in the country. President Uhuru Kenyatta stated this ivory trade “meant death of our elephants and death of our natural heritage”. In
all 105 tonnes of elephant ivory were lit up consuming thousands of litres of kerosene injected into the piles of ivory through steel underground pipes that fed the raging flames. Africa is home to nearly 50,000 elephants, averaging more than 30,000 elephants killed every year, with only a small fraction of them dying naturally. Kenya has set an example for other countries of the continent, and to India also.

FLASHING RED

GIDMaPS

The Global Integrated Drought Monitoring and Prediction System (GIDMaPS) provides real-time drought information based on indicators and data. It is known to users around the world. 2015 was the hottest year on record, and March this year was the hottest March ever. And summers are likely to get worse with passing time. Tens of millions in the Mekong river base – Myanmar, Laos, Thailand, Cambodian and Vietnam were severely affected this season. In these countries water usage was rationed, and in places water to field was even cut off. National emergency was declared in some of the Pacific islands and archipelagos. 40 million people face food shortages in Africa, of which 10 million are on the verge of acute malnutrition. Even in some countries of South America 6 million face malnutrition. According to the Supreme Court, drought in India that is affecting 33 crore people in 256 districts is part of a global spell of dry weather. Worst hit are Marathwada, Vidarbha, Andhra Pradesh, Telengana, Gujarat, Bundelkhand and Chhattisgarh. Is it time for water rationing and imposition of water harvesting on every big roof top in our country, the obverse of a GIDMaPS for India?
Both temples are dilapidated with collapsed shikharas. Villagers are undertaking unguided restoration further damaging the stability of building. The sites are 30 kms. from Solapur, Maharashtra.

In this issue of INTACH newsletter Virasat, we bring to your notice two heritage properties at risk. They are in urgent need of financial support of Corporations who would like to preserve the country’s heritage assets. It is what we need to bequeath to our children and to the generations to come so that they may take pride in our civilisational heritage and enrich their lives.

**CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR)**

Ministry of Corporate Affairs notification effective April 2014 states Companies of Rs. 500 crore net worth or Rs. 10,000 crore or more turnover, or Rs. 5 crore net worth profit during any financial year, must constitute a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Committee to recommend to their Board the amount to be spent on social causes. At least 2% of the average net profits of the Company during the three immediately preceding years should be spent on activities like eradication of hunger or malnutrition; or enhancing vocational skills, education, safe drinking water etc. important to society.

CSR also covers socially vital activities like conservation of nature; environmental sustainability; protection of heritage properties, works of art, and intangible heritage. These are specialised subjects of INTACH activities since its foundation 30 years ago. The Trust is recognized as an institute of national importance by the Government, and is executing many such projects in partnership with State Governments across the country and at the Centre. The Corporate sector can take up conservation activities through INTACH. It will enhance their public image, and enable them to avail of 2% tax exemption while executing corporate social responsibilities.

**CALL FOR HELP !**

Enlightened Corporates for preserving and protecting our National Wealth!