Was it divine intervention that protected the revered Buddhist monasteries of Leh, Ladakh after the sudden cloud burst on 6th August? One can only wonder! The two World Heritage Sites, 1000 years old Alchi Gompa and the 300 year old Hemis Gompa, as well as many other monasteries some dating back to 2000 years like Phyang, Lamayuru, Likir, Rizongs, Shey, Thiksey, Tak Tok, Matho, etc. escaped unscathed from the devastating flash floods and mud slides. Almost all located on hilltops at carefully chosen sites away from the path of streams in a “gravity defying architecture made famous by Buddhist monks”, with their beautiful frescoes and sculptures, remained intact as reported by the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council and the Press.

The cloud burst however did not spare the abodes of mortals; even brick and mortar houses built using latest technique were washed away. The calamity led to widespread destruction of both personal and public property, and countless people were rendered homeless. The freak floods swept away not only buildings but people and livestock, severely damaging markets, schools, offices and bus stands. There is shortage of water, food, medicine, road connectivity and communications for the survivors. Agriculture is critical to Ladakhi
issued on what it entails to be an INTACH Member, and the challenges we have to face sometimes to support very difficult issues under the heritage banner. It is the aim of INTACH to forge partnerships with like-minded organizations. I am happy to announce the latest Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) we have signed with Navdanya, a leading environmental group in promoting the Forgotten Foods of India and the heritage of the Bhooole Bisse Anaj which is the mainstay of our rural population and the heritage of our farmers.

Our Chapters today are extremely vibrant and active. It is with pride that we can say the Chapters are involved in activities which encompass cultural, environmental, intangible and heritage activities. They have also involved our young friends under the Young INTACH programmes, and the children of this country are actively participating in awareness programmes of heritage education. I would like to applaud all the Members who have been quietly performing their work in a specific corner of the country bringing awareness to the local administration, to the schools and to the people in general. We in the Central Office will support all your genuine activities and try our best to provide technical and administrative support wherever required. In the new context of globalization and economic development we will have to face more challenges since it will be easy to sweep aside issues of heritage in the name of development. While we are not against development per se, for an enlightened, informed and sensitive development to take place, and one which does not deface the long cherished traditions and wisdom of the past and also does not impose undue and exploitative hardship on the community, we feel that a balanced approach is absolutely necessary while facing challenges of development, while protecting and conserving our heritage.

I would request all Members and Chapter Convenors to refresh their minds with the various guidelines which INTACH has distilled over the last 25 years, and constantly walk the talk with these principles in their daily lives.

As Dusshera and Diwali approaches, I wish all our Members and heritage supporters Happiness, Prosperity and Light in their lives.

With warm regards,

C.T. MISRA
Your Member-Secretary
is also Delhi Director of Safeguarding Cultural Resources (SACRE), is closely coordinating efforts with the Central Office. She met Jigmet Takpa, the officer in charge of relief operations and obtained a preliminary list of 38 affected villages and the assessment of houses destroyed/damaged. These figures are bound to rise when communications are re-established with villages in Baima, Wanla, etc. which were completely cut off by the floods. Road links to one of the oldest settlements in Ladakh at Gyamiru had not resumed at the time of the visit, and supplies were being air dropped. Tara Sharma is in touch with Aparna Tandon of ICCROM regarding a joint assessment to be undertaken in October when ground realities can be better assessed. Meanwhile she sent a report to Central Office on her visit to Choglamsar and Saboo, two of the worst affected villages. At Saboo the main road had turned into a stream lined by destructed homes on both sides. Some of the mane walls and chorten are damaged, but here too the monastery has not been affected. The following week Tara and her team moved out of Leh to make an assessment in Achinathang-Hanu-Baima area where many families have been badly stricken by the disaster.

Convenor Tsering Angchok and Tara Sharma are of the view that INTACH focus should be on the more remote villages where not many venture. INTACH assessment will cover all the estimated 45 affected villages, and place them on line, and link them to the proposed website of the District Administration, in order to ensure there is no duplication of heritage conservation efforts. INTACH is developing prototypes adhering to traditional designs and materials.

Member Secretary CT Misra wrote to the Minister for Tourism and Culture Nawang Rigzen Jora, Government of Jammu & Kashmir on behalf of INTACH expressing deep distress at the unimaginable tragedy suffered by the district authorities are unaware of their state of existence. Some devotees has tried to repair the broken hand of the Panchdyani Buddha with cement. A few tourists that do visit are both spellbound by their imposing grandeur and equally appalled at their utter neglect. The Muslim residents of the nearby Apati Village believe that they deserve to be treasured. “But what use are these statues when there are no roads leading to them”? asks Mohammed, a resident of Apati. Here is a tourism goldmine in a state too preoccupied with politics - so one can Just Love and Pray.

In the remote hinterland of Ladakh at Mulbek stands a towering Buddha – just as impressive as the Bamiyan one in Afghanistan destroyed by the Taliban. And he is not the only Buddha in Ladakh. Another at Apati Village, carved out of a mountain has braved 2000 winters. And there are the 37 feet high Maitreya Buddha near Sanku in Kargil, and the Panchdyani Buddha cloaked by the snow peaks of the Zanskar Valley. It has taken a natural catastrophe to draw attention to these man made wonders that stand with nose chipped, ears broken or hands knocked off. By vandals or benign neglect – who knows?? Most of the Muslim residents of the nearby Apati Village believe that they deserve to be treasured. Here is a tourism goldmine in a state too preoccupied with politics - so one can Just Love and Pray.

Damaged mane wall and historical remains due to cloudburst

Just Pray, And Love

The Maitreya Buddha at Mulbek
The idol in Apati is carved out of a mountain
This statue near Sanku in Kargil is 37 feet tall
The Zanskar Valley hides the Panchdyani Buddha
by the people of Ladakh. INTACH has in the past undertaken restoration of damaged heritage property after the Gujarat and Kashmir earthquakes. In a similar exercise, INTACH proposes to carry out impact assessment and formulation of emergency repairs through a series of missions to be conducted over the next few months. The preliminary reports will facilitate in accessing funds from the Government of India and charitable foundations in India and abroad. The Architecture Division sent out feelers to the Prince Klaus Fund, and received a positive indication that they will support the emergency restoration of identified heritage buildings. The Fund offered an immediate sum of Euro 5000 for a mission to assess the situation, identify damages, and draw up possible solutions and priorities for intervention that could be considered by the Fund. INTACH objective will be to focus on damaged vernacular dwellings on priority basis, and to commence reconstruction work before the onset of winter. The INTACH UK Trust is willing and able to support some of the work. Tara Sharma and Convenor Angchok have identified three small sub projects that should be implemented before the good season closes in October. This includes a pilot project for the restoration of damaged mane/ chorten walls; a training workshop for masons to address some of the common damages to be seen like cracks; and drawing up of a set of recommendations for the district administration by way of planning guidelines to prevent such large scale disaster in future. The main issue to be addressed is mapping out water catchment areas in and around Leh identified as most vulnerable to flooding during heavy rains.

The most interesting data to emerge from these surveys is that older houses and temples were not affected because they were not built on flood prone grounds or along paths of water catchment areas. This needs to be highlighted and recommended as the guideline. The proposal has been forwarded to INTACH UK Trust. Meanwhile at a second meeting with Shri Taka, the INTACH duo obtained a measure of Government’s policy on reconstruction work and compensation to home owners as all initiatives need to be dovetailed for the best results.

INTACH also hopes to work with the local authorities on long term conservation measures for the significant heritage sites of Ladakh.
Chairman’s Tours

During this quarter Chairman resumed his visits to various Chapters to brief himself on their current activities and share their future plans and perspectives.

Commencing with a day long visit to Jaipur, a meeting was held on 4th July with State Convenor Shri Gajisingh along with the two State Co-Convenors Ranvir Singh and S. Ahmad, and attended by 40 Members. Ms. Dharmendra Kanwar, earlier associated with INTACH, was welcomed back as the new Convenor of the Jaipur Chapter. Chairman informed the Chapter Members that important Ministries like Culture, Tourism, Urban Development, etc. had made environment an integral part of their major programmes with substantial outlays earmarked like MP/MLA LAD, JURNNM, NEREGA, etc. They need to tap these new sources of funding for heritage related activities. Shri Gaj Singh said public awakening could be strengthened if heritage related activities were made a part and parcel of projects undertaken by local bodies and municipalities. The presence of Rural Development Minister Bharat Singh and the Addl. Secretary ensures that the message will trickle down to elected representatives and State officialdom.

On 27th-28th July Chairman visited Chhattisgarh as Chief Guest at the inaugural session of the seminar ‘Future of Urbanisation’ held at NIT, Raipur. At a dinner meeting attended by 70 INTACH Members, he talked about the challenges currently facing INTACH, and the need to tap local patrons to support some of their heritage programmes to overcome the resource crunch.

Chairman also met the Governor of Chhattisgarh Shri Shekhar Dutt, a Life member of INTACH, and invited him to visit INTACH.

During his stay at Raipur, Chairman visited the proposed World Heritage Site at Sirpur under the charge of the State Archaeological Department. The 5th century Laxman Temple, the partly excavated Buddhist stupa and other sites under excavation are still in a primitive state of maintenance. The highest temple plinth in the world to be seen here, twisted out of shape by an earthquake during the 9th century, could be a unique tourist attraction at this site. Even the Circuit House constructed on the banks of the River Mahanadi is inappropriately sited as it blocks the scenic view of the river. He also drove 120 miles from Raipur to visit Pachrahi, another archaeological site under excavation in Kwardhha District. Chairman also met the District Collector of Mahasumand to assess the setting up of another Chapter.

The visit to Karnataka State covered a number of places of both historic and heritage importance. Commencing with Dharwad, a photographic exhibition on Qutab Sahi Architecture was inaugurated. Accompanied by Shri PC Naik who was instrumental in setting up the Chapter, Chairman visited the two small public libraries initiated by Convenor NP Bhatt. The day long visit concluded with a music function regularly organized at Avanya, the residence of the Convenor.

At Belgaum, Chairman met a INTACH delegation led by I. Meina Mohite, Neeta Poddar and Nyle Coelho at Belgaum Fort. They highlighted the need to prioritize listing to facilitate conservation of the Fort and the Vaccine Institute, located amidst 150 acres of forest land. (Their anxieties were laid to rest when just two weeks later Shri PC Naik called from Bangalore to inform that the Government of Karnataka had sanctioned the conservation of the Institute, a most welcome development). At Badami Chairman visited the Pattadakali Temples. There is another temple run by a private trust that is in a poor state of maintenance. Dr. Pattar was requested to identify the Trustees of the temple so that a joint conservation initiative can be explored. Chairman also met Dr. HG Daddi one of the active Members of Bagalkot Chapter to discuss listing and documentation of one of the richest heritage zones in Karnataka.

En route to Anegundi, there was a stopover at the Badami rock cut temples and Ahihole temples where it was noted that sculptures are degenerating from leakage and seepage in the temples and caves. Accompanied by Dr. Pattar and Anegundi Convenor Ms. Shama Pawar the party inspected Chapter projects, and visited the library housing the reports on Hampi. They crossed the Tungabhadra river in a bamboo basket boat to visit Hampi and the temple being restored by a private trust with Ford Foundation support.

At Bangalore Chairman met Secretary Culture accompanied by the Convenor and Co-Convenor to discuss heritage regulations, and financial support to the Chapter’s heritage awareness activities. There was also a public meeting at Whitefields where they were joined by other INTACH Members in an earnest discussion on saving the heritage of Whitefields after a presentation by architect Ms. Kripa. The tour to Karnataka concluded with a meeting convened by State Convenor Asvathanarayan for an overview of all Chapters of the State.

Dr. Shobita Punja accompanied Chairman on the visit to Goa on 26th-27th August, where they were joined by Vice Chairman Tasneem Mehta from Mumbai, to attend the Autonomous Management Committee Meeting convened
by Chief Secretary. Discussions centred on reuse plans of the Reis Margo Fort, proposed to be opened to the public in March 2011. It will be the fruition of the Tripartite Agreement signed with the Goa Government and the Lady Hamlyn Trust whereby INTACH restored the Fort, and will also maintain it for the next 15 years period.

The INTACH team visited the St. Anne’s Church where the AHD headed by Shri RC Aggrawal has done an outstanding restoration work. They also met the Archbishop of Goa and offered to undertake listing of Church assets and properties.

During 3rd-6th September, Chairman visited Orissa where he met Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik. While presenting the updated listing of Bhubaneswar and Puri, he stressed the urgency for heritage legislation to protect and conserve the many structures of heritage value that remain neglected and unprotected to date. The 13th Finance Commission Award to Orissa for preservation of heritage monuments and sites stands at Rs.65 crore. The Chief Minister is one of the Founding Members of INTACH, and it is hoped that he will consider INTACH’s offer to provide consultancy and planning service for proper utilization of these funds. It was also mentioned that in connection with JNNURM, INTACH was initially invited at the planning stage but there does not seem to be any appreciable activity since. Furthermore there is no progress on the commitment of the State Deptt. of Culture to remove encroachment at heritage sites at the rate of 2 per month. INTACH offered to clean up the Bindu Sagar lake in the heart of Bhubaneswar.

Convenor SK Bijayendra Narayan held a Chapter Meeting at Hotel Suryansh to formally welcome Chairman LK Gupta, and report on the activities of the Bhubaneswar Chapter. Inaugurating the Adopt a Monument campaign, Chairman lauded the power company CESU for taking the lead and adopting Taleswar Temple in the Old Town that will be renovated by INTACH. Earlier in the day Chairman had flagged off a student rally from Kedargouri Square to Taleswar Temple.

A book was released on the Lesser Known Monuments of Puri compiled by Dr. Sadasiv Pradhan, former head of the Ancient History Department of Utkal University. Prizes were distributed on the occasion to the young winners of the quiz on temples held earlier in April.

At Baripada, Chairman inaugurated a workshop on the intangible heritage of Chhau and Jhunar organized by the Mayurbhanj Chapter at the North Orissa University Campus. Its Vice Chancellor Prof SP Rath delivered the keynote address. Many academicians and distinguished guests, State Chapter Advisor Anant Mohapatra, State Convenor AB Tripathy, Bhubaneswar Convenor SKB Narayan, former Vice Chancellor Utkal University of Culture Dr.B Mohanty, retired senior IAS officers NR Hota and DK Mishra attended the proceedings of the first day. On the second day, Superintendent of Police D. Gangwar and current Vice Chancellor of Utkal University of Culture participated in the workshop conducted by Convenor PK Mishra and Co-Convenor Pratyush Mohanty.

The Balasore Chapter was inaugurated on 5th September at a well attended gathering, with Shri Himanshu Das as its Convenor and Shri SN Das Mohapatra as the Co-Convenor. The Convenor of Bhadralok Chapter was also present on the occasion. The new Chapter will be provided office space in the premises of the Art College. In a reciprocal gesture art works of the college students could be placed on sale at the INTACH Heritage Shop in Delhi.

At Cuttack, Convenor PK Misra organized a meeting of the Chairman with Members at the Cuttack Club and its President Bimal Kishore Mohapatra. The Minister for Higher Education, Tourism and Culture Debi Prasad Mishra addressed the gathering of eminent invitees, followed by former Chief Secretary LI Parija. Members were assured all help in getting the Club declared as a heritage institution.

Chairman visited the Maritime Museum at Cuttack and the old jail of the city which once housed freedom fighters.

The Orissa tour concluded with a visit to the studio Dancing Ganesh in Red Stone.
of the master sculptor Sudarshan Sahoo in Bhubaneswar. He is the recipient of the Shilp-Guru Award, and known for setting up the Sudarshan Craft Museum which preserves the old Gurukul system in training new sculptors. His Studio has some of his outstanding pieces of work on display that Virasat would like to share with its readers.

**eMpi-The Indian Express Awards**

INTACH received the Gold Trophy Award by the eMpi-The Indian Express on 12th July at a large gathering of eminent invitees, with Chief Guest Nandan Nilekani, held at the India Habitat Centre. Twenty innovative achievers were honoured, with INTACH receiving in the category of innovative heritage tourism (Jaisalmer). An impressive trophy now graces the front lobby of INTACH Head Office, with a citation as follows:

*For their innovative initiatives in restoration, preservation and enrichment of India’s diverse cultural heritage embedded in communities and simultaneously improving the living conditions of the communities.*

**INTACH’s initiatives preserve and enrich Indian heritage by synergizing the programme through networking communities, agencies and structures that create and develop ‘culture niche’ areas to promote cultural heritage tourism thereby not only revitalizing the heritage but also making the process economically sustainable.**

**MOU with NAVDANYA**

INTACH signed a MOU with Vandana Shiva of Navdanya, to launch a new initiative for promotion of traditional and forgotten foods of India. Navdanya will provide books on food heritage conserving traditional knowledge and ecology for sale through INTACH Craft Cell outlet. It will provide organically grown grains, with suitable information for display and sale @15% discount at the INTACH Craft Cell outlet, guaranteeing quality of the products supplied.

INTACH on its part will guarantee confidentiality of technical, commercial and financial information given to it. Navdanya will provide catering services and other light refreshment based on their menus at INTACH Central Office, giving INTACH 25% of the sales proceeds in lieu of infrastructural support.

The two organizations will collaborate in joint research and documentation of traditional food items and agricultural heritage of India. Navdanya experts would be available periodically for awareness programmes and talks scheduled by INTACH.
Conservation Architect Navin Piplani, University of York Interviewed by Divya Gupta, INTACH Central Office

DG What according to you are the essential differences in the conservation Framework and conservation Techniques / Methodology adopted in the UK and INDIA?

NP Conservation in the UK takes into account, or is in response to considerations for planning and development. It is not seen as a hindrance or barrier to development of the area. The legislation and policy on heritage conservation reflects the ground reality, and aims to resolve the practical challenges faced by the stakeholders. The recent Heritage Protection Review and Planning Policy Statement 5 demonstrate these constructive and imaginative efforts in this direction. This also keeps conservation in the UK up-to-date with, and in fact ahead of developments in the other parts of the world.

Conservation legislation in India is now archaic, reflecting the problems and issues of early 20th Century whilst the social, economic, political and cultural realities have changed drastically since then. This needs a ‘big shake’ and tremendous effort and thinking to be able to upgrade itself and respond to the needs and aspirations of the 21st Century India.

Conservation practices in India, are quite evolved, I must say. The question is how many people are aware of these and apply them in their work? The best answer to this can only come from INTACH, based on its vast experience since 1984. My only comment here is that we have well-developed principles and practices to conserve and manage our cultural heritage, but these need to be documented, researched, developed and applied with full knowledge and deep insight into the specificity of their content and context.

DG Do you think that there are learnings in both the systems ? What are the lessons each one can learn from the other?

NP There are learnings in both systems: the UK system is based on scientific research and experimentation, which we should explore in India as well. The value of craftsmanship and skills is something that can be shared with the UK.

India needs to learn and apply a lot in the field of Heritage Legislation. We also need to revisit INTACH’s own efforts in this direction. English Heritage, Historic Scotland, National Trust, etc. are constantly engaging with Government on these issues, and we should be collaborating with them in sharing some of their experiences.

DG What are the challenges of conservation today in UK and in India?

What according to you is the future on India’s heritage, what issues need to be addressed immediately to change the situation for better?

What is the role of INTACH as a conservation professional working both within and outside INTACH?

NP INTACH has a key role to play. There are several areas where it can work, but it would be useful to identify a few crucial and more relevant ones. For example: it can promote and disseminate the INTACH Charter for conservation amongst its own members, academic institutions, conservation professionals, government organizations, and the wider public. It can set up, or support, scientific research units across the country to help testing and analysis of materials and techniques. It has a huge role to play in heritage education. It can take the lead in developing policies and guidelines on conservation and management of historic sites that are outside ASI protection, and liaise with State departments and agencies for their better protection and preservation. INTACH can also initiate short conservation courses on practical aspects of conservation. These could be for conservation academics, professionals, practitioners and students working in the field or wish to gain deeper understanding and technical expertise. INTACH can provide a leading role in the conservation of unprotected heritage, by taking up a few selective and representative projects, setting up examples for best practice, in different part of the country; and not spread itself too thin by venturing into all possible directions.
INTACH Team Visits Poland

A INTACH team of five persons, representative of various disciplines – Purnima Dutt (HECS), Divay Gupta (AHD), Nilabh Sinha (MHD), Ajay Kumar (Delhi Chapter), and headed by Advisor Dr. Shobita Punja - visited Poland from 9th-19th September at the invitation of Polish Embassy. The visit was an extension of the mutual cooperation programme under the MOU signed by INTACH with Polish counterpart in March 2008. This is the first joint training programme for heritage professionals. A similar team of Polish heritage conservationists will be hosted in October 2011 at Delhi.

The main objective of this joint training was to address heritage management and education in a holistic manner, to review and evaluate sites of high quality conservation projects, and to meet specialists in restoration, renovation and heritage management. The team’s ten day visit to Warsaw and Krakow comprised meetings, panel discussions, site visits to a World Heritage Site and ancient city centres, to conservation laboratories in museums and heritage buildings. Poland has a remarkable body of conservation work, and was among the first European countries to initiate conservation work after the devastation of the Second World War. The tour concluded with the development of a practical action plan of how to take our mutual cooperation forward, and institutionalise the training of young professionals and sharing of best practices in the field.

NEWS FROM CHAPTERS

Chapters Committee Meeting

A Meeting of the newly constituted Chapters Committee was held at Central Office on 20th July, attended from outstation by Vice Chairman Tasneem Mehta and constituent Chapter Convenors.

Shri RL Bawa, Haryana State Advisor, and recently appointed Listing & Documentation Advisor, made a detailed presentation on the current status of listing. It is proposed to set up a team of persons by October to supervise listing, and provide training in step-wise methodology where necessary, so that INTACH Listing becomes a nation-wide consolidated exercise. Convenors are advised to raise funds also at local level, apart from efforts being made by State Convenors at governmental level. The West Bengal Heritage Commission for example is providing funds to the Regional Chapter for its listing work.

Other matters discussed was revision of Chapter Guidelines. Suggestions were invited regarding place and role of individual Members, INTACH Awards, Chapter’s role in Conservation Centres, etc.

With regard to expanding INTACH network, discussions had been held earlier at various levels. It is suggested that the emphasis should be on increase in Chapter membership, and less on adding new Chapters in the vicinity of established ones, as the latter entails additional administrative burden on the limited resources of INTACH.

Announcing: Bird Watching Conference

INTACH is happy to announce that a Global Bird Watching Conference at Khijadiya, Jamnagar is being held on 25th-27th November, at the initiative of the Government of Gujarat. INTACH has confirmed its acceptance of the invitation extended to the Trust. Invitations have been extended by the Tourism Department to 1500 bird watchers across the world. There will be six seminars, with Dr. Rehmanai of BNHS, experts Lavkumar Khachar and Bhavbhuti Parasharya making presentations. The newly created website for the event www.gbwe2010.org gives other details.

INTACH Members may like to attend this conference as “knowledge partners” if interested, or may like to send contributions on the subject to Central Office to be represented by Principal Advisor to Natural Heritage Division SK Verma.
**Andhra Pradesh**

**East Godavari**

As a follow up on the celebrations of World Heritage Day last April, the Class X students of Sri Prakash Synergy School volunteered to clean up the *Andhra Sahitya Parishad Museum* after their exams. According to the survey conducted by them, few people of the city were even aware of the existence of this museum which has valuable reference books in Telugu of interest to research scholars and is a repository of ancient *Tallapatras*. The Additional District Collector B.Rama Rao appreciated the efforts of Convenor L.Sesha Kumari, Co-Convenor YS Harischandra Rao and the Chapter Members in creating heritage awareness among the people, and especially the initiative taken by the students to list valuable books and artifacts in the Museum.

In collaboration with the Telugu Association of the local Ideal College of Arts & Sciences, the Chapter celebrated the 500th Coronation Celebrations of Shri Krishna Devarayalu on 3rd August, with participation of eight colleges, and inaugurated by Collector M. Ravi Chandra. On 12th September the Collector flagged the Heritage Awareness Walk in which nearly 300 students and their teachers participated, and received certificates.

**Hyderabad**

The Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA) declared 152 buildings in the twin cities Hyderabad-Secunderabad as heritage properties. About 70 of these are in private hands. It warned that civil/criminal action would be taken against persons who carry out alterations/restoration work at these heritage structures without obligatory permission. The HMDA has declared areas like *Laad Bazaar, Patthar Gatti, Golconda Fort* to *Charminar Road* as heritage zones of historicity and archaeological value.

**Kadapa**

The seminar on one of the great literary poetic work *Amuktamalyada* written by the Vijayanagar emperor Krishna Devaraya in the 15th century was organized by the Chapter on 19th July. Convenor Sitharamaiah welcomed District Collector Shashi Bhushan Kumar who presided over the event at the Indoor Stadium, attended by senior officials, eminent scholars and Members of the Legislative Council.

A second seminar was also held on 22nd July at the District Collector’s conference hall on another great Telugu literary work *Manucharaithra* by Peddanaraya presided by Addl. Joint Collector Joshi Babu. *Andhra Jyothi* journalist Pawan Kumar gave an interesting introduction to the subject, while drama artist and cultural reporter of *Ennadu Daily* highlighted other facets of this work in his address.

On 25th July at a function held during the 500th coronation celebrations of Sri Krishna Devarayu, the Chapter released a heritage book on Kadapa written by Co-Convenor Sri Janakiram. It was released by Central Minister Sri Saiapad in the presence of members of the Legislative Assembly, AP State Minister Ahammadulla and senior district officials. The month ended with an awareness programmes conducted for villagers and students of Muddanur Mandal.

In August there were visits to historical sites in collaboration with the Kadapa ASI, the district administration and villagers of Chintakunta, Penikalapadu, Uppalur, and Bondalakunta. Inaugurated by Jammalamadugu Revenue Divisional Officer MV Subbareddy. The media commented on the active involvement of the villagers.

**UNESCO Award of Merit**

The Chapter extended congratulations to the Management of Chowmohalla Palace for having received the 2010 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Award of Merit. The complex comprising a set of four palaces used to be the royal court of Asaf Jah dynasty, now reduced to 10 acres from the original 30 acres.

The two other awardees are *Fu’Long Taoist Temple* in Sichuan, China; and the *Old Houses* in Fort of Gallle, a World Heritage Site in Sri Lanka.

Another noteworthy event was the discovery of engraved paintings of the Neolithic age in one of the caves at Chintakunta on a 300 feet hillock surrounded by deep valleys and thick forests. The pictures of animals and the engravings indicate the usage of stone implements some 25000 years ago by ancient man. It is reported that similar cave art works were found in Spain and France. The Chapter informs that a Jain cave, home of 7th century Sanskrit scholar Vrihabha Muni, locally known as *Sanyasigundu* on a 400
ft. hillock was located by ASI conservator M. Sathyam. The hill is also home to rare birds and herbs, that makes it a potentially promising tourist site.

Mahbubnagar

Convenor Dr. T Nagendra Swamy informs that the process of collecting bio-data of all Members, with photographs and their identification number, has been completed. This is an exercise requested of all Chapters by Central Office.

Srikakulam

Convenor DV Dharma Rao has written to the Director, Archaeology and Museums Dr. Chenna Reddy regarding 6 copper plate inscriptions found at Sanivada village belonging to the Eastern Gangaraju dynasty with the royal seal of an Ox. They are similar to the 11th century Konna inscriptions of Anantha Varma Choda Gangadeva. The Chapter has also drawn attention of the concerned authorities to fading murals at Srikakulam temple, 1077 AD Deerghasi inscriptions at Polaki Temple, and heritage site of Danthapuri - once the capital of the Kalinga kingdom.

The Chapter identified pre-historic megalithic structures and ancient Jain remains at Dannanapeta with the help of a free lance archaeologist K. Venkateshwara Rao. One massive single dolmen’s 36’ chamber found on a nearby hillock bearing 36 upright stones, is said to be the largest ever to be discovered and a marvel of ancient engineering skills.

Visakhapatnam

The Chapter organized a workshop Mridh (clay) Vinayakam (Plaster of Paris) for city schools. It encouraged and educated young people and their families to use clay instead of plaster, avoid chemicals dyes in making idols and minimize environmental degradation. The Head of the Department of Fine Arts of Andhra University cum sculptor Ravi Shankar Patnaik with his team made about 130 Vinayas of all shapes and styles demonstrating to the students how eco-friendly idols can be the easy alternative while adhering to traditional practice, instead of using toxic materials that are hazardous to health and environment. The event attracted local media attention, and was widely covered by the print and electronic media.

Assam

Convenor Dinesh Baishya informs that the entire listing of heritage sites is at the compilation stage. He sent the listing of temples as an example to check against the Guidelines to Chapters issued on the subject, to verify it meets the objectives of INTACH.

Bihar

Patna

Shri Prem Sharan is appointed as Convenor of the Patna Chapter.

The Kapildev Singh Samajvadi Foundation has published the book Bihari Cuisines by Rekha Arun Kumar. The traditional recipes are not only about local flavour, but describe their evolution that gives a balanced diet suitable to their natural environment and climate. The book also covers old recipes from remote villages like Chechi of Champaran, Tavan and Peetha of Thuruhat, Paat-Saag and Bhakka of Purnia, Mahue ka Lata and Chautha of hilly areas like Bhojpur, Magadh, etc. and many more dishes, desserts and pickles little known to newer generations who think Bihar is only known for Sattu and Litti.

Chhattisgarh

Smt. Shashiprabha Devi, popularly known among the local people as the Rajmata, is appointed Convenor of the new Chapter established at Kawardha.

Delhi

The Executive Committee of Delhi Chapter met during the closing week of June, before embarking on the hectic activities of this quarter to complete the work officially assigned to it in connection with the Commonwealth Games. A report was presented to Chief Minister Delhi Sheila Dikshit who was highly appreciative of the initiatives.
Showcasing India

The Light & Sound Show at the Red Fort that had been going on for the past 30 years has now been discontinued. A new one-hour walk-in show, with more songs and music with multi media and water projections was conceptualized by Aamir Reza Hussain. The show will engage visitors right from the entry gate Nahabar Khana and continue up to the Sawan Bhado premise in front of the Red Fort fountain, unlike the earlier one that played out only in front of the Diwan-e-Khas. It will feature India’s cultural heritage during the Mughal period predominantly. Set up at the estimated cost of about Rs. 6 crores, it is one of the grand plans to showcase India’s rich and varied cultural heritage for visitors to the Commonwealth Games and thereafter. As a prelude a Jashn-e-Dilli was staged with three plays by noted writers and artistes at the Town Hall in Chandni Chowk.

taken by INTACH. A contract was signed with ASI for signages on monuments. There will be a major exhibition conceptualized by the Chapter on the diverse heritage of the city to be executed with IGICA. The concept of Hop-on-Hop-off (Ho-Ho) bus service will be tendered and operated by Delhi Tourism. Many of the proposed INTACH projects can only be taken up for completion after the Games. In the past the Chapter pursued a number of PILs or advocacy campaigns to arrest developments unsympathetic to the city’s heritage. If necessary, this strategy will be pursued once again in the future.

Gujarat

Condolences

INTACH Founder Member Shri Sriraj Meghraj of the Jhalavad Chapter passed away on 1st August at the Ajit Niwas Palace. Our heartfelt condolences are extended to his son Sodhsalji (Bapa) Dhrangadhara and his grief stricken family. May the Almighty rest the departed soul in peace, and bring solace to his near and dear ones.

Haryana

Faridabad

Conveor Anand Mehta jointly with SDM Ballabgarh IP Bishnoi have appealed to President FSIA, Rajiv Chawla for assistance to the restoration project of Rani ki Chhatri. The project is on-going since the beginning of the year, with stones brought from Dholpur to match the original ones. This historic landmark, a perfect example of 19th century Jat-Rajput architecture with jharokhas on the Delhi-Agra highway, is a joint venture of INTACH Faridabad Chapter and the Ballabgarh Development & Beautification Authority, Faridabad Municipal Corporation under overall charge of the District Collector and SDM. While 30% of the expenditure has to come from the State Government and INTACH local resources, the balance 70% comes under the JNNURM scheme of the Government. The Chapter is exploring other sources of funding, with donor names to be permanently on display at the monument. Private donations are being sought as the estimated cost is Rs. 110 lakhs for the restoration. The scope of the project also entails creating a heritage corridor from the Rani ki Chhatri to the Nahar Singh Palace with landscaping, crafts shops, cafeteria, museum and utilities of a complete tourist complex.

The Chapter has been organizing a series of Heritage Walks to popularize the site, and involve the local people. Heritage Club events have been organized to arouse interest of the young people. Convenor Anand Mehta informs that ASI however has not declared this stretch as a historical site to date.

Gurgaon-Mewat

A meeting of the Executive Committee was held on 18th July where forthcoming activities were discussed like organizing a Crafts Mela and the Annual Run during the
winter months, the appointment of a new Treasurer, etc. Convenor Nandita Lahiri is following up on the Power Grid and listing to be undertaken by NHD. She will be writing to DG ASI about the 100m clause to obtain a NOC for the Farrukhnagar Chhatris.

**Mohindergarh**

Co-Convenor Rattan Lal Saini informs that one of the oldest examples of water conservation systems known as the Someshwar Talab lies to the south-west of Naranaul city. Property dealers with four JCB machines attempted to bulldoze the walls and stairs stating that 13 bighas had been purchased. Land revenue records show that the Nazool land was vested with the Patiala state till 1986, transferred to certain Jai Prakash by the Collector of Mohindergarh, and further transferred to another property dealer with an agreement registered in July 2010! As per the Supreme Court there is no provision to sell or alienate such Nazool land of water bodies, ponds, rivers or bawries by any Government provincial or central authority!

The Mohindergarh Chapter has filed a PIL in the Punjab & Haryana High Court at Chandigarh, and have succeeded in getting the JCB machines stopped, and the case is now subjudice. The Chief Minister has instructed the Deputy Commissioner Narnaul to investigate the matter and take necessary action. The Chapter is congratulated for being such an alert watchdog. Central Office also places high hopes on saving the Someshwar Talab given the well integrated network of Haryana Chapters firmly committed to heritage.

**Rewari**

The Chapter is taking a keen interest in the development of the Heritage Rail Museum. Convenor Sudhir Bhargava is in communication with the Heritage Division of the Railway Board regarding inclusion of certain displays, exhibits and other allied activities to create a tourism hub at the Museum to be set up in the historic loco shed of Rewari.

**Rohtak**

Convenor Sudhir K Sharma has two of his articles Jogi Singers of Haryana and Cultural Heritage of Haryana as Preserved in Pakistan published in the Encyclopaedia of Haryana, a mammoth 10 volume publication. Contributors were honoured by the Governor Shri Jagannath Pahadia.

**Yamuna Nagar**

Major Rajinder Singh Bhatti is appointed the Convenor of the new Chapter established at Yamuna Nagar.

Shri Vaibhav Garg is the appointed Co-Convenor.

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### Jammu & Kashmir

**Ladakh**

Advisor Ashis Banerjee attended the inauguration of the Ladakh Chapter on 28th July. The Minister for Culture and Tourism, J&K Nawang Rigzin Jora was welcomed as the Chief Guest on the occasion by Convenor Tsering Angchok. The latter was specially complemented by the Minister for the excellence of his contribution to the community based conservation at Basgo Fort. Ford Foundation Projects Director Dr. Raveena Tandon gave an overview of funding the INTACH project to be implemented by Director Tara Sharma who then elaborated on how it would be implemented.

Shri Kacho Mumtaz Ali Khan is appointed as Co-Convenor of the Ladakh Chapter.

Advisor Banerjee availed the opportunity of the visit to meet all the new Members of the Chapter. He also visited Mangyu Village where AHD and MHD are jointly restoring a temple. He met the village headman and local craft persons.

**Srinagar**

Convenor Saleem Beg led a team of experts Ms. Saima Iqbal, Muzamil Yasin, and Arjun Bhat to meet Governor NN. Vohra along with two foreign experts Dr. Jan Haenaest and Sara Javed from USA to discuss the salient features of restoration of Nishat and Shalimar Mughal Gardens, and urban renewal of Jehlum river front. The Governor appreciated the sustained efforts of INTACH in implementation of projects successfully to date. At the crossroads of various cultural streams, Srinagar has evolved a unique built heritage over the centuries, further enhanced by its beautiful landscape, climate and traditions. Convenor Saleem Beg, a former DG Tourism has been able to arouse public sensibility and awareness of the rich heritage of their land since he took over the Chapter activities. On 24th August he organized another exhibition of Posters/Talk on the State’s architectural heritage.

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*Minister for Culture, Nawang Rigzin Jora & his deputy Nasir Sogami at launch of SPSM website*
The website of the 120 years old Sri Pratap Singh Museum, a collaborative project of the J&K Chapter and UNESCO to be opened to the public in October, was launched. The museum project included the development of history content, heritage write-ups, craft practices, and conservation protocol for artifacts.

Jharkhand

State Convenor Shree Deo Singh called on Advisor to Governor and briefed him on the works carried out by INTACH. He has established considerable linkages with State officials, MP RP Prasad and others, by closely associating them with the series of much lauded Heritage Talks organized by the Chapter. The way to go!

Hazaribagh

The Independent carried an article entitled A Gandhi of the Indian Jungles by British writer Peter Popham about “a brilliant, spiky, stubborn Muslim who has devoted his life for the past two decades to defending the rights and culture of the tribal people of the state of Jharkhand....”. It was about Convenor Bulu Imam - dignifying his work and the gravity it deserves - and makes INTACH proud to claim him as a member of the INTACH family. He has lobbied hard and long to save the environment and heritage of the Karanpura Valley under siege of mining operations, and now infested with extremist rebels. His letter to the Chief Minister about the mindless scale of cutting 84,000 trees for four-laning for highways of the State speaks for itself: “When we realize that these trees are of selected varieties not widely found in forests but peculiar to human settlements and from which bird seeding may have taken them to adjacent areas we shall become aware that the highways of India represent the largest tree gardens of South Asia. No country can afford to lose such a priceless heritage of ancient tree wealth. The Ramayana is full of praises of these trees (Aranyakadam) and it would be a loss understood by Indian sages but unfortunately has been denied to the imagination of our young leaders who have lost the concept of sacredness of trees.......” Here is a vital message to the National Highway Authority of India for all States! Bulu poses the question “What development and for whom? Who cares if the village wells are dry at the end of the monsoons, or villagers starve in shadeless summers or die from roads choked with traffic fumes as the rich whiz past in cars. Such massive tree-scavenging also adds to global warming and sinking water tables”. Bulu has circulated articles to various international organizations offering to join any programme that involves a Clean India that they might like to launch.

Ranchi

The Chapter carried out listing of heritage properties of Ranchi, Lohardagga and Gumla districts on behalf of the State Department of Art & Culture. Its newsletter Dharohar reports that altogether 12 post graduates of the Ranchi University including 3 scholars were able to complete the work in the course of a month. It is hoped the authorities will facilitate listing of the remaining 21 districts given the speed and success of the first listing.

Karnataka

Bijapur

A Nature Heritage Walk on 27th September was organized by the Chapter, with the Suptd. of Police Dr. D C Rajappa as the Chief Guest. Deputy Commissioner SS Pattanashetty inaugurated the event, followed by a presentation of environmentalist Dr. Geeth Patil.

Madhya Pradesh

Chanderi

Convenor Manoj Soni informs that a meeting of Life Members was held on 5th September where a decision was taken to schedule election of new office bearers.
VIRASAT

Datia

Condolences

Life Member Dr. Mahesh Kumar Mishra passed away after a long illness. He will be greatly missed as the Co-Convenor of Datia. Dr. HB Maheshwari describes him as a living encyclopaedia of Bundelkhand Heritage, his endeavours resulting in heightened public awareness. He himself was a musician, artist, poet, and wrote extensively on the art and culture of the region.

INTACH has lost a very valuable member of its family, and deeply shares the sorrow of his immediate family. We send condolences and good wishes to them in this time of grief.

Gwalior

The Chapter organizes a Virasat Tour annually, which seems like a great idea for adoption by other Chapters as well. The 2010 destination was Sri Lanka with Convenor Dr. HB Maheshwari leading the group of many INTACH Convenors and some Members of Madhya Pradesh Chapters. They visited the ancient capital of Anuradhapuram on the banks of the historic Malvathu Oya to which Emperor Ashoka’s children took from India a Peepal sapling with Buddha’s message of peace and unity in 200 BC. Today 70% of the Sri Lankan population is Buddhist. There were visits to temples and monasteries, in particular the famous Temple of the Tooth at Kandy. It was an educative tour reminding them of Indo-Sri Lankan ties and cultural links.

Maharashtra

Shri V. Ranganathan, a former member of the Indian Administrative Service, is appointed State Convenor of Maharashtra. He will be assisted by Co-Convenor Shri Mukund Bhogale, who is also the INTACH Convenor of Aurangabad Chapter.

Chandarpur

The Chapter discovered a historic site dating back to the Satavahana dynasty at Chandankheda village, where ASI archeologists uncovered striking implements, human and animal bones, and antiques. The excavation work is under the supervision of INTACH Convenor Ashok Singh Thakur. Since April the initial process of identifying locations to dig trenches started, and to date 4 trenches have been dug over a 10 acres land.

Mumbai

Vice Chairman Tasneem Mehta represented INTACH as part of the delegation of Indian Cultural Leaders that met Mr. Jeremy Hunt, Minister for Culture, UK on 30th July to forge cultural partnerships between the two countries. Subsequently she accompanied Director V&A Museum Mark Jones and Director British Museum Neil Mcgregor on a visit to various museums and monuments of New Delhi.

Union Secretary Culture Jawhar Sircar visited the Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum on 13th August. Describing his visit as a “great experience”, he congratulated Mumbai Convenor Tasneem Mehta and her team of conservators, curators and museuologists.

Smt. Tasneem Mehta has been requested by the Mumbai Transformation Support Unit to help in defining the role of art and heritage in preparing a Master Plan for Culture of the city. She has also been appointed Chairman CII Task Force for Museums and Heritage.

Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum

This Museum continues to draw attention as a role model for museums.

“I wish I had more time to fully digest the excellent work effort that I saw which has gone into the re-make of this Museum. Also I wish I could have had the benefit of the presence of the Director of the Indian Museum and the Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata, so that some of this could have been replicated in these two museums”.

Shri MK Narayan, Governor of West Bengal

“I always thought I had accomplished a great museum by raising National Gallery of Modern Art in Mumbai when I was Culture Secretary, Government of India. Tasneem Mehta by restoring Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum has gone one step further as this museum initiates a visitor to history, arts, cultural expressions and if I may say so greatness and splendor of Mumbai in a very effective way”.

Shri BP Singh, Governor of Sikkim

Manipur

The first meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Listing and Documentation of Natural Heritage was held on 7th August by the Chapter. A four day workshop on the subject was subsequently scheduled by Convenor Dr. RK Ranjan Singh from 5th September at the UGC Academic Staff College, Manipur University, Canchipur. Four participants were selected in advance from each district to participate in the workshop, with a view to starting an extensive district-wise listing and documentation. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest S. Singsit attending the valedictory function stated that his Department is making an all out effort to include rare deer Sangai habitat Keibul Lamjao National Park as one of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.
Meghalaya

The State Government has approved the Meghalaya Bio-Diversity Rule 2010, whereby a board to preserve the rich bio-diversity of the land will be ensured. Forest Minister RC Laloo stated “the rule would help check illegal sale of medicinal plants and facilitate proper preservation of the existing medicinal plants”. Once the rule is adopted, the Meghalaya Bio-Diversity Board will be in a position to map more medicinal plants existing in forests including ‘sacred groves’, manage sustainability, and seek coordination of private forest land owners and, NGOs and other stake holders. Meghalaya has 850 species of medicinal plants, 377 of which are used in 80% of the population for primary healthcare. However none of the 136 practitioners and 15 private clinics are registered under relevant acts and rules. The Board will also offer suggestions regarding equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the realization of biological resources.

Mizoram

Aizwal

A Silver Jubilee Year souvenir on the intangible heritage of Mizoram was released by the Minister, Art& Culture on 9th August. Dedicated to the memory of former Convenor John Lalsangzuala, it is a handsome tribute to the Founder of the Mizoram Chapter whose life spanned many careers and honours starting from World War II battlefield, from civil service to politics, where he rose to be Cabinet Minister. He was President of various NGOs later and served them to the end of his days. The Souvenir gives fascinating glimpses into Mizo beliefs and values, and other facets of the rich intangible heritage of Mizoram.

Orissa

Bhadrak

Chapter Members have volunteered each to persuade at least 2 persons to enroll as INTACH members. A preliminary report of listing has been drawn up. The Chapter is exploring availability of funds for this exercise under allocations made by the Finance Commission to Districts for preservation of buildings and monuments. In order to tap the inherent strength of each Member, sub-committees have been set up, each with its own convenor with specific responsibilities thus putting into place an effective network for its activities.

Cuttack

The Maratime Museum is being established at Cuttack by INTACH Conservation Centre of Lucknow on the premises of the old Zobra workshop. The cost of the on-going work entrusted to INTACH by the State Government is estimated as Rs. 8.40 crores.

The Chapter has undertaken the listing of more than 100 year old heritage monuments unprotected by ASI, under supervision of history lecturers of Cuttack College Dr. Sadasiv Pradhan and his associate Shri Surendranath Swain, to be guided by Dr. BK Rath. The Chapter has a corpus fund of Rs. 1 lakh, the interest of which is being used for heritage awareness programmes.

Koraput

Convenor KC Panigrahy and Chapter Members are focused on preservation of tribal culture through proper documentation, and opening of a Tribal Museum. The emphasis is on preservation of languages traditionally used by the locals. The enthusiasm displayed on World Heritage Day when marches and public meetings were organized continues unabated with the support of Co-Convenor cum Director COATS Dr. PC Mohapatra, and Dr. Jagabandhu Samal, Professor of Tribal Studies, COATS who is also Chapter Member.

Mayurbhanj

Convenor Dr. PK Mishra organized a meeting on 1st August at Baripada Municipality conference hall to observe World Environment Day. with Director Simmipal Tiger Reserve HS Upadhyya as the Chief Speaker and CDMO Mayurbhanj Dr. KC Mohanty as the Chief Guest. The diminishing tiger population is a matter of universal concern for environmentalists everywhere.

Earlier on 18th July – Govt. Girls Scool and the Tribal Girls Ashram School Kendriya Vidyalaya at Laxmiposi planted 1000 saplings of medicinal, fruit and flower bearing trees.
supplied by the Baripada Division to counter Simlipal Biosphere resource and counter climate change.

Shri Pratyus Kumar Mohanty is appointed Co-Convenor of the Mayurbhanj Chapter.

**Punjab**

**Amritsar**

A Heritage Walk was organised on 31st July dedicated to the memories of Shaheed Udham Singh and Mohammed Rafi. Sixty students from various schools accompanied by their teachers were led by Prof. Harkanwal Singh and Prof. PS Mahooora through narrow lanes of the city imbibing the history of their historic city. They also paid homage to the martyrs of *Jallianwala Bagh*. State Convenor Dr. Sukhdev Singh and other INTACH Members were on hand to promote awareness and importance of heritage.

The students of Oxford University and members of Heritage Clubs participated in the second Heritage Walk organized on 7th August. It is not only *Jallianwala Bagh*, but also Qila Ahluwalia, Guru Bazaar, Darshan Deorhi, Lakshmi Narayan Mandir, Chitta Akhara, etc, that each have a fascinating history.

**Rajasthan**

INTACH congratulates Shri Sallauddin Ahmed on his appointment as Chief Secretary, Rajasthan Government. He has been closely associated with INTACH as its Jaipur Convenor. His important position augurs well for the heritage conservation of the State that has some of the best tangible and intangible heritage assets of the country. We wish him every success.

**Legal Advisor Appointed**

Shri Kamlakar Sharma has accepted to be the Legal Advisor of INTACH for Rajasthan. All Chapters of the State may avail of his expertise. His service are a honorary contribution except for incidentals.

**Baran**

The Baran Chapter had received a grant of Rs. 1 lakh from the INTACH UK Trust for the revival of a 250 years old legendary folk play which finds mention in the Mahabharata. It was last staged 60 years ago. After two years of hard work and rehearsals during 2008-2010, the play *Ukha Charit* was ready to be staged by 30 artistes. In fact both the folk and the Mahant traditions of the Akhara have not died out in the region entirely on account of three living artistes – the 90 year old craftsman Shri Laxminarayan, 89 year old Chaturbhuj Nath Vaishnav, and 72 year old Shanti Lal Sharma. They facilitated the training and rehearsal of 30 artistes of the *Saare Teen Kari*.

When the district administration learnt about this significant development, it decided to organize the Baran District Foundation Day celebrations for five days to present *Ukha Charit*. The entire Kishanjang, Koyla and adjacent areas took pride in the revival of the 250 year old heritage in which both officials, mahants and people participated joyously amidst a parade of folk artistes, horses, camels and tableaux, as reported by Co-Convenor Jitendra Kumar Sharma. The Baran Chapter is heartily congratulated for this major intangible heritage initiative.
Bundi

The Chapter organized the 769th Founding Day of the city on 26th June, under the historical canopy of Chaugan Gate, inaugurated by District Collector Arti Dogra. Additional Collector CL Dayama and others planted saplings at the General Hospital on the occasion. Convenor Vijayraj Singh Malakpura gave an interesting presentation. A film on Tiger Project was screened in the evening, presented by INTACH Secretary Rajkumar Dadhich. On the last day District Police Superintendent DS Chundavat lighted the torch near the historic Mayur Canopy on top of the hill. The event concluded with colourful fireworks that could be seen by citizens of the city from their roof tops.

Jaipur

The appointment of Ms. Dharmender Kanwar, who has been associated with the Chapter since 1986 as Convenor, was announced on the occasion of Chairman’s visit to Jaipur. She has set up a small, informal advisory group consisting of art historian Dr. Chandramani Singh, archaeologist/historian Dr. Rima Hooja, town planner NK Khare, journalist Jagdeep Singh and travel operator Nikhil Pandit with whom she has been interacting for years to explore how best to taken the Chapter activities forward.

Jodhpur

The second edition of the book Rajasthan ki Pag-Pagrriyan (Turbans) by Convenor Dr. Mahendra Singh Naggar was released by Shri Gajsingh at the Mehrangarh Fort on the occasion of the 552nd Foundation day of Jodhpur.

Jodhpur MLA Smt. Suryakanta Vyas was the Chief Guest at a Free Summer Orientation Camp organized jointly by the Jodhpur Chapter and Marugandha at the Naveen Sishu Niketan Girls School, Masuriya on the concluding day 4th July. During the training courses conducted by teachers in specialized fields at the Camp, various competitions were held in sewing, soft toy making, crafts, fine arts, dance mehendi, etc. with prizes awarded to the best three entries.

Another highlight of this quarter was the intensive tree planting programme organized jointly with the Mehrangarh Hill Environment Development Committee at Herbal Park, Devkund Forest Division in memory of the late Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. Participating in the planting were Chief Forest Conservator AK Singh, Deputy Mayor Nayaz Mohammad, former Chairman UTI Rajendra Solanki, Councillors Thanvardas Khichi and Anju Chouhan, Sant Ramprasadji Maharaj, and eminent members of the Mehrangarh Museum Trust and INTACH Members.

On 13th September a Heritage Walk to Mandor Garden for a group of nearly 100 school students was organized by Convenor Dr. Mahendra Singh Naggar. The event in collaboration with Fox History & Entertainment Channel...
sensitized the young people to the historic and cultural importance of Mewar that impacted the whole State.

**Kota**

Convenor Hari Singh Palkiya is nominated Member, Rajasthan State Wildlife Board by Chief Minister vide a notification issued on 5th July. It is a matter of pride for INTACH. Our heartiest congratulations and good wishes are extended to Shri Palkiya for continuing his good work.

**Shekhawati**

The Chapter conducted two Heritage Walks last year to Nawalgarh and Dundlod. Most recently on 4th September a third such walk to Jhunjhunu was inaugurated from the premises of Ishwardas Modi Haveli. A former native of Shekhawati, the famous mathematician Dr. Ghasi Ram Verma, USA was the Chief Guest at the event. It was presided by Shri Tara Chand Gupta, a Marwari merchant and social worker from Jhunjhunu who detailed the finer points of the haveli construction and technique of frescoes. Many eminent citizens, INTACH Members, Chapter Co-Convenors, a representative of Les Amis du Shaekhawati, and 75 students from four schools with their teachers graced the occasion.

Convenor Ramesh Jangid spoke about the state of Shekhawati built heritage, and expressed his grave fears that they would be lost to the future generation unless immediate remedial measures are taken.

**Udaipur**

A General Body Meeting of the Udaipur Chapter was held on 12th September at the Maharana Kumbha Bhawan presided by Shri Jagat Mehta. Dr. PL Agrawal, former Chairman Steel Authority of India was the Chief Guest New Life Member were warmly welcomed into the INTACH fold. Regional Convenor SK Verma elaborated on organizational structure at Central Office, and new directions sent out to all Chapters. The Udaipur Regional Chapter is now well organized with a number of Co-Convenors with specific responsibilities - Sajjan Singh Ranawat (General Administration); Sushil Kumar (Meetings and Contacts); Dr. Onkar Singh Rathore (Historical Heritage); Prof. Pushpendra Singh Ranawat (Archaeological Heritage); Arvind Mathur (Architectural Heritage); Dr. Satish Sharma (Natural Heritage); Prof. Meena Gaur (Intangible Heritage); and DR. BL Kumawat (HECS activities).

**Condolences**

Dr. P.L. Agrawal, a highly respected senior Member of the Udaipur Regional Chapter passed away in September. He was to be the Chief Guest at the General Body Meeting on 12th September, instead the grievous news of his sudden demise was announced by Convenor SK Verma, and two minutes silence was observed in homage to the departed soul.

Dr. P.L. Agrawal was a former Chairman of Steel Authority of India (SAIL), and had many friends within and outside INTACH. Central Office sends heart felt condolences to the Agrawal family at this time of sorrow, with our good wishes for their well being.

**Tamil Nadu**

**Chennai**

The 1897 Bharat Insurance Building, also locally known as Kardyl Building, will continue to survive as a landmark of the city on the arterial Mount Road. – thanks to the endeavour of the Chennai INTACH Members. It was only after a long battle waged by the Chapter that the decision was taken by the Heritage Committee recently to preserve this Indo-Sarcenic building. Its architecture is a wonderful blend of classical Moghul, Hindu, Ottoman and European styles built into a triangular structure with 100 feet minarets, domes, spires and verandas. It was a heritage battle waged against an apathetic State Government and an impatient LIC that wanted to demolish the building to set up a modern commercial complex! INTACH approached the High Court, and the credit must also go to the judiciary’s sagacity in staying the demolition and halting the thoughtless plan to destruct and rebuild. The hue and cry of the public, historians and local politicians also helped in no small
measure. Reprimanding LIC the High Court stated: “The LIC has shown great sensitivity in restoring heritage buildings in its possession in other cities and their present attitude with regard to this heritage building in Chennai is rather surprising. The LIC’s image as an institution with strong social commitment to serve the public would be enhanced if the building is preserved for posterity and not sacrificed for commercial needs”.

This should be a universally applicable ‘judgement’ for all institutions and cities nursing grandiose plans of urbanization – without prioritizing the need to preserve heritage assets.

**Coimbatore**

The Chapter met on 2nd August at the Coimbatore Club, hosted by Member Narayana Krishnan A souvenir issue of Silver Jubilee Year was released.

The ACRI Building listed by the Chapter, regarded as the icon of the city, was the venue for a *Promo Function* organized by the staff and students of the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University on 22nd September. Vice Chancellor Dr.P.Muruges Boopati presided over the function, with District Collector Dr. P.Umanath as the Chief Guest. Convenor PP.MD.A. Rajkumar and senior officials of the city and the Mayor graced the occasion.

**Kodaikanal**

The hills of Kodaikanal came “alive with the sound of music,” as graphically described by Convenor Sunayana Choudhry. Seven music teachers from the Shivanjali Temple of Fine Arts, Coimbatore were invited by the Chapter to initiate Heritage Clubs members into the world of Indian *ragas* and classical music. They brought with them an assortment of string, percussion and wind instruments like the violin, veena, sitar, mridangan, pakhavaj, tabla and harmonium to introduce both theory and vocal music in a series of interactive workshops. To begin with, the students enthusiastically responded when asked to identify pleasant and harsh sounds they encountered in their daily life. The teacher Lalitha then led them through various happy notes, and the differences between Carnatic and Hindustani music. They were amazed to learn from Guru Kedarji that the drum of the sitar was made from a hollowed out pumpkin, or teacher Lavanya explaining that the European instrument violin had been embraced by Indian musicians a few centuries ago, or to learn about the origins of the veena from teacher Tara, or the workings of the wind instrument and the guitar, etc. They listened and they sang to their heart’s content. Guru Kedarji’s dream is to take music to the rural areas, and the Chapter hopes to work towards the fulfilment of this dream if possible.

Finally the citizens of Kodaikanal were treated to an hour long musical concert *Swagatam* on 17th August.
Poisoned Grounds

Even the best of Corporates need to be reined in by regulations to ensure environment does not become a casualty of development. A classic case to cite is thermometer factory of Hindustan Unilever that left Kodaikanal tainted with hazardous mercury - the third most toxic element in the world after arsenic and lead. It is reported that over 360 kilos of mercury remain spread over the site, a fact that hit the public eye when men clad in impermeable all-in-one moon suits with breathing apparatus arrived to gingerly take away scrap that had been lying in the open unattended for five years. It was a scrap yard where children played, where meat and vegetables were daily sold in the busiest part of this tourist city! Finally it dawned on everyone why trees were withering near the factory and workers were suffering from dizzy spills. As far back as 2001 the Palani Hills Conservation Council and Greenpeace had caught the management selling mercury-contaminated glass to local crap dealers, and they were asked to close down their 18 year operations by the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board.

Was that enough by way of action? Can Hindustan Unilever be allowed to shirk its responsibilities to workers and families who lost their young bread winners, suffer from the aftermath, and were perhaps aided by officials without conscience?

The people need an answer!

Kanyakumari

The Supreme Court dismissed the Special Leave appeal filed by the Kanyakumari District Lotus Flower Culture Welfare Society vs. Convenor RS Lal Mohan and other Members, a landmark judgement for the Chapter. The leasing of tanks for the cultivation of lotus plants in irrigation tanks by the district authorities is now prohibited. The judges have upheld the view that such cultivation has a disastrous effect on irrigation tanks, and it has been scientifically backed that it has already destroyed most of the tanks of the district.

Nagercoil

The Chapter identified an enormous old heritage tree on Balamore Road, in Panchayat Esanthimangalam. This 46 metres high old tree of more than 300 years, with a 26 metres girth, belongs to the species Terminalia Arjuna (Combretaceae). Called Neer Muruthu, it is known to be the largest tree outside the reserve forest of the Kanyakumari District. The function attended by the District Collector Rajendra Rethnoo, and the presence of a large number of officials and local people, ensured success of this heritage awareness event. The Panchayat readily agreed to protect the tree.

The renovation of a 125 year old dilapidated lighthouse at Leepuram village, named after a Protestant missionary Rev. William Lee, is another noteworthy conservation effort of the Chapter. Traditional lighthouses in those days used to have a ladder for watchmen to climb and hang a lantern on top. At a function presided by Convenor Dr. RS Lal Mohan, it was inaugurated by District Collector Rajendra Rethnoo with Co-Convenor Dr. Sumithra and INTACH Members attending.

At the Seminar on Declining Paddy Fields of Kanyakumari in September, Convenor Dr. Lal Mohan made a presentation on Water Resources of the District; Managing Director of CREATE Trust Shri R. Ponnabalam on Laws on Food Security, Shri SS Davidson on Global Warming; and farmer Shri Jeyaram on Organic Cultivation. This critical subject was also addressed by Minister of Tourism Suresh Rajan who...
assured that he would introduce a bill to protect the paddy fields and wetland in the Legislative Assembly. The Seminar was also addressed by District Collector Rajendra Rathnoo; organic farming scientist Dr. Nammalwar; and Chairman of Irrigation Saba Vince Anto. Secretary of Thanna Trust, Trivandrum, R. Sreedhar pointed out that most of the people from Kerala who earned abroad returned to build posh houses on farming lands that have been shrinking over years. There were 125 farmers at the Seminar who learnt inorganic farming and pesticides would get better prices, and help towards prevention of global warming. The District Collector has issued a circular that ‘layouts’ for houses in the paddy fields should not be allowed without his permission in future.

**Salem**

Smt. Meenakshi Sethu is appointed Convenor of the new Chapter established at Salem.

Shri Sharavanan is the appointed Co-Convenor.

**Uttar Pradesh**

**Hariharpur**

Shri Shambu Nath Mishra is appointed the Convenor of the new Chapter established at Hariharpur.

**Gaziabad District**

It is not widely known that Gaziabad District, situated between the rivers Ganga and Yamuna has historical significance. It finds mention in the Rig Veda, and Buddhist and Jain literature refer to this area as the middle land falling between two great cities Hastinapur (Meerut) and Indraprastha (Delhi). It was merged into the Magadh Kingdom by King Nand during the 4th century AD, and had political significance during the Maurya to Mughal periods.

**Meerut**

Dr. (Ms.) Sarita Singh is appointed Co-Convenor of the Meerut Chapter.

**Nainital**

Convenor Rani Anjali Kumari has handed over charge to Kunwarani Shruti Bhargava, who is appointed the new Convenor of the Chapter.

**Orai**

A Save the Heritage campaign was launched by the Chapter in the Thapli Colony at Choras, with Convenor Dr. Hari Mohan Purwar ensuring the involvement of the colony children and the community. The former were presented with a collection of stamps and match boxes to tickle and hold their interest. A seminar was held for students of the Government Inter College at Sayaba village with Smt. Sandhya, Smt Nupur and Shri Abhishek giving valuable inputs to the campaign for the older youth.

Another seminar Protect Heritage of the District was organized under the aegis of the Chapter, conducted by Dr. Ram Kishore Pawarua and presided by Dr. Rajendra Purwar on Rani Tai Bai. She was a great warrior who fought patriotically against the British at Jallon district during the 1857 uprising. Anguished over the execution of 15 persons by Hardoh Gujar, Tai Bai finally surrendered and spent the rest of her life banished to Munder Fort in Bihar. The seminar was widely publicized in the local Press, and with it the message urging the Government to withdraw the order passed to demolish the Tai Bai Palace. It is the preservation of such historical heritage and memories that instill a sense of pride and possession in the future generations.

**West Bengal**

**Kolkata**

State Convenor GM Kapur passionately believes that restoration projects are not just “languorous indulgence of the elite, but have a rippling effect and can reap rich economic dividends”. He cites the example of how the mud huts along the Hooghly River were converted into a power centre by the East India Company. As business and commerce grew it attracted traders from all over the world to become the
premier city of the British Raj, Dalhousie Square in the heart of the city, now named BBD Bag, and the streets emanating from it says it all. The conservation of this precinct, declared as one of the 100 most endangered heritage sites of the world by the World Monument Fund will be the starting point for the city’s urban regeneration under JNNURM. The trickle down effect will impact the roads and lanes leading out of the Dalhousie Square. Our State Convenor popularly known simply as GM is a Kolkatan of long years, and associated with INTACH since its inception in 1984. Fortunately, he is on the monitoring committee set up by the State Government for central funded tourism projects which he believes will be the prime engine for the city’s economic resurgence.

The Chapter has been active on many fronts like filing PIL when a listed heritage - the old Bishop’s Palace got delisted later, restoration of the Itonda Temple near Santiniketan, translation of the HECS manual *Hands on Heritage* into Bengali, completion of the Lalgola Correctional Home.

**Conduleses**

Ms. Karuna Devi, a very senior Member of the Kolkata Chapter, and Convenor of the Burdwan Chapter, passed away on 4th July. INTACH joins the Chapter members in expressing their condolences to the bereaved family and pray for eternal peace to her soul. Our best wishes for the future are with them at this time of grief.

**NEWS FROM ICCI**

**Dr. OP Agrawal Honoured**

Director General ICCI, Lucknow and Head of Material Heritage Division, Dr. OP Agrawal was conferred the *U.P. Ratan Award* by the All India Conference of Intellectuals (AICI) which is headquartered at Meerut. The well attended ceremonial function was held on 19th September at Lucknow. The AICI organization also has offices in many cities including Delhi.

**Art Conservation Centre, Delhi**

**Conservation of Oil painting of Early Bengal School**

An oil painting on canvas depicting one of the Hindu religious Gods from Early Bengal School was received at INTACH Art Conservation Centre for Conservation at Delhi. The painting had an extremely yellowed layer of varnish, the paint was loose and flaky, and the framing glass stuck to the paint layer on the upper part, with cracks and waviness visible. Conservation treatments on the painting include separation of painting from the frame, removal of glass from the paint layer, cleaning of yellowed varnish with acetone to reveal real color tones of the painting, etc. The complete consolidation of the paint layer was effected with BEVA 371 heat seal adhesive so that it would secure to its support well. It involved lining of the old canvas support to a new cotton canvas to give extra support, filing and retouching with water colours the losses of paint layer, a new stretcher and a loose lining to protect it from the back. Finally the painting was given a protective coating. The painting had a gilded frame which was chipped and damaged, so the corners were finished and retouched to give a uniform look to the frame.

**Textile Unit, Delhi**

The Specialized Textile Conservation Unit (STCU) set up in June 2010, is involved in buying equipment, chemicals and materials apart from the regular work of conservation treatment of textile objects. During the last three months of its operation, STCU received 33 textile objects - painted, dyed, embroidered etc. for restoration. To date 21 of them have been treated which is impressive and augurs well for the future of this new INTACH unit.

Patrons who would like to support STCU by donating funds, expertise or publications, please contact INTACH: stcu.intach@gmail.com
National Seminar, Lucknow

INTACH Indian Council of Conservation Institutes (ICCI) will be celebrating its Silver Jubilee in October this year. A *National Seminar on Conservation of Art Heritage - Past, Present and Future* is being organized to commemorate this landmark event on 22nd-23 October at Lucknow. Amongst other programmes there will be a book release and a public lecture highlighting the manifold success of ICCI in India and overseas. A photographic exhibition of some outstanding works accomplished by the various ICCI Centres in India will be on display.

Conservation of Jamini Roy, Tempura

A tempera on paper by Jamini Roy was received at the Delhi Center for conservation treatment, executed on paper board with applications of red, yellow, black, orange, green and blue paints. The surface had ingrained dust and dirt disturbing its aesthetic appearance, while the paper board had yellowed due to ageing with acidity (pH) making the paper brittle and prone to tears. Losses, creases, fold marks, waviness and holes were present along with the earlier restoration works in the form of patch mending, with major flaking evident to the eye.

The extensive work entailed overall dry and chemical cleaning in order to remove or minimize unwanted elements. Acqueous Deacidification brought the pH above 7 for increasing the mechanical strength and longevity of paper. Flattening of the support was done by indirect moisture through Gore-tex, and Ultrasonic Humidifier pressure straightened the fold marks and creases. Consolidation of flaked paint layer was done with the help of Nebulizer and Methyl Cellulose as an adhesive. Tears and holes were aligned and mended properly backed by a same colored tissue paper support. Reintegration of coloured areas by using reversible materials maintained visual continuity with spectacular results.

Heritage Development Plan, Varanasi

As earlier reported, the Development Plan was submitted by the Architectura Heritage Division (AHD) to Varanasi Development Authority, with the complete listing of heritage properties. The heritage regulation for extending protection to heritage properties has now been submitted to State Government along with Detailed Project Reports.

Chamba Lhakhang, Mangyu, Gompa, Ladakh

In continuation of previous work, further restoration works were resumed in mid 2010. Necessary material required like pillars, brackets and planks were prepared for laying the roof on Chamba Lhakhang. The damaged mud plaster was taken up for restoration, and cracks in the wall were stitched. The painstaking work continues to progress.
Victoria Market, Gwalior

The Victoria Market also known as Rani Lakshmi Bai Market in Gwalior is one of the important heritage landmarks in the heart of the city. It was built by then Maharaj Madhav Rao Scindia I (1886 – 1925) in the honour of Queen Victoria. Since a large part of the building burnt down, it had to be reconstructed almost entirely. It thus provided AHD an opportunity to address many issues related not only the building restoration and up-gradation, but also for conservation and management of the whole urban scape of Maharaj Bada as the site is popularly known. A conceptual proposal for Heritage Restoration is awaiting consideration.

Old Secretariat, Faridkot

The Old Secretariat building at Faridkot, Punjab currently houses the District & Session Court, Subordinate Judicial Courts, Consumer Court and Commissioner’s Office. It was constructed in 1933-34 by the then Agent to the Governor General, Punjab States, Sir James Fitzpatrick and inaugurated by Raja Harindar Singh Brarbans Bahadur to commemorate his coronation on October 17, 1934.

Located on the Mall Road, it is surrounded by a large compound wall with other ancillary structures such as lawyers’ chambers, etc. and three other distinct units comprising a central domed hall with a square courtyard, and two single storey units on either side.
AHD drafted a Detailed Project Report (DPR) in continuation of the proposed conservation plan for Old Secretariat Building submitted three years ago in 2007. Under the current DPR, INTACH will execute the plan, while infrastructure like site development, electrical works, lay out of LAN, plumbing works and sewerage line, would be handled by PWD authorities.

**Shahi Samadh, Kapurthala**

The Shahi Samadh Complex at Kapurthala, is a funerary site where members of the royal family were cremated, and memorials built for former rulers and their families. It is a part of the Shalimar Garden, consisting of three structures enclosed by a boundary wall. The first structure is a double storey chamber clad with red sand stone and has a domical roof; the second is single storeyed but has chhatries at four corners on the roof; and the third has a group of three chhatries placed on a platform. All the domes of the sand stone chhatries are clad in marble.

AHD is monitoring the conservation work of Samadh based on the conservation plan it submitted in June 2008.

**Historicak Gate, Kurukshetra**

In response to a request by Kurukshetra Convener Suresh Choudhary, AHD inspected and assessed the architectural significance and deteriorating condition of Historic Gateway at Kurukshetra. The three-metre structure, built by Ambala District Commissioner in 1855, is associated religiously with the Brahma Sarovar. It was observed that half of the structure was buried under the soil. According to legend there were steps here leading downwards from the Gate to the Western Ghats Brahma Sarovar.

This landmark Gate, made of Lakhori Bricks with lime mortar, is an amalgamation of Mughal and British style. The niches carved in multi-cusped arches are predominantly a Mughal feature, whereas the semicircular arch in the centre with “Lions” on top signify British domination.

**Inventory of Historical Buildings, Jammu**

The Jammu listing of 250 historic sites gave AHD a prospect of the unique significance and character of heritage buildings of the region. The format used in compiling the data is very useful for future interventions in the city fabric.

**St.Anne’s Church**

Considerable progress has been made on the restoration work of St.Anne’s Church at Goa, while some plastering and moulding work continues. The alter platforms have been restored completely and alters re-erected.
St. Estevam Fort

This is another on-going restoration work of AHD making steady progress. The roof has now been laid on the trusses with tiles, and the flooring restored as per the old character.

Images of the Past

The Marshall Albums, of Sir John Marshall, Director of the Archaeological Survey of India from 1902-1928 has photographs documenting his archaeological triumphs and scientific data gathering at Delhi, Sanchi, Sarnath, Mohenjodaro and Taxila. He was responsible for the excavation of the Indus Valley sites of Mohenjodaro and Harappa. At Delhi he was the first to restore the Red Fort and the ruins of the Qutab complex. In his albums there are pictures of work in progress, with workers in turbans and loincloths atop structures. The Albums also carry works of other photographers of the 19th century like Horatio Biden, James Waterhouse and Lala Deen Dayal.

“Images from the Past” as the photographs were described were recently exhibited at Delhi.

NEWS FROM NHD

Principal Advisor, Natural Heritage Division (NHD) SK Verma has made it his mission to motivate all Chapter Convenors to place listing and documentation of natural heritage sites on the front burner. Recently he was in communication with Jamnagar Convenor Hershad Kumari. She has a well informed group of knowledgeable bird watchers and nature conservationists in Gujarat whose expertise could be effectively tapped. In fact all Chapters need to identify such groups for their listing of natural heritage properties in their own region. The publication of a booklet as a simple advisory for tourists and bird watchers, appraising them of local surroundings and customs, bio-diversity data on avian fauna, and a check list of local birds with brief notes, should be taken up by all Chapters, with some of the publications preferably in the local language for wider dissemination of knowledge and awareness.

Sambhar : An Approach to Heritage Resource Based Development

The Seminar on Sambhar : An Approach to Heritage Resource Based Development was organized jointly by the State Department of Urban Development & Self Government, Rajasthan, IHCN-F, JVF-Dronha and INTACH on 31st August at Jaipur

The IUCN recognized Ramsar site of Sambar Lake as the largest inland salt lake in Asia, and a vast and rich heritage resource. The ecological importance of the Lake with respect to avifauna is an overriding factor for its protected status. The surroundings have substantial archaeological and architectural remains, and a rich cultural tradition of festivals. The elliptical catchment spreads over four Rajasthan districts of Jaipur, Ajmer, Sikar and Nagaur. There has been a steady degradation over the years, due to over utilization of lake water for salt making. Sambar Lake is now on the verge of extinction unless remedial action is taken on high priority.

Recently there have been some attempts to re-align and initiate policy overhauling for an integrated development to safeguard heritage and generate income generation – both need to be addressed simultaneously. Planning for architectural and intangible heritage must be integrated with transport, economic growth and social policies.

The objective of the Seminar was to encourage local community participation for conservation of natural,
The Intangible Cultural Heritage Division (ICHD) has also taken charge of Cultural Affairs, in the interest of greater cohesion of related activities. It will be arranging film screening, performances, etc. Director Kamalini Sengupta coordinated the workshop cum seminar on Jhumar held 4th-5th September that was organized by the Baripada Chapter, and inaugurated by Chairman LK Gupta. Work on the endangered art forms Teyyam of Kerala and Jogi music of Haryana is ongoing. The films Magic and Mantra about therapeutic practices in Assam, and the Traditional Medicinal Practices of Khasis were recently shown to Secretary, ATYUSH and other officials on 28th September at the Ministry of Health, and much appreciated.

**Capturing the Intangible**

The UNESCO publication “Capturing the Intangible” accomplished precisely what was attempted, i.e. to capture Perspectives on the Living Heritage in a tangible profusion of pictures and accompanying texts that cover many faces of intangible cultural heritage worldwide. The book was made possible thanks to the financial support of the Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage. One can wade through a fascinating array of subjects like masquerade, traditional music, sand drawings, public storytelling, initiatory rites, Vedic chants and other oral culture, social fairs, shadow theatre, drama and puppetry, healing practices, Sanskrit theatre, etc. in various places and many countries. Though fragile and under threat, the many-splendoured intangible heritage is a dynamic and powerful form that is constantly recreated by the people when protected. The UNESCO 2003 Convention defined “safeguarding” intangible heritage as ensuring its identification, viability, research, documentation, protection, promotion, revitalization, and transmission through formal and non-formal education. The book presents the 90 elements inscribed in the UNESCO Representative List for safeguarding the world’s intangible cultural diversity and enhancing appreciation and pride in the communities concerned. It states: “The importance of intangible cultural heritage lies in its intrinsic values. It provides us with a sense of identity and belonging, linking our past, through the present, with our future. Moreover, sharing knowledge about the intangible cultural heritage of different communities at the international level promotes intercultural dialogue and encourages mutual respect. ……also has social and economic significance, helping to maintain and forge social cohesion……generate income, and thereby contributing towards paving the way to sustainable development”, as elaborated in this must see/ read book. For more information visit the website: www.unesco.org/culture/ich/

**Teacher Training Workshop**

**At Puducherry**

The Heritage Education and Communication Service (HECS) Division had organized a two days Heritage Awareness Programme at Puducherry in June with the participation of 77 teachers from 22 schools. It highlighted the history of Puducherry and the importance of conserving its unique local heritage, followed by a presentation on the sacred groves. Teachers were taken around the museum of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Museum, with field visits to Swadeshi Urban Forest and Mill Area. The school children organised a rally to generate awareness for the local people. HECS decided to extend this fruitful experience to other cities during the current quarter. **At Kanpur**

The Training Workshop at Kanpur 22nd—23rd July was organised in collaboration with the Kanpur Chapter at the Sir Padampat Singhania Education Centre, with 97 teachers from 17 schools in attendance. It targeted middle school faculty teaching social sciences in particular, along with those of others disciplines. It gave the workshop a multidisciplinary approach integrating heritage awareness with a number of other disciplines.
Ms Shobhna Kaushik welcomed the Principal Smt. R. Mirdha of Sir Padampat Singhania Education Centre who gave the welcome address. Member Dr. S.P. Singh highlighted the local heritage of Kanpur. A talk by Prof. H.C. Chaudhari, Vice Chairman, Sir Padampat Singhania Education Centre followed on “valuing our history and heritage.” Ms. Purnima Datt accompanied the participants on the field visit to Bithoor, a town famous for its ancient temples.

_at new delhi_

A talk on ‘Building of New Delhi’ by Convenor Delhi Prof. A.G.K. Menon on 19th July gave valuable insights into the capital’s architecture and elaborated on how New Delhi was built. An interactive session followed with teachers and students raising many interesting questions. During an informal interaction with teachers, who had earlier attended the ‘Philosophy for Children’ workshop, they said it helped them to introduce children to the concept of Philosophy. Prizes and certificates were distributed to the winners of the Poster Making Competition held earlier on World Heritage Day by Chairman LK Gupta and Member Secretary CT Mishra, concluding with the vote of thanks by Dr. Shobita Punja.

My City My History – Second Season

HECS re-launched My City My History competition for the current year, with Magsaysay Award winner Dr. Kiran Bedi – India’s first woman IPS officer – as the Chief Guest. Managing Director FOX International Channels, Keertan Adyanthaya and National Geographic Channel Network India, gave a brief introduction to the programme. Dr. Kiran Bedi spoke about the history of Delhi Police in brief and shared some of her experiences of being a police officer. Delhi Co-Convener Ms. Swapna Liddle gave an introduction to Lodi Gardens about which she has written a book. Students from 6 Delhi schools were conducted on a heritage walk of the Lodi Gardens.

Filmit India

Content Workshop, Delhi

The Filmit Content Workshop held on 30th July aimed at sensitizing young students to the importance of making films on Indian culture and heritage. Eminent theatre personality and film expert Faisal Alkazi spoke to the children about the importance of making short films, elaborating upon various techniques of film-making. He posed interesting questions. This workshop had as many as 18 prestigious schools of Delhi like DPS Mathura Road, Modern School Barakhamba, Springdales, St. Columba’s, Sanskriti School, Bluebells International, Navvyg School Lodi Road, Summerfields School, Shri Ram School, Pinnacle School, The Indian School, St. Mary’s, Banyan Tree School, R.P.V.V., Tagore International, and D.A.V participating in what turned out to be a great experience for the young participants.

Technical Workshop, Delhi

The Filmit India Technical Workshop held on 18th August was conducted by Mr. Andy Huntington (Technical Expert) from the Helen Hamlyn Trust, the chief sponsor of the programme. He spoke about the use of digital film-making software, including usage of the handycam by the children.
Workshop, Goa

For the Filmit India Workshop on 16th August, Goa was selected as a location for the first time this year keeping in mind its scenic beauty. The venue was Sharda Mandir School, Miramar with Co–Convenor Fatima Gracias, HECS Director (Projects) Purnima Datt, Technical Expert Andy Huntington from Helen Hamlyn Trust. conducting the programme attended by six schools - Our Lady of the Rosary High School, Dauna Paula; Sharada Mandir School, Miramar; Mary Immaculate Girls High School, Panaji; Regina Mundi School, Chicalim, Don Bosco, Panjim; and Lourdes Convent High School.

Workshop at Chennai

The Filmit India Workshop held in Chennai on 20th August at the Vidya Mandir Senior Secondary School was conducted by the same team with the participation of eight schools. - Bala Vidya Mandir, Calibre Academy, Sri Sankara Senior Secondary School, Sir Sivaswami Kalalaya, The Children’s Garden, Vel’s Vidyashram, Vidya Mandir Senior Secondary School, Asan Memorial Senior Secondary School.

Chopin Workshops in Schools

Poland is celebrating the Year 2010 as the 200th birth anniversary of world-famous composer Frederick Chopin. INTACH along with the Polish Embassy organized a students interactive programme with musicians to familiarize students with Chopin’s music, scheduling tours to a number of cities - Pune, Goa, Delhi, Kolkata, and Puducherry. The programme comprised a piano recital, short film screening, interaction with Embassy representatives and musicians, quiz for students, and distribution of resource material to students. A few schools in each city got the privilege to be a part of the programme.

At Pune

The Pune event was organized jointly with the Pune Chapter and Poona Music Society, with Coordinator Supriya Goturkar introducing both organizations to the students of five prestigious schools like Pune Branch of DPS, Dr. Shamrao Kalmadi High School at Aundh, Dr. Shamrao Kalmadi High School Ganeshnagar, Sardar Dastur School, and Vidya Valley School. The event was covered by the media with good features in DNA and Pune Mirror.

At Goa

INTACH and the Polish Embassy Embassy collaborated with the Kala Academy - for the celebrations at Goa on 18th August. The programme “Chopin for Children” held at Black Box, Kala Academy, Panjim consisted of a recital by 5 musicians of the Kala Academy and Ms. Margarida Miranda, a well known teacher of Western Classical Music in Goa and by Co-Convnor Ms Fatima Gracias.

The programme was attended by Mr Artur Lompart, Cultural Counsellor of the Embassy of Poland, India.

At Delhi

The Delhi programme was held at the India International Centre on 4th September with Mrs. Klodkowski wife of the Ambassador of Poland as the Chief Guest; Shri OP Jain, Member INTACH Governing Council;’ First Counsellor and Head of Cultural Division Ms Malgorzata Wejsis Golebiak, and Sr Advisor HECS Dr. Shobita Punja. The programme began with the traditional lamp-lighting ceremony of India, and the bread and salt ceremony from Poland. Twelve prestigious schools from Delhi participated in the event. An additional feature at Delhi was competitions in song, painting, calligraphy, and face painting which was greatly enjoyed by the children. A soulful performance by two talented Polish pianists who played some of Chopin’s famous works was the highlight of the event. It concluded with a prize distribution ceremony where prizes and certificates were given to winners and participants of the various competitions.

At Puducherry

The Chopin Programme at Puducherry was held on 27th August at the Sri Aurobindo International Centre of Education. The Polish Consul General at Mumbai Mr Janusz Bylinski represented Poland on this occasion. Mme. Fournier, the wife of the French Consul General at
Puducherry was a special invitee. Also present were Mon. Eric Compan, Proviseur of Lycee Francaise de Pondicherry along with the vice proviseur and teachers of Lycee Francaise. The audience of about 300 comprised around 125 students of SAICE and 100 students of western classical music of the school and 20 students of music from Lycee Francaise who were specially invited. Teachers of SAICE and academicians from institutions where music is a major subject were also invited. Students participating in the quiz competition were each given the CD “Chopin for India” by the Polish Embassy.

At Kolkata

The Chopin Program was conducted on 27th July at the Calcutta School of Music. A recital by music students of schools was followed by a short film on the life of Chopin, and a Quiz with participation of school teams. The programme was attended by Ms Malgorzata Wejsis Golebiak, First Counsellor and Head of Cultural Division, West Bengal Convenor G.M Kapur, and members of the Calcutta School of Music.

The INTACH Documentation Centre (IDC) is in the process of digitisation their collection of newspaper clippings on heritage related subjects and issues. The documentation of maps/plans/drawings of the Architectural Heritage Division has been completed.

The IDC has selected 18 hours of recordings from the Doordarshan archives, to be bought from them in DVD format.

INTACH Publications Unit

Ms. Bela Butalia joined INTACH in August this year as part time Consultant for its publications and promotion of INTACH literature/books through website and her vast personal contacts in the field. She intends to assist INTACH in reaching out to a bigger and highly educated clientele for research activities and publications through the enormous power of the internet.

Nehru Memorial Museum

There is a vast collection of journals, books, periodicals and manuscripts at the Nehru Memorial Museum & Library (NMML) at Delhi located in the former residence of Prime Minister Pandit Nehru. It has a micro film section – an impressive archive of various materials, private papers and photographs available to scholars. The paper Hickey’s Bengal Gazette or the Calcutta General Adviser has the distinction of being the first English papers to be published in India in 1780.

Down Downing Street

A herd of painted Indian elephants will soon line the road leading to that well known address 10 Downing Street, the British Prime Minister’s Residence. Many in Britain have grown up with stories of Rudyard Kipling’s Mowgli, and still nurse a special feeling for the now endangered Asian (Indian) Elephant. Director of Elephant Family charity, Ruth Powys had outstanding success auctioning 262 artificial elephants at the Elephant Parade exhibition in the summer. Now she would “like have a parade of artificial elephants, painted, located on Downing Street to help deliver the petition of 100,000 signatories that we’re aiming for.” In India the Elephant Family efforts through WWF and Wildlife Protection Society have so far concentrated only on the North East, Madhya Pradesh and Kerala. One can only imagine the public impact if such a Parade were to stretch from India Gate all the way down to Vijay Chowk and up to the Rashtrapathi Bhawan! Or for that matter an artificial Tiger Parade?

Up the Tiger Trail

The American journal PLoS Biology reported that the tiger populations of China, Cambodia, Vietnam and North Korea are so low that there is little chance of their recovering to sustainable levels. It states “India is home to 18 of the world’s 42 core tiger sites, and that doubling the current funding to 82 million a year to protect these sites is vital”. It also recommends “ruthless priority setting” to focus on India and the core sites in Russia, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Laos to mention the more promising ones. A “tiger summit” is scheduled to be held at St. Petersburg in November with 13 countries participating on how best resources should be allocated and to take some hard decisions. With hindsight it is clear that loss of habitat and poor management of reserves are the culprit causes for this sorry state of tigers.
Old is Gold

New Delhi has undergone some capital changes, never mind if the monsoons have also left their signature imprint of potted main roads and water puddles. Some heritage buildings on the Commonwealth Games routes have been sexily dressed up for the occasion. But some old guards like the 1644 Ajmeri Gate stand suffocated by free-for-all traffic leading to some largest city bazaars. It stands disconnected from its glorious past as one of 14 gateways of Shahjanabad, and exit point for royal processions en route to the Sufi town Ajmer. Behind a small locked area is an oasis of peace, outside it is the refuge of dope peddlers and goonda raj at night. Delhi has many such sites that challenge heritage conservation.

Death of Corals

1998 was the hottest year on record, when an estimated 16% of the world’s shallow-water reefs died. 2010 is the second year when global bleaching of coral reefs has reached an alarming rate near Thailand, Phillipines, Indonesia, Australia, and in the Carribean seas. Scientists fear that if extreme heat is not checked, the subsequent years may well see wide spread death of coral reefs. It endangers not only one of the richest ecosystems in the ocean, but also fisheries that feed millions of people. Global warming concerns us all!

National Museum Shop

At last a quality shop has opened at the National Museum, a much needed lacuna. All leading museums of the world like the Hermitage at St. Petersburg, Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Louvre in Paris, even Madame Tussaud’s in London are well stocked. The National Museum in coordination with the handicrafts & Handloom Export Corporation (HHEC) has stocked a vast array of attractive souvenirs in time for the Commonwealth Games – Mughal miniatures, Gupta era coins, Harappan seals, traditional jewellery, Chola era bronze sculptures, articles of daily use, etc. - with an Advisory Committee that ensures quality products.