

**ORISSA STATE MUSEUM  
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE  
GOVT. OF ORISSA**

**ACTIVITY REPORT**

## **Renovations and Development Works**

Sine its inception of the present day State Museum has marched ahead adding new dimension to its various activities. Some of the development works successfully completed has been summarized here:

- Renovation of the Reading Room of the Museum Library with air-conditioned facility to facilitate research work of the scholars.
- The Natural History Gallery has been renovated and modernized employing new exhibition technique.
- A Parking area along with a Sculpture Garden has been developed.
- A unique Children Park named as “*Kalika*” has been created in the sprawling garden area of museum complex.
- Renovation of Salipur, Baripada and Khiching Branch Museums.
- Renovation of Manuscript Gallery, Manuscript Library and Manuscript Reading Room.
- Renovation of Jayadeva Sangrahalaya at Kenduli.
- Plaster replica of Birds, Animals and a Lion pillar were installed at the garden complex.
- A Seminar-cum-Media hall has been established and modernized and the construction work of the 1<sup>st</sup> floor and 2<sup>nd</sup> floor has been started to house new galleries.
- The Golden Jubilee Block has renovated and modernized and the construction work of the 1<sup>st</sup> floor and 2<sup>nd</sup> has been started to house new galleries.

## **Acquisition and Achievements**

Many rare antiquities and palm leaf manuscripts have been collected in course of exploration and excavations. However a list of such acquisition is described here.

1. Two *Asokan* statues containing inscription.
2. The image of a *Manasa* of 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.
3. A six headed *Kartikeya* of *Kalachuri* period.
4. A *Gopinath* image.
5. An erotic *Tantric* figure.
6. Two rare Copper Plate Grants.

7. Prehistoric Implements.

8. Gold and Punch marked coins.

9. Two Ivory Objects.

- Orissa State Museum has been declared as Manuscript Resources Centre by the National Mission for Manuscripts.
- Two manuscripts namely “*Gitagovinda*” on ivory plates and “*Chikitsa Manjari*” have been declared as National Treasure by the UNESCO.

### **Other Activities of the Museum During 2007-2008**

- Celebration of International Museum Day (18<sup>th</sup> May) in Orissa State Museum. During this occasion a coin exhibition was organized.
- Toppers of H.S.C. examination for the year 2008 were felicitated.
- For the first time Orissa State Museum has taken up extensive archaeological exploration and excavation project. A series of excavations have been carried on both at *Kapileswar* near Bhubaneswar and at Kenduli.

### **Audio-Visual Programme**

The Orissa State Museum has shown equal interest in the preparation of same audio-visual documentation programmes pertaining to,

- Kenduli – The Birth Place of Jayadeva both in Oriya and English
- Orissa State Museum – Oriya and English.
- Culture and Heritage of Orissa.

A Plasma T.V. has been installed at the entrance hall and the visitors are taking pleasure as well as enlighten about Orissa Culture viewing the above programmes.

### **Other Activities of Orissa State Museum**

1. There are 778 research scholars of different branches have utilize the Library for their research purpose.
2. An amount of Rs. 2, 73,195/- revenue has been collected from sale of museum ticket, publication, photography fee, parking fee etc.
3. The digitization of 1237 nos. of palm leaf manuscripts was completed.

4. Renovation work of Archaeology, Bronze, Numismatic and Epigraphy Gallery & Central Store, Golden Jubilee Block is going on.
5. Digitization work of the exhibits and antiquities of Numismatic and Epigraphy Section is completed.
6. A group of IAS (Indian Administrative Service) Probationer visited the museum during their study tour.
7. The Chairman and Members of 13<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission of India visited the Museum.
8. International Museum Day was also celebrated in 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2009 in the Museum.
9. The Guide Book called “**Treasure Trove of Khiching Branch Museum**” has been published.
10. The Guide Book on “**Kenduvilva**” i.e. The Birth Place of **Shree Jayadeva** and on “**Baripada Branch Museum**” is under progress.
11. Renovation work of Baripada Branch Museum completed and Khiching Museum is under progress.

### **Future Plans and Proposals**

So far as Orissa State Museum is concerned, a significant progress has already been achieved during the last 7 decades and couple of years. It also aspires to go miles ahead with the following plans and proposals:-

- There is a proposal to develop one Branch Museum in each District of the State in phased manner.
- There is also proposal to renovate the most area of State Museum Complex and to establish a Ship shaped Maritime Gallery-cum-Aquarium over the water body which will be attractive to the tourists and visitors.
- Establishment two new galleries such as: *Utkala* Gallery of Art & Culture and Freedom Fighters Gallery at the newly constructed halls in Golden Jubilee Block.