Quiet flows the Yamuna?

Happy New Year 2016 to all our Members and Readers
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The best known cities of the world like London on the Thames, New York on the Hudson, Paris on the Seine, Rome on the Tiber, Budapest on the Danube, Cairo on the Nile, Basra on the Euphrates, Ho Chi Minh City on the Saigon, Bangkok on the Chao Pray, to name just a few of many other cities of the world, have embraced their rivers into the life and living of their people. In fact the development of waterways was the norm for even smaller towns not only to enjoy panoramic views but also regarded as assets to capitalize – like the winding canals of Venice or the seaside splendor of Cape Town. Alas, not one Indian city located on river banks of the Ganga, Narmada, Sutlej, Jhelum, Hooghly, Cauvery, Godavari, Krishna, to mention a few of India’s well known river; has exploited waterways to the same extent.

This is a tale of one – the Yamuna River. She flows from the glaciers of Yamunotri in the Himalayan range, and travels 1370 miles to merge with the Ganga at Allahabad in the holy Triveni Sangam. Mythology has it that Yamuna is the sister of Yama, the God of Death; but she is also the daughter of the Sun God Surya, and worshipped as a holy entity akin to Ganga Ma. Once upon a time she perhaps flowed into the now extinct Saraswati River? Many of India’s rivers carry such tales that are sacred, but presently they are not revered as much as carelessly treated by the populace inhabiting the river banks.
It is a matter of regret, ex-post facto of course, that Edwin Lutyens chose to look down from the heights of Raisina Hill to envisage a capital that would best represent the might of Imperial rule. If only he had built the capital along the Yamuna, perhaps we might have had another legendary tale to tell!

Alas, ‘dis-quiet’ flows the Yamuna of today. By the time she reaches Delhi, rated one of the most polluted cities of India, she has dwindled to a mere 4 feet depth in many places. Along her arduous journey to the capital, she has suffered many diversions and excessive abstractions, and has traversed bridges and barrages built in recent developmental decades. In the National Capital Region (NCT) of Delhi she is further diminished into segments, and is already choking with human pollution and industrial waste.

Presently there are a total of 6 dams, 9 barrages, 6 irrigation structures in the Yamuna sub-basin. En route the Yamuna has also irrigated the States of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan; and confronted intensive farming in their flood plains and watersheds. She has suffered sedimentation and chemical fertilizers streaming into the bosom of her waters. Like many of her sister rivers in India, the Yamuna is in need of intensive care. If the rain gods are kind she may breathe easy for a short while, otherwise she must flow lean and mean, year after year.

Yamuna in Floods 2010

The Natural Heritage Division (NHD) of INTACH has carried out an in-depth study of the in-stream ecology of the Delhi stretch of the Yamuna covering some 51 kms. It is an inventory detailing with its present biodiversity as a baseline against

Butterfly, Gandhi Nagar flood plains

Waterbody, Yamuna Biodiversity Park
which water quality improvement can be measured. The floodplains of Yamuna are under immense anthropogenic stress today owing to different land uses that have impacted its ecology. Natural lakes like the Najafgarh Jheel or man-made ones like the Hauz Khas, even the village ponds, are in need of greater attention. Tube wells and tapped water are the order of our times. How long before they can also run dry?

INTACH’s in-depth study is entitled *Ecological Inventory of Yamuna River in NCT Delhi*. NHD’s baseline surveys for example assessed current fish diversity by casting nets at various locations. The National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources of Lucknow report states there are 63 fish species in the Yamuna water. But the fish catch in Delhi is extremely low with only the hardy varieties surviving its polluted waters. It has affected the livelihood of poor fishermen.

**Tilapia, Yamuna Jagatpur Bund**

Garbage collectors and children collecting waste are to be seen at many of Yamuna’s river banks, a far cry from Lutyens Delhi. Today Delhi is a tale of two cities!

The NHD Study offers both suggestions and solutions. The study maps the wide variety of habitats available in urbanscape and how they can be networked.
The National Waterways Bill 2015 envisages a developmental plan to link religious sites situated on river banks with waterways. Much like it evolved in historic times, and in our times it will also boost Tourism and livelihoods of the people. The Ministries of Shipping and of Tourism are in talks with different stakeholders. Discussions on connectivity to terminals, basic civic infrastructure, river cruises, etc. are works in progress currently. Circuits around Allahabad, Varanasi, Patna, Guwahati, Bhagalpur, Kolkata, Tezpur and Neemati have been identified for development.

INTACH is of the view that studies like the compilation of *Ecological Inventory of the Yamuna River* are required for all the major rivers of India. To save them – and to save ourselves.

**YAMUNA AARTI**

The first ever *Yamuna aarti*, on the line of the famous *Ganga aarti* held in Varanasi, was performed this year at *Gita Ghat* during Diwali, amidst flickering lamps and conch shells as part of Delhi Government’s efforts to clean and revive the Yamuna River. The Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal announced that a new company is being formed with the Union Urban Development Ministry on the lines of the Delhi Metro, with each having a 50% stake, for cleaning up the Yamuna and its banks from Palla to Okhla. “The Yamuna has been part of the collective memory of Delhi for a long time…..people of this city must connect with their river”.

**WATERWAYS & RELIGIOUS SITES**

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MESSAGE FROM MEMBER SECRETARY

Dear Members,

On behalf of the Chairman and the INTACH team from the Central Office, I would like to wish the INTACH family a very Happy New Year 2016. At the outset, we would like to compliment all INTACH Convenors and Members for their devotion to the cause of heritage, and for spreading the conservation message in the different regions of India.

I personally would like to flag an important initiative which we have taken this year. As the strength of a Chapter lies in its membership, a four day Capacity Building Course for Chapter Members other than Convenors, has been started with a view to enhance the individual contribution of Members to their respective Chapters. The first in this series was held from 26th-29th October 2015 with 20 Members in attendance representing the Barmer, Bilaspur, Chandigarh, Chandrapur, Haryana, Jharkhand, Khandwa, Mizoram, Pune, Raipur, Thanjavur, Varanasi and Warangal Chapters. The next course is already scheduled from 15-18 February 2016.

In order to further strengthen the capacity of the Chapters to undertake Heritage Listing and Documentation, a MOU was signed by INTACH with the Council of Architecture, wherein Colleges of Architecture approximating 400 in number spread across India, will assist Chapters in Listing and Documentation. We hope you will establish contact with the local colleges to assist your Chapter in listing the precious unprotected heritage covering sites, buildings, public spaces, water bodies, etc. of your region. In this endeavour Chapters are required to meet the basic expenditure of travel, boarding and lodging of the students, which will be reimbursed by the Central Office.

You are well aware of the INTACH Research and Capacity Building Scholarships launched since last year. Information has been updated on www.intach.org. So please visit the website and encourage applications for these scholarships which support advanced and inter-disciplinary research that can potentially impact conservation philosophy, practice and policy. Our aim is to enhance knowledge and understanding of heritage conservation, and to encourage a more critical and creative thinking in this field.

The Chapter Guidelines 2013 are the ‘scripture’ for our effective day to day functioning. We hope that each one of us is familiar with the contents of these Guidelines. A soft copy of the Guidelines is also on the net www.intach.org, and a hard copy is available with the Convenors. We should be well acquainted with the contents of the Guidelines; as it is important that we neither transgress these Guideline, nor act indiscriminately or willfully overlook them. A Chapter’s functioning is a shared responsibility attributable to the whole organization.
To briefly reiterate the contents, Chapter Guidelines cover important subject such as likely Chapter activities, administration, accounts, and the importance of protecting Architectural, Natural, Tangible and Intangible Heritage. It tells us how to go about documenting them, how to fight for a public cause, and how best to access guidance and assistance from the Central Office.

Knowledge of Chapter Guidelines is also important for a more meaningful interaction and engagement within the Chapters, to broaden and deepen their perspective, and thus to play a meaningful role as visualized in our Memorandum of Association. In order to protect heritage it is vital to interact with the local community – as this is one of the most important facets of INTACH’s mission.

We are operating in a milieu wherein the State has the maximum hold on “culture” as a legacy since Independence in 1947. Cultural imperatives have since no doubt changed, but have also heightened in value. There is now a need not only to learn and discover our past on scientific basis of archaeological and historical evidences, but also to take pride in showcasing them, so that there are manifold benefits - to our economy, tourism industry, impetus to arts and craftsmanship, enhancement of traditional skills - with new materials, techniques and tools.

Once again, we wish all Members and Convenors a very successful Year 2016, and will continue to count on your renewed commitment and efforts to further the common cause of INTACH’s mission.

Dr. (Smt.) Chuden Tshering Misra  
Member-Secretary, INTACH

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**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

The 23rd Meeting of the Executive Committee was held on 11th December at Central Office. Chairman welcomed the Members and updated them on some of the issues that are currently of particular concern to INTACH.

The Telengana Government order to delete Regulation 13 of the Urban Areas Development Act, 1975 of Andhra Pradesh Government, on the grounds that it will affect the property rights of the individual owners, is regressive from heritage conservation point of view. INTACH will consult a Legal Expert to look into this matter.

Chairman drew attention to the unprecedented floods in Uttarakhand, Jammu & Kashmir, and most recently Chennai. Chapters have been allocated funds and urged to document ecological assets and list bio-diversity. They must persuade the local authorities to include conservation of such assets as part of their respective City Development Plans.

Member Secretary briefed the Members on recent developments in some of the Chapters. The required follow-ups with greater inputs from the Chapter Committee were discussed.

INTACH financial matters were also discussed. It was felt that the role of INTACH should be that of Consultants rather than Contractors, with INTACH providing intellectual inputs to facilitate national projects in particular. The emphasis of all projects that INTACH takes up will be on restoration, conservation and curatorial works.

**GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING**

The Governing Council of INTACH also met on 11th December soon after the Executive Committee Meeting, as is the usual practice. Chairman LK Gupta extended a warm welcome to Prof. Deepak Nayyar who accepted to be
a Member of the Governing Council. Referring to his visit to London, and interaction with the Charles Wallace Trust, Chairman said INTACH would continue its association with them. He also mentioned his visits and the work being done by the Chapters who are breaking new grounds in heritage activities, for which additional finances have been made available to them. Efforts are being made to build up the capacity of Chapters many of whom have shown outstanding promise. Tamil Nadu State Convenor Dr. S. Suresh was invited as a visiting Fulbright Professor of Indian Art and Archaeology by Harvard and the Mary Washington Universities which has made INTACH proud.

For the first time Heads of Divisions were invited to make presentations of their divisional work, and brief the Governing Council Members on new dimensions of heritage activity that have added to their activities. The Presentations were greatly appreciated by the Council Members. They were informed about the publication of the first Journal of Heritage Studies.

Member Secretary Chuden Misra informed the gathering about INTACH’s close association with the Ministry of Culture in connection with Cultural Mapping. INTACH Divisions are pursuing this on a national scale this year which will fructify as a holistic Directories of Tangible and Intangible Heritage across the country.

The Governing Council approved many of the items on the Agenda. Dr. Deepak Chopra suggested training courses can be held for Members of Parliament, Legislatives, Secretaries concerned and other officers of the States. For a start, INTACH will take up the matter with the Speaker’s Office. The Council approved inviting experts in archaeology, architecture, environment, educationists and academicians who are involved in curricula or creative initiatives to interact with INTACH Divisions.

The Meeting extended with a vote of thanks to all Members for their useful suggestions and participation.

**MOU WITH HIMACHAL PRADESH**

INTACH signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Himachal Pradesh on 29th October for setting up a Joint Heritage Task Force, with experts from Government Departments of Culture, Museum, Archaeology, Tourism, Urban Development and Environment.

INTACH will play an advisory role and provide expertise and consultancy on heritage issues to the concerned Departments of Himachal. Whenever INTACH provides services, as technical advisor/consultant on matters of conservation, heritage tourism, etc. it will receive techno-administrative charges from the concerned Department. INTACH will also assist the State Governments in formulation of Heritage Regulations for cities, towns and rural areas. It will extend assistance in promoting the cultural heritage of the State, conservation of natural resources, heritage awareness programmes, geo-heritage sites, and implementation of specific projects like rural tourism where cultural conservation needs to be linked to livelihood issues. There are thus multiple responsibilities that INTACH will undertake with effect from November 2015.

**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC INITIATIVE**

A team from the National Geographic met with Member Secretary and senior officers at Central Office to explore a collaborative arrangement with INTACH on a long term basis. They are interested in promoting cultural objectives through ground activations, and leveraging their extensive reach through digital and television channels to reach out to the public. They are on the same wave length that we now need to carry people beyond heritage awareness to activism. Public involvement and participation is the only way forward in a country as richly endowed as India in nooks and corners of the country!

With regard to corporate social responsibility, the National Geographic team felt it could also be harnessed through microsite and a payment gateway, and tapping public donations matched by corporate partners, and perhaps also a National Donation Drive on a larger scale? National Geographic is presently available in over 440 million homes across 71 countries; and in India reaches out to more than 30 million viewers every week with high quality and inspiring programmes. INTACH will explore this new avenue of communication. An MOU will be signed after some of the details are further discussed.
Founder of REACH (Rural Entrepreneurship for Art & Cultural Heritage) Lokesh Ohri, jointly with the local INTACH Chapter, organised the Walk Leaders’ Training Programme at Dehra Dun on 9th-10th October. There were 22 “Volunteers” comprising a mix of professionals and students who enlisted to becoming potential walk leaders. For a start, two new areas were explored – the Great Arc and the Vivekananda trails. A local NGO Nature Science Initiative added another exercise to the walks by incorporating waste management and nature appreciation, thus adding an important dimension to the training. A workshop session followed where the architectural heritage of the Valley and future course of action needed were keenly discussed.

It was an inspiring exercise for both the organizers and the participants. It appears that this Heritage Walks Programme will expand and attract many more participants who will walk the talk to make it an exhilarating exercise. In the final analysis, it is citizens who have to become the guardians of their environment.

World Heritage Week celebrations in Delhi held on 19th-25th November commenced with a special event at the Jharna monument in Mehrauli. Students of the local Saraswati Bal Vidya Mandir Sr. Secondary School and members of the local community attended the event which included an interesting Qissagoi - traditional story-telling on the theme of heritage awareness.

Heritage Tourism Division initiated this programme in collaboration with the Delhi Chapter and Delhi Government to spread awareness of the need to preserve and conserve Indian heritage and to both sensitize and actively involve children in the preservation of their local heritage sites.

Secretary (Archaeology) lauded the initiative. “The Department appreciates INTACH’s efforts to associate the community and spread mass awareness regarding the rich cultural heritage of Delhi, apart from its role in conserving and preserving the same”.
INTACH joined hands with like minded NGOs like WWF-India, SANDRP, Toxic Link and Peace Institute to mark the second Indian Rivers Day 2015 in New Delhi on 28th November at a well attended function in the Central Office Auditorium. Delhi Water Minister Kapil Mishra declared he takes the responsibility for ensuring that Yamuna will have bathing quality water in three years. He said Delhi does not need any more water from external sources like the Renuka Dam or Sharda Yamuna River link. The Jal Board has been directed to shelve the Rs. 20,000 crore Delhi Sewerage Master Plan and work instead on decentralized sewage treatment and a recycle plan.

A consortium of NGOs organized an exhibition inaugurated by the Minister, Kapil Mishra. It showcased the past, present and future of the Yamuna. The exhibition highlighted the need to promote indigenous knowledge to solve water problems like interlinking of rivers.

The Organizing Committee of the India Rivers Day continued the awards bestowed for water conservation. A five-member jury headed by Anupam Mishra selected this year’s winners of the Bhagirath Prayas Samman (BPS) constituted in 2014 for sustained efforts/contributions (prayas/tapasya) in rejuvenating rivers:

- **Save Mon Region Federation** for safeguarding the integrity of the River Tawang and Nyamjangchhu (Arunachal Pradesh).
- **Sachidanand Bharati**, of Doodhatolli Lok Vikash Sansthan (Uttarakhand) for his dedicated work on rejuvenating river Gad Ganga.
- **Sambhaav Trust** for revival of the once dry River Nanduwali in Alwar under which a group of 17 villages focused on conservation of forest, land, water and livestock.
- **Emmanuel Theophilus** for protecting the integrity of River Mahakali in Uttarakhand.

The participation of children from three Delhi schools this year is noteworthy as they asked the Minister questions about what the Government is doing about the state of the Yamuna River. He emphasised that only when people get connected to the river that it will be possible to rejuvenate Yamuna.

The Organizing Committee welcomes suggestions about the nominations for future BPS awards.
MHD is preparing a Village Environment Management Plan for Dumoda Village in Sawai Madhopur to understand capacities within a village. The second phase of the project involved Participatory Rural Appraisal wherein villagers were involved to get an insight on socio-ecological aspect of the village. The Participatory Appraisal constituted elements like Transact Walks: for an overview of village dynamics, topography, soil, water usage, land use, societal functioning and the community assets; Resource Mapping and Social Map; preparation of Seasonal Calendar to elicit information about different processes undertaken in a year; Matrix ranking for livelihood strategies and for the available tree species was conducted to understand the multiple usages of the trees species. Problem trees drawn by the community clearly stated the different issues present in the village along with the probable solutions. Discussion helped in following the major crux of the project for a ‘bottom to top’ approach in preparation of feasible Plans.

HIGH ALTITUDE WETLANDS PROJECT

The Upper Himalayan Region is associated with religious legends and significant pilgrimage destinations. High altitude lakes are considered sacred and provide means of livelihood to them. Pastures around these lakes are for grazing livestock and cater to a wide variety of biodiversity including rare endemic species of flora and fauna. The lakes play a vital...
role in maintaining hydrological system of rivers and act as a buffer between the glacial melt and outflow to small rivers and streams. These high altitude wetlands in the Himalayan region are still pristine but soon likely to face the onslaught of tourists/pilgrims encouraged by the State. The authorities believe in beautification, civil works, increasing access and facilities in a manner that militates against the long-term ecological conservation of these lakes. Ecologically and culturally significant lakes of Himalayan region have been documented. MHD is drawing up conservation plans to enable pilgrimage and lakes to coexist. The models generated would be presented to the authorities to introduce ecological and cultural sensitivity in Government policy.

In the first phase of the project, five high altitude lakes - Manimahesh Lake, Himachal Pradesh; Vasuki Tal, Dodital, Deoria Tal, Nachiketa Tal, in Uttarakhand have been surveyed.

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE IN BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND WATER REGIMES

Sustainable Agriculture focuses on production of food, while not compromising on protection of environment, public health, or maintenance of ecological services and welfare. It follows traditional methods that were organic and sustainable in the implementation of the processes on ground for management of soil and water. Its implementation requires documentation of the practices and seasonal calendar to get an insight on the descendent method. Rajnagar, which constitutes two baghs - Pateria ka Bagh and Rani Bagh in Khajuraho were taken as the central point of the study. They have a strong cultural heritage in the form of distinctive monuments and temples. The agricultural practices involving other norms of preparation of soil bed and the usage of water for irrigation have their own distinctive features. Traditionally, the farmers were aware and used to practice this kind of farming which nurtured the biological life in the soil. Organic farming practicing the organic method constituted crop rotation, multiple cropping, green manuring, composting as a part of agricultural process. The shift to commercial agriculture resulted in overuse of chemical fertilizers. NHD therefore took up the ‘documentation’ of traditional processes, and is now in the third phase involving implementation of the practices. Pateria ka Bagh comprises the seed bank procured from the yield produced in these baghs. Farmers are following the traditional ways of preparation of soil bed, plowing, sowing and harvesting. The packaging and market linkages have now to be worked out which are essential factors to make the project sustainable, and the idea has to be promoted among the village communities to rejuvenate the depleting agricultural identity of Bundelkhand region.

WEATHER FORECASTING

The Natural Heritage Division published a volume on Traditional Methods of Weather Forecasting, researched by its field researcher Meenakshi Dhawle. She has classified traditional knowledge of how our ancestors developed their own technique for forecasting weather conditions, especially the monsoons on which their livelihood depended. They kept track of sun and moon phenomena over the years, including cloud formations and wind directions; even the behavioral pattern animals approaching storm. Or the height at which birds laid their eggs in a nest. Or the flowering of a particular shrub that indicated to them the promise of rain. Farmers then knew it was time for him to sharpen his tools, arrange seeds and prepare his fields. This had been put to test over several seasonal cycles over generations until it became a collective knowledge and a part of folk parlance. When traditional signs of their forefathers failed to indicate the onset of rains, semi-nomads of Jaisalmer for example migrated to other areas on foot with their cattle and camels.

In modern times such knowledge is dismissed as unscientific, and considered inefficient and uneconomical. With the introduction of fertilizers, pesticides, irrigation techniques and hybrid seeds the wisdom of the ages was replaced by manuals on new farming techniques and products. Meenakshi Dhawle is of the view that indigenous knowledge should at least attract scientific curiosity. More importantly the author states “Such an exercise can prove to be strategic in dealing with the increased vulnerabilities caused due to climate variability, besides ensuring a cognitive insight into our vast agro-cultural heritage”. The book has a fund of other interesting information on pastoral ‘nomadism’, stone sundials indicating directions, flora and fauna of different locations, and the annual Panchang which is still used in many families for a listing of festivals based on the lunar calendar, or to identify an auspicious time for a family event.
CLEAR AND PRESENT DANGER

A slew of warnings sounded all year round from scientists and environmentalists, and Delhi was even declared as a smog filled “gas chamber”!

Since 1992 when the first framework for action on climate change was signed, countries found every reason to prevaricate or obfuscate the issues involved. Subsequent discussions were more about economics and very little ecology. The Kyoto Protocol remained a festering and contentious issue. Earlier this year the World Meteorological Organisation warned that concentrations of climate-altering greenhouse gases in the atmosphere have broken new records last year. If the planet warms by 4 degrees Celsius – double the targeted UN ceiling - Climate Central, a US research group warned that oceans will swallow land inhabited by 600 million people.

The “inconvenient truth” is that rich nations have done little to cut emissions at the scale and pace required. One commentator pointed out that a single country like United States with barely 5% of the world’s population, appropriated 21% of the carbon budget. It should be dubbed as a “natural debt” and like all financial debts needed to be repaid. Especially at a time when deadly signs of global warming are more than apparent. Earlier this year Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing the United Nations spoke about it should be dubbed as a “natural debt” and like all financial debts needed to be repaid. Especially at a time when deadly signs of global warming are more than apparent. Earlier this year Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing the United Nations spoke about it should be dubbed as a “natural debt” and like all financial debts needed to be repaid. Especially at a time when deadly signs of global warming are more than apparent. Earlier this year Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing the United Nations spoke about it should be dubbed as a “natural debt” and like all financial debts needed to be repaid. Especially at a time when deadly signs of global warming are more than apparent. Earlier this year Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing the United Nations spoke about it should be dubbed as a “natural debt” and like all financial debts needed to be repaid. Especially at a time when deadly signs of global warming are more than apparent. Earlier this year Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing the United Nations spoke about it should be dubbed as a “natural debt” and like all financial debts needed to be repaid. Especially at a time when deadly signs of global warming are more than apparent. Earlier this year Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing the United Nations spoke about it should be dubbed as a “natural debt” and like all financial debts needed to be repaid. Especially at a time when deadly signs of global warming are more than apparent. Earlier this year Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing the United Nations spoke about it should be dubbed as a “natural debt” and like all financial debts needed to be repaid. Especially at a time when deadly signs of global warming are more than apparent. Earlier this year Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing the United Nations spoke about.

The Paris Pact (December 2015) is a legal bind on all countries to keep the planet’s warming “well below” two degree Celsius, with an endeavour to limit it to 1.5 degrees to avert the worse effects of global warming estimated by scientists. In recognition of India’s persistent plea the Pact commits $100 billion a year from 2020 to help developing countries cope with the problem. In fact the Pact was sealed only after “shall” was changed to “should” to tide over the “historic responsibility” of rich countries and instead settled for : “common but differentiated responsibility”! It has made it mandatory for all nations to open their books for scrutiny every five years to verify their cut in greenhouse emissions. There will thus be a universal effort to accelerate to adopt cleaner technologies. Even though it is a mixed bag not wholly acknowledging the “historic responsibility” of rich nation, a differentiation between rich and developing countries that India had consistently espoused was welcomed by the block of 134 developing countries called G-77 in its diluted form.

Member Secretary reminds all Members that INTACH “must also do our bit and the clock starts ticking NOW”!

LOW COST WATER PURIFICATION

The National Green Tribunal indicated that water purification based on reverse osmosis technology used for filtering wastes a lot of water. Scientists engaged in low cost sustainable water purification systems based at the Nimbkar Agricultural Research Institute (NARI) in Phaltan, Maharashtra have developed a two-stage water purification system which is not only low cost and without wastage, but also requires no electricity. In the first stage water is filtered through a system comprising four-layered cotton cloth; in the second stage water is filled in four vacuum filled tubes attached to a manifold. These tubes can heat filtered water up to 600 degrees killing all harmful bacteria. A solar tube heater has been developed which does away with cooking fuel completely, and can work even on cloudy days. Anil Rajvanshi who developed the system says “We are exploring possibilities of scaling up this technology for village level application so that 30-40 thousand litres of water can be made potable daily. A great ‘Made in India’ product is in the offing!

SAVE THE ELEPHANT

A fleet of 20 vibrantly coloured autorickshaws cruised through London’s toniest locales to raise funds, and save the Asiatic Elephant from extinction. It was a global rickshaw race sponsored by Selfridges as part of the initiative by Elephant Family, a charity set up by Mark Shand, brother to Duchess of Cornwall Camilla Parker. India’s sole representative was a rickshaw named Calcutta’74 decorated with designer Sabyasachi’s everlasting love for chintz that was on view. A number of international artists, milliners and fashion houses joined hands to make this Art for a Cause an eye catching success. Next is an auction backed by Sotheby’s with all the rickshaws on the block, when art connoisseurs and wildlife lovers will bid to raise funds for the survival of the Asian Elephant.

NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

PD NHD Manu Bhatnagar is of the view that Chapters should exercise the option of filing PILs on environmental issues with National Green Tribunal (NGT) rather than Civil Courts for faster action. The NGT is dedicated to environmental issues and thus a more effective agency in these matters. NGT benches are available at Delhi, Pune, Bhopal and Chennai.
CONSERVATION/UPGRADING OF HERITAGE BUILDINGS

The Government Medical College, established in 1864 at Lahore, continued to work in the capital of undivided Punjab till its subsequent relocation to Amritsar in 1920. Two of its 1929 hostel blocks, aesthetically designed on the pattern of Cambridge University, have withstood the ravages of time. Other hostel blocks were added to meet students’ requirements. The TB Sanatorium, Ram Lal Free Eye and Ear Nose and Throat Hospital and separate Orthopaedics Ward were later additions built with the help of charitable Trusts. The Medical College is thus a large complex with a number of buildings dating to early 20th century which are in need of restoration work.

The College Board approached INTACH for the conservation and upgradation of eight heritage buildings which are in danger of collapse or in a state of disuse. INTACH commenced their documentation, condition mapping and structural analysis. AHD is working on a comprehensive plan for the restoration work, as well as a detailed proposal for re-use of the abandoned structures.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO CHAPTERS

Raja Bakhri and Rani Mahal, Orissa

*Raja Bakhri* and *Rani Mahal*, two heritage structures of historical relevance in the heart of Sambalpur, have remained unattended for a very long period of time with now only remains of the fort that once existed along the banks of the Mahanadi exit. The doorways of both the Palaces are distinctive arches of Hindu architecture. The Chauhan dynasty ruled over Sambalpur from 1556 to 1849 CE lording over 18 Garhs. *Raja Bakhri* was built in 1689 CE. It has been a silent witness to many ups and down of Sambalpur history.

The King’s living quarters built within a large complex was named *Chitra Mahal* due to elaborate paintings on interior walls. The glory of this Palace declined with the advent of the Marathas and finally the Sambalpur Raj was merged with the British in 1804.
Another major structure is the Jemadei Mahal locally now known as Rani Bakhri, a palace for the queen, built by King Baliair Singh between 1650-1689 CE. It is a magnificent three storied structure with remnants of paintings on the inner walls of the top floor chambers, unique in the region, and is comparatively better preserved. As a result of neglect and encroachment, both structures, especially Raja Bakhri, have been reduced to ruins and completely covered in vegetation till recently. With the initiative of AHD, Sambhalpur Chapter and the locals, most of the vegetation has been cleared which has helped to access the site and the documentation of the buildings.

STATE OF BUILT HERITAGE OF INDIA (SoBHI)

The pan-India AH initiative, State of Built Heritage of India (SoBHI) draft report recommended a way forward for the cause of unprotected built heritage. In the current phase specific areas of concern are being taken up by AHD. The first was a Primary Study on Unprotected Civic & Defence Built Heritage in cities such as Panipat, Dehradun and Ambala. Further delving into a much-needed aspect is a study of Heritage Legislations, formulated with status information from various States across the country. Mission Municipalika is being mobilised as a direct action from the recommendations. The Heritage at Risk Register is a crucial outcome of the SoBHI study. It is an ongoing endeavour aimed at facilitating support to unprotected built heritage. AHD is working out feasibility of pilot projects with respect to the Register. The objective is to address the case of unprotected built heritage under imperative themes such as community involvement and incentives.

PORTUGUESE HERITAGE, DIU

AHD has undertaken a number of conservation projects as a result of the Integrated Heritage Development Plan commissioned by the Daman and Diu Administration – St. Francis Assisi Church, St. Thomas Church, Pani Bai School and Pani Kotha located in different parts of Diu.

*St. Francis Assisi Church and Convent* is one of the surviving churches built by the Portuguese in 1592. It has served as a hospital for more than a 100 years with several alterations to the detriment of the original structure. Restoration plans entail removal of damaged exteriors and transformation into a museum.

*St. Thomas Church* is nearly 400 years old and has served as a museum since the last few years. It is in a state of deterioration. As part of the on-going restoration work, it is
proposed to reuse the building as an art gallery to showcase and promote arts, crafts, and heritage of Diu.

The Pani Bai School is a perfect example of vernacular architecture with a blend of 20th century Portuguese architecture. The building was left abandoned leading to structural problems and a collapsed roof, and over growth of vegetation. The garden elements, fountains, paving, etc. are being restored for reusing the building as a vocational Training Centre.

The Pani Kotha fortress built by Diu Governor Malil Aiyaz before the Portuguese took over in 16th century has suffered various unsympathetic alterations. Major work is ongoing for removal of cement plaster and restoring the ornamented plaster; removal of damaged exteriors, relaying the floors, and restoring it to its original form. The main objective of INTACH is conserving it as a heritage structure.

The Architectural Heritage Division has brought out an exquisite publication on the Baolis of Bundi, a city known for its step-wells, its iconic fort and school of painting. In the olden days baolis were a unique building typology that showed an in-depth knowledge of both local water and unique construction systems for harvesting and storage in arid lands to safeguard against the dry months of the region. The book features the Bhawal ki Baol or Bahwald Baoli as it is known, one of over a sixty that dot the city. All of them are in a deteriorating condition and used mostly as dumping sites for garbage and for flowers offered at shrines located within the baolis. Once upon a time the water was pure and used for drinking water. In those olden days there were Kunds also - stepped tanks or ponds leading down to the water. The Yagna Kund was used for religious functions, the Brahma Kund for its medicinal properties, and the Snan Kund for bathing.

The book presents a study of some of the better known baolis. In particular AHD identified the significant Bhawaldi Baoli, a public property owned by the State, for detailed documentation in 2009. At the end of the first flight of steps and three floors, there is a second flight of steps. Above the ground level there is a terrace which includes the baradari and the chhatris. Quality analysis was done of both surface and ground water. With funding of the Prince’s Charities, UK and help of the local community restoration work was undertaken. INTACH hopes this stellar work will kindle a renewed interest for the revival of so many other baolis of the city that need to be rescued from decay.
**SMART CITIES**

The concept of Smart Cities actually originated in the United States, travelled to Europe before coming to the fore in developing countries. Cities are ranked on the basis of public communication and feedback on Smart City Plans using basic online platforms like Facebook and the Union Government website. In India the study on public data quantum has been initiated by Master students and alumni at the Ahmedabad-based Centre for Environmental Planning and Technology (CEPT) University.

On a scoreboard of 100, Tiruchirappalli and Mangaluru have been rated at above 90. The other leading performers are Tumkur, Indore, Raipur, Jaipur, Surat, Ujjain, Haldia and Kalyan-Dombivali. None of the metros figure in the top 20 list, though Chennai just about makes it at 21. Surprisingly the metros of Delhi, Mumbai and Hyderabad lag far behind! Pune, one of 10 most populous cities of India, on the other hand is unique because it has received 5 lakh responses to the Smart City idea without any presence on mygov.in website. It launched its own mission web page as well as Facebook, Twitter handle and a smart city android app. A fast track to go smart!

The last big experiment in urban planning was the evolution of the ‘millennium city’ Gurgaon which according to former DG CAG KP Shashidharan was an ignominy of city planning. It faces acute infrastructural hurdles despite its situational advantages of being near the capital city of Delhi, with its MNC offices, ritzy apartments, numerous malls, golf course, etc. And quite the un-smart way to go without even an extensive sewage system in place!

**NOT JUST A GAME**

Skylines published by Paradox Interactive is a City Building Game. It engages players in urban planning not only by placement of roads, transport and other public services but also to factor issues like budget, employment, traffic flow, pollution, etc. Many other facets that contribute to the gross human happiness of inhabitants of a city have to be factored by the players. Skylines sold more than 250,000 copies of the game on the first day of its launch. It portends well for creating awareness and educating people on the importance of good urban development!

Another such game is Cities in Motion for those who like to get hooked on being armchair architects and playing games!

**INTACH Listing Cell**

Listing is presently being undertaken by Chapters in Dhar and Khandwa in Madhya Pradesh; Jagannath Sadak in West Bengal; Taran Taran and Gurdaspur Districts in Punjab; Allahabad District in Uttar Pradesh; and Jajpur and Dhenkanal Districts in Odisha, etc. Listings of HRIDAY cities namely Gaya, Velankini, and Amravati have recently been completed.

The National Register of Historic Gardens has been undertaken under the guidance of Dr. Priyaleen Singh in eight phases. The first phase comprises Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and the Union Territory of Chandigarh.

A meeting was held with IGNCA with reference to the listings of Assam, Rajasthan and other States, for permission to use the listings as a data base and to update them.

The Dausa listing has been digitized and compiled for 148 structures.

The Listing Cell is also reviewing the ongoing listings undertaken by the Chapters that were sanctioned during the financial years 2013-14 and 2014-15. The Listing of Jammu, recently received at Central Office, is a good effort by the Jammu Chapter.

Listing is also ongoing at eight districts of West Punjab undertaken by Dronah. Listings are also being undertaken
by the Allahabad, Dhar, Khandwa and West Bengal Chapters. The Haryana Chapter is in the process of completing the remaining listings in Sonipat and Panipat.

Samples of some listings have been received of Malerkotla, Kargil, Manipur and Punjab that are being reviewed. During the last quarter a presentation was made by Ms. Annabel Enriquez, a Data Specialist from the Getty Foundation, on the use of Arches which is a useful guideline for listing. Arches is a data based programme for listing, inventories and cultural mapping.

COMMUNITY, CRAFT AND HERITAGE DIVISION (CCHD)

BLACK POTTERY OF NIZAMABAD

INTACH’s craft documentary film on the Black Pottery of Nizamabad was declared by an eminent Jury as the winner of the Director Special Award at the Heritage Film Festival-2015.

The Heritage Film Festival (HFF) was initiated in 2012, as part of Aadhar’s mission to raise greater awareness about India’s rich artistic heritage. Aadhar is a charitable trust based in Gujarat whose mission is to develop programs and opportunities that support traditional artisans and crafts people, contribute to the revitalization of the collective cultural heritage of India, and more importantly it is an effort to sustain their livelihood.

SKILL AND INCOME GENERATION

Skill and Income Generation Development through items made from water reeds in Faridabad District was started by CCHD in November this year.

The project is a collaborated initiative of INTACH and Karam Marg, a charitable society for homeless youth and rural women. It is a project with a twofold purpose - the collection of water reeds that will clean the water bodies in the area, and using the water reeds for craft resulting in a new product range for the beneficiaries. With this objective, technical training and new design assistance is being provided with the help of a team of artisans from Assam who have expertise in using the reeds for utility products.

ICONIC SAREE WEAVING CLUSTERS OF INDIA

Iconic Saree Weaving Clusters of India is a collaborative
initiative of CCH and AH Divisions, to identify surviving vernacular weaver homes with active traditional weaving. The focus is on weaver clusters within regions selected by UNESCO’s Tentative List of World Heritage Sites of India. Identification of representative samples of traditional weaver homes is being carried out with the objective of identifying the key attributes.

A site visit to Varanasi was conducted to ascertain existing traditional homes with continued traditional weaving practices. Various villages around Varanasi and Mubarkpur were included within the purview. Since both architecture as well as livelihoods are encompassed within the project, this is also a medium to voice the concerns and plight of the traditional weaver in the competitive world of power looms and changing aspirations of dwelling.
Directory, Conservation and Scientific Investigation

INTACH Conservation Institutes (ICI) has undertaken a special project of a *Directory of Wall Paintings of India* from 15th April this year. India has an exquisite and vast collection of wall paintings housed in beautiful structures like temples, palaces, etc. reflecting the historical aspects and cultural diversity of the country. There are also numerous unknown sites in various stages of deterioration due to negligence and lack of awareness. To date there has been no holistic compilation on wall paintings. The internet has also not filled this gap completely. The *Wall Paintings Directory* (WPD) is thus a major effort to fill this information gap and document all the known/unknown wall painting sites of the country in a holistic compilation for future reference and conservation emergency.

INTACH MH Division launched an action plan to identify some Chapters to jointly work on how to document wall paintings. Under this training programme surveyors are identified and trained covering a day of theory and the second day dedicated to practical session at the site of wall paintings. The work is underway at Delhi, Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh. A newly created secretariat at Delhi manned by qualified wall paintings conservators is coordinating with the States where preliminary research and surveys have been undertaken. The WPD central team is working on the database software system and also creating an output print format for the database. Simultaneously video compilations have been undertaken.

MHD Scientific Research Wing

Knowledge of material composition and diagnosis of artifacts being conserved helps conservators to take right decisions and choose most appropriate treatments through closer examination of materials using various scientific tools. There is a paucity of specialised laboratories catering to the conservation community in the country. MHD/ICI has initiated the process of setting up a unit for testing materials and research into techniques for various artifacts and heritage materials. Facilities for stratigraphic studies, microscopy, micro-chemical analysis of paint samples, photomicrography, visible ultraviolet and infra red examination have been created. Cross-sections were prepared and examined under microscope to study various layers and the material composition of various objects.
Microscopic examination was conducted on objects like historic glazed tile from Mughal monuments. Certain architectural drawings under treatment at the Conservation Centre were also analysed to understand materials used to enable most suitable course of treatment.

Such details provide information on the kinds of inks used in creating drawings which help in designing an appropriate conservation approach. The Research Centre is at a nascent stage but the aim is to prepare standards for micro-chemical analysis of artists’ materials; evaluation of materials and methodologies for conservation; and manuals for technical examination and analysis of works of art.

Nirmand derives its name from the word Nir-mund meaning ‘without head’ as it is believed that Goddess Shakti’s head fell when Lord Shiva carried her body to circle the earth in remorse. Nirmand is also a sacrosanct place where Lord Parshuram is believed to have settled the Brahmins in a bid to eliminate the Kshatriyas warriors from the face of the Earth.
The Parshuram temple complex, built in the traditional *Pahari* style with gabled slate roof and extensive use of wood and stone, is 10 feet high with beautifully carved stone slabs and wooden beam, with a small adjacent Temple of *Lord Shiva*. ICI has undertaken its conservation as a showcase project for the community. The ornamental elements on the temple structure (including *Shikhara*) as well as the idols within the temple have stubborn deposition of dirt, oil, algal growth, soot, and multiple layers of *roli* (*mercuric sulfide*) obliterating the details. The roof stone slabs are dislocated or broken, the pillars cracked, and carvings lost at some places.

The conservation work involves cleaning of the structure as well as the idols. The stones in the structure will be re-set and those missing will be replaced. The joints will be filled with compatible material. The work on the wooden pillars involves cleaning, consolidation and replacement of highly damaged ones. Conservation work started in November is in progress and will be completed in a span of two months.
**Dei Ji Sahiba Mandir, Paonta Sahib, Himachal Pradesh**

*Paonta Sahib* in Sirmore District is sacred to the Sikh community and is commemorated as the place where Guru Govind Singh stayed. The temple is also known as Maharaja Ram Chandra Temple constructed in 1889 by Kangra Rani Sahiba Deji Sahiba Sirmori, in memory of her deceased husband Raja Pratap Chand Bahadur of Sirmore. The Government took over the complex in 1990 and it is now maintained by the Temple Trust. This complex located on the banks of River Yamuna consists of the main temple dedicated to *Lord Ram Chandra*, others dedicated to *Lord Shiva* and *Lord Hanuman*, with a *Samadhi* and *Yagna/Hawan* areas. State Convenor Maalvika Pathania approached ICI for the wall conservation of the Shiva Temple. Work commenced in October this year.

Within Rama Temple, the wall behind the main idols has paintings depicting Hindu deities. The Shiva temple has eight painted sections.

**ICI DELHI**

A 188 x 200.5 cm flag pole belonging to the erstwhile Nabha kingdom was received in an extremely fragile state for conservation treatment. The flag is the private property of the Nabha Estate, near Patiala and holds importance as a token of appreciation from Queen Victoria to the King for his support in Anglo-Sikh War. The flag comprises a brass javelin flagpole and a two-sided textile flag, with the royal insignia on one side in appliquéd work and on the other side the embroidered inscription in *Devanagri* script. It was received with torn creases and fold marks, and the insignia disintegrated into bits and pieces, with tarnished *zari* threads.
The complex conservation treatment entailed research trials based on scientific analysis.

**ICI BENGALURU**

An oil painting on canvas measuring 37 cms x 28.5cms *City landscape of Venice Oil on Canvas* was received from a private collector for restoration. The problems were fragile support, sagging canvas, flaking, tears and holes, etc. due to inappropriate previous interventions. Protective coating was applied after testing and stretched on the new stretcher, and cleaned and mounted.
**Holy Bible**

A 1876 and 1600 page Holy Bible published in British India and New York, an illustrated edition of Brown's self-interpreting family Bible with both Old and New Testaments was received at ICI Bangalore. The pages were fragile, torn and detached, with accumulation of dust, dirt and biological growth.

The book was administered anti-fungal treatment, and fragile pages and other components were strengthened. Repairs of the torn papers and leather cover was carried out with archival quality materials.

**ICIJODHPUR**

A 126 cm x 51 cm beautiful Chinese silk wall hanging, embroidered in maroon threads, was received from Mehrangarh Museum Trust. Heavily damaged object and stretched on a wooden stretcher, it was extremely brittle. A careful conservation plan was executed with cleaning, reinforcement and re-stretching in a scientific manner.
ICI KOLKATA

A mix media 30 cm X 26.4 cm portrait on canvas by Suhas Roy, in a very precarious condition was received for restoration. Stuck on a board, considerably warped due to temperature changes and humidity, had resulted in severe losses in paint layer and flaking. Appropriate adhesives to secure the paint layer was followed by separation of the painting from board using solvents. After complete consolidation, the painting was lined on a new canvas and on a proper stretcher.

ICI LUCKNOW

The conservation work of damaged artifacts in Study Museum, College of Arts and Crafts at Lucknow University is in progress. To date 535 out of 660 have been restored during this quarter. The museum collection included 11 iron, 16 silver, 19 enameled, 18 wood carving, 2 tarkashi, 80 pottery, 4 porcelain, 11 paper machine, 40 Burmese, 22 stone inlay, 5 soapstone, 7 leather painted items and a bust.

Vidyapeeth, Sadaquat Ashram, Patna

The Rajendra Smriti Sangrahlaya is a part of Bihar Vidyapeeth, the Karmabhoomi of Dr. Rajendra Prasad from 1921 till he led the freedom movement. He lived in a thatched roof house before he shifted to Delhi in 1946 and became the Food and Agriculture Minister and later President of the constituent assembly (1946-49), and the first President of India (1952-1962. He returned to Patna and preferred to stay in the campus of Bihar Vidyapeeth. Loknayak Jayaprakash Narayan collected funds to get a small house constructed in a corner of Bihar Vidyapeeth’s mango-grove due to
his age and health, where he lived till he passed away in 1963.

It is now the Rajendra Smriti Sangralaya where memorabilia of great historical significance related to him are on display for general public.

The museum has a rich collection of Dr. Rajendra Prasad’s belongings and the gifts, souvenir, awards like costumes, dresses, books, documents, photographs, paintings on paper, canvas and ply-board; metal plates, ivory pieces, furniture, shoes, walking stick, umbrella, etc. received by him. The collection was deteriorating due to physical, biological and chemical factors; with inappropriate light, humidity, and bad handling and storage.

ICI MUMBAI

A late 19th century brass box with lacquer from the Varanasi collection of the Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum was conserved at the Centre. Careful conservation treatment entailed dry cleaning for removal of dust and dirt, thereafter solvents were judiciously applied to reduce the lacquer coating, and thick brown deposits were removed layer by layer. A final brush of synthetic polymer was applied as a preservative coating.

The Centre is regularly involved in documentation of the DBDL Museum’s collection through the JATAN software, with a total of 1897 objects documented in the last quarter.

ICI BHUBANESHWAR

The INTACH Orissa Art Conservation Centre has been successfully carrying out the manuscript conservation project at LIPIKA Manuscript Section of Viswabharati, Shantiniketan and supported by the National Archives of India under overall supervision of NHD.
Curative Conservation of Manuscripts

Under the National Mission for Manuscripts, the Centre organized a one month long intensive training programme on curative conservation of manuscripts for 15 trainees from all over India.

CONSERVATION OF WALL PAINTINGS

ICI has published a booklet Conservation of Wall Paintings that deals with the intricacies of caring for wall paintings. In prehistoric times rock carvings symbolized man’s first artistic expression. In later eras the walls of monuments, forts, palaces, tombs and temples were richly adorned with art masterpieces and became an integral part of them. The publication gives glimpses of a few of these glorious examples that have survived till today. The technique used for executing wall paintings in India was mainly tempura, as distinct from the ‘fresco’ of European wall paintings. ICI has enlisted the reasons and the consequences of deterioration, and some of the preventive and remedial measures that can be taken for the conservation of this rich and beautiful Indian heritage.

SMILE OF THE BUDDHA

The National Museum at Delhi held an engaging ‘art walk’ titled Buddhist Art in India in November. It traced the birth of Buddha in India and the journey of Buddhism and its doctrine through the countries of the East. Ninety one pieces belonging to the Indian Museum in Kolkata were on display, having earlier travelled to China, Japan and Singapore to much acclaim. The exhibits displayed not only Buddhist symbols like footprints and wheel but also carvings on stupas depicting tales of Buddha’s miracles, statues of Buddha deities, plates and bowls carved with sutras and Jataka tales about Buddha’s previous births. It was an engrossing display specially for spiritualists, but equally for historians as it is believed that Buddha statues were first sculpted in Gandhara and Mathura during the Kushan period.

CHANGING WITH THE TIMES

A great change is perceptible in contemporary art works. Artists have been inspired by contemporary events as subjects of their work as never before. Many are moving away from epics and pastoral scenes that had long been an inspiration for folk art in particular. Now an aircraft soars alongside Hindu deities in a Warli painting. Political and social issues are also preying on the artist’s mind. Violence against women, feticide and communalism are some of the new themes being explored by even folk artists. In a work titled Development, a girl child lying in the bloodied hands of women is drawn in Madhubani style of Bihar. Kalam Patua expressed his horror at the infamous Nirbhaya case through art, and some of his work was showcased in the Albert and Victoria Museum. Gond artist Venkat Raman Singh was inspired by the terror attack of 26/11 and the resultant work is the Smoking Taj. Patachitra artist Anwar Chitrakar, Madhubani artist Pushpa Kumari and Warli artists Anil Vangad have etched political and social issues moving away from epics, deities and pastoral scenes. A Jogi folk art from Rajasthan shows a husband drinking and shouting at his wife; another shows sadhus doing Yoga and monkeys imitating them. Saquib Ali Beigh from Kashmir has woven urban motifs including football into Pashmina shawls! Gond artist Bhajju Shyam sees the Big Ben as a rooster and the London Underground as an earthworm in his London Jungle Book!

Is it all about catharsis or commercial value? Art and cultural historian Jyotinder Jain says these changes can be mapped through the past decade and are being recognised worldwide.

Ack: Kanika Sharma, Hindustan Times

ART IN MOTION

Another fascinating exhibition in November was Art in Motion on display at the Habitat Centre at New Delhi. German artist Katherina Kakar dealt with gender issues facing Indian society in her debut show of drawings and mixed media installations. It was titled Crossing the Lakshmana Rekha : Shakti, Sensuality, Sexuality, and curated by an eminent art historian Alka Pande.
LECTURE: SANATAN VIGYAN: HISTORY OF SCIENCES IN INDO ARCHAEOLOGY

The lecture *Sanatan Vigyan: History of Sciences in Indo Archaeology* by Dr. Deepak Bhattacharya on 30th October was held at INTACH Multipurpose Hall, INTACH.

The lecture touched upon various topics related to history of sciences, such as archaeological science heritage, engineering heritage, military science heritage, maritime science heritage and iconography to name a few. He has authored various publications based on the themes related to history of sciences in Indian archaeology.

HERITAGE WEEK CELEBRATIONS

*Heritage Week* (19th–25th Nov.) was celebrated over the weekend with two scintillating musical programmes organized by Principal Director Neerupama Modwell and her supporting team in the *Aangan*, the open courtyard of Central Office.
Dastangoi is the lost art of storytelling that was developed in 8th century AD around the adventures of an Arab hero - Amir Hamza. It became very popular in North India during the 19th century. On 20th November, Aamir Ahmad who works as a heritage volunteer on the cultural circuit and 14 year old school boy Affan Siddiqui were the young performers who immediately captivated the audience interest with the traditional art of Urdu storytelling. The two disciples of Mahmood Farooqui seamlessly rendered Dastangoi revived under the Shaagird programme initiated by the Aga Khan Trust which is involved with the revival of Nizamuddin neighbourhood where Aamir Ahmad and Affan Siddiqui live. The duo narrators were trained by Mahmood Farooqui and Ankit Chadha. The sketches they presented Dastan Amir Hamza aur Amar Ayyaar ke Bachpan ki - are from a range of biographical works by Indian Sufi poets including Kabir and Amir Khusro. There are other such stories even on contemporary themes like corporate culture and digital divide.

Ankit Chadha presented a longer tale entitled Dastan Jai Ram Ji Ki directed by Mahmood Farooqui. He brought new content to one of India’s most famous epics, the Ramayana. The presentation on Ram was an interpretation of what might best be described as an interpretation of his various avatars.

Ankit Chadha is the author of the national award winning children’s book My Gandhi Story, and his other works range from biographical dastans on Indian Sufi poets like Kabir and Amir Khusro.

Dastan Jai Ram Ji Ki

This piece was devised in the light of the decision of the Academic Council of Delhi University to delete AK Ramanujan’s scholarly essay 300 Ramayanas from the undergraduate syllabus of the University, and in appreciation of the vast range and depth of AK Ramanujan’s intellectual contributions. The dastan showcases the importance of the scholar’s works for understanding of India’s history and cultures.

The adaptation starts with tracing the journey of AK Ramanujan, and merges into the various folk narratives from the Ram Katha tradition that he has collected, as well as some other sources. These stories range from the Persian Ramayanas that talk of Ram as a romantic hero, to the Tamil Kamman Ramayana that has a different take on the Ahalya episode.

The following day on 21st November Ustad F. Wasifuddin Dagar, who graciously accepted INTACH’s invitation to perform at the Heritage Week celebrations, gave a Dhrupad recital, one of the most ancient and rigorous forms of classical vocal music in the open air INTACH Aangan. It was a musical treat. He is the 20th member of an unbroken chain of Dhrupad singers and Veena players, who is carrying on the family tradition with music festivals held at Delhi and Jaipur. Dhrupad is a singing form accompanied with percussion, with two other parts. Dhamar features a rhythmic pattern played on the Pakhawaj drum; and the rhythmic Alap which is an unaccompanied vocal style free from language.

The Dhrupad singing form is regarded as the most ancient and rigorous form of classical vocal music in India. The term refers to both the musical form as a whole and to one of its three parts, composed of singing with percussion accompaniment.

The Heritage Week programmes were indeed very successful, drawing full house on both days and much appreciated by the audience. The Aangan was packed on both days. And not because of the high tea served to the guests!

ICH CULTURES OF FOOD-INDIGENOUS PRACTICES, PALANI HILLS

The Kodaikanal Chapter undertook a project focusing on the study of the indigenous practices of the food culture around Palani hills. Thirteen villages were visited over a two month period. The village spread is also located inside estates and plantations, the Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary, and on some private lands. The project involves the study of the original habitants of the Palani hills, the Paliyans and the Puliyans with emphasis on their use of medicinal plants, foraging practices and their relationships with the forest, to understand their changing worldview better. ICHD has received a detailed study of the subject.

DOCUMENTATION OF ICH ELEMENTS IN GAYA

The Division undertook the documentation of ICH aspects of Gaya that is in the state of completion. This Audio-Visual Documentation project involved various visits and a detailed
study of Gaya – a city with all types of religious belief systems and spiritual knowledge. There are enormous intangible aspects which are indeed important to be documented for posterity. Gaya city has sacred geography, sacred complexes, sacred people and sacred performances that have many historical, religious and cultural elements which are significant and need to be studied, preserved and documented.

ICH team covered various ICH aspects of the city during the field visits like the traditional craftsmanship of Pattharkati stone work, the performing aspects like the Magadhi traditional songs and bhajans sung during the festivals of teej and jitiya, and the various rituals taking place in the city like cbbath puja and pind daan on the banks of Phalgu river, the pitrapaksh mela around the Vishnupad Temple and the sacred spots nearby and the oral traditions such as the Vishnupad Vedi – a mythical story of Gayasur, the curse of Ma Sita on the Phalgu river and the tradition of self pind daan at the Mangla Gauri temple. Currently the detailed documentation of the Pitrapaksh festival has been completed.

**Shadow Puppetry in Tamil Nadu**

INTACH Chennai Chapter has taken up the revival and promotion of shadow puppetry art form of Tamil Nadu. It organized a puppetry performance of D. Muthuchandran Rao’s troupe from Thovalai, regarded as one of the best groups of the State. It was reviewed by a select committee of experts that recommend steps for its promotion and safeguarding that enable the long term sustainability of this art form.

**Audio-Visual Documentation of ICH elements in Varanasi**

The ICH team has also been visiting and working on the Audio-Visual Documentation of Varanasi. The first field visit was done during the months of October and November to document the process, rituals involved, folktales and the food traditions during various festivals in Varanasi. A detailed documentation of ICH aspects of festivals
and rituals like Govardhan Puja, Annakoot, Bhai Dooj, Chhath, Krishna Leela (Naag Natthaiya) and Akash Deep has been undertaken. The festival of Dev Deepawali was covered specially around Varanasi ghats as it is considered to be one of the most significant festivals celebrated in the city on the occasion of Kartik Purnima. Some other relevant festivals and traditions such as the Ramnagar Ramlleela, the Akhadas in the city, food culture, Suraiyya ka Melam, etc. will be documented by the team on their future visits.

![Deo Deepawali in Varanasi](image)

**Project of documentation : Sannidhi:A confluence’ undertaken by KALPA**

*KALPA*, a society for promotion of literature, art culture and social harmony was supported by INTACH to undertake a project of documentation of varied expressions of visual and performance traditions of Assam. A research tour was undertaken with a team of students and researchers from Otago University and Auckland University. The objectives of this project were to capture those traditions that continue to exist with their ritual fervour, to see the performances in the context of their own special dimensions, and to have a glimpse of the continuity and transformation as well as the attitudinal situation of the stake holders of the respective traditions.

The project visits involved various workshops at the Delhi Public School, Guwahati, visit to Sualkuchi, a weaver’s village at the Kamrup District, a session with Prasanna Gogoi, a senior musician in the field of Assamese folk music, visit to the Assam State Museum, the Kamakhya Temple in Guwahati, the Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalakshetra, a performance session by the Bodo community - Thelamora, a workshop at Jyoti Kala Kendra, Tezpur to name a few.

*KALPA* had also organized the 7th *Pragjyoti International Dance Festival* earlier this year as part of the project at Guwahati. There were varied performances of Kathak, Chhau, Odissi, Sattriya etc, to promote the intangible heritage of classical arts among the younger generation.

In connection with the ongoing Cultural Mapping and ICH Documentation Project, the ICH Division has been in touch with several Chapters. Preliminary reports were received from some Chapters.

The Calicut Chapter updated four of its projects. *The Indigenous Medicinal Practices of Fishing Community in Malabar* included field trips undertaken in October. Co-Convenor Prakash held meetings with performers and local elders on Palilipaana, for a performance slated to be held on 16th January. A report and documentation of Kalakali, a ritual performance was organized on 15th October and will be documented by the Chapter. The fourth project is on Malappuram Kathi (Dagger) for which a dagger was ordered, and details will be videographed and documented.

![Participants of the Sannidhi Project](image)

![Performers of the 7th Pragjyoti International Dance Festival](image)
The Chhattisgarh Chapter has deputed a team for field work to Dharamjaigarh in Raigarh District which is inhabited dominantly by the Birhor Tribals.

The Jaipur Chapter covered and interviewed innumerable people in Jaipur as well as Udaipur, Jodhpur, Bikaner, and Shekhawati to document a Rajput Wedding. It has compiled audio/video clips, and currently the photo documentation is in progress.

The Sawai Modhopur Chapter documented the Ganesh Festival, local sculptors, strategic forts and natural features.

ICH Division is undertaking the cultural mapping of Varanasi, regarding which discussions were held with Convenor Kejriwal and Prof. Vidula Jaiswal. A researcher from the Division visited Bhopal in connection with the major ICH Database – Status on Intangible Cultural Heritage of India. Catalogues, books and other relevant material were collected from the Tribal Museum, IGRMS and other places in Bhopal.

**BANARASI SAREE**

After the Ghats and the Vishwanath Temple, if there is one other fabled attraction of Varanasi it is the Banarasi saree. Almost a must in every traditional bridal trousseau for its sheer texture, colour, motifs and borders. Banarasi sarees are rich in pure zari and heavy brocade, and further categorised as tanchoi, jangla, tissue, jamdani, butidar and kota cutwork exquisitely executed by the kaarigars working under a master craftsman. It is almost exhausting to understand the unique beauty of each variety reeled out by master weavers. They are priced at an affordable Rs. 2000 to an exorbitant Rs. 99,000 plus to suit most purses.

Buddhist literature and *Jataka* tales narrate how Prince Siddhartha shed his regal silk clothes woven in Kashi when renouncing the world, symbolic of giving up the luxuries of life for his onward spiritual journey.

**OLD ART, NEW FORMS**

The recent exhibition of Bhopal based Sukhnaandivyam Pradhan marks one of the many amazing journeys artists are undertaking today to paint old forms into nouveau art. Vyam’s solo show at Kala Ghoda in Mumbai entitled *Sacred Roots* took his tribal art into a larger world than its origin. He feels “The tales, rituals and songs that my paintings are about all originate from my Pradhan Gond community, but I take only certain elements from the longer story to work with. Even with that selected element, I do not represent it literally but with some imagination and interpretation of my own”. He has come a long way from painting old myths on the walls of his home in Dindori district of Madhya Pradesh. Now his paintings have trees with feet of their own, leaves with embedded eyes, raindrops rendered as fish personify nature with intricacy of fine art. And many others that animate nature through delicate lines and flourishes. They not only captivate the eyes but also seek understanding of his unique style.
IHA has introduced a significant bi-annual publication *INTACH Journal of Heritage Studies* (IJHS) in order to augment the breadth and depth of research and understanding of heritage issues in India. The Journal builds up on the knowledge and expertise that INTACH gained since its founding in 1984. It encourages critical thinking and debate over the meaning of heritage, and its relevance for society at large. It is an interdisciplinary and peer-reviewed Journal, with an Editorial Advisory Board. IHA plans to publish two issues every year. The current issue of the Journal was launched at the 12th Governing Council Meeting of INTACH.

The inaugural issue of the Journal focuses on *Approaches to Conservation in India*, and the key challenges and achievements in heritage conservation in the country over the past three decades. Several architects have written on diverse subjects like *Experiencing Heritage Sites* involving people with vision impairment; *Seismic Safety of Architectural Heritage*; and *Architectural Conservation and Sustainability, Archaeological Legislation*, its historical context and future directions. Vice President ICOMOS has shared his comments on *Nara+20* that marked the 40th Anniversary of the *World Heritage Convention* held at Kyoto in 2012. The Journal also carries reviews on some recent publications.

The first issue of the Journal illustrates the conservation evolution that has taken place in India. It has examined two conservation projects as case studies to illustrate the key philosophical approaches to conservation, and the practical challenges faced by professionals working on these projects.

The subsequent issues will address various aspects like Intangible Cultural Heritage, Museums and Collections, Rivers as Natural Heritage and so forth.


The understanding of heritage has evolved over these years with new players and interest groups. The primary custodian of ‘monuments and sites’ in India has been Archeological Survey of India (ASI) that recently celebrated its 150th Year Anniversary. Since the 1980’s and particularly with the founding of INTACH the domain of heritage-related fields has however greatly expanded and diversified. The Charles Wallace India Trust (CWIT) has helped the growth of the conservation profession in India. Several local and State-level initiatives, NGOs and professional groups, have also made considerable contributions to this field.

IHA invites all INTACH Members interested in contributing to the Journal to send their papers for consideration by the Editorial Advisory Board as and when a ‘Call for Abstracts’ is announced.

The Editor-in-Chief of the Journal is Sheela Bajaj, formerly Associate Professor of Economics at Delhi University. Her special interest continues to be habitat-related issues concerning built and natural environment.
INTACH-IIC Research Lecture Series

INTACH and IIC joined hands in September to initiate the Research Lecture Series in order to present research undertaken by INTACH Scholars and share it with a wider audience of students and researchers. And also to take on board suggestions and feedback on methodology and preliminary outcomes of INTACH research scholars. The first lecture of the series was held in September with a presentation by Sangeeta Bias on Understanding Incised Plaster Works of Monument of Delhi at the Kamladevi Complex, IIC with Nalini Thakur, Department of Architectural Conservation, Delhi School of Planning and Architecture, as Chairperson.

INTACH Heritage Academy continued with the INTACH-IIC Research Lecture Series during the current quarter:

13th October: Conservation of Historic Gardens: The Indian Context by Priyaleen Singh, Dean and Emeritus, RICS, School of Built Environment, Amity University; KT Ravindran was the Chairperson for the lecture attended by about 120 persons in a stimulating interactive session.

24th November: Geo-Scientific Exploration of the Saraswati River Civilization and Heritage in Himalaya and Haryana by A.R. Chaudhri. He presented his research on Geo-Scientific Exploration of the Saraswati River Civilization and Heritage in Himalaya and Haryana; with former Defence Secretary Dr. Yogender Narain as chairperson.

16th December: Historic Planting – Survey and Characterization of Historic Lakhori Brick by Bhawna Dandona. Director Dhronab Dr. Shikha Jain chaired the session.

Listing and Documentation Workshop

The Workshop was organized in collaboration with the Listing Cell of Jaipur Chapter and the local Aayojan School of Architecture on 7th-9th October for its students and faculty. The lectures covered:

- Introduction to heritage and how to value the past
- Importance and process of listing and documentation
- Usage of a software/mobile application in the listing procedures
- A case study on the listing of Jaipur

A practical session was organized under the guidance of INTACH and the school faculty for listing of heritage sites in the historic city Amer. Presentations on their work were made by all the students on the final day and evaluated by the Listing Cell Architect. The feedback from participants was most favourable, specially the App of listing process, with the request that lectures needed to be more explanatory in future.
Capacity Building Workshop

The Capacity Building Workshop was organized on 26th–29th October in collaboration with the Chapters Division for INTACH Members. Twenty participants attended the workshop from 13 Chapters (Barmer, Khandwa, Mizoram, Thanjavur, Pune, Raipur, Bilaspur, Chandrapur, Warangal, Varanasi, Jharkhand, Chandigarh and Haryana). The lectures covered multiple facets of the subject:

- Introduction to Heritage and how to value the past
- Listing of Heritage Sites and how to do it?
- Conservation of Architectural Heritage
- Conserving our Community Craft
- Conservation of Natural Heritage and introduction to Bio-diversity
- Introduction to Biodiversity and Urban Lakes and Wetland Management
- Documenting Intangible Cultural Heritage
- Creating Heritage Awareness and National Programmes
- Conservation of Art and Material Culture
- Legal Issues and Heritage, with guidelines for Chapters

Two field visits were organised during the workshop. The programme was designed with exercises related to each of its sessions. Participants made presentations on their group work at the beginning of each day. The resource persons at this intense training workshop were Heads of Divisions and technical staff at INTACH Central Office. The feedback was that participants gained awareness of the work being done in all the Divisions. On the final day of this intense training each participant presented his/her ideas and views on the future activities they would like the local Chapter to undertake. The closing address was by INTACH Chairman LK Gupta and Member Secretary CT Misra.

Conservation Engineering Workshop

This Workshop for Engineers held in collaboration with the Puducherry Chapter could not be covered in last issue as it was held 29th–30th September. The broad aim of the workshop was to sensitize the engineers on understanding heritage issues and create conservation awareness for use of traditional material and techniques in their restoration works. About 50 participants, including the Chief Architect of PWD, attended the workshop. On second day, a guided tour and field visit was organized by the Chapter to illustrate the challenges and potential solutions in heritage conservation.
TEACHER TRAINING WORKSHOP

Gwalior, 5th – 6th October

Gwalior Chapter and HECS Delhi organized a two day workshop (23 teachers from 11 school) at Bharatiyam Vidya Niketan. State Convenor H.B. Maheshwari, spoke about the local history of Gwalior, dynasties and kings, and structures like the Moti Mahal, Kahaz Mahal etc. constructed by them in Gwalior. There was a heritage walk to Moti Mahal and Baiza Bai Taal built by the Scindia dynasty. The workshop was concluded with a felicitation ceremony.

Khandwa, 26th – 27th October

HECS in collaboration with the Khandwa Chapter organized a teacher training workshop (28 teachers from 14 schools) at the International School. Ms. Madhuri Sharma and PD HECS Purnima Datt gave presentations on the Heritage of India. The field trip was organized at Nagchun Museum and Padms Kund in Khandwa. The Museum has a collection of rare stone sculptures dating to 7th-16th century AD.

Thanjavur, 17th - 18th November

HECS in collaboration with the Thanjavur Chapter organized a teacher training workshop (92 teachers from 68 schools) at Collectorate Museum, Chapter Secretary Muthukumar gave a brief introduction to the history of Thanjavur and the rich heritage of Chola temples that were declared as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. An enriching walk was conducted to the Brihadeeswarar Temple, which is also a World Heritage Site for its Chola architectural and sheer brilliance.

Jamnagar, 3rd - 4th December

The Teacher Training Workshop was organized at Jamnagar at Air Force School, (60 teachers from 30 schools). Retd. Air Commodore Surendra Tyagi showed old and present
photographs of buildings of the city. Ms. Purnima Datt spoke on natural, built, material and living heritage of the country. A heritage walk to the old Parsi Agiary (fire temple), Borrah Mosque, Kashi Vishwanath Temple and the Darbargarh was conducted.

**VOLUNTEER TRAINING WORKSHOP**

**Delhi, 8th-9th October**

The workshop (69 students from 8 Delhi colleges with 4 teachers) adopted a practical and interactive methodology such as slide shows by resource persons, talks, group and hands-on activities, discussions, heritage quiz, and presentations by respective INTACH Divisions. Dr. AGK Menon, Dr. Narayani Gupta and Dr. Swapna Liddle familiarized the students with Delhi's unique and composite culture. It concluded with encouraging words from INTACH Chairman LK Gupta and Member Secretary Dr. CT Misra who distributed certificates.

**Mandi, 10th October**

The Mandi Chapter organized a workshop on use of crochet at the DAV Senior Secondary School. Around 83 school students in Classes VII-IX from 10 schools participated. The highlight was participation of students of Government Senior Secondary School, from Panchayat Village of Padhar about 35 kilometers from Mandi.

**Jamnagar, 11th October**

The Jamnagar Chapter chose to work on Bandini and bead craft. The workshop saw the participation of four schools, with over 60 children.

The craft teachers became the resource persons and taught the nuances of this craft. The children were encouraged to make their own pieces which were judged by eminent women working in this field.
**Gwalior, 15th October**

In order to raise awareness regarding an old traditional art form of Gwalior, the Chapter organised a workshop on *Chitera* painting at the Pragati Vidya Peeth School, Morar.

This workshop saw the participation of 180 students from different schools of Gwalior. The resource person Kanhiya Lal, taught the students the nuances of this painting done with natural colors using Indian motifs like lotus and peacocks.

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**Chandrapur, 17th October**

The Chandrapur Chapter chose the unique and endangered craft of bamboo art. Over 60 students from different schools of the city participated, with the workshop conducted at the local Hindi City Higher Secondary School. The resource person Ashok Shinde explained the students the nuances of craft items made and they made some using their own imagination. The event was graced by the presence of, The Chief Conservator of Forest (CCF) Sanjay Thakre along with Ex – Principal A.N. Pullawar were present at the school.

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**Amritsar, 20th October**

In order to raise awareness on art and craft traditions pertaining to their region, and to commemorate Heritage Week, the Amritsar Chapter organized a workshop on *Phulkari* held at Satya Bharti Adarsh Senior Secondary School, Fattubheela. Around 45 students from 6 different schools participated in the workshop. Nine resource persons belonging to nearby villages taught the children nuances of this old art form typical of Punjab.

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**Udaipur, 26th October**

The Udaipur Chapter conducted a craft workshop on Terracotta Art, *Pichwai* Painting and *Sanjhi Jal Kala* to raise awareness of these crafts and art practices. Around 80 children from 5 schools attended this workshop, with three resource persons closely interacting with them.

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**Jaipur, 27th October**

The Jaipur Chapter took up the traditional craft in Rajasthan of block printing, in collaboration with OJAS. The workshop saw the participation of over 80 students. At the printing unit of OJAS students got the unique opportunity to learn printing and dying techniques, at first by observing and then doing it themselves.
Ladakh, 1st November – 8th November

The Ladakh Chapter, in order to raise awareness regarding endangered art and craft of this far flung region conducted a five day workshop on pottery of the Likir village. Seven youths from Likir were trained by master craftsman Lamchung Tsephel. Likir Pottery is something unique to Ladakh and is slowly vanishing because young people are not very keen on taking to this craft. With the passage of time only two expert craftsmen of this art are present today, and an effort needs to be made to revive this craft.

Dahanu, 12th December

The Dahanu Chapter conducted a workshop on the distinctive art of Warli Painting. Around 90 children from HMP school participated. They were made aware of the history of Dahanu and the art of Warli, with its finer nuances explained by three craft persons.

Raipur, 24th November

The Raipur Chapter conducted a workshop on bamboo craft, under HECS Endangered Art and Craft Programme. Held over five days, it saw the participation of over fifty students from the Mahasamund District, Chhattisgarh. The focus was on bamboo items and a traditional item called Jhampi made out of bamboo, and used during a marriage ceremony by the bride to keep her valuables and cosmetics.

FILMIT INDIA

Nineteen Filmit films were selected for the International Film Festival held at Hyderabad to be shown in the Little Directors Non-Competitive category. This Festival is held every second year. INTACH chosen entry Phoolwati Amma had been judged as the second best film in 2013. This year HECS showcased 19 films made across the country by young people under its Filmit India programme.

SWACHH MONUMENT CAMPAIGN

INTACH is organizing an all India campaign and competition to “Clean Monument” for middle school students. More than 60 INTACH Chapters across the country are supporting it to enlighten children, the torch bearers of our nation, about this voluntary campaign. A cleanup drive and a
poster making competition followed. The campaign involves schools in adopting various monuments that are in disrepair. Schools will be electing Monument Monitors and prepare a detailed report on this campaign.

**Delhi, 24th November**

HECS in collaboration with Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) took up Hauz Khas monument complex to commemorate the World Heritage Week. Students from various schools participated in the cleanup drive and poster making competition. ASI Regional Director T.R. Sharma was the Chief Guest. He told the students about India’s heritage and the urgent need to protect and preserve it. He said heritage should be very close to our hearts and we must preserve it. Students picked up waste papers, empty plastic bottles and collected them into garbage bins.

**Mayurbhanj, Baripada, 29th November**

The Mayurbhanj Chapter organised Swachha Bharat Abhiyan with a clean up drive on the premises of Hari Baladev Jew Temple (Bada Jagannath Temple). The Head Priest of the temple Pradeep Panda enlightened them on the ritual of the temple and the Cultural Heritage of Mayurbhanj. The Club Members also staged a Cultural Program.

**Ambala, 26th November**

The Ambala Chapter organized a heritage monument poster making competition, followed by a clean up drive of the Patel Park including its temple area. Over 100 children from 13 schools participated in the competition. Station Commander Maj Gen Anil Chaudhary was the Chief Guest. The event imparted heritage education to children, and spread awareness about maintaining heritage monuments as part of the national Swachh Bharat campaign. The children drew posters of various monuments of Ambala, like the St. Paul Church, Panjokhara Sahib Gurdwara, etc.

**Yamunanagar, 8th December**

Yamunanagar Chapter conducted the Clean Monument Campaign at Yamunanagar and Jagadhri with the participation of 10 schools of the area totaling 100 students along with their school teachers. The selected site was the Buddhist Stupa at Chaneti village, near Buria Distt. of Yamunanagar.

**INDIA HERITAGE QUIZ FINALS**

The Finals of INTACH’s India Heritage Quiz 2015 were held on 26th November at the Doordarshan studios. The 16 qualifying teams from the different parts of the country competed in the Semi Finals, and one National Final. All the winning teams visited INTACH on 25th November where they were felicitated by Chariman L K Gupta and Member...
Secretary Dr. CT Misra. The winners were taken on a short heritage walk of the Lodhi Gardens.

The 16 semi finalists were - Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Thrissur; Krishna Public School, Raipur; Sunbeam School, Bhagwanpur, Varanasi; Delhi Public School, Bokaro Steel City; Bright Day School, Vadodara; St. Agnes School, Kharagpur; Bal Bharti Public School, Ghaziabad; Navy Children's School, Visakhapatnam; Little Flower School, Nalbari, Assam; St. Patrick's School, Pondicherry; Convent of Jesus & Mary, New Delhi; SPM English School, Pune; DPS Kalinga, Bhubaneswar; Springdale Senior School, Amritsar; Sharada Vidyalaya, Mangalore and Mayoor School, Ajmer.

The National Final was played out between SPM English School, Pune; Bal Bharti Public School, Ghaziabad; Sunbeam School, Varanasi and Sharada Vidyalaya, Mangalore.

The National Winners of INTACH India Heritage Quiz 2015 was Sunbeam School from Varanasi.

Reis Magos Festival, Goa, 14th – 15th December

Goa Chapter Convenor Fatima Gracias and Co-Convenor Ian Alvares supported by HECS Delhi organized the Reis Magos Festival Goa Within. Students from 8 schools (Lourdes Convent School, Mushtifund High School, Sharada Mandir School, Rosary High School, Don Bosco School, Bhatikar Model School and Kings School) participated in the Festival and various competitions like post card and cartoon making. Participating students
from 7 schools made the posters in their schools prior to the Festival. They displayed, enacted, mimed, danced and sang about the history of Goa on interesting themes such as Morulo (peacock dance), coming of the Portuguese, local arts and crafts, Goa’s diversity of religion, tourist culture, and heritage of cartoonist Mario Miranda, etc. Their talented displays were much appreciated by one and all.

**Book Release : Care for Heritage**

On the occasion of World Heritage Week celebrations at INTACH, HECS Division released their next publication in the Adopt a Heritage series, *Care for Heritage: Books, Photographs, Textiles, Paintings and Art Objects*. This book focuses on conservation of art objects in school and at home for children and heritage enthusiasts alike. It was released by INTACH Chairman LK Gupta and Member Secretary Dr. CT Misra.

**Heritage Club Activities, Delhi**

Heritage Walks were conducted during October-December for Delhi and NCR schools at monument complexes such as Humayun’s Tomb, Northern Ridge, Mehrauli Archaeological Park, Nizamuddin, Lodi Garden, Hauz Khas, etc. Students and teachers are told about the history, stories and legends along with architectural details about these monuments. They were given worksheets for their future reference.

**RIDDLE ME THIS**

An exhibition called *Elements* was held by the National Museum, Delhi earlier this year, organized by a Kolkata based Think Arts who create unique experiences for young children. Its founder Ruchira Das metaphorically says “Most of our children today have not walked barefoot. They don’t know how sand or grass feels under their feet”. The idea of this exhibition is to wean children away from the clutter of gadgets, touch phones, P3 sets, TVs and all such instruments that turn them into screen addicts, passive viewers and couch potatoes. *Elements* was an entirely interactive exhibition replete with tunnels, texture walkway, puzzles, riddles, etc. far removed from everything virtual. After that there was a cupboard, a maze, a music room and a texture walk before participants reached the feedback space and got down to sketching and writing about their experience. In the activity room children could create sculptures with cardboard and paper, another textural experience from different materials provided to them on a tray. There was also a jig-saw puzzle inspired by one of the miniatures on display at the Museum. Elders were discouraged from visiting their children so that a free flow of imagination was ensured without their imposition of set notions on fresh young minds!

**Ack : Divya A, Hindustan Times**
FOR ATTENTION OF CHAPTERS

The second *Capacity Building Workshop* for INTACH Chapter Members conducted by the INTACH Heritage Academy is scheduled to be held from 15th-18th February 2016 at Central Office, Delhi. It is structured for Members to connect the training and capacity building needs with individual potential of the Member. Convenors were requested to nominate one/two Members of their respective Chapters for this workshop. Presumably the participation forms along with CVs have been forwarded to IHA on due date.

Heads of Divisions have been directed to work in close tandem with Chapters. All project details and funds will be provided to Chapters concerned from time to time.

Thank You

ANDHRA PRADESH

Anantapur

World Heritage Week was celebrated enthusiastically by conducting an Essay and Elocution Contest for the students of K.S.N. Degree Women’s College. A heritage photo exhibition was also organized displaying the collected works of Life Member S. Raghvendra Rao.

East Godavari

The Chapter inaugurated the exhibition ‘*Splendours of India*’ sent from INTACH Central Office which is touring various
Chapters on request. Convenor Sheshakumari Lakkaraju invited the Chief Manager of State Bank of India UH Sharma for the inauguration. The Exhibition was much appreciated by all. A large number of students from colleges and schools have been visiting the Exhibition. It was also widely covered by the local TV Channel.

**Guntur**

Shri SVS Lakshmi Narayana is appointed as Convenor of Guntur Chapter. He will be supported by Ms. Rajyalakshmi as the Co-Convenor. INTACH wishes them both every success in the arduous task of setting up of the new Chapter.

**Kadapa**

The Chapter organised various heritage awareness programmes as part of Heritage Week celebrations. Four Heritage Club members were taken on a tour of the 1000 year old Gandkota Fort, introducing them to heritage games and folk arts. The Chapter also prepared a short documentary film on the Fort which was released by the State Minister for Education, Agriculture and IIT along with a brochure.

On 22nd November a Workshop for the College Students in and around Kakinada was conducted at the Ashram Public School Auditorium. Collector PVRK Prasad gave an informative and interesting talk on the Culture and Heritage of East Godavari and Kakinada to 120 students present from different Colleges. The students were then divided into 11 groups, with each group presenting their recommendations on their views on “the Smart City Scenario for Kakinada, how to protect its heritage and culture”. The Commissioner of Kakinada Municipal Corporation and the Deputy Commissioner awarded the prizes to the best presentations.

**Machilipatnam**

The Heritage Awareness programme for students including essay writing and drawing competition was held at the Thallapalem High School. Convenor T. Rama Mohana Rao spoke on the importance of heritage. Prizes were awarded.
to the winning participants. A heritage tour of the city was organized for the students of R.K. Public School. The students from Young INTACH Club of several schools participated in the ‘The International Coastal Cleanup Day’, in the company of the local and Marine Police. The young members left the Mamginapudi beach sparkling clean!

**Srikakulam**

The Chapter celebrated *World Tourism Day* highlighting the importance of tourism amongst the students at two Government colleges. Convenor Dharma Rao gave a power point presentation on the rich historical and cultural heritage of the area and its tourism potential. A heritage quiz was also organized on the occasion.

The Chapter organized a 5 day exhibition *Splendours of Indian Architecture* with 37 panels sent from Central Office for Heritage Week. It was inaugurated by the District Magistrate and MLA Gunda Lakshmi. INTACH’s role in promoting heritage awareness was lauded by the various speakers. The book *Sree Mukhalingam and its Antiquity* based on the 8th century temple was released. A music award initiated by the Chapter in 2008 was conferred on Maestro Mavuduru Salhyanarayana. Talks on various heritage subjects like Buddhist Heritage of A.P, Kuchipudi Dance, importance of manuscripts and the history of Eastern Ganga rule in the district were part of the event which engaged the audience.

**Warangal**

Warangal is one of the 12 cities identified under the *HRIDAY* programme of the Ministry of Urban Development, to
preserve and revitalize the soul of this heritage city and reflect its unique character with an aesthetically appealing, accessible, informative and secure environment. The Chapter organized a cycle rally and a seminar on "Role of Students in HRIDAY Programme", to create awareness among youth and expose them to the significance of this initiative. The Cycle Rally, flagged off by the Chief Guest Deputy Chief Minister and Education Minister Sri Kaidyam Srihari covered a distance of 2 Kilometers, from the Public Gardens Hanamkonda to the Thousand Pillar Temple. It was attended by all the important local dignitaries. ASI Superintending Archaeologist N. Tahir and Convenor Prof M. Pandu Ranga Rao addressed the delegates and students about the planning, development and implementation of heritage-sensitive infrastructure and local capacity enhancement for an inclusive heritage-based industry, and the role of students in achieving the objectives of the HRIDAY Cities.

Active campaign has been undertaken to get World Heritage status for Takht Harmandar Sahib, Patna City, Musoleum of Sher Shah, Stupa in Vaishali and Nalanda ruins.

A Heritage Walk to Harmander Sahib was conducted on 25th November for college students. Convenor J.K. Lall, Co-Convenor State Chapter D.K. Baxi along with many local dignitaries participated.

**Bhagalpur**

This new Chapter was inaugurated by Director Chapters Group Captain Rahul Pathak on 19th December 2015. Convenor Dr. K.D. Prabhat welcomed all the Members while Co-Convenor Dr. Baijal Michel Quardus proposed the vote of thanks. Present on the occasion were Bihar State Co-Convenor D.K. Dikshit and Patna Convenor S.K. Sinha, and several local guests and dignitaries in attendance.

ASSAM

Convenor Jayanta Sarma was invited to participate on the panel discussion of Rongpur Unnayan Utsav held to commemorate the richness of Siva Sagar District – a living museum of Assamese art, culture and the historic repository of the Ahom Legacy.

BIHAR

The State and Patna Chapters held an interactive session on conservation of Heritage Buildings in Bihar as part of Heritage Week activities. New Chapters in Magadh, Gaya, Vikramshila, Bhagalpur and Nalanda are in the pipeline.

Bhagalpur was one of the first Commissionary established by the British Raj, and has many buildings of that era that are crumbling gradually.
**Patna**

The Chapter jointly with the Bihar State Chapter a organized a seminar on *Restoring the Glory of Patliputra and Patna*. It was inaugurated by the Honorable Governor of Bihar Ram Nath Kovind. Lt. Gen. S.K. Sinha PVSM (former Governor of Assam and J&K), and Founder Convenor of the Chapter presented the keynote address and suggested that perhaps the city of Patna should be called Patliputra because of the historical association. Convenor J.K. Lall welcomed the guests. State Convenor Prem Sharan and several local dignitaries attended the seminar.

**CHANDIGARH**

*Ek Sham Le Corbusier Ke Naam* was a musical night held at Burail Jail as one of the activities for *World Heritage Week*. It also celebrated the legendary architect Le Corbusier who planned the city of Chandigarh. The Governor Prof. Kaptan Singh Solanki graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.

**CHHATTISGARH**

*Sarguja*

The Chapter conducted a heritage walk to Maheshpur where 8th to 10th century statues were found during an excavation.

**CONDOLENCES**

INTACH is grieved to hear about the sad demise of Shri Shiv Singh, a Life Member and active participant in the activities of the Chandigarh Chapter. We send our deepest condolences to his family members at this time of sorrow. We send good wishes for their future.
Students from more than 75 colleges participated in the tour led by Co-Convenor Dr. Sachin Mandilwar.

Students and teachers participating in the cleaning drive

**GOA**

The Goa Chapter in collaboration with Lady Hamlyn Trust and Reis Magos Fort, successfully organized a two day workshop to prepare school students for “Goa Within” — a festival for the eight schools who participated in the much appreciated workshop.

**GUJARAT**

**Mehsana**

A heritage tour to the *Forest of Polo* in the Sabar-Kantha District was organized for school students and teachers as part of a heritage awareness drive. The itinerary included visits to Sarneshwar Temple, 15th century Lakhena Jain Temple, Shiv Temple and a water kund. Convenor Javahar Mehta spoke to the students about the importance of conservation and preservation of heritage. The students participated in the cleaning drive at the Lakhena Jain Temple. It was a successful and well appreciated tour.

**HARYANA**

The Haryana Chapter organized a special lecture at INTACH on “*Excavations at Rakhigarhi*” by Prof. Vasant Shinde, Vice Chairman, Deccan College. Recent excavations at this Harappan site are a seminal discovery that is set to change the discourse on Harappan settlements in archaeology. Professor Vasant Shinde, a leading specialist in Harappan civilisation and Director of the current excavation, stated that this discovery makes Rakhigarhi the biggest Harappan site, bigger than Mohenjo-daro.

The lecture was followed by a panel discussion with experts from Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and Department of Archaeology, Haryana State Government to dialogue on the possibilities of disseminating this significant discovery to all through museums, interpretation strategies and outreach events.
**Ambala**

Architectural Heritage Division has embarked on a Pan India initiative - *State of Built Heritage of India (SoBHI)* - and Primary Studies in different parts of the country are being conducted as reported earlier. AHD officials Roshiba Khan and Pratiti Joshi visited over 20 heritage sites of Ambala recording and documenting the relevant features for SoBHI from 18th-20th November. Convenor Brig. Lamba and Co-Convenor Col R.D. Singh extended every assistance to the AHD team in this mission.

The Chapter organized a *Heritage Monument Poster Making Competition* for over a hundred children who participated. It was followed by cleanup drive of the Patel Park and its temple area to impart practical education and emphasise maintenance of monuments as a part of the *Swachh Bharat* initiative. The students displayed great enthusiasm in cleaning the monument. The children drew posters of various monuments of Ambala and also wrote about keeping them clean. The selected winners will be given certificates by INTACH Central Office. Convenor Brig GS Lamba announced that the clean up initiative will be taken forward by appointing a ‘Monument Monitor’ from each school.

**HEMU’S HAVELI**

The 900 years old Hemu’s Haveli in Qutabpur area of Rewari is an impressive structure that combines Jat Rajput, Mughal and Portuguese architecture. Dr. Shika Jain said it is a unique structure as “it bears the imprint of various eras and rulers”.

Maharaja Hemachandra was coronated in 1556 after he defeated the stronger Akbar’s army which in itself is of historic importance. INTACH has commissioned a study of this brick and mortar mansion for adaptive reuse of the Haveli such as a museum or information centre.

**Gurgaon**

The Chapter organized the 7th edition of *Gurgaon Haat* to promote culture and heritage in the city. Artisans from across the country participated, with a platform provided to craftsmen to showcase their wares.

The Chapter also conducted a very successful *Inter School Heritage Quiz* on 22nd December in which 24 teams participated.
HIMACHAL PRADESH

Mandi

In an effort to revive and revisit historical and cultural festivals of the area, the Chapter celebrated Panjbikhmi Ekadas on 25th November at the Beas ghats, where sage Mandavya is believed to have meditated, and legend has it that the name Mandi is derived from him. It was a picturesque scene with over three hundred women floating diyas in the river. Keeping environmental concerns in focus, the diyas were made out of wheat flour this year.

Kangra

World Tourism Day was celebrated by arranging a heritage awareness programmes among school children. The students of Govt. Higher Secondary School, in Ghaniara Village performed Gaddi and Nepali folk dances. A painting competition and a talk by Convenor L.N.Aggarwal on the importance of heritage protection and conservation were held.

Shimla

Shri Sudhir Khanna is appointed the Co-Convenor of the Shimla Chapter. We welcome him into our midst with many good wishes for a successful and happy association with INTACH.

JHARKHAND

Hazaribagh

This year the Chapter held an exhibition of the traditional Khovar and Sohrai art exhibition at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London from 13th October-12th December. It was inaugurated by Dean of SOAS G. Singh. Convenor Bulu Imam, Co-Convenor Elizabeth Imam and Life Member Gustav Imam were present on the occasion. Renowned photographer Ms. Deidi von Schaewen was one of the host of dignitaries invited to the inauguration.

The paintings were by the Tribal Women Artists Cooperative. The exhibition also displayed photographs by Deidi von Schaewen of the painted houses of Hazaribagh villages titled The Painted Forest Villages of Hazaribagh. It may be recalled that a similar exhibition was held overseas in 2011 titled Disappearing World with photographs by the well known Robert Wallis. The theme of both these exhibitions was the ancient connect of traditional art with the Mesolithic cave paintings of Damodar Valley in Jharkhand, now threatened by large scale open cast coal mining.
The 2015 exhibition also had a unique display of wallpaper samples with traditional black and white *Khovar* motifs produced by L’Aviva Home for contemporary use. It triggers a new idea that wall papers with Indian heritage motifs could sell in international markets.

### KARNATAKA

#### Bagalkot

A lecture was held in Shirur village of the District. It has 7 inscriptions from the 10th – 12th century AD dating to the Chalukyas of Kalyan. Resource person Prof. Surekha Kulkarni gave a brief historical background of the village. It was attended by Bijapur Convenor Dr. D.G. Kulkarni, Co-Convenor Prof. M.F. Kuri, INTACH Members, students, village elders and press reporters.

### Bengaluru

The Chapter along with EDC Pvt. Ltd. has successfully restored the *Children’s Pavilion* at the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS), Bengaluru. They worked on the adaptive reuse of this building as the proposed NIMHANS Heritage Museum.

The Restored Heritage Building was inaugurated by the President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee on 23 December.

### Gulbarga

The Chapter urged the local Administration to take urgent and effective steps for protection, preservation and promotion of the 600 year old historic fort situated in the heart of the city. A INTACH delegation led by the Convenor Dr. S.S. Wani submitted a memorandum to the MP Gulbarga Mallikarjun Kharge and other concerned officials regarding this.
The General Body Meeting of the Chapter decided to scale up the activities to promote art, culture and history amongst the people of the area. A programme *Visit to the Historical Monuments* was initiated for the college students under the guidance of the Convenor. On 4th November, the Foundation Day of the Chapter was celebrated with a talk by historian Prof. B.P. Hugar and Resident Editor, Karnataka Daily *Devu Pohar* on the historical monuments of the district. A lecture on Tajuddin Firoz Shah was arranged at the Sath Gumbaz which was attended by the post graduate students.

Convenor Dr. S.S. Wani writes that the Kalaburgi Fort is the centre of the historical heritage of the city. It is in a gradual state of ruin day by day. The Chapter needs to take up this matter with the local and State authorities.

As may be seen, the Chapter is already very active on many fronts.

**KERALA**

**Kasargod**

Convenor V. Jayarajan led the campaign to save the 105 years old Payyanur Old Police Station. The heritage building was faced with the threat of demolition. This Indo-European architectural wonder was built in 1910 with two inner courtyards and twelve independent cells. It witnessed many a historic event during pre and post Independence period. It was the Police Station during the *Salt Satyagraha* when 13 volunteers were brutally tortured and one died in its cells.

The State Government has now issued a notification and it has been declared a Protected Monument under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1968. Entirely due to the tireless efforts of conservation activists – persistence paid!

Convenor Dr. V. Jayarajan informs that it has been a saga of eight long years of resistance after news of its demolition was first sounded in 2007. Politically motivated reports were submitted by a local MLA and even by an archaeologist, and another from a historian favouring demolition. INTACH Chapter filed a writ petition as a last resort seeking intervention of the Kerala High Court, and was granted a stay order on the merits of the case. Another memorandum submitted to the new Minister for Culture KC Joseph in 2013 set the ball rolling after repeated follow-ups by the Chapter. Finally on 8th September it was declared as a protected monument.

Convenor Dr. V. Jayarajan and the Chapter are heartily lauded for their dedicated persistence to overcome all hurdles.

**VMK BOTANICAL GARDENS**

About 22 kms from Kozhikode there is a slice of the Western Ghats preserved by V. Mohammed Koya. He has planted 300 species of trees and a 1000 medicinal plants. Each tree not only carries its name but also a story. Like the one which features in the Ramayana, the *Ashoka Vanam* under which Sita took refuge in Ravana’s garden. Koya, a school dropout, travelled extensively to procure his saplings on meager earnings. He says “come with an empty hand and return with a rich experience”. His trees are like his children and he grieved when two of his sandalwood trees were stolen. When forest officials cautioned him that private individuals cannot grow certain trees, he promptly named his haven the VMK Botanical Gardens.
and success. The Convenor suggests that the authorities concerned should now take the initiative to use the heritage building as a Museum for Agrarian Struggles of the region.

**MADHYA PRADESH**

**Bhopal**

Shri Madan Mohan Upadhyay is appointed as the Convenor of the Bhopal Chapter. Dr. Visakha Kawathekar will be the new Co-Convenor of the Chapter. INTACH extends a warm welcome to both our new Members with our support and good wishes for success in executing their new responsibilities.

**Dhar**

The historical town of Dhar has 4 entry gates which remained closed for the safety of its citizens. The foundation stone of one of its gates dating back to 1872 was missing from 2011-2012. After painstaking efforts it was located with a businessman dealing with antiques. At the request of Chapter Members it was handed over to the local INTACH team. The Dhar Chapter is heartily congratulated for this commendable achievement. It must have taken considerable persuasion to retrieve it from sale!

**Mandla**

A three day seminar was organized to discuss and highlight heritage related issues of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. Director Chapters Group Captain Rahul Pathak attended the Seminar along with about 30 participants from M.P, Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra, and local dignitaries. Convenor Girija Shanker Agrawal and Co-Convenor Ramesh Chandra Pathak welcomed the guests. The Convenor in the research paper presented said that *Sitarpata* near Mandla was the site of Valmiki’s ashram where the *Ramayana* was written.

**MAHARASHTRA**

**Chandrapur**

The Chapter published a very informative leaflet on the natural heritage of the region. This commendable work was formally released on the Foundation Day of the Chapter during the World Wildlife Week.

**Mumbai**

The Chapter in collaboration with the Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum Trust conducted the following events:-

17th October: A guided tour of the historic streets and areas of Portuguese Bandra with Alisha Sadikot conducting 22 participants through wars and personal histories with descriptive maps, was a walk along Bandra Fort, the waterfront areas and the narrow village paths of Ranwar.

19th & 25th November: Chapter celebrated World Heritage Week. 20 participants explored one of the seven original islands of the city - Mazagaon Island and its importance in the history of Mumbai.

21st November: INTACH Conservation Laboratory hosted 21 enthusiastic participants for a brief introduction to Art Conservation. It included presentations on *Care of Collection of Rare Books and Preventive Conservation of Indian Miniature Paintings*.

23rd November: An eminent journalist and Member of INTACH Executive Committee Sidharth Bhatia delivered
an interesting talk on gathering and structuring first person histories.

23rd November: Architect, editor of Domus magazine and Executive Committee Member of Mumbai Chapter Kaiwan Mehta guided 25 participants through a riot of culture and architecture at Bhuleshwar, Mumbai. He encouraged citizens to sketch any historic site or detail, and submit hand drawn sketches to participate in the INTACH Heritage Sketch Award 2015. Entries received included a diverse range of topics, and the youngest participant was a 5 year old girl.

Conferences attended by INTACH Vice Chairman

International Council Meeting for the Museum of Modern Art (MOMA) held in Cuba on 4-8 November.

Panel discussion on Building Infrastructure for the Arts in India by the ARTthink SouthAsia and Piramal Art Foundation in Mumbai on 16th of November.

Observer Research Foundation (ORF) Meeting in Mumbai as part of multi-stakeholder discussion on open spaces policy of the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM) on 17th of November.

The Heritage Trust in Vadodara for a talk on the extraordinary work at Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Mumbai City Museum on 21st November.

The Ministry of Culture, appointed Vice Chairman INTACH Tasneem Mehta, Dr. Jyotindra Jain and Dr. Rautela as museum experts to guide the Government of Bangladesh in the up-gradation work of Bangabandhu Museum and other museums and heritage sites in the country.

The Chapter conducted a series of Heritage Walks in Mumbai which are a popular feature on the tourist itinerary. Vice Chairman Tasneem Zakaria Mehta interacted with columnists Sangita Advani for Bombaywaali celebrating the women of Bombay -intelligently, philosophically, financially, spiritually and literally. It was a talk about Bombay/ Mumbai- past, present and the future. Ms Mehta reflected on how heritage and history should be presented in a more contemporary way to engage the youth. Why can't museums be great meeting places? The social media is transforming art and taking it places it could never reach before.
District Magistrate was invited as the Chief Guest for the 5th Foundation Day of the Chapter that was enthusiastically celebrated. He spoke about the heritage monuments and buildings of the district and the steps taken by the District Administration to restore the State’s oldest fort at Raibania. Convenor Himansu Das presided the function, with Co-Convenor Uday Ranjan Das apprising the guests of the Chapter’s activities. The annual bulletin *Parampara* was released and several awards were given to prize winners of previous activities held for young people.

**Bhadarak**

The 6th Annual General Body Meeting of the Chapter decided to take the drive for INTACH membership to the block level. The focus on Heritage Awareness Programmes would continue especially amongst students. It was decided to release the book *History and Culture of Bhadrak* on the
day of the Annual Function of the Chapter when some folk artists will also be felicitated.

Odisha has a strong historical Buddhist legacy as can be found in the Buddhist Literature and sculptural remains of Ratnagiri, Lalitgiri, and Udaygiri associated with Hinayana and early Mahayana forms of Buddhism. Forty members of the Chapter went on a heritage tour to these destinations and other heritage sites at Langaleswar cave and Olasuri cave. They also visited the famous Shiba Linga at Darpari Mahavinayak.

**Bhubaneshwar**

The Chapter organized a visit to Raghurajpur Heritage Village for about 150 participants. Most of school students found it a very educative and interesting experience. All the participants were served a sumptuous breakfast and lunch.

**Mayurbhanj**

The Chapter is actively promoting heritage awareness programmes among students. A talk on *Natural and Cultural Heritage* was delivered at the Govt. High School, Basipitha.

This was specially significant as the school is located next to the National Park, Simlipal. On 15th October, the Chapter organized an awareness programme on *Built Heritage and Antiquities of the Royal Period*, also engaging the students in a quiz. On World Tourism Day a heritage visit was organized for school children to the ancient capital of Mayurbhanj - Haripur Garh, and a drawing competition was also conducted.

**Sambalpur**

The Chapter initiated a slew of measures to protect, preserve and restore some of the city’s old monuments. The drive which started a few years back has begun to yield results. The restoration of one of long bastions of the 2443 feet
Rampart Wall constructed in the 16th Century is one such concrete result. The Rampart had six gates and six bastions. Each bastion was 17 feet high and 72 feet in diameter. As of now only one gate and three bastions exist. Out of the three existing bastions the one located near Machine Ghat on the Mahanadi River has been repaired by the Odisha State Culture Department after prolonged efforts. The Sambalpur Chapter expressed its gratitude to former Secretary, Culture of the State Govt. Dr Arabind Padhi for having facilitated his work.

RAJASTHAN

Baran

The Chapter held a meeting chaired by State Convenor Gaj Singh to discuss conservation and preservation of various heritage sites. It was decided that the site referred to as Mini Khajuraho, Bhanddevra Ramgarh will be actively taken up for conservation. Subsequently a team of 22 Chapter Members went to inspect the site and assess the current situation. They feel unless urgent steps are taken, this 1000 year old heritage of INTACH’s achievements, and appealed to the youth in particular to join the efforts to preserve and conserve India’s heritage.

PUNJAB

Patiala

The Chapter celebrated the 108th birth anniversary of Shabid Bhagat Singh by organizing a seminar on the Value of Life. The Speakers addressed a vast cross section of people on the occasion, emphasising on service to humanity as a way of life. Convenor Sarbjit Singh Virk apprised the audience
site is likely to perish in the next 2-3 years.

**Barmer**

The Chapter organized a *Skill and Capacity Building Workshop* to draw attention to the endangered art of *Ajrakh Printing*, with emphasis on block printing using natural and organic colours. The workshop was attended by school students who learned about various types of printing in *Ajrakh* style.

*World Tourism Day* was celebrated with a visit to the endangered heritage site of *Junaprasar*. It was not only to promote tourism and establish the site on the heritage map, but also an endeavor to draw public attention to the preservation of this endangered site. The event was well attended by the local dignitaries and widely covered by the local media. Convenor Yashovardhan Sharma thanked everyone for participating in the event and promised to organize more such heritage awareness programmes.

On 23rd October, the Chapter welcomed Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje to the District and submitted a letter regarding safeguarding heritage and other related issues.
An exhibition of ancient artifacts was also arranged for the occasion which was highly appreciated by her.

The Chapter celebrated the World Heritage Week with myriad activities starting with interactive sessions and talks on historical sites, natural heritage, local arts and craft and places of tourist interest. The event commenced with a welcome speech by Convenor Yashovardhan Sharma, who highlighted the cultural heritage of Barmer and INTACH efforts towards the preservation and conservation of the same.

On 22nd November two guests from France were given a heritage tour of all the historical sites. They were also shown local handicrafts which they highly appreciated. It is an ongoing effort by the Chapter to boost tourism and place the heritage sites on the tourism map.

The closing ceremony on 25th November was organized in collaboration with Cairn India limited with FGM Cairn India Ankus Agarwal as the Chief Guest.

The performance by local folk artists held in the evening was greatly appreciated by the audience.

The basic objective of such programs is to promote conservation of local heritage and introduce people to local folk music and instruments.

**Kota**

An Executive Meeting of the Chapter was held on 18th October where several matters were discussed at length. It was decided that the encroachment of Kishorepura Gate would be followed up with the Collector and the Mayor. The need for painting the gates of the city and raising the height of Jwala Top were discussed. Attention was drawn to restarting the Haat Bazar in order to boost the local crafts of the region.

**Pali**

The Chapter held a meeting on 14th November to discuss various issues related to listing and conservation of both tangible and intangible heritage. Convenor Karan Singh Chauhan and Co-Convenor Prithvi Singh Chauhan motivated all the Members to enlarge the Chapter membership by involving like minded citizens.

**TAMIL NADU**

Dr. Suresh Sethuraman, a renowned Archaeologist and Art Historian and Tamil Nadu State Convenor, is currently in the U.S. for two semesters, as a Fulbright Visiting Professor. On his recommendation, the University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, Virginia, has introduced, a new Major Course on the Art History of South Asia, With Special Focus on South India for the first time in its Degree Program. Dr. Suresh is currently teaching this Course at the Department of Art and Art History of the University. Two of Dr. Suresh's books—Beauty in Money—Numismatic Art and Technology of
Floods of Misery

The catastrophic flood of Chennai due to the heaviest rainfall in decades was aggravated by the uncoordinated release of 30,000 cu/sec from the Chembarambakkam reservoir into the Adyar River. Similar triggers at Poondi and Puzhal reservoirs into the Cooum River, now reduced to stagnant cesspit winding through the city, added to the floods. But this is not the full picture. It is the mindless development of last two decades - lowlands filled up, storm water drains choked, city’s natural water paths destroyed, illegal structures all over the city, suburbs on wetlands, stay orders against demolition, etc. etc. - that wreaked vengeance on the city. What had been a tank, lake, canal or river 20 years ago, are today sites of multi-storied building or industrial structures. In short it was poor urban planning that added to the floods of misery for the people of Chennai. Even the Chennai airport is built on the flood basin of Adyar, just like Mumbai airport is built across the Mithi. But the Mumbai 2005 floods was an indicator ignored although ten years ago a warning bell had rung. Chennai had then commissioned a project to prepare laser terrain maps, scanning the city by helicopter instead of relying on topographic maps. It remained unimplemented – just like the early warning system prepared by the Department of Remote Sensing at Anna University to understand the run-off pattern of rain water. A heavy price has been paid.

Ack: Shalini Nair, Indian Express

PS : Are there lessons to be learnt by other cities on the rise, powered by building mafia and mania?

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has identified that in future we are going to witness higher rainfall intensities in lesser amount of time and any such floods in lesser amount of time by virtue of their densities, will affect the largest number of people.

Madurai

Kutladampatti Falls near Vadipati, Madurai is host to rich bio-diversity. It has the potential to emerge as a popular tourist spot owing to the natural beauty of the area. To explore this possibility Chapter Members visited the site for a nature walk with DFO, Madurai Region Nihar Ranjan. A cleaning drive was organized in which about 80 people participated. It was proposed to provide uniforms to the members of the local community who are willing to be a part of preserving the area.

Since the countdown to the New Year has begun the Chapter launched its annual calendar. The calendar is a kind of cultural artifact with every sheet ingrained in cultural consciousness. It not only captures Madurai’s valuable intangible heritage but has been done for a cause. “Many aspects of culture are intangible and cannot be physically touched or felt. But much of it can be saved and protected through documentation”, says Convenor Uma Kannan. She says the aim is to draw attention to the importance of safeguarding intangible heritage and raise awareness about its significance, particularly among younger generations so that they are made aware of their role in preserving and respecting heritage. It is a strong factor of their cultural identity and background. The Chapter’s thematic calendar is based on monthly festivals and rituals and is a good keepsake and reminder of customs and rituals, festivities and craftsmanship. Co-Convenor Rajesh Kanna points out that unless people talk about our intangible heritage, the art...
forms will die due to lack of interest and awareness.

The Chapter also arranged an inspirational talk on 14th December by Dr. Sarada Nambi Aroon on *Younger Generation's Role in Protecting and Preserving our Traditional Heritage* at Thiagarajar College, Madurai.

**Nilgiris**

One of the landmark functions in the Nilgiris is the launch of the *The Toda Landscape* by Dr. Tarun Chhabra. Todas are indigenous to the District, and one of the most studied and written about tribes in South Asia. The book has careful documentation, supported by stunning visual, and provides new data that will help in presentations on the Toda Culture.

The book was launched at the Nilgiris Library by eminent historian and anthropologist Dr. Ramchandra Guha on 24th October. Convenor Geetha Srinivasan, who is also the President of the Library, gave the welcome address.

Convenor Geetha Srinivasan one of the trustees of the Assembly Rooms Theatre, was closely involved with its renovation and restoration. The theatre has a 129 year old history with Tamil Nadu Governor as its patron. The theatre has now begun its new innings after three years of renovation.

**TELENGANA**

**Hyderabad**

On 14th November, the Chapter jointly with the Salar Jung Museum and the Historical Society of Hyderabad organised the *Qutub Shabi Tombs Walk* conducted by KK Mohammed of the Aga Khan Trust. A large number of students from the Guru Nank High School in Kishen Bagh, Hyderabad Weekend Shoots, SV College of Architecture and the Aurora College of Architecture and Design at Uppal participated.

On 22nd November, another successful *Go Heritage Run-Bidar* was organized by the Chapter. It was a non-competitive event covering distances of 5km, 10km and 21km starting from Bidar Fort Entrance. The registrations were free for participants from the Air Force Station.
GoUNESCO in partnership with the INTACH Telangana invited volunteers to participate in a Make Heritage Fun event on 20th December. The documentation of the State’s cultural heritage- as part of a global event - organized in 25 countries simultaneously on the same day.

BATHUKAMMA
Bathukamma, an age old festival celebrates Nature, Women and the Girl Child. Vibrant coloured flowers of nearly 22 varieties are used to deck a conical mound and placed before the family deity in worship of Nature, of Bathu (life) and Amma (mother). Telengana has given it the status of a State Festival, with grants sanctioned to all its 10 districts to conduct the festivities that end in a grand finale at Hyderabad – presumably till the new capital of Telengana is built. As the period is a run up to Dassera, it is the longest holiday of 15 days in the State.

CONDOLENCES
Shri Sattoo Ramulu Gowd, a very noted and prominent resident of Mahbubnagar, passed away on 3rd November at Shirdi. He was with the Chapter since its inception in 1990. It was an association of 25 long and fruitful years and he came to be fondly called “Chicha” to all INTACH Members. The Chapter deeply regrets the loss of a valuable contributor to its activities. INTACH joins them in expressing our deepest condolences to his family.

Shri S.R Gowd was also Chairman of the local Zilla Grandhala Samstha for two consecutive terms, and widely known in Mahbubnagar as a patron of literary and cultural activities.

UTTARAKHAND

Dehradun
The Chapter organized a training programme for potential Walk Leaders on 9th-10th October attended by 22 volunteers. Convenor Lokesh Ohri informs that two new trails -The Great Arc and the Vivekananda Trails were covered, imparting various aspects of conducting a heritage walk to the volunteers. The trainees also learned about waste management and nature appreciation from the local NGO Nature Science Initiative.
**Allahabad**

Bhita is a historical site 30 Km from Allahabad. It boasts of a historical mound spread over 8 hectares and believed to date back to 200-300 BCE. It has remains of a Buddha statue and a temple. A heritage trip to this site was planned which generated a great deal of interest among Members of the Chapter.

Heritage Club at Mary Lucas School and College held a pottery making workshop to familiarize the students with the traditional art. A potter demonstrated the process of using the potter’s wheel for making *diyas*, pots and piggy banks. The workshop was received with interest and enthusiasm.

**Lucknow**

INTACH congratulates Convenor Vipul Varshney on receiving the *Shakti Sammam* awarded by the Government of Uttar Pradesh in recognition of his work in the heritage awareness and preservation field.

The Lucknow Chapter launched the “Clean a Monument Campaign” in great earnest on 6th December. The District
An exhibition on Mahatma Gandhi was organized by the Chapter in D.V. College and received a good response. The highlight of the programme was a live band performance by school children. The event was also widely covered by the media.

Convenor Vipul Varshney has sent a large number of clippings of the occasion that seems to have attracted considerable public interest.

**Mahoba**

INTACH was very sad to learn about the demise of INTACH Life Member Shri Prem Narayan Chobey. We send our heartfelt condolences to his family on their grievous loss and sorrow. Our good wishes will always be with them.

**Orai**

An exhibition on Mahatma Gandhi was organized by the Chapter in D.V. College and received a good response. The
Chapter also held an exhibition of Amik Khan’s work to encourage this promising young artist and felicitate him. He works with clay to make handicrafts.

Varanasi

Shri Ashok Kumar Kapoor took over as the new Co-Convenor of the Chapter. We welcome him to the INTACH family with many good wishes for his future success. Varanasi is one of the designated twelve smart cities with which INTACH is closely involved, so there will be heavy responsibilities to be undertaken.

GHATS OF KASHI

The visit of Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and PM Narendra Modi to Varanasi for the Ganga aarti at the Dasashwamedh was much publicised.

The meeting of representatives of two ancient civilisations reminds one of the famous words of Mark Twain:

“Benaras is older than history, older than tradition, older even than legend and looks twice as old as all of them put together”.

- Mark Twain

Kanchana Mukhopadhyay was felicitated for the award of Chevalier d’ Letres conferred on her by the French Government.

WEST BENGAL

Kolkata

A workshop on development of the Hoogly Riverfront was held by the Chapter in association with UNESCO, State authorities, IHCN and IBSA on 30th Sept- 1st Oct. A galaxy of speakers and panelists from India and overseas along with conservation experts, urban planners, real estate developers and Government functionaries participated in the deliberations. Co-Convenor Nayantara Palchoudhuri as IBSA President met with Mr. Philip Davies with regard to cooperation with the British educational institutions, English Heritage and like minded UK organisations.

The restoration at site of the Denmark Tavern site under the Serampore Initiative is progressing satisfactorily, with considerable work completed on the south gate of the Hoogly. Project Director of the National Museum of Denmark Dr. Bente Wulff held meetings with the Principal Secretary Tourism and the District Administration of Hooghly prior to inaugurating the Denmark Tavern restoration project.

The Chapter held a meeting on 17th October to welcome and introduce new INTACH Members. They were also apprised of the various initiatives taken by the Chapter.

Kanchana Mukhopadhyay was felicitated for the award of Chevalier d’ Letres conferred on her by the French Government.

The second edition of Calcutta – Built Heritage Today was launched by the Governor of West Bengal at the library of the Raj Bhavan on 17th November. It was attended by a sizeable number of INTACH Members. The book is available to INTACH Members at a concessional rate for personal use. INTACH Members Prosenjit Dasgupta and Ayan Ghosh who edited this book were profusely thanked.
In commemoration of World Heritage Week 2015, the Chapter organized a series of events starting with the launch of the second edition of heritage documentation of Calcutta entitled Calcutta – Built Heritage Today which was released by the Governor of West Bengal. A four day Workshop on Conservation of Material Heritage was held on 21st - 24th November. Eminent restorer from the Netherlands Kate Seymour graced the occasion and made a presentation. Principal Director ICI Nilabh Sinha also spoke on the occasion. A special programme on Preventive Maintenance for owners of art and artifacts, rare books and manuscripts, textiles etc. was conducted to enable their owners to maintain their collections in good condition using simple techniques. It was of special interest to Kolkata residents who face the perpetual problem of dampness, fungal infection and insect infestation due to weather conditions of the city.

On 24th November, the Kolkata Municipal Corporation - INTACH Award for Excellence in Conservation was given to the Kolkata Police for their work in restoring Dalanda House, Police Training School, Kolkata.

The State Chapter assisted the Odisha Chapter in launching the listing and documentation of the leg of Jagannath Sadak in West Bengal at the Raj Bhavan by the Governor of West Bengal Keshari Nath Tripathi.

Launch of West Bengal part of Jagannath Sadak

The Kolkata Chapter is active on many fronts like formation of a Google Committee, translation of the training manual Hands on Heritage into Bengali for school children, and exploring seminars on interesting subjects like Pre-Colonial Kolkata which is a fascinating story of a erstwhile capital city.

Restoration projects receive due attention. A comprehensive report was prepared by structural engineer Sri Sil, data collected by Ar Anjan, and architect Ar Indrani Sirkar. A group was formed for site inspection for conservation of...
buildings belonging to the Indian Army and cause of distress of St. Paul's Cathedral.

The Chapter has also taken stock of Awadh heritage and the legacy of its last Nawab Wajid Ali Shah who spent 30 years in Lucknow after dethronement by the British. His legacy remains in shambles at the Metiabruz Imambara where he was finally buried. The Chapter hopes to join hands with the UP Chapter to discuss the matter with the Sibtainbad Trust that manages the Imambara.

The Chapter is collaborating with the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd for the conservation of five monuments selected by them, conservation details of which have been submitted for HPCL consideration.

**HOUSE THAT BOSE BUILT**

_Parna Kuthir_ for the present is safely hidden behind a bel tree in Hindustan Park, Kolkata. Perhaps its days are numbered because most of the family members want to tear it down and sell it to builders – except its co-owner Alok Bose Pares. His grandfather Paresh Chandra Bose built and designed it in 1931. The doors are Burma teak and the floors inlaid with Italian marble. It welcomes you with a semi circular porch influenced by Islamic architecture.

State Convenor GM Kapur says “We are hell bent on building Dubai or Manhattan on the graves of our beautiful heritage. Cities like Pune have lost their character in the name of development, we can still save Kolkata. But not is we insist on recreating London here”. Alok Bose has many like-minded people backing him now, but he is 70 years old and needs all the help as legal processes are tedious. Here is a battle that must be won!

**INTACH OVERSEAS CHAPTER**

_Belgium_

The Chapter held their 12th Fundraising Dinner on October 24, 2015 for the Lost Gardens of Khajuraho. INTACH Central Office has taken up the Khajuraho region as a pilot model for sustainable tourism and the Lost Gardens will find a natural place in this project. Dr. Ritu Singh from Natural Heritage Division is monitoring the project. Planting new trees is an integral part of the project that is however facing impediments from stray cattle and vandals.

**NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE**

_**Remembering the Mahatma**_

India celebrated Gandhi Jayanti on 2nd October. Gandhiji, Bapu, Father of the Nation was born in 1869. He is best remembered for his satygraha for he believed that “in a gentle way, you can shake the world”. He also said “The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated”. That is why the recent legalizing of Jallikattu in Tamil Nadu is most reprehensible. Please STOP!

Gandhiji also said “the earth provides enough to satisfy man’s needs, but not every one’s greed.” The endless wonders of the earth in fact never cease to amaze.
Devil’s Kettle

The Devil’s Kettle Falls in Minnesota, USA flows into the Brule River with one of its sides turning into a traditional fall cut by a rock outcropping. The other side vanishes into a deep hole and no one knows where it goes. Over the years hikers and geologists have even poured dyes, ping pong balls and logs into the Kettle but they have not reappeared elsewhere. It is like a giant hole that swallows up the water, and remains a mystery to date.

Dragon Trees

Socotra in Yemen, a most isolated spot, is one of the strangest landscapes that has perhaps existed for millions of years. It is an alien looking site tucked away from most human eyes, and home to some bizarre plants and animals. The most striking are the upside down umbrella shaped Dragon Blood Trees that get their name from the red resin that oozes from their bark.

Red on White

Everyone knows the Antartica is a place smothered in a thick blanket of snow white spread over its landscapes. But in the McMurdo Dry Valleys there is what looks like a frozen blood red waterfall. According to geologists, when it’s incredibly salty water scraped a rocky layer for the first time in a million years, it oxidized and left a blood stained frozen stream across the glacier.

Bee Highway

A special Bee Highway is under creation at Oslo, Norway’s capital. Flower emblazoned cemeteries, also balconies and roof top gardens, will provide for these endangered pollinators essential to our food production. Head of the environmental group Bybi, Agnes Melvaer says “we need to return places to them to live and feed” for themselves and for us. Sunflowers, marigolds and other nectar bearing flowers are being planted by locals and school going children alike at Abel’s Garden that was once a patch of grass. It is now
a ‘feeding station’ for bees. Oslo aims to give safe passage through its city lined with relays providing food and shelter to the ‘bumble bee’. It is the first such system in the world. Bees don’t produce more than a spoon of honey during their lifetime, so Agnes points out if they paid for its job at the minimum wage - a pot of honey would cost $182,000!

As poet Khalil Gibran said “For bees, the flower is the fountain of life; for flowers, the bee is the messenger of love”.

Walt Disney

From the famous Walt Disney Company

“Landscapes of greater beauty lie under our feet and all around us. They are discovered in tunnels in the ground, the heart of flowers, the hollows of trees, fresh water ponds, seaweed jungles between tides, and even drops of water. How could this earth of ours, which is only a speck in the heavens, have so much variety of life”.

Let us make 2016 a “Care for Nature Year” by all INTACH Members.
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 enables them to avail of 2% tax exemption while executing corporate social responsibilities.

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.

**BHALASWA LAKE NEW DELHI**

The third largest Wetland in Delhi (47 Ha). Once a majestic ox bow lake is now a waste dumping site and facing issues of pollution, eutrophication and encroachments.

**HANUMAN TAL- JABALPUR**

A historical water body neighbouring 16th century Jain Temple is suffering from various pollution issues and is in grave need for restoration.

**CALL FOR HELP !**

Enlightened Corporates to preserve and protect our National Wealth !