



INDIAN COUNCIL OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH



NEWSLETTER

समाचार

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CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

Yet another page turned over with the ringing out of 2016. In the infinite time, passing out of year may not be very significant. But in the material world with mortal beings, every minute counts. On every passing year, we are expected to make an assessment of what we were able to do so as to see the gap between the expectations and fulfillments.

The activities of the first half of the last year were already reported in our earlier two newsletters. Therefore, we give a brief report on our performance during the second half of the year. The new projects envisaged in the first half of the year are activated during the period under report. The translation of French sources on Indian history is in good progress. The project on Modern India studying politics and demography in the border areas is also progressing satisfactorily. In the project on History of Science and Technology some important segments have been identified and assigned to the experts in the respective fields to commence work. We are expecting to get the first volume in



the series of *Environmental History of India* to be published very shortly.

During this period, ICHR organized a 21-day workshop on Indian Epigraphy for the benefit of young research scholars and teachers, keeping in view the dearth of trained epigraphists in the field of historical archaeology. The programme was conducted by Professor Michel Danino, Member of the Council of ICHR. We also conducted series of lectures on various vital issues in history by distinguished scholars from India and abroad. Celebrating National Education Day



on 11th November, 2016 on the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, we arranged a scholarly talk by Professor Shivaji Singh on the topic *WITH VEDA IN ONE HAND AND SPADE IN THE OTHER: WRITING EARLY HISTORY OF INDIA-AFRESH*.

One more significant event was the celebration of National Unity Day on 23rd November 2016, by arranging a panel discussion on the 'Integration of Indian Union and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: A Relook'. The discussion was well attended and well received. I am very glad to bring to your kind information that the German Historical Association (DFG) invited the Chairman, ICHR, to their conference in Hamburg University held from 20 to 23 September 2016 to address the Joint Session on the theme "How to Write a Transnational History?" and for delivering the welcome address. Along with the Chairman, two other members of the Council, Professor Narayan Rao and Professor I.S. Vishwakarma, participated in the panel discussion. The Conference was attended by a good number of distinguished scholars from India. During this period, besides academic experts, the officers of the Council were also deputed to participate in the training and exchange programme arranged by EU-India platform (Equip) at Finland and Shanghai.

ICHR also thought of framing a clear policy for the Cultural Exchange Programme with foreign academic bodies for the first time to impress upon the other stakeholders to keep in view bilateral interests and research

requirements in designing the collaborative programmes. A policy document has been prepared and approved by the Council.

The Documentation Centre has also registered commendable progress in providing digital resources access portal and digital archives service for the benefit of scholars. It is quite heartening to note that a good number of scholars have taken advantage of our e-services.

We also initiated a full-fledged history journal in Hindi and released the first volume during period. Also, in December 2016, Vol. 43, No. 2 of Indian Historical Review was published by ICHR in collaboration with the House of Sage.

Another significant event is that the Western Regional Centre of ICHR shifted to the campus of Deccan College, Pune. The Centre was inaugurated in a heritage building of the university. We have plans to open regional centres for east and north also along with the existing west, south and north-east centres to provide the services of ICHR to our research communities from relatively close quarters.

Of course, we are not content with what we have done. Perhaps we could do more and we could do better.

So, we continue to strive for a better performance in the coming New Year.

Wishing you a Happy New Year 2017.



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SELECTIONS FROM CHAIRMAN'S DIARY

- 3rd August 2016: *National Seminar on 'Krishna Nadi Parivahaka Pranta Charita (History of Krishna River Basin)' on the eve of Krishan Pushkaralu, organized by Department of Archaeology & Museums, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Srisaile Veebhudi Lingeeswara Trust, Srisaile*

Inaugurating the seminar, the Chairman said:

“Starting from Mahabaleswar in Maharashtra,

just 65 kms away from Arabian sea, the river Krishna flows for about 1400 kms through Karnataka and Andhra and meets the Bay of Bengal at Hamsaladevi (Krishna district). When one looks back for its origin in the Puranas and local legends, the River Krishna is none else than the Lord Vishnu Himself, taking with Him, the other two of the Triumvirate, Lord Siva and Brahma in the form of Venna and Koyana rivulets, as its tributaries.

The Satavahanas, Vishnukundins, Chalukyas, Kakatiyas, Qutb Shahis, Vijayanagara and Asafjahi dynasties built powerful kingdoms in the upper Krishna basin and their authority extended down the lower basin as the Krishna river waters flow down the stream.

Each river has its own account of collective human experience gathered in constantly changing socio-political-cultural milieus of its basin to convey to us. For example, Great River Saraswati has given the fund of Vedic knowledge, the river systems of Sind and the Ganges have given us Itihasas and Puranas. Each river has its own unique contribution to the Bhartiya culture which is itself unique in the world cultures. Perhaps this may be the reason that a dip in the holy river with reverence gives us great merit. Our ancients have recognised 12 holy rivers having great histories of civilisations and cultures developed in their valleys and ask us to have a dip in these rivers at least once in the year of its completion of 12-year cycle (pushkara). The Hindus revere these by invoking the waters of these rivers in the



holy pots (kalashams) in all their daily or occasional (nitya and naimittika) religious rituals.”



Chairman, ICHR, participating in the National Seminar at Srisaillam

- 20.08.2016: *Chairman's message for Seminar on “विषयः इतिहास दृष्टि, इतिहास लेखन एव इतिहास के स्रोत, स्थानः इतिहास विभाग, बनारस हिन्दू विश्वविद्यालय, काशी (उत्तर प्रदेश), organised by Rashtriya Mahila Itihaskar, Department of History, Benares Hindu University, Varanasi*

The Chairman, addressing the women historians at BHU, Varanasi, emphasized the paradigm shift in history writing. He said:

“History writing in India today, in my view, stands at the crossroads leading to several unknown destinations and without any desirable aims or objectives, roughly after seven decades of Indian independence. Despite having a great historical tradition, backed by unparalleled and encyclopedic literature, and philosophy explaining the world and beyond, we were forced to begin using the western format and the English alphabet by the colonial masters

from the 18th century onwards. It was a total paradigm shift from the indigenous Indian time-honored dharma based history writing to adopt the Western approach and format, which confines itself only to mundane history.

In Indian tradition, history is simple, direct, objective and instructive. The ancient Hindu enquiry into the past was so deep that it was going to the roots of human existence and also into the unseen governing forces of this universe. The ancients have substantially established that this is not the only creation, but there are several creations co-existing and repeating themselves since times unknown. They found that the creation and transformation were not a one-time affair, but a continuous process. They discovered that each universe has its own governing body and a well laid out hierarchical organizational structure.

The human governance is formed on the principles of universal governance that is Dharma. Therefore, the aim of indigenous Hindu historiography is meant to facilitate man to realize his oneness with the universe by evolving himself on the spiritual sphere. Its objective has been to guide humans to live in harmony with one another and also with the Nature in the mundane world. Its methodology is two-fold – going deeper into himself dwelling on the question (Tapas) and observing the nature and functions of the Nature around. So, Hindu methodology has been dependent on experiencing the



‘Self’ and also on the participatory observation of the world for understanding the entire phenomenon of existence. It promoted the application of reason to understand the society and the world. Superstition had no place in the higher echelons of literature, knowledge, philosophy and wisdom.

The dawn of reason in Western Europe in the 15th and 16th centuries, which came after thousands of years of human accomplishments in Bharath, gave rise to sensational developments in various fields with the application of science. These developments led the societies to follow uniform pattern in all civilizational aspects of life. These uniform approaches created several contradictions and deep wedges among societies and nations. The scope of history is confined to recent past concerning smaller regions and communities. Further, the social, political and historical theories are evolved with limited and convenient date, which divide and antagonize

men. The historiography has become Eurocentric. The histories of European colonies are the worst affected. Even after achieving political freedom, they are still confined to the rigid colonial framework for pursuing their historical studies. For our intellectuals, it has become hard to shed the colonial psyche”.

- 19.09.2016: *Welcome address of the Chairman ICHR on the occasion of the 51st German History Congress 2016 (Deutscher Historikertag 2016) at the Joint Session of DFG-ICHR on How to Write a Transnational History? at Hamburg University, Germany*

The Chairman in his welcome address said:

“I deem it a great honour done to the Indian historian fraternity in general and to the Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR), Govt. of India, in particular by asking me to extend a hearty welcome to the distinguished delegates of the Joint Session of the German History Association, here at Hamburg today. I am very much beholden to Prof. Martin Schulze Wessel, the Chairman of this august body, along with the Director of DFG, who have kindly visited ICHR and extended the invitation in person to me. They also invited two members of the Council to take part in this joint session.

The peoples of India and Germany have had similar experiences in making and shaping their respective nations against



Chairman, participating as Chief Guest in the National Seminar



so many odds emerging out of multi-national or international approaches to their histories despite the fact that both countries are placed in different historical, geographical, political and cultural settings. Perhaps, this feeling of empathy might be one of the reasons that they developed a great affinity between them. They have always been in contact with each other in their historical pursuits.

Indian history, as is known today, is, to a large extent, a product of its colonial phase. German philosophers have looked to the Orient making provisions for alternative but realistic approaches in 19th century to understand the historical developments in Asia in general and India and China in particular. The impact of national resurgence of Germany and India in the post World War II could be found in the bubbling enthusiasm of their historians for shaping the contemporary historiographical trends in both countries. I earnestly hope that this special joint session of the historians from both the countries would address to various aspects arising out of international approaches to their respective national histories.

Since 2013, the DFG and the ICHR have jointly taken up academic programmes like exchanging their distinguished historians to deliver talks and organizing workshops and seminars on historical problems of mutual national interests at various academia and research centers in their countries. Besides

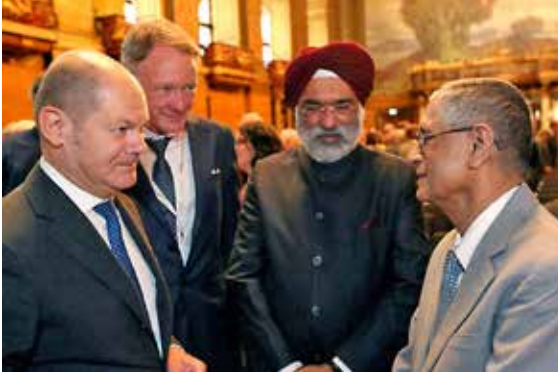
these academic exchanges, the ICHR has facilitated the visit of German historians to the annual session of our premier history association, the Indian History Congress. I am sure that in years to come our bond of friendship and mutual cooperation would grow from strength to strength. In this session, a good number of our eminent historians are participating. I thank all the organizing members of German History Association for their kind invitation and sparing no pain to see that our stay here should be very comfortable, enjoyable and academically fruitful.

On this occasion, please let me express our deep sense of gratitude and appreciation to our German historian fraternity and the members of German History Association in particular. I, on behalf of the ICHR and our historian fraternity, request Prof Schulze Wessel, the President of this prestigious organization, to accept this small felicitation as a token of our love for the German fraternity of historians.”



Prof. Y. Sudershan Rao and Prof. Narayan Rao at the German History Congress





Prof. Y. Sudershan Rao exchanging pleasantries with Mr. Gurjit Singh, Hon'ble Ambassador of India to Germany, Prof. Martin Schulze Wessel, and other dignitaries

- 27.09.2016: *Chairman's ICHR Lecture on 'History & Archaeology - A Dialogue' at Indian Archaeological Society, B-17, Qutab Institutional Area, New Delhi.*

Delivering his speech on 'History & Archaeology- A Dialogue' on the occasion of Prof. D. Devahuti Memorial Lecture, Professor Y. Sudershan Rao threw light on the importance of archaeological facts, remains and relics as they help us in bridging the gap between past and present. Stressing on the need of coordination and exchange of ideas, thoughts and research findings, Prof. Rao said that every historian and archaeologist



Chairman, ICHR, being accorded a warm welcome at the IAS, New Delhi

has his own understanding. Even among the archaeologists, they differ in interpretations. Archaeologists of different nations have different views and understandings because they come from different cultural and psychological backgrounds.

According to him, the scientific theories are based on facts and not on the social norms. Earlier when archaeological explorations began in India, the early archaeologists were not scientific archaeologists. They have just started the work and immediately they turned to the literature for collaboration and understanding. The early archaeologists in India found Puranic literature greatly helpful to them.

So, for archaeologists India is akin to heaven because of its rich archaeological and literary sources. We now need a study of India at micro level which shall contribute to enrich our understanding of India at the macro level, he concluded.

- 15.10.2016: *Chairman's ICHR message for seminar on भारतीय इतिहास के स्रोत एवं इतिहास लेखन on 15 -16 October 2016 organized by Akhil Bhartiya Sankalan Yojna and DDU Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur at Kushinagar (U.P.).*

The Chairman in his message commented that History is now in a 'a'fix'. Like all social sciences, History has also developed as a discipline by itself in the past two centuries and acquired different shades under the influences of social, political and economic philosophies of the contemporary period. In modern times, the generation gap is shrinking rapidly and the priorities of newer generations are also changing very fast responding to the economic time and political climate. As a consequence, the purposes, objectives, philosophy,



methodological techniques of history writing are undergoing radical changes creating new gaffes. It is quite surprising that every new genre is calling all the earlier ones ahistorical, rejecting and reinterpreting the historical sources so as to legitimize their socio-economic-political views. The modern genre of history, losing its earlier status of a judge, is made to stand in the witness box facing baseless accusations. Thus, the contemporary genre of history, in its hot chase for an imagined reality in a mirage, is gasping for breath and losing its spirit.

The modern social science theories have greater impact on history writing. The colonies, which have opened their eyes very late, found it comfortable initially to follow the footsteps of their masters who left their own respective legacies to serve their vested interests on the subjects. Slowly, the intellectuals in the newly emerging nations are struggling to free themselves from this (intellectual) neo-colonialism. In the process, they find themselves in a precarious situation where they get stiff resistance from their own brethren to look into their past truthfully to identify their roots.

- 01.12.2016: *International Seminar on 'Symbolism in Indian Art, Archaeology and Literature' concurrently with National Conference entitled 'Buddhist and Jain Art: Landmarks, Philosophical Background and Social Contributions' (I.A.H.C.-2016) on 1st December 2016 at Deccan College, Post-Graduate and Research Institute, Pune- 411006.*

While inaugurating the seminar, Professor Y. Sudershan Rao, the Chief Guest, stressed on the need for good knowledge of ancient literature including the Shastras for understanding and interpreting the symbolism as reflected in Indian art and literature. An art historian in India should be equipped with sound knowledge of Shastric literature because Indian art in all its forms is based on scientific theories and practices whether divine or secular. Indian classic art studies need very good training under knowledgeable teachers and practitioners. Apart from Shastric knowledge, the art historians, the Chairman felt, need a through



Chairman inaugurating the International Seminar, Pune



Chairman inaugurating the International Seminar, Pune



grounding in the Indian, philosophical and religious thought.

- 09.12.2016: *National Seminar on '150th anniversary of Sister Nivedita' as Special Guest organized by Ramakrishna Mission, Vivekananda Centenary College, P.O. Rahara, Kolkata*

While narrating the special circumstances of the socio-political milieu during the late 19th century and the first decade of the 20th century, the Chairman said in his inaugural address that the rise of national consciousness could be traced through the work of personalities like Swami Vivekananda who laid a meaningful and purposeful path for reaching West for a respectful intellectual. Sister Nivedita who became his disciple sacrificed her life to the service of our nation. Her divine qualities of service and sacrifice endeared her to all. Chairman said that her contributions shall always be fondly cherished by generations to come.



Chairman addressing the gathering at the seminar

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, some major Projects. Progress has been reported in the following Special Research Projects:

1. Translation of Foreign Sources on India

In the 2nd meeting of the Advisory/Monitoring Committee of the Project held on 28.06.2016 some French works were selected for translation into English under the project 'Translation of Foreign Sources on India'. Dr. Swati Dasgupta was nominated as Project Director of the Project in the 3rd Meeting of the Advisory/Monitoring Committee held on 26.11.2016.

2. Modern India: Princely States

The 145th RPC of the Council held on 13th August 2016 decided that the proposal on "Cooch Bihar" needed to be discussed in detail and that an Advisory Committee should be constituted for this purpose. The Committee approved a sum of Rs. 5 Lakh for this project.

3. Modern India: Politics and Demography, 1881-2011

The Project Director, Prof. Jayanta Kumar



Ray, submitted two Interim Reports for this project which included the district-wise religious population pattern of Bengal, East Pakistan, Bangladesh and West Bengal between 1881 and 2011.

4. History of Science and Technology in India

The first meeting of the Experts' Committee of the Project entitled '**History of Science and Technology in India**' was held on 22.07.2016 to discuss and identify themes/topics and aims & objectives for this Research Project. The Minutes of the Experts' Committee were placed before the 145th meeting of the RPC held on 13.08.2016 and the Committee noted and approved the minutes of the Experts' Committee. However, on the basis of the comments received from the Experts of the Committee the proposal entitled '**History of Science and Technology (from Ancient Period to 1000 A.D.)**' by Dr. Ravi Kumar Arya was not approved by the RPC.

In the 2nd meeting of the Experts' Committee held on 25.11.2016 a brief note on the Special Project was placed before the Committee. The Committee noted the status report and approved. Further, the following projects under the Special Project were discussed and decided accordingly:

A) *Reconnaissance and Aerial Survey of the Megalithic Stone Alignment at Hanamsagar in North Karnataka*

As per the RPC's decision, Dr. Srikumar M. Menon, the Project Director, presented the aims/

objectives and methods of the survey and documentation of the proposed theme. The Committee discussed the proposal in detail and approved it with suggestions.

B) *Critical edition of some important Astronomical works of Kerala School by Professor M.S. Sriram and Professor K. Ramasubramanian*

The Project was entrusted to Professor M. S. Sriram and Professor K. Ramasubramanian by the 145th RPC held on 13.08.2016. The Committee agreed to the work-plan informed by the project directors.

C) *History of Science and Technology (from Ancient Period to 1000 AD) by Dr. Ravi Prakash Arya*

The Committee noted that the proposal already had not been approved by the 145th RPC. Also, the Committee discussed and recommended to undertake the following publications under the Project 'History of Science and Technology':

a) Debating Indian Science

b) History of Indian Mathematics

c) Science and Technology of India known from Archaeological Investigation.



ICHR LECTURE SERIES

In keeping with the avowed aim of expanding its academic base and reinforcing existing research activities, ICHR began a lecture series in 2007. During the period under report, the following lectures were organized:

10th July 2016: Dr. Koenraad Elst, eminent indologist from Belgium, spoke on the topic '*Buddhism and Hinduism: a Re-look*' at the India International Centre, New Delhi. Professor Y. Sudershan Rao, Chairman, ICHR, presided over the Lecture and accorded a warm welcome to Dr. Elst. Professor Saradindu Mukherji, Member of the Council of ICHR, introduced the speaker to the audience.



Professor Rao, Chairman, welcoming the speaker, Dr. Koenraad Elst, with a bouquet; also seen in the picture is Professor Saradindu Mukherji

Dr. Elst pointed out in his talk that both Nehru and Ambedkar, as well as their followers, believed by implication that at some point in his life, the Hindu-born

renunciate Buddha had broken away from Hinduism and adopted a new religion, Buddhism. This notion is now omnipresent, and through school textbooks, most Indians have lapped this up and don't know any better. However, numerous though they are, none of the believers in this story have ever told us at what moment in his life the Buddha broke way from Hinduism. When did he revolt against it? Very many Indians repeat the Nehruvian account, but so far, never has any of them been able to pinpoint an event in the Buddha's life which constituted a break with Hinduism.

After the lecture, Dr. Elst interacted with the audience, answering their questions and clearing their doubts. It was indeed an intellectually stimulating experience and all present benefited a lot by this interaction.



Dr. Koenraad Elst interacting with the audience after his talk

4th August 2016: Dr. Gautam Sen (formerly, London School of Economics & Political Science, U.K.) spoke on the topic '*India's Evolving Political Economy and the Wider World*' at the Conference Hall of Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi.



Dr. Sen began by discussing the essential historical issues occupying the contemporary world and, among these, he emphasized the fate of India's people and her political economy was one of the most important, being home to the largest single group of the world's poor. The nature of methods to be employed for their mitigation has been a source of unresolved intellectual and political controversy where, he continued, those scraping the latter often served ambitions of political opportunism, finding in the issue of poverty a subterfuge for personal advancement. He underlined how India's economic well being was a vital aspect of its ability to navigate an uncertain and often hostile world and thus the slogan 'Make in India,' he said, would be of immense advantage as it specified a crucial policy goal. Any government must heed the economic meaning contained within, somewhat familiar and not far removed from a traditional import substitution policy.

The lecture was followed by a vibrant interactive session that gave an opportunity to scholars to interact with Dr. Sen. This was indeed a very rewarding experience for the scholars.

9th November 2016: Dr. Prakash Shah (Reader in Culture and Law and Director of GLOCUL: Centre for Culture and Law at Queen Mary, University of London) spoke on the topic 'Western Foundations of the Caste System' at the ICHR's Conference Hall, New Delhi.

Present caste studies, said Dr. Shah, are pervaded by certainty of existence of a caste

system in India extending to the Indian diaspora. However, in his view, whenever an assessment is attempted as to the properties of the caste system, anomalies are encountered. Yet, surprisingly, awareness of anomalies does not lead to, he said, questioning of why a certainty about existence of the system exists. This lecture presented results of collaborative research shortly due to be published which argues that when the idea of a caste system is interrogated more deeply, one is unable to maintain the stance that such a system exists in India at all, rather, that the caste system is a feature of Western culture and its way of coming to terms with its experience in India.



Professor Rao, Chairman, introducing the speaker, Dr. Prakash Shah, to the audience

14th December 2016: Dr. M. Mallikarjuna Rao (Chairman of SACRIFICE: Social and Cultural Research Institution for Inter-Continental Exchange, New Delhi) spoke on the topic 'Indo-African Cultural Synthesis' at the ICHR Conference Hall, New Delhi.



The zoological, geological and geographical closeness between India and Africa through sea and land links was touched on by Dr. M.M. Rao in his prefatory remarks while emphasizing that historical connections ran as deep. According to him, the Eritrean culture of East Africa was a survivor of an ancient Indo-African culture because, both Negro-African and Dravidian languages share words related to metallurgy and cotton spinning. Again, both Indus and Nile valley cultures are ancient cradles of mature civilization bearing many similar features. For example, worship of nature, in the form of rivers, trees, plants and animals is common to both through which can be seen, he pointed out, the many similarities between Indian and African society and culture.

This presentation aimed, said Dr. Rao, at highlighting the difficulties of turning a people, who had been conditioned for servitude by colonial rule, into self-



Professor Rao, Chairman, introducing the speaker, Dr. M. Mallikarjuna Rao, to the audience

respecting controllers of their destiny which asked how leaders may help change people, subjected to thorough conditioning, in becoming servants to masters. Towards this end, he concluded, Africa and India both first need to show independence in mind which will naturally result in non-imitation of others and kindling of an indigenous self.

30th December 2016: Professor Zoja Karanovic (Retired Professor of Folklore and Anthropology, University of Novi Sad, Serbia) spoke on the topic '*Belief Stories about Flying Churches in Serbian Folk Tradition (Reality and Fiction)*' at the ICHR Conference Hall, New Delhi.

Prof 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. She has also served as Visiting Professor in various universities like University of Delhi, University of Michigan and was 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 herbs in traditional culture.

To start with, Professor Y. Sudershan Rao, Chairman, introduced Professor Karanovic to the audience and extended a warm welcome to her.





Professor Rao, Chairman, extending a warm welcome to Professor Karanovic

In her talk, Professor Karanovic focused on the legends about miraculous moving of churches from one place to another. These stories speak of a church that "came by itself" to a place, "moved to another hill on its own". In other words, it was believed that the events were caused by God's will or with the help of some divine forces, which is why these narratives are mythical and religious. The stories were built around the real existence of a church and the answers to the questions such as why the church rose or moved, why it stood where it did, why it was the way it was. The speaker said that the stories and the beliefs which are discussed in this lecture, testify about the times when the Turks conditioned the erection of the churches on special licenses which determined their appearance, location, materials that could be used and the manner of construction. The stories are thus based on this conflicting situation which is manifest in the relations between the Serbs and the Turks, the locals and the usurpers, Christians and Muslims, us and them and is

the main motivation for the binary logical organization of the text of the story, or, in other words, for the restructuring of the real historical experience in the framework of mythopoetic picture of the world which represents the religious and historical identity of the community in which the stories were created and circulated

NATIONAL EDUCATION DAY CELEBRATION

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Memorial Lecture 2016

The ICHR celebrated the National Education Day by organizing the IXth Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Memorial Lecture on 11th November 2016, in the auditorium of National Museum, Janpath, New Delhi.

Distinguished historian, Professor Shivaji Singh, Former Head of the Department of



Professor Shivaji Singh igniting the traditional lamp; also seen in the picture are Dr. Bal Mukund, Dr. BR Mani, Professor Y. Sudershan Rao, Prof. Sacchidananda Sahai and Dr SK Aruni



Ancient History, Archaeology and Culture, DDU Gorakhpur University, delivered the Memorial Lecture. The event started with the igniting of the traditional lamp by Professor Singh. Thereafter, Guests of Honour were accorded a warm welcome.



Dr Rajesh Kumar welcoming Dr. BR Mani with a bouquet

Professor Shivaji Singh gave a very enlightening talk on the theme: “*With Veda in One Hand and Spade in the Other: Writing Early History of India Afresh*”. The abstract of the lecture is reproduced below:

“The Aryans invaded India, destroyed the cities of the Indus Valley and killed, converted and drove away its inhabitants, the Dravidians, to South India! This was the picture the Aryan Invasion Theory(AIT) presented before us about the early history of India. The earlier perception was that the Vedic is a rural culture while the Harappan is an urban civilization; that the Vedic society was illiterate while the Harappan Society was literate; that the Harappans did not domesticate horses, while the Vedic Aryans domesticate and use them extensively.

Thus, supporters of the AIT had created and perpetuated this falsehood against all available evidence.

This dominated the historical discourse for an unexpectedly long duration. Now, however, the AIT has been rejected by its very proponents. All its assertions have been proven to be wrong—thanks to the clear and decisive Sarasvati evidence (rediscovery of the Lost River Sarasvati with majority of Harappan sites in its valley and other cultural and chronological facts that show that the Harappan Civilization should better be designated as Sarasvati Civilization) that many scholars, who earlier believed in Vedic-Harappan dichotomy and shared the view of Aryan arrival in India from outside, now accept Vedic-Harappan identity. A noteworthy example of this shift in perception is the presentation of Professor B. B. Lal. Credit goes to him for changing the public perception.

No history of India can be written without a clear understanding of what is India. The idea of India and the understanding of Indian history are interconnected. If you want to know India, you need to read its history. But, if you want to write the history of India, you must be conversant with the personality of India beforehand. Nehru in his magnum opus, *Discovery of India*, writes: India has, for ages past, been a country of pilgrimages. All over the country, you find these ancient places, from Badrinath, Kedarnath and Amarnath, high up in the snowy Himalayas down to Kanyakumari in the south. For, from the very beginning of



history, the people of India always thought of themselves as a people belonging to one great country. What has drawn out people from the north to the south and from the south to the north in these great pilgrimages? What is the common thought that has made them travel from one region to the other? It is the feeling of one country and one culture, and this feeling has bound us together.” Indeed, there is an Indianness which distinguishes every part of India ... That Indianness is something unique and deeper than the external differences!

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad had a deep feeling of Bhāratīyatā acquired instinctively. This is something great and highly praiseworthy since he was neither born in India nor an expert in Rigvedic wisdom which is the uthsa of Bhāratīyatā. He will ever be remembered as a person who opposed the ill-conceived and unfortunate two-nation theory that partitioned India”.

The Lecture was attended by a number of scholars from various academic institutions and universities and by staff-members of ICHR. During this occasion, ICHR announced an important change in the Editorial status of its Hindi-language journal, Itihas: the working Editor, Professor I.S. Vishwakarma (Member of the Council of ICHR) handed over charge to the new Chief Editor, Prof. Sacchidananda Sahai (Member of the Council of ICHR). Dr. BR Mani, Director-General, National Museum, did the honour of releasing the first issue in such a series.



Dr. BR Mani handing over copies of the Hindi journal Itihas to Professor Sahai and Dr. Bal Mukund



Dignitaries displaying copies of the newly released Hindi journal Itihas

NATIONAL UNITY DAY PANEL DISCUSSION

***'Integration of Indian Union and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel - A Re-look',
23 November, 2016***

Under the National Unity Day initiative of the Government of India, ICHR organized a panel discussion at its committee room in honour of the memory of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel to reflect on his decisive efforts in



unifying a discrete country such as India towards creating a single political, socio-economic and administrative independent India.

In his opening remarks to the panel discussion held to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhai Patel, Prof. Y. Sudershan Rao, Chairman, began by pointing out the significance of celebrating such a day for the nation. Sardar Patel (31 October 1875–15 December 1950), one of the architects of the nation, emerged prominently on the political scene in June 1947 when the conundrum of how to unite India emerged as a major challenge for the future polity. It has been a common fallibility, in his opinion, to consider British India as encompassing the entire land. It was not so, because as much as a third was still being ruled by 'native' princes who were independent internally in their administration and policies. Historical research of the period has, he felt, eclipsed the study of princely states. The tremendous amount of work done by Sardar Patel in integrating such states into a territorially harmonious India was his service to the new nation. It is his message of assimilation and unification that the nation should remember today, taking special care to spread it among the many far-flung Indian diaspora communities in the world.

Introducing the theme of the panel discussion, Dr. Saradindu Mukherji, Member of the Council of ICHR, observed that the concept of Bharat or India has been alive in historical imagination over

several millennia. The problems of uniting the scattered territories into a single nation particularly came to the fore in the inter-war period, and by the mid-1940s when it became clear that a partition was imminent, a scramble for uniting them either to the dominion of India or Pakistan became desperate. In this scenario Sardar Patel, who had a 'unique sense of history', assumed charge of the newly created States' Department under the Interim Government of India (2 September 1946–15 August 1947) and succeeded through his 'masterly activity' to unite more than 560 small and large princely states into a single nation. Accordingly, Patel is commonly referred to as the 'Iron man of India' drawing comparisons with the nineteenth century Prussian statesman, Otto von Bismarck (1 April 1815–30 July 1898). But such a comparison, stressed Dr. Mukherji, was not apt because what Bismarck had achieved was through "blood and iron" - fighting major battles--while Sardar Patel believed in a policy of negotiations, accommodation and adjustment. Important figures like Patel had been ignored in our history textbooks and it is time this lacuna should be rectified.

Prof. Nikhiles Guha, Member of Council of ICHR, in his discussion on the topic accentuated on the contrary paths taken towards integration by two of the largest princely states in colonial India - Mysore and Hyderabad. They present a startling difference in comparison serving to highlight the multi-faceted approach adopted by Patel in his negotiations with



princely states for the purpose of unification. He agreed with Dr. Mukherji's argument that in comparing Patel with Bismarck one should be circumspect as, in his view, Sardar was more accommodative and inclusive in his ideas than Bismarck. Guha elucidated this point with reference to Patel's display of tremendous patience even in the face of extreme intransigence and threats of violence from Nizam of Hyderabad and his cohorts.

Abhijit Bhattacharya put forth his argument that Patel found in the task of integration an able adherent in the secretary of the States' Department, V.P. Menon (30 September 1893–31 December 1965). Together, working in concert, he said, they performed as an efficient, well-oiled machine towards the goal of assimilating a territorially contiguous area into the remaining polity of India after the cutting off of some of its parts to create a new nation of Pakistan. According to Bhattacharya, it goes to their credit that this goal was achieved with the 'minimum number of casualties'.

Prof. V.K. Vashishtha deliberated on the suitability of Patel being appointed in June 1947 to head the States' Department which was assigned the charge of negotiating with the legion of princely states. Within a short span of two months, he succeeded in persuading all of them, each varying in aspects, to accede to India before the collapse of British rule into two separate dominions of India and Pakistan. Patel was well-poised for this role as he intimately knew of the different conditions and problems

faced by the people of princely states given his experience of *praja-mandals*. Even Indian princes were responsive towards the decision of his appointment putting aside their doubts and reservations.

Strong instincts against violence and destruction of property pervaded the ideas of Sardar Patel which were only strengthened under the influence of Mahatma Gandhi (2 October 1869–30 January 1948), emphasized Prof. Vashishtha. This attitude of tolerance under duress, a point also mentioned earlier by Prof. Guha, was plainly evident during Patel's negotiations with the princely states of Kashmir and Hyderabad. Prof. Vashishtha argued that in this complex process of constant dialogue between the fading British administration, the rising interim government and the divided princely states, where assurances and promises were frequently elicited and deliberately broken, the role of Lord Mountbatten (25 June 1900–27 August 1979), the last Viceroy of India, needs to be thoroughly looked at.

A remarkable colour of light is shed on the personality of Sardar Patel when one delves into his series of voluminous correspondence, felt Prof. Raghuvendra Tanwar, who is presently engaged in studying the seventh volume which documents Patel's exchange with Maharaja Hari Singh, the last princely ruler of Jammu and Kashmir. In his correspondence, said Tanwar, Patel reveals his deep mistrust of the Kashmiri politician Sheikh Abdullah (5 December 1908–8 September 1982) and casts doubt on his intentions. These reservations, Tanwar



continued, were borne out by succeeding events whose reverberations continue to impact on present politics. He was curious, as a historian, whether the issue of Kashmir could have been conducted better if its sole supervision had been in the able hands of Sardar Patel.

For Dr. M.M. Rao management of the crisis produced by Nizam of Hyderabad's strident refusal to accede to India and his vigorous, often violent, activities against sovereignty of the newly independent nation, was the crowning accomplishment of Sardar Patel. The princely state of Hyderabad, ruled since its creation in 1724 by a line of hereditary Nizams, was one of the biggest and wealthiest principalities in India. Its distinctive location – roughly in the middle of the new polity – lent another immediate reason for it to be absorbed in the union of India.

Dr. Rao opined that Mir Osman Ali (6 April 1886–24 February 1967), the last Nizam of Hyderabad, held out till an operation in September 1948 by Indian police forces forced him to abdicate (codenamed Operation Polo), on the strength of his assumption of British support. As Hyderabad had extended its full support to British forces when they were under the threat of annihilation elsewhere in India during 1857, they would similarly sustain it in its dire times. Such hopes, continued Rao, were initially maliciously encouraged by Lord Mountbatten, who wished to retain a British seat of power in India. But due to the astute diplomatic skills of Sardar Patel,

such a notion was eventually publicly repudiated by him.



Dr. MN Rao expressing his views in the Panel Discussion

Summing up, Dr. Mukherji appreciated the diverse aspects of Sardar Patel's life and vocation brought to the fore by this discussion and laid emphasis on the need to study such figures from various planes of thought. In his view, the role of other personalities, particularly Mountbatten, who earlier was the Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in Singapore, and had a hand in the demolition of the I.N.A. memorial, should also be examined. Historical research of the period ought to further spotlight and correlate findings from Residency records held at the National Archives of India and various archives in U. K.

In his closing remarks, Prof. Y. Sudershan Rao observed the preponderance of Hyderabad and Kashmir as subjects of study and discussion and pointed out the cases of other princely states such as Bhopal, Cooch Behar and Travancore which have till now received scant attention. But he



was confident that ICHR's special research project underway on princely states would be able to fill this lacuna in the study of Indian history and provide a reliable source of knowledge for future researchers and scholars.



Dr. Ramesh Yernagula, Dy Director(Doc)(centre), who participated in the Panel Discussion

NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY OF INDIA

Concept Note

Within the discipline of history, 'environmental history' remains universally acknowledged as a critically important area of inquiry, but without well-defined disciplinary canons and methodological guidelines. It is strongly felt that only professional historians with the requisite methodological training will be able to (1) develop and define the agenda and disciplinary canons of this field of inquiry, and (2) historicize the present-day concerns and anxieties in the broad area of Environmental

History. Unfortunately, professional historians in India and abroad appear to be reluctant to come forward to undertake this task in a concerted and coordinated manner. This is the vacuum that this workshop intends to fill in. It also marks the formal beginning of a broader project funded by ICHR which proposes to write a comprehensive multi-volume environmental history of India, the first of its kind in the country.

It is critical for the historians to understand that environmental history is also intimately connected with history of land use, water and climate in more ways than one. Earth's hydrological cycle – the sun-powered movement of water between the sea, air and land – is an irreplaceable asset that human actions are now disrupting in dangerous ways. Although vast amount of water resides in oceans, glaciers, lakes and deep aquifers, only a very small share of Earth's water – less than one-hundredth of 1 per cent – is fresh, renewed by the hydrological cycle, and delivered to land. That precious supply of precipitation – some 110,000 cubic kilometres per year – is what sustains most terrestrial life. Like any valuable asset, the global water cycle delivers a steady stream of benefits to society. Rivers, lakes and other freshwater ecosystems work in concert with forests, grasslands and other landscapes to provide goods and services of great importance to human society. The nature and value of these services can remain grossly underappreciated, however, until they are all destroyed or depleted. Environmental history calls for an understanding of the inter connectivities between water resource on the one hand and deforestation, rainfall,



river flows, soil erosion, climate change, global warming, draught, famine and various natural calamities, on the other.

The concern for environment in human society has always been there. Of all the decisions human society takes, perhaps the most crucial ones have always been related to the natural world. One of the flash points in the inner conflicts within the human societies of the past was fuelled by the continuous effort to resolve the question of the legitimate use of the natural world. As human settlements spread across the earth and technology advanced, the urge to resolve this fundamental question relating to the legitimate use of the natural world increased. South Asia is no exception in this line. In ancient India, forests were regarded as abodes of spiritual solace and the concept of preserving forests and wild life developed around the ashrams of the sages. These forest-based ashrams propagated aranyasanskriti or a forest culture and human understanding of the fundamental ecological utility of forest ecosystems and their economic importance, which led to trees and animals being treated with veneration.

In pursuit of a broader project which proposes to write a comprehensive multi-volume environmental history of India, ICHR organized a one-day Workshop on 6th July 2016 to begin the endeavour in a formal manner and, to coordinate and concert synergies of leading scholars selected to write papers in the afore-mentioned volume on environmental history

The Workshop was divided into four sessions including the inaugural session.

These were on the themes: 'Water'(Session 2); Forests, Wildlife and Animals(Session 3); Climate and Disaster(Session 4). These were Chaired by Prof. A.S. Gaur (National Institute of Oceanography, Goa); Professor Sajal Nag(Presidency University, WB); and Professor Ranjan Chakrabarti (Vice-Chancellor, Vidyasagar University, West Bengal) respectively.

In the inaugural session, Professor Y. Sudershan Rao, Chairman, ICHR, delivered the welcome address while Dr. Nanditha Krishna, Member of the Council of ICHR, introduced the theme. Professor Ranjan Chakrabarti delivered the keynote address on Methodology and Scope of Environmental History.

The Chairman, in his address, stressed on the importance of studying environmental history especially in the contemporary chaotic condition where human interference has disturbed global weather and climate patterns. In Indian philosophical thought, environmental concern and ecological balance have been a continuous preoccupation, ancient knowledge explaining clearly the intricate interconnections between seemingly disparate natural resources, a point reiterated by many subsequent presentations. To understand the history of natural resources, their use and misuse by humans is the aim of these multi-volumes on environmental history. In this enterprise, academics and scholars were assured of complete encouragement by the ICHR.





Professor Y. Sudershan Rao delivering the welcome address; also seen among the participants are Professor Sajal Nag, Professor Ranjan Chakrabarti, Professor Nanditha Krishna and Dr SK Aruni

Introducing the theme of the Workshop, Prof. Nanditha Krishna, Coordinator of the Workshop, pointed to the deep ecological relationship between forests or groves considered sacred in India and regional environmental health. Ancient Indian texts are replete with references to forests and their sacredness. The history of sacred groves, which represents continuity between the past and the present, can illustrate how ancient community practices, traditions, and beliefs of forest conservation management



Dr. Nanditha Krishna introducing the theme of the Workshop

are still more relevant today in times of rapid urbanization and indiscriminate deforestation, including that of sacred groves.

The workshop on Environmental History of India addressed some of the fundamental questions most relevant to the very discipline of Environmental History. The workshop brought together many leading scholars sharing a common interest in environmental history; an effort was made to address the broad areas of environmental concern in the Indian context and enquire into the complex patterns of the human-nature interaction.

The principal goal of environmental history is to deepen our understanding of how people have changed the environment, and thereby the course of history; and how environmental events – both natural and man-made - have influenced historical events.

WORKSHOP-CUM- TRAINING COURSE ON EPIGRAPHY

**21-Day National Workshop-cum-
Training Course on Epigraphy from
4th July to 24th July 2016: A Report**

Purpose of organizing the course

In view of the consideration that thousands of inscriptions in India remain unread or unpublished, depriving the academic world, especially the young minds of the nation, from a substantial authentic source for



the country's glorious history, the Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR), New Delhi, took an initiative to revive the important discipline of Epigraphy. In this connection, the ICHR decided to conduct, on an annual basis, 3-week Workshop-cum-Training Course on Epigraphy; it was also decided that the country's best experts in the field will train students, scholars and young professionals in various aspects of Epigraphy, viz. India's many ancient scripts, issues of decipherment and interpretation, the historical content and context of inscriptions, some recent finds, etc.

From 120 applicants 30 were selected to be trained at the ICHR Headquarters in the disciplines of epigraphy, numismatics, archaeology, ancient history and indology by 18 eminent epigraphists, historians and archaeologists from different parts of the country. Among the well-known scholars who were invited to impart knowledge and training were Prof. K.K. Thaplyal, Dr. R. Nagaswamy, Prof. Y. Subbarayalu, Prof. Himanshu Prabha Ray, Dr. B.R. Mani, Prof. Shrinivas Padigar, Prof. K. Rajan, Dr. T.S. Ravishankar, Prof. Suchandra Ghosh, Prof. R.C. Agrawal and others.

Intensive training was imparted to the selected candidates over a period of 21 days through lectures, power-point presentations, group discussions, brain-storming, feedback sessions, etc. Participatory methods were woven into the training sessions to ensure the use of experiential learning model, for maintaining motivation and interest levels of the participants.

Inaugural Function

The inaugural function of the 21-day National Workshop-cum-Training Course was held at India International Centre, New Delhi; it started with extension of warm welcome to the Chief Guest, Dr. B.B. Lal, an Archaeologist of great eminence, and former Director-General, Archaeological Survey of India, and to Guest of Honors, Dr. Rakesh Tiwari, Director, Archaeological Survey of India, and Dr. B.R. Mani, Director General, National Museum. This was followed by the igniting of the traditional lamp which marked the official beginning of the event.



Professor Y. Sudershan Rao presenting a shawl to Dr. BB Lal



Professor Y. Sudershan Rao, Dr. BR Mani, and Professor Michel Danino igniting the traditional lamp; also seen in the picture is Dr SK Aruni





Professor Y. Sudershan Rao, Dr. BB Lal, Professor Michel Danino and Dr SK Aruni with candidates selected for training



Professor Michel Danino delivering the introductory talk at the inaugural function

While inaugurating 21-day event, Professor Y. Sudershan Rao, Chairman, said that “every village and every site in India has its own history to tell us. This is the unique specialty of our country which is traced in other parts of the world. The sources inform of inscriptions are wide speak to reconstruct our history. But till date we are not able to collect, catalogue and decode them for historians although some work is done in this area by amateurs. These inscriptions have much important information but we are not able to study them because of the lack of proper training in language skills. This is the area we need to focus through this 21-day workshop wherein”.

The Chairman also informed that this event will be made annual feature and shall be hosted in different parts of India by rotation.

Prof. Michel Danino, Coordinator of the Workshop, introduced the theme of the workshop and played a big role in successfully organizing the 21-day event.

In response to feedback over the academic proceedings spanning 21 days, the participants expressed great satisfaction at the course structure that went a long way in opening new vistas of knowledge; the interactive sessions were intellectually satisfying and highly thought-provoking. They requested to hold more training workshops, especially in the remote areas of the country, so that the students who do not have access to technology may also be benefited.

Valedictory function

The 21-day event ended with a grand Valedictory function held at the India International Centre, New Delhi, under the guidance of Prof. Y. Sudershan Rao, Chairman, ICHR. On the occasion Professor Susmita Pande, Chairperson, National Monuments Authority, was the Chief Guest while Dr. Sanjay Kumar Manjul, Director, Institute of Archaeology, ASI, New Delhi was the Guest of Honour.





Professor Susmita Pande being presented a memento by Professor Rao and Dr. Sanjay Kumar Manjul



Dr. Sanjay Kumar Manjul being presented a bouquet

In his concluding remarks at the Valedictory function Prof. Y. Sudershan Rao, while extending a warm welcome to Professor Susmita Pandey and Dr. Sanjay Kumar Manjul, pointed out that “we have thousands of monuments having much important information related to the study for the stream of scholars of history. Though these monuments are identified by the National Monuments Authority but the sole duty of protection and conservation of these lies on the Archaeological Survey of India. So I think the ICHR, the NMA and

ASI have great responsibility to preserve these treasures which have the ancient information of our country’s civilization and should work hand in hand in providing opportunity to the young scholars who are interested to work in this filed”. He also congratulated the participants for the successful completion of the event and said that “this is just an introductory step we have taken in regard to reviving the field of Epigraphy and much more has to be done; now it depends on you how you develop the interest, information and skills of epigraphy you learnt in the 21-day period”.

Prof. Michel Danino, the Coordinator of the Workshop and Dr SK Aruni, Member Secretary, in their respective addresses expressed great satisfaction at the successful conclusion of the event. The event was presented by Dr. Suresh Kumar, Consultant(Research), wherein he thanked the participants on behalf of ICHR and opined that this event could not have been possible in a practical shape without the involvement of enthusiastic youngsters who came from different parts of the country to participate in the grand event. The ICHR also extended its sincere regards to all the learned scholars who shared their valuable research findings and knowledge with the participants during the training course.

The Workshop finally concluded with Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Dy Director(Research), ICHR, presenting a vote of thanks to all the guests and participants. Prominent among those who made substantial contributions in making the 21-day event a grand success



were Dr Ramesh Yernagula, Dy. Director (Administration & Documentation), Dr. Noopur Singh, Consultant (Research), Dr. Suresh Kumar, Consultant (Research), Dr. Vinod Kumar, Consultant (Research) and other staff members of ICHR. Dr. Jyotsna Arora in particular deserved special thanks for conducting the proceedings of the programme with great finesse. Special thanks were also extended to some Members of the Council of ICHR who actively participated in the workshop, viz. Professor B. Labh, Professor K. Ratnam and Professor RC Agrawal.

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, publication subsidy for full-length books was extended to 18 publications, the details of which are given below:

1. Indraneel Pegu (ed.), *Religious Beliefs and Practices of the Misings of Assam: A Case study of Majuli*, Guwahati: Purbanchal Prakashan.
2. Joshy Mathew (ed.), *Education in Colonial and Post-Colonial Malabar (1920-2006)*, New Delhi: Gyan Publishing House.



3. V. Gopalakrishna (ed.), *Pietro Della Velleya Bharata Pravasa Kathana* (in Kannada), vol. II, Chennai: Vidyagiri Prakashana.
4. Sanju Lata Singh (ed.), *Awadh ke Krishak, Bhuswami, Evam British Raaj (1920-1939)*, New Delhi: Anamika Publishers & Distributors (P.) Ltd.
5. Vinod Yadav (ed.), *A Study of Upper Paleolithic Culture in North Central India* Allahabad: Swabha Prakashan.
6. Ramashanker Prasad (ed.), *Guptkalin samajik jivan (vivah evam pariwar ke vishesh sandarbh mein)*, New Delhi: Anamika Publishers & Distributors (P.) Ltd.
7. Chavi Jain (ed.), *Saharanpur Janpad ke Jain Mandiron Main Bhatti Alankaran*, Saharanpur (U.P.), Srijan Prints.
8. Jayanta Chatterjee (ed.), *Hare Krishna Konar-er Rajnaitik Jiban Ebong Opanibeshik o Bibhag-uttar Paschim Banger Rajnitite Tar Bhumikar Mulyayan* (in Bengali), Kolkata: Pragatishil Prakashak.
9. Kokkat Paulos (ed.), *Contributions of Carmelites of Mary Immaculate Congregation to Education in Kerala (1831-2008)*, Bengaluru: Dharmaram Publications
10. Ajay Pratap (ed.), *Rock Art of the Vindhyas: An Archaeological Survey, Documentation and Analysis of the Rock Art of Mirzapur District, Uttar Pradesh*, Oxford: Archaeopress Publishing Ltd.
11. Badarala Anjani Kumari (ed.), *History and Contribution of the Zamindars in Visakhapatnam Region (AD 1611-1949)*, New Delhi: Gyan Publishing House.
12. Anuj Bala (ed.), *William Sleeman Ke Karyon Aur Vyaktitva Ka Mulyankan (1788-1856)* (in Hindi), Delhi: Navjivan Books.
13. Vivek Malhotra (ed.), *Bhopal Ki Sikandar Begam Aur Unka Yug (1819-1868)*, New Delhi: Radha Publications.
14. Purushothama S. (ed.), *Kanakadasa - A Saint, Poet and a Warrior in 16th Century Transforming period and analysis* (in Kannada), Bengaluru: Itihasa Darpana
15. Ashok Kumar Das (ed.), *Bihar mein Khadi evam Gramodyog Andolan (1922-61)*, Patna: Janaki Prakashan Publishers & Distributors.
16. Sudha Gupta (ed.), *Madhya Aadhunik Kaleen Bundelkhand Itihas ke Samkalik Strot (1741-1841) Part 2: Panna Abhilekh*, Jodhpur (Rajasthan): Rajasthani Granthasagar, Prakashak, Vitran evam Pustak Vikreta.
17. Dileep Kumar Garg (ed.), *Mewar Mein Mudra Vikas Ki Parivartit Awasthaein: Ek Etihasic Adhyayan (seventh century to 1948)*, Jodhpur (Rajasthan): Rajasthani Granthasagar, Prakashak, Vitran evam Pustak Vikreta.
18. Sant Saran (ed.), *Babu Jagjivan Ram aur Dalit Andolan: Angrez Shasankaal evam Swatantrata Ke Paschaat: Ek Etihasic*



Adhyayan (in Hindi), New Delhi: Vani Prakashan.

Also, publication subsidy for journals was extended to the following 5 journals:

1. *An Annual Interdisciplinary Journal of History*, edited by Chittbrata Palit, vol. 14, (no. 14), January to December 2014.
2. *Social Scientist*, edited by Rajender Prasad, vol. 44, nos. 7-8, July-August 2016.
3. *Kalyan Bharati*, edited by Gayatri Sen Majumdar, vol. XIX, 2015.
4. *History Today (A Journal of History and Historical Archaeology)*, edited by Sholochana Radhakrishnan and Gulati, no. 15, 2014.
5. *Shodhak (A Journal of Historical Research)*, edited by Ram Pande, vol. 46, Part A, B and C, January-December 2016 (in English & Hindi).

Publication subsidy for proceedings was extended to the following two:

1. Manohar Singh Ranawat (ed.), *Socio Economic History of Madhya Pradesh and Adjoining States (through the ages)*.
2. *Indian History Congress Platinum Jubilee (75th) Session*, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, 2014.

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. 2 (December 2016) was published. It contains 4 articles, 1 review article, 14 reviews of books and 1 short notice. These 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)].

REVIEWS OF BOOKS

1. Andrew Robinson, *The Indus, Lost Civilizations*, London, 2015.
Reviewer: Dilip.K. Chakrabarti
2. A. M. Shah, *Sociology and History: Dialogues towards Integration*, Orient Blackswan, 2016, pp. xii + 254, Rs. 375/-
Reviewer: BP Sahu
3. Aruna Pariti, *Genealogy, Time, Identity Historical Consciousness in the Deccan Sixth Century CE-Twelfth Century CE*. Delhi:Primus Books, 2015, pp. xii + 338 + Maps and Appendices, Rs. 1395.
Reviewer: Shatarupa Bhattacharya
4. Bharati Jagannathan, 2015. *Approaching*

the Divine: The Integration of Alvar Bhakti in Srivaisnavism. Primus Books.
Reviewer: Nanditha Krishna

5. Annemarie Schimmel, tr. from German by Paul Bergne, 2014: *Makers of Islamic Civilization -- RUMI* (OUP, New Delhi, 2014). Pp. xii+124. Price Rs.395/-.
Reviewer: F.A. Qadri
6. Tanuja Kothiyal, *Nomadic Narratives, A History of Mobility and Identity in the Great Indian Desert*, Cambridge University Press, Delhi, 2016. Pp. xix +299.
Reviewer: Manisha Choudhary
7. Javed Majeed, *Autobiography, Travel and Postnational Identity: Gandhi, Nehru, Iqbal*. Primus Books, New Delhi, 2015.
Reviewer: Nikhiles Guha
8. Sabyasachi Bhattacharya, *The Colonial State: theory and practice*, Primus Books, Delhi, 2016.
Reviewer: Bidyut Chakrabarty
9. Pratapaditya Pal, *In Pursuit of the Past, Collecting Old Art in Modern India, circa 1875-1950*. Marg Publications, Mumbai, 2015. Rs 2800.
Reviewer: Dilip K. Chakrabarti
10. Amrith, S, *Crossing the Bay of Bengal: The Furies of Nature and the Fortunes of Migrants*. Paperback: Harvard University Press.
Reviewer: Ryan Stock



11. Chandi Prasad Nanda and Herman Kulke, ed, *Rethinking Local History and Identity Politics: Locating Kurmi community of Odisha*, Manohar, New Delhi, 2015.

Reviewer: Pritish Acharya

12. Swarn S. Kahlon, *Sikhs in Asia Pacific: Travels among the Sikh Diaspora from Yangon to Kobe*(Manohar, New Delhi, 2016). Pp. 352. Rs 1195/-.

Reviewer: Himadri Banerjee

13. Aishwary Kumar, *Radical Equality: Ambedkar, Gandhi and the Risk of Democracy* (Stanford University Press, Stanford, 2015), Pp. 393.

Reviewer: Bidyut Chakrabarty

14. Savio Abreu and Rudolf C. Heredia(eds.), *Goa 2011 Reviewing and Recovering Fifty Years*, Concept, New Delhi, 2014. Pp. xx+240. Rs 700/-

Reviewer: N. Shyam Bhat,

SHORT NOTICE

Sushanta Kumar Bag, *Colonial State, agrarian Transition and Popular Protest in Orissa: 1921-1947*. Primus Books, New Delhi, 2015.

Reviewer: Chittabrata Palit

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

During the period under report, Volume 2, Number 1 of ITIHAS (Shodh Patrika) was published by the ICHR. The issue contained 9 articles, 4 reviews of books and

2 obituaries. Apart from this, 25 articles for Volume 2, Number 2 (July-December 2016) were received. All the articles were processed for sending to the experts for their evaluation; the experts were nominated by the competent authority and Working Editor. Also, 5 reviews of books and 2 obituaries were received. The articles were processed and placed before the Sub-Committee meeting of the Editorial Board of ITIHAS. The Committee selected 8 articles (duly examined by the experts), 4 reviews of books and 2 obituaries for the next volume.

The content-list of Vol. 2, No. 1 of *Itihas* is given below:

1. Yellapragada Sudershan Rao, 'Addyakshiy Sandesh' pp. ix-xii.
2. Sachhidanand Sahay, 'Pradhan Sampadakiye' pp. xiii-xiv.
3. Ishwar Sharan Vishwakarma, 'Sampadakiye' pp. xv
4. *Shodh Nibandh*
 - i. Satish Chandra Mittal, 'Itihas ki Avdharana' pp. 1-10.
 - ii. Thakur Prasad Verma, 'Vaidik Sabhyata ka Puratatva' pp. 11-46.
 - iii. Arun Pratap Singh, 'Jain Parampara mein Chanakya: Jeevanvrat evam Uplabdhiyan' pp. 47-57.
 - iv. Sitaram Dubey, 'Bodh Ahinsa:



Prampra aur Prasangikta pp. 58-87.

- v. Sushmita Pandey, '*Vicharon ke Itihas ka Sakshi – Shiv Puraan*' pp. 88-94.
- vi. Vishwakarma, P.L. '*Saltnatkaleen Arth-Vyavstha: Ek Samalochna*' pp. 95-101.
- vii. B.K. Shrivastav, '*Mugalkaleen Bundelkhand ke Pramukh Santon evam Kaviyon ka Dharmik Chintan*' pp. 102-115.
- viii. J.P. Mishr, '*Kanpur mein 1857 ka Mahasamar*' pp. 116-123.
- ix. Girijashankar, '*Mahatma Gandhi ki Samajwadi Drishti*' 124-133.

5. Pustak Samiksha

- i. Sachhidanand Sahay, '*Bhadreshwar: A Forgotten Form of Shiv in India and South East Asia*' pp.134-135.
- ii. Harinarayan Dubey, Harihar Singh, Marutinandan Prasad Tiwari, Kamal & Giri, '*Jain Art and Architecture (Encyclopaedia of Jain Studies, Volume. 1)*', pp. 136-141.
- iii. Sitaram Dubey, & Hiralal Pandey, '*Islam aur Uski Samprabhuta ka Prabandhan – Bhartiya Pridrishay 1526 isvi tak*' pp. 142-144.
- iv. Dinbandhu Pandey, & Sayajeet

Wadhwa, '*Kuldeep Kaur Dhaliwal, Akhiri Lamhe di Dastan, Lahore Darbar da chadata duvda Sooraj (Punjabi Anuwad)*' pp. 145-150.

6. Shraddhanjali

- i. Dayanath Tripathi, '*Shri Ram Goyal (1932-2015 E.)*' pp. 151-153.
- ii. Ishwar Sharan Vishwakarma, '*Malti J. Shedge (1934-2015 E.)*' pp.154

Display and Sale of ICHR Publications

During the period under report, various ICHR publications were displayed at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi on 30 September 2016 and 25 November 2016.

ICHR received a total amount of Rs. 1, 08,640/- as royalty from four publishers for its various publications. The concerned publishers are:

1. M/s Reader Service P. Ltd
2. M/s Oxford University Press
3. M/s Ratna Sagar P. Ltd
4. M/s Agam Kala Prakashan Pvt. Ltd

An amount of Rs 29, 024/- was received through direct sale of ICHR publications displayed at seminars/conferences/lectures across different parts of India.



LIBRARY-CUM- DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

ICHR Library

The ICHR library, the knowledge hub of the organization, provides comprehensive access to books, journals, theses and dissertations covering diverse disciplines. The library offers a congenial atmosphere with a reader cultured approach in a serene and calm environment; more than 700 readers took advantage of this facility during the period under report.

This year has been a time of consolidation and growth for ICHR library. Many of the key services that we offer have seen significant uptake over this period. ICHR library has developed an improved technical infrastructure to support Open Access work flow for both scholars and library team.

The library has also been providing xerox copies of academic reference to scholars on demand at a nominal rate of Re 1/- per page. Approx. 9800 exposures were delivered to scholars for their research requirement with complete satisfactory report.

Being a member of the DELNET (Developing Library Network), the library has an advantage of accessing bibliographic information of books and can borrow books on Inter-Library-Loan basis from different libraries of Delhi and some of the libraries in other parts of the country. During the period

94 transactions under inter-library-loan with DELNET for the scholars reference service were provided.

During the 'Hindi Divas' in the month of September a special book exhibition of Hindi books was organized by the library. Also, a special exhibition on the books on Sardar Vallabhai Patel on the occasion of 'Rashtriya Ekta Saptah' (31st October-6th November 2016) was organized by the library.

A Library Sub-Committee meeting was held on 26th October 2016 and approx. 275 books largely on Indian history and allied disciplines, including reference books and books relating to the history of Asia and neighbouring countries, were selected for purchase.

The reading room of ICHR library is kept open between 9.30 am and 5.30 pm on all days, with the exception of Sundays and gazetted holidays. Scholars are welcome to offer suggestions for improvement of the library.

ICHR Documentation Centre

The Documentation Centre has received, during the reporting period, a total of 202 M. Phil. dissertations/Ph.D. theses from all Grants-in-Aid units of the Council, under different schemes of financial grant.

Digital Resources Remote Access Portal

During this period, the Documentation Centre launched a digital resources remote access portal to the rich collections held by



the ICHR library. This portal is open to access all day long, every day, with no location barriers. With the launching of this portal, ICHR joins the list of only a few research institutions in India providing digital access to their collections. Through this portal, scholars can search in the Library-cum-Documentation catalogues for books, articles, journals, different publications of ICHR such as *Indian Historical Review (IHR)*, *Itihas*, Annual Reports and Newsletters and in online databases of *JSTOR*, *Project MUSE*, and *Internet Archive*, etc.

Initially the facility will be open to readers at the library, past and present research fellows of ICHR, grants-in-aid awardees, staff and Council members on demand and to students/scholars on request. Thereafter, in the second phase, the portal will be thrown open to all interested in the subject of history and its related branches. For ICHR, this digital portal will ensure the following benefits:

- Enhancing the visibility of work produced with aid of various grants awarded by ICHR providing the work global coverage;
- Offering scholars wide dissemination of their research on a global platform;
- Preserving and protecting research output;
- Lowering access barriers to research;
- Providing an additional avenue for research collaboration and flow of knowledge.

To supplement the Digital Access Portal, the Documentation Centre has also installed powerful internet connectivity of bandwidth 100 mbps with the assistance of National Knowledge Network (NKN), a digital initiative of the Government of India.

Method of Access:

- Log on to ICHR website www.ichr.ac.in
→ Click on Library & documentation Centre → Click on 'ICHR Digital E-Resources' → Portal will open for access.

Digital Archival Service

In pursuit of digitization of ICHR's abundant collection of newspapers, rare books, proceedings of national and international conferences, reports of various state archives, rare photographs, unique maps and atlases, and ICHR's own project reports, annual reports and journals, etc., the Documentation Centre has initiated design and development of the digital repository for ICHR's research journals – *Indian Historical Review (IHR)* from 1974-2008, and *Itihas*.

Research Trends

The Documentation Centre has initiated analysis on research trends of various schemes, projects and publications of ICHR in order to effect changes and improvements.

a) Indian Historical Review (IHR)

The *Indian Historical Review (IHR)* addresses research areas of all historical periods, ranging from prehistoric to contemporary



history and while focused on the Indian subcontinent, it also includes historical writings on other parts of the world. Till date 34 volumes of *IHR* have been successfully published with 6-7 articles per issue. In this study volumes from 2011 and 2015 were analysed by the Documentation Centre. Its main findings are:

1. Average article length is 20 pages, among the highest in journals on social sciences.
2. A large part of the articles were on modern (29) followed by medieval (19) and ancient (16) history.
3. Among contributors to the journal, Indian research scholars dominated the scene with 87.69%, and 13.30% being from outside India. Within these, 20 contributions (30.67%) came from colleges, 18 from universities (27.69%), 12 from research institutions (20.8%), 9 from various government departments, and 6 from registered societies (15.58%).

b) Directory of History Teachers & Researchers in India

In pursuit of the Council’s aims and objectives, the Documentation Centre had proposed in 2014 for a *Directory of History Teachers & Researchers in India*, available for registration at ICHR’s website www.ichr.ac.in. From 2014 to 2016, a total of 332 registrations were received and their state-wise break-up is listed below for reference:

Table 1: Total Registrations (State-wise)

Sl. No.	State	Registered Scholars	Percentage (%)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14	4.2
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	0.6
3.	Assam	11	3.3
4.	Bihar	9	2.7
5.	Chhattisgarh	1	0.3
6.	Goa	1	0.3
7.	Gujarat	5	1.5
8.	Haryana	8	2.4
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2	0.6
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	5	1.5
11.	Jharkhand	1	0.3
12.	Karnataka	21	6.3
13.	Kerala	16	4.8
14.	Madhya Pradesh	10	3.0
15.	Maharashtra	38	11.4
16.	Mizoram	1	0.3
17.	Meghalaya	4	1.2
18.	Delhi	38	11.4
19.	Odisha	8	2.4
20.	Puducherry	3	0.9
21.	Punjab	7	2.1
22.	Rajasthan	9	2.7
23.	Tamil Nadu	29	8.7
24.	Telangana	8	2.4
25.	Tripura	2	0.6
26.	Uttar Pradesh	53	16.0
27.	Uttaranchal	5	1.5
28.	West Bengal	21	6.3
	Total	332	



The maximum number of registrations, 53 (16%), were received from Uttar Pradesh followed by Delhi (11.4%), Maharashtra (11.4%) and Tamil Nadu (8.7%) while Goa (0.3%), Jharkhand (0.3%), Chhattisgarh (0.3%) and Mizoram (0.3%) figured at the other end of scale. Some union territories and states went unrepresented such as Andaman and Nicobar, Daman and Diu, Nagaland, and Sikkim. Majority (38.49%) of registrations were from young scholars and among these most were from universities (56.39%), followed by colleges (36.45%) and institutes (7.17%). Prominent areas of specializations include local and regional history, economic history and history of religion.

CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME(CEP)

ICHR is a nodal agency for implementation of many Cultural Exchange Programmes (CEPs) signed by Government of India with various countries of the world through the agency of which the Council contributes significantly to furthering historical research and fostering closer cultural cooperation between India and the world.

During the period under report, the following progress was made under frameworks of CEPs:

1. Indo-China

ICHR at the 8th Shanghai International Library Forum

The Consulate General of India at Shanghai had extended invitation to ICHR to nominate a suitable subject expert for participating in the 8th Shanghai International Library Forum held during 6-8 July 2016 at the Shanghai Library on the theme “Libraries: Enabling Progress”. In this Forum experts from around the world gathered together to conduct extensive and in-depth academic exchanges and communications on the latest advances in technology and documentation. Dr. Jyotsna Arora, Deputy Director (Library), was nominated by the Chairman, ICHR, to attend this Forum. Accordingly, Dr. Arora visited Shanghai to attend the Forum where she was provided accommodation and local transportation by Shanghai Library and on recommendation of the Chairman, ICHR bore the cost of international travel, visa fee and per diem.



Dr. Jyotsna Arora, Deputy Director (Library), ICHR and Dr. Jianzhong Wu, Director, Shanghai Library participating in a valedictory programme.



Visit of delegation from Shanghai Library to ICHR

A five-member delegation from the Shanghai Library, led by Mr. Ye Ruqiang, Chairman of Shanghai Library Governing Board, visited ICHR on 4th November, 2016 to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with ICHR under their “*Window of Shanghai*” cultural exchange project. Other members of the delegation included Mr. Yu Jiang, Member of Shanghai Library Governing Board, Mr. Wang Handong, Director of Professional Office, Shanghai Library, Ms. Gong Jiawei, Vice Director of International Cooperation Division, and Ms. Xia Lei, Vice Director of Conference and Exhibition Center.



Delegation from Shanghai Library in ICHR Conference Room

“*Window of Shanghai*” is a cultural exchange project based on book donations to overseas readers initiated in 2002 by the Shanghai Library which has now grown into a worldwide project to rekindle people’s interest in libraries and their activities, in general, and in the activities of Shanghai Library in particular, hoping to strengthen cultural bridges among all participant

nations. By October 2013, the project had donated 65,284 volumes to 108 participating institutions, including public, university, school, research, information and other types of libraries, in 61 countries across regions of the world.

2. Indo-Japan

The ICHR, under its academic collaboration with the Japan Cultural Exchange Programme (JSPS), launched a Call for Joint Research Project on 5 June 2015. Under this, ICHR and JSPS have mutually agreed to financially support the project entitled ‘*Japanese Pilgrimages to Bodhgaya: Buddhist Revival Movements in India and Exchanges between Indian and Japan*’. For this project the Indian Principal Investigator is Dr. Ranjana Mukhopadhyaya, Assistant Professor, University of Delhi, and the Japanese Principal Investigator is Masahiko Togawa, Associate Professor, Hiroshima University.



JSPS delegation at ICHR

3. Indo- German

German Historians Conference at Hamburg

ICHR was invited by the German Federation of Historians (GFH) to be the Partner Country



at their bi-annual German Historians' Conference to be held in Hamburg from 20-23 September 2016. At this conference, GFH hosted a two-hour panel on the theme "How do we write a transnational History in India and Germany?" for which Chairman, ICHR was the Chief Guest delivering the welcome address. Professors Narayan Rao and Ishwar Sharan Vishwakarma also participated in this conference as ICHR panel members.



Professors Y. Sudershan Rao, Narayan Rao (Centre) and Ishwar Sharan Vishwakarma at Hamburg

ICHR-DFG Advisory Board meeting at Hamburg

The Chairman, ICHR, Professors Narayan Rao and Ishwar Sharan Vishwakarma had a meeting with members of ICHR-DFG Advisory Board at Hamburg during the German Historians' Conference.

ICHR-DFG Joint Steering Committee meeting at Delhi

The ICHR-DFG Joint Steering Committee meeting was held on 12th December 2016 at Delhi which was attended by a four-

member delegation from DFG including Prof. Christoph Cornelißen, University of Frankfurt, member of DFG Senate; Prof. Andreas Gestrich, Director, German Historical Institute (GHIL), London and DFG; Dr. Torsten Fischer, Head of DFG International Research Funding; and Dr. Vaibhav Agarwal, Deputy Director, DFG Delhi office.



ICHR-DFG Joint Steering Committee meeting in progress

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

Dr. Tomaž Boh, State Secretary, Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, Ljubljana, Slovenia, on behalf of EU-India Platform on Social Sciences and Humanities (EqUIP) had invited the Chairman, ICHR, to Slovenia for their final symposium (25th and 26th October 2016) and Steering Committee meeting (27th October 2016) but, unfortunately, he could not visit the country due to pressing official engagements.

5. Staff Exchange Scheme (SES)

Representatives from EqUIP partner countries visit ICHR



Representatives from the EU-India platform for the Social Sciences and Humanities (EqUIP) partners visited ICHR on 17th October 2016 under EqUIP's Staff Exchange Scheme in order to give partners an opportunity for sharing knowledge, experiences, understanding, building trust, professional networks and relationships between partners and, to learn respective funding opportunities, peer review systems, and programmes of international collaboration. The representatives from European Funding Councils included Siru Oksa (AKA), Finland; Sigrid Classen (DFG), Germany; Teresa de Oliveira (ZSI), Austria; Gabriela Nava (ESRC), U.K.; Vaibhav Agarwal and Hariharan Krishnan (DFG India office) and Reena Marwah, Senior Academic Consultant and Coordinator, EqUIP Program (ICSSR). The SES was primarily targeted at officers working closely with research funding and evaluation activities.

This SES started with an introductory presentation by Member Secretary on the history and mission of ICHR; later Dr. Ramesh Yernagula, Dr. Rajesh Kumar and Dr. Noopur Singh jointly outlined ICHR's major research projects, funding schemes, CEPs, and other academic activities. The meeting concluded after three presentations by Ms. Siru Oksa, representing the Academy of Finland (AKA), Dr. Sigrid Classen, representing DFG, Germany, and Gabriela Nava, representing ESRC, U.K., on their respective funding schemes, mechanisms and opportunities.

REGIONAL CENTRES

With a view to reaching out to far-flung areas of the country, the Council has been running 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



Dr. 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.

Apart from the two regional centres mentioned above, the ICHR had also started its third regional centre—Western Regional Centre(WRC)—in Mumbai which has now been shifted to Pune. Efforts are now being made to make this Centre operational on a firm footing in a big way similar to the other two regional centres. The inaugural function of the WRC at Pune was held on 2nd December 2016.

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.

During the period under report the Centre conducted various academic activities, the details of which are given below:

LECTURE PROGRAMME

The Centre organized a lecture at SRC premises on 4th August 2016 under the SRC's Lecture Series Programme, by Ms. Lathashree K. S., Freelance Writer and Public Archaeologist, Bengaluru. She spoke on the topic: '*Narrative Panels in Temples of Bengaluru: A Visual Cognitive and Ethnographic Approach*'.

Professor O. Anantharamaiah, Founder and Former Vice-Chancellor, Tumkur University, presided over the programme. Around 32 scholars/historians/students participated in the programme. Well-known scholars like Prof. M. Jamuna (Department of History, Bangalore University) and Dr. P. Krishna Kumar (Pondicherry University) graced the occasion with their presence. Dr. S.K. Aruni, Member Secretary (Officiating), ICHR, New Delhi, conducted the programme.



Ms. Lathashree K. S delivering her talk

FELICITATION PROGRAMME

The ICHR had honoured two eminent historians--Professor M. Chidananda Murthy (Bengaluru) and Professor Shivaji Singh (Gorakhpur)--with National Fellowship for the year 2016-2018.

The SRC of ICHR organized a programme to felicitate Professor M. Chidananda Murthy for the honour bestowed upon him by ICHR. The programme was organized on 25th November 2016 at 5.00 pm at the SRC, Bengaluru. Professor Y. Sudershan Rao, Chairman, felicitated the eminent historian



with a certificate and a shawl. Scholars like Professor Prof. A. Sundara (Sringeri), Professor M.D. Srinivas (Chennai), Dr. R. Sheshashasthri (Ananthapuram, Andhra), Dr. Choodamani Nandagopal, Professor Aswathanarayan, Dr. Latasri, Sri. C.B. Patil and others attended the programme. Dr. S. K. Aruni, Member Secretary (Officiating) and Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Dy. Director (R) from New Delhi attended the programme. Dr. Jyotsna Arora, Dy. Director (Library) & Controlling Officer, SRC, conducted the programme. The programme was covered by the media and reports were published in some of the leading dailies.



Chairman, ICHR, welcoming Professor M. Chidananda Murthy with a bouquet



Chairman, ICHR, addressing the audience during the felicitation programme

MEETINGS

During the period under report, the following meetings were conducted:

(i) Expert Committee meeting of the Special Project “History of Science and Technology in India”

The Chairman convened the Expert Committee meeting of ICHR’s Special Project “*History of Science and Technology in India*” on 25th November 2016 at SRC, Bengaluru. The Committee Members, Professor Michel Danino (Coimbatore), Professor M.D. Srinivas (Chennai), Professor M.S. Sriram (Chennai), Professor K. Ramasubramanian (Mumbai), Dr. R.N. Iyengar (Bengaluru) and Professor A. Sundara (Sringeri), attended the meeting.

Dr. Srikumar M. Menon of the National Institute of Advanced Studies (Bengaluru) presented before the Committee a power-point presentation on ‘*Reconnaissance and Aerial Survey of the Megalithic Stone Alignment at Hanamsagar in North Karnataka*’. From New Delhi, Dr. S.K. Aruni, Member Secretary (Officiating), Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Dy. Director (R), Dr. Jyotsna Arora, Dy. Director (Library) & Controlling Officer of SRC (Bengaluru) attended the meeting. Various important decisions were taken and recommendations made by the Committee.



(ii) Discussion with Professor Y. Subbarayalu, Project Coordinator of the Special Project “Dictionary of Social, Economic and Administrative Terms in India/South Indian Inscriptions”

The Chairman convened a discussion programme with the Project Coordinator Professor Y. Subbarayalu to review the progress of the Special Project “*Dictionary of Social, Economic and Administrative Terms in India/South Indian Inscriptions*” on 26th November 2016 at SRC, Bengaluru. Dr. S. K. Aruni, Member Secretary (Officiating), Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Dy. Director (R) and Dr. Jyotsna Arora, Dy. Director (Library) & Controlling Officer, SRC (Bangalore), were also present in the meeting. Various issues relating to collection of data, editing, publication of the volume, etc., were discussed during the meeting.

(iii) The Advisory/Monitoring Committee Meeting of the Special Project “Translation of Foreign Sources on India”.

The Chairman convened the 2nd Advisory/Monitoring Committee Meeting of the Special Project “*Translation of Foreign Sources on India*” on 26th November 2016 at SRC, Bengaluru. The committee members, Dr. Meenakshi Jain (New Delhi), Professor Michel Danino (Coimbatore), Dr. Swati Dasgupta (New Delhi), Professor Chitra Krishnan (Chennai), Dr. Uma Damodar Sridhar (Hyderabad) and Dr. Sumitra Muthukumar (Chennai)

attended the meeting. Dr. S. K. Aruni, Member Secretary (Officiating), Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Dy. Director (R) and Dr. Jyotsna Arora, Dy. Director (Library) & Controlling Officer, SRC, also attended the meeting. Various important decisions were taken and recommendations made by the Committee.

(iv) The Sub-Committee meeting for the Publication of “Inscriptions of the Vijayanagara Rulers Vol. VI (Sanskrit)” edited by Professor S.H. Ritti.

The Chairman convened the Sub-Committee meeting for the publication of “*Inscriptions of the Vijayanagara Rulers Vol. VI (Sanskrit)*” edited by Professor Srinivas H. Ritti on 26th November 2016 at SRC, Bengaluru. The committee members who attended the meeting were: Professor Michel Danino (Coimbatore), Dr. Meenakshi Jain (New Delhi), Professor Y. Subbarayalu (Coimbatore) and Sri. K.L. Rajashekar (Bangalore). Dr. S. K. Aruni, Member Secretary (Officiating), Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Dy. Director (R), Dr. Jyotsna Arora, Dy. Director (Library) & Controlling Officer, SRC, also participated in the meeting. Important decisions pertaining to the publication of the volume were taken by the Committee.

The publication process of this volume is at the final stage and the dummy copy of the same has been sent to the editor for final print.





Professor Y. Sudershan Rao, Dr SK Aruni and Dr Rajesh Kumar listening with rapt attention to the submissions made by other members of the Committee

REPAIR WORK OF SRC'S BUILDING

With the approval of the competent authority, the Centre took up the repair work of the building. The repair work was assigned to M/s Kendriya Bhandar, Bengaluru, after the approval in the PMC Meeting held on 31.03.2016 at the Head Office. The work commenced on

5th August 2016 and was completed on 15th September 2016. The Work Completion Report was also submitted by Kendriya Bhandar's Civil Engineer to the Head Office by mail on 16.09.2016.

The entire library collection was rearranged after the completion of repair work.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

Each year the SRC celebrates the Independence Day with great patriotic fervour. During the year 2016 also the Centre celebrated the Independence Day on 15th August. The tricolour was hoisted in

the Centre's premises followed by National Anthem. Sweets were thereafter distributed among the staff and civilians who were present during the occasion.

LIBRARY-CUM-DOCUMENTATION UNIT

- Six books and 5 journals were received as complimentary from the Publications Unit, ICHR, New Delhi; also 2 books (*Hand book of Antiquity Registration and Peeping the Past-Through Palaeolithic Tools*) were received from Dr. Vasanthi, S. Dy. Superintending Archaeologist, Dept. of Archaeology, Govt. of Tamilnadu. With these the total number of complimentary books received in the Centre till now is 3,973.
- Library has also continued subscription of 30 Journals/periodicals for the current year and 5 journals were newly subscribed by the library. These are: (i) *Atna- Journal of Tourism Studies*; (ii) *Guide to Indian Periodical Literature: Indian Journal of Pure and Applied Mathematics*; (iii) *Indo-Iranica Journal*; (iv) *Proceedings of the Indian National Science Academy*; and (v) *Indian Journal of Pure and Applied Mathematics*.
- Around 620 scholars consulted the library during the reporting period.
- During the reporting period, the library served around 2,500 photocopies to the scholars.

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



The task of retro-conversion of entire library collection to the library software (*Libsys*) has been completed successfully and Online Public Access Catalogue is made available to scholars for easy reference service. The bar coding and classification for around 300 books have been completed during the period under report.

Apart from these, important and rare Paintings, Old Photographs, E-book CDs, Photographic slides are also available for the use of scholars. The Centre has also collected individual articles from various research scholars and also has a collection of Bibliographies.

VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK

The *Vigilance Awareness Week* from 31st October 2016 to 5th November 2016 on the theme “Public participation in promoting integrity and eradicating corruption” was observed by the employees of the SRC. On the first day, a pledge was taken by all the staff-members followed by the singing National Anthem

SALES OF ICHR PUBLICATIONS

During the reporting period, the SRC sold some ICHR publications in the Centre and also at the Annual History conferences held at different places in south India. Approximately an amount of Rs 20,000/- (Rupees twenty thousand only) was collected through the sales of ICHR publications.

Make-shift exhibition-cum-sales counters for displaying/selling ICHR publications

were put up at:

- Opening Ceremony of the Western Regional Centre of ICHR at Deccan College Premises, Pune [2nd & 3rd December 2016] and
- 77th Indian History Congress session held at University of Kerala, Kariavattom Campus, Thiruvananthapuram (Kerala) [28th to 30th December 2016].



Book stall at Indian History Congress, Thiruvananthapuram

CIRCULATION OF ICHR PERIODICALS

(i) Newsletter

The Centre circulated the latest Newsletter [Vol. XIII, No. 1 (January-March 2016)] among research scholars, research institutes and universities in South India. Newsletters were also distributed among scholars who visited the SRC and also at the History Congress sessions and conferences held in different parts of south India.

(ii) ICHR Annual Report for the year 2014-15



The Centre circulated the Council's Annual Report (2014-15) among research institutes and universities in Karnataka.

STAFF NEWS

The ICHR recently shifted its Western Regional Centre from Mumbai to the Deccan College, Pune. In order to establish the library at WRC, the Head Office deputed Sri K. Sangappa, Sr. Library and Information Assistant, to Pune to undertake the retro-conversion of the books transferred from the ICHR Mumbai Centre. He was deputed from 13th November to 21st November 2016.

Sri. N.S. Babu, Private Secretary, and Sri. C. Sonnappa, Office Attendant, were also deputed to WRC, Pune [from 29th November 2016 to 3rd December 2016] for helping in the organization of the function of the inaugural ceremony of the ICHR's Western Regional Centre on 2nd December 2016.

XI. FORTHCOMING PROGRAMMES

The Centre plans to undertake the following programmes in the near future:

1. SRC plans to organize a Book Discussion Programme on the book, Halagannada Lipi, Lipikara, Lipi Vyavasaya (Ancient Kannada Script, Scribe and Cultivation of Letters) by S. Settar in the third week of January 2017.
2. SRC plans to open a make-shift Exhibition-cum-Sales Counter at 41st Annual Conference of Andhra

Pradesh History Congress to be held at Government College at Ananthapuramu, Andhra Pradesh [7th & 8th January 2017]

3. SRC is making arrangements for conducting JRF Examination in Bengaluru on 26.02.2017. Necessary steps are also being taken to reach out to scholars in the remote areas. The Centre will initiate the steps to circulate the JRF notifications among the various universities/research institutes in South India to reach out to scholars based in rural areas.
5. SRC is working hard to bring out the volume entitled Inscriptions of the Vijayanagara Vol. 6 [Sanskrit Inscription], edited by Shrinivas H. Ritti. This volume is presently in press.
6. The SRC plans to organize a seminar on 'Depiction of Epic Stories in South Indian Arts'. Prof. Kiran Kranth Choudary, former Professor at the SV University is the coordinator of the seminar. Some abstracts and full text papers have been received from the invited participants. The last date of submission of full text paper is 15th January 2017. The seminar is scheduled in February/March 2017.

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. Around 652 researchers/students consulted the library of NERC and Xerox copies of 8,200 pages from 117 books were made available to researchers. Also, 39 scholars/students visited the Centre to gain knowledge about various ICHR schemes and grants. NERC also forwarded a total of 8 applications for further processing to the Head Office. During the period under report (NERC) conducted the following activities:

2. Exhibitions:

- i. A two-day exhibition on “Paintings of the Revolt of 1857” was organized on 19 and 20 August 2016 at the D.K. Girls College, Mirza; over 2500 students/teachers visited the exhibition.
- ii. A one-day exhibition on “Paintings of the Revolt of 1857” was organized on 23 August 2016 at the Brahmaputra Valley English

Academy, Guwahati; over 1000 students/teachers from different schools such as Kaziranga English Academy (Guwahati), Hemlata Public School (Muktapur), Mary Brooke School (Jayanagar), Sankardev High School (Bongara), Rani High School (Rani), Sarada English Academy (Garal) visited the exhibition.

3. Publication of lectures delivered under Lecture Series Programme

During the period under report the following two lectures were published:

- i. Lecture XXII: Prof. Rajib Handique’s lecture delivered on the topic ‘Changing Landscapes and Forestry in Colonial Assam’ on 21st July 2007
- ii. Prof. Geraldine Forbes’ lecture delivered on the topic ‘Good Christians and Bloodthirsty Savages: Samuel Perrine’s Presentations of the Nagas’ on 17th July 2009



Students carefully observing the exhibits displayed

WESTERN REGIONAL CENTRE (WRC), PUNE

INAUGURAL CEREMONY ON 2ND DECEMBER 2016

The inaugural ceremony of WRC, Pune, was held on 2nd December 2016 at the Deccan College. The date for the function was selected keeping in mind the Annual Conference of Indian Art History Congress which was scheduled in the same campus from 1-3rd December 2016. This gave an



opportunity to invite renowned scholars from all the India.

ICHR recently shifted its Western Regional Centre from Mumbai to Pune. The Centre is established at the Deccan College Post Graduate and Research Institute which is a premier Post Graduate Institute of Archaeology, Linguistics, Sanskrit and Lexicography.

The function was inaugurated by the Chancellor of Deccan College, Professor Arvind P. Jamkhedkar, by the auspicious ceremony of breaking the coconut at the doorsteps of the WRC's Library and Office followed by lighting of the traditional lamp by esteemed guests and Chairman. The office was rendered auspicious by chanting of the Saraswati Vandana in the melodious voice of Professor Sathe from Deccan College thereafter sweets were distributed among all present.



Professor Y. Sudershan Rao honouring former Chancellor of Deccan College, Dr. G.B. Deglurkar with a bouquet, shawl and memento.



Professor Y Sudershan Rao, Dr. A. P. Jamkhadkar (Chancellor, Deccan College), Professor Rahman Ali (Council Member, ICHR) and Professor V.S. Shinde (V.C., Deccan College) performing ribbon cutting ceremony at the opening ceremony of WRC office building II.



Professor Y. Sudershan Rao, Professor Rahman Ali (Council Member, ICHR) and Shri Haribhau Vaze (National advisor to Akhil Bharatiya Itihas Sankalan Yojana) lighting the auspicious lamp at building II (Library)

Senior historians like Professor Paddaya, Professor Deglurkar, Professor Bora, Professor R. D. Chaudhury, Dr. Choodamani, Professor A. Sundara and several other dignitaries graced the occasion with their presence.

Dr. Jyotsna Arora, Deputy Director (Library) & Controlling Officer (WRC), Pune, formally welcomed all the dignitaries present on the



dais, scholars who came from various parts of the country, and colleagues and students of the Deccan College. She congratulated the Chairman, ICHR, for his initiative to shift ICHR's WRC from the University of Mumbai to Deccan College, Pune.

The programme started with a brief introduction of ICHR's aims and objectives during the course of which Dr. S.K. Aruni, Member Secretary (officiating), ICHR, highlighted the major achievements of ICHR and the special projects undertaken in the past few years.

Dr. Arunchandra Pathak (Senior Consultant, Research, WRC, ICHR) gave a brief introduction of the dignitaries present on the dais. The dignitaries included Prof. Y. Sudarshan Rao (Chairman, ICHR), Dr. A. P. Jamkhadkar (Chancellor, Deccan College Post Graduate and Research Institute, Pune), Professor Vasant Shinde (V.C., Deccan College Post Graduate and Research Institute, Pune), Professor Rahman Ali (Member of the Council of ICHR), Shri.

C.V. Joshi (Registrar, Deccan College Post Graduate and Research Institute, Pune), Dr. G.B. Deglurkar (Former Chancellor of Deccan College Post Graduate and Research Institute, Pune) and Shri Haribhau Vaze, the national advisor to Akhil Bharatiya Itihas Sankalan Yojana.

Dr. A.P. Jamkhedkar, Chancellor of the Deccan College, delivered an enlightening inaugural speech in which he laid stress on the importance of documentation and study of historical documents, inscriptions, copper plates, especially in the Western India, which are important research sources to understand the great past of our country. He emphasized on the need to undertake such work with regard to "History of Yadavas and Maratha History" and hoped that the WRC of ICHR would take the initiative in this endeavour.

Professor Vasant Shinde, Vice Chancellor of Deccan College, who was the Chief Guest for the occasion, expressed his delight at the opening of ICHR Western Regional Centre in the campus of Deccan College. He assured the Centre of his organization's whole-hearted support for the development of Western Regional Centre at Deccan College, Pune. He further expressed the hope that this Centre would, over a period of time, turn out to be a very important and vibrant Centre for research.

Professor Rahman Ali, the Guest of Honour, cherished his memories as a student of Deccan College and remembered Professor Sankalia for his contribution to the field of archaeology and Deccan college. He



Member Secretary, (officiating) Addressing the gathering the inaugural function of WRC, Pune



showed his deep appreciation for major projects undertaken by ICHR and believed that WRC of ICHR would reach new heights under the leadership of Professor Y. Sudershan Rao.

The former Chancellor of Deccan College Dr. G.B. Deglurkar expressed his appreciation for choosing Pune as the regional activity centre of WRC, ICHR. Offering his best wishes to the newly opened Centre, he said that Deccan College, being an internationally known seat of research, was an ideal place for establishing the WRC of ICHR which would play a big role in enriching the knowledge about India's glorious culture and history under the able guidance of Prof. Y. Sudarshan Rao.

Presiding over the function Professor Y. Sudershan Rao thanked the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor for providing space to ICHR in Deccan College and supporting ICHR to hold this mega event. He also thanked scholars who travelled from various parts of India to attend the ceremony. The Chairman in his presidential remarks said



Prof. Y. Sudershan Rao delivering the presidential address

that along with Head Office at New Delhi and North Eastern and Southern Centres of ICHR, this Western Centre at Pune would also be of great help to scholars and would act as guiding light for students and researchers of History in the Western part of India.

In the end Shri Nilesh P. Jadhav (Hon. Coordinator, WRC, ICHR) proposed a vote of thanks. He thanked all the invited guests for gracing the occasion by their solemn presence. He also thanked Deccan College and its staff for providing all the support to hold the inaugural ceremony. In the end Dr. SK Aruni thanked the coordinators, Deccan College, and the entire team of ICHR for the efforts made by them to make the event a success.

CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY ICHR STAFF IN ACADEMIC FIELD

During the period under report, Dr. Ramesh Yernagula, Dy Director(Documentation), presented two papers in conferences, the details of which are given below:

22-23 November 2016: Design and Development of Digital Repository at the Indian Council of Historical Research, National Conference on Building Digital India: Enhancing Capacities through Libraries and Information. New Delhi.

11-13 December 2013: Preservation of Digital Historical Collection at Indian



Council of Historical Research. CPLH 2016-International Conference on Protecting, Conserving and Preserving Literary Heritage Collections : Channelling International Collaboration, IGNSA, New Delhi.

He also authored the following book:

Revamping of documentation services for historical resources in the IT era through digitization (Lambert Academic Publishing, Germany, 2017)

STAFF NEWS

A. Hindi Pakhwada celebration, 2016

Hindi Pakhwada was organised and celebrated with energetic participation by ICHR staff from 16 to 30 September, 2016 in which the following competitions were held:

- i. A debate competition on 16 September, 2016
- ii. A translation competition on 29 September, 2016
- iii. An essay-writing competition on 30 September, 2016

B. Rashtriya Ekta Saptah

Rashtriya Ekta Saptah was celebrated in the Council from 31st October to 6th November 2016; on this occasion the Council had organized an Essay Writing Competition on the topics entitled:





- i. Sardar Vallabhai Patel Ka Rajnaitik Jeevan evam Rashtriya Ekta (in Hindi)

- ii. Joining of India Union by the Princely States and Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel: Reappraisal

C. Vigilance Awareness Week

Vigilance Awareness week was celebrated in the Council from 31st October to 5th November 2016; on this occasion the Council had organized an Essay/ Slogan Writing Competition on the theme "Public Participation in promoting integrity and eradicating corruption"/ "अखंडता को बढ़ावा देने और भ्रष्टाचार को समाप्त करने में जनता की भागीदारी".

D. Promotions

1. Smt Krishna Devi, UDC, to Assistant w.e.f. 20.10.2016 
2. Shri Gautam Choudhary, Stenographer, to Stenographer (Selection Grade) w.e.f. 20.10.2016. 
3. Smt Ranjana Gupta, Accounts Clerk, to Assistant Cash w.e.f. 20.10.2016
4. Shri Nardev Sharma, LDC, to UDC w.e.f. 20.10.2016. 
5. Shri K.C. Singh, LDC, to UDC w.e.f. 20.10.2016.
6. Shri Devendra Singh Bisht, LDC, to Accounts Clerk w.e.f. 20.10.2016 



7. Shri Prabin Kalita, LDC, to Accounts Clerk w.e.f. 20.10.2016



8. Shri Khem Bahadur Singh, LDC, to Stenographer w.e.f. 21.10.2016



9. Shri Pratap Chand, LDC, to Stenographer w.e.f. 20.10.2016.



10. Smt. Indu Kohli, LDC, to Stenographer w.e.f. 21.10.2016



11. Shri Naresh Bhardwaj, LDC, to Stenographer w.e.f. 20.10.2016



12. Shri Rahul Bhardwaj, LDC, to Stenographer w.e.f. 20.10.2016.



13. Shri Mukesh Kumar, Hindi Typist, to Stenographer w.e.f. 20.10.2016



14. Shri Rizwan Alam, Assistant to Section Officer (Admn. II) on Adhoc basis w.e.f. 16.12.2016.



E. Retirement

Shri Soban Singh was appointed as Farash-cum-Peon on 21.11.1975. He retired on superannuation on 30.11.2016 as Assistant. He served the Council for more than 40 years with utmost devotion and sincerity.



F. Obituary

On the dark side of things, it was regretfully learnt that Shri Rajendra Prasad left for his heavenly abode on 16th August 2016. His memory shall always remain fresh in the minds of ICHR staff-members and we pray to the Almighty that his soul may rest in peace.



Rajendra Prasad

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).

During the period under report, the following fellowships/grants were approved:

Details of the Research Projects during July-December 2016	
Total Number of cases approved	Total Grant sanctioned
28	98,10,000/-
Details of the Study-cum-Travel Grant during July-December 2016	

Total Number of cases approved	Total Grant sanctioned
53	20,32,000/-
Details of the Seminar-Grants during July-December 2016	
Total Number of cases approved	Total Grant sanctioned
84	1,21,00,000/-

Details of the SAF during July-December 2016

During the period under report the Presentation-Cum-Interview for the award of Senior Academic Fellowships for 2015-2016 (1 seat backlog under Schedule Caste Category) and for 2016-2017 were held on 24/10/2016 and Research Projects Committee meeting held on 27/10/2016 approved the seats as follows:

S. No.	Session	Seats	Fellowship
1.	Number of Approved Proposals	09	Fellowship Grant @ of Rs. 40,000/- per month (each fellow) for two years Contingency Grant @ of Rs.40,000/- Per Annum (each fellow) for two years



2.	Number of Approved Proposal for 2015-2016 (under SC Category backlog)	01	Fellowship Grant @ of Rs. 40,000/- per month (each fellow) for two years Contingency Grant @ of Rs.40,000/- Per Annum (each fellow) for two years
	Total	10	

Details of the JRF during July-December 2016

Total Number of cases approved	Total Grant sanctioned
80	@16000/- per month + contingency grant @ 15,000/- per annum (each fellow)

Details of the PDF during July-December 2016

Total Number of cases approved	Total Grant sanctioned
09	@28,000/- per month + contingency grant @ 20,000/- per annum (each fellow)

Details of FTG during July-December 2016

Total Number of cases approved	Total Grant sanctioned
12	

ICHR GURUKUL FELLOWSHIP

In keeping with the Indian tradition of Education System, the ICHR introduced

a new Fellowship--'ICHR Gurukul-Fellowship'--for Senior Historians and their disciples. This Fellowship is given in two components - *Guru* (Teacher) and his *Shishya* (Disciple).

The aim of the fellowship is to promote the traditional '*Guru - Shishya Prampara*' education system. The senior historians who have made significant contribution in the field of historical research will be selected and also one disciple will be attached to him to understand nuances of historical research in specialized subject themes. This way the knowledge of the Gurus will influence the research abilities of their disciples and thus the heritage of knowledge will be passed on to coming generations.

The Fellowship shall be a whole-time engagement, and the grant of this Fellowship to the scholar would be governed by the general terms and conditions applicable to the grant of Post-Doctoral Fellowships of ICHR. Under this scheme, the Guru would be entitled to a nominal monthly honorarium along with a small amount of contingency grant per annum. The disciple would be awarded monthly Fellowship on a par with the ICHR's Post-Doctoral Fellow and a small contingency grant per annum. The term of Fellowship will, however, be for two years.

Awards

The Council of ICHR awarded two Fellowships this year, one to Dr. BB Lal



(former Director-General of ASI) and the other to Dr. Ramachandran Nagaswamy (former Director, Department of Archaeology, Tamil Nadu) as 'Gurus' under this Fellowship scheme.

(a) **Dr. BB Lal** is an eminent Indian Archaeologist who served as Director-General of Archaeological Survey of India from 1968 to 1972 and as Director of Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla. He was honoured with Padma Bhushan by the Government of India in the year 2000. Dr. Lal has published several books and over 150 research papers and articles in national and international journals.

(b) **Dr. Nagaswamy** is a well-known International expert in Indian Art, Museums, History, Culture and is considered as foremost authority on Chola Bronzes. He has published over 40 books and has over 300 research articles published in different journals all over the world. Some of his articles were translated into as many as 23 languages and published in UNESCO's journal.

National Fellowship

National Fellowships are offered by the Chairman, ICHR, in consultation with Research Projects Committee members to eminent scholars in history who have made outstanding contributions to research in their respective fields, to enable them to continue their academic work and research. The Fellowship is awarded by the Council to eminent scholars on the recommendations

of the Research Projects Committee for a period of two years. It is expected of a National Fellow to devote his/her full time on research for which the Fellowship is awarded.

During this period, the ICHR awarded National Fellowship to the following eminent historians under this scheme.

- 1) Professor S.S. Ramchandra Murthy, Tirupati
- 2) Dr. K.V. Raman, Chennai
- 3) Professor K.S. Gupta, Udaipur
- 4) Professor Shivaji Singh, Gorakhpur
- 5) Professor M. Chidananda Murthy, Bengaluru

* * * * *



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 - Mobile no. _____ :
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9. Present Postal Address _____ :
10. Have you ever been received any
Scholarship from ICHR? If yes which year? :

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.

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Signature of the Applicant

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Deputy Director (Doc.)

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Indian Council of Historical Research

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Telephone : 91-11-23387877

Telefax : 91-11-23387829

E-Mail : ms@ichr.ac.in

E-Mail : dd.pub@ichr.ac.in

Chairman

Professor Yellapragada Sudershan Rao

Member Secretary (Officiating)

Dr. S.K. Aruni

Contact details of ICHR OFFICERS (31st December 2016)

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