

INDIRA GANDHI RASHTRIYA MANAV SANGRAHALAYA
Shamla Hills, Bhopal.

Activity Report for the month of February, 2011

During the period the IGRMS has organised following activities.

1. Collaborative Seminars:

a. **Inter Congress of INCAA, 2011:** The Sangrahalaya in collaboration with Indian National Confederation and Academy of Anthropologist (INCAA) and Anthropological Survey of India (AnSI) organised a three day Indian Anthropological Congress from 21st to 23rd February, 2011 at Kolkata. The inaugural function of the congress was chaired by Prof. Ravindra Kumar Jain, Tagore Fellow, Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya. About 170 anthropologist across the country participated in the programme. Eminent anthropologists, viz Prof. A.K. Danda, Prof A.C. Bhagabati and others attended the Congress. Prof. V. Bhalla delivered Prof. B.M. Das Memorial Endowment Lecture. Welcome address was given by Prof K.K Misra, Director, IGRMS.

A three day programme of performing art presentations was also organised on the occasion. In this programme, a drama was staged on 21st through Zonal Cultural Centre. Satriya dance and folk dances of Assam by Smt. Sabita Saikia and her group on 22nd February was arranged by IGRMS, and a play focusing on Thalassemia was staged by the members of Anthropological Survey of India on 23rd February. Further, books published by I.G.R.M.S. were also displayed in the form of a book exhibition.

b. **International Conference on 'Bhopal 2011-Requiem & Revitalization':** In collaboration with School of Planning and Architecture, Modern Asian Architecture Networks and the International Committee for Conservation of Industrial Heritage a symposium entitled 'Bhopal 2011-Requiem & Revitalization' was organised from 2nd to 4th February, 2011 at Avriti Bhawan of the Sangrahalaya. This symposium was organised with a view to study and analyse the Bhopal Gas Tragedy and its impact from a multidisciplinary perspective. Participants in the workshop presented papers in the light of social, urban & ecological legacy of tragedy followed by panel discussions and interactive sessions.

c. **International Conference on 'Mega-Urbanisation & Human Rights: Emerging Challenges and Opportunities:** An International Conference on 'Mega-Urbanisation & Human Rights: Emerging Challenges and Opportunities' was organised in collaboration with IUAES Commission on Urban Anthropology, IUAES Commission on Human Rights and West Bengal State University from 14th to 16th February, 2011 at Kolkata. The IGRMS extended active collaboration in organisation of this seminar.

2. **5th Blind Challenge Census Car Rally:** A programme entitled 5th Blind Challenge Census Car Rally was organised in collaboration with Directorate of Census and 'ARUSHI' an NGO working for the visually disabled persons on 13th February, 2011. For the rally, a sighted person drove the vehicle and the navigator was a visually challenged person to whom the route map in Braille was given on the spot. The rally covered around 30 kilometers distance starting from Janganana Bhawan and culminating at Manav Sangrahalaya. The prize distribution function of the programme was held at the auditorium of Manav Sangrahalaya.

3. Heritage Corner: A photographic exhibition consisting of 26 enlargements of photographs on Art and Craft tradition in rural and tribal India was mounted on 27th February, 2011 at North Odisha Vishwavidyalaya, Baripada, Orissa. Exhibits in the exhibition consisted of folk and traditional art forms from the states of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Bihar, Orissa, Himachal Pradesh and Manipur, etc.

4. Visit: Apart from general visitors, Bhopal students from around 30 educational institutes such as Kendriya Vidhyalaya No-2, Govt. Higher Secondary School, Vidisha, Shri Sathya Sai Vidhya Vihar, Guna, Saraswati Shishu Mandir, Sagar, Eastern Public School, Peoples' Convent School, St. Joseph School, all from Bhopal, children from the museum school, Parvarish and Muskaan, trainees from Tribal Research Institute, Bhopal and others visited various exhibitions of the Museum during the month

5. Tours/Field Work:

- a. An Official of the museum visited Rajasthan for field work.
- b. A team of IGRMS officials conducted field work for 7 days at different places of Manipur for collection of Museum objects. Around 39 objects were collected during the tour which includes 'Paphal Thabum Tara' (wooden motives of paphal representing Meitei numerals from 1 to 10), Art objects, Musical instrument, ornaments, metal utensils and heirloom items. Photographic, documentation on the Paphal cult of Manipur was also carried out during the tour for preparing exhibition on Paphals of Manipur in the Museum campus at Bhopal.

6. Artist Workshops:

- a. A 10 days workshops on Documentation of Folk Narratives and Dance forms of the Kom tribe was organised from 28th January to 6th February, 2011 at Khoirentak Village, Manipur. Around 269 artisans from various Kom villages took part in the workshop. The programme was formally inaugurated by Shri Rishang Keishing, Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) on 28th January, 2011. Video recording of around 10 to 15 dance forms, folk stories, narratives, songs and hymns were carried out during the programme. A primary data of informations generated from the documentation of the programme and compiled in textual forms (manuscripts) was informally released by the Director, IGRMS, during the Valedictory Function of the workshop. A total of 34 hrs. of video recording on DV Cam format was achieved in this programme.
- b. A 10 days demonstration cum creative workshop on metal crafts traditions of Manipur was organised from 28th January to 7th February, 2011 in collaboration with the Tribal Museum and Research Centre, Imphal at Tribal Museum and Research Centre campus, Sagolband, Imphal. Traditional craftsperson expert in the field of making tribal ornaments, head dress, iron tools, jewellery, musical instruments, bell metal work and silver ornaments took part in the workshop.

7. Public Relations: Sangrahalaya is making systemic efforts to publicize and popularise the activities of the Sangrahalaya. The public relation unit of Sangrahalaya prepared and sent press notes, special features/ write ups for publication in local and national newspapers highlighting the activities of Sangrahalaya. Efforts were also made for publicity through All India Radio, FM radios and National and local TV channels.

8. A team of four traditional craftsmen from Rabari community of Gujarat visited museum for the maintenance of exhibits of their dwellings in the Desert Village open air exhibition of Museum.

9. **Museum Entry Fee:** Visit to the different exhibitions in the IGRMS campus has been regulated with a museum entry fee @10/- per head. Children below the age group of 12 years are being exempted from the entry fee and 50% concession is allowed to specified category of visitors and groups. Students of educational institutions are also allowed free entry on showing identity card. An amount of Rs. 96,165 including charges for videography was collected from 14402 visitors as the museum entry fee, out of which 4316 visitors availed the free ticket entry during the month.