From the Desk of Vice Chairman

Dear Members

Let me first thank INTACH and the Governing Council members for electing me as Vice Chairman of this great institution. It is an honour for me to help lead the organization and I hope that it will continue to grow and work towards achieving the ideals for which it was established. I remember the early years of INTACH and the great enthusiasm and energy that motivated all the members to strive for the many difficult goals. We were sure then that we would succeed though the problems were immense. There was a profound commitment and belief in what we had set out to accomplish. Much was achieved but much remains to be done. Much has changed and in many ways the task before us has become more complicated and fraught. But each small victory has great ramifications – like a pebble that creates a ripple in a pond. The most important thing is to keep the faith and not give up hope. Persistence pays.

So for example even though after years of struggling to ensure that our Comprehensive Development Plan for Elephanta island should be implemented

Continued on page 2

The Indian Council of Conservation Institutes (ICCI) has been charting one of the most productive endeavours undertaken by INTACH. From its inception as the Indian Conservation Institute (ICI) at Lucknow in 1985, it grew over the years into the ICCI network of 10 well equipped laboratories across the country staffed by professionals in the field. The ICCI celebrated its 25th Anniversary on 22nd October at Lucknow attended by the heads of INTACH Art Conservation Centres located at Bangalore, Bhubaneswar, Delhi, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Kolkata, Mumbai, Rampur and Thiruvananthapuram. INTACH hopes to open another Conservation Centre at the Reis Magos Fort in Goa if the proposal is accommodated in the current renovation plans of the Fort and if space and funds are made available.

The Seminar on Conservation of Art Heritage: Past, Present and Future on 22nd October was one of the major programmes held at Lucknow to mark the Silver Jubilee, presided by former Secretary-General Rajya Sabha RC Tripathi. It was inaugurated by Chairman LK Gupta at the Lalit Kala Akademi Regional Centre. He lauded the contribution of ICCI and the unique services rendered by Dr. OP Agrawal under whose leadership a network of Conservation Centres had been set up in various parts of the country. He lauded the contribution of ICCI and the unique services rendered by Dr. OP Agrawal under whose leadership a network of Conservation Centres had been set up in various parts of the country. The highly skilled staff of ICCI was also specially mentioned for their dedicated work despite the inability of INTACH to compensate them adequately for their expertise.

Dr. OP Agrawal in his welcome address spoke about the establishment of the first

Warmest Greetings to all our Readers. We wish you all a Very Happy New Year!
for the buffer zone as recommended by UNESCO in 2004, (we were successful in cleaning up the core site) we are still struggling against vested interests. We are pleased however we were able to ensure that though much could not improve in the buffer zone at least much damage was not done. For example the plan to turn the island into a mini Disneyland was stopped, plans to build hotels and shopping plazas were abandoned due to our relentless efforts. We are not anti development as many would like to falsely suggest but we have encouraged development that respects the environment and our incredible heritage without damaging or disrespecting it. We are hopeful that the new act just passed in Parliament will be a great help in improving the state of buffer zones around monuments and that things will finally change. So the important point is not to give up and keep up the good fight.

In Mumbai our project at the Dr Bhau Daji Lad Museum, the erstwhile Victoria and Albert Museum, has provoked a rethinking about museums and has given fresh hope to the artist community who earlier despaired of seeing change any time soon. As Chairman of the CII’s National Task Force on Museums and Heritage, I am keen to ensure that the corporate sector partners with INTACH to enable a revival of our museums and the protection of our heritage. I would like to urge you to send me your proposals for possible collaborations through your Chapter Convenor. Each and every member is an important constituent of our organization and provides the ballast through which we strive to achieve our goals. Your support and commitment is essential for our success and I hope that together we will continue to build best practices and change mindsets.

Tasmeen Zakaria Mehta

INTACH Art Conservation Centre at Lucknow in 1985 with a single staff member, Poonam Agrawal. A year later Smt. Usha Agrawal took over and supervised the designing, training and setting up of facilities. The Centre developed into a full fledged conservation institution fully equipped to restore assorted kinds of art heritage. ICCI continued to spread its wings to other cities under a band of equally dedicated conservationists who were fondly remembered on the occasion – Shri Sukanata Basu, the first Consultant of the Delhi Centre; Shri S. Subbaraman who headed the Bangalore Centre; Shri Anupam Sah who made Bhubaneswar a centre of excellence; and others like Shri VP Mathur, Smt. Mamta Mishra and staff of ICCI whose efforts in developing the organisation will always be remembered. In his presidential address Shri RC Tripathi congratulated Dr. Agrawal on the excellent reputation garnered by ICCI. Advisor INTACH Shri Ashis Banerjee eulogized the growth and development of ICCI which he had seen for himself during his tenure as former Member Secretary INTACH.

Senior ICCI Conservationists presented papers on their recent works, and their future plans. Other conservationists and special invitees like Prof. IK Bhatnagar, Prof. AS Bisht,
Shri S. Subbaraman, Shri KK Gupta and Shashi Dhawan presented papers touching on new techniques related to the specialized field of conservation.

Senior Advisor Ashis Banerjee in his Valedictory Address thanked all the delegates for what he described as “the feast of presentations offered”, stressing on the importance of seminars where professionals learn from each other. He also appreciated how the senior most conservators had mingled with the younger conservators and generously praised their work at the ICCI Centres. He remarked that when pictures of their work “before” and “after” are seen, one does not fully realize the extent of research, analysis and skill that has gone into the process of restoration, and the confluence of science and art that has been combined with dexterity and enduring patience. Shri Banerjee recommended the publication of a professional journal of conservation, pan Indian or even...
pan Asian, with a strong editorial committee that is educative for both practicing conservationists and art owners who must learn to take care of art objects.

Virasat would like to share with all its readers some of the outstanding ICCI restoration works, that were exhibited on the occasion of the ICCI Silver Jubilee event in an exhibition titled *Dwindling Art – Caring Hands*.

The Exhibition is a mobile one and will be hosted by the other Centres during the Silver Jubilee Year. It highlights the important projects undertaken by different Centres across India, and would undoubtedly be well appreciated by its viewers everywhere.

ICCI conservationists have successfully applied science to art conservation to preserve and protect precious heritage objects of various kinds and materials – paper, manuscripts, textiles, murals, wood, metal, paintings, etc. The Centres also carry out documentation and listing of important art works. They keep pace with new technical developments, and upgrade the skills of their art conservators through training workshops and seminars regularly scheduled at all the Centres. The end result of these efforts are not just pieces of art but the labour of love that enriches our cultural heritage.

It is noteworthy that the ICCI has made an extra effort to involve communities in many of their projects. Invariably it also meant improving on their traditional skills through training a large number of villagers, and creating stake holders for future preservation of heritage in the hinterlands of many States.

It may be recalled the ICCI was invited by the Government of India to participate in national projects like the National Mission for Manuscripts. Today the ICCI Centres render consultancy and technical services to museums, private art galleries and collectors on request.
Au Revoir, Dr. OP Agrawal

Dr. OP Agrawal took voluntary leave of his office as Director, General Indian Council of Conservation Institutes on 31st December after an illustrious career in INTACH. INTACH hosted a lunch on 30th December to say au revoir but not farewell as we shall always regard him as both the architect of ICCI for the past 25 years, and its mentor in the future.

INTACH takes pride in his impressive work, looking back Dr Agrawal built up ICCI year by year, from its embryonic stage to become the world’s largest conservation network – and recognized as such by UNESCO. INTACH takes note of his first advice for the future of ICCI: there has been enough horizontal growth, now it should strive for vertical growth in the form of research, raising technical skill, academic excellence, programmes, which others are not doing. INTACH will work out a strategy for this and continue to strive for excellence and professionalism at all the ICCI Centres across the country.

The ICCI Centre has been shifted to INTACH Central Office. Shri Nilabh Sinha took charge as its Principal Director with effect from 2nd December. We wish him every success in his new assignment of rendering valuable service to art collectors, museums, and organizations across the country.

The ICCI has also established its credentials overseas, especially among the South East Asian countries. It undertook for example a prestigious project like conservation of royal textiles at the Sri Lankan National Museum. It has made its presence felt at international conferences, exchanging notes on ‘best practices’ with other countries, and upgrading its work through new conservation techniques and information.

DG ICCI Dr. OP Agrawal in his concluding remarks drew attention to the need for continual research, especially in specific areas and called on senior conservators to lead such research. In this context he felt it was worthwhile to consider setting up of some Senior Research Fellowships by seeking donations from the private sector.
INTACH VIRASAT  DEDICATED TO CONSERVATION

NEWS FROM CENTRAL OFFICE

Shri Martand Singh,  INTACH U.K.Trust

Shri Martand Singh is a Founder Member of INTACH, its first Secretary, and subsequently became the Vice Chairman – during which he single mindedly helped to lay the foundations of INTACH in its nascent years. It led to the establishment of Chapters in major cities of the country. It was his vision and experience that contributed to rooting INTACH aspirations and objectives.

Shri Martand Singh took over as Vice Chairman INTACH U.K.Trust nearly a decade ago. His new post assured funding, support and guidance in building and equipping the new INTACH Central Office at Lodi Road, New Delhi. Many benchmark projects of the Chapters took wings largely due to the funding from INTACH UK Trust. Mapu, as he is popularly known, with his own office located within INTACH continued to be a good friend, philosopher and guide to all. It took many by surprise when he decided to demit office on 31st December, graciously hosting a farewell luncheon for all the staff at INTACH.

We extend all our good wishes for what is likely to be a short sabbatical, given his tireless energy. We know INTACH can count on his guidance in future as well.

INTO Executive Committee Meeting

Chairman LK Gupta attended the INTO Executive Committee Meeting held on 6th-8th October at London.

In his address Major General Gupta welcomed the opportunity of meeting all the INTO Members. He recalled Mr. Simon Moleswoth’s visit to Delhi earlier this year to deliver the Pupul Jayakar Memorial Lecture, when owing to his other engagements he did not get an opportunity to interact with him. He explained INTACH compulsions that had made it necessary to put off the Asian Region Cooperation Conference that had been earlier scheduled at Delhi. The primary reason was of course deficit budget of the last two years which would have imposed a heavy financial burden on INTACH. He felt that there was a pressing and unfinished domestic agenda to which INTACH must accord higher priority. The organization of ICCR-II at this juncture would have redirected our energies, our resources and our focus by taking on major international organizational responsibilities. Major General Gupta however reiterated his firm commitment to INTO objectives and a seamless continuation of the relationship between INTO and INTACH. He warmly appreciated the endorsement of Shri SK Misra’s appointment by the INTO Executive Committee as its Emeritus Vice Chairman.

INTO had originally envisaged the formation of five Regional Groups made up of members in Africa and Middle East, Americas, Asia, Australasia and Oceana, and Europe. Chairman LK Gupta stated that while he was

INTO Emeritus Vice Chairman

INTO Executive Committee formally announced the unanimous resolution passed earlier in April this year regarding the election of Shri SK Misra as INTO Emeritus Vice Chairman. The honour was bestowed in recognition of his valuable contribution during the formative stages of INTO and its inauguration in December 2007 at New Delhi.

INTO has established the practice of electing Emeritus Officers for the first time. It was explained that the concept was based on the appointment of emeritus positions in universities around the world. Among INTO Members the precedent was established by the US National Trust for Historic Preservation, and followed subsequently by the National Trust for Australia (Victoria). The primary objective of the appointment of such persons, in addition to recognizing their service to the organization, is to secure on-going contribution of the persons appropriately identified for their specialized skills, and ensure “corporate knowledge” of the organization. Essentially being “goodwill ambassadors”, Emeritus Officers could be called upon to attend major events, international conferences, assume trustee responsibilities, seek endowment funds, or be made responsible for stand alone projects.

It was clarified that such appointments would be entirely within the discretion of INTO governing body, the INTO Executive Committee or Board of Directors; and therefore a veto of the nomination would not be available to the Member Trusts.
not opposed to a South Asian Regional agenda, INTO is primarily a federating organization unlike certain other global bodies and hence the approach must always be participatory from bottom-up. That alone would ensure a consensual approach, facilitate pooling of knowledge, without financially burdening either INTO headquarter or any single member. He therefore supported the creation of the proposed INTO Foundation and building up a corpus fund to enable INTO functioning without resource crunch.

MOU with Seychelles

INTACH Chairman signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on 15th November with Chairman Patrick Nanty of Seychelles Heritage Foundation. The High Commissioner of Seychelles Dick Patrick Esparanto and the First Secretary were present on the occasion. The special guests appreciated the film on INTACH, and the presentations made by Heads of Divisions on different facets of conservation work being undertaken by INTACH. Mr. Nanty acknowledged the civilization links between the two countries, and that there had been a large influx of people from India during the 18th and 19th centuries. British-Indo liners regularly called on Seychelles. The Indian influence on the island’s history and heritage is evident in the cuisine and adoption of rupee currency. Both signatories recognized the need for greater cooperation in the field of protection, preservation, management and promotion of natural and cultural heritage. They will undertake joint activities like seminars and workshops; exchange programs in the field of conservation and heritage management; development of standards and guidelines; building partnerships; sharing best practices; and explore other areas of potential collaboration and dialogue.

The MOU will be in force for a period of 5 years initially, and subject to mutually agreed revisions, amendments and modifications if required.

MOU with SATTE

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between INTACH and the South Asia Travel & Tourism Exchange (SATTE) represented by its head Shri Navin Berry on 23rd November. It formalized the SATTE-INTACH Awards instituted a few years ago with the objective of recognizing individuals and institutions undertaking innovative and inspiring work in the field of heritage tourism anywhere in India. Five categories for awards are specified: museums (as destinations); heritage circuit/walk/trail; rural craft and community based heritage tourism; education and outreach programmes for heritage tourism; and projects related to heritage cities and historic towns. A five member committee, constituted with a tenure of 6 years will be selecting the winners from a panel of nominations received from Chapters/ Members/ other agencies. They will be awarded in conjunction with SATTE Achievers Awards Night at the conclusion of the annual travel mart held at New Delhi.

MOU with West Bengal Heritage Commission

The Memorandum signed jointly by INTACH and the Kolkata Regional Chapter on 25th November is specific to the documentation, detailed mapping and photography of 124 buildings/ temples/ masjids/ sites in all the districts of West Bengal enlisted by the Heritage Commission. The documentation will include brief description of historical, archaeo logical, artistic or environmental significance relevant to the declared heritage sites. It will also include

Unflinching Earth Warrior

Long before environmental concerns gnawed at public awareness, Shyam Chaiani grasped the importance of environment policy for a balanced development. Vikas Dilwari in a touching piece “Farewell to the unflinching earth warrior” writes about Shyam “Protests and marches are, he argued, short lived, and it is impossible to constantly fuel the kind of energy such a movement needs. A more effective mechanism is to influence and alter the law by reason, persuasion and negotiation. When that failed, he went to court”. Shyam Chainani was the best of litigants as he had the courage of his convictions, and could reel off irrefutable facts and figures in the corridors of power.

The son of a Chief Justice, Shyam devoted his life to influencing and altering environment policy, that crystallized into the Model Heritage Regulation of Bombay impacting the heritage regulations of many States. Former State Convenor Maharashtra Dev Mehta sent email messages on Xmas Day echoing the sentiment of all INTACH members who knew Shyam: “Today at 8.30 pm a selfless crusader has gone. Good bye Shyam. We will remember you”. Indeed, what he accomplished can never forgotten.

Recommendations Invited

All Chapters are kindly requested to send in their recommendation/s of individual/s or institution/s in any/all of the categories mentioned as contenders of the awards for consideration of the SATTE-INTACH Committee as soon as possible. The Proforma has been dispatched to all Chapter Convenors.
particulars and name/s of the present owners/trustees, lessees as per the format provided. INTACH will work under the overall supervision of the Commission and complete the task in 12 months, within the budgeted sum of Rs.29,51,200 only.

Seminar at Khajuraho

Chairman LK Gupta in his opening remarks recalled that a multi-disciplinary team from INTACH had prepared a report Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Khajuraho Heritage Region as far back as 1998, facilitated by INTACH UK Trust. It was a holistic report combining planning, landscaping and architectural conservation in a wider perspective. It proposed a sustainable development plan that would propel mainstream community development, and the over all planning of Khajuraho as a “living” heritage site.

The report identified three spatial entities at three levels: the first, Khajuraho Heritage Region defined the natural watershed as a planning region. The second, Khajuraho Heritage Zone covered the World Heritage Site with a buffer zone as required by World Heritage Convention 1972; and the operation guidelines to accommodate other related unprotected heritage resources like water bodies, villages and Dantala hills. The third, Khajuraho Heritage Area encompassed the Monument Sites for management, circulation, and presentation.

The 2010 Seminar, held on 16th-18th November funded by the Madhya Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation, took note of new developments that had taken place in the intervening years like increasing population and pollution, infrastructural damage to architectural and natural heritage, impact of burgeoning traffic, etc. Discussions also covered topics like agriculture, infrastructure, crafts, and challenges of effective management. Numerous isolated projects like pedestrianization, revitalization of lost gardens, have taken place without the larger vision required to address the multiple dimensions and competing interests in a holistic scheme.

It is now felt that remedial action should be taken, antiquated planning laws needed to be revised, streets revitalized, and a synergy of tourism and heritage encouraged to harness commercial success that ensures community involvement and fulfils economic aspirations of the community. Chairman INTACH stressed that the main objective of the Seminar was to identify a nodal agency which will coordinate with the Central and State Governments, ASI and various agencies like the Municipality and Panchayat, local stake holders and conservationists for action on the ground. Representatives of all these groups presented papers at the Seminar. The final recommendations and a plan of action are awaited.

Chairman LK Gupta referred to the various successful models like Champaner-Pavgarh or Hampi for identifying what would be best suitable for Khajurao.

Visits to Chapters

Chairman LK Gupta continued to update himself first hand with Chapters activities during this quarter visiting Allahabad, Lucknow, Lakhimpur Kheri, Kurukshetra, Khajuraho, Faridabad, Patiala, and Mumbai. (For details see under the respective Chapters).

Chairman repeatedly emphasized at all these meetings with Convenors that the utmost importance should be attached to involving individual Chapter Members with the Chapter activities and projects. It might be easier for some Convenors to walk it alone, but the whole purpose of a membership organization is to achieve a high degree of inclusiveness where every Member becomes a stakeholder in the Chapter’s passion projects. This kind of networking ensures a variety of inputs from a cross section of talents, and makes the Chapter a more effective body. It is a kind of mobilization of resources, and the first step is to have regular meetings of Chapter Members.

Another point which Chairman has been stressing at such meetings is listing and the high priority that must be accorded to this exercise before heritage conservation can be seriously addressed. The listing should be comprehensive covering not only built heritage, but also include natural heritage and intangible heritage as well.
Chairman’s visit to Patiala on 9th–10th December, where he met all the new Members of the Chapter, was also a back-to-back event as the Convenors’ Meeting of Punjab State was also scheduled to include many new Chapters in the State. It is noteworthy that every Chapter of the State was represented, which should be the case for all State Convenors’ Meets as they are not held frequently. It provides an opportunity for interlinking efforts and maximizing coordination within the State and the authorities to further INTACH objectives. Chairman elaborated on ways and means by which Chapters can move forward by involving all Members, with special importance being given to public awareness programmes. He said the listing of antiquities also needs particular attention as Patiala is known for some of the most significant historical and cultural heritage of Punjab. On his visit to Mumbai on 15th December Chairman addressed Members of the National Council of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). He urged them to become a part of the heritage movement and to contribute to restoration of cultural heritage. He cited the Bhau Daji Lal Museum as a role model for coming together of Government, heritage expertise and cultural philanthropy. Corporate responsibility for heritage could help seed projects, events, research and other such activities turning it into a people’s movement freed of Government control. He added “I need hardly mention that as an NGO, albeit a national one, we work with very little money and we know how to do so. But we do need a large number of technical experts who actually do the work of conservation in the laboratories and in the field…. We need to go beyond the small financial support we received from the Government when we started in 1984…. Tasneem who has been successful in winning your confidence will explain further as to the various options that are available to you to support the work of INTACH”. Convenor Tasneem Mehta offered to create a dossier on possible projects that the corporate sector might consider supporting anywhere in the country.

At Mumbai Gen.LK Gupta called on Shri Shyam Chainani and conveyed good wishes on behalf of all INTACH Members, alas, no one realised the end was drawing close. Chairman also met Shri Cyrus Guzdar and former State Convenor Ved Mehta.

**Governing Council/Executive Committee Meetings**

The biannual Governing Council Meeting was held at Delhi on 26th November. As is the usual practice, the meeting of the Executive Committee was scheduled in the latter half of the same day. The Executive Committee meetings are held four times a year as mandatory.

**Sir Bernard Feilden Lecture – 2010**

The 2010 Sir Bernard Feilden Lecture was organised by Chairman INTACH UK Trust Shri Martand Singh with a lecture by Dr. R. Nagaswamy on *Conservation of Temples - Traditional and Modern* on 21st December at the India International Centre. Sir Bernard will always be remembered for building up an award winning provincial practice based on a philosophy of design in context and respect for the environment, in the firm belief that architecture is a social art and must be humane. He summarised his conservation methodology in several manuals for craftsmen and architects.

**Delhi – A Living Heritage**

The catalogue *Delhi : A Living Heritage* was released by Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit at the Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts on 23rd December. Shri Chinmaya Gharekhan, President IGNCA was the Chief Guest. Lavishly illustrated with 300 archival photographs and architectural drawings, the book encapsulates Delhi’s heritage and history, with contributions by eminent persons working in a cross section of specialised areas and subjects.

Guest of Honour Chairman INTACH Maj.Gen.LK Gupta said unlike cities like London, Rome Paris where heritage was always given due respect and prominence, we as children were not given any such lessons. It has resulted in much of our own heritage vanishing slowly due to ignorance or lack of awareness of its importance. INTACH has been publishing many books over the years to make people aware of Delhi’s 1000 years of capital history and heritage. Thanking the Chief Minister for her steadfast support to INTACH over the years, he assured her that “our goal is to showcase the dream of Delhi as a World Heritage City – which will immensely benefit trade, commerce, heritage tourism and its people”. He also appealed to the citizens of Delhi to extend their emotional and intellectual support to INTACH and become our partners and stakeholders in the heritage movement.

Delhi is now competing with Ahmedabad for World Heritage City status. Delhi Convenor AGK Menon, who coordinated the work and undertook some of the major restoration projects for the Delhi Government, stated: Quite often, heritage is seen as a negative component in a city’s development. This catalogue tries to show how heritage can add value to a city.
Andhra Pradesh

Anantapur

INTACH Member Gollapalli Dattatreyulu has written Bhava Kavitha Tharangalu (Indian Culture and Society) which was released by the District Chapter on 14th October. Convenor AG Venugopal Reddy has forwarded some copies and the media coverage to Central Office. We congratulate Shri Dattatreyulu on his successful promotion of heritage awareness among local people.

East Godavari

The Chapter has brought out a leaflet on the historic waterworks of Kakinada. It was the visionary zeal of Sir Arthur Cotton that made the river Godavari flow through Kakinada and turned it into rice bowls of the people, through a network of canals in the district. In 1903 when Dewan Bahadur Durisetti Sehagiri Rao Pantulu was Chairman of the Kakinada Municipality one of the canals was diverted and filtered water became available. Subsequently the Maharaja of Pitahpuram donated 40 acres of land in the heart of the city and turned it into an intricate system of brick and mortar ‘Cotta Dutch Style Structures’ below ground level with raw water tanks, filter beds and storage tanks. It was further upgraded in 2005 to meet the needs of a growing population. A few good men did a world of good to lakhs of people!

District Collector cum INTACH Patron Ravi Chandra inaugurated the restored old Administration Block of the Pithapur Rajah’s Government College, Kakinada on 5th October, the 127th birthday of the late Maharaja. It was an initiative taken jointly by INTACH and Old Students Association who chipped in a substantial donation to cover the cost over and above the grant of Rs. 4 lakhs received from INTACH UK Trust.

Hyderabad

The Chapter organized a film show on Golconda at the Salar Jung Museum on 13th November. It is one of the 26 films with which INTACH is associated, now available on DVD.

The Chapter and other concerned citizens are deeply apprehensive about the impending Metro project and its impact on the 400-years old city seeking World Heritage status. Convenor Anuradha Reddy points out there has been no study on its impact on the city’s urban fabric. What will it do to the environment when 75 kms of bare concrete and steel are added to a city which already sizzles in the summer? It is felt the first priority should have been an urban area plan for the proposed 75 stations, local traffic patterns, parking and alighting zones, bus shelters, auto stands and kiosks as only 4 months remain before the city is dug up. The Chapter strongly feels that the public has the right to know what is going to happen to their immediate neighbourhood, especially as the Metro will run through some core heritage areas and open spaces – wiping out some heritage precincts like the Sultan Bazaar. One can only be sure that the Char Minar will remain safe as it is the city’s icon.

Kadapa

The publication The Heritage of Kadapa District by Co-Convenor M. Jankiram, and edited by Convenor S. Seetharamaiah is a bi-lingual publication, a noteworthy effort. Kadapa is described as a virtual paradise with its picturesque valleys, beautiful churches, magnificent mosques, towering temple, historic falls, rarest birds, and situated at the threshold to the greatly worshipped Sri Venkateswara (Balaji), the Lord of the Seven Hills. The Chapter is congratulated for publishing 10 books both in English and Telugu.

The Chapter has consistently forged close links with the district officials, with Collector Shashi Bhushan Kumar as Chairman and Chief Patron of the Chapter currently.

Machilipatnam

Shri T. Ram Mohan Rao is appointed the Convenor of the Machilipatnam Chapter, with Shri I.B. Rao as the Co-Convenor.
Srikakulam

Convenor Dharmarao Dusi was recently appointed by the Collector & District Magistrate as a Member of the District Collegiate Education Development and Review Committee (DCEDRC) to initiate programmes and improve the cultural ambience in the colleges. Expectedly the first step he took was to set up a Heritage Club at the local Government Degree College for Women during the World Tourism Day celebrations.

A five-member team from Vara, Sweden visited Srikakulam on 9th-14th October for the second time under the Exchange Development Cooperation signed between the two city municipalities. The objective being a study of governance, the team visited many parts of the district and interacted with its officials. Convenor Dharmarao Dusi briefed them on the heritage of Srikakulam, and presented a brochure on its heritage sites. The Chapter also organized a multi-lingual musical programme of classical bhajans of various saints by Ms. Sudharani at the dinner hosted by the Collector. It was a receptive audience, and Chairman of Vara Jan-Eric Wallin effusively thanked the Collector and the organizers.

The first meeting of the Heritage Conservation Committee was held on 25th October at the office of Collector Nagulapalli Sreekant.

The Committee discussed and resolved various items on the Agenda which will be taken up – utilization of MP LAD for improvement of roadside park; revitalization of the Nagavali old bridge banned to 4-wheeler traffic; preservation of the heritage site at Danthapuri and Dannanapet for which INTACH must obtain a status report from ASI; and preservation of ancient inscriptions at Deerghaasi. Other matters discussed were development of a tourist site under the NREGP programme, restoration of antiquity of temples by Assistant Commissioner Endowments; listing to be entrusted to Dr. BVA Ramarao Naidu, and setting up of Heritage Clubs in degree colleges, etc.

It was also resolved to impart knowledge and understanding of the cultural and historical heritage of Srikakulam District through introductory courses, of 4-6 weeks module, to people and students at a convenient venue.

The Chapter participated in the Design and Technical Development Workshop on Bamboo Crafts conducted by the GoI Ministry of Textiles from 2nd-16th November. It was organized at the Youth Club of Bejjipuram with the objective of training 100 tribal women. At the Veldictory, Additional Joint Collector and Chief Guest T.Baburao appreciated the products made like pen stands, book racks, kitchen equipment, footwear, etc made with the newly acquired skills of the trainees. Convenor Dharmarao Dusi was at hand lauding the efforts of the youth club to promote this sustainable livelihood project, and assured some marketing inputs through the INTACH Heritage Shop at Delhi.

The Convenor also coordinated the visit of Chairman Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) Smt. Sushri Kumud Joshi; the district is famous for its fine khadi weaving tradition dating back to pre Independence times but currently facing competition from mill made products.
The GoI Ministry of Sports and Youth Welfare conducted a National Integration Camp with participants from Tamilnadu, Maharashtra, Orissa, Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh from 23rd-29th November at Srikakulam. A rainbow of intangible cultural heritage programmes were scheduled for which Convenor INTACH had obtained information on the various folk art forms like fire dance and Koluthukada from Tamil Nadu, Sombalpuri and Pandiripata from Orissa, Kuchipudi and Thoorpu Bhagotham from Andhra etc. that were presented by the youth before an enthralled audience. There were academic power point presentations and a heritage tour hosted by the Chapter.

**Assam**

Advisor Ashish Banerjee visited the Guwahati Chapter on 13th-18th November. His presentation on INTACH resulted in a lively interaction with the staff and students of South Point School. The Heritage Club was inaugurated on the occasion under one of the teachers Shri Parakayastha who will take up a special project on medicinal plants of Assam.

*Old as the Hills*

Kaplaye means hello in Korul! It is a language distinctly different to the collection of 400 related languages of the Tibeto-Burman family used by people across Asia. The National Geographic recently announced its “discovery” in the far reaches of Arunachal Pradesh by American linguistic researchers from Living Tongues Institute for Endangered Languages in Oregon and Swathmore College in Pennsylvania. Assam Chapter Convenor Dinesh Baishya however pointed out that Korul was discussed among other languages of Arunachal at the International Conference for Endangered Languages of India hosted by INTACH last year. It is generally accepted that a language becomes extinct when it is not spoken by people, or passed down the generations. Efforts should be made to preserve it when a few speakers are in fact located in villages largely cut off from the outside world, as experienced by the American researchers.

At the meeting of the Assam Chapter held at Blue Moon Guest House, discussions centred around listing and documentation of built, natural and intangible heritage. Members agreed that the second most important task for them was creating greater public awareness. It was understood that State Government, corporate donors, the NEC and DONOR Ministry would have to be tapped for additional resources for this effort.

It was felt that setting up district Chapters in Assam was another important aspect of creating greater awareness. Several potential districts were short listed, the first step being the setting up of a Guwahati Chapter as distinct from the State Chapter.

A meeting was held with the Assam Sahitya Parishad which has over 700 chapters across the State, with its annual convention attracting 2-3 lakh delegates – making it potentially a valuable partner for promoting some of INTACH’s objectives.

Shri Banerjee accompanied by Convenor Dr. Dinesh Baishya visited Majuli on the Brahmaputra river, one of the largest river islands of the world, to assess its heritage value. Visits to the various Sattras is extremely difficult due to lack of infrastructure but gives valuable insight into seven centuries of Neovaishanavite culture of Manjuli in particular. Dr. Baishya with his local contacts was able to organize a meeting with local people. The museum located inside the Ainiati Sattra has an important collection of copper plates, bark manuscripts, ivory products and other artifacts. The INTACH party also visited the Garmara and Kamalabari Sattra, the forested area of Mayang known for the one-horned rhinoceros, and the Pobitara Sanctuary which remained cut off until a road bridge was constructed three years ago on the Kolong River. There is a local museum near the Sanctuary housing valuable intangible heritage, and ancient mantras on bark leaves. Reportedly only one person who can read the script is still alive.

**Chhattisgarh**

Advisor A.Banerjee was invited by State Convenor Lalit Surjan to attend the workshop organized jointly by the Chhattisgarh Chapter and ASI for nomination of Sirpur as a World Heritage Site. It was inaugurated by Governor Shekhar Dutt, and attended by the local MP and MLA, Regional Director, other ASI officials, and INTACH Convenors. Dr. OP Agrawal from Lucknow, ICCI explained the guidelines of WHS selection present on the occasion. Funds are awaited from the State Government to prepare the required documentation for making the bid.
Delhi

Delhi Chapter in coordination with the Archaeological Survey of India identified 46 heritage sites for a capital facelift before the recent Commonwealth Games – of which 15 were restored by INTACH with Rs. 6.5 crore funded by ASI and Tourism Ministry. There is an unresolved debate on the working methods of the two conservation agencies. ASI believes reconstruction/restoration of damage to monuments should be effected only if required as per the internationally accepted norm. INTACH prefers to concentrate on overall geometry, finishing and conservation of the monument for the future. Both agencies engaged highly skilled craftsmen to ensure that reconstructed portions blended with the original materials used on centuries-old monuments. The 14 monuments including heritage sites illuminated by INTACH used LED lights highlighting the feature of each monument. Convenor AGK Menon explained that the lighting was sensitively designed so that the features of the monuments were highlighted; with different coloured lights used in different monuments in keeping with the old stone used in the monument. The monuments - Lodhi Garden tombs, Gol Gumbad, Purana Quila, Sher Shah Gate and Masjid; Sabz Burz, Khan-e-Khana and Barakhamba in Nizamusddin; Shakri Gumti, Choti Gumti and Dadi Poti in Green Park, Safdarjung Tomb, Kotla Feroz Shah, Najaf Khan Tomb in Jorbagh – will continue to be illuminated even after the Games, and landscaping too will be soon completed as they are “the best example of public art installations in the Capital”, as stated by the Chief Minister.

Another outstanding INTACH Chapter contribution is the on-going exhibition Delhi : A Living Heritage (21st Oct to 20th Jan ‘11) at the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, sponsored by the World Monument Fund’s Sustainable Tourism Initiative and supported by American Express. Convenor AGK Menon has been at the forefront of the efforts to get Delhi listed by UNESCO with the other 220 World Heritage Cities. The Rs. 1 crore Exhibition put together jointly by the Delhi Chapter and IGNCA encapsulates 1000 years of continuous building of the capital, some on an imperial scale across ancient, Sultanate, Mughal, Colonial and Modern periods. Beautifully mounted panels, six interactive booths and three dimensional models, detail the various dynasties that held sway over Delhi from the time it was called Indraprastha to modern times. It is the dynastic history and glorious architecture of each epoch that makes Delhi one of the truly great historic capitals of the world. The Exhibition stitches together various strands from Delhi’s narrative like how more than 75 years after Akbar moved the capital of the Mughal Empire from Delhi to Agra, his grandson Shah Jehan decided to shift it back to Delhi in 1639 and built a new city named Shahjahanabad. He was inspired by the magnificence of Iranian architecture of Shah Abbas Isfahan but also followed Vastu Shastra in determining the overall layout of the city across.

The natural and built heritage sections individually chart out the journey through sprawling charbaghs and gardens to the present day congestion. In the last section INTACH spells out details of how Delhi might acquire the status of a World Heritage City (WHO).

Goa

The Reis Magos Fort restoration and revitalisation project has progressed considerably with the levelling of ground in front of the reception block, and completion of the retaining wall alongside the road till the gate of the Citadel, pointing of laterite stone paving at promenade level, and laying of sewage line for the Craft Centre and one of exhibition halls. Other works like drains along the promenade with laterite stone paving, restoration of a parapet wall along the walkway, electrical work for amenities block, and Cudappa stone flooring of the exhibition hall are in progress.

Much More Required

Delhi Development Authority (DDA) is looking at successful models around the world for Delhi’s Inner City development. DDA recently signed a MOU with Barcelona, Spain for international cooperation in urban redevelopment. Barcelona has been in the forefront of urban rejuvenation, with its garden district comprising 520 street blocks in urban decay converted into one of the best examples of heritage conservation coupled with redevelopment of public urban infrastructure. The New Policy Initiation & International Cooperation Cell (NPIIC) set up earlier this year also proposes to explore local area planning with Paris and environment planning with Helsinki. Perhaps the Walled City of Delhi one day will regain some of its ancient dignity and elegance.

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Haryana

Faridabad

Convenor Anand Mehta announced the establishment of a newly formed Faridabad-Palwal Chapter, an extension of the parent Chapter.

Gurgaon-Mewat

The Chairperson of the Haryana State Advisory Committee convened a meeting on 24th November at the Urusvati Museum of Folk Art, Shikhopur, Gurgaon. Chairman LK Gupta and Advisor Ashish Banerjee from Central Office, and the Convenors of Gurgaon, Ambala, Yamunanagar Rohtak, Faridabad, Kurukshetra, Mahendergarh attended the meeting. The conservation architects Ms. Tapasya Samal and Ms. Somya Johri were also present for the discussions on the projects and activities of various Chapters. Gen. LK Gupta appreciated the efforts of Chairperson Komal Anand in the overall coordination of the Haryana Chapters network. He emphasized the priority to be given to systematic listing, assuring adequate funds for this work of primary importance to INTACH. Chapters were also requested to include vernacular architecture and intangible heritage in the documentation. For problems like seepage or technical inputs, specialists from Central Office would be made available on request. The Haryana Guide Book will be published in association with ASI as a NMMA-INTACH publication.

Haryana State Convenor Dr. Shikha Jain informed that the National Mission on Monuments and Antiques sanctioned Rs. 6,55,000 for 2000 copies of the Guide Book on Haryana Heritage. Another sum of Rs. 50,000 was received from the Department of Archaeology and Museums, Panchkula for preparing a Condition Assessment Report on the Birbal ka Chatta, Narnaul. Following the presentation on the built heritage of the State at the seminar organized by CR Engineering College, Sonipat, another presentation under preparation is on the Freedom Fighters Museum and Trail, to be steered by the district Convenors before a final presentation is made. The Heritage Week concluded in a grand finale with a lecture on the Saraswatai River by Micahel Danino and an exhibition put by the Haryana and Gurgaon Chapters.

The Chief Guest Rao Inderjit Singh presided over the Press Conference. The demolition of Dhauli Piyao has been a subject of great concern to all heritage advocates, and to secure public support for its revival photographs and sketches are being put up at the Guru Dronacharaya Metro station

The Chapter organized a student competition at the Sushant School of Art and Architecture supervised by Member Vanicka Arora, to choose the best design for this project. The School has also signed an agreement with INTACH Gurgaon-Mewat Chapter for restoration work on the Mughal monument at Tauru, that is being funded by Power Grid Corporation.

Plans are nearing completion to launch a website before the beginning of next year to mark 25 years of important works undertaken by the various Chapters of Haryana.

Kurukshetra

About 100 children participated in the Heritage Walk organized by Convenor Suresh Chowdhury and Co-Convenor Dr. AR Chaudhri, making young people aware about the rich heritage of the land associated with the Mahabharata.

Mayurbhanj

After the exhaustive lecture on protection of Similipal Tiger Reserve and successful planting of 1000 saplings by school children, the Chapter turned its attention to the intangible heritage of Mayurbhanj by organizing a

Chairman L K Gupta inaugurates the workshop on Chhau and Jhumar, Baripada
workshop on Chhau a traditional folk dance and Jhumar a musical form that provides life to Chhau. There is a harmony of tribal and non tribal characteristics in these folk entertainments.

**Mohindergarh**

Shri Rattan Lal Saini is appointed the Convenor of the Mohindergarh Chapter.

**Rohtak**

Convenor Sudhir Kumar K. Sharma presented a volume of the Encyclopaedia of Haryana to the Governor of State. Shri Jagganath Pahadia who contributed two articles to it – Jogi Singers of Haryana and A Cultural Haryana in Pakistan – was honoured by the Governor along with the Convenor.

**Sonipat**

Convenor Prof. Anil Kumar of Sonipat Sub-Chapter welcomed Members to a meeting on 9th October, and a decision was taken to meet regularly on the first Monday of each month. It was felt that very little is known about the history of Sonipat, which necessitates contact with community elders and history teachers to put together some facts as a starting point for Chapter activities. Members Shikha Banerjee and Jajal Jain volunteered to establish contacts with schools and other organizations.

**Himachal Pradesh**

Ms. Malvika Pathania is appointed the Co-Convenor of the Himachal Pradesh State Chapter.

**Shimla**

State Convenor BS Malhans drew attention of Chief Secretary Ms. R. Sandhu that the MOU signed between the State Government and INTACH for a period of 5 years needed re-validation. The Chapter has been assigned the task of documenting the colonial built heritage of Shimla; and in the next phase would be undertaking a similar exercise for the rest of the State under the chairmanship of Secretary, Language Art and Culture. The work includes all man made heritage as well as cultural, natural, and architectural heritage. There are serious concerns about over exploitation of river basins for hydel projects impacting river flow and scarring hillsides that the steep terrain cannot sustain, while the demographic changes near projects are altering the cultural ambience and social life of villages. The Convenor mentioned that INTACH Members are affiliated to a number of other NGOs in the State, and he himself is coordinating the efforts of the Tourism Department to get the Masroor rock cut temples inscribed on UNESCO Heritage list, earlier accorded to the Kalka Shimla Railway due to INTACH’s efforts.

**Kangra**

A workshop on Kangra Miniature Painting Preservation held at Dharmasala, District Kangra on 6th - 7th December was inaugurated by Ms. Rajwant Sandhu Chief Secretary Himachal Pradesh. She wants many more of these conservation workshops to be held in the State. Principal Secretary, Tourism, Art and Culture and Languages, Ms Manisha Nanda graced the Valedictory Session She complemented Kangra Chapter on organizing this very important interactive exercise with the painters.
to save Kangra Miniatures, a world famous heritage. She also congratulated the Kangra Chapter Convenor and State Co-Convenor Malvika Pathania for taking this preservation exercise to schools. The Convenor was asked by the distinguished officials to submit a proposal for a Conservation Lab at the Dharmasala Museum, with assurances of full help from the Himachal Pradesh Government.

**Jharkhand**

**Hazaribagh**

Convenor Bulu Imam is a long distance planner, with his overseas exhibitions of Khovar and Sohrai paintings already firmed up for April 2011. This annually featured activity explains the success of his efforts in popularising tribal art in European countries.

**Karnataka**

**Anegundi**

The Anegundi Santhe inaugurated by GP President Smt. Jaithun Beg on 21st November was a popular ‘Full Moon Festival’ attracting people from all around the region. A voluntary venture by a group of Friends of Anegundi, it offered culture, crafts, home made delicacies and fun to promote clean and green tourism, and provided a platform to showcase creative local talent from different communities. New comers could learn all about Anegundi at the Information Desk. There was much to buy like traditional door Toranas made by children from recycled paper, paper products by Akhil Eco, banana fibre and Ilkal products from the Bhoomi Society for Working Women, camping equipment by Ane Adventures, etc. Dance performances were presented by the Chandra Kala Bhoomi and Kolata Group with classical music.

Anegundi is the cradle city of ancient Vijaynagara, and a happening place for its heritage sites at all times - even when the moon does not shine bright!

**Bangalore**

Advisor Ashish Banerjee on his visit to Bangalore discussed the Whitefield project with Convenor Sathya Prakash Varanashi, and with State Convenor Aswathnarayan. They felt efforts should be made to influence the local community which is not strong enough to oppose incursion of high rise buildings, road widening etc. undertaken by the developer company Prestige that is fast altering the historic character of this township.

**Bijapur**

Deputy Commissioner SS Pattanashetty inaugurated the Nature Heritage Walk organised by the Chapter on 27th September. The Sptd. of Police Dr. DC Rajappa was the Chief Guest. Convenor Dr.Krishna Kolharkulkarni invited environmentalist Dr. Geeth Patil to introduce the subject.

back to Jehangir’s time. Their most noteworthy work is the restoration of the 1471 timber structure landmark Aali Masjid that was built during the Shahmiri dynasty.
Co-Convenors SA Punekar and Anand Joshi extended an open invitation to the event held in association with the Bijapur Department of Tourism and the Fox History Channel.

**Kerala**

The report of the inspection team comprising former Director of Archaeology V. Manmadhan Nair and Thiruvanathapuram Convenor Prof. Eugene Pandala on the site visit to the Ramapuram twin churches - the 1864 St. Mary’s Church and the 1559 St. Augustine’s Church has been received.

**Calicut**

Convenor K. Mohan was selected as the Best Tourist Guide 2009-2010 for Kerala. The award was presented by the Tourism Minister Kodiyer Baklakrishnan at a function organized at Mascot Hotel, and attended by an august gathering. INTACH extends congratulation to Shri K. Mohan.

**Madhya Pradesh**

**Chanderi**

Shri Raj Kumar Singh Sikarwar is appointed Convenor of the Chanderi Chapter, with Shri Niraj Kumar Jain ‘Vardhman’ as the Co-Convenor.

**Datia**

Shri V.K. Mishra is appointed the Co-Convenor of the Datia Chapter.

**Indore**

The Chapter will be documenting the entire structure of the King Edward Medical Hall, an extraordinary example of British colonial architecture and one of the oldest buildings of the city. The Chapter will be the main coordination agency for its restoration while working closely with the archeological authorities. The objective in the first phase is to restore the building and to house a Medical Museum and Interpretation Centre for the medical profession.

Convenor Shashi Dudhwalkar also informs that the annual *Sanghi Sangeet Samroh* this year was organized in association with the Abhinav Kala Samaj on 2nd-3rd December at the Ravindra Natyagriha.

**Maharashtra**

**Aurangabad**

A special Music Concert featuring La Petite Banda troupe from Belgium was organized by the Chapter on 25th October at the Hotel Welcome Rama International, sponsored jointly by the RK Group, M/s Varroc Engineering Ltd. and Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Co. Convenor Mukund Bhogale invited more than 250 eminent personalities, social activists, Government...
officials and the Media to the function. Speaking on the sidelines of the concert, the renowned musician Sigiswald Kuijken said “music knows no geographical, linguistic or racial barriers. All walls crumble when it comes to music”, a sentiment echoed in the resounding applause of the audience. The restoration and conservation work of the city’s historical gates were on display highlighting the activities of the Chapter. There was also a recitation by Belgian Convenor Geert Robberechts on the occasion.

Dahanu

The Chapter held a workshop on Understanding Forest Ecosystems and Sustainable Farming Techniques on 11th December, convened by renowned environmentalist Navroz Mody. Co-Convenor Farzan Mazda writes that it was held amidst the canopy of the forest that nurtured awareness and environment-centric discussions - much appreciated by the 30 interactive participants comprising mostly school children. Convenor Tafti also conducted a task oriented seminar which comprised exploration of the vicinity and identification of certain elements. The event concluded with another enjoyable experience - a dip in the nearby lake!

Mumbai

INTACH and other activists of the city were a happy lot when the Supreme Court upheld the ruling of the Bombay High Court that banned hoardings at heritage sites – rejecting the Petition filed by one of the leading advertising agencies. The judges noted that “Oval Maidan is a heritage precinct. Petitioners cannot be allowed to have a hoarding on such precincts.”

Convenor Tasneem Mehta was invited by the Religious Arts Initiative to address a gathering on 28th-29th October at New Delhi. The subject of her presentation was “When the Ties that Bind Unravel Art Practices in an Age of Cultural Relativism”.

On 16th November, the Governor of Maharashtra Shri Sankaranarayanan inaugurated the exhibition Something That I’ll Never Really See comprising innovative works created during a pivotal period in photographic history from the Victoria & Albert Museum, London, with which the Dr. Bhau Daji Lal Museum shares a historical relationship. Under the current agreement there will be regular exchange of experts, exhibitions and training of staff between the two Museums. British High Commissioner Sir Richard Stagg, Municipal Commissioner Swadheen Kshatriya and Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation representative Madhur Bajaj graced the occasion. On 10th December
the Chapter organized a lecture at the Museum on Curating Contemporary Photography at the V&A Museum by its Senior Curator Martin Barnes. A day long workshop on Facts and Emotion: Using the Photographic Document as Personal Expression held the following day was attended by eminent experts in the field like Ram Rahman, Ketaki Sheth, Shahid Datawala and Jitish Kallat. Curator Martin Barnes conducted members of the Asia Society and British Business Group through the exhibition subsequently.

Nanded

The well known art historian and research scholar Dr. Prabhakar Deo has published an illustrated and well brought out book Heritage Nanded, a copy of which was presented to INTACH Advisor RL Bawa. INTACH has been equally active in creating awareness of the historical legacy of Nanded, having taken up the documentation of heritage assets and a number of other activities launched by the Chapter.

Manipur

The Chapter organized the Imphal City Heritage Walk in association with the Fox History & Entertainment Channel in the last week of September. It was flagged off from Ningthoukhong, an ancient town in the vicinity of Loktak lake passed through the Bishnupur with its 15th century Vishnu Temple and Nambol, and terminated at the Manipur Zoological Garden. The participants then proceeded to the main city and were received by Convenor Dr. RK Ranjan Singh at the Kangla Fort, the ruined palace of the last kingdom of Manipur. Shri Brajkumar Sharma of DM College recalled that as a child he had witnessed the coronation ceremony of Maharaja Bodhachandra Singh. Lt. Col. Dr. T. Hemo Singh (Retd.) shared his experiences as an army officer posted inside the Kangla Fort. Architect B. Krishna Sharma elaborated on the structures and monuments of the complex, and the steps taken to preserve this site. Shri Dwijamani Singh of the Archaeological Dept gave details of the remains of Shri Govindajee Temple that was destroyed by an earthquake in early 1800. The students and teachers promised to conserve and protect the natural heritage of Manipur under oath administered by Convenor Ranjan Singh.

Orissa

Balasore

Balasore Chapter has started compiling interesting information on places of interest with their history since its inception in September. There is a British graveyard in Barabati area, and a touching story concerns a former District Collector John Beams who lies buried at this graveyard. At the time of leaving India in 1900 on retirement from the British service he had expressed a desire to be buried at his beloved place Balasore, a wish that was fulfilled by his family. Mrs.Barnes who expired in London in 1972 was also brought here for burial by her husband’s family. John Barnes is credited with ensuring that Oria was taught in schools at a time when attempts were made to impose Bengali as the official language. There are other places of historic interest like the Barabati Girls’ School, the Palace of Raja Baikunth Nath Dev, the Brahma Samaj Temple which have their own tales to tell.

Bhubaneswar

The Chapter seems to have made a success of the Heritage Week celebrations during 19th-25th November, despite the last minute withdrawal of ASI collaboration. Convenor SK Bajayendra Narayan writes that Members themselves took up the cleaning of the grounds of some temples. Large sized posters on tangible and intangible heritage were delivered to various schools to be displayed
proclaiming “We Are Proud of Our Heritage” encouraging students to sign on them as a token of their commitment. A talk was also arranged where they reiterated their vows to protect heritage. It may be recalled that during the last quarter school students enthusiastically participated in the Monument Adoption Program, perhaps one of the best ways of getting young people involved in protecting heritage sites that could also be adopted by other Chapters.

Chairman LK Gupta released the book *Lesser Known Monuments of Puri* during his visit to Bhubaneswar. A team led by Co-Convenor PC Dhir was entrusted with the documentation of palaces of Odisha, and with the help of Berhampur Convenor Sudhansu Pati contacted some erstwhile rajas and zamindars for details and photographs.

**Koraput**

Convenor KC Panigrahy organized a workshop on 24th November at the Tribal Museum where various invited speakers talked on the need to preserve their unique culture and heritage. Prof. Narayana Panda dealt with various aspects of protecting heritage buildings in particular as they are subject to wear and tear, and about customs and traditions that have historical value. The Convenor opined that teachers and students could make a valuable contribution to an exhaustive data collection to be taken up by the Chapter.

**Mayurbhanj**

The Chapter organized a workshop on Chhahu and Jhumar during the last quarter. Other Chapters might also take up such aspects Intangible Heritage in their region to add joy to people’s lives, and incorporate them in their listing and documentation.
**Punjab**

**Amritsar**

Guru Nanak Day, 21st November was celebrated with a visit to Batala and Kalanaur, accompanied by 125 Heritage Club members and their teachers. It was another in the series on ‘city to city heritage connectivity’, a project that has already taken young people on tours to Faridkot, Kapurthala, old GT road sites, and to places in and around Amritsar. INTACH Member Dr. Charanjit Singh Gumtala briefed the young people on the history of the Achal Sahib, Kandh Sahib and Baba Budha Sahib Gurudwaras, the tomb of Sher Khan, Maharaja Sher Singh’s palace, and the Baradari. Member S. Gurbinder Singh added some details about the religious importance of Batala. Local residents Dr. Anoop Singh and Shri Samuel Gill spoke about the history of Bearing College.

At Kalanaur students learned with great interest that 13 year old Akbar lived in this area and was crowned here as Mughal Emperor after the death of Humayun.

The object of this series launched by the State Chapter is to make students aware of the cultural heritage of the State linking one city with another. The tours have been widely appreciated by the school administrators and participants.

Pradeep Mehra. Mayor Anu Chatrath, a large number of INTACH Members, college and school students participated with great enthusiasm. These walks being regularly organized by the Chapter are very popular with the local citizens, and have been attracting a large participation, as well as media attention.

**Chandigarh**

The Heritage Walk at Chandigarh on 16th October was flagged off by Advisor, Chandigarh Administration

Shri Pradeep Mehra being received by the Convenor VK Kapoor

Ms. Dolly Tiwari being honoured by Mayor Anu Chatrath

Heritage Walk, Chandigarh

**Faridkot**

It may be recalled that the Chapter had restored the 1902 Victoria Clock Tower and twice got persistent encroachments removed from the Thandi Sarak of the city. Convenor Prof. BS Brar reports that the high voltage line attached to the tower has also been removed, and the next effort would be directed towards repair and paint work of this landmark of the city. This year too the Chapter will be participating in the Baba Farid Aagman Purab mega festival.
Kapurthala

November was a month packed with activity for the Kapurthala Chapter with many new students joining the Heritage Club. They contributed to the collection of old coins and antique articles that will be housed at the Heritage Centre, in a new museum building that was inaugurated on 20th November by Prof. Laxmi Kanta Chawla, Minister for Health and Family Welfare. It was the INTACH Heritage Club of the college which took the initiative to get this building erected with a grant from the University Grants Commission and the State Government. Club Members participated in a poetic symposium on Punjab Heritage under the supervision of Prof. SS Aujla. It was organised by a well known environment activist Baba Balbir Singh Sachwal on the banks of the historic “Bein” river where Sahib Guru Nanak Devji had recited the Mool Mantra for the first time.

On 19th November a national level seminar was held at the Kamla Lohtia S.D. College for Women, Ludhiana on the subject of Collective Heritage of Punjab with the participation of INTACH Members. Prof. Sardul S. Ahuja presented an extensively researched paper on Punjab Lok Gayki.

Patiala

Shri Ranjit Singh Bhinder is appointed the Co-Convenor of the Patiala Chapter.

A Heritage Walk for students was organized on 23rd October to sensitise them about the cultural and architectural heritage of their city. Apart from 150 young participants, prominent citizens and INTACH Members joined the walk flagged off by the Municipal Commissioner Manjit Singh Narang from Polo Ground. Among them were former Member Language Commission Dr. Harbhajan Singh Deol, Dr. Balkar Singh; Dr. GS Bajwa, DSP Vigilance Pramjit Singh, Dr. Davinder Singh, and President of the District Bar Association Manjit Singh Deol, Dr. Balkar Singh; Dr. GS Bajwa, DSP Vigilance Pramjit Singh, Dr. Davinder Singh, and President of the District Bar Association Manjit Singh Narang from Polo Ground. Among them were former Member Language Commission Dr. Harbhajan Singh Deol, Dr. Balkar Singh; Dr. GS Bajwa, DSP Vigilance Pramjit Singh, Dr. Davinder Singh, and President of the District Bar Association Shri JS Grewal who addressed the students on the importance of heritage. En route Convenor Sarbjit Singh Virk introduced the students to the history of important places like the Old and New Moti Bagh Palace, Mohindra College, Sheesh Mahal, Char Bagh, Shahi Jhoola, etc. It was a widely covered by the Media.

At the Meeting of INTACH Chapters of Punjab held on 10th December, various Chapters made presentations of their work during Chairman’s visit. State Convenor announced that five workshops by various Chapters would be scheduled during the next quarter, with Convenors suggesting the agenda items for each meeting. This might counter some of the indifferent attitude of various stake holders and of the Administration, that has made the public mute spectators of the damage being inflicted to heritage assets in Punjab. At a seminar organized by the Patiala Chapter, eminent writer Prof. Kirpal Singh Kazak had stressed on the need to preserve original architecture of historic monuments. He also said that a fact finding committee of architects, educationists and eminent citizens should be set up to conduct a survey of endangered heritage sites of Patiala.

Rajasthan

Bikaner

Convenor Updhyan Chand Kochar and Co-Convenor Col. Digvijay Singh have drawn the attention of the District Collector Dr. Prithviraj to the neglected state of Victory Tower and the War Memorial, monuments of historical significance to the city. The State Government has already accorded its approval, so they urged the Collector who is receptive to heritage concerns, to give necessary instructions to the local administrators at tehsil and municipal level to expedite the work.

Jaipur

Convenor Dharmendra Kanwar informs that the renovation of the Statue Circle in one of the most congested areas of the city has been stalled due to ‘creative’ differences among the authorities. State Convenor Salahuddin Ahmed has also expressed his reservations about the redesigning. The Chapter strongly feels that until and unless the State Heritage and Development Council with a budgetary allocation of Rs.10 crores that was announced by Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot is made operational, no ad hoc work will be allowed to take place.

Swai Madhopur

A two-day workshop on Conservation of Medicinal Plants and their Sustainable Utilisation was organized by the Chapter at Panchyant Samiti Auditorium during the last week of September, with the assistance of the Central Ministry of Forests & Environment. One of the special guests District & Session Judge Chandrakala Yadav stressed on the absolute need for farming medical plants. More than 70 farmers, representatives of NGOs and Government Departments participated, and expressed their commitment to conserving traditional medicines. Deputy Forest Conservator RS Shekhawat suggested more such workshops should be organized at the Panchayat Samiti level to create greater awareness. Deputy Director, Agriculture Expansion Ramnivas Paliwall gave some details about this kind of farming; while Sudhakar Bhandarke from Udyamita Vikas Sansthan elaborated on the marketing of such medicines and fielded a number of queries on the subject. Convenor Padam Khatri is forwarding the
recommendations of the workshop to the GoI Ministry of Environment and the Rajasthan Government.

Progressive farmers Jankilal and Liyakat Ali, who had been awarded by the Chief Minister earlier, were honoured at this function conducted by Co-Convenor Javed Anwar and Joint Secretary Santosh Verma.

**Udaipur**

On 2nd October, a birth date shared by Mahatama Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri, Convenor SK Verma inaugurated two new Heritage Clubs at Ramgiri, the Vidya Bhawan Gandhian Institute of Educational Studies and at the Vidya Bhawan Secondary School. The students gave a cultural programme, short talks on the natural heritage of Mewar and recited poems. The Convenor followed it up on 9th October with a talk on Mewar’s Heritage, highlighting the responsibility to be shared by young people in conserving their cultural and natural heritage.

On 29th October, the Chapter organized jointly with FOX History Channel a unique programme for Heritage Club Members to appreciate the historical treasures of their city and learn about Rajasthan and Mewar heritage. Wearing badges and carrying slogans the school students walked the streets, witnessed by well known personalities and the Media that had been invited to the morning walk. Principal of the Maharana Mewar Public School Sanjay Datta welcomed the Chief Guest Convenor SK Verma and the Guest of Honour Onkar Singh Rathore. Their talks motivated the students to take a pledge to protect and conserve Mewar Heritage.

Essay writing was part of this programme conducted by Co-Convenor Dr. BL Kumawat. Selected students came up with unusual stories of the city, covering buildings, personages or crafts with photographs, in Hindi and English.

**Tamil Nadu**

**Chennai**

It can only be described as a “landmark judgement of the Chennai High Court” against the proposed demolition of the Bharat Insurance Building owned by LIC, on the Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed by INTACH Chapter. It was in 1868 that a pharmacist W.E. Smith set up a successful business in Ooty, became a wholesaler and by 1897 shifted headquarters to Madras in what was then called Kardyl Building. Designed by JH Stephens and the Madras PWD, Smith let his vision of Indo-Saracenic architecture run its full fantasy of domes, spires, arches, verandahs and 100-feet minarets – only to sell it to the more successful Spencer across the street, after which it changed hands a few times. Apart from its historical importance, it is listed as a Grade – A Historical Building, the preservation of which has been referred to as a manifestation of our cultural heritage by the Supreme Court. The High Court gave immediate directions to protect all such buildings/places in the entire State of Tamil Nadu. It expressed deep appreciation of the excellent report prepared, and acknowledged the untiring efforts of the petitioner. INTACH congratulates its prime mover and shaker Convenor S. Suresh on this victory.

**Coimbatore**

Convenor V. Rajkumar convened a meeting of Chapter Members on 10th November at the Coimbatore Club. The report of the quiz contest on Chennaipatnam featured among other matters discussed.

The main item on the agenda was the formal handing over charge of the Chapter to the new Convenor Kalaivani Chengappa (who was formerly the Co-Convenor).

**Madurai**

The student members of Heritage Clubs were taken on a Explore and Express visit to various heritage sites of the city, attracting a large and enthusiastic participation by many schools.

Another event was organized on 19th November by Convenor Arvind Kumar Sankar to mark the birth date of Indira Gandhi. Hon. Secretary Thomas writes about a group of students who had a great day exploring the beautiful environment of Vadakarai near Sholavandan accompanied by INTACH Members and family members. Dr. Badhri guided the students around the lake educating them about nature, birds and their migratory habits.
Nagercoil

Convenor Dr. RS Lal Mohan and his team of Nagercoil INTACH Members found a 1597 rock inscribed on the Ezhuthittan Parai of Manavazhakurichi Panchayat in Kanyakumari district. The inscription in olden day Tamil states that expenses of the temple ceremonies should be met from the produce of the lands given by the Chera King Kulasekhar Perumal Raviverma. It is a historical indication that after the mighty Chola rule, this part of Kanyakumari was taken over by the Chera dynasty. The Cholas too left similar 1210 AD inscribed instructions in old Tamil known as Vattzhuthu for meeting temple costs failing which would invite a fine of 85 gold sovereigns.

The Convenor forwarded the signature of Mahatma Gandhi, signed in Hindi and Tamil, preserved at the headmaster’s office of SMSM Higher Secondary School, Suchindrum which Gandhiji visited on 15th January 1931.

Salem

A new Chapter was inaugurated at Salem on 16th October by Chief Guest Collector J. Chanrakumar. Smt. Meenakshi Sethu is appointed Convenor, with Shri Shravananan as the Co-Convenor. Advisor Ashish Banerjee represented Central Office; also present were renowned conservationist, Bengaluru Convenor Satya Prakash Varanasi and historian T. Govindhan. Other speakers like Shri Barnabas of the Salem Historical Society and experts in the field like VM Ramasamy touched upon the heritage of Salem, with documentation of the Taramangalam Sri Kailasanathar Temple, Atothiapattnam Sri Kothanandaramaswamy Temple, and the Gandhi Philately Museum in Hastampatty Post Office. The inaugural programme was also attended by local scholars, young activists, school teachers and students.

A meeting with the Inspector of Post Padha and the Asst. Director Paul Athisayanathan in the office of Post Master General of the Western Region at Coimbatore yielded fruitful results. They offered to conserve the Mahatma Gandhi Philately Museum at Hasthampatty Post Office and increase its floor space with philatelic additions.

Advisor A. Banerjee found the newly enrolled INTACH Members highly motivated, as they had earlier taken up a number of public interest issues like cleaning of water bodies, removal of hoardings, stoppage of illegal mining, etc by joining hands with a like minded local group Civic Forum. Shri Banerjee along with Bangalore Convenor subsequently visited Yercand at the invitation of Vasu Kaliappan, a young man with many interests like calligraphy and designing besides running a heritage hotel amidst a coffee plantation, who could be a great asset for INTACH.

An inspection of some parts of the Mani Goondu building that had remained locked for a long time was undertaken, and a team of architects assigned to compile a detailed report. Some priceless Raja Ravi Varma oleographs were recovered from the site and handed over to the bank authorities.

Uttarakhand

Convenor Parikshit Bhargava informs that 25 Young INTACH Members undertook seven clean up drives in different parts of Dehra Dun. On 14th October the Chapter organized a poster competition on themes related to
environment and wildlife, with certificates given to participants. The event was covered by all the prominent Media in the region.

**Uttar Pradesh**

### Allahabad

The Chapter held a meeting on 19th October at Regency Hotel, attended by Chairman LK Gupta and Senior Advisor Ashis Banerjee. Convenor Dr. Sunil Gupta felicitated the Chairman, and gave a presentation of the excavation he conducted at Bankat. The listing of the built heritage of the city was presented by architect Pragya Mehrotra. The Commanding Officer of Allahabad and his wife were present as special invitees to the meeting. Shri A. Banerjee, whose hometown is Allahabad, elaborated on the functioning of INTACH and actively participated in the discussion. In his concluding remarks Chairman LK Gupta stressed on the important role of INTACH in documenting and listing that should cover not only urban areas but must also include the entire district and the rural areas.

Shri Abhishek Tandon the newly appointed Co-Convenor of the Allahabad Chapter was formally introduced to Members at the above meeting.

### Banda

A massive plantation project was undertaken by the Banda Chapter with the cooperation and technical assistance of the UP Forest Department, In the course of just three months 1200 saplings were planted. Chief Conservator of Forests DNS Suman, CCF Bundelkhand Region Uma Shankar Singh, DFO Nurul Huda, and INTACH Convenor Haris Zaman with Chapter Members were present on 19th November when the last sapling was planted to mark World Heritage Week.

A Heritage Walk was also organized in which local people participated with great zeal and interest in saving their natural heritage.

The Chapter is committed to save Kalinjar Fort, said to be the oldest fort of India which needs to be verified. It has also initiated a project of listing natural heritage/sites under the guidance of Advisor SK Verma.

### Kanpur

Commissioner Amit Kumar Ghosh flagged off the Heritage Walk organized by the Chapter on 30th October with the enthusiastic participation of nearly 600 students of Sir Padampat Singhania Education Centre, holding placards that conveyed a heritage message to the public. District Magistrate Mahesh Kumar Meshram and DIG Police Prem Prakash were also present on the occasion. The Convenor
Govind Hari Singhania and Co-Convenor S. Kaushik firmly believe that the objective of such functions is to teach young people to respect their heritage, and never to scribble or deface monuments for a start.

Co-Convenor Shobhana Kaushik informs that a senior Member of the Chapter SP Mehra passed away on 20th October.

Lakhimpur Kheri
Chairman LK Gupta presided over the Chapter meeting held on 21st October at the Aashirvad Hotel. He assured technical and financial support of Head Office if work is initiated for restoration. ICCI advise could be sought for removal of vegetation growing inside ancient monuments.

The Chapter also has an action plan for reviving the brass industry of Oyal town.

Convenor Dr Rakesh Tomar informed that a list of 108 monuments had been prepared in 1989-90, and there was a manuscript of this prepared by Ashok Nigam. This however needed to be reviewed as per the new guidelines, and if required technical assistance of Central Office would be made available. Chairman also directed that listing and documentation of natural heritage of the district along with the Didhwa Tiger Reserve should also be undertaken.

Simultaneously, the proposal to rename the park Billy Arjan Singh National Park needed to be pursued with the authorities in recognition of Billy’s significant contribution to it. Dr. Tomar mentioned the traditional medicinal plants being used by the Tharu tribe on the verge of extinction should be documented/listed. He will explore the possibility of marketing some of the tribal handicrafts through INTACH Heritage Shop at Delhi.

Lucknow
Chairman LK Gupta attended the Meeting of the Lucknow Chapter on 24th October. In his address Chairman highlighted the importance of listing of Lucknow which has all the potential for being considered as a world heritage city. He drew attention to various Government schemes offered for conservation of heritage properties. Apart from preparing an updated new listing of Lucknow, Chairman advised a multi pronged approach to be adopted involving public awareness campaigns, programmes on natural heritage, and involvement of as many INTACH Members as possible. He suggested Co-Convenors be appointed at Faizabad and Ayodhya. It was generally acknowledged that there is a great need to rejuvenate UP Chapters. Co-Convenor Ravi Bhargava informed that a working group is being formed under Justice Trivedi as Chairman of the Naini Sharanya development where the Chapter has already made various efforts.

Condolences
Shri S.P. Mehra was associated with the Kanpur Chapter since 1989, His absence will be greatly missed by his fellow Members. INTACH sends its heartfelt condolences to Smt. Mehra and her family at this grievous time. Our good wishes for the future will always be with them.
The U.P. State Chapter Meeting was held on 12th December at the Regional Science City, Aliganj, Lucknow chaired by Chairman LK Gupta. Discussions centred on forming working groups to connect Chapter and its members with people and happenings, especially involving those with proven track record in social or heritage work. More attention in future will also be given to improve coordination with District Chapters, and a meeting of UP State Convenors is under active consideration.

**Meerut**

INTACH opened a Sub Chapter at Meerut with Dr. RK Bhatnagar as the Convenor and Dr. Sarita Singh as the Co-Convenor. Prior to its formal inauguration, Members met on 28th November to broadly chart out their future course of action like scheduling monthly meetings, and the formation of a committee to identify heritage sites associating Dr. Vighnesh Tyagi who is an expert on the subject. Member AK Goel is going to China on a private visit, so he was requested to study how ancient buildings are maintained in that country.

**Urai**

The Chapter jointly with the Eco-Friendly Handmade Paper outfit organized a solo exhibition of *Crafts Paintings of Lord Ganesha* at the Maharaishi Vidya Mandir. More than a 100 paintings of Dr. Harimohan Purwar were on display, and seen by 2500 school children, their parents and teachers. He and other educationists Dr. Smita Jaiswal, Dr. Alka Rani and Dr. Ram Kishore Gupta addressed the students on the importance of adopting eco-friendly measures to save their environment.

On Gandhi Jayanati, 2nd October another exhibition *Meet Mahatma Gandhi* was inaugurated by UP Minister of State Hari Om Upadhyaya, where again Dr. Hari Mohan Purwar made the major contribution with his collection of coins, pictures, postage stamps, etc on the Mahatma that had earlier been exhibited abroad as well. The centre of attention were original copies of the *Harijan* magazine, that received wide publicity.

**Varanasi**

The Chapter is deeply committed to the revival of Bonorasi Culture, a programme that it pursues at various levels. Currently the focus is on dedicating a colossal clay and painted figure of Bhishmapitamah at Assi Gate. Ambiguously called *Bhimasena* by local people, this Mahabharata hero is visited by thousands of pilgrims who offer flowers to him after a holy dip in the Ganga, especially in the sacred month of Kartika (Oct-Nov). Legend has it that he was granted immortality except at his own will, and he chose to die on Kartika Ekadashi popularly known as Devotthana Ekadashi when deities wake up after a long sleep. There are many other legends associated with him.

Rs. 30 crore has been sanctioned for next year (2011) for the Varanasi project. The Chapter will actively promote the idea of developing the other side of the Ganga river bank at Varanasi. A passion project of this kind would add a new dimension to this iconic site of the city, apart from enhancing its touristic value by developing an aesthetic stretch of green land across from the ghats.

**West Bengal**

**Kolkata**

INTACH Member Ms. Nayantara Palchousdhuri was invited to join the West Bengal Heritage Commission. Another distinguished Member of the Chapter Shri MK Saharia was appointed as the Honorary Consul for Indonesia. Co-Convenor Kanchana Muskhopadhyay was elected President of the Alliance Francaise du Bengale. Our heartiest congratulations to all of you from Central Office!

The Chapter was invited to submit a proposal for the listing of built heritage of 14 districts in South Bengal and Malda. Members Prosenjit Dasgupta and Akhil Sirkar will be involved in this project. Meanwhile the restoration of the Treasury Building awarded to INTACH is progressing satisfactorily. The J.C. Bose Trust has approached the Chapter for preparing the DPR to set up the J.C Bose Museum in the premises of Acharaya Bhavan. An assessment of the art collection of the Bangiya Sahitya Parishad and of the St. Paul’s Cathedral is being made by the INTACH Art Conservation Centre at Kolkata. The lighting of the painting “The Last Supper” has been upgraded with the assistance of Goethe Institute, which also plans to set up an audio-visual system to show the restoration of the painting.
Convenor GM Kapur submitted a proposal for the rehabilitation of Manohardas Tarag to the KMC, supported by the Future Group. He had earlier taken up the delisting of 5 Russel Street. The High Court has now directed the KMC’s Heritage Committee to review within 3 months the decision to delist it.

The Director General of Berlin Dr. Eisenhauer and Director General of the Dresden Museum had fruitful discussions with INTACH Convenor regarding a project for the Indo-German Cultural Year being celebrated in 2012 with major cultural programmes in India.

Santiniketan

This year’s Palash Planting was organized by Life Member Subimal Ghosh at his residence at Diganta Palli, sponsored by Bose Associates Pvt. Ltd. The function began as usual with Rabindrasangeet sung by Bulbul Bose and her group Samaboto. Smt. Manisha Banerji recalled the plantation of trees in her Basapara school which brought together young people from different communities. Smt. Sumitra Khan read out some of the writings of Tagore. Shri Monish Chakravarty spoke of the experience of getting Visva Bharati heritage status by UNESCO. Convenor Subir Adhikari and Chapter Members feel that this annual tradition of palash planting has now instilled a general consciousness among students about saving these trees during the spring Basontatsab spring festival.

It is indeed very good news that the restoration of the Itonda Temple has restarted.

NEWS FROM ICCI

Indo-Italian Workshop, Goa

A three days workshop on the Conservation of Wooden Cultural Heritage was conducted at the St. Anne’s Church, Santana, Goa from 28th - 30th October by four Italian experts Senior Researchers Dr. Claudio Pollini, Dr. Nicola Macchioni, Dr. Mauro Bernabei from the National Council for Research (CNR IVALSA) - Trees and Timber Institutes, and Mr. Giorgio Garabelli from Torino. The workshop was supported by the Italian Embassy and Micro Inks Limited.

The Workshop comprised lectures, presentation of case studies and the description of different types and
properties of wooden materials used for decorative arts and polychrome, understanding the structure of wood, dendrochronology, scientific analysis, etc. There were focused practical sessions on approaches to wood conservation, use of different materials for cleaning, consolidation, etc. Such issues pertinent to the diagnosis phase as: materials characterization, evaluation of the state of the preservation of the artifacts and possible techniques to be applied for its conservation, were discussed and practiced.

Practical sessions combined with theoretical lectures provided a forum for the Italian and Indian scientists/conservators to exchange know-how and experiences in conservation of different types of wooden elements. Many new materials and methodologies for wood conservation, a much neglected field emerged from the interaction. The 33 participants were professional material conservators, conservation architects, architects, artists, professional furniture restorers, museum personnel and students of conservation and architecture from all over India.

‘The Challenge’

An oil painting titled ‘The Challenge, received from a private client was in a frail condition with excess of wax deposits on both sides of the painting. Conspicuous discolored patches of oil color retouching indicated it had been restored earlier. Widespread cracks in the paint layer were ironed out in a vacuum jacket serving the triple purpose of removal of excess wax and dirt, flattening of the cracks, and undoing previous unethical interventions. Subsequently the losses were filled and retouched with acrylic color before giving a protective coat of Paraloid.

IGNCA Exhibition

The Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts exhibited well known photographer Raja Deen Dayal’s never before seen work at its new gallery. Through his lens viewers got a fascinating glimpse of the bygone years 1800s-early 1900s. In addition to Dayal’s open air photography of monuments, cities, temples, palaces and festivals, it also has studio portraits of Indian royalty and bourgeois during the early period of East India Company. As many as 220 of these restored photographs have also been digitalised by Kaushik Ramaswamy, curated by Dr. Jyotindra Jain and Pramod Kumar of IGNCA. The Exhibition is open till February 2011.
Conservation of Buddhist Monasteries

In continuation of the conservation work on 11th century Mangyu Gompa initiated in 2009 by the Architectural Heritage Division (AHD), funded by Shinnyo-en, Japan, restoration of the roof of two-armed Chamba Lhakhang (Maitreya) and roof of Chenrezig Lhakhang (Avalokiteshvara) was successfully carried out including the interior damaged wall due to water infiltration. The west corner juniper column was repaired and repositioned to bring it in plumb as per the original level. The defective central beams were replaced with good quality timber beams. The overall restoration of the roof was undertaken using Deodar timber joists and planks specially transported from Kashmir.
The restoration work of Yarrows, a 1923 heritage building at Shimla designed by Herbert Tracker, was assigned by the National Audit and Accounts Academy. Presently used as a hostel, the restoration work is being executed by CPWD under supervision and quality control of INTACH. Recently the Academy requested AHD to remove some of the original pillars from the courtyard, however the Academy was advised against this since these columns are an integral part of the heritage value of Yarrows and its original character must be preserved.

**Yarrows, Shimla**

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**CAO Building, Delhi**

AHD was commissioned a conservation plan for the Chief Administrative Office Building at Kashmiri Gate, New Delhi. The plan envisages heritage-sensitive intervention in remodeling the later addition/alterations, and adding new spaces as per present and future requirement. Following a series of site documentation and site analysis was prepared with a number of drawings. The new plan is based on courtyard planning for proper light and ventilation, taking into consideration extra space management. The facades are designed adhering to the language of the heritage building, keeping the view free of any obstructive elements like staircase/towers, etc.
Salimgarh Fort, Delhi

Salimgarh Fort built in 1546 AD by Salim Shah Suri, son of Sher Shah Suri, was incorporated within the Red Fort Complex and a through railway line was laid in 1866 by the British. The Red Fort complex including the Salimgarh Fort is protected under the Ancient Monuments and Archeological Sites and Remains Act 1958. The Northern Railway Authority commissioned AHD to undertake the Cultural Impact Assessment for Salimgarh Fort.

The old Railway Bridge connecting Shahdara to Delhi Station is nearly 140 years old and unable to bear the load of current railway traffic. The Railways feel there is a genuine need to maintain rail connectivity with the eastern parts of the country which is being met by this bridge. However the proposed new realignment passing through Salimgarh Fort will have an impact on the cultural heritage. The AHD assessment is supported by primary surveys like Vibration Study, Monitoring of Environmental Parameters like air, and Noise Quality around Fort besides other secondary information.

The study to be shortly completed is an exemplary case of conflict of interest between two sectors of national importance, namely ASI protection of archaeological sites of national importance and the Indian Railways development activities.

Old Secretariat Building, Faridkot

The 1934 Old Secretariat building at Faridkot is a classical example of fusion between Colonial and Indian Architectural styles. It currently houses the District & Session Court, Commissioner’s office, etc. and is surrounded by other ancillary structures such as lawyers’ chambers (temporary sheds), canteen, residential quarters, parking etc.

AHD prepared a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the entire complex in continuation with the Proposed Conservation Plan submitted earlier in 2007. The DPR proposed would be executed by INTACH whereas site development, electrical works, lay out of LAN, plumbing works, etc. would be handled by PWD, Faridkot.

Shahi Samadh Kapurthala, Punjab

The first phase of the conservation work on this memorial of former rulers of Kapurthala is in the final stage of finishing.
Sainik School, Kapurthala

The Sainik School at Kapurthala was originally the palace of His Highness Maharaja Jagatjit Singh, and modeled on the lines of the famous Palace of Versailles by the well-known French architect, M. Marcel. AHD has successfully completed the first phase of the work, including some emergency work like retrofitting of porches, repairing of wooden staircase of the western entrance and waterproofing of the terrace. The next two phase of work have been worked out in detail.

Historic Sites, Jammu

AH Division jointly with Jammu Chapter undertook a survey of ancient historic Miran Sahib Railway Station, R.S. Pora; and the innumerable temples of Jammu city in order to draft initial proposals to be submitted to the Government of Jammu and Kashmir for preparation of DPR’s, for the conservation/restoration of heritage sites.
One of the proposals for Poonch House (erstwhile palace of Maharaja Poonch) has already been sent to the J&K Government.

**Rajouri Listing**

The AHD has undertaken listing for Rajouri district in Jammu and Kashmir with a grant from the GoI Ministry of Culture. The database can play an important role in the overall development of the Rajouri district in Jammu and Kashmir.

**NEWS FROM NHD**

The eminent conservationist Bittu Sehgal says “To create appreciation of things natural in the sure belief that from appreciation would flow concern and from concern action”. Compared to the degree of attention to built heritage, the awareness about natural heritage is rather low. A recent effort in this direction is the exhibition sponsored by the Delhi Govt. and Ministry of Culture that brought out several aspects relating to the natural conditions of Delhi including geology, climate, flora, fauna, soils, floodplain and rivers. It showed the transformations in an urbanizing region, and highlighted the areas of concern and proposed solutions.

On the advice of Chairman a soft copy of the Exhibition is being forwarded to each Chapter so that exhibitions can take place.

**Holier Ganga**

The National Ganga River Baisin Authority (NGRBA) headed by the Prime Minister approved an action plan to restore the purity of the Ganga river system and improve its ecological health. The Mission will use both modern scientific applications and technologies as well traditional wisdom, for which a team of doctoral students of seven IIT are preparing a comprehensive river basin management plan. State Ganga River Conservation Authorities have been empowered to notify all the NGRBA States – Uttarakhand, UP, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal. The World Bank has agreed to provide $1 billion for the proposed Clean Ganga Mission.
on similar lines can be attempted in their areas to bring people and natural heritage closer together.

The Division is coming out with a publication entitled ‘Environmental Narratives of Delhi’ based on archival material and remembrances of senior city residents. A copy of this book also would be forwarded to the Chapters in due course.

The deliberations following the Sambhar Lake Seminar held at Jaipur in August is being carried forward with a presentation to the Rajasthan Chief Secretary to declare the area as an eco-sensitive zone under the Environment Protection Act and the recently announced Wetland Rules.

Whereas built heritage is sharply defined under the MoEF, the vast area of natural heritage remains outside the purview. For example, the Lonar lake in Maharashtra created by a meteorite crash or the nesting sites of the Olive Ridley turtles on Odisha beaches remain unprotected. NHD is now addressing these issues.

### A Mudhol Family Inspires

Fed up with lack of water and electricity, the Gujannavar family in Mudhol Taluka of Karnataka constructed a water tank that irrigates 200 acres of land. Thanks to the construction of their tank, the water table of the region shot up and there was ample water in all the bore wells of the vicinity. Soon farmers from far and near came to see the tank that has become a role model. Soon another village in Sira Taluk of Tumkur district became a fully rainwater harvesting area. Then another village Inakanahalli with 110 households has become a 100% self sustainable village. Aghyam, a Bangalore based NGO supports such projects by regular monitoring of fluoride mapping to ensure safe drinking water. There are many fluorosis affected villages in Gadag and Tumkur districts. As many as 3575 families adopted family level RWH units under the Sachetana project sponsored by Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (RDPR) of the State Government with each contributing 15-20% of the cost for controlling fluorosis and ensuring safe drinking water.

### Caves of Meghalaya

A cave research body has petitioned the Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh to halt the cement plant proposed to be set up by Lafarge in Meghalaya. It is a threat to numerous cave systems and wildlife of the area. The Jaintia Hills District where the plant is to be built is considered as a Mecca for cavers of the world; and several of them have been listed as the longest and deepest caves of the world by the National Cave Research Protection Organisation.

### INTACH Congratulates Shobita

INTACH heartily congratulates Dr. Shobita Punja on her selection as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to take over the National Culture Fund set up by the Ministry of Culture. She takes leave of INTACH on 31st December, and will be greatly missed. She will be missed by all Chapters as well. But the loss to INTACH is a gain for NFC and the promotion of cultural activities of the country. We can however look forward to her support and continued association with INTACH in a new capacity.

Shobita was invited by INTACH in 1998 to set up the Heritage Education and Communication Service. This new Division was envisaged as a critical factor in meeting INTACH objectives – the creation of greater public awareness and sensitivity to heritage and environmental issues, with special focus on young people as the future guardians of their heritage. She initiated many innovative programmes through the wide network of INTACH Chapters. Heritage Clubs were set up in innumerable schools across all States. She floated the quarterly Young INTACH which became an effective interactive vehicle for school children with awards given for quizzes, paintings and essays winning competitions. She leaves HECS in the good hands of Purnima Datt.

INTACH extends many good wishes to Shobita for every success in her onerous responsibilities at the National Culture Fund.

### Teacher Training Workshop, Ahmedabad

A two day teacher training workshop on Heritage Awareness was held at Ahmedabad on 21-22 October for
32 Middle School teachers of social sciences and also from other disciplines giving the workshop a multidisciplinary approach and integrating heritage awareness. Chief Executive of House of MG, Abhay Mangaldas welcomed the teachers from 15 schools as the Chief Coordinator of the workshop. Advisor Debashish Nayak, Heritage Programme, Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation gave an introduction to the heritage programme, the aim of which is to ‘Get the city back to the people’. Ahmedabad Co-convener Sameer Shukla spoke on the importance of making many people turn their attention towards the heritage of Ahmedabad. Ms. Datt talked about what makes India a unique country with a diversity that is rarely to be seen anywhere else in the world. She elaborated on the importance of heritage education and ignorance of heritage awareness among the youth today. Heritage Education comes when there is understanding, learning, caring etc.

On the second day, a Heritage Walk to the Old City from Swaminarayan Temple to Jama Masjid was organized for the teachers.

Programme for Delhi Schools

HECS and INTACH Delhi Chapter organized an exhibition tour and a competitive forum for school students to celebrate World Heritage Week on 19th November. Nineteen public and government schools with over 180 enthusiastic students also participated in the an impromptu quiz round. Eminent judges from INTACH - Dr. A.G.K. Menon, Ms. Swapna Liddle, and Ms. Ritu Singh awarded four Best Speaker Prizes and two Special Prizes.

INTACH-FOX History Channel Walks by Chapters

For the second year, HECS launched the INTACH Fox programme with Heritage Walks conducted successfully by 48 Chapters during the September - November months. Students were encouraged to write essays on the lesser known aspects of their city’s heritage. Essays were received from as many as 70 cities. From the 5000 essays received 108 regional winners have been selected. The jury also selected the 12 national finalists who are being invited to Delhi in January for the final selection of National Winners.

In the North

The Rohilkhand Chapter of INTACH organized a walk conducted in Tehsil Milak on 1st September with the participation of more than 200 students.

The INTACH Ladakh Chapter organized a walk on 7th October across the old town of Leh with 46 children from various schools.

The Kurukshetra Chapter organized a heritage walk on 5th September with the participation of over 100 people from different walks of life.

The Kanpur Chapter organized a heritage walk on 30th October for around 600 students of Sir Padampat Singhania Education Centre. Around 600 students participated in the walk enthusiastically.
IHECS organized a heritage walk for 100 school students from Gurgaon schools at Sanskriti Pratishthan.

The heritage walk with 150 students organized by the Patiala Chapter on 23rd September started at the polo ground and ended at Sheesh Mahal.

In Uttar Pradesh, the Lucknow Chapter organized a heritage walk on 28th Oct for 250 students of Army Public School. The Nainital Chapter organized the Heritage Walk on 27th October with 102 students and some INTACH Members from the Governors’ House. The Mathura Chapter conducted two Walks on 17th October and 24th October with the participation of 140 students. The first walks included visits to various sites like Kusum Sarover, and Soor Kuttir Ashram.

Leh

Kanpur

Gurgaon

Patiala

Lucknow

In the South

The Kakinada Chapter organized a heritage walk at Victoria Waterworks on 12th September with distinguished guests including District Collector M. Ravi Chandra addressing the children.

The Hyderabad Chapter conducted two walks on 18th September and another in the third week of October. Distinguished guests including District Collector M. Ravi Chandra addressed the students.

The Bangalore Chapter conducted a Heritage Walk on 18th July to Devanahalli Fort with 25 students.

The Pondicherry Chapter organized 8 walks between 20th August and 4th September for 380 students in the Urban Forest of the Swadeshi Mills.

The Bijapur Chapter conducted a nature heritage walk on 27th September from Ibrahim Rouza to 500 year-old Adansona Tree. More than 100 students of the Engineering and Science colleges participated in the walk.

The Trivandrum Chapter organized a heritage walk on 24th October with over 60 students and teachers from six schools.
**In the South**

Two Heritage Walks by the Vishakapatnam Chapter were conducted 10th September and 21st October to 8 places of historical interest in the old city of Visakhapatnam. More than 300 students participated in the walks.

The Chennai Chapter organized three heritage walks on 16th-18th August for 86 students from different schools. The walks were conducted in and around the heritage buildings including Fort St. George.

**East Godavari-Kakinada**

**Bengaluru**

**Puducherry**

**Chennai**

**In the East**

A grand heritage walk was organized on 1st September 2010 at Guwahati with around 2000 people participating. The Governor of Assam flagged off the procession and addressed the participants.

At Hazaribagh the walk on 9th September was attended by over 150 students and some enthusiastic teachers.

The Ranchi Chapter organized three walks to some 17th century sites such as Jagannathpur temple, Durga temple, etc as well as the 19th century Birsa Munda Jail. With the participation of 90 students.

The Bhubaneshwar Chapter organized three walks on 3rd, 10th, and 18th September. Around 150 students participated in the walk around the heritage zone of Bhubaneshwar.

**Hazaribagh**

**Guwahati**
**Bhubaneswar**

In the West

The Shekhawati Chapter organized a heritage walk as part of the My City My History programme on 4th September and 19th October with over 150 students participating in both the walks.

The Aurangabad Chapter organized a heritage walk from Himmayat Bagh to Salim Ali Lake on 25th September, attended by 250 students.

The Mehsana Chapter organized a heritage walk on 17th August for 103 students, commencing from the temple of Lord Hatkeshwar.

The Jodhpur Chapter organized a walk on 13th September for 120 school students at Mandore.

Two walks were organized by the Chandrapur Chapter on 14th and 15th September to the famous temple of Anchaleshwar.

A heritage walk was organized by the Pune Chapter on 20th September was conducted in the Shaniwada and the surrounding areas with around 70 students participating.

The Ajmer Chapter organized three walks, wo in Ajmer and one in Pushkar, on 18th, 20th, and 22nd September for 140 students and 25 teachers from different schools.

The Udaipur Chapter organized the heritage walk on 29th October with students from different schools. The walk conducted at the Gangaur Ghat focused on the conservation of Mewar and Udaipur’s cultural heritage.

**Ajmer**

**Shekhawati**

**Jodhpur**

**Aurangabad**

**Pune**

**Gwalior**
**In Central India**

A heritage walk was organized by the Jabalpur Chapter on 8th October. 165 students participated in the walk to six different heritage sites.

**In the North East**

The Manipur Chapter organized a programme on 26th September to raise awareness about the heritage of Imphal.

A heritage walk organized by the Mizoram Chapter on 10th September was held at Lunglei. With 160 students participating in the walk.

**Mizoram**

**Teachers Training Workshop, Jabalpur**

A two day teacher training workshop on Heritage Awareness was held at Jabalpur on 21-22 December with the participation of 77 teachers from about 70 schools. The workshop mainly targeted middle school teachers teaching social sciences but included some teachers of other disciplines adopting a multidisciplinary approach. Jabalpur Convenor Dr. R.K. Sharma in his introductory speech urged the teachers to open heritage clubs in schools and motivate students to participate in national as well as regional level competitions. Ms. Purnima Datt from HECS along with the members of Jabalpur Chapter lighted the inaugural lamp. An enriching experience of a heritage walk to Rani Durgawati’s Samadhi and the Museum was organized on the second day to sensitise the teachers towards heritage education and conservation.

**A Unique Workshop, A Memorable Experience**

The workshop for schoolgirls held at Sanskriti Pratishthan, Khajuraho from 4th-10th October was unique - both in its concept Jan Madhyam (working with community), and for the outputs generated by this initiative of INTACH. It introduced the young girls to recycling waste, and converting it into saleable items like beaded jewelry made out of waste, papier mache bowls, bamboo items, etc. for local use, and good enough to catch the eye of tourists. They made drawings from nature on paper, before painting the trees and birds on bowls. They learnt to splice bamboo for making birds and bookmarks. They also learnt about costing, pricing and packaging of products. Earlier the boys had worked on clay modeling, going to the villages for collecting material to fire the kiln they built with stone tiles.

On the last day the trainees were pleasantly surprised by their selling experience outside a temple when passers snapped up their handmade products within the few hours given to them.
The Intangible Cultural Heritage Division (ICHD) is currently documenting the songs of the Jogi singers from Haryana. It has commissioned a pictorial book on Ayurveda with the help of AYUSH. A researcher from UK is engaged in transcribing earlier recorded Naga folk stories to be published both in the original language and in English. ICHD is also planning the publication of a 16th century Kannada recipe book translated into English.

Life Member CD Singh from Pune sent Songs Remembered, a compilation of Folk Songs of Punjab translated into English by his mother Shan Gurudev Singh in memory of her husband. It started with just one poem sent casually to the newsletter of IAS Association Maharashtra, and encouraged by her children’s enthusiasm soon cascaded into many more translations with a few illustration by her daughter! As the author explains “I myself had realized a while back that many of these songs are being lost or altered to suit a more cinema-based audience. Also, many Punjabis, both in India and overseas, while enjoying songs, did not understand them fully.......I felt there was a real need not only to conserve these songs in their original form, but also to provide translation that retained the flavour and ethos of Punjab and its culture – of an era, perhaps, now gone”.

A wealth of folk songs exists in every State, sung on occasions and passed down through the generations even in villages – rarely written down. In India there are songs for every occasion, touching every kind of joy or sorrow, or flirting with human foibles or traditional wisdom. Much is in the realm of intangible heritage that requires many more Shan Gurudev Singh to keep them alive.

Ms. Nerupama Y. Modwel has joined ICHD as Consultant.

HECS will be awarding the best ‘artists’ of these products with further training. Hopefully next year they might be selling these JanMadhyam products at the annual Nature Bazaar in Delhi!

**NEWS FROM ICHD**
This quarterly year was wrapped in festivals, that unravelled the many facets of intangible heritage. Each of the celebrations also brought forth the myriad facets of multicultural India in all its heritage glory.

In West Bengal particularly, Durga dominated the community pandals during Navratri. Each night’s celebrations represented one of her nine avatars empowering her to exercise the strength of nine different gods – Shailputri, daughter of the Himalayas with Shiva’s trishul in her right hand; Brahmacharini with prayer beads in her right hand; Chandraghanta with three eyes and 10 hands wielding weapons to fight asuras and demons; laughing Kushmanda with eight hands and riding a lion; Shailputri who married Shiva and gave birth to become Skanda Mata; an armed Katyayani riding a horse; the dark Kalratri breathing fire as she rides a shaiva (dead body); Maha Gauri pure white as the conch, moon and jasmine; and Siddhidatri who worshipped Maha Shakti and acquired eight siddhis.

Dassera is celebrated in different ways in different parts of the country. The Dakshinayana Navaratri of Mysore is another historic festival with its roots in the Vijayanagara Empire. Here Durga is known as Chamundeshwari armed with celestial weapons that were inspirations for royal military conquests and victories, and the ultimate triumph of good over evil. The importance of Dassera to the cultural psyche of the people was understood even by later Muslim rulers like Haider Ali and Tipu Sultan who allowed its continuance – including the Viajayadashmi processions, musical soirees, dance recitals, wrestling bouts, fire works, etc that mark the Navratri of South India.

In Thanjavur dolls of all sorts are placed on display during this time. A traditional kolu is never complete without a pair of marappachi figures. Bhoopathy, a fifth generation doll maker says that although ‘thalai atti bommai’ is used to describe a hen-pecked husband, the dolls made for Dassera involve a lot of artistry, hard work and have a message for children. In fact the Talai Atti Bommai of Thanjavur is now included in the Geographical Indication Registry, as the entire doll making process is a lengthy painstaking tradition that has come down the centuries.

Soon thereafter in November it was Diwali, time for Lakshmi and Ganesh Puja. The Festival of Lights, and avoidable crackers, was a time for self indulgence for many.

Christmas celebrations is no more just about the birth of Jesus, all communities flow with the merry mood of yuletide. It has become one of the happy secular festivals of India when everybody switches into anticipation of a brand New Year ahead. After which, we must once again turn back our attention to preserving all this rich heritage woven into the fabric of our country!

Legend has it that ajrakh, a synergy between handloom textile and vegetable dyes, has come down from the time of Ramayana. The weavers were Khatri Brahmans, descendants of Lav and Kush, brought to Kutch by its king along with dyers, printers, potters, etc. Two generations later they converted to Islam, and after an earthquake finally settled in Ajrakpur near Bhuj. Ajrakh printing entails several processes, one of its unique feature is the repetition of vegetable dyeing and printing on both sides in perfect cohesion to ensure brilliance. It uses nearly 200 traditional geometrical and floral designs. Ajrakh is traditionally worn by the pastoral Maldhari community, who even line their baby cradles with it apart from using it for pagdis, lungis and skirts. Recently some signature Ajrakh prints were displayed by the Crafts Council of India at its heritage textile revival exhibition called Kamala.
**News from Here & There**

**Iconic Gandhiji**

Gandhi Jayanti, 2nd October is celebrated as a national holiday without many people remembering his courage and sacrifice that gave birth to a unique non-violent revolution that shook the mighty Raj and changed the course of Indian history. Mahatma Gandhi is forever enshrined as a ‘real’ memory of our nation, while Gandhigiri is only packaged in reel memory. The docu-drama *Kuche Unkhule Panne* commissioned by the Sangeet Natak Akademi, performed at the Nehru Memorial Museum in October, was an interesting combination of puppets, shadows, projections, and rare archival photographs of many unsung heroes of our freedom struggle – and images of Gandhi, aptly described as “every freedom movement chronicler’s last resort”. Director Aruna Roy could have focused a little more on Gandhi. She chose Surya Sen for the longest part to highlight the gory torture meted out to the freedom fighters. Matangiri Hara called ‘Budi Gandhi Mahila’, Bhikaji Rustom Cama who hoisted the freedom flag in Berlin in 1907, and others also feature. For most of the biographies a mix of narration, photographs, shadow play, stringed puppets, readings from documents or newspapers were used – with images of Gandhi as a backdrop.

**Plundered Tropics**

According to the latest *Living Planet Report*, modern western lifestyles are plundering natural resources from the tropics at an alarming rate. The overall health of animal species, considered an important indicator of the health of eco-systems, has now been steadied after years of decline. However the global figure masks a growing gap between the temperate zones to the north and south of the equator. Since 1970 the richer countries in temperate zones have enjoyed a 30% rise in populations of more than 2500 different mammal, bird, reptile and amphibian species. The tropical zones in contrast, where most of the planet’s volume and variety of species live, has seen a dramatic 60% decline. The earth’s population is consuming the equivalent of 1.5 planets’ worth of natural resources i.e. it takes one and half years to replenish the resources used in one year. The recent international conference at Nagoya, Japan called for a series of changes to address this problem. It spells out the more protected areas, zero deforestation, elimination of over-fishing and other destructive fishing practices, and finding ways and means of putting a value on biodiversity and ecosystem services.

**Humpback Whale**

A female humpback whale has broken the world record for travel by any mammal, swimming 9800 kilometres from the Atlantic to the Indian Ocean in search of a mate, as reported in the *Biology Letters*. She was first photographed at a breeding ground off Brazil coast; and by sheer chance identified because of her distinctive tail shape off the Madagascar coast two years later. Until recently it was thought only males were likely to wander long distances in quest of a partner, as humpbacks are known to be long distance swimmers travelling between far southern latitude in the Atlantic for feeding and returning to a tropical latitude in the Atlantic for breeding. But this discovery suggests that humpbacks have a migratory pattern that straddles longitudes, travelling east-west to breed. Humpbacks driven close to extinction through over hunting are now staging a comeback.

**UNESCO Listing**

The UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity met in November at Nairobi to consider 47 nominations from 29 countries for listing as “a living heritage”.

**News from Publications Division**

INTACH has recently acquired an ISBN (International Standard Book Numbering) thanks to the efforts of in charge Ms. Bela Butalia. All books published by INTACH should carry the ISBN number to facilitate acceptance of our books in academic institutions and libraries in India and overseas.

A large number of books published by INTACH and its Chapters are being put on the websites of renowned distributors, making it easy to order and access the publications.

**NEWS FROM CULTURAL DIVISION**

*Amir Khusro’s : Romancing the Divine* by Rekha Surya was organized on 25th November at the INTACH Open Air Theatre. It was in essence Sufi poetry sung in the light classical Hindustani style.
The gingerbread making of Croatia, the young men dressed as women with brooms rampaging through a Flanders town, French chef preparing four-course banquets, traditional skills in danger of extinction, music, handicrafts, dances, tribal customs, etc. were some of the applications for listing as the world’s cultural treasures. Chapters might like to give some thought to “living heritage” in their region for such UNESCO nominations next year.

**Legendry Forts**

Theatre artist GS Chani from Chandigarh has produced a 26-part documentary on Forts, researched by Pushpesh Pant and directed by Gyandev Singh. It tells soul-stirring tales of grandeur and valour, and little known information about the people who built and lived in these forts. Of special interest to conservationists is a small section of each episode that touches on their preservation and the hardships faced by people living in them.

**Urban Impact**

Urbanisation impacts man, and not too strangely even the birds! A survey of the Max Planck Institute shows that the timing of breeding behaviour is affected, that most song birds have stopped singing and mating. Moreover street lights often trick the birds into thinking that it is still daytime besides the higher risk of predation. Ornithologist Dr. Richard Fuller of Sheffield confirms that daytime noise, pollution, nocturnal lights, etc. have a have a strong impact on the avian population. What can we do about this?

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**Calendar of Forthcoming Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Type</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21st January, 2011</td>
<td>3 pm</td>
<td>Film Screening</td>
<td>‘Bhavai’ (35 mins) – Folk Theatre of Gujarat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27th January, 2011</td>
<td>2:30 pm</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>‘Indian Crafts-Our Past is also a Vibrant Future’ – by Laila Tyabji</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th February, 2011</td>
<td>3 pm</td>
<td>Film Screening</td>
<td>‘Hola Mohalla’ (27 mins) – The Celebration of Holi in Sikh Tradition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th February, 2011</td>
<td>3 pm</td>
<td>Cultural Event</td>
<td>Percussion Jugalbandi /Prabandh singing, Jogi Singers from Haryana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th February, 2011</td>
<td>3 pm</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>‘UNESCO Convention for Intangible Cultural Heritage’ - by Dr. Sudha Gopalakrishnan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th March, 2011</td>
<td>3 pm</td>
<td>Film Screening</td>
<td>‘Yakshagana’ (39 mins)– Folk Theatre of Karnataka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28th March, 2011</td>
<td>3 pm</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>To be decided</td>
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