

brief report on
World Environment Day Celebrations
5th & 6th June 2010

As part of its 'World Environment Day' celebrations, the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal has organised several activities/programs on 5th and 6th June, 2010 in association with local NGOs, and Government Organisations. The activities included several community participation programme like, Bicycle Rally, Poster competition, Quiz competition, *Nukad-Natak* (street play), demonstration of sacred grove rituals of Tamilnadu, panel discussions, opening of new exhibitions, traditional performing art presentation, and a Museum Popular Lecture.

Bicycle Rally: On 5th June, 2010 a 10 kilometer distance Bicycle Rally was organised in the Bhopal city for generating awareness among Public about the importance of environment conservation programmes. The rally, organised in collaboration with the Green Planet Bicycle Riders Association, flagged off at 6.30 PM from Dr. Shyma Prasad Mukherjee Park and culminated in the Manav Sangrahalaya campus around 8.30 AM after touching several historically important parks and, monuments and touching the shores of the famous Bhopal lake. More than 300 cyclists participated in this colorful event.

Poster Competition: To encourage the talents of Schools/College going students, a Poster competition was organised on a theme *Paryavaran ki Vriddhi – Deshi ki Samridhi*. About fifty students participated in the competition and the winners were awarded Trophies.

Quiz Competition: A quiz competition was organised on the theme '*Man and Environment*' with special participation of children from SOS Village as also by the children from other parts of the city. The winners were given the prizes in the form of books and tree-plants. This programme was organized in association with World Wild Life Fund, Bhopal chapter.

Special Exhibitions: Two special exhibitions titled 'Sacred Groves of India' and 'Chavian (Images)' were opened in the Museum campus on this occasion. The exhibition 'Sacred Groves of India' depicts the traditional practices of various Indian communities in the conservation plants and trees for healthy environment. Chhavian/Images-II: shows photographs taken by renowned artists Shri Sachida Nagdeo

Panel Discussion: A half-day panel discussion on the topic *Culture and Environment* was organised in the Museum campus to discuss the interrelationships of Culture and Environment. The main speakers of the programme included Prof. R.N. Vashishth Deptt. of Anthropology, Punjab University, Chandigarh, Dr. S.R. Walimbe, Professor and Head, Dept. of Anthropology, University of Pune, Shri Mahendra Sinh- a leading photographer from Mumbai, Shri R.K. Chaturvedi, former Deputy Director General, Geological Survey of India, Prof. K.K. Misra, Director, IGRMS and Shri Vikas Bhatt, Curator, IGRMS.

Sacred Grove rituals of Tamilnadu and Ethnic food of Tamilnadu: The IGRMS has, in its campus several prototypes of sacred groves created by different ethnic groups from different parts of India. On the occasion of World Environment Day 2010 a celebration connected with Sacred Groves of Tamilnadu was organised in association with the local Tamil cultural association. A large number of people concerned with Tamil culture from Bhopal city participated in it. A presentation of Ethnic food of Tamilnadu was also organized on this occasion.

Nukad Natak: A street play titled '*Pradushana Maharaj Ki Jay Ho*' was presented by the artists of Shaurya Group in the Veethi Sankul. The street play highlighted the causes of environment pollution and its remedies. This programme was organized in association with the WWF, Bhopal Chapter.

Performing Art Presentation: Ms Sujata Mohapatra, an accomplished and versatile Odissi classical dancer from Bhubaneswar (Orissa) gave a performance on a special theme 'Rain' in the Veethi Sankul indoor auditorium on the evening before large gathering of visitors.

Museum Popular Lecture: Shri Mahendra Sinh, a leading photographer from Mumbai delivered a lecture entitled Photography Until Now on 6th June at Avritti Bhawan of Sangrahalaya. Shri R. K. Chaturvedi, former Deputy Director General of Geological Survey of India chaired the lecture.