

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON INTANGIBLE NATURAL HERITAGE

(23-24 March 2012)

In keeping with the tradition of heritage conservation, the National Museum of Natural History organized a two day workshop on the above mentioned topic between 23-24 March 2012. The workshop was scheduled in such a way so that it coincides with the simultaneous inauguration of an exhibition on **Intangible Natural Heritage**. Another aim of such scheduling was that it will also provide an opportunity to the NMNH to garner the thoughts of workshop participants pertaining to the trend and state of INH in India.

- **Participants:** In all, a total of 75 participants participated in this workshop. As the topic was new and also the participation was kept limited, hence, the workshop was in control throughout. The list of all the participants is attached herewith in the **Annexure-I**
- **Schedule of First Day:** The workshop started with the due Registration of the participants. After the Registration was over, the participants gathered in the Venue of the workshop and “Lighting of the lamp” was done by the honourable chief guest Dr.P.S.Ramakrishnan. It was followed by a brief introduction by the Director, NMNH, Dr. B. Venugopal. Thereafter it was all Dr. P.S. Ramakrishnan, who invigorated the audience with his breathtaking speech on INH and his experiences in the North-Eastern India. After the thoughtful speech of Dr. Ramakrishnan, Dr. B.Venugopal presented his views on “INH: A museum Context”. In between, Shri. Kuldeep Kothari and Shri. T.K. Rajeev rolled out their presentations (Details of the paper are attached in **Annexure-II**).

In the end it was Mrs. Naaz Rizvi’s absorbing and enthralling “Vote of Thanks” that put an end to the days successful run of the workshop.

- **Schedule of IInd Day:**
Day 2 began with a thoughtful and energized inaugural speech by Dr. B. Venugopal. Thereafter Dr. V. Jayarajan presented his views on various aspects of Folklore vis-à-vis nature. Then Shri. S. Gopalakrishnan described about the “Sahapedia”.

Session 3 began with the speech of Shri. Azfar Husain, sResearch scholar, Dept. of Adult Continuing Extension and Education, Jamia Milillia Islamia. It was followed by the presentation of Shubha Banerjee, JRF, on Sohrai Festival of North Karanpura: mirroring the intangibility. Session 3 ended with a small presentation by Shri. B.S. Yogendra, Ed. Asstt., RMNH, Mysore.

Session 4 was kept as a general/open session for a thorough discussion. The workshop was highly successful in terms of the thought provoking discussions that arose during the course/span of the sessions. The body of knowledge that has been accumulated during the sessions will certainly give the confidence to the NMNH to organize more such programmes in the near future.