



INDIAN COUNCIL OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH



NEWSLETTER

समाचार

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CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

The first quarter of the new financial year is generally a slack period in all government establishments as the administration is busy closing accounts and waiting for fresh grants. ICHR is no exception. But the Council has been briskly working on its academic front. The period witnessed hectic activity on account of a great spurt in holding various committee meetings and disposing of the applications for grants under various grants-in-aid schemes of the Council. Besides the normal and routine dispensation of grants and fellowships, the Council engaged itself in the annual events like holding competitive examinations for JRFs, PDFs and Senior Fellowships.

Besides these, the entire administrative machinery of ICHR remained actively involved in a very strenuous work of a highly confidential nature on account of processing competitive test for the award of JRFs. I am happy to report that the JRF examination for the year 2016-18 has been successfully completed and the results have also been declared. Throughout the process,



no complaint or any grievance was reported from any quarter. The new batch of Fellows will be joining the programme before 30th September 2016.

I congratulate the office staff and the Council Members who were associated with this programme and profusely thank them for their cooperation and love of labour. The selections of PDFs and Senior Fellows will be made soon after due assessments of the proposals are completed.

The Council in its meeting held on 29th June 2016 took decisions on certain far-reaching research proposals. The minutes can be seen in our website. One of them is a major ICHR project—preparation of a Historical Encyclopedia of Towns and Villages of Bharath. This could also be treated as a National Project in which various universities and research scholars of history will be involved. Some such



efforts were made in the form of Gazetteers and administrative reports during the British rule which covered the political and economic conditions of contemporary period as databanks for the benefit of the Imperial Government. Unlike other places in the world, every piece of land in India has something to speak about its history through many ways like artifacts, folklore, etc. In this modern electronic age, we have greater facilities to restore, record and preserve for the future. On the other side, we may also lose the data with fading memory as the old techniques of preservation and propagation have already disappeared. Many individuals, institutions, print-media and electronic and research centers have been doing great service in this regard. Through this project, we aim to consolidate their work and prepare an e-Encyclopedia that can be updated every now and then.

The Council also has decided to offer fellowships under a new scheme, Gurukul Fellowship. This scheme provides for financial assistance to a Guru and his Sishya to pursue a research project. This offers a good opportunity to renowned scholars-- who are very senior both in terms of age and experience-- to impart their knowledge and skills to others. The basic idea is to ensure that their skills and deep knowledge do not go waste. Simultaneously, scholars

assisting their Guru would be immensely benefited through regular interactions.

There are several other novel schemes slated for this year. I am so happy that every member of the Council is actively taking part in one or the other scheme (depending on his/her respective area of specialization) and extending his/her unstinted cooperation. The team-spirit with which all of them are working for constructive and innovative programmes is clearly visible in our well-thought over plans and their successful execution.

In the last Newsletter, we invited the faculty and research scholars to join our ICHR Book Club which facilitates close interaction among our history fraternity. We also invite scholars to give us feedback and suggest improvements. I also appeal to your good selves to register your profiles in our Directory of professionals. This can be done online through our website.

Last, but not the least, I take great pleasure in informing that our Documentation Centre has started services in a WiFi enabled environment. Services can now be accessed either at our Documentation Centre or Online Remote Access Portal.

Hoping for more fruitful interaction among our fraternity, I remain.



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SELECTIONS FROM CHAIRMAN'S DIARY

Annual Day Function of Bhagini Nivedita College, Kair, Delhi: 25 April 2016

Chairman attended the Annual Day function of the college as the Chief Guest. He advised the students to take interest in historical studies and impressed upon them the need to acquire true knowledge about our rich history. He reminded them that the roots of their present could be traced to the past. India's achievements in its remote past were unparalleled and every Indian, thus, inherits equally their merits. He said, "Patriotism is not just love of land but its culture". He advised them to know their culture which

came down to them through generations and that their love for their culture should be knowledge-based.



Chairman being presented a bouquet at BNC College

Seminar on "Chauhan Rulers of Sapadlaksha and Ajmer, organized by MDS University, Ajmer: 7 May 2016

While speaking in the inaugural session of the seminar, the Chairman focused on the need for an impartial presentation of the history of the ancient and medieval periods. He deplored that the Indian kingdoms in the medieval times and the native princes under British rule were not accorded their proper place in our historiography. He felt that their contribution to protect, preserve and promote our age-old culture should be given proper treatment in our historiography. He opined that they did this yeoman service to our culture against so many odds braving their extinction. Though they could not enjoy suzerainty during the Mughal and the British regimes, yet they enjoyed autonomous status in their internal administration and not less than one-third of our country could not be brought under foreign rule. Their valour and spirit



of sacrifice as exemplified by rulers like Prithviraj and Rana Prathap Singh shall always linger fresh in our memory.



Chairman with other delegates at MDS University, Ajmer

Symposium on "Dilli ke Eithihasik Sthal", organized by Akhil Bharatiya Itihasik Sankalana Yojana, at Satyawati College, Delhi: 28 May 2016

In his inaugural address of the symposium, the Chairman said that every place in India has a long heritage in time and historical significance because of its continuous civilization backed by well-founded culture from time immemorial. Delhi's urban civilization could at least be dated back to the Mahabharath times. But modern historians would normally trace its history to early medieval times and its earliest monuments to the Slave Dynasty; its glory to Mughal times and its sophistication and modernity to the British era. He felt serious efforts should be made to trace its antiquity and its past glory.



Chairman delivering the inaugural address at Satyawati College

Seminar on "Dilution of the Nationalist Perception of Indian Revolutionaries of the 20th century in present-day India" organized by Centre for Research in Indo-Bangladesh Relations, at Rama Krishna Mission Institute of Culture, Kolkata: 4 June 2016

Inaugurating the seminar, the Chairman gave a brief survey of various strands of Indian freedom struggle which, put together, contributed to making the national dream of the Indians a reality. He said: "Now, after seven decades, we arrive at a time-junction where three generations co-exist with varying degrees of intensity in their feelings for Freedom Struggle. The senior generation who passed through the last phase of the movement is fading away while the middle-aged generation retains some glimpses in its memory sans emotion. The young generation reads it as a story. Similar strands may be identified in the historiography of the Movement



during these years while macro-approach gave place to micro-studies. The psycho-analyses of the personalities and objective analyses of events of the period having attempted post-modern deconstruction of theories, observations and interpretations of the first post independent generation of historians. A critique of the historiography of revolutionary strands of freedom struggle raises some important issues warranting further research by unearthing new material. Recently, the Govt. of West Bengal and the Govt. of India have declassified certain files pertaining to Netaji. The ICHR has also undertaken a project to peruse these files". He further cautioned that the revolutionaries' activities were not confined to India alone and it would be a challenging job to trace their role in the freedom movement in India and overseas.



Chairman being accorded a warm welcome at RKM Institute of Culture, Kolkata

MAJOR PROJECTS

The ICHR, apart from providing fellowships and financial assistance to young teachers in colleges, universities and research

organizations through its various grants-in-aid schemes, has also been undertaking, for the benefit of scholars and researchers in history, Special Research Projects(SRPs). Progress has been reported in the following three SRPs.

1. MODERN INDIA: POLITICS AND DEMOGRAPHY, 1881-2001

The project was approved by ICHR, in principle, at its 143rd meeting of the Research Projects Committee (RPC) held on 22 September 2015 under the title 'Modern India: Pre-Partition and Post-Partition India'. Further, at the 144th meeting of the RPC and, in the 82nd General Council meeting, it was decided to finally approve the project. During the period under report the first meeting of the Advisory/Monitoring Committee of the project took place on 11 April 2016 to discuss a change in title, aims and objectives, plan of action, and budget break-up of the project. The Committee decided to re-name the project to its present title, viz. 'Modern India: Politics and Demography, 1881-2001.'

This research project intends to study the dynamics of society and politics in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century India seeking to closely examine the social, cultural, religious, and political forces in the context of rapidly changing demographic profiles in the Eastern and Western extremities of Colonial India. The link between Central and Provincial politics in Colonial and Post-Colonial India will be scrutinized against an all-India scenario,



questioning the extent to which the politics of modern India is often affected by external factors.

Independence and Partition of India and their subsequent consequences would be outlined through two case studies on the rural and urban districts of Khulna and Lahore respectively, both lost by India to Pakistan in 1947. These two micro-studies will form the basis of a larger study on the complex interconnections between nationalism, politics, religion, society, and demography. Taking into account the range of developments which shaped the socio-political transformation in these areas, a point of focus will be on the nature and multiplicity of influences which shaped the approach of intellectual, political, religious and social leaders.

2. TRANSLATION OF FOREIGN SOURCES ON INDIA

The first meeting of the Working Group of ICHR held on 22-23 July 2015 recommended to take up a project on 'Translation of Foreign Sources on India'. The project was approved by ICHR, in principle, at its 143rd meeting of the Research Projects Committee (RPC) held on 22 September 2015; the meeting of the 82nd General Council also approved the project. The Advisory/Monitoring Committee meeting of the project took place on 30 March 2016 to discuss and define its aims and objectives and identify the number of scholars to be engaged for translation from French to English.

The Committee identified some French

works which have not been translated into English so far; among these are: (a) Anquetil-Duperron's *Inde en rapport avec l'Europe*, published in 1798; (b) Pierre de Sonnerat's *Voyage aux Indes Orientales et a la Chine*, published in 1782; (c) Le Gentil, *Historie De L'Academie Royale Des Sciences* (three volumes, relevant portions). The Committee decided to appoint Professor Chitra Krishnan (Professor and Head, Department of French and other Foreign Languages, University of Madras, Chepauk, Chennai) to translate Duperron's work.

During the period under report, Professor Chitra Krishnan was intimated the decision of the Committee and requested to accept the offer. Professor Krishnan very kindly accepted the offer and commenced the work from the end of April, 2016.

3. DICTIONARY OF MARTYRS: UP TO 1961, LIBERATION OF GOA

The 144th meeting of Research Projects Committee, held on 10th March 2016, at ICHR, Southern Regional Centre, Bengaluru, discussed the feasibility and modality of the proposal entitled *Dictionary of Martyrs: Up to 1961, Libration of Goa*, in detail and decided to place it in the forthcoming General Council meeting. Accordingly, the proposal was placed before the 82nd General Council meeting, held on 29th March 2016, at ICHR, New Delhi. The Council decided to take up the proposed extended Project immediately as a Special Project of ICHR to complete the series without delay.



ICHR LECTURE SERIES

During the period under report, three lectures were organized by ICHR under the ICHR Lecture Series Programme. These are as follows:

1. Professor R.K. Mohanty spoke on the topic 'Archaeology of Kalinga: Sisupalgarh and Beyond' on 19th April 2016 in the ICHR premises. The lecture was followed by a question-answer session during the course of which some scholars interacted with Prof. Mohanty and were greatly benefited.



Prof. Mohanty being presented a bouquet by Dr. Noopur Singh of ICHR

2. Professor R.S. Agrawal gave a talk on 'Understanding Kashmir: Issues and Perspective' on 12th May 2016 in the ICHR premises. This lecture threw fresh light on the Kashmir issue and enabled the audience to view this from a different perspective. The lecture was followed by a vibrant interactive session that gave an opportunity to scholars to interact with Prof. Agrawal and get their doubts clarified.



Prof. Agrawal delivering the lecture; to his left is Dr. S.K. Aruni, Member Secretary(officiating), ICHR; to his right is Prof. Saradindu Mukherjee, Member of the Council of ICHR.

3. Professor Sachchidanand Sahai spoke on the theme 'The World Heritage Temples of Southeast Asia: The Bhadresvara Linkage' on 6th June 2016 at the India International Centre, New Delhi.



Prof. Sachchidanand Sahai(extreme left) with Dr. Lokesh Chandra(centre) and Chairman, ICHR at the IIC.

Professor Y. Sudershan Rao, Chairman, ICHR, was the Chief Guest of the function. On this occasion he released a book authored by Professor Sahai entitled 'Bhadresvara: A Forgotten Form of Shiva in India and Southeast Asia' published by B.R. Publishing Corporation.



PUBLICATIONS

The ICHR, a premier institution in the field of historical studies, provides lead in fostering research on all aspects of Indian history. A number of research projects are undertaken or sponsored every year and new findings are brought out in print. The ICHR has brought out many such publications. These publications fall broadly into the following categories:

1. Publication of research works and sources commissioned by the Council;
2. Publication of books on Indian History translated into various Indian languages;
3. Publication of works for which financial subsidy has been awarded by the Council; and
4. Publication of two biannual journals—*Indian Historical Review* in English and *Itihas* in Hindi—and newsletter(quarterly).

During the period under report, the following work was done under different heads:

Publication Subsidy

ICHR has been helping authors to publish books under its Publication Subsidy scheme. The majority of these are doctoral dissertations approved by the Council after rigorous scrutiny. Apart from doctoral dissertations, the following categories of

works relating to History are also covered under this scheme: monograph and other research work; proceedings of seminar/symposium/conference; critically edited/translated source material; bibliographical and documentation work; periodical publication; any other research-oriented work; and translation into any Indian language or into English of an important work on History.

During the period under report, subsidy was extended to 18 scholars/institutes under the Publication Subsidy Scheme of ICHR.

INDIAN HISTORICAL REVIEW(IHR)*

**listed in Thomson Reuters Citation Index*

The IHR, brought out since 1974 by the ICHR, has been an important means of transmitting results of researches in history. It has won wide recognition for its comprehensive and balanced coverage of different periods, as well as its high academic and editorial standards. It is indeed among the most prestigious publications of ICHR and is perhaps the only journal of its kind that has been published continuously for more than 40 years. It is one of the few journals in India with an elaborate system of referral of all contributions to experts.

The IHR will continue to serve a broad range of research interest in Indian history from early times to contemporary history, and in the various specializations or sub-disciplines which have developed in the area of historical studies.

Professor Dilip K. Chakrabarti(Professor



Emeritus of South Asian Archaeology, Cambridge University, UK) is the Editor-in-Chief of IHR. The technical work of production and marketing is taken care of by Sage Publications(India) Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.

During the period under report, IHR, Vol. 43, No. 1(June 2016) was published and released. Also, manuscript for IHR, Vol. 43, No.2(December 2016) was finalized and sent to Sage Publications. Vol. 43, No. 1 contains 8 articles and 21 reviews of books; while Vol. 43, No. 2 contains 4 articles, 1 review article, 14 reviews of books and 1 short notice.

Articles contained in Vol. 43, No. 1(June 2016) are listed below:

1. Basudevral Das: *A Study of the Administrative Posts during the Sena Period in the Kingdom of Makawanpur*
2. Rashmi Upadhyaya: *Thakkura: Its Varying Significance in Early Medieval Northern India*
3. Aparajita Majumdar: *The Colonial State and Resource Frontiers: Tracing the Politics of Appropriating Rubber in the North-Eastern Frontier of British India 1810-1884*
4. Manas Dutta: *Political Turbulences and Rebelliousness of the Madras Presidency Army: An Interpretation of the Great Uprising of 1857 in Colonial South India*
5. Michael Lunminthang: *Rethinking the Political History of Northeast India:*

Historical Review of Kuki Country

6. Raj Kumar Thakur: *Whose 'Hills' Whose 'Plains'? The Politics of Border*
7. Sunil Rao: *The Kargil Incident—Historical Analysis*
8. Jaysagar Wary: *Incredible Tram of Goalpara Forest*

Articles and Review Article contained in Vol. 43, No. 2(December 2016) are listed below:

Articles

1. Subrata Kumar Acharya, *State, Taxation and Fiscal Oppression in Early Medieval Odisha*
2. Tahmidal Zami and Carola Erika Lorea, *Interreligious Encounter and Proselytism in Pre-Mughal Bengal: An Analysis of the Report by the Jesuit Father Nicolas Pimenta*
3. Cao Yin, *Kill Buddha Singh: Indian Nationalist Movement in Shanghai, 1941-1927*
4. Bidyut Chakrabarti, *BR Ambedkar: A 'Rebel' Liberal within the Gandhian Universe*

Review Article

1. Pratapaditya Pal, *A 'Mahabharata' of a History of Ancient India* [Based on Dilip K. Chakrabarti and Makkhan Lal, ed, *History of Ancient India*, vols. I-V(Vivekananda International



Foundation/Aryan Books International, New Delhi, 2014)].

ITIHAS (Shodh-Patrika)(Hindi Journal of History)

During the period under report, the Editorial Board meetings were held during 20-22 April 2016 and on 13 May 2016. The Board worked on the manuscript of *Itihas* (Shodh-Patrika). The Sub-Committee meeting of *Itihas* was held on 14 June 2016 during the course of which the manuscript of *Itihas* (Volume 2, No.1, January-June 2016), edited by Professor Sachchidanand Sahai and Professor Ishwar Sharan Vishwakarma was finalized. Thereafter, the said manuscript of *Itihas* was sent to the press for printing. Also, during the same period, the 'Chairman's Message' and 'Editorial Note' were prepared. At the time of writing this report, proof-reading work was in the process of being completed and Vol. 2, No.1 of *Itihas* is expected to be brought out soon.

ICHR MONOGRAPH SERIES

A. During the period under report, the Monographs Committee approved the following proposals for publication under the ICHR Monograph Series:

1. *Jade – Art of India* by Dr. M.L. Nigam
2. *The Political and Social Structure and Economic Ties in the Countryside of the Banaras Region: Change and Development from 1850 to 1900* by Prof. K.P. Mishra

B. During the said period, the Monographs Committee also accorded approval to the publication of the following works of the Senior Research Fellows under the ICHR Monograph Series:

1. *Indraprastha Through the Ages* by Dr. Anil Kumar Tyagi
2. *Maritime Traditions of Medieval Malabar* by Dr. Kunhali V
3. *Punjab mein Rachit Hindi Shahitya ka Itihas* by Dr. Manmohan Sehgal
4. *Anguish, Protest, and Surcharged Nationalism: A Study of the Proscribed Literature in Colonial Bihar (1912-45)* by Dr. N.M.P. Srivastava
5. *History of Quit India Movement in Assam* by Dr. Ramesh Chandra Kalita
6. *Babur the Mughal: The National Museum Baburnama* by Dr. S.P. Verma
7. *Mir' at-UI Istelah* by Prof. Sharif Husain Qasemi
8. *Women and Environment in Rajasthan: A Historical Perspective* by Dr. Madhu Sethia

Display and Sale of ICHR Publications

Apart from publishing books and journals and extending subsidy, the Publications Unit of ICHR also plays a big role by way of organizing make-shift book-stalls (on various occasions like seminars, workshops, special lectures, conferences, etc.) where ICHR Publications are displayed and



sold. During the period under report, an amount of Rs 13,222/- was collected by the Publications Unit of ICHR through direct sales of ICHR Publications.

LIBRARY-CUM-DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

Among the various academic activities of the Council, one of the most important is the maintenance of a Library-cum-Documentation Centre that has, over the years, proved to be of great help to both students and researchers in the area of history and allied disciplines.

Established almost four decades back, the ICHR library has a unique, updated and a rich collection of books and journals pertaining to various aspects of history and allied disciplines. It is indeed the intellectual hub of the ICHR that provides comprehensive access to books, journals, theses and dissertations covering diverse disciplines. The library offers a serene and congenial environment to scholars in pursuit of knowledge by providing a quiet corner for research and writing.

The library receives about 100 periodicals through subscription and gifts. Of these, the scholarly/academic periodicals are bound regularly and preserved for reference purposes. The library purchased about 450 books during the period under report and received six books as complimentary.

ICHR library is committed to providing

easy access to its physical and digital collections and delivering services that are open and available to all. It is determined and committed to make the knowledge held within its collections as widely available as possible.

During the said period, about 450 visits were made to the library by a select group of students/ scholars from various universities/ institutions pursuing their studies in various aspects of historical research. Besides telephonic and postal queries, personalized reference service has also been rendered to the neighbouring libraries and scholars. The library has also been providing photocopies of academic reference to scholars on demand at a nominal rate of Re. 1/- per page. About 6891 exposures were delivered to scholars for their research requirements during the said period.

The library is fully automated and has the Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) available on the web, which not only provides bibliographic information on books, but also bibliographic information on important articles from important journals available in our collection. It enables scholars to connect to our collections from wherever they are, rather than having to consult material in the library as has been the case in the past. ICHR's library and documentation staff is committed to removing barriers that obstruct scholars from accessing the collections and services.

The library has access to the e-resources available on JSTOR and Project Muse



Database Services. Scholars who are interested can approach the Documentation Centre and gain access.

By virtue of being a member of the DELNET (Developing Library Network), the library has the advantage of accessing bibliographical information on books and can borrow books on Inter-Library-Loan basis from different libraries of Delhi and some of the libraries situated in other parts of the country.

The Documentation Centre has received, during the said period, 220 M.Phil./ Ph.D. Theses/Dissertations from Grants-in-Aid units of the Council, which are collected by various units under different schemes of financial grant.

During this period, the Documentation Centre had renovated all its facilities to provide the digital services in a WiFi enabled environment. The following services are facilitated to access either at the Documentation Centre or Online Remote Access Portal:

1. Microfilms & Microfiche Services
2. Literature Search Service: JSTOR, DELNET
3. Multi Media Services (CD/DVD)
4. Current Awareness Services(CAS):
 - a) New Arrival Alert Services
 - (b) Conference Alert Services
 - (c) Papers on Indian History Services
 - (d) Bibliographies and Index Services

Microfilms and Microfiche Reading and Printing Services

Microfilming services in the Documentation Centre had commenced on a regular basis in the early 1970s, and have been continuously offered since that time. For digital copy, scholars can either approach the Centre or Online Remote Access Portal.

Literature Search Services

The Documentation Centre subscribes to many e-Resources like JSTOR, Online Journals, Project Muse and other Open Source Collections. Searching databases and other information sources can be time-consuming and inconvenient to scholars. In order to make their task easy, the Centre carries out searches on request; scholars could either approach the Documentation Centre or Online Remote Access Portal.

Multi Media Services

The Documentation Unit provides for the benefit of scholars a variety of audio and video materials such as CDs, DVDs consisting of e-books, Journals, Microfilms and Rare Manuscripts of digitized materials; scholars could either approach the Documentation Centre or Online Remote Access Portal.

Current Awareness Services (CAS)

Under this title the Library-cum-Documentation Centre provides periodically the various alert services to scholars in areas



like (a) New Arrival Alert Services for New Acquisition; (b) Papers on Indian history Indexed from Subscribed & Subsidized Journals; (c) Prospective Conferences on Indian History in India and abroad; and (d) Preparation of Bibliographies & Index Services from time to time; scholars could either approach the Documentation Centre or Online Remote Access Portal.

Web OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue)

The entire library collection including books, journals, theses/dissertations, microfilms, etc. can be searched through the web enabled Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) from anywhere at any time. Users can access the OPAC to find out the real-time availability of library materials from the computer terminals which are installed in the Documentation Centre or Online Remote Access Portal.

Digital Archival Service

The Documentation Centre is in possession of the rich collection of Newspaper Clippings, Rare Books, Proceedings of National & International Conferences, Reports of State Archives, Rare Photographs, Rare Maps and Atlas, Rare Collection of Projects' Reports, Annual Reports, and Old Journals, etc. During the said period, the Centre had initiated the digitization of these. Scholars can gain access to digital formats from anywhere at any time.

CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME (CEP)

ICHR is a nodal agency for implementation of various Cultural Exchange Programmes signed by the Govt. of India with other countries. Through these CEPs the Council has been contributing significantly in the development of cultural relations between India and various countries of the world.

During the period under report, the following progress was made under the CEP:

EU-India Platform for the Social Sciences and Humanities (EqUIP)

EU-India Platform: In order to encourage closer cooperation between India and Europe in the Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines at a global level, the EU-India Platform for the Social Sciences and Humanities (EqUIP) brings together research funding and support organizations in Europe and India in order to develop a stronger strategic partnership. The EqUIP, therefore, seeks to enhance collaboration and to expand, including other organisations, as associate members. Associate membership in the Platform is open to all organizations – governmental or non-governmental funding agencies – based in India, in the EU Member States, as well in Associated Countries to the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.

The geographical focus of this Platform requires the identification of SSH networks in India. The ICSSR acts as nodal link



between EU and ICSSR's regional institutions associated with the ICSSR, other research councils (particularly, Research Councils of Humanities such as the Indian Council of Historical Research and the Indian Council for Philosophical Research) and universities.

Staff Exchange Scheme (SES)

EqUIP organizes SES to help to build professional networks and good relationships between partners. The SES primarily targeted at officers working closely with research funding activities and evaluation process.

The following officers of ICHR were nominated by the Chairman to visit countries under the SES:

- Dr. Jyotsna Arora, Deputy Director (Library): Organization for Scientific Research(NWO), The Hague, Netherlands, on 21-22 April 2016



Dr. Jyotsna Arora, who attended the SES organised by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) at the Hague, Netherlands, is seen here with other participants of the SES

- Shri Ramesh Yernagula, Deputy Director (Documentation): Academy of Finland, Helsinki, Finland, on 13-14 June 2016



Shri Ramesh Yernagula, who attended the SES at the Academy of Finland, is seen here with other participants

- Dr. Uttam Bathari, Deputy Director (Research), Academy of Finland, Helsinki, Finland, on 13-14 June 2016
- Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Deputy Director (Research): Organization for Scientific Research (NWO), The Hague, Netherlands, on 21-22 April 2016. However, he could not attend.

REGIONAL CENTRES

With a view to reaching out to far-flung areas of the country, the Council runs two regional centres, one at Bengaluru and the other at Guwahati. Both the centres have been actively involved in helping scholars carry out their research by providing library infrastructure and organizing regional and



state level seminars, symposia, workshops, exhibitions, etc.

For the benefit of regional scholars, these centres, from time to time, organize lecture programmes by inviting scholars and historians of eminence to their centres to deliver lectures in their respective areas of specialization. This affords an opportunity for the local scholars, students and researchers to interact with these erudite and experienced historians and thereby become more knowledgeable.

Above all, these two centres have been rendering yeoman's service to ICHR by publicizing different schemes of the Council by liberally distributing the ICHR Newsletter and other ICHR booklets and catalogues among the history departments of universities and other research organizations based in southern and eastern regions of the country.

The Southern Regional centre, Bengaluru, and the North Eastern Regional Centre, Guwahati are headed by Dr S.K.Aruni and Shri Uttam Bathari respectively. And since the time Dr. Aruni took over as officiating Member Secretary of ICHR, the SRC is being looked after by Dr. Jyotsna Arora, Deputy Director(Library), ICHR.

SOUTHERN REGIONAL CENTRE(SRC), BENGALURU

The Southern Regional Centre has been complementing the work of ICHR by actively taking part in various research schemes of ICHR. The Centre's endeavour has been to promote scientific research in history.

A brief report of the activities undertaken by the SRC during the period under report is given below:

I LECTURE PROGRAMME:

The Centre organized a lecture programme by Dr. Arun Raj, Superintending Archaeologist, Archaeological Society of India, Bengaluru Circle, on 26.06.2016. He delivered lectures on: (1) 'Introducing NMMA, its objectives, activities and policy guideline for documentation of Antiquities'; and (2) 'Documentation of Built Heritage, Sites and Antiquities'. Dr. Jyotsna Arora, Dy. Director (Library) & In-charge (SRC),



Dr. Jyotsna Arora introducing Dr. Arun Raj to the audience



Dr. Arun Raj delivering the lecture



introduced the resource person to the gathering. The lectures were well attended by scholars from different parts of India.

II JRF EXAMINATION:

The Centre coordinated to conduct the JRF Entrance Examination (2016) in Bengaluru on 26th June 2016. Dr. Jyotsna Arora, Dy. Director (Library) was deputed from the Head Office, New Delhi, for Examination work. Necessary arrangements for the smooth conduct of the Examination were made by the Centre and the exam was conducted at the Govt. Arts College, Bengaluru; forty-three candidates attended.

III ICHR FELLOWSHIP DETAILS:

The Centre is developing a database of fellowships awarded under various ICHR Research Funding Schemes from 1972 to 2014. Till date the following information has been updated in the database which will be made available on the ICHR website in the near future.

1 Research Projects	2005-06 to 2013-14
2 Ongoing Research Projects	2005-06 to 2013-14
3 Foreign Travels Grants	2005-06 to 2013-14
4 Contingency (Study-cum-Travel Grant)	2005-06 to 2013-14
5 Publications Subsidy	2005-06 to 2013-14
6 Junior Research Fellowship	2001-04; 2005-06 to 2013-14
7 Ongoing Junior Research Fellowship	2001-04; 2005-06 to 2013-14
8 Seminar/Symposia/ Congresses, etc.,	2001-02 to 2003-04; 2011-12 to 2013-14

(Retrospective conversion is under process)

IV LIBRARY-CUM-DOCUMENTATION UNIT:

During the period under report:

- 8 books were purchased for SRC library
- 450 scholars consulted the library
- Subscription of 37 journals/periodicals continued for the current year
- The library served around 2200 photocopies to the scholars.

Facilities like J-Stor, Historical Abstract and photocopy are extended to the library readers.

The entire library collection is available on the Online Public Access Catalogue in the special Libsys software. The bar-coding and classification for around 250 books were completed during the said period.

In addition to the above, the SRC library has in its collection important and rare paintings, old photographs, e-book CDs and photographic slides for the use of scholars. The Centre has also collected: i) articles written by research scholars; ii) Bibliographies.

V SALES OF ICHR PUBLICATIONS:

During the reporting period, the SRC collected a sum of Rs 5,400/- through sales of ICHR Publications at the Centre.

VI FORTHCOMING PROGRAMMES:

As per the recommendation of the



SRC Monitoring/Advisory Committee meeting held on 09.03.2016, the Centre plans to conduct the following academic programmes:

A) Periodical Lecture-Series Programme:

- (i) Professor Saradindu Mukherji (New Delhi), Professor M. D. Srinivas (Chennai) and Professor P.T. Haridas (Calicut) gave their consent to deliver lectures at the SRC, Bengaluru.
- (ii) Professor T.P. Vijay, Professor of History, Kannada University, Hampi, Karnataka, gave his consent to deliver a lecture at the SRC, Bengaluru.

B) Book Discussion Programme:

The Centre also plans to organize Book Discussion Programme on the following books:

- (i) Southern India in the Late Nineteenth Century, Vol.1, Part 1A: 1860s-1870s, edited by Amiya Kumar Bagchi and Arun Bandopadhyay;
- (ii) Resonances of the Raj: India in the English Musical Imagination, 1897-1947, by Nalini Ghuman;
- (iii) India–Science and Technology, Vols. 2-3, edited by Editorial Coordination – Sanjib Pohit, Kavita Mehra and Parthasarathi Banerjee;
- (iv) Rashtrakutas Re-Revisited by Nagarajaiah Hampa;
- (v) Manuscripts, Memory and History: Classical Tamil Literature in Colonial

India by Rajesh, V.

- (vi) Halagannada: Lipi, Lipikara and Lipi Vyavasaya (Ancient Kannada Script, Scribe and Collection of Letters) by Settar, S.

NORTH EAST REGIONAL CENTRE (NERC), GUWAHATI

Like the SRC, the NERC too has been complementing the work of ICHR by actively taking part in various research schemes of ICHR. During the period under report, the following work was done by the NERC:

1. **Workshop:** A two-day preparatory workshop on the proposed volumes on *Comprehensive History of North East India* was held on 1st and 2nd June 2016. The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. Mridul Hazarika, V.C., Gauhati University, and chaired by Prof. Y. Sudershan Rao, Chairman, ICHR. Prof. Saradindu Mukherji, Member, ICHR was the Guest of Honour and Prof. Imdad Hussain presented the keynote address. The workshop was attended



Chairman igniting the lamp to mark the inauguration of the workshop



by 24 scholars who deliberated on the themes and other aspects of the proposed volume.

The workshop was followed by a meeting that discussed in detail the suggestions made by scholars. Subsequently, a committee was formed with the following members:

Chairman	:	Prof. Y. Sudershan Rao, Chairman, ICHR
Member-in-charge	:	Prof. G. Kamei, Member, ICHR
Project Director- cum-General Editor	:	Prof. Imdad Hussain
Members	:	i) Prof. D. Nath
	:	ii) Prof. S. Nag
	:	iii) Member Secretary, ICHR
	:	iv) Deputy Director (R), ICHR, NERC

The meeting decided that the NERC shall be the nodal office of the project & DD (R), NERC, shall be the nodal officer.

This meeting was followed by another meeting at Shillong which was attended by Prof. Imdad Hussain, Prof. Sajal Nag and DD (R), NERC. The meeting resolved that the proposed volume should be titled as *North-East India: Towards a Comprehensive History*. This would be followed by a sub-title in each volume, depending on the focus area of the volume. The meeting also tentatively identified scholars who would coordinate/edit the proposed volumes.

2. Foundation Day Lecture: The NERC organized a lecture on 5th April 2016 to

mark the Foundation Day celebrations of the Council at Assam State Museum auditorium. The lecture was delivered by Prof. Purabi Roy, Member, ICHR on “Search for Netaji: New Findings” and chaired by Professor Y. Sudershan Rao, Chairman, ICHR.



Professor Purabi Roy delivering the Foundation Day Lecture; to her right are the Chairman and Dr. Saradindu Mukherji

3. Meetings:

- i) **RAC meeting** : The 12th RAC meeting of the Centre was held on 4th April 2016 at the Centre’s premises.
- ii) **Construction Committee Meeting:** The Construction Committee Meeting of the NERC was held on 1st June 2016 at the Centre’s premises.

4. JRF Examination

The Centre provided assistance in conducting the Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) examination on 26th June 2016. The written test was held in ICHR’s NERC’s office.

5. Exhibition: A two-day exhibition on



“Paintings on Revolt of 1857” was organized on 10th and 11th May 2016 at the South Point School, Guwahati. More than 5000 students and school teachers visited the exhibition from different parts of Guwahati. Students from schools like Sarla Birla Gyan Jyoti School, Delhi Public School, Maria Public School, St. Claret School, Shrimanta Sankar Academy and Happy Child High School visited the exhibition during the period under report.



Students closely observing the exhibits displayed in the exhibition

6. Building the Library-cum-Documentation Unit:

- a) Bar-coding and spine labeling of approximately 260 books was completed during the said period.
- b) Some publications were received by the Centre during the said period, the details of which are given below.

Complimentary copies : 4

Journals received from HO : 19

Appr. 10,962 xerox copies were made for

students/researchers from 187 books during the said period.

- d) More than 800 students/ researchers consulted the library during the said period.

7. Staff Exchange Scheme(SES)

Dr. Uttam Bathari, Deputy Director(R), NERC, attended the exchange programme under the SES scheme organized by EqUIP at Helsinki on 13th and 14th June 2016.

8. Purchases made:

The Centre made the following purchases during the period under report:

- i. Photocopier(model iR 4245)
- ii. Two computers(Desktop)
- iii. 5 chairs
- iv. 2 ACs

9. International Yoga Day : The Centre celebrated the 2nd International Yoga Day on 21st June 2016 with great enthusiasm.

10. Number of Visitors : During the said period, around 822 scholars visited the Centre’s library. The Centre also attended to 21 visitors who came to get details of the various grants-in-aid schemes of ICHR.

10. Receipt of applications: During the said period, four applications under the JRF scheme were received by the Centre. These were duly forwarded to the Head Office.



STAFF NEWS

A. INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY

The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modiji said: "When I spoke at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on 27 September, 2014, urging the world community to adopt an international day of yoga, little did I know the kind of unprecedented response our proposal would receive!" Little wonder that on 11th December 2014 the UNGA took a unanimous decision to adopt the International Yoga Day!

Our Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modiji in his UN address suggested the date of 21st June to be celebrated as the International Yoga Day; the reason being that it is the longest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere and shares special significance in many parts of the world.

People erroneously believe that yoga is a mere set of physical exercises; yoga, in fact, opines Our Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modiji, is a philosophy of discipline and meditation that transforms the spirit and makes the individual a better person in thought, action, knowledge and devotion.

On 21st June 2016, the 2nd International Yoga Day was celebrated across the world and millions of people around the world participated in the event. From sunrise in

the Far East to sunset in the farthest corner of the Western Hemisphere, people joined in this great celebration of yoga.

In ICHR also, on 21st June 2016, the staff-members celebrated the 2nd International Yoga Day with great enthusiasm by practising yoga in the open area opposite the ICHR library. Professor Y. Sudershan Rao, Chairman, felicitated all the staff-members present during the occasion and emphasized the importance of practising yoga on a regular basis. He said that apart from keeping one physically healthy, the practice of yoga contributes a great deal to keeping one's mind calm and peaceful. In fact, yoga helps in an all-round development of one's personality at the physical, mental and spiritual levels. This, in consequence, helps in tackling the adverse situations in life with relative ease and working at high efficiency and output levels.

The event was indeed a grand success!



Prof. Saradindu Mukherji, Member of ICHR, addressing the staff-members on the occasion of the International Yoga Day; standing to his right is Dr. SK Aruni, Member Secretary (officiating); sitting in the background are Prof. Y. Sudershan Rao, Chairman, and Dr. Meenakshi Jain, Member of ICHR





ICHR staff-members practising yoga on the International Yoga Day

B. RETIREMENT

Two staff-members retired during the period under report. ICHR wishes them good health and best of luck in their future endeavours. They are:

1. Smt. Reeta Tandon

She was appointed as L.D.C. on 15.12.1975. After having served the Council for 41 years with utmost devotion and sincerity, she retired from the post of Assistant on superannuation on 30.04.2016.



2. Shri Lachhu Ram

He was appointed as L.D.C. on 27.05.1977. After having served the Council for 39 years with utmost devotion and sincerity, he retired from the post of Section Officer(Admn. II) on superannuation on 31.05.2016.



C. TRAINING IMPARTED TO ICHR STAFF FROM NERC

Sri Gautam Choudhury, Stenographer, and Sri Prabin Kalita, LDC, of NERC were deputed for a 5-day training programme to the Head Office at New Delhi from 28/03/2016 to 01/04/2016 to acquire knowledge about the various Grants-in-Aid schemes of ICHR.

RESEARCH FUNDING SCHEMES

The primary objective of the Council is to promote and give direction to historical research and to encourage and foster objective and scientific writing of history. Enhancing the academic standard of the output of ICHR activities has been the foremost objective of ICHR. In pursuance of this objective, the Council i) provides fellowships and financial assistance to



young teachers in colleges, universities and registered research organizations, as well as to senior scholars who might need financial support; ii) brings historians together by providing financial assistance for holding symposia, seminars, workshops, etc. for exchanging views related to history; iii) provides publication subsidy to the seminar proceedings, congress proceedings, journals, etc. so that these publications may reach out to researchers and scholars.

The grants-in-aid are awarded to scholars/institutions and are released through affiliating agencies like research institutes, universities or colleges. The different types of research funding schemes are explained in the Research Funding Rules book of ICHR. These can also be seen on the ICHR website(www.ichr.ac.in).



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Note: In case of students, a copy of the ID proof issued by his/her institute/and in case of the employed, a letter of recommendation from the HOD may be attached with this application form.

(Please send scanned copy through email-dd.doc@ichr.ac.in, ms@ichr.ac.in)

Dated: _____

Signature of the Applicant

For official use

Recommended/not recommended/any other remarks

Member Secretary

Deputy Director (Doc.)



Chairman

Professor Yellapragada Sudershan Rao

Member Secretary (Officiating)

Dr. S.K. Aruni

Contact details of ICHR OFFICERS (30th June 2016)

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