

IGRMS NEWS



इन्दिरा गाँधी राष्ट्रीय मानव संग्रहालय, भोपाल संस्कृति मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार नई दिल्ली का एक स्वायत्तशासी संस्थान
INDIRA GANDHI RASHTRIYA MANAV SANGRAHALAYA, BHOPAL An Autonomous Organisation of the Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India



Quarterly Newsletter Oct. - December 2016



मानव संग्रहालय

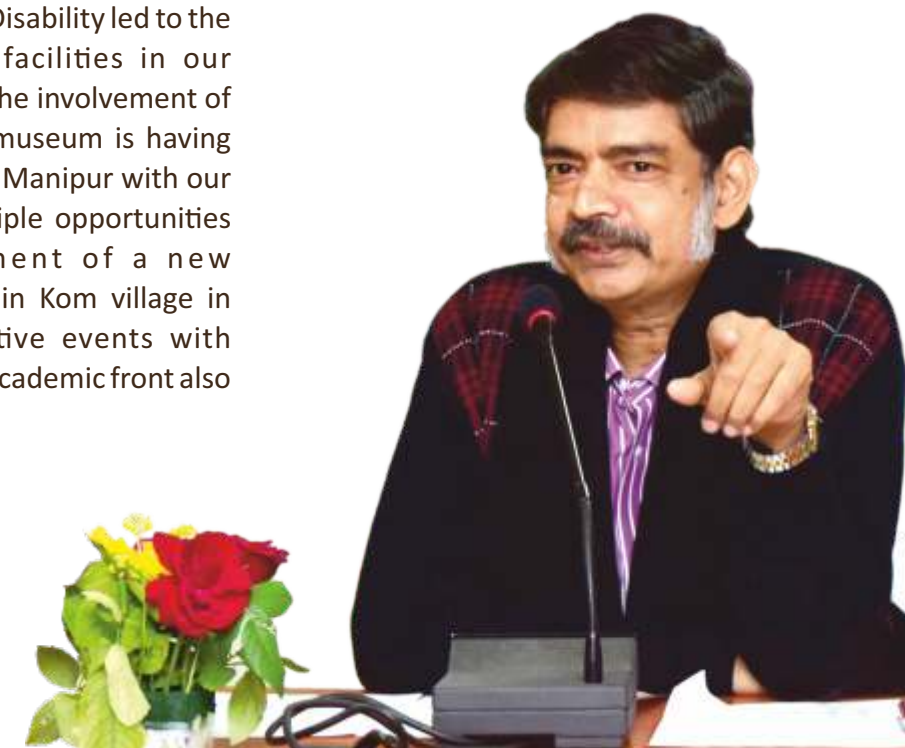
संस्कृतियों की इंद्रधनुषी आभा | Rainbow View of Cultures

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Friends, visitors and well wishers of IGRMS will be happy to know that we are introducing a new segment to reflect on the diversity and aesthetic appeal of pottery tradition of India with the installation of a tower of pots and other forms by engaging artists from Manipur and Assam and this will continue in different phases. Already this unique tower has attracted huge attention of our visitors. Moreover, there are good numbers of international visitors, performers and scholars got engaged with various activities of our museum who have shared their valuable opinion as well. Celebration of International Day of Persons with Disability led to the establishment of the special facilities in our Traditional Technology Park with the involvement of Arusi, an NGO, with whom our museum is having long term partnership. My visit to Manipur with our curatorial staffs has lead to multiple opportunities which includes establishment of a new Interpretation Centre of IGRMS in Kom village in Manipur and future collaborative events with Manipur University. Moreover, in academic front also

we could organize some major collaborative seminars on issues having huge contemporary relevance. Actual as well as virtual visitors and our well wishers comments in social media regarding our wide range of activities give us impetus to work harder towards taking innovative initiatives and expanding new horizons as per our mandates.

Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri
DIRECTOR, IGRMS



■ VAADHYA: An Exhibition On Ethno-Musical Tradition of India

IGRMS comes up with a new exhibition under the theme “**VAADHYA**”, an exhibition showcasing **Ethno-Musical Instruments of India** which was developed and opened in the Southern Regional Centre, Mysore. The exhibition was inaugurated by Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri, Director of IGRMS in the presence of dignitaries and member of various organizations from the Regional Museum of Natural History, Anthropological Survey of India, the State Archaeology Department. The exhibition was opened for the public on 4th October 2016 at the centre. On this occasion, the Centre organised a Museum Popular Lecture contextualising with the

theme of exhibition. **Prof. A Chellaperumal**, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, Pondicherry University delivered his lecture on 'Ethno – Musical Instruments of South Indian tribal Communities'. In this lecture he gave a broad understanding on the anthropological insights into the understanding of ethnic-music and expressed the view and concerns of various scholars who have contributed in the field of Ethno-Musicology. Cultural programmes on performing art forms were organized for two days with the participants of 38 artists from Assam and Tripura.



Photographs depicting various displays in Exhibition on Ethno-Musical Tradition of India

Traditional technology exhibition of Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya exhibits the various indigenous techniques used by the tribal and folk population of various parts of our country. A team of traditional artisans from Vizianagaram district, Andhra Pradesh renovated the existing traditional lime extracting exhibition complex. The traditional technology involved in the process of lime extraction from limestone using the traditional hearth were demonstrated by the artists to the general public after the renovation work. In this technique coal is mixed with limestone and heated up to 1400 degree Celsius which results in transformation of coal into ash and melted lime. The

lime thus produced is used for paintings houses and construction works from many a centuries.

This technique of lime extraction is unique and the knowledge of extraction is handed down from generations to generations. With the decreasing use of lime, extraction method is also losing its utility gradually.

In order to upkeep and maintain the existing exhibits in the traditional technology exhibition of the museum, museum organises demonstration programme by inviting skilful artists who could carry forward this indigenous knowledge to the younger generations.



Inauguration ceremony of lime extraction exhibition at Traditional technology park



The artist from Andhra Pradesh demonstrating the extraction of lime

Exhibit of the Month

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■ NAVAGUNJARA

Community: Chitrakar
Area: Odisha
Accession No- 2013 - 489
Dimensions- H = 32cm, L = 40cm, B = 12.5cm

Under the series 'Exhibit of the Month' for October 2016 a traditional object from Odisha - "Navagunjara" a wooden effigy with intricate motifs is on display in the indoor exhibition building Veethi Sankul. It was inaugurated by Mr. Jitendra Agrawal, IFS (PCCF-Wildlife, MP Government. From the sources it is learnt that in the Oriya Mahabharata episode Arujna voluntarily sought his 12 years of exile from Draupadi for his reluctant entry in her bedroom and went to Manibhadra Mountain. In order to examine Arjuna Lord Krishna appeared as Navagunjara, which had the head, neck, waist, hump, tail legs of different animals and a human hand holding a lotus. As a natural reaction Arjuna took his bow to attack the monster with a social gesture but suddenly he noticed the lotus in the monster's hand and lowered his bow. Krishna then appears to him and says that the Navagunjara is another of his forms, similar to the Viratsvarupa of the Bhagwad Gita". The Navagunjara has symbolic representations of the nine animals such as- the head of Rooster- awakening



others around, could mean leadership quality too; the neck of a peacock- pride or beauty; the waist of lion- symbol of majesty; the hump of bull- purity or devotion; the tail of serpent- balance, symbol of Kundalini, balanced energies; the leg of an elephant- symbol of stability; leg of a tiger- symbol of speed; leg of an antelope- symbol of gentleness; hand of a human holding a lotus- symbol of spiritual quest. This exhibit of the month was compiled by Mr. Arun Kiro, Assistant Curator.



Shri Jitendra Agrawal, IFS lighting the lamp during inauguration of Navagunjara

Miss Banita explaining the exhibition to the guests

■ Zazir / Hookah

Community: Muslim
Area: Jammu & Kashmir
Accession No- 98 - 693
Dimensions- Length- 83cm, Width- 22cm

Under the series of 'The exhibit of the month' for the month of December 2016 - "Zazir" a paper mache replica of traditional smoking pipe from Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir is on display in the indoor exhibition building - Veethi Sankul. Present exhibit is a specimen representing indigenously made water based smoking instrument. Locally known as Zazir in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir, it is used by both men and women. Men of same caste or sub-caste gather around in evening to share a common zazir where they share and discuss social and other village matters. In other parts of India especially Haryana and Rajasthan it is customary to offer zazir to the guest where it is considered as a part of hospitality. Regarding the origin it is believed that *zazir* had its origin from medieval India dating back to Mughal era especially during the rule of Mughal emperor Akbar in the late 16th century. As suggested by his royal physicians, it was invented as a media of reducing potential harm from smoking. It can be assumed that it first originated in India and may have

spread to Persia where it is known as Narghile and then later on spread to Turkey. Zazir became a popular smoking instrument in the areas where the Mughals had strong influence. The popularity among noblemen, this new smoking device soon became a status symbol for the Indian aristocracy. Presently Zazir is used as a decorative item by the people. This exhibit of the month is compiled by Shri Sarabjeet Singh Museum Associate of IGRMS.



Zazir- a traditional smoking pipe decorated with papier mache craft

Shri D S Rao, lighting the lamp during inauguration ceremony of zazir

Exhibit of the Month

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December 2016



Heritage Corner at Govt. HSS, Parwalia Sadak

Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya is awarding heritage corner exhibition to schools for promoting culture and heritage amongst the students with exemplary participation in “Poubi Lai – The story of giant Python” exhibition and activities. In this series, the second heritage corner was organised at Govt. Higher Secondary School, Parwalia Sadak, Bhopal. The exhibition focuses on diverse cultural heritage of North-East India. The exhibition dedicated to the school on Monday 21 November, 2016. Introducing the exhibition, Prof. Chaudhuri said, “It is our moral responsibility to protect the Indian culture. The museum is home to entertainment as well as informal

education. Students of Govt. HSS, Parwalia Sadak. Hence, this museum takes this pleasure to present the "Heritage Corner", an exhibition on India's North-eastern states. The country's cultural heritage protection is now the responsibility of the present generation. If we love for our nation's pride and identity, then we must know things of socio-cultural importance and ensure that the changes in our traditions don't affect our respect for them. The heritages in Manav Sangrahalaya mentally connect visitors with our national integration”.



Inauguration event of the Heritage Corner exhibition

Students taking a look in to the Exhibition



Students taking a look in to the Exhibition

Students explaining their projects to the Museum officials



"एक दैत्याकार अजगर की कहानी" - पोउबी लाई

इन्दिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय मानव संग्रहालय द्वारा एकल प्रादर्श प्रदर्शनी में भाग लेने वाले स्कूलों में से उत्कृष्ट प्रतिभागी विद्यालयों के विद्यार्थियों में संस्कृति और धरोहर के प्रति जागरूकता के विकास हेतु प्रोत्साहन स्वरूप हैरिटेज कार्नर्स (धरोहर झरोखा) भेंट देने की श्रंखला के अंतर्गत भेल स्थित सेंट थेरेसा गर्ल्स स्कूल, भोपाल को हैरिटेज कार्नर की भेंट दी गई।

उल्लेखनीय है कि संग्रहालय द्वारा जनवरी से फरवरी 2016 के मध्य पोऊबी लाई- एक दैत्याकार अजगर की कहानी नामक एकल प्रदर्श प्रदर्शनी का आयोजन स्कूली बच्चों के लिए विशेष गतिविधियों के साथ किया गया था. उस कार्यक्रम में विद्यार्थियों द्वारा प्रतिभागिता के आधार पर पुरस्कार स्वरूप हैरिटेज कार्नर छायाचित्र प्रदर्शनियों प्रदान की जानी थी. विद्यार्थियों को पूर्वोत्तर भारत की संस्कृति और वहां के लोगो की जीवन शैली से परिचित कराने हेतु लगभग 30



धरोहर झरोखा

छायाचित्रों की मदद से विशेष रूप से तैयार की गई, यह प्रदर्शनी विद्यार्थी व शिक्षक वर्ग के प्रति अत्यंत लोकप्रिय है.

सेंट थेरेसा सिनीयर सेकंड्री स्कूल, भोपाल में एक विशेष समारोह में संग्रहालय के कार्यालय अध्यक्ष श्री डी एस राव, श्री आनंद टहनगुरिया तथा डॉ. एस. के. पाण्डे, सहायक कीपर की उपस्थिति में स्कूल के प्राचार्य ने धरोहर झरोखे का उद्घाटन किया



Inauguration of Heritage Corner exhibition

Sri Ashok Sharma describing the events in photographs



School children offering a prayer during the inaugural event

Children enjoying the Heritage Corner Exhibition in their School

■ 'हम चित्र बनाते हैं'

इंदिरा गाँधी राष्ट्रीय मानव संग्रहालय में एन इवनिंग विथ रूस्टर शीर्षक से आई.आई. टी बाम्बे की फेकल्टी सुश्री नीना सबनानी के व्याख्यान, 'हम चित्र बनाते हैं' नामक फिल्म के प्रदर्शन तथा भील जनजातीय कलाकारों हेतु विशेष कार्यशाला का आयोजन दिनांक 16 से 20 नवम्बर, 2016 के मध्य किया गया। 'हम चित्र बनाते हैं' मध्यप्रदेश के भील समुदाय के उद्भव मिथक का चित्रात्मक निरूपण है। भील समुदाय के लिये चित्र बनाना पूजा करने की तरह है और यह फिल्म इसे ही व्याख्यायित करती है। भील कलाकार श्री शेर सिंह तथा फिल्म निर्मात्री सुश्री नीना सबनानी के आपसी सहयोग से निर्मित इस फिल्म में दोनों ने मिलकर कथा वाचन के तरीके तलाशे हैं। नीना सबनानी आई आई टी बाम्बे के इंडस्ट्रियल डिजाइन सेंटर में प्रोफेसर के रूप में कार्यरत एक कलाकार तथा कथाकार हैं। इसके उपरान्त भोपाल में निवासरत् भील समुदाय के सदस्यों हेतु आधुनिक संचार साधनों एवं उपकरणों के प्रयोग पर एक प्रशिक्षण कार्यशाला भी आयोजित की गई।



Prof. Neena Sabnani

Staff of IGRMS interacting with the Speaker

Screening of the animation film at IGRMS



Tribal Artist Shri Sher Singh expressing his views during the interactive session



■ The Tribes of Pachmarhi: Some Anthropological Observations by Dr. P. Sankara Rao



Dr. P. Sankara Rao, Assistant Keeper, along with his team of IGRMS officials visited Pachmarhi bio-reserve areas of Madhya Pradesh to explore and conduct anthropological study of the tribe of Pachmarhi. Based on this field work, Dr. Rao delivered a Curatorial Talk on "The Tribes of Pachmarhi: some Anthropological Observations" on 18/11/2016 at the conference hall of the museum.

Beginning with the toponymy of Panchmari that locally described as Panch Mati, or five huts, is derived from five ancient caves, actually located on the hills of the Satpura range in Hoshangabad district of Madhya Pradesh, Dr Rao explains about the life and people, their biological and cultural relationship with the given geographical settings of the beautiful ranges of hills. "According to Hindu mythological tradition, these caves are one of the places at which the *Pandava* brothers sojourned during the period of their wanderings" said Dr. Rao. He explained about the ethnography, environment and religion including oral traditions such as folktales, legends, superstitions and myths which are reflected to the community through individual and group behaviour. He conducted his study among the nine tribal villages including hamlets, mainly inhabited by the indigenous tribes such as Gonds, Korku, Bharia and Mavasi etc. His lecture also explains the process of change that geared up through contacts with outsiders in different ways. During the talk, Dr Rao also gave descriptive anthropological account of the tribes of Pachmarhi. The study was conducted during the month of May, 2014 and the talk was based on the primary data collected by him from the field through interview and participant observation method.



Tribal life of Pachmarhi at a glance - house type, people and their activities

Under the Ministry of External Affairs and HUDCO, Govt. of India, 24 trainees from 16 countries - Egypt, Ghana, Russia, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Sudan, Afghanistan, Sri-Lanka, Uganda, Cambodia, Nepal, Cameroon, Congo, Malawi, Mauritius & Kenya, undergoing training at Human Settlement Management Institute, New Delhi visited the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal on a special guided tour of the museum. The visit began with a warm reception and introduction with Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri, Director, IGRMS. A visual introduction of IGRMS through a short documentary film was screened on the occasion to provide a glimpse on the introduction of the museum. Guided tour was organised at different exhibition areas of the museum. In an interaction with the trainees, Ms. Aleksandra Pannikova from Russia said *"we will put efforts to develop a similar museum in our region. It is an impeccable reflection of Indian society, which cannot be compared"*. Mr. Norman Rugumya from Uganda thanked Ministry of External Affairs and said we request MoEA to organize more such programmes enabling us visit such cultural heritages of India.

Dr. Bertrand de Hartingh, Counsellor for corporation and Cultural Affairs at the French Embassy visited IGRMS along with Director of Alliance

Francaise Ms Patrica Poupon in the month of November 2016. The curators of the Museum, Shri Arun Kiro, Dr. Rakesh Nayal, Dr. Sankara Rao and Project Engineer Shri Ajay Shrivastava along with other officials guided him to the open air Museum exhibition Tribal habitat. Museum Memento was also presented to the Guest on this occasion.

■ Visit of renowned vocalist

'It makes me feel very bad that why did not I come here before; it is my first visit to India and I am glad that I could come to Bhopal. I am to recollect my mother's memories who is of 83 and cannot travel' said **Ms. Saadat Turkoz, a renowned vocalist of Turkish origin settled in Switzerland**. In a special visit to the Ethno-music gallery of the museum, Ms. Saadat shared that her mother spent a part of her childhood in Islamnagar and Kazee camp as Kazak refugees. She often tells us about the city of Bhopal where big lake located, memories of Chowk Bazar where she used to sell hand-made caps are still alive. Being a professional vocalist Ms. Saadat has come to India for exchange in field of music. She felt this visit a very memorable tour and conveyed her appraisal of remarks on Museum's collection and display being set up quite congenial with the mesmerising natural beauty of Bhopal.

■ Special visit of Tribal students

Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya organised a special three day trip for tribal students of Betul district. The special trip was conducted under 'Special visit of Tribal students' a programme of IGRMS. Accordingly this year 50 students from Govt. Hostel, Betul visited IGRMS, where all arrangements (including food and lodging) had been arranged by IGRMS. Students visited Himalayan Village, Rock Art Shelter, Mythological Trail, Veethi Sankul (Indoor exhibition), Tribal Habitat, Avritti Bhawan, coastal village. The students were guided by the staff of the museum for a smooth and educative purpose.



Director IGRMS, addressing the students during their educational tour at IGRMS



Students in a guided tour to the Ethno-music gallery of IGRMS



Students interacting with the Potters from Majuli, Assam and taking a look in to the exhibition

A view of the guided tour organised by the museum for the scholars from abroad



■ सागर इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ साइंस एंड टेक्नोलॉजी के विद्यार्थियों का संग्रहालय भ्रमण:

इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय मानव संग्रहालय, भोपाल में संग्रहालय शैक्षणिक कार्यक्रम के तहत डॉ. योगेश शर्मा के नेतृत्व में सागर इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ साइंस एंड टेक्नोलॉजी, भोपाल के 350 छात्र-छात्राओं ने मानव संग्रहालय के मुक्ताकाश प्रदर्शनी में स्थित विभिन्न जनजातियों के आवास प्रकार को अपने अकादमिक आवश्यकताओं के अनुसार अवलोकन किया तथा प्रदर्शिनियों के माध्यम से भारत की पारम्परिक जीवन शैलियों की विशेषताओं, हजारों वर्षों से पोषित स्थानीय ज्ञान तथा नैतिक मूल्यों को जाना साथ ही स्थानीय मूल्यों और परम्पराओं के अभूतपूर्व विनाश के प्रति लोगों को सचेत करने की प्रक्रिया में मानव संग्रहालय के योगदान को भारतीय सामाज के लिए महत्वपूर्ण माना। इस अवसर पर मानव संग्रहालय के वरिष्ठ मानव वैज्ञानिकों ने विद्यार्थियों का मार्गदर्शन



■ भारतीय वन प्रबंधन संस्थान, भोपाल के विद्यार्थियों का संग्रहालय भ्रमण

इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय मानव संग्रहालय, भोपाल राष्ट्रीय एकता एवं विलुप्त प्राय परंतु महत्वपूर्ण सांस्कृतिक परम्पराओं के साल्वेज और पुनर्जीविकरण हेतु शोध एवं प्रशिक्षण को बढ़ावा देने तथा अंतर संस्थानिक संबंध बनाने हेतु क्रियाशील है। इसी तारतम्य में भारतीय वन प्रबंधन संस्थान, भोपाल के स्नातकोत्तर कार्यक्रम के विद्यार्थियों ने मानव संग्रहालय का अवलोकन किया। छात्र-छात्राओं ने समाज और राज्य व्यवस्था कोर्स के अंतर्गत डॉ. यु.के. सरमा और डॉ. आशीष डेविड के नेतृत्व में भाग लिया। मानव संग्रहालय ने हमेशा इस प्रकार सीखने और समझने की प्रक्रिया प्रोत्साहित करते हुए सहयोग प्रदान किया है। इस अवसर पर मानव संग्रहालय के क्यूरेटोरियल विंग के मानव वैज्ञानिकों ने विद्यार्थियों का मार्गदर्शन किया।



■ छई-छप्पा-छई: दिव्यांग बच्चों को समर्पित विषेष कार्यक्रम

इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय मानव संग्रहालय में आरुषि संस्था के सहयोग से दिनांक 3 दिसम्बर, 2016 को विश्व विकलांग दिवस के अवसर पर एक विशेष कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया। इस अवसर पर दिव्यांग बच्चों हेतु विविध मनोरंजनात्मक गतिविधियों सहित संग्रहालय की मुक्ताकाश प्रदर्शनी पारंपरिक तकनीकी पर ब्रेल लिपि में एक एल्बम का विमोचन किया गया। एल्बम पारंपरिक तकनीक मुक्ताकाश प्रदर्शनी के विभिन्न प्रादर्शों का ब्रेल लिपि में वर्णन पर आधारित है ताकि नेत्रहीन दर्शक भी इस प्रदर्शनी को समझ सकें। इस अवसर पर श्री अरुण किरो ने कहा "ब्रेल पद्धति एक तरह की लिपि है, जिसको विश्व भर में नेत्रहीनों को पढ़ने और लिखने में छूकर व्यवहार में लाया जाता है। संग्रहालय द्वारा विकलांग दर्शकों के लिए संग्रहालय भ्रमण को सहज बनाने कि दिशा में यह एक और महत्वपूर्ण कदम है"।



इस अवसर पर आरुषि परिवार के श्री कमल ने द्विभाषीय ब्रेल को पढ़कर भी सुनाया।

इस अवसर पर आयोजित चित्रकला, स्पून रेस, चेंयर रेस, हिट दा टारगेट, व्हीलचेंयर रेस आदि प्रतियोगिताओं में विकलांग बच्चों ने भाग लिया। इस अवसर पर बड़ी संख्या में मौजूद अभिभावकों, वालेंटियर्स, अरुषि व इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय मानव संग्रहालय, भोपाल के सदस्य तथा दर्शकों ने बच्चों का उत्साह वर्धन किया। प्रतियोगिताओं के पश्चात संग्रहालय द्वारा हर प्रतियोगिता के शीर्ष तीन विजेताओं को नकद पुरस्कार देकर सम्मानित किया गया।



■ संग्रहालय में संविधान दिवस का आयोजन

संग्रहालय ने 26 नवम्बर 2016 को प्रो. निशा दुबे विभागाध्यक्ष विधि विभाग, बरकतुल्लाह विश्वविद्यालय द्वारा विशेष व्याख्यान के साथ संविधान दिवस मनाया। इस अवसर पर प्रो. दुबे ने अपने उद्बोधन में संवैधानिक मूल्यों को बढ़ावा देने के लिए संविधान की मूल प्रस्तावना को उपस्थित दर्शकों को समझाते हुए कहा कि हमें संविधान के प्रति, उसकी आत्मा और प्रस्तावना के प्रति, जनजागृति फैलाने की आवश्यकता है अगर लोग संविधान की आत्मा को समझ गए और उनमें संविधान में वर्णित कर्तव्यों के प्रति जागृति आ गई तो हमारी बहुत सारी समस्याएँ स्वतः ही सुलझ जायेंगी। कार्यक्रम के प्रारंभ में संविधान की प्रस्तावना का वाचन श्री सुधीर श्रीवास्तव, प्रकाशन अधिकारी द्वारा किया गया। धन्यवाद ज्ञापन श्री दीपक कुमार चौधरी, संरक्षण एसोसिएट द्वारा किया गया।



■ International North-East conference

The 4th International conference on North-east India was organised by the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal in collaboration with the Sikkim University at the University campus on 24th Nov 2016. The conference was held for three days under the theme- "Re-framing India's North-East -People Power and Perspectives". The Seminar was inaugurated by Prof. T.B. Subba, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of Sikkim University. Prof. A C Sinha, Dr J W Fernandez, Prof Bengt Karlsson and other dignitaries. were also present Shri Arun Kiro, Asst Curator represented Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav, Bhopal. A photographic exhibition on North- East India curated by Prof Bengt was also organised during the conference. The three days seminar covers thirteen technical sessions where around hundred papers were presented by the scholars, researchers and social scientists from India and abroad.



A view of the guided tour organised by the museum for the scholars from abroad

■ International Seminar on Anthropological Research in North East India: Retrospect and Prospect

The Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal in collaboration with the Dept. of Anthropology, Manipur University, Indian 'Anthropological Society, Kolkata and the Anthropological Society Manipur jointly have organised the 46th Annual Congress of the Indian Anthropological Society at the Department of Anthropology, Manipur University from 8th to 11th November 2016. Hon'ble Dr. Najma Heptulla, Her Excellency, the Governor of Manipur graced the inaugural function as the Chief Guest. Dr. Kh. Ratan Kumar, Hon'ble Minister, Education & Transport, Manipur, Prof. Adya Prasad Pandey, Vice Chancellor, Manipur University, attended the function as Guest of Honour. Prof. Rajat Kanti Das, President, Indian Anthropological Society, Kolkata, presided the function. Prof. W.Nabakumar, Deptt. of Anthropology, Manipur University delivered Key Note address on the occasion. A Souvenir and Book of Abstract was

released by the Chief Guest and the members present on the Dias. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Guest in her speech, expressed an appreciation to the key note address delivered by Prof. W. Nabakumar and complemented the address very thoughtful. "His lecture has linked Anthropology in today's reality of globalisation and exploitation, and the Anthropology as a science has always fascinated me and this conference will definitely bring new light into the Anthropological research in North East India, she added. Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri, Director, IGRMS, on this special occasion gave introduction about the Tarak Chandra Chaudhuri memorial award and whom this award is conferred to this year. The prestigious award is given for contribution towards Discipline of Anthropology in India. This year the award goes to one of the senior most eminent Anthropologist- Prof. A.C. Bhagavati, Dept. of Anthropology, Gauhati University, Assam.

Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri, Director, IGRMS speaking on the inaugural event of the International Seminar



Delegates participating the International Seminar at Manipur University



■ National Seminar - Tribal Livelihood: Status, Challenges and Possibilities

Rajiv Gandhi Chair in Contemporary Studies, Barkatullah University, Bhopal in collaboration with Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal organised a two days National seminar on Tribal Livelihood: Status, Challenges and Possibilities from 6-7th December 2016 at the Department of Sociology, Barkatullah University, Bhopal. Prof. S.N. Chaudhary in his Welcome Address gave a brief introduction about the seminar explaining the concept and philosophy of tribal livelihood in the changing scenario and dimensions of their social life. In the inaugural session, key note address was delivered by Prof. M.N.Karna, Ex Director, A.N.Sinha Institute of Social Studies, Patna. He delivered his address with special reference to livelihood issue of tribes of North-East India.

The Inaugural session was presided over by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of Barkatullah University, Bhopal- Dr. M.D. Tiwari. In his address he highlighted that seminar is very relevant in the contemporary scenario and efforts should be made to improve the livelihood of the tribal through such discussion and discourses which would be useful for policy makers and planners. Dr. Hitesh Bajpai, Chairman, Madhya Pradesh State Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd, Bhopal

graced the occasion as the Chief Guest of the inaugural session. Speaking on the occasion, he pointed out that focus should be made on the applied aspect of knowledge. He said, when we look at the livelihood of the tribal, we should give attention on the happiness index, availability of opportunities, social support, healthy life expectancy, freedom of life choices. Prof. S.R Mondal, Chair Professor of Anthropology and Sociology, Centre for Himalayan Studies, University of North Bengal, Darjeeling and Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri, Director, Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal graced the occasion as the Special Guest in the inaugural session. Prof. S.R Mondal said that while discussing tribes and tribal life we must enquire theoretical and empirical issues with conceptual clarity. Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri highlighted that when we look at tribal development, question of economy and livelihood remains at the core. Guest of honour of the inaugural session Prof. Y.S Sisodia, Madhya Pradesh Institute of Social Science Research, Ujjain highlighted that there is a lack of delivery mechanism when we talk of tribal development issue. He urged that engagement of tribals in decision making is very important.



National Seminar at the Barkatullah University, Bhopal

■ 'Myths, Similes and Memory Traces: Imageries of Abduction in the Ramayana Universe'



Dr. Roma Chatterjee, Professor, Delhi School of Economics, Delhi University spoke on 'Myths, Similes and Memory Traces: Imageries of Abduction in the Ramayana Universe'. The lecture was chaired by Director, IGRMS, Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri. Introducing the Pradhans who are a major-sub tribe of Gond tribe of Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh, she informed that her research is grounded with in-depth study and analysis of the tribal paintings done by Shri Venkat, Shri Anand, Smt Kala Bai and Shri Magru. She found that every painter has painted expanded stories based on legends of Ramayana learnt through

oral description. Where they have painted prominent characters of Ramayana viz Lakshmana and Sita which are depicted through clouds, sounds etc. Professor Chatterjee described that the characters in the painting for depiction of ladies singing with musical instrument Bana are unique.

Citing an episode from the local version of Ramayana in the painting where Sita along with her seven sisters came down from Indralok (heaven) and took bath in the lake and a Bramha flower began to bloom on their head; the depiction of which in the paintings of Pradhan tribe was an exceptional theme in terms of their expression and presentation. "The stories may be variegated, interesting and sometimes unheard", One can also find a story of Laxmana being undertaken Agni Pariksha", she added. Similarly, Professor Chatterjee also cited examples from traditional paintings from Gond which reflect many versions from many scenes of Ramayana besides the scenes mentioned above.

Prof. Sarit K. Chaudhuri, Director, IGRMS, chairing the lecture

Dr. Roma Chatterjee, interacting the audience during the lecture



■ 'Sacred Tree in Traditional Serbian Culture'



Museum organised another Museum Popular Lecture for its audiences in the series on 8th December, 2016. The lecture was on an interesting topic 'Sacred Tree in Traditional Serbian Culture'. The lecture was delivered by Dr. Zoja Karanovic, retired Professor, Temerin, Serbia and it was chaired by Prof Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri, Director, IGRMS.

Dr Karanovic explained that sacred trees in Serbian culture are immensely important. She said "Tree is one of the oldest symbols, one of the basic elements in modelling of the world. Universal mediator - at the same time it relates to the top (God), medium (people) and bottom, chthonic (ancestors) worlds". She further said "Oak in the

Dr. Zoja Karanovic - M.A. in Literature and Folklore and Ph.D. from the University of Novi Sad Prof. Zoja Karanovic's main area of research is folklore, traditional poetry and folk narration, South Slavic Literature, Serbian and Slavic Culture, Myths and Mythology. She has been carrying out research on herbs and plants in traditional culture for last few years. Prof. Zoja has also served as Visiting Professor in various universities like University of Delhi, University of Michigan and had been associated with various international educational institutes and universities including Central University, Jharkhand during their field work in tribal areas. She also has written several books and research articles on plants and herb in traditional culture.

traditional culture of the Slavs is the most revered tree connected with the God of thunder *Perun* and symbolizes power, strength. Sacred trees are called as 'Zapis' by the Serbs (Serbians)". She also compared religious signs on sacred trees in Serbia with Swastik signs on trees in India. The programme was coordinated by Mrs. Garima Anand, Museum Associate and Shri Arun Kiro, Assistant Curator, presented vote of thanks.



Dr. Zoja Karanovic delivering lecture at the Museum Conference Hall

■ Screening Documentary Film on life and works of Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel

Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal organised screening of a documentary film based on life and works of Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel. Vallabhbhai Patel (October 31, 1875 – December 15, 1950) was a political and social leader of India who played a major role in the country's struggle for independence and subsequently guided its integration into a united, independent nation. Soon after the Indian Independence, from the 565 princely states, some of which were ruled by Maharajas and the Nawabs, started believing they would become independent rulers of their kingdoms as in the

Pre-British era. They argued that the government of free India should treat them as equals. It was Sardar Patel's insight, wisdom and diplomacy that drove sense into the minds of the monarchs who agreed accession to the Indian Republic. He is called the "Iron Man of India", and often addressed as "Sardar" which means "Chief" or "Leader" in many languages of India. His birth anniversary is celebrated as National Unity Day.



A glimpse of the museum officials taking a pride watch on the screening of Documentary Film on Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel

■ सतर्कता जागरूकता सप्ताह ईमानदारी और पारदर्शिता की शपथ

इन्दिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय मानव संग्रहालय में दिनांक 31 अक्टूबर से 05 नवम्बर, 2016 तक सतर्कता जागरूकता सप्ताह का आयोजन किया गया था । दिनांक 31 अक्टूबर, 2016 संग्रहालय के निदेशक, प्रो. सरित कुमार चौधुरी, ने सभी अधिकारियों कर्मचारियों को पूर्ण ईमानदारी व पारदर्शिता के साथ कार्य करने एवं राष्ट्रीय एकता शपथ दिलाई। इस अवसर पर संबोधित करते हुए उन्होंने कहा कि “हमे अपने कार्यकलापों के प्रत्येक क्षेत्र में ईमानदारी और पारदर्शिता बनाये रखने के लिए निरंतर प्रयत्नशील रहना चाहिए एवं जीवन के प्रत्येक क्षेत्र से

भ्रष्टाचार उन्मूलन करने के लिए निर्बाध रूप से कार्य करना होगा साथ ही अपने संग्रहालय के विकास और प्रतिष्ठा के प्रति सचेत रहते हुए सामूहिक प्रयासों द्वारा संग्रहालय को गौरवशाली बनाएंगे तथा अपने देशवासियों को सिदांतो पर आधारित सेवा प्रदान करेंगे”।

इसी कड़ी में संग्रहालय में "भ्रष्टाचार उन्मूलन एवं राष्ट्रीय एकता बढ़ाने में जन-भागीदारी का योगदान" विषय पर निबंध लेखन प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन भी किया गया।



Dr. Roma Chattarjee, interacting the audience during the lecture



Dr. Roma Chattarjee, interacting the audience during the lecture

■ Special lecture

A special lecture on “Necessary Measures for Preventing of Corruption” was organised by the Museum during the Vigilance Awareness Week. Deputy Commissioner (Vigilance) of Income Tax, Smt. Bhawna Singh was the key speaker. Mrs. Singh explained the at length and expressed that we are living in a digital world now, which has acute level of transparency, it is near impossible for anyone to hide information. “The public participation is essential not only for prevention of corruption; it is the key element of all government schemes. In this generation of social media the awareness about rights and justice is increasing rapidly”, she added. Speaking on this occasion, Director, IGRMS, Prof Sarit

Kumar Chaudhuri said “In this week we need to recognize difficult rules and procedures and ease them up for public with help of enforcement agencies followed by informing about those to the employees and decide accountability and promote ethical practices. In the valedictory function of the Vigilance Awareness Week, Certificates were awarded to the winners who participated in different activities organised during the Vigilance Week.

Smt. Bhawna Singh, Dy. Commissioner, Income Tax delivering a lecture



Prof. Sarit K. Chaudhuri sharing his views in the programme



Sri. Deepak Chaudhuri, Associate, IGRMS convening the programme of lecture



Sri. Sudhir Shrivastava, Publication Officer, IGRMS proposing Vote of Thanks



■ Photography Workshop

In celebrating children day, Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal in collaboration with the Parvarish Sansthan organised a Photography Workshop for underprivileged students of Museum School on 14th November 2016 on the theme of “My Museum My School”. This was for the time that this kind of unique activity was undertaken by this museum where an opportunity could be provided to the section of children who are mostly deprived of many such facilities. In this workshop, children between age group of 12 to 16 years participated where Sri. Tapas Kumar Biswas, Photographic Officer, Sri Sunil Alpuria, Sr. Photographer, and all the staff of

the Photography Unit of the Museum imparted training to them. The students of the Museum school run by the Parvarish Sansthan were exposed to the various beautiful locations including exhibition areas in the museum campus especially open air exhibition. It was first time that the children got a marvellous opportunity to learn the art of photography commanded by the experts from Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya. The children were taught about many aspects of photographic tools and how to handle the camera as well. The School has been a recipient of the UNESCO Education Innovation Award 2016.



Officials of IGRMS imparting training to the students during the Photography Workshop at IGRMS

■ Maati GHAR: A Pottery Workshop

Museum organised a workshop titled 'Maati Ghar' devoted to the pottery craft traditions of the North-east India from 10th to 30th December 2016 in its campus to develop a new open air exhibition showcasing the Pottery traditions of India. Total twenty five artists from the states of Assam and Manipur participated in the first phase.

The following three exhibits from Assam and Manipur were successfully developed during this workshop.



The popular Festive Tower of Pots at Potters Trail, IGRMS

Inauguration ceremony of the Pottery exhibits in IGRMS

■ KUMHEI SHAKTAK PHURON

Festive Tower of Pots

Community: Meitei

Area: Andro Village, Distt: Imphal East

State: Manipur

The unique installation of a 'Pottery Tower' in the museum came from the Andro Potters of Manipur. The imposing structure of pottery tower marks the beginning of a grand social festival. Pottery craft in this village is practiced only by married women and they have discrete social beliefs and practices. Pot as an item of offering is used in many social functions. Andro villagers erected one of the tallest towers in the village as a mark of celebrating "World Tourism Day" on 27th September 2015. The potters of Manipur make another landmark installation in the Potters Trail Open Air Exhibition premises of the Museum.

The newly added exhibit fondly referred to as the Pottery Tower (Kumhei Shaktak Phuron) was opened to the visitors on 29th December, 2016.



■ PEGHALI

Traditional Kiln for firing pots

Community: Assamese

Area: Salmora Village

District: Majuli. State: Assam

A unique method of firing pots can be seen among the Potters of Majuli island in Assam. Locally known as Peghali, this earthen kiln is a raised structure prepared by using straws, clay and bamboo. It has a firing chamber from where heat is transferred to a small nozzle extending to the platform of the kiln where pots are arranged for firing. The pots on the platform are arranged and covered with straws in a way that it can fetch the heat uniformly.

■ JAL SUDDHI KALASH

Traditional Earthen Filter

Community: Assamese

Area: Salmora Village

District: Majuli. State: Assam

Another exhibit from Assam that reveals the traditional method of filtering water was also installed in this part of exhibition. Locally termed as Jal Suddhi Kalash, it is a traditional filter of pots made by laying one upon another and each of the chambers have their elaborate functions. The pot resting on the top is reserved for storing water while the middle one contains charcoal and sand. The third and lowest container collects pure water that receded and naturally filtered from the other two pots.



Potters from Majuli, Assam offering a prayer during the inauguration of their traditional Kiln



A view of the towering structure of traditional filter exhibited in the Potter's Trail, IGRMS

■ KATHA SRISHTI

IGRMS organised wood carving workshop from 15th -30th December, 2016 in its campus under the banner **Katha Srishti**. Traditional tribal craftsmen from Chhattisgarh participated in the workshop. Shri Manish Uike while making the idol of 'Badadev of Kalgi' said, "we carve beautiful wooden ceilings, doors, lintels etc. using different kinds of wood like shisham, teak, dhudi, sal and kikar. Wood crafts is our ancient and rich tradition. We make artistic doors, beds and musical instruments by using Muria wood of Bastar region".

Shri Devlal Tekam from Mandla region while making a wood craft Baiga pregnant tribal woman with a water-filled pot on head. He referred that the Gond still use of wooden masks and the traditional wooden doors, memorial and wedding pillars, figures of animals, birds incised on doors are rich and describes their life ways, sense belongingness and aesthetic sensibilities.



A glimpse from the museum workshop on wood carving at IGRMS

■ Workshop on Learn Regional Language

The museum unit of Official Language organised a workshop "Learn regional languages" to celebrate the beauty and essence of regional languages. Bengali language was the central theme of the programme. Dr. Sudipa Roy, Assistant keeper, IGRMS trained her fellow officers and employees to take a respite in easeful understanding of the language. The workshop was coordinated by Shri Rajendra Kumar Jhariya, Assistant keeper, IGRMS. Dr. Roy gave brief detail about Bengali language and its grammar. She said "Bengali is the national and official language of Bangladesh, and the official language of many states of India such as West Bengal, Tripura,

Assam (Barak Valley) and Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

The phonemic inventory of standard Bengali consists of 39 consonants and 13 vowels, including 6 nasalized vowels". Dr. Roy pondered upon the frame of words and sentences, where she gave an insight with the version of difference with Rashtriya Bhasha Hindi. She paid special emphasis on teaching vocabularies and sentences that may be helpful to the fellow anthropologists while conducting field work in the Bengali speaking regions.



Museum officials participating in the workshop devoted to the Regional Language

Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri, Director IGRMS and Sri. N. Shakhmacha Singh, Museum Associate conducted field visit to explore the possibilities of museum collections and extension of outreach programme in the

■ Monshang village (7th November 2016)

The Liwa changing village which is located about 50 kms from Imphal in Chandel District of Manipur is a homogenous village solely inhabited by the Monshang tribe of the state. The village is surrounded by thick forest and other neighbouring tribes like Moyon and Tarao. During this visit, museum explored the possibilities of museum collections from the tribe taking due consideration of the executives of the local club and cultural associations. Monshang being known for their unique culinary practices, the museum also availed the opportunity to document the traditional method of steaming rice widely practiced by the Monshang tribe.

Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri held a meeting with the village authorities and elders and discussed about the museum and its plan of outreach activities in different parts of country. The possibilities for extending museum activities in the village were also discussed with the villagers during this visit.

region. During this tour, the Director and his team visited four Monshang tribal village, Peoples' Museum, Kakching; Oknarel Laikon (a shrine of the Meitei) and the Ethnological Museum, Khoirentak of Manipur.

■ Visit at Peoples' Museum Kakching, Manipur

Peoples' Museum Kakching in Manipur is well known for the priceless collections of ethnographic objects, historical remnants, and archaeological treasures. The museum also a huge repository of ancient manuscripts. The museum founded under the effort of Sri. Gourachandra Singh, Director, Peoples' Museum Kakching who visited end number of museum in India and abroad. Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri, Director IGRMS visited the museum on 7th November 2016 and looked into the collections. IGRMS has already been collaborated with the Peoples' Museum Kakching in the past years where workshops on Conservation; Cane and Bamboo Craft traditions of Manipur were successfully organised. During this visit the Peoples' Museum Kakching express the desire to collaborate in organising more workshops on ethnographic collections that could mutually benefit the two institutions.

■ Oknarel Laikon, Manipur (A shrine of the Meiteis) ■ Ethnological Museum Khoirentak, Manipur

Prof. S.K. Chaudhuri, Director IGRMS along with Prof. Bhagabati, renowned Anthropologist, Dr. S.B.Chakrabarti, General Secretary, the Asiatic Society, Kolkata had visited Oknarel Temple located at Ningthoukhong in Bishnupur District and Ethnological Museum at Khoirentak village in Churachandpur District of Manipur on 9th November 2016. The team was also accompanied by Sri. N. Shakhmacha Singh, Museum Associate and Secretary, Centre for Youth and Cultural Activities Manipur. The team made this preliminary visit at Oknarel Temple to see a massive and decorated twin boats dug out from single wood which is housed in this temple premises. The boats are used only on the auspicious occasion of a festival called Heikru Hidongba where the twin boat is taken to the Loktak lake for a ritual race for the prosperity of the community and the state. The team met with the members of the temple board to explore the possibility for developing a new exhibit based on this religious tradition of the community.

Further, the team visited Ethnological Museum Khoirentak located about 48 Kms from Imphal. Director IGRMS along with the team met with Guru. S. Achon Kom, who has been running this village museum since 1984. The museum have good number of collections belonging to the Kom tribe of Manipur. Khoirentak is now taking a new shape under the privilege of Padmashree M.C. Mary Kom who sincerely taken keen interest in developing the museum to a new height. During this visit, Director IGRMS along with the team discussed with museum concerns for extending the Ethnological Museum Khoirentak as the Cultural Interpretation Centre of IGRMS.

Preparing rice by steaming method by Monshang lady

Director Peoples' Museum, Kakching, showing their rare collections



Prof. A.C. Bhagwati, Dr. S.B. Chakrabarty and Prof. S.K. Chaudhuri meeting with the office bearers of KCDRC, Manipur

Director IGRMS and his team looking at the ceremonial Boat displayed at Oknarel shrine, Manipur

Director's visit at the Ethnological Museum, Khoirentak

साफ-सफाई एक अच्छी आदत है जो स्वच्छ पर्यावरण और आदर्श जीवन शैली के लिये हर एक व्यक्ति में होनी चाहिये। स्वच्छता का ध्येय, महत्व तथा जरूरत को समझते हुए इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय मानव संग्रहालय, भोपाल में 'स्वच्छ भारत' अभियान के अंतर्गत, साफ-सफाई से संबंधित गतिविधियों का आयोजन किया गया। जिसमें माह के प्रत्येक बुधवार सांय 4 से 6 बजे संग्रहालय कर्मियों द्वारा संग्रहालय के विभिन्न स्थानों (वीथि संकुल परिसर, जनजातीय आवास मुक्ताकाश प्रदर्शनी, मिथकवीथि आवृत्ति भवन एवं चरैवेति इत्यादि) में साफ-सफाई की गई एवं प्रादर्शों पर कीटनाशक का छिड़काव कर अपशिष्ट पदार्थों को नष्ट किया गया। इसके अलावा संग्रहालय के प्रवेश टिकटों पर स्वच्छ भारत अभियान का लोगो व संदेश को प्रिंट करवाया गया तथा विभिन्न स्थानों पर डस्टबिन रखे गये।



Students from Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Mahadevpur, Arunachal Pradesh, gifted Tea and Betel plants to the Director, IGRMS. The saplings brought by Miss Monalisa Bagri and Master Jaummaio were planted in the Veethi Sankul premises of the Museum. On the occasion, Shri Dheer Singh, Horticulture Assistant informed that Tea plantation requires moderately humid and hot climatic conditions. The optimum temperature range is 20° to 33°C. "Tea plants are shade loving plants and grow more vigorously when it planted along with shady tree areas".



A view of the plantation of Tea and betel nut saplings presented by the North east students

The National Balrang Festival is one of the most popular collaborative programmes devoted to the school children. It is annually organised by the IGRMS Bhopal in collaboration with the School Education Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh. This year also, the National Balrang Festival 2016 was organised in collaboration with the Directorate of Public Instructions, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh for three consecutive days from 20th to 22nd December 2016. The festival was participated by school students from about 50 districts from 25 different states including the Union Territories of the country. Students of the various educational institutions displayed creativities through exhibitions, performances and multiple activities creating a respite to the visitors of a glimpse of 'Mini India' in the Sangrahalaya premises.

The Balrang-2016 was inaugurated by Shri Kunwar Vijay Shah, Hon'ble Minister, School Education, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh and Shri Surjit Singh Chauhan, Chairman, Bhopal Manucipal Council. In his address the Hon'ble minister compared child artisans with

saplings who will make nation's future great. He said, "The saplings when turn into a trees, provide shelter to birds, and shades all the beings. Similarly, these young students will grow like a tree and work for the society and country. He congratulated the organizers for organising such a grand festival for the children. Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri, Director of IGRMS, in his welcome address highlighted the very essence of the programme and how the museum is actively engaged in disseminating rich tribal and folk culture of the nation. The Balrang festival is organized for the children of the country to see it in collective level. On this occasion, Mrs. Deepti Gaud Mukharji, Principal Secretary, School Education, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, said "Looking at the grand festivity of the children, I am reminded of my school days. Balrang is presenting the culture of the whole nation". Towards the successful organisation of this grand festival, IGRMS collaborated with the State Departments in extending support for providing venues and also the presence of school children from the eight states of the North-east India.

Hon'ble Minister, School Education, Govt. of M.P. inaugurating the National Balrang Festival 2017



Glimpses of the cultural performances during the National Balrang Festival 2017



Glimpses of the cultural performances during the National Balrang Festival 2017

■ Exhibit of the Month

■ SENTHAK-SENKHA: A decorative ceremonial tray

Community: Meitei
Area: Imphal East, Manipur
Accession No- 2013 - 185 (A & B)
Dimensions- H = 13inch, Circumference-32inch

The first "Exhibit of the Month" for the IGRMS Southern Regional Centre was introduced on 1st December 2016. A collection of Bell-metal object from Manipur known as the **Senthak-Senkha** was on display. The exhibition was inaugurated by Dr. Gavi Siddaih, Deputy Director, Department of Archaeology, Heritage and Museums, Mysore, Govt. of Karnataka.

Senthak-Senkha literally refers the two major division of the object. Senthak represents the upper part of the body, while Senkha means the lower segment of the body. This is an object of ceremonial importance traditionally used by the royal and noblemen's family at the time of marriage function. Intricately crafted with efficient hands of design skills, this bell metal object is prepared by the process of lost wax method. In olden days object was used as an important item of reward given to the warriors by the king for their heroic deeds. The metal craft of Manipur flourished with royal patronage during 17th

It contain fine details of floral rim and crown like lid signifying the power and glory of the Manipuri king. According to the Meitei belief, the crown like lid symbolises sky and regarded as divine father and the tray like container as the representation of the mother earth. In Manipur, a particular lineage of the Meitei society is specialised in this unique craft. They are confined in the Heirangoithong and Aheibam Leikai of Imphal.

The tray has beautiful floral like outer rim, a circular base with stand and beautifully decorated lid.

December 2016



SENTHAK-SENKHA: A decorative ceremonial tray



Dr. Gavi Siddaih, lighting the lamp during inauguration ceremony of SENTHAK-SENKHA

■ A Museum Popular Lecture was delivered by **Prof. A. Chellaperumal**, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, Pondicherry University on 'Ethno – Musical Instruments of South Indian tribal Communities'. In this lecture he gave a broad understanding on the anthropological insights into the understanding of ethnic-music and expressed the view and concerns of various scholars who have contributed in the field of Ethno-Musicology. Cultural programmes on performing art forms were organized for two days with the participants of 38 artists from Assam and Tripura.

■ Under the inter-institutional collaborative venture of the museum, the travelling exhibition of IGRMS on **Sacred Groves of India** now travelled to the the Regional Museum of Natural History, Mysore. The exhibition was opened for public on 6th October 2016 at the RMNH, Mysore.

■ The '17th National Jamboree of Bharat Scouts and Guides' commenced at the Global village, Adakanahalli, Nanjangud Taluk, Mysore, Karnataka. On this occasion museum contributed by organising popular travelling exhibition of IGRMS on **Island Culture of India**. The exhibition was organised 29th December 2016.

■ Under the “**Museum Popular Lecture**” series, a lecture was organized by IGRMS, SRC Mysore on 1st December 2016. Dr. Gavi Siddaih, Deputy Director, Dept of Archaeology, Heritage and Museums, Mysore, is a well-known personality and subject expert of Cultural Heritage was delivered a lecture on **Heritage of Mysore**. The lecture was attended by officials and staff from Anthropological Survey of India, Department of Archaeology and History, University of Mysore, State Archaeology Department, Teaching staff of St. Philomena College, St. Teresian College, local public, the officials and staff of SRC.



Prof. A. Chellaperumal delivering Museum Popular Lecture

Welcoming the Chair and Speaker of the Popular Lecture



■ Sri. V. Ashok Vardhan, Museum Associate and Sri. K. Shanmugam have conducted tour to the Innovative Film City Bidadi from 7th to 9th October 2016 and collaborate in organizing cultural programme with the Film City at Bidadi.

■ Sri Ashok Vardhan attended the **National Intangible Heritage Festival 2016** (NIHF- 2016) at Amaravati, Heritage Centre and Museum, Andhra Pradesh from 15th to 18th of November 2016 for the period of one week.

■ Around 41 school children's from **Maha Budhi School**, Saraswathi Puram, Mysuru visited IGRMS, SRC on 22/12/2016 as part of their education tour.

■ A group of 22 students and teachers from Germany visited the museum on 1st December 2016 from the **De Paul International Residential School**, Belagola and Mandya Districts, Karnataka.



Glimpses of the cultural performances at the Film City, Bidadi, Karnataka.

The museum fraternity and IGRMS family grieved in pain and sorrow to the sudden demise of Prof. Raghunath Singh Negi, the first Director and a visionary of the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya. Dr Negi is remembered as the first Director, Founder, visionary who was appointed as an Officer on Special Duty (OSD) for implementing the vision of developing the National Museum of Mankind in India. He served as the Director of IGRMS from February, 1979 to 1989. He had also given his special contribution in shaping the gallery of Human Evolution even after one and half decades of his retirement. Addressing the condolence ceremony, his great soul rest in peace. Shri Vikas Bhatt citing the incidents from working under Dr. Negi, he said "IGRMS lost one of its key founder, advisor and well-wisher.



The museum will always be grateful for his contributions. He was a visionary, who laid the founding stones of this museum on a 200 acres barren piece of land. During his decade long tenure he was engrossed in development of Manav Sangrahalaya only, like the true head of family. The ideal tribute to Dr. Negi is by completing the tasks he envisioned". On this occasion Shri Naval Narayan Jaiswal said "He was a dynamic speaker and serene by nature. During his tenure the 200 acres land acquisition and creation of indoor & outdoor exhibitions was implemented. Retired Assistant Curator Display, Shri Ravi Shrivastava shared his association with Prof. Negi. The IGRMS family pay tribute the great soul and pray to the almighty to give his family members and friends enough strength to bear this pain.



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Editor: Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri;

Editorial Assistance: Sudhir Shrivastava, Garima Anand, N. Shakmacha Singh, Sarabjeet Singh & Banita Behera

Concept and Layout Design: Lalit S. Bagul; **Photography:** Tapas Kumar Biswas, Sunil Alpuriya;

For Further Information Contact: शामला हिल्स, भोपाल (म.प्र.) Shamla Hills, Bhopal

फोन / Phone: +91-755-2661458, 2661670, 2661069, 2526580, Fax: +91-755-2665500, 2661319; Email: directorigrms@gmail.com, dirigrms-mp@nic.in; <http://igrms.com>; <http://www.facebook.com/igrms.bhopal>

Southern Regional Centre, Willington House, Irwin Road, Mysore- 571001 (Karnataka) INDIA.

फोन / Phone: +91-821-2448231; Email: igrms_src@yahoo.co.in