I wish all our Members and Readers a very happy and prosperous New Year. Let us make 2015 a “Turning Point” for the protection of India’s Heritage. With best wishes and regards,

Maj Gen. L.K. Gupta AVSM (Retd.)

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On 27th January 2015 INTACH marks its 30th Anniversary. With pride we can look back at the many milestones marking the passage of time. INTACH has been headed by a succession of illustrious Chairmen since its inception in 1984 – a future Prime Minister, a Founder popularly known as ‘culture czarina’, a regal Chief Minister, a dynamic Administrator – each of whom opened new vistas for INTACH. Currently it is headed by a committed General marshalling heritage forces to meet the ever expanding mandate of INTACH. Our strength lies with our Chapters, Convenors and Members who are the pillars of our Trust. The forthcoming 30th Anniversary is an occasion for great celebrations, and also a time to renew the solemn oath to conserve and protect our ancient and precious heritage

INTACH was dubbed “an organization of excellence” by the Government. Chairman LK Gupta often states that an institute of national importance carries with it the burden of great expectations for the future.

International Recognition

With the New Year 2015, we are off to a good start having garnered international recognition for the multiple initiatives taken in the conservation field. INTACH was awarded the “Premio Honorifico Award”, at the 9th Biennial International Honorary Congress held at Valladolid, Spain at its closing gala. The award is constituted “to honor an institution or person for their outstanding contribution to the conservation and promotion of cultural heritage in Spain or any other country around the world”. INTACH was chosen for its dedication to the conservation and preservation of natural, cultural, tangible and intangible heritage in India, and its “vital contribution to making heritage an element of participation and society development, which promotes opportunities for economic growth”.

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Guest Column

INTACH is perhaps the only membership based national institution which has played a foundational role in its chosen field. It would not be an exaggeration to say that no other country in the world faces a challenge of such magnitude in the sphere of heritage conservation as India on account of its 5000-year history leaving behind innumerable monuments and culturally important remnants – both intangible and tangible. Around early 1980s an acute need for conservation of India’s cultural property began to be felt among a group of individuals concerned with the issues of our priceless heritage. From 1982 onwards, a series of ‘Festivals of India’ were held in Europe, the USA, and the then Soviet Union. The idea of INTACH was conceptualised by Smt. Pupul Jayakar and endorsed by Smt. Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India. At the core of these festivals was the notion of culture as an arm of diplomacy. As this international dialogue on culture opened up on a magnificent scale, the objectives and work of the UK based National Trust came into sharp focus in India.

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Inspired by the activities of the UK based National Trust, Smt. Jayakar, Shri Martand Singh and other like-minded persons took the idea further and INTACH was registered as a Public Charitable Trust in 1984 in India. It was firmly believed that it has to be run by individuals of deep commitment to the cause of heritage. INTACH’s mission was to cover the entire length and breadth of the country. This was not to be done through bureaucratic offices, but by opening Regional Chapters, basically to be run by people with dedication and a voluntary spirit. With these objectives, INTACH invited a hundred such persons as Founder Members to advise the body and to plan its programmes and policies. I happen to be one of them. The Trust began to function under the Chief Patron Smt. Indira Gandhi, Chairperson Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Vice Chairperson Smt. Pupul Jayakar, and two General Secretaries, Dr. B.K. Thapar and Shri Martand Singh. A small beginning was made in a bungalow at 71 Lodhi Estate, where the quiet and dedicated group drew out INTACH’s vision and blueprint. Today, INTACH has its own premises and about 175 Regional Chapters spread all over India.

In 1995 Smt. Pupul Jayakar asked me to be the Convenor of INTACH, Delhi Chapter. I remember how Smt. Pupul Jayakar had clearly defined the mandate of INTACH neatly divided into three basic objectives, namely one-third of it as advocacy to the government, one-third towards creation of awareness amongst the people, and one-third for hands-on projects for among the participants from India this year were The Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR), Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation and Indian Heritage Trust of Rajiv Sethi.

The International Biennial of Art and Heritage Management (AR&PA) was established in 1998 by the Spanish Government. The Junta de Castilla y Leon has been organising this event in collaboration with UNESCO and the European Commission. Its importance has grown over the years. The previous fair in 2012 attracted more than 20,000 participants, inaugurated by Her Majesty Queen Sofia of Spain. The Regional Minister for Culture and Tourism Alicia Garcia Rodriguez inaugurated the 2014 Biennial. It is now the second largest forum related to Art and Heritage Management in Europe, and simultaneously hosts discussions and forums on the subject.

The Exhibition “Restoration Initiatives of INTACH” inaugurated by the Minister of Culture extensively covered INTACH work in diverse fields of heritage activities. It showcased the vast efforts made by INTACH Members towards preserving the natural, architectural and cultural legacy of India. Chapters from Mumbai, Chennai, Jammu & Kashmir, Delhi, Kolkata and Puducherry promptly sent information (requested from many Chapters)
conservation of built heritage. For me it became a *gurumantra* and I diligently followed this dictum. For example, during my tenure of 15 years with the Delhi Chapter, we filed 6 PILs against some misconceived and insensitive projects in Delhi by the Government. With public, media and judicial support we were able to succeed in stopping these. The Delhi Chapter’s listing of built Heritage also became a benchmark.

Though INTACH has done matchless work, in the area of architectural heritage conservation, to a great extent, the areas of advocacy and awareness need to be addressed equally, because it is these initiatives which will inculcate a certain cultural and civilizational consciousness among the people at large which will be a true and precious asset created by INTACH.

Because of this seminal work in the last thirty years, the government of India has recognised INTACH as an Institution of National Importance and provided a Corpus Grant of Rs. 100 crores. This has bestowed on us an enormous responsibility to work as a catalyst for change. To attain this, we need to expand our base beyond the present 180 chapters spread countrywide. I would even say that it should aspire not only to remain a great institution, but become a great movement. I am sure, with the rising awareness about heritage, technical competence, effective professionalism and availability of resources, this will be an achievable goal.

*O.P. Jain*

December, 2014

which was formatted into panels. The Exhibition was so designed that visitors could both experience and understand for themselves the tremendous challenges faced in a country of our diversity. It portrayed INTACH’s professional capacity and its wide spread impact in partnership with its 175 Chapters across the States.

**MOU Signed**

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed on 14th November by Principal Director INTACH Heritage Academy Navin Piplani as witness for INTACH, and Minister Alicia Rodriguez for the Department of Culture.

The agreement “*will provide opportunities to professionals and institutions in the Castillay Leon region for Research and Development initiatives with India*, said the Minister. Director IHA stated “*this important agreement will require overcoming the challenges of working across geographical and physical distances and sharing the success of this cooperation with the world*”.

The key objectives of the MOU are temporary exchange of technical experts in order to share methodologies, cultural heritage research and conservation actions. There will be exchange and sharing of experiences, techniques and best practices about actions taken
in various heritage assets. There will also be collaboration in organizing conferences, workshops and training activities relating to the work of each party, as well as exchange of publications and documentation.

The INTACH Film was shown with a presentation of our recent initiatives through slides show at the Closing Ceremony.

After 30 years INTACH has gathered new momentum, but there are major challenges looming on the horizon. It is projected that by 2030 over 40% of India’s population will be living in towns and cities. The delicate balance between physical, cultural and ecological aspects of urban settlements are already disturbed. Further degradation of environment will impact climatic conditions, water resources, forest reserves, flora and fauna, even the formidable Himalayas. A recent study by Toxic Links during India River Week concluded that the rivers of our top 50 cities are either sick or dying. INTACH listed about 60,000 unprotected monuments to date, while thousands of thousand are in danger of being lost forever. Intangible heritage is slowly loosening its ground roots. Tons and tons of garbage generated in every town and city needs to be recycled into energy. Art objects continue to be stolen or smuggled, listings could include antiquities. Our ancient heritage that defines our national identity remains mostly unregulated, or unkempt and unvisited. Incorporating them into popular tourist circuits would unleash tremendous economic opportunities and local development.

We are facing times when human greed in the form of real estate, unplanned development, dilution of environmental framework, etc. are posing severe threats to our heritage. The time has come for INTACH to become more zealous in its efforts to raise awareness about heritage in all its forms, to campaign, to influence policy, to mobilise citizens and pressure groups, to make voices heard on issues, and above all to factor in higher human values in all forms of development. INTACH Convenors must work closely with local authorities to fully tap new schemes and opportunities. INTACH’s credentials are well established by its official role in the preparation of Heritage Bye Laws. Indeed after 30 years there are many more miles to go……………… before we become “the prime movers and shakers of the heritage movement” as Chairman LK Gupta reminded us at the last AGM. There is indeed much work to be done. Let us be what we once called ourselves “an army of conscience keepers”.

NEWS FROM CENTRAL OFFICE

EAST & NORTH-EAST CONVENORS’ CONFERENCE

The annual Conference of INTACH East and North-East Convenors was held at Kolkata on 21st-22nd November in association with the Kolkata Indian Museum. Nearly 40 Convenors attended with Government officials and INTACH Central Office representatives present. Welcoming the participants, State Convenor GM Kapur set the tone of the agenda stating that Kolkata, former capital of the British Empire with its many heritage sites, should find a place among UNESCO sites. Discussions centred on the Impact of Urbanisation and its Impact on Heritage – A Way Forward, with many heritage conservationists and art historians from India and overseas actively participating in the deliberations. GM Kapur cited examples like the razing of Barua’s House and the gateway arch at Bishop’s House as some of the heritage casualties due to pressures of urbanization.

Member Secretary CT Misra in her address averred that by holding the Conference at Kolkata, INTACH had indeed
chosen the most representative city for the deliberations. “The unending demands of new housing, commercial establishments, industries and civic infrastructure is putting great pressure on our towns and cities……nowhere is this more evident than in the older cities – where a change in land-use, economic pressures, and aspirations of urban populations is transforming the very nature of historic urban areas”, she said. In earlier times historic cities were pedestrian towns in a dense and compact fabric. Much has changed in the last 50 years when large areas moved from rural to urban living. Since inception INTACH has espoused the cause of Heritage Zones and documentation of heritage monuments and sites unprotected by the Archaeological Survey of India. INTACH prepared heritage development plans for major historic cities like Varanasi, Vrindavan, Bhubaneswar, Cochin and Ujjain identifying heritage zones. CT Misra elaborated very succinctly that especially of the foreign delegates. Dr. Sarayu Doshi explained many of the architectural details at length.

Vice Chairman Tasneem Mehta further elaborated on how to make the public aware of the need to look after heritage. As Convenor of the Mumbai Chapter she has been marshalling public awareness, resources and funds. The conceptualization, revitalisation and restoration of the Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum is an outstanding example of conservation work by her as its head.

Delhi Convenor Prof. AGK Menon shared experience of urban conservation of the capital over the years and the importance of strong links between tangible, intangible and natural heritage. INTACH also identified ensembles of buildings that constituted historic habitats with heritage value and coined the concept of Heritage Zones, a concept that has entered mainstream vocabulary of urban planners.

The INTACH Exhibition during the East and North East convenors’ conference elicited a great deal of interest, specially of the foreign delegates. Dr. Sarayu Doshi explained many of the architectural details at length.

There were many eminent speakers who touched on a broad spectrum of related subjects. Director Indian Museum Dr. Venu Gopal, head of Industries Bengal Chambers Dr. Shyamal Chakravarty, representing Denmark was Honorary Consul MK Saharia and from its National Museum Ms. Bente Wulff, Ms. Khoo Salma from the Penang Heritage Trust, Convenor Hazaribagh Bulu Imam, Executive Director Crafts Council R. Choudhuri, film maker SL Roy from Manipur, Rasheed Tauseef from Nicobar Islands, Denis Giles from Andamans, Ghimire from Nepal, and President Chinese Indian Community Binny Law who added new perspectives. The Convenors of the East and North-East India also had the opportunity to report their activities and subsequent tasks ahead.

Director Chapters Lt. Col. MPS Bhatia gave out details of all the Listings and Documentation of each State compiled by INTACH to date. He requested Convenors to take stock of their respective Listing work done to date and schedule completion of the rest. Listings must be followed up with Notification.
Vice Chairman Tasneem Mehta lauded the overwhelming response to this Conference and thanked all the participants on behalf of Chairman INTACH.

**MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETING**

The Monitoring Committee for implementation of special corpus fund projects met on 28th November, chaired by Chairman LK Gupta. Members of this Committee are Joint Secretary, MOC Sanjiv Mittal, Shri Ramesh Chandra, Shri OP Jain, Shri Sanjay Narayan, Member Secretary Dr. CT Misra, Vice Chairman Tasneem Mehta and Dr. Rakesh Tiwari – the last two Members mentioned were unable to attend due to prior commitments.

Progress of Special Corpus Fund projects, and Division-wise progress were reviewed with some of the Principal Directors and Directors of INTACH Division called in briefly to explain salient points and outcome of projects handled by them.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

INTACH Executive Committee met at Central Office on 1st December. It observed a two minute silence in homage to Shri Ajit Koujalgi, one of INTACH’s most active Co-Convenors in Puducherry whose sudden demise has been a major loss to INTACH.

Member Secretary reported on various administrative measures. She informed the Committee that INTACH is a Member of some important Committees constituted by the Ministries of Culture and Urban Development: Committee for preparation of listing of heritage buildings in the custody of Government, with DG ASI as Chairman.

- Central Advisory Board of Archaeology (CABA)
- Advisory Committee on World Heritage matters.
- Committee of Ministry of Urban Development which prepared guidelines relating to Heritage City Development on Augmentation Yojana (HRIDAY).

The Executive Committee decided to enhance the administrative support to State/District Chapters from Rs. 18,000 to Rs. 25,000; and for other Chapters from Rs.15,000 to Rs. 20,000.

**GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING**

The Governing Council met on 2nd December at Central Office chaired by General LK Gupta. In his opening remarks he praised the hard work and dedication of INTACH Convenors and Co-Convenors. Citing the example of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) loan of Rs. 386 crore to the State Government of Karnataka on condition “to constitute Heritage Preservation Cell in the State and Country Planning Department”, he said all Chapters need to be informed about the importance of setting up such Cells.

Chairman thanked the Secretary Shankar Aggarwal and Director Shailendra Vikram Singh of the Ministry of Urban Development; the Jt. Secretary Sanjiv Mittal of the Ministry of Culture; and Director Rita Khanna of the Environment Ministry for including INTACH on their Committees and for participation in the Governing Council Meeting.

Member Secretary reported on various developments and decisions taken to update Governing Council Members regarding recent INTACH activities. She said a Museum Cell had been set up in the Material Heritage Division to assist Chapters in setting-up local Museums and also to access schemes of the Ministry of Culture as a large number of precious artifacts are reported by Chapters to be lying uncared for at the local level. This Cell will be headed by INTACH Vice Chairman Tasneem Mehta.

INTACH will formulate a proposal for registration under Section 36 Income Tax Act 1962 to get 125% benefit on donations for research/training activities of INTACH Heritage Academy.

INTACH also propose to introduce a Transparency Clause for the technical staff of INTACH who take up private assignments. They must seek prior approval of the INTACH Executive Committee, to ensure there is no conflict of interest in the projects. This is also applicable to all INTACH Principal Directors.

The Governing Council Members felt there should be greater involvement of all Founder Members in INTACH activities.

**THE NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF INTACH WILL BE HELD AT CENTRAL OFFICE ON 21ST MARCH 2015.**

**ANIRUDH BHARGAVA AWARD**

The Anirudh Bhargava-INTACH Environmental Award, instituted in memory of the son of Life Member Dr. Ranjit Bhargava, is awarded annually for “Exemplary Contribution
INTACH is deeply grieved to announce the passing away of Shri Arun K. Gupta, a Life Member and current Member of its Governing Council. Earlier as INTACH Principal Advisor Tourism from 2005-2010 he made a significant contribution to promoting heritage tourism as an integral factor of heritage conservation, and rendered valuable guidance to many of our INTACH Chapters. Formerly as officer of the Indian Administrative Service, he had served in many capacities both in his parent State of Madhya Pradesh and in the Central Ministry of Tourism at Delhi. INTACH conveys its heartfelt condolences to his beloved children Anish and Jojo, and to other members of his family. We also send them our good wishes for the future.

CONDOLENCES

The untimely news of Ajit Koujalgi’s fatal accident was received with great shock and sorrow. Equally in many quarters of Puducherry and Auroville community of which he was an inmate since 1971. His untimely death is a great loss to his city whose many colonial structures he converted into heritage assets like the Maison Perumal and Palais de Mahe so that people encounter the city’s unique culture. He was one of the most active Chief Architect and Convenor of INTACH Chapters. Through personal intervention he convinced the Chief Minister to save the iconic structure of the local Indian Coffee House. The Tourism Minister called him the mastermind of the Bharati Park Restoration Project. His work gained international recognition for the restoration of Vysial Street when he was awarded the UNESCO Asia Pacific Heritage Award for Culture Heritage Conservation. Co-Convenor Ashok Panda spoke on behalf of INTACH when he calls him “a man of courage and conviction, and an inspiration to all of us”. Ajit’s close friend and owner of Gratitude Heritage Hotel says “Puducherry may never be the same again”.

INTACH sends its heartfelt condolences to his dear wife, partner and fellow architect Ratna Koujalgi at this time of grief and sorrow. May she have the strength to carry on some of his unmatched work. INTACH sends good wishes for her future well being, with the hope she will find the strength to bear this irreparable loss.
INDIAN CONSERVATION INSTITUTE, DELHI

Stone Cleaning Workshop

ICI Delhi organized the *Indo-German Workshop on Stone Cleaning* on 3rd-5th December, in association with the German cleaning machine company, Alfred Kärcher GmbH & Co. K.G. Karcher and participation of experts from Germany. Tourism Minister Dr. Mahesh Sharma visited INTACH and was present for the Press Conference on 4th December.

Karcher Cleaning Systems manufacture many cleaning products ranging from water jet to steam cleaning techniques in cleaning stone surfaces of monuments without resorting to chemicals. The German experts George Schmid and Frank Schad followed up their talks by demonstrations of the process in practical sessions at INTACH premises. They interacted with practicing Indian conservators to understand local conditions. Participants from ASI, State Archaeology, CPWD, conservation architects and conservators involved in work at sites also participated. The Workshop thus provided an important platform to explore all current practices in stone conservation in India vis a vis Germany. It helped to assess future applications of equipment developed by Karcher Cleaning Systems in India.

Traditionally, stone monuments in India were washed with water to cleanse them from dust and dirt. In this age of pollution, the accretions on the stone structures are so complex and stubborn that traditional cleaning methods have failed. Chemical cleaning at most monuments in India is undertaken to rid the stone surface of dirt, greasy accretions or biological growth of algae and lichen. Studies have shown that chemical cleaning can severely damage the stones used in historical buildings, and successful only for the short term. In the long run the chemicals set off a deterioration process that causes further decay and permanent loss of mother material of stone. The entire world is moving towards chemical free approach in conservation.

The equipment demonstrated by Kärcher Company included one that uses water as steam, hot or cold water propelled by adjustable high pressure applied with different nozzles depending on the requirements. German experts consider pressure washing as the perfect method for historical structures because of its flexibility as the pressure in the pump, water flow, temperature, and spray distance, as well as their own muscle movement can get the effect needed without causing damage to stone structure. There are equipments that use various abrasives propelled by air pressure to remove harder crusts on stone. The use of dry ice to remove layers of rust...
A polychrome carved 6ft. wooden sculpture belonging to the Prime Minister's Office in Delhi was restored by the ICI Delhi team. The sculpture depicts a nine headed Ravana, the demon king in ‘Ravanapuraba’ posture painted in natural pigments. He is shown lifting Shiva seated with Parvati on his abode Mount Kailash.

The sculpture had severe problems associated with environmental, biological and physical damages like cracks due to splitting of wood and flaking paint. The various sections of the sculpture were separated for conservation treatment. All later additions and faulty restoration were removed and losses reintegrated before carefully re-assembling with protective coating given.

and paint from metallic structures and stones is an innovative ‘soft blasting’ for cleaning historical structures. Roberto Bello from CTS India demonstrated use of lasers and micro-cleaning instruments for stone cleaning.
Conservation of Shekhawati paintings

Two Shekhawati paintings on wooden panels (11x15 ft.) were restored at the Ministry of External Affairs premises, New Delhi. Fixed to a ply-board with nails and a strong adhesive, the panels developed cracks and were separating with losses in the original wooden board support.

Condition of the two paintings before restoration

Re-installation of the restored painted panels

The two paintings after restoration
ICI BENGALURU

ICI Bengaluru organized the *Indo-Italian Workshop* on wood and wooden artifacts from 2nd-4th December, inaugurated by Chairman INTACH, Karnataka Convenor Aswath Narayan, Italian expert Dr. Bergioli, and former Director of ICKPACK Dr. S. Subbaraman were the chief guests who addressed the participants after Advisor Dr. Chiranjeevi Singh’s highly perceptive and informative speech at the inaugural function.

An erudite lecture by Dr. Choodamani Nanda Gopal of the local Jain University gave a historical perspective of how wood was used from early to present times. The subsequent sessions were interesting as well as instructive, particularly that of Dr. Leonardo Bergioli, who spoke on different aspects of wood deterioration, besides introducing several new products along with detailed practical demonstrations. Other speakers were Conservation Architect Benny Kuriakose; Binumol Tom from the Department of Architecture, Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Technology, Kottayam; scientists from Institute of Wood Science and Technology, (IWST) and experts from Pest Control of India (PCI) and other professionals from museums and galleries. INTACH professionals also spoke on their experiences and different traditional methods and practices in the field. They learned about technological advances, practices and case studies in the field of wood science and conservation.

Important sessions were conducted by the Wood Science Research Institute by their scientists, followed by a visit to their museum by the 45 participants comprising students, researchers, scholars, artists, architects, conservation architects and other professionals from different parts of the country.

**Case Study**

ICI Bengaluru received a 169x260 cm. oil on canvas titled “Dancing People” by artist Paresh Maity belonging to a private client.

Stained surface of the painting created by fungal attack and poor quality synthetic flex sheet pasted on the backside with epoxy adhesive and the usual problems were treated and the
lost areas reintegrated with colours after an intermediate layer given between the original paint layer and the new one.

ICI LUCKNOW

Conservation of seventy rare printed books of National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad was completed. Conservation of each folio included treatment of de-acidification, filling loss of areas, lining with tissue on both sides, stitching and all the binding boards replaced with handmade acid free mount. A special folder was prepared for keeping seven portfolios having architectural designs.

Conservation of 185 rare manuscripts of Central Library Maharani Lal Kunwari Post Graduate College, Balrampur, UP is an ongoing project since July. They were highly affected by insects and fungal growth with unscientific old repairs. Most of the folios were stuck, with loss of corners due to paper eaten by insects/termites, warping.
due to humid condition, etc. Detail documentation of each manuscript was done along with pagination, photography, testing and solubility before the treatment. Conservation involved fumigation, removal of dirt and fungus spores, separation of the folios after pagination and new binding. Conservation of animal skins and photographic albums of Rajput Regimental Centre, Fatehgarh, U.P. is another on-going project covered in the previous issues of Virasat. The problems noted were hair becoming rough and bald in patches, and insect attack on very fragile skin. Conservation treatment included fumigation and low pressure vacuum cleaning, replacement of old supporting cloth, skin dressing treatment, insecticidal spray, re-toning of repaired areas, etc.

**Workshop at Azamgarh, U.P.**

A *Workshop on Preventive Conservation* of handwritten documents, archival and library material was held at Ayukt Sabhagar, Azamgarh, from 19th–21st November organized by ICI, Lucknow for staff of museums and libraries. It also targeted personnel belonging to various places that contribute to archival collections such as Government Offices, Judiciary, Jails, Police Department, Revenue Department and religious organizations to familiarise them with various aspects of conservation such as care, display and storage.

As many as 116 participants from 34 various organizations of Mau, Balia and Azamgarh districts, specially Revenue Department and *Nagar Panchayat, Rajya Niyojan Sansthan*, Libraries, Rajkiya Inter College, *Nagar Palika, Jila Karagar,* etc.
DM Office, Commissioner Office, Education and Police Departments attended. It was inaugurated by District Magistrate Shri Ranveer Prasad. An exhibition of the activities of various centres of INTACH was also inaugurated by DM, Azamgarh. Joint Development Commissioner A.K. Rai attended the Valedictory Session and certificate distribution to the participants.

ICI JODHPUR

A 71 x 52 cm. painting depicting Maharaja Takhat Singh bathing in a pond with 18 ladies from the royal harem surrounded by peacocks and a monkey was received from Umaid Bhawan Palace. The fungus infected painting had developed warping and flaking paint layers.

Improperly mounted it had come into direct contact with the glass and had trapped humidity.

Conservation treatment involved wet and dry processes and chemical cleaning to reveal the original colours; consolidation to reaffirm the lose pigments and replacement with new acid free mounting.
ICI BUBANESHWAR

The Odisha Art Conservation Centre, Bhubaneswar is carrying out conservation of important temples of Odisha under the 13th Finance Commission Project of Dept. of Culture in coordination with INTACH Architectural Heritage Division.

Netaji Subhash Bose’s Parental House, Puri

It is proposed to conserve Netaji Subhash Bose’s house at Puri for eventual conversion into a Museum in his name.

Manuscript Conservation at Viswabharati

Conservation of large sized important maps and documents at Lipika, Viswabharati in Shantiniketan has been undertaken by paper conservators of Odisha Art Conservation Centre at Delhi State Archives.
ICI MUMBAI

The Collection of Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum has Patna school of paintings or ‘Patna Qalaam’ or ‘Company Paintings’ painted on Mica Sheets that existed in Bihar during 18th-19th centuries. Mica group comprises silicate minerals that have layered texture; with large flakes and sheets bound in some metamorphic and igneous rocks. It is stable when exposed to electricity, light, moisture and extreme temperatures. It is chemically inert, lightweight, and transparent to opaque painted in Gouache. As the layer of mica is smooth, it provides very little hold so the paint was thickly applied. These Mica paintings depict people engaged in various occupations such as butler, sweeper, dhobi, etc.

The painting had deteriorated with uneven blobs of adhesive that had discoloured and turned brownish. Due to thick application of paint there were cracks and flaking. The paintings were carefully de-mounted from support of fragile mica sheets, stains removed with mixture of solvents and consolidated using conservation adhesive. They were individually encapsulated with Mylar and framed using glass to view both sides.

ANTIQUES JEWELLERY GALLERY

The National Museum, Delhi has reopened a permanent gallery of Indian antique jewelry Alamkara, curated by a leading jewelry historian Dr. Usha Balakrishnan. It is a prized collection showcasing the fashions and aesthetics of various strata of people in different periods. It also tells the history of jewelry making from the Indus Valley civilization (3300 BC), Taxila jewels of 1st century AD to recent 19th-20th centuries. There are nearly 255 ornaments like Harappa and Mohenjadaro pendants, bracelets, bangles, necklaces, hair ornaments, armbands, girdles, etc. It shows that both the regal classes as well as common folks had a sense of beauty when it came to ornaments. Unlike later period Maharaja jewels, there is very little data in the public domain on ornaments worn by men, women and children of families, many are still in possession of people across the country. They show some of the flora and fauna used in ornamentation. Interesting themes include jewels seen on deities, magnificent creations made for ceremonial occasions arranged in a chronological order “that define our history”.

Mica painting before conservation

After conservation
ECOLOGY STUDY OF THE YAMUNA

Natural Heritage Division is carrying out a study on the Yamuna stream ecology to gather information on various ecological parameters such as Water Quality, Riparian Vegetation, Fishes, Birds and various other aquatic organisms. The objective of this study is to provide baseline information on ecological components and aspects of Delhi and the National Capital Region that are affected by the Yamuna River.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS TRAINING

First Aid and Disaster Preparedness Training was provided to school children and local people at Bhiri village of Rudraprayag, Uttarakhand. The training during 15th-17th November included first aid and life saving techniques, knots and lashing techniques, emergency methods of rescue, search and location techniques, bandaging and use of splints for stabilization of limb, transportation of casualties, construction of rope bridges, swimming and floating aids and life lines for drowning causalities. It was followed by open discussion and practice sessions. The 3 days programme ended with the Simulated Integrated Exercise to evaluate the lessons learned during the training exercises.

WATER MANAGEMENT

A report has been submitted for rain water harvesting for 100 sites along with awareness raising seminars for the Delhi Jal Board. Jointly with WAPCOS a pre-feasibility report is also being worked out sponsored by the Jal Board. The NHD is also preparing a water management plan and an urban biodiversity plan for the Indian Army for 42 sq.kms area in the Delhi Cantonment.

The NHD has taken up a number of Consultancy assignments for the Uttarkhand Tourism Development Board, some jointly with AHD, for upgradation of Nainital Lake precincts and Jageshwar. The Ganga RFD II, Patna includes a Detailed Project Report, soil tests, etc. with micro-area master plans sponsored by BUIDCO, Bihar. A Rescue Kit was handed over to the village authorities as part
of the Uttarakhand Disaster Relief Project in collaboration with the National Civil Defence College, Nagpur. The Sawai Madhopur natural heritage listing is ongoing with the Sawai Madhopur Chapter including Ranthambore Fort, to mention a few of the ongoing work of Natural Heritage Division.

**WARMING & WARNING**

Post Diwali was always a time when sweater and shawls came out of closets - but not this year. Global warming has already led to increase in temperatures. Faster melting of glaciers and mountainous ice caps has resulted in islands of heat forming here and there across the earth. It has just begun to be felt, but in due course it will begin to impact annual crop yields, environment patterns, threatening low lying areas. It is even predicted that many islands will get submerged by the mid 21st century. Not only the richness of many species but even human health will be affected by climate change like scorching summers, bone-chilling winters and deluge of cloud bursts, tsunami, drought, hurricanes, etc. Difficult times are coming for all mankind unless the world comes together to stop in its track and heed the first toll of the warning bells.

**AIR QUALITY**

The World Health Organisation identified air pollution as a serious environmental threat that killed 7 million people in the year 2012. Figures for 2013 and 2014 have not yet been computed! WHO released the study conducted in 1600 cities in which Delhi among 13 others from India figured as having the most polluted Air Quality Index (AQI) with an average of 153 micrograms of small particulates per cubic metre. Swachh Bharat Abhiyan is just the first baby step. The next step for the Indian Government is to make AQI the bedrock of any developmental work and improve “its accountability to the community and its responsibility to environment”. China is an example of efforts being made to maintain air quality by curtailing automotive and industrial emissions. It recently imposed one of the biggest fines of $48,092 on boiler maker joint venture of Babcock & Wilcox and Beijing Boiler Works. In USA Oregon, Intel was imposed one of the heaviest air quality penalty of $143,000 for violating environmental laws by failing to disclose fluoride emissions at its Washington County computer chip factories. Our Ministry of Environment would do well to take a leaf out of these instances and toughen some of the environmental norms in India.

**VANISHING EARTH**

The Living Planet Report of World Wildlife Fund indicates that during the last 40 years 52% of the world’s animals have vanished from the earth. It includes the population of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish around the world. While the earth’s human population has nearly doubled. Globally habitat loss and hunting have reduced tiger population from 100,000 a century ago to 3000 today. The lion population in one Ghana reserve is down by 90%. Biggest decline in vertebrate wildlife is in Latin America. Forest felling in West Africa has severely restricted movement in their natural range. Marine and terrestrial life numbers have both fallen by 39%.

Are we determined to continue destroying our planet’s ability to support our way of life? According to the WWF report Kuweit has the biggest ecological footprint, consuming and wasting more resources per head than any other nation; followed closely by Dubai and Qatar. To date India has a ecological footprint that is well within the planet’s ability to absorb the demand – but for how long?

Carbon levels in our atmosphere has risen to levels not seen in more than a million years, as reported in the Times of India. It triggers climate change that is already destabilizing ecosystems. High concentration of reactive nitrogen are degrading lands, rivers and oceans. Over 60% of the essential services provided by nature from forests and seas and rivers are in decline. We are already facing water scarcity in many parts of India. Grim times are ahead if we do not adopt adequate measures to preserve our natural heritage.

**HOPE FLOATS**

The cleaning of Yamuna was launched in October with the first phase of its 59 km interceptor sewer project that will ensure only treated sewerage will be discharged into the three major drains flowing into the river. The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is currently associated with 16 projects relating to sewerage and water supply with a total loan commitment of Rs.28,660 crore from Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Punjab, Odisha, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka and Goa. Moreover the Shipping Ministry proposes to bring the river stretch in Delhi under the National Waterway Grid so that the Centre can also invest in cleaning and maintaining a certain water level. JICA Chief Representative to India Sinya Ejima stated at a meeting of the Indo-Japan joint working group that a clean Yamuna would become a reality as several projects are under implementation, and that one can expect to “swim and drink the river water by 2017”.

Ack : Sriraj Kota, Pioneer, 23 Oct ’14

Ack : Kounteya-Sinha, 1 Oct. Times of India
ASSESSMENT OF DAMAGE POST FLOODS IN SRINAGAR

The flood plains of river Jhelum and its tributaries in Kashmir Valley experienced excess rainfall that breached the river banks devastating life and property on a massive scale. An INTACH team from Central Office visited Srinagar on 29th October to assess the damage caused to the built heritage in Srinagar and adjacent areas. Most of the central and southern zones of the Valley like Sonwar, Rajbagh, Jawahar Nagar, Gogji Bagh and Wazir Bagh neighbourhoods were worst hit as they are located in proximity of Jhelum. Several heritage bungalows, old silk factories, Amar Singh College and an early 20th century museum suffered serious damages. Fortunately the mosques, temples, shrines and tombs located in the old city escaped the disaster. A Post Flood Damage Assessment Report has been prepared by AHD explaining types and level of damages caused to the properties, besides observations and issues. The Report also includes proposals for repair, retrofitting, restoration and conservation of properties.

CHHATAR MANZIL PALACE, LUCKNOW

Chhatar Manzil Complex, sprawling over five acres in the heart of Lucknow comprises two monuments, the Chhatar Manzil and Farhat Baksh. Farhat Baksh was built in 1781 AD as a residence by General Claude Martin. The Indo-French style building known as “Martin Villa” was later purchased by Nawab Asaf-ud-daula. In 1798 AD, under patronage of Nawab Saadat Ali Khan, the highly embellished Chhatar Manzil was constructed. Many new structures were added to the complex over the later years. The building was partially destroyed by British in 1857 and used as United Service Club.
for senior British officials. In 1950 Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI) was established in the building, which carried out several more additions and alterations adding new structures on original terraces. Presently, the building is protected by the Uttar Pradesh State Archaeology. INTACH was requested by the State Govt. to prepare a Conservation Plan. AHD is presently documenting the building in great detail to undertake conservation work.

UPENDRA MAHARATHI SHILPA ANUSANDHAN SANSTHAN, PATNA

The Upendra Maharathi Shilpa Anusandhan Sansthan (UMSAS) houses very rich and varied traditional handicrafts from Bihar and offers artisans-veterans and enthusiasts a platform to learn and transfer local crafts. The Centre needs urgent improvements as diminishing numbers of expertise and designers has resulted in terminating various programmes like carpentry, ceramic, etc. The existing infrastructure lacks adequate spaces for craft based requirements. INTACH was requested by the Govt. of Bihar to prepare an architectural proposal for construction of a new building on the existing premises. A concept plan creating space where art in its natural form can flourish and inspire with its rich tradition is under AHD preparation.

INTACH embarked on a crucial pan-India initiative: to prepare a 'State of Built Heritage of India' report. The objective is to establish threats and issues that faces our unprotected heritage by collecting ground data. And to recommend an effective strategy to address these challenges.

The first phase of this endeavour is complete as a study from secondary sources. The second phase has commenced where data across the country has to be collated from as many regions as possible. Primary studies are being conducted in select regions based on representative examples of built heritage. Pertinent findings from ongoing and recently completed projects of AH Division are featured as case studies. Contributions are invited from INTACH Chapters,
professionals and also concerned citizens to compile case-studies highlighting various issues. As part of the initiative, a ‘Heritage at Risk’ Register is being compiled of built heritage resources facing threats.

**APPEAL: CONTRIBUTION TO AHD INITIATIVE ‘STATE OF BUILT HERITAGE OF INDIA’**

**Appeal for contribution to ‘Heritage at Risk’ Register for built heritage:** Kindly make us aware of our heritage that is under natural and/or human-induced threats in your knowledge. These could include built heritage facing pressures from urbanization, development or tourism.

Kindly contribute to INTACH’s crucial initiative: ‘State of Built Heritage of India’ report. Please send an article of about 500 words at pdahintach@gmail.com by 31st January 2015 : about specific cases of unprotected built heritage highlighting challenging issues and / or illustrations of good examples. These would be incorporated with due acknowledgement. Please enclose relevant photographs.

We will be grateful for your contribution.  

Principal Director AHD  
Divay Gupta

**CITIES : AN INVESTMENT FOR THE FUTURE**

Urbanisation has been seen through a negative lens – to be countered, slowed or stopped. “It is time to throw off these assumptions and see the process of urbanization for what it really is : An opportunity to harness the economic potential of cities for growth and development”, says Joan Clos, Executive Director of UN-Habitat. She feels cities in Asia currently comprising 42% of the population have never been more creative or productive. They contribute over 80% of the region’s GDP. “To invest in our cities is to invest in our future. Well-planned, well-managed cities are able to provide citizens with service in a more efficient, cost-effective manner than wide spread sprawling urban areas”. India is talking about smart cities. It is directly in line with UN-Habitat thinking about cities helping us to achieve economically, socially and environmentally sustainable development.

Ack : Hindustan Times, 13 Nov’14

**HRIDAY**

The Central Government proposes to launch a flagship scheme to renew the heritage cities of Amritsar, Ajmer, Gaya, Kanchipuram, Mathura, Varanasi and Vellankani under the project Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana (HRIDAY) for which Rs.500 crore has been sanctioned. The scheme aims to bring together urban planning, economic growth and heritage conservation apart from beautification in an integrated manner with emphasis on cleanliness, livelihoods, skills, safety, security and accessibility. Each of these cities will have to prepare a heritage management plan (HMP), outline heritage resources and develop policies to guide conservation keeping in perspective future use and development. If successful it will no doubt have a rippling impact on other cities.

**SAARC HERITAGE COMMITTEE**

One of the major initiatives discussed at a recent meeting of Culture Ministers from SAARC countries in New Delhi was the setting up of a SAARC Heritage Committee. It will identify and preserve monuments considered to be of major importance in South Asia but to date not enlisted on the lines of UNESCO World Heritage List. Another initiative would be the setting up of SAARC digital library to promote literary works and cooperation in the areas of archives, museums and performing arts. It is likely to fructify after a series of bilateral talks between Governments concerned.

**CRAFT COMMUNITY HERITAGE CELL (CCH)**

The CCH Cell is actively involved in executing craft based development projects to empower the crafts community, upgrade their skills and preserve their living heritage. Setting up design and development workshops, and working with craft clusters, has enabled them to find lucrative outlets and develop contemporary designs. It has touched the lives of the socially backward and economically weaker segments of society in a meaningful way. INTACH hopes to tap the corporate social responsibility mandate and seek intervention in particular creative areas. Chapter Convenors also need to explore this invaluable source of funding for projects related to arts and crafts.
A *Directory of Traditional Building Crafts* is under production of the Craft Community Heritage Cell.

**Workshop for Bidri Artisans**

A design development workshop was conducted for Bidri artisans in Bidar, Karnataka by the CCHE at Bangalore Chapter from 8th-17th October. Bidri craft originated in Persia and came to India in the 14th century, flourishing in Bidar under the Bahamani dynasty. While in Persia gold and silver was inlaid on steel and copper, in Bidar it was silver and gold inlaid on zinc and copper alloy. Since then, the artisans have further developed the craft through indigenous ways and are now producing stunning and spectacular decorative items. Inlay work (*baithai*) is of two types - sheet work (*patta ka kam*) or wire work (*taar ka kaam*), depending on the design. Sheets or wires of pure silver are meticulously hammered into the grooves of the engraved design.

The purpose of the workshop was to add value to the existing products, and create contemporary shapes and products while retaining the traditional essence of the craft. The new products are functional and hence more saleable. Several new products were developed during the workshop.

**Patta ka kaam**

The silver is hammered in (*khazana*) and the surface is buffed and smoothened to remove any extra silver jutting out. Then the black temporary layer is removed and the surface is silver. The soil from Bidar Fort is mixed with ammonium chloride and boiling water, to form a solution. The oxidizing process is very unique to Bidri craft. When the solution is applied to the product surface, the zinc-copper alloy turns black, while leaving the silver unaffected. This black colour is permanent and does not fade. The end product is striking silver against a black background. Coconut oil is applied and rubbed to give a sheen.
ART PITARA WINTER SERIES, 2014-15

The Intangible Cultural Heritage Division jointly with the Happy Hands Foundation inaugurated a second season of Art Pitara - a month full of fun and educative workshops celebrating heritage art forms during the holiday season from 15th December - 14th January. It also offered a special opportunity to learn Seraikela Chhau dance.

The limelight was on the folk arts of India ranging from Kalamkari (Andhra) to Phad (Rajasthan), Patua (West Bengal), Lippan Kaam (Kutch) to choose from a plethora of forms. Participants had the opportunity to interact with the Master Artists and learn about their personal journeys and to create some lovely scrolls, relief works and paintings.

There was an exhibit-cum-sale of some of the works of these Master Artists, well recognised for their artistic endeavours and achievements at State and National Level by the President of India.

ICHD hopes to bring people closer to the wealth of folk art and craft forms existing in our country through these workshops, and to foster creativity and spread not only
awareness but also appreciation. Especially among the young people who must take pride in the richness of our cultural heritage.

Besides, *Art Pitara* was a lot of fun during the holiday season and a wonderful activity to engage in!

A 17 years old student Shivani, who enrolled for four of the workshops during the Summer Series said “I want to thank INTACH and Happy Hands for this wonderful set of workshops –

*INTACH HERITAGE QUIZ SERIES 2014*

The INTACH Heritage Quiz Series of ICHD is an attempt to interact with college students across India directly engaging them on heritage issues in an entertaining manner. It is to give them, future leaders of our society, greater appreciation of India’s diverse heritage legacy.

This series of Quiz organized by ICHD Director Nerupama Y. Modwel is conducted on ground by Xpress Minds Edutainment team. Doordarshan records and telecasts the events. During this quarter Quiz programmes were held at New
Delhi (14th Oct.), Bhubaneswar (27th Oct.), Guwahati (18th Nov.), Pune (28th Nov.) and Mumbai (29th Nov.) Many more are scheduled in the coming months. To qualify, participants first undergo a written test. The nationally known Quizmaster Kunal Savarkar is an architect by training and has conducted over 125 such programmes for INTACH to date. In each city cash prizes of Rs. 9,000 and Rs. 6,000 were given by INTACH to the two top teams. Books worth Rs. 18,000 are given out as prizes for each event.

All finalists and correct answers from the audience receive books contributed by Hachette Publishing House (100 nos. for each event). The events covered by Doordarshan will be telecast by the event media partner, DD Bharati.

2ND OCTOBER, REMEMBERING GANDHIAN SWADHARMA

Gandhi and hand woven Khadi meant to cater to masses, are almost inseparable in the Indian mind. Researcher Shelly Jyoti feels the fabric holds within its warp and weft the imprint of the spirit of swadeshi and nationalism, and a throwback to India’s rustic roots. She has experimented using the age old tradition of ajrakh printing in a bid to revive khadi, and rekindle the spirit of swadharma as a tribute to Gandhiji. These textile installations which she calls “Salt : The Great March: Re-Contextualising Ajrakh Textile Traditions on Khadi in Contemporary Art and Craft is heading to the Gandhi Memorial Centre at Washington DC in 2015. Amazingly a 16th century fragment of ajrakh-printed fabric was discovered recently lying around the Cairo Museum. Shelly has now sought out ajrakh karigars in Gujarat whose forefathers migrated from Baluchistan and Sindh. In collaboration with the family of the late Mohammed Siddik, 9th generation of Khatris she is trying to revive 400 year old patterns and printing blocks to bring the art and craft of khadi back into fashion. Scholars of textile history trace ajrakh patterns to the times of the Indus Valley civilisation.

Gandhi’s swadharma philosophy is best described in his own words : “I realised that if everyone of us 40 crore urban Indians take to buying khadi just once a year, it will keep khadi looms in action in our villages, give employment to millions of weavers and create rural empowerment”. India ‘s urban population numbered 388,524,900 (n 2011). Just think what can happen if everyone bought khadi every year on 2nd October. Perhaps it is the best way to remember the Father of the Nation rather than holding memorial services with traffic jams!

NEWS : HERITAGE ACADEMY (IHA)

MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR WORLD HERITAGE CITIES

A 4 day course on Management Plans for World Heritage Cities was organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, Advisory Committee on World Heritage Matters. It was to discuss issues and complexities related to the conservation and management of UNESCO World Heritage Cities.

This concept generally relates to the UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage–1972 with reference to a range of case studies. The key aspects related to the nomination, evaluation, inscription and management of World Heritage Cities were explored; examining the notions of ‘outstanding universal value’, ‘authenticity’ and ‘integrity’.
A guided tour was organised for the participants to visit the nominated sites of Shahjahanahabad (Old Delhi) and Lutyens’ New Delhi to assess theoretical issues and practical challenges discussed during lectures and presentations.

**CHENNAI WORKSHOPS**

*Stone Conservation Workshop*

A *Stone Conservation Workshop* was organized for members of Indian Institute of Architects, Chennai Chapter and faculty/ students of architecture colleges in Chennai to introduce various aspects related to the study and conservation of stone in historic buildings. Key aspects related to principles, practices, issues and challenges of conservation of stone were explored using some restoration projects as case studies.

Professor Henry Cleere from the UK and Mr. Kai Weise from Nepal conducted the discourse. Director General ASI Dr. Rakesh Tewari, INTACH Chairman LK Gupta, Vice Chairman and Tasneem Mehta inaugurated the workshop and addressed the gathering.

The workshop was attended by architects, urban planners, professors, heritage guides, students, Government officials from ASI and Department of Research, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh and some of INTACH Convenors/Co-Convenors/ Members.

A guided tour was organised for the participants to visit the nominated sites of Shahjahanahabad (Old Delhi) and Lutyens’ New Delhi to assess theoretical issues and practical challenges discussed during lectures and presentations.
a stone sculpting workshop in Mamallapuram, participants interacted with traditional stone craftsmen and familiarized themselves with working on stone.

**Conservation Workshop for Chennai MCD**

Another 3 days Conservation Workshop was organized for Engineers/Officials of the Municipal Corporation of Chennai. It discussed issues and complexities related to structural engineering in conservation. It covered the notion of heritage and the approaches for valuing the past, and ‘Listing’ of historic buildings. The concept of Conservation Engineering was introduced in order to understand the assessment and conservation of a historic building from a structural engineering perspective.

**ASIA-EUROPE NETWORK OF URBAN HERITAGE**

IHA organized an International Experts’ Meeting and Public Forum on ‘Asia-Europe Network of Urban Heritage for Sustainable Creative Economies’ on 25th-27th October. It was aided by the Creative Networks of the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF).

Apart from all Network partners Europe Nostra, Netherland and INTACH, International Institute for the Inclusive Museum, Denmark; International National Trusts Organization, UK; Yangon Heritage Trust, Myanmar and a ASEF representative from Singapore, the meeting brought together a group of 30 heritage consultants, architects, urban economists and cultural commentators from various parts of India.

The subject was chosen through selection out of 50 proposals received for consideration. The objective was to discuss a framework for developing potential solutions linking creative economies with cultural heritage sites for the sustainable management of urban heritage; and finally to develop a tool-kit for all stakeholders including local communities and policy makers in order to take these approaches forward over the next year.

Member Secretary Dr. C.T. Misra extended a warm welcome to the participants; Principal Director Navin Piplani made the introductory remarks. The ensuing dialogue provided an opportunity to share the experiences and results of activities undertaken in different regions of Asia and Europe during the nascent first year of the Network. Future framework for developing solutions to link creative economies with cultural heritage sites and sustainable management of urban heritage were discussed. A tool-kit for stake holder, policy makers and communities were also considered to further the Network’s objectives. It entails identifying primary partners and assigning clear responsibilities during the coming year.

Deputy Director, Culture Department, ASEF Ms. Anupama Sekhar highlighted Case Studies from Asia and Europe. Others speaking at length during the two day sessions were Executive Director, International Institute for Inclusive...
Museum Dr. Amareswar Galla; Council Member of Europa Nostra Ms. Laurie Neale; INTO Director of Strategic Projects Geoffrey Read; and Director of Yangon Heritage Trust Ms. Moe Lwin. The Panel Discussion on Relevance of Creative Economy in Sustainable Development had Ashish Rajadhyaksha of the Centre for the Study of Culture and Society; Chairman Amit Kapoor of the Institute of Competitiveness; and Director Jagan Shah of the National Institute of Urban Affairs participating in interchanges.

Director IHA Navin Piplani summing up the proceedings said “this initiative synchronises very well with INTACH’s mission of conserving and preserving India’s heritage not only in its tangible and intangible aspects but by including the communities who are actual creators of our heritage”. Restoration and conservation on a silo basis, with academicians and practitioners maintaining an exclusive position, is only a half measure. INTACH’s attention is on communities who are the creators and stakeholders of our heritage, and the move should be directed towards embracing the community and providing the necessary support for sustaining their creative genius by enhancing their economic situation. The network has put INTACH in a pivotal position to share experience with international and domestic partners, and has thus opened another potentially productive channel for furthering the conservation cause.

Several recommendations and suggestions were given by the participating experts, the key ones:

- Developing the Asia-Europe Network of Urban Heritage for Sustainable Creative Economies website.
- Developing a framework for documentation of creative economies in the heritage cities of Asia and Europe.
- Publication of the activities undertaken by the Network in the first year.

IHA has prepared a special Field Book for Listing of Built Heritage for circulation to all Architecture Colleges by the Council of Architecture. The listing and documentation work will be undertaken by Colleges in collaboration with local and regional Chapters of INTACH.

News: Heritage Education (HECS)

ALL INDIA HERITAGE QUIZ

HECS also conducts Heritage Quiz, but these are designed for school children and conducted by Xpress Minds Edutainment. This year it was a mega competition as preliminary rounds were scheduled in over 100 cities involving 80 INTACH Chapters covering all State Capitals and Union Territories.

The semi finals and finals on 15th November at Doordarshan studios had 16 teams representing Sri Akillandeshwari Vidyalaya, Trichy; DAV School Chandrashekharpur, Bhubaneswar; St. Anthony Sr. Sec. School, Udaipur; KC Public School, Jammu; BVBPS Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad;...
Navrachna School, Sama, Vadodara; Sunbeam School, Bhagwanpur, Varanasi; Dayanand Public School, Shimla; Aishwarya Public School, Trivandrum; Dr. Y.S. Khedkar International School, Aurangabad; DPS Dhanbad; St. Joseph’s School, Darjeeling; Rastriya Indian Military College, Dehradun; Lourdes Central School, Mangalore; Krishna Public School, Raipur; and Shree Agrasen School Academy, Dibrugarh. The TV programme was produced by Ms. Saroj Sharma from DD Bharati.

Navrachna School, Sama, Vadodara; Sunbeam School, Bhagwanpur, Varanasi; Dayanand Public School, Shimla; Aishwarya Public School, Trivandrum; Dr. Y.S. Khedkar International School, Aurangabad; DPS Dhanbad; St. Joseph’s School, Darjeeling; Rastriya Indian Military College, Dehradun; Lourdes Central School, Mangalore; Krishna Public School, Raipur; and Shree Agrasen School Academy, Dibrugarh. The TV programme was produced by Ms. Saroj Sharma from DD Bharati.

TEACHERS TRAINING WORKSHOP

HECS organized a number of workshops for teachers during this quarter.

**Delhi 15th October**

Teachers from over 60 public and government schools of Delhi NCR attended this workshop. It sensitized them to the need for imparting knowledge about India’s craft traditions to students. They also participated in a hands-on craft session of *Santhali* organized by Happy Hands Foundation addressed by Shivani Modi from Craft Council, Madhavi Gandhi from Happy Hands Foundation, Ritu Sethi from Craft Revival, and Bindu Manchanda from INTACH. They were felicitated by Jaya Jaitly from Dastkar Samiti and Member Secretary Dr. C.T. Misra. The workshop also had sessions by Co-Convenor Delhi Chapter Dr. Swapna Liddle and Director Crafts Cell Bindu Manchanda. A short film, *Tanko Bole Che*, was screened.

A HECS publication *Adopt a Craft* was released by the Chief Guest on the occasion.

**Raipur, 17th-18th October**

The bilingual workshop (Hindi and English) held at J.N. Pande Bahudeshiya Vidyalaya was attended by 54 schools and 72 teachers. Convenor Raipur Chapter R.G. Bhave welcomed Chief Guest Saba Anjum, (past captain of the Indian Women’s Hockey team) who had figured as a ‘Living Icon’ in INTACH’s competition by that name. Dr. Atul Kumar Pradhan from Chhattisgarh State Archaeological Department spoke about some of the important archaeological sites of Raipur. State Convenor Lalit Surjan of Chhattisgarh Chapter, was the Chief Guest at the felicitation ceremony.
Tarighat archaeological site

A tour of the archaeological site Tarighat, Patan, Chhatisgarh revealed habitation right from the Mauryan period till the present day.

**Solapur, 7th-8th November**

A two day teacher training workshop was organized by Solapur Chapter and HECS in Mangla Vadhekar Institute for 52 teachers from 30 schools. It was conducted in English, Hindi and Marathi. Author and historian Dr. Nabha Kakade said heritage sites are gifts for society and it is thus responsibility of society to hand it over to the next generation. Chief Guest Kishor Chandak displayed some old stamps and letter collection on the inaugural day. Sholapur Co-Convener Shewta Kothawale gave a presentation on works undertaken by the Chapter including the listing, heritage awareness drives, visits and heritage walks conducted by the Chapter.

The architectural details, its history and stories associated with this 14th century fort of the Bahamani kingdom.

**Samba, 27th – 28th November**

A Teacher Training Workshop conducted mainly in Hindi and Dogri was organized on 27th-28th November at Samba near Jammu, attended by 65 teachers in collaboration with Convenor S. Sahni of Jammu Chapter. Prof. (Dr.) Lalit Gupta made a presentation on the heritage of Jammu and Kashmir. They were taken on a heritage visit to Purmandal one of the holy places located in Jammu District, 30 km. east of Jammu and referred to as ‘Chhota Kashi’. Situated on the banks of the Devika River its main attraction is the Purmandal Temple dedicated to ‘Umapati’ (Goddess Parvati). The significance of these temples lies in the frescoes on their walls.

**Allababad 19th and 20th December**

The Teacher Training Workshop held in Allahabad on 19th – 20th December was attended by 28 teachers from 17 schools at Delhi Public School, Allahabad on the first day and at Radcliffe School on the second day, conducted by HECS Programme Coordinator Abhishek Das. Justice Ajit Sithalekar as Chief Guest delivered an interesting talk about Allahabad, its history and lost charm, and gave away the certificates. Chapter Convenor Dr. Sunil Gupta and Co-Convenor Ms. Pragya spoke in detail about various INTACH activities and proposed plans regarding heritage activities in schools.

**Heritage Youth Volunteer Training, 5th December**

The Heritage Youth Volunteer Training for the undergraduate students of the University of Madras colleges, of over 50 students participating from 22 institutions in and around Chennai.

A heritage walk was conducted to the Solapur Fort conducted by historian and actor Despande, who had played a role in a drama named Janata Raja- Shivaji Maharaj. He explained...
Ten heritage walks were conducted for schools in complexes such as Mehrauli Archaeological Park, Humayun’s Tomb and Lodi Gardens. Four others were conducted in the National Museum focusing on galleries such as Ancient Period, Miniature Paintings, Coinage, Arms and Armoury.

**HERITAGE WALKS, DELHI**

Talk by Ms. Datt on India’s Heritage was followed by one on Intangible Heritage by the Founder and Managing Trustee of the Aseema Trust Ms. V.R. Devika. A 50 minute film on the history of Chennai was screened, with an introduction by Chennai Convenor, Sujatha Shankar. There was a brief presentation by Co-Convener Tara Murali on the history of the University of Madras which completed 157 years in 2014. She spoke on the restoration of Senate House by INTACH. The students were taken around the University to identify and learn about its Natural Heritage, conducted by Dr. Babu from the NGO, Nizhal. In the final session they learned about volunteerism and how they could make a difference by taking initiatives to safeguard, promote and spread awareness about different kinds of heritage.

**Heritage Week Celebrations, Delhi**

INTACH organized an innovative painting competition using recycled material for schools as part of World Heritage Week celebrations on 20th November. The competition was unique in a way as the students used only recycled materials to make their paintings/collages. They also wrote slogans advocating heritage awareness on Caring for Monuments, ‘Caring for Rivers’, ‘Caring for Endangered Animals’, etc. Dr. Narayani Gupta spoke about the uniqueness of Delhi and pointed out the immediate attention needed to save Delhi’s heritage. The event was attended by 120 students from 40 schools, both public and government schools including NDMC schools.
**Reis Magos Workshop, 30th Sept.–1st Oct.**

The workshop at the Reis Magos Fort, Goa for teachers and students on Goan heritage included sessions on music and cartoon making. The resource persons were of eminent personalities of Goa: Sanjeev V. Sardesai, Sujit Kumar Dongre, Roque D. Lazarus, San Antonio D’Mello and famous cartoonist Alexyz Fernandes. Roque D. Lazarus and San Antonio trained the students in the finer nuances of singing. In an interactive session they familiarized the students and teachers with the local Goan music and instruments, and the significance of music in daily Goan life. On the second day the cartoon making workshop was conducted by Alexyz Fernandes introducing students to the history of cartoon drawing.

**Reis Magos Fest: Songs of the Sea, 12th–13th December**

The two-day festival was conducted at the Reis Magos Fort at Goa for 44 teachers and 315 students in collaboration with the Goa State Chapter Convenor Fatima Da Silva Gracias. It was attended by Goa Co-Convenor Ian Alvares, Dr. Shobita Punja, Faisal Alkazi, Sanjeev Sardesai, Nashvin Gomes, Ms.
Eustacia Antonio, Jose Filip P. Braganza, Gerard Da Cunha and Roque Diogo Lazarus, San Antonio D’Mello of Taught to Teach Music School along with the representatives of the Helen Hamlyn Trust, UK. Everyone was given the Reis Magos Fest caps and badges. The Fort was festooned with colorful yellow and blue banners. On the first day a card and cartoon making competition was held with students at their creative best making beautiful cartoons, cards and charts. The second day was dedicated to the music competition with the students coming in colorful costumes and singing in the local languages Konkani, Portuguese, Hindi and English. Gerard Da Cunha, who restored the Reis Magos Fort over the years and rejuvenated it, congratulated everyone for participating in the Festival and helping to spread the heritage message among the younger generation. All winners were felicitated with trophies, certificates, caps and badges.

HERITAGE CLUB CHAIN

The DAV International School, Amritsar, that joined INTACH Heritage Club chain early this year celebrated October packed with a series of events. 2nd October Gandhi Jayanti was observed with a declamation, quiz and skit competition on the “Farther of the Nation”; not forgetting one of his major planks – a cleanliness drive targeting the Pink Plaza area of the city and exhorting others to do likewise. The Navrati Festival that followed had students dressed up in different characters of the Ramliila in a fancy dress competition. A poster and slogan writing competition on World Habitat Day, 6th October was organised to remind people that the homeless had the right to sufficient shelter. The International Day of the Girl Child on 11th October was observed with a series of similar competitions. The month concluded with a Rangoli competition on 21st October celebrating Diwali. The action packed month concluded with students and teacher visiting the first centre of Sikhism - Goidwal Sahib constructed by Guru Gobind Amar Dasji.

GOA-REIS MAGOS ART AND MUSIC FESTIVAL - SONGS OF THE SEA

SAVE ME
- VIDYA VIKAS ACADEMY

Walking down the beach
I hear the waves tell me stories
Some filled with joy and some of misery
So why can’t you and me
Listen to the oceans plea
Come together hand in hand
In a bit to make her happy
Can you hear her say…
Save me, save me, save me, save me
Save what is left of me
Show a little respect and let’s live in harmony.
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR

The Chapter has been long associated with programs for revival of performing arts. Convenor Samhita Veda Acharya writes about the Ghazal and Sufi revival program conducted with Parashar Joshi from Pune who is part of the Rabmania band dedicated to AR Rehman classics. A series of Kathak workshops were also conducted with the support of Department of Arts and Culture inviting Seema Mehta from Mumbai's Chandam Nritya Bharati, and artistes Seema Mehta and Debashree Bhattacharya from Kolkata. A performance of Sundeep Banerjee from Mumbai, a disciple of Begum Akhtar, attracted over 2000 people. It is interesting to know that Andaman & Nicobar Islands has a history of Ghazal and Quwwali culture since most pre-1942 localities are inhabited by descendants of Muslim freedom fighters and Hindu political prisoners from North India.

On 23rd November the Chapter organized a similar Ghazal and Sufi Revival show in connection with World Heritage Week, jointly with the Department of Culture and Tourism under the aegis of A&N Administration and support of Indian Oil Corporation.

ANDHRA PRADESH

East Godavari

Convenor Sesha Kumari shared good news that the Commissioner of Higher Education approved introduction of a Certificate Course in two dying art forms - Leather Puppet Dhow and Tappeta Gullu - at a Meeting of the College Body Committee of which INTACH Convenor is a Member. The Chapter is helping the Committee in documenting folk art history and guiding students along with seasoned artists. The Commissioner has given similar directions to other autonomous colleges in Andhra.

A Skill and Capacity Building Workshop was held 15th-16th November at Surya Kalamandir, Kakinada for college students with a flair for music and folk arts. The folk dance Tappeta Gullu lacks patronage due to the impact of cinema and TV culture. Practiced by cowherds and based on Ramayana and Mahabharata mythology, the music had its own rhythmic sounds derived from dried leaves and berries basically to

Please Note: All Convenors are requested to update addresses and all contact details of their Members and send to Chapters Division, Delhi, at the earliest.
ward off wild animals from attacking their cattle. Over the years leaves were replaced with cone shaped discs from fish bone and native songs were sung. The Chapter organized a Tappeta Gullu programme at the recent Beach Festival organized by the District Administration. Co-Convenor Vedula V.L.N. Murthy visited 18 colleges and enlisted 48 nominated students who took an oath to teach ten other students. For this daunting task the Chapter discovered a much travelled resource person Kavisri K. Sanyasi Rao who has given countless programmes overseas as well sponsored by the AP Ministry of Culture. The group was thrilled when invited to perform at a Garden Party hosted by the AP Tourism Department with District Collector cum INTACH Chairman gracing the occasion.

Kurnool

Convenor B. Venkateswarlu reports on the Swatchh Bharat programme undertaken by the Chapter at Kalva village of Orvakal Mandal, on a 1 acre Pushkarini that has beautiful sculptures of Krishnadevaraya period. From 18th-20th October the Convenor and Co-Convenor Osman Haroon along with Life Members, local villagers and youth participated in this programme, not to forget JCB Driver Chinna who cleaned roof level mandapas. This heritage acre also has the ancient temple of Sri Ramalingeshwara Swamy. The Pushkarini was once a centre for diamonds and jewels, and from festivals Ugadi to Shivaratri local people thronged the grand utsavams when all the mandapams were beautifully decorated.

HYDERABAD

The Hyderabad, Telangana and Gulbarga Chapters joined hands to support the Go Heritage Run organized by GoUNESCO in association with the Bidar District Heritage Committee on 1st-2nd November. Its founder Ajay Reddy clarifies it is distinct from a marathon in many ways as it is centred around monuments and heritage structures. Moreover it is not competitive but a recreational event with families also participating. GoUNESCO experience of heritage runs at sites like Hampi is well known since the last...
3 years. It is indeed a popular way of putting lesser known sites on the tourist map, and will create more interest in conservation of lesser known destinations.

The most interesting feature of this GoUNESCO run is the ‘caveat hunt’ in which ‘explorers’ walk through the *Karez*, a network of 15th century underground aqueducts built by the Bahmani kings. The caves are so big that some aqueducts have air vents and perhaps horsemen rode through them once upon a time. It is not widely known that *Karez* systems exist in other Indian cities also. Deputy Commissioner cum INTACH Convenor of the Heritage Committee PC Jaffer reiterated full support for such projects that create public awareness involving people and students.

The Chapter organized a Heritage Walk from Salar Jung Museum to Badshahi Ashur Khana, Shadullah Naqshbandi and Masjid-e-Shaikh ji Hali under the guidance of Dr. Anand Raj Varma on 13th December.

Convenor S. Elias Reddy sent details and photographs of the week long programme organized last quarter by the Chapter on World Tourism Day.

**Machilipatnam**

Convenor Tikkisetty Rama Mohana Rao presided over the *World Heritage Day* celebrated at the local Sri Rama Krishna Public School. Chief Guest Municipal Chairman M.V. Baba Rao appreciated the activities and services of INTACH; and commended the School for having started the first Heritage Club and hoped other schools would follow the example.

The Convenor stressed on the importance of learning about culture and environment, and the importance of tourism. The students were taken on an educative tour of the 400 years old *Siv Ganga Temple*, historic monuments, Dutch Cemetery,
armoury godown, the lighthouse and the mangrove forest in buses flying the Machilipatnam Municipality flag. They learned for example that the boat building industry in Gilakaladini fishing harbor dated back to the 2nd century. Students also visited Pedana and learnt about the famous Kalamkari art industry, the weaving and colour printing on cloth.

Srikakulam

The Chapter participated in a cultural meet organized by the Pydah Degree College of Visakhapatnam inviting Convenor Dusi Dharma Rao as the Chief Guest. He spoke on the ancient history and culture of the region with a north Andhra folk songs.

On 24th November Heritage Week was celebrated at the Bapuji Kalamandir municipal auditorium with a daylong seminar for college students, inaugurated by MLA Gunda Lakshmi Devi. She assured Government’s full support for INTACH activities. A number of eminent scholars and NGO Directors enlightened the students on varied subjects of cultural heritage of the District including its flora and fauna, folk arts, jute industry, Buddhist remains in North Andhra, etc. A violin jugalbandi concert concluded the event as a tribute to maestro Dwaram Vekataswamy Naidu and sponsored by INTACH Members Dr. K. Ammanaidu and Dr. Nikku Appanna. The Addl. Joint Director P. Rajanikantharao and other senior officials attended; and also Heritage Club students and their teachers.

Convener receiving the MLA Smt. Gunda Lakshmi Devi

Convenor Dharma Rao has compiled a book comprising 81 essays Rasatharangini on intangible cultural heritage – the language and literature, music, dance, drama, painting and folk arts in vernacular Telugu language. Released by the Director Centre for Policy Studies Prof. A. Prasanna Kumar, a former Rector of Andhra University, the function was presided by Prof. Smt. K. Malayavasini at the prestigious Kalabharathi auditorium. Many literary organizations, NGOs and a cross

Convener Dharma Rao Dusi and Principal Pydah Krishnaprasad with dancer Ch. Rajani

Prof. Prasanna Kumar releasing the book

Prof. Prasanna Kumar felicitating Shri Gollapudi Maruthi Rao
section of people attended including movie writer cum actor Gollapudi Maruthi Rao and philanthrophist M.V. Ramana graced the occasion.

BIHAR

Shri Arun Kumar Prabhat is appointed as the Additional Co-Convenor of the Bihar Chapter.

The State Chapter organized the National Heritage Week from 15th-22nd November concluding with a Ganges River Walk subsequently. Co-Convenor D.K. Baxi visited the heritage village of Mura at Murgaon 65 kms from Patna in Jahanabad District for the documentation of heritage sites of Chandragupta era. Murgaon is also called Bymura after Chandragupta’s mother. From here Chanakya went to Takshila in 324 BC with Chandragupta. Chapter Members went on a heritage walk to the Chanakya Cave at Patna. Bihar has many heritage places like Vaishali, Patliputra and the Nalanda University where the State Chapter hopes to open INTACH Chapters.

The Chapter participated in the National Conference on Vision organized by the Indian Building Congress and Bihar State Building Construction Co. Ltd. on 12th-13th November.

CHANDIGARH

A unique initiative of the Chapter was Saanjhi Sham at Burri Jail, inviting High Court Judge Hemant Kumar as the Chief Guest to this musical evening. Chapter Advisor K.K. Sharma was the Guest of Honour at what turned out to be not only...
a unique occasion but a scintillating one with some of the inmates also performing. Several judges, senior officials and dignitaries attended along with the 700 odd convicts who thoroughly enjoyed the special evening. A reward of Rs. 21,000 was given to the jail inmates.

CHHATTISGARH

Sarguja

The Chapter celebrated 70th Rajiv Gandhi Jayanti as Sadbhavana Day in memory of the Founder Chairman of INTACH. Convener O.P. Aggarwal and Co-Convenor Dr. Sachin Mandilwar along with Chapter Members and students planted 70 saplings at the Gangapur village near Sarguja.

RAIPUR

The Chapter jointly with the School of Studies in Geology & WRM and the Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University organized a national workshop on the Traditional Water Conservation System and its importance in urban perspective. It was chaired by INTACH Chairman LK Gupta. Prominent resource persons from different parts of the country were invited. Dr. T.V. Ramachandra from the Centre for Ecological Studies Bengaluru made a detailed presentation on the Need to Reinstate Indigenous Water Harvesting Techniques to Mitigate Water Famine.

Representatives from Raipur Development Authority, Department of Town and Country Planning, State Urban Development Authority, civil engineers and architects from various companies attended. The important issue of water also attracted a tremendous response from different academicians and subject experts. A complete volume of presentations made at the workshop is under compilation of the Chapter.

DELHI

Convenor A.G.K. Menon objected to the sacrilegious use of 3D laser at India Gate currently under consideration of the Central Public Works Department. The project involves 3D mapping of heritage monuments from all States, picking one a day for projecting on the India Gate. Shri Menon says “India Gate is a war memorial. We have the tomb of the unknown soldiers”. India Gate is already a much visited central place surrounded by Luytens signature buildings. While applauding the concept in general Menon feels Delhi has so many other locations like Connaught Place which could be considered by the Tourism Ministry for this programme.
DHARAMPURA, A HERITAGE SHOWPIECE

Dharampura in Delhi’s ancient Chandni Chowk was once declared a ‘dangerous building’ by the Municipal Corporation. It was recently shown to a UNESCO delegation for evaluation as part of Delhi’s bid to be enlisted as a World Heritage City. Spread over 500 square yards a Rajya Sabha MP Vijay Goel took up the renovation work with the support of Heritage India Foundation four years ago. The original 60 small rooms have been converted into 14 guest rooms, and under completion are a restaurant, museum, handicraft shops and a bookstore. The Delhi Government is making every effort to revive Shahjahanabad and to encourage owners of nearly 700 havelis in that area to preserve and similarly reuse their property. Hopefully multi-storied building will not trespass on the conservation oriented plans.

TOXIC CAPITAL?

Almost a quarter of Delhi’s population, who have no access to piped water of the Delhi Jal Board, are at serious risk from unchecked contaminated water. The High Court pulled up the civic agencies for failing to clean up drains which it said were slowly poisoning the city’s rapidly shrinking ground water reserves. “You have killed the arteries and lungs of the city. How will civilization survive if you don’t have water and oxygen?” the Court asked. In fact all cities need a consolidated master plan for water and drainage managements and more importantly constant monitoring of civic works.

CONDOLENCES

With much grief INTACH announces the demise of Life Member Shri Govind Hari Singhania of J.K. Organisation on 2nd October. He was a prominent educationist and a committed Member who made a significant contribution to INTACH’s foundation in its early days. He was past President of ASSOCHAM and many other prestigious business organizations. May he rest in everlasting peace.

INTACH sends its heartfelt condolences to his son Abhishekk and all members of his family at this time of grievous loss and sorrow. Our good wishes will always be with them.

HARYANA

Ambala

The World Heritage Week celebration culminated on 26th November with about 500 children from 25 schools assembled for a heritage walk and painting competition from St. Paul’s Church and terminating at the Patel Park. Convenor Brig.

Heritage Walk, 26th November

Painting Competition

G.S. Lamba walked with the students pointing out that the church was bombarded during the 1965 war. The Yamuna Nagar Convenor Maj. R.S. Bhatti talked about the Indus Valley civilization site that covers a larger area than the more famous Mohenjodaro and Harappa and even predates
Co-Convenor Siddhartha Gauri was invited as a delegate to the World Buddhist Conference held at Lumbini on 15th-18th November, organized by related organizations from Nepal and Myanmar with India.

HIMACHAL PRADESH

Kangra

Convenor L.N. Aggarwal and Co-Convenor Rishi Kumar met Vice Chairman Mankotia of Himachal Tourism Development to discuss heritage tourism circuits in the State. He responded positively to the request for funding restoration and renovation work of St. John Church in Dharamsala.

Mandi

Shri Naresh Mahlotra is appointed as the Convenor of the newly established Mandi Chapter. He will be assisted by Shri Anil Sharma as the appointed Co-Convenor of the Chapter.

JAMMU & KASHMIR

Shri Hemant Kumar Sharma is appointed as the Co-Convenor of the Jammu Chapter.

Ladakh

The Chapter organized a two day workshop on Mud Construction Practices of Ladakh on 30th-31st October at the Pura Gompa, at Igoo 45 kms north of Leh city. The MD Kiran Vaghela, Hunnarhala Foundation for Building Technology and Innovation, founded in the wake of the 2001 Bhuj earthquake, was invited to brief and guide the participating masons. The workshop aimed to facilitate community-driven, artisan-led construction in post disaster areas. It also covered modern construction methods for development of cities and informal settlements. Practical work like determining the percentage of sand and clay was carried out on site with soils from Basgo, Basgo-Gompa, Igloo, Shey and Markalaga (white clay) to determine their quality.

Ms. Akshita Raina from Central Office Listing Cell attended the workshop. She reported that the Chapter has completed the work in the Ladakh region sanctioned by Ford Foundation Grant to conserve endangered craft traditions and cultural
resources of Ladakh. A *Conservation Manual* for traditional building repair and restoration to the original texture and shape with local materials, has been compiled based on practical experience of restoring local architectural structures and artifacts with the technical experience of Central Office. It has also tried to present in a concise manner centuries old verbal knowledge of construction keeping in mind the basic needs of the local community.

**JHARKHAND**

**Hazaribagh**

The book *Antiquarian Remains of Jharkhand* by Convenor Bulu Imam was formally released by the Governor of Jharkhand Dr. Syed Ahmed at Raj Bhawan on 12th November.

The Chapter conducted two very interesting Heritage Walks in the month of October. Convenor Bulu Imam gave a talk at the Tourist Information Centre on the local art heritage of Hazaribagh villages and the archaeological sites in its photo gallery. In November Bulu Imam gave another talk with reference to tribal art to a group of nearly 100 students from Delhi Public School, Ranchi on a heritage visit of the Sanskriti Museum, Art Centre and Tourist Information Centre. It has a photo gallery of the cultural heritage sites of Hazaribagh. The students were escorted by Vinod Kumar and Justin Imam of Sanskriti to also see local heritage sites.
The Folk Museum in Mysore located at the 1905 heritage Jayalakshmi Vilas Mansion in the sprawling campus of the Mysore University is described as the gangotri of rich folk art culture of Karnataka. It was a former Director of Kannada Studies D.Javare Gowda and Prof. HM Nayak who initiated the idea of a folklore museum. Field work was undertaken by experts Professor of Folklore JS Paramashivaiah and well known artist P R Thippeswamy for setting up of this first of its kind museum. Exhibits on display have costumes, toys, masks, and also cover the two main traditions of folk theatrical Thenku Thittu and Badaga Thittu as well as performing traditions of Kerala Kathakali and Tamilnadu Therukoothu. There are string instruments like the kinnari of the Jogis, the choudike and tamburi of the Tatwa Pada; percussion and wind instruments like the jappana gane, kombu and pungi, etc. Also to be seen are household utensils; temple objects, farming and other implements and measures used by village communities; household baskets, lamps, clothing, cradles and war weapons. Dolls and puppets, images of gods and goddesses are part of this outstanding collection of over 10,000 artifacts. Not to be missed are collections related to well known literary personalities of Karnataka.

**Dharwad**

Convenor N.P. Bhatt is setting up a Museum at Dharwad, the first of its kind to be formally inaugurated in the new year. Director ICI Bengaluru Madhu Rani accompanied by Coordinator Payal Joshi visited Dharwad on 22nd-24th December to assist in compiling a project proposal for submission to the Ministry of Culture for consideration under their Museum Grant.

**Kerala**

**Calicut**

Convenor K. Mohan was recognised as the Best Tourist Guide 2009-10 awarded by the Department of Tourism, Kerala. He has been making a sustained effort to highlight the cultural assets and practices of the State.
**Nizamabad**

Former state Co-Convenor M. Vedakumar succeeded in drawing attention of the District Administration to the heritage sites of Nizamabad District Chapter of which there are many – Kowlaspoor, Bodhan, Balakonda, Faridpur Fort, Sanabi Tombs, Raghunaha Swamy Temple, Ramalayam Temple, the Qilla, etc. Collector P.S. Pradyumna who is also the Chapter Patron addressed officers of the Revenue and Education Departments on the subject. The Administration has promptly started work on the listing and documentation.

**Thrissur**

Thrissur is considered the cultural capital of Kerala. A very successful *Heritage Listing Workshop* was conducted by architects and teachers on behalf of the Chapter, an important step forward to ensure some Protected Zones for preserving heritage assets of the city.

The Indian Institute of Architects, Thrissur Urban Development Authority and Thrissur Corporation partnered the Chapter and hosted the *Thrissur Next* event from 20th–26th November. The discussion on the *History and Growth of Thrissur* was followed up on subsequent days with traffic issues and *How to Make Thrissur a Pedestrian Friendly City*. The tale of many cities!

A four-day workshop on *International Urban Design* was also held in November, a part of the *Thrissur Next* chain of events, of which the Chapter is an associate. It was conducted by reputed urban designers like Rajeev Katahpalia and K.T. Ravinadran, Jon T. Lang from Australia and Chi Ti-Nan from Taiwan.

**Vijayapura**

Bijapur is now officially called by its ethnic name *Vijayapura*. The Chapter participated in the *Kala Sante* (art bazaar) organized jointly with the Karnataka State Women University, the Fair Trade Forum-India, the Sahakari Bank, Geetanjali Model School, Chaitanya Mahila Cooperative
Bank, and Karnataka Department of Tourism at Sabala Campu, Vijayapur to mark World Heritage Week. This very imaginative celebration of unique crafts was inaugurated by Minister M.B. Patil alongside former Minister Culture Leela Prasad. A number of eminent Chief Guests and Speakers were invited to address the gathering on each day like the Minister for Irrigation, Vice Chancellor Karnataka Women University, Development Commissioner Handicrafts, BEO Urban Deptt. of Education and the Additional DC Vijyapura among others. The crafts bazaar had products from various States like UP, Rajasthan, Orissa, Gujarat, West Bengal, Maharashtra and Puducherry. Cultural shows, experimental theatre and workshop on women empowerment through skill development were scheduled and addressed by eminent Speakers. Of added interest were the Banjara dance and Janapada songs typically from Karnataka. Specially to be mentioned, there was a spiritual talk by a four year old girl Advaita Badigar.

There were popular demonstrations in terracotta including clay jewelry making by Ullaskar Dey, and a Ramayana monologue in local dialect by renowned theater artiste D. Saraswati. Convenor Krishna Kolhar Kulkarni is congratulated for turning to art after so many of his educational initiatives and historical pursuits.

MADHYA PRADESH

Gwalior

An Exhibition of National Stamps and Coins was held at the Kala Veethika, Padaw from 16th-18th November, inaugurated by Chief Guest Commissioner Ajay Gupta. The Chapter has periodically held this educative exhibition in collaboration with the local Stamps and Coins Club, and it invariably attracts a large number of visitors. Chairman of the Sabodya Samiti Rajeshwari Sawant was invited as the Chief Guest on the concluding day of the exhibition.

Jabalpur

State Convenor Dr. H.B. Maheshwari ‘Jaisal’ also mentions a very successful heritage walk conducted by the Chapter.
Convenor R.K. Sharma organised three major events in November well in advance of Heritage Week. Many school children participated in a Painting Competition on 14th November, Children’s Day, the birth anniversary of India’s first Prime Minister Pandit Nehru.

In collaboration with the State Government of Education and the Mahila Crime Wing of the Police, a free for all ages (6-86) painting competition was also held on the theme Mera Bachpan. Over 2000 people gathered with paint and paper to recapture some of their childhood recollections. Collector S.N. Ruia and IPS officer Smt. P.R. Srivasta addressed the audience at this unique get-together.

Another major event was an Exhibition commemorating the First World War. Its centenary was marked with a Photo Exhibition arranged by the Chapter in the Cultural Hall of Rani Durgavati Museum on 15th November.

Khandwa

Ms. Madhuri Sharma is appointed as the Convenor of the newly established Khandwa Chapter. She will be assisted by Shri Ram Vallabh Pandey as the newly appointed Co-Convenor of the Chapter.

Mandla

The District Administration celebrated Balidan Diwas chaired by Chief Guests Tribal Welfare Minister Gyansingh and MP Faggan Singh representing the Akhil Bhartiya Adiwasi Development Council. All educational institutions in Mandla paid homage to freedom fighters and nationalists from 1857-1947.

In collaboration with the State Government of Education and the Mahila Crime Wing of the Police, a free for all ages (6-86) painting competition was also held on the theme Mera Bachpan. Over 2000 people gathered with paint and paper to recapture some of their childhood recollections. Collector S.N. Ruia and IPS officer Smt. P.R. Srivasta addressed the

Mumbai

Vice Chairman Tasneem Mehta made a presentation at the Round Table Conference held 13th-15th October organized by the British Council in Kolkata. Representatives of various pan India museums, UK representatives and officials participated in the discussions centering on Britain and India collaborations in the field of museums and other cultural and
heritage structures. The British Council has already worked with major Indian museums by providing training in areas like audience mapping, collection management, educational programs and public communication. It has embarked on a research project to enhance museum thinking, policy and practice in both countries. It would create greater opportunities for funding, sponsorship and partnerships, and enhance the involvement of people in museum culture.

The Chapter invited Film maker, archivist and restorer Shivendra Singh Dungarpur to give a public lecture on Indian Cinema as part of its World Heritage Week celebrations from 19th-25th November. He highlighted the contradictory reality between cinema’s mass popularity and the loss of moving image legacy. He said his research and understanding led him to establish the Film Heritage Foundation. Award winning conservation architect Vikas Dilwara led an enthusiastic group on a Heritage Walk from Gateway of India adding snippets of little known facts about the city’s heritage like the external cast iron of Watson Hotel having been shipped from England, how Sir Cowasji Jejigir earned the sobriquet Readymoney, how British architect Sir George Gilbert Scott designed the Bombay University without even coming to India!

Workshops were also conducted for adults as well like 3D paper cut conducted by artist Nibha Sikander. There was a photo walk through Byculla led by travel photographer Mayank Soni as it has some places of special interest like the Byculla Market, Moti Masjid, Regal Bakery, Jewish buildings, Hanuman Temple, Gloria Church, Rani Bagh - a typical amalgam of the cosmopolitan ambience of the city.

A series of Public Lectures through Oct-December is another major feature of the Chapter's activities. Varied subjects like Angelo da Fonseca: Indian Modernist by Dr. Rupert Arrowsmith; The Arts of Memory by Prof. John Mack; Dr. George Birdwood, the First Curator of Victoria Museum by Dr. Vijaya Gupchup; Rediscovering Raghubir Singh by Ram Rahman; and The Classical and Monumental in Indian Sculpture by Dr. Annapurna Garimella were very interesting.

The Mumbai Chapter has the unique locational advantage of the Bhau Daji Lal Museum (BDLM) also headed by a dynamic INTACH Convenor. She created two exhibitions titled The Doubled Frame: Interrogating Identity tracing the genealogy of the Museum’s model and diorama collection. The second lecture was on Location of Culture, the title derived from Dr. Homi Baba’s seminal text with Convenor Tasneem Mehta inviting artist Archana Hande to respond to the thesis. The latter is known for her PIO/Bharat ke Log creating contemporary narratives using assemblages, figurines and charts to indicate how we are still chained to stereotypes.

The National Streets for Performing Arts (NSPA) uses the BDLM Plaza for many folk shows for the public to revive culture with public performances that supports the livelihood of artistes.
**Nashik**

Shri Shailesh K. Devi is appointed as Convenor of the revived Nashik Chapter. He will be assisted by Ms. Ritu N Sharma as the newly appointed Co-Convenor of the Chapter.

**MIZORAM**

The Chapter submitted a proposal to the Mizoram Government to notify all the existing heritage structures and buildings within the Assam Rifles Cantonment under the Mizoram Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act 2001. At its initiative 36 built heritage were notified bringing the total to 84 protected sites in Mizoram. The Chapter also succeeded in saving the Post Office at Tiabung from demolishment. A passion project is the notification of megaliths at Vangchhia in Chamhai District which the Chapter considers of 'national importance'.

A number of heritage tours to villages in the eastern belt of the State such as North Vanlaiaphai, Lungchhuan, Sailulak, Chawngtlai, Riangtlee were organized resulting in useful interactions with the village councils and some NGO functionaries.

The Heritage Walk in Aizwal on 31st October attracted many Members and over 120 students with their teachers.

**NAGALAND**

The Chapter celebrated *World Environment Day* by distributing tree saplings at three colonies around Dimapur. Convenor Sentila Yanger accompanied by some Members visited two schools and gave a talk on *Heritage Conservation*. The winners of the *My Living Icon* competition were awarded on the occasion.

**ODISHA**

State Convenor AB Tripathy writes about the Philatelic Exhibition held last quarter when 4 commemorative covers

![British Cemetery before restoration](image1)

![Release of First Day Covers](image2)

![State Chapter Convenors' Meet](image3)

![First Day Cover](image4)

Convenor Himanshu Das informed that on the occasion of the Chapter’s Foundation Day, the British Cemetery was inaugurated after restoration by the Chapter. The Chapter has started bringing out a bulletin *Parampara* edited by Shri Banchhanidhi.
Bhadrapur

The 17th General Body of the Chapter met on 19th October under the chairmanship of Advisor Prof. Dr. Sanatan Mohanty to discuss various aspects of the Chapter’s activities. Keeping youth in mind, it was decided to organize a seminar on the Role of Youth in Nation Building for school and college level students; and also hold Debate and Art Competitions. For public awareness it was decided to participate in the district level Book Fair; and to felicitate folk artistes as well as winners of various student competitions at the Chapter’s Annual Function early next year.

The first volume of *Heritage Wonders of Bhadrak* translated into Odia language has been followed up with the second volume covering the omitted sites. It is proposed to distribute both compilations free of cost to a cross section of the civil society including PRI members for creating greater heritage awareness among the public.

Ganjam

The Chapter organised a day long interaction session during the last quarter attended by State Convenor AB Tripathy and Advisor Anant Mahapatra along with dignitaries and associates.

Mayurbhanj

The Chapter held a series of Heritage Awareness Meetings during this quarter. Most of the students of four Government Girls High Schools located at Asanjoda, Ranibhole, Bhanjapur and Baripada are from tribal backgrounds. They and the teachers took a keen interest in the awareness meetings. Indian tribal heritage is one of the richest heritage we have and needs to be fully valued and treasured. Convenor Dr. Prabodh Kumar Mishra informs that Co-Convenor P.K. Mohanty and many Chapter Members fully participated in these meetings and highlighted local cultural
assets, monuments and the natural heritage of Mayurbhanj. In order to evoke more interest and greater participation by students various competitions in drawing, painting and quiz were also held simultaneously.

**Sambalpur**

**CONDOLENCES**

Life Member Shri Gangadhar Padhee passed away on 22nd October at the age of seventy seven. Fondly known as Munia among his close circle, he was an active INTACH Member till the last with a great love for art, antiquity and heritage. An engineer by profession, he contributed considerably to the deliberations on restoration of historical structures in the vicinity of Sambalpur and western Odisha as a whole. The Chapter has lost one of its most valued Member.

INTACH sends its deeply felt condolences to the Padhee Family at this time of great grief. We pray they will find strength and solace in remembering his valuable contribution to society. We also send our good wishes for their future.

**PUDUCHERRY**

Shri Ashok Panda is appointed as Co-Convenor of the Puducherry Chapter. Shri A.K. Das and Shri Arul A are appointed as the two Additional Co-Convenors of the Chapter. The late Convenor Ajit Koujalgi will be missed for a long time.

**PUNJAB**

Shri Sawinder Singh is appointed as the new Co-Convenor of the Punjab State Chapter.

**Amritsar**

The Chapter celebrated Heritage Week with a Paper Reading Competition for school students and teachers. A *Virasat Exhibition* was held at the Satya Bharti Senior Secondary School, Fattuveela in the rural area of Amritsar District on 25th November. Teachers and students from eleven schools participated in the event presided by Principal Vohra with the Sarpanch of the village attending. It was part of the rural awareness effort launched by State Convenor Dr. Sukdev Singh.

**Malerkotla**

Convenor Dr. Salim Mohammed released a historical souvenir on *Malerkotla Heritage* at the local exhibition organized by the Chapter at the Malerkotla Club on 14th November, inaugurated by Sub-Divisional Magistrate Amit Kumar Bambi along with Convenor Sukhdev Singh. There were photographs of former Malerkotla nawabs, local monuments, official papers, stamps, courtly documents, royal firmans, and letters received from other Punjab regions. The great crowd pullers were a variety of coins of India dating back 2700 years as well as royal belongings and artifacts of cultural value. It was thronged by a very enthusiastic crowd of intellectuals, architects, teachers and students from colleges and schools.

**Sambalpur**

SDM Amit Kumar Bambi viewing the historic Maler Kotla photographs

Students at exhibition of coins
Jodhpur

Life Member Dr. Subhash Purohit has received the Membership of the International Council of Monuments and Sites, UK. He is also the Chairman of the Jodhpur Municipal Corporation.

Karauli

Shri H.H. Krishna Chandra Pal is appointed Convenor of the newly established Chapter at Karauli, Rajasthan. He will be assisted by Shri Shivraj Pal Singh Rao appointed as the Co-Convenor of the Chapter.

Tamil Nadu

Coimbatore

Convenor Babaji Bhonsle presided over the inauguration of an exhibition on Brihhadisvara Temple, highlighting the monument and its living traditions. It was inaugurated by the eminent archaeologist Dr. R. Nagaswamy at the Sri Purandaradasar Kalaiarangam on 15th November, and supported by the Indira Gandhi National Centre, Bengaluru.

Kodaikanal

On completion of listing of the heritage buildings and sites, the Chapter had made detailed architectural drawings of some of the important heritage structures. The entire work is thanks to dedicated researchers and volunteers, both residents and non-residents. It seems to have also been a work of love judging from the beautiful publication Kodaikanal – Vanishing Heritage of an Island in the Sky published by the Chapter, a copy of which was received at Central Office. It is dedicated to the pioneers who established Kodaikanal and to its founders - the ancient people who made these hills their home. And also dedicated to the protectors who have striven to preserve this unique man-made heritage in the Palni Hills. May such people multiply!

Convenor Sunayana Choudhry and her INTACH team members are congratulated for this book. It will hopefully inspire all residents to preserve the green beauty of this 1845 “happily-ever-after town” as stated in the Foreword of the book.

Chairman L.K. Gupta in his message drew attention to this ‘island in the sky’ which has a long and interesting history of people and places. The book encapsulates the commitment of the Chapter to safeguard its pristine heritage.

Madurai

The Chapter organized a number of imaginative programmes through the year. It started with the Heritage Home Hunt (H3) conceived by Members Rajesh Kanna and Jayesh Mehta triggering visits to a 100 heritage homes in Madurai and the neighbouring districts of Virudhunagar, Theni, Dindigul and
Sivagangai. Members attended a talk on Palaeolithic sites in Athirambakkam, Soan Valley, Kurnool and Narmada Valley. The Chapter has an on-going programme to inculcate a sustained sense of pride and responsibility among people for the upkeep of their own heritage properties.

After much visited Meenakshi Temple, Madurai identity is the legendary River Vaigai associated with Lord Shiva and his divine sports. Alas, what remains today is more like a sewage drain clogged with solid wastes and chemical effluents - a scar on the face of this temple town. Encouraged by the successful decade long rejuvenation of the Noyyal River in Coimbatore by NGO Siruthali in September, the Chapter invited its Managing Trustee to help in rejuvenating Madurai’s water resources.

The Chapter has brought out a set of souvenirs designed by S. Veejay of Urumi, Chennai that have chosen themes like fragrant Madurai Malli, a legendary character Annagi of the Tamil epic Silapathikaram, etc. with narratives unique to the city.

**Nagercoil**

Convenor Dr. RS Lal Mohan informs that the Report on the Temple Tanks of Kanyakumari District was given to Minister Shri Radhakrishnan who assured the Chapter that it would be forwarded to the Department of HR&CE along with the recommendations of the Commissioner. He was accompanied by Co-Convenor Dr. Sumithra Raghuvaran at the meeting for presenting this commendable and detailed listing of the temple tanks. They thank the Asst, Commissioner Dewasam Board Gnana Sekar, its Engineer S. Rajkumar, Director Vivek Lab Dr. S.R. Srinivasan Kannan and Rekha Neelakanda Pillai of the Conservation of Nature Trust, whose assistance greatly facilitated the compilation of this status report.

Nearly sixty temple tanks of Kanyakumari like Chettikulam, Kasiviswanathar, etc. were once an integral part of religious institutions and looked after by Dewasams concerned. Construction activity and the apathy of law enforcing authorities destroyed most of these precious ground water resources. Subsequently bathing and cleaning clogged most of the other inlets and outlets resulting in water stagnation and harmful pollution.

The Chapter conducted a Heritage Walk on 11th November to a number of heritage buildings with the participation of nearly 100 people. Of special interest are the former palace of Travancore Maharaja in the Collectorate and the
school established by Peatrice Duthie in 1819. Some other landmarks are the 1919 District Court, a 1929 school named after Sethulekshmi Bai of Travancore kingdom. Other places of historic interest are former Dewan Sir CP Ramaswamy Iyer Park, the 1893 Clock Tower brought from England, the 1886 Church built with funds from the London Mission Society to which the Rani of Travancore also contributed, and the Iken Hall funded by a Missionary from Tasmania (Australia). Members of Mathar Sangam, Inner View Club and Rotary Club participated in the walk.

**Nilgiris**

The “NMR Day” was celebrated at the Ooty Railway Station in October with the cutting of cake. It may be recalled that the Nilgiri Mountain Railway (NMR) is recognized as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Tourists including many foreigners were greeted at the station with garlands and sweets.

Convenor Geetha Srinivasan, as the Secretary of the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, organized the *Swathi Tirunal Isai Vizh* jointly with the All India Radio. She recalled the special relations between her grandfather former Dewan of Travancore CP Ramaswamy Aiyer and the royal *Chitra Tirunal* Rama Varma. Shri Rama Varma enthralled the audience with the works of his royal ancestor and great music composer.

Under the chairmanship of Convenor Srinivasan the Rotary Club organised the *Nirbhaya Seminar* on violence against the girl child. Many eminent speakers from various disciplines spoke to a large audience of teachers and students to sensitise them on this issue which is increasingly grabbing national headlines.

**WILDLIFE AND NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE NILGIRIS**

The book on *Wildlife and Natural Resources of the Nilgiris* by AC Soundarajan was released at the Nilgiri Library by Life Member Dr. MR Srinivasan, former Chairman Atomic Energy Commission. There are many interesting snippets of information, about the author’s personal interactions with officials and conservationists. His many interventions in conservation of wildlife and natural resources over a period of 30 tireless years offer some solutions as well. Above all it is a record of critical issues that are vital to the conservation of the Blue Mountains.

Convenor Geeta Srinivasan affirms this book needs to be a part of every library in the Nilgiris and translated into Tamil so that it is widely read by all including the rural schools.

**TELANGANA**

Co-Convenor Telengana Anuradha Reddy drew attention of the Governor regarding the unsuitable intervention being carried out at the 100 years old Assembly Building in Hyderabad. This City Hall was a gift by the citizens to the sixth Nizam Mahbub Ali Khan on his birthday. It is a proud heritage of Telengana State and cannot be renovated in PWD concrete! She fears that heritage building has been handed over for temporary occupation of the AP Government without any instructions with regards to safeguarding its heritage origins. She has requested that a team of heritage conservation experts be allowed to inspect the building at the earliest.

Anuradha Reddy’s appeal also mentioned that Hyderabad was identified by the National Geographic Traveller Magazine as the “Second Best Place to Visit in 2015”.

**Mabubnagar**

Chapter Meeting was convened to apprise its new Chief Patron cum District Collector GD Priyadarshini about INTACH work and proposed activities to be undertaken for cultural heritage in the District. Convenor Dr. T. Nagender invited Members to introduce themselves before he made a presentation on the Chapter’s activities to date. Members themselves briefly touched upon a diverse number of subjects.
undertaken like the short film *Dancing Rocks* with a copy presented by Bhagavanth Reddy. The spiritual importance of *Saleswaram* and *Mallela Threethan* was highlighted by P.L. Narasimha Rao. Folk art and particularly *Choulike* was discussed by Khallelullah stressing the need to sustain this ancient art form. *Visit Village India* representative T.K.S. Sarma talked about their efforts to popularise places of cultural and historic interest, mentioning that students from Hong Kong had been taken around on one such trip. The Tourism Department official Srinivas threw light on the various programs that the Government had already launched to promote places like Somasila, Jetprol, Srirangapuram and others under the 13th Finance Commission. Dr. Swamy made an appeal to involve people quoting the Prime Minister who says Government alone cannot bring about development. A proposal for a book on the various heritage assets of the district was mooted by Sattoor Ramulu Goud. The District Collector assured full support to INTACH activities. She agreed that youth is a very important component to carry forward the heritage legacy. Life Member Chandra Kumar Goud gave the vote of thanks at the conclusion of this productive meeting.

**UTTAR PRADESH**

INTACH welcomes Shri Jayant Krishna as the newly appointed UP State Convenor.

**Lucknow**

A heritage walk to the famous *Dilkusha Palace-Bibiapur Kothi* was organized on 23rd November. Convenor Vipul Varshney, an architect and urban planner himself, invited eminent historians like Yogesh Pravin, Roshan Taqui Nawab, Mir Jafar Abdullah and some Lucknowphiles to address more than a 100 walkers. Also participating were students of the College of Architecture and Planning with the media on hand. The Kothi on the picturesque riverbank dating to 17798-1814 was built of *lakbauri* bricks and lime plaster during the reign of Nawab Saadat Ali Khan with the assistance of General Claude Martin. The Gothic style *Dilkusha Palace* as the name denotes was a heart’s delight set amidst green lawns with a beautiful ambience, and is a replica of a English country house. Intended as a hunting lodge it soon became a summer resort for the Nawabs of Awadh.

**Noida**

Convenor Major General Brajesh Kumar informs that water sample from the Noida drain was collected near the Brahmaputra Market and sent for analysis and investigations by INTACH NH Division. For a start the Chapter will take up pollution abatement using bio-remediation and other techniques to reduce the foul odour in the vicinity and ground water contamination. It proposes to undertake a more detailed study and then report matters to members of the Arun Vihar Society and other stakeholders. Noida Authority Chairman Rama Raman has also been apprised of this problem.

**Rohilkhand**

World Heritage Week was marked with a Heritage Walk on 25th November that was widely covered by the local Hindi and Urdu Press. Convenor Nawab Kazim Khan welcomed the gathering at the historic Raza Library, as well as Director Prof. SM Azizuddin Husain, AIR Programme Executive and academicians. Co-Convenor Kashif Khan sent a series
of press clippings of the heritage walk for students of local schools organized by the Chapter. A Special Lecture by eminent local dignitaries and academicians was held at the Raza Library.

**FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS**

Diwali was a Festival of Lights in November. But it has also become a festival of bursting crackers and unabated pollution. Pollution level rose in every city across the country; in Delhi the Air Quality Index (AQI) spiraled from 220 to 450 while an AQI of 301-400 denotes “very poor” quality and hazardous to human health. Many wonder if this is the ideal way to usher *Lakshmi* into one’s home and seek her blessings for another year. Why can’t it be just a festival of lighting earthy clay lamps with family and friends, invoking a healthy and prosperous year ahead. After all *Diwali* signifies victory of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over darkness. A good understanding of the deleterious effects of pollution will ensure many more happy Diwalis for all families.

**XMASTIME**

The X in *Xmas* literally means Christ. Coming as it does a week before New Year it also ushers in a week of celebrating leisure for everyone, with much socializing and bonhomie. And only paper crackers filled with goodies!

**E-CATALOGUE OF ARTWORKS**

President Pranab Mukherji celebrated his 80th birthday by unveiling an e-catalogue of the art works at the Rashtrapati Bhavan. There are quite a few but not all of a very large collection. It has the oldest Bull sculpture dating back to 3rd century BC, some rare reproductions of Ajanta murals and the exquisite Persian art on the ceiling and walls of the Ashoka Hall. It is one of the initiatives taken by the Rashtrapati Bhavan to bring the institution closer to the people. The pictures however cannot be downloaded. There is a proposal to make prints available through the souvenir shop on the premises.

**AFRICANS IN INDIA**

The Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, Delhi exhibition “*Africans in India*” had photographs and texts tracing Africa’s association with India dating back to the 1300s. Even before that people of African origin seem to have lived in India, many bought as slaves. In later eras some of them even became ministers, generals and admirals in Muslim and Hindu kingdoms. Malik Kafur for example was a transgender slave bought by Sultan Alauddin Khilji’s general for a 1000 dinars. In the last days of the enfeebled
Khilji rule, it was Kafur who effectively ruled Delhi and played king maker after the sultan’s death. One of the earliest of 54 panels titled “Traders” describes Africans as mostly merchants not captives. Another titled “Elite Slavery” paints Sultan Mohammed Ali Adil Shah of Bijapur surrounded by African courtiers around 1640. The “African Queens” shows the royal trajectory of African women at Indian courts. African bodyguards graced many imperial durbars. Curators indicate that “Abyssinian Party” was a powerful political and military syndicate that dominated Bijapur Sultanate in 1580s, the most famous one being the powerful Governor Ikhas Khan. Separate panels exhibited the architectural genius of Malik Sandal, a Ethiopian eunuch, formerly a slave and thereafter a soldier. The Siddis of Janjira commanded Mughal navies and thereafter were respected by Marathas and Europeans. By revisiting the past maybe we can recoup our famed heritage of tolerance.

**BRITISH IN INDIA**

Delhi had a number of statues of Queen Victoria but somehow they did not find a place in Coronation Park. Only one somehow reached the Delhi College of Art. Queen Victoria was regarded as a benevolent benefactress post 1857, and crowned Empress of India in 1858. Romantic as she was, she felt she has become ruler in succession to Bahadur Shah Zafar according to veteran chronicler RV Smith. Though her desire to visit India never materialized, her popularity was such that the erstwhile Victoria Zenana Hospital was looked upon as a symbol of fertility by women since the Queen had mothered several children. Even the humble *lal-masoor-ki-dal* was name after her as *Malika Masoor*. Countless girls in the country were also named Victoria. She had Munshi Abdul Karim appointed as her Urdu teacher and was ecstatic on hearing a party of *qawwals* invited to entertain her. Surely she deserves a place in Delhi’s Coronation Park?

**SMART TOURISM**

E-ticketing has been introduced at the iconic and most visited Taj Mahal at Agra and at the Humayun Tomb at Delhi, the first monuments to have this entry system introduced by the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation. The IRCTC is the service provider in collaboration with the National Institute of Smart Governance. The Archaeological Survey of India was informed that this service will soon be extended to other World Heritage Sites of India. Popular sites in the capital like the Qutab Minar and Red Fort are likely to have e-ticketing by the first quarter of 2015.