MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 2020

- Hon’ble President of United States of America Mr. Donald Trump and his family members visited Taj Mahal, Agra on 24th February, 2020.

- Hon’ble Union Minister of State for Tourism and Culture, Shri Prahlad Singh Patel, along with other dignitaries visited the excavated remains of Nalanda Mahavir, Nalanda and Excavated Remains at Kumhrar, Patna, Bihar on 19th February, 2020.

- A workshop on “Conservation of Sun Temple, Konark” was conducted by ASI in Konark, Orissa (28-29 February, 2020, which was presided over by Hon’ble Union Minister of State for Tourism and Culture, Shri Prahlad Singh Patel.

- Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti organised in association with (i) Embassy of Armenia - a Cultural Exchange Programme on February 10, 2020; (ii) Embassy of Uzbekistan - an interactive session on “In the Path of Mahatma – India-Uzbekistan Towards Peace and Non-Violence” on February 14, 2020 in Gandhi Smriti; (iii) Salt Lake Institute of Personality Development and Value Education (SIPDAVE), Kolkata - a two-day’s workshop for youth on ‘Nonviolent Social Leadership’ on February 22-23, 2020 at Ramakrishna Mission Institute for Culture, Kolkata. More than 300 youth from different districts of West Bengal took part in the workshop.

- Dr. Karan Singh, former Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, inaugurated the “Gandhi-Karigar Haat” in Gandhi Darshan on February 20, 2020 in the presence of over 200 people from different walks of life. He also laid the foundation stone of the “Multi-purpose Community Centre” which will be developed in Gandhi Darshan.

- Brihadeeswara Kumbabhishekam Sangeetha Naatya Vaadyotsav (Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat) was organized by Ministry of Culture and Archaeological Survey of India from 1st to 5th February, 2020 at UNESCO’s recognized monument of Shri Brihadeeswara Temple, Thanjavur.

- Sahitya Akademi organised (i) a Birth Centenary seminar on S. Guptan Nair in collaboration with S. Guptan Nair Foundation at Trivandum, Kerala on 6.02.2020; (ii) National seminar on the Path of Mahatma Gandhi in association with Thunchan Memorial Trust at Tirur, Malappuram Dist., Kerala on 9.02.2020; (iii) a Poetry Festival at Santiniketan, West Bengal on 15-16.02.2020 in collaboration with Abrittilok; (iv) all India Poetry Festival on the occasion of International Mother Language Day at Imphal, Manipur in collaboration with Manipuri Literary Society on 21.02.2020; (v) its Annual Festival of Letters 2020 (24-29.2.2020) inviting nearly 250 writers/ scholars and presentation of Sahitya Akademi Awards in 24 Indian languages on 25.02.2020 in Delhi.
- Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad held an exhibition with Special Paintings by Narsimhagoud Rollu, an artist on the occasion of International Women’s Day, on 25th February 2020 and a special awareness program was at the Museum, on “Awareness Orientation of Sexual Harassment of Women at Work Place” on 27th February 2020.

- National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi organised Interactive session with students from college of art Delhi and National museum in connection with the exhibition, SHASHWAT 21st February 2020.

- Exhibition “Gerard Garouste – The Other Side” organised by NGMA in collaboration with the Embassy of France/French Institute in India under the auspices of the Cultural Exchange Programme from 28th January to 29th March, 2020.

- National Council of Science Museums organized (i) an exhibition on ‘Rare Artefacts’ at Birla Industrial & Technological Museum (BITM), Kolkata on 20th February, 2020; (ii) an Elocution contest as a part of the year-long celebration of Constitution Day on ‘Fundamental Rights provided under Indian Constitution’ was held at Visvesvaraya Industrial & Technological Museum, Bangalore for school students on 13th February 2020. Shrikrishna Science Centre, Patna; (iii) a panel discussion on ‘Containing Novel Coronavirus’ was organized at Birla Industrial & Technological Museum (BITM), Kolkata on 14th February 2020.

- Anthropological Survey of India (AnSI) provided collaborative academic financial assistance for holding Annual meet of Indian National Confederation and the Academy of Anthropologists (INCAA) to mark the 100th year of Anthropology as an academic discipline in India on 21st and 22nd February, 2020 at Indian Museum Kolkata.

- Nehru Memorial Museum and Library organized (i) a talk show titled “Struggle for Independence-1947” with eminent panelists on 27.02.2020 in association with the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia celebrating the 70th years of Diplomatic Relations between India and Indonesia, followed by a Photo Exhibition “A Moment of Reflection : Photography Exhibition” inaugurated by Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon’ble Minister of State (I/C), Ministry of Civil Aviation; (ii) a walk-in science activities for general public and school students at Nehru Planetarium Delhi celebrating the National Science Day commemorating Sir C.V. Raman for his contribution “Raman Effect”.

- National Museum Institute of History of Art, Conservation and Museology, Delhi in collaboration with the Department of History of Art, BHU organised (i) a visit for the site survey and mapping, photo documentation and archival study at Varanasi from 25th to 28th February 2020 as a part of first phase of the project Cultural Heritage of
Varanasi: Kashi Vishwanath Temple Corridor; (ii) a special lecture by Prof. Alejandro Jose Garay Herrera from Maya Cultural and Natural Heritage Foundation, Guatemala on February 11th, 2020 on the Mayan Art, Culture and Belief.