Report on International Museum Day Celebration, 2014

Archaeological Survey of India Guwahati Circle celebrated "International Museums Day" at its Museum Complex at Sri-Suryapahar, Goalpara District of Assam. ICOM started Celebrating International Museums Day Since 1977. Last year 35,000 Museums celebrated it in 145 countries. The theme this year was "Museum Collection Makes Connections".

On the Occasion Archaeological Survey of India to create awareness organized Drawing, Essay, and Dance competitions at the site. More than 400 students from the Sainik School, Mornai, Goalpara English School, Goalpara, Kasturba Gandhi Bal Vidyalaya, Mornai and Sankardev Shisu Niketan School, Mornai participated in the competitions. A Heritage walk was also taken out by the students in the area.

On the occasion Shri Preetom Saikia, Deputy Commissioner Goalpara was Chief Guest and Dr.A.K. Ahmed, Principal, Goalpara College was the Guest of Honour besides them Dr.M.K Chauley, Superintending Archaeologist Guwahati Circle, Lt.Col.N.K Lenka, Head Master Sainik School, and Sri Bimal Sinha, ASAM, Archaeological Museum, Sri Suryapahar graced the Dias.

In the function Dr. Chauley besides speaking on the importance of the International Museum Day also spoke about the importance of Suryapahar in the History and Archaeology of North East in general and Assam in Particular.

He even informed about the approval of the Directorate for the expansion of the Museum at Suryapahar for having more exhibits, having an activity room for visiting school children, proper toilet and other amenities for the visitors. He even requested the Deputy Commissioner to get the Archaeological Survey of India notified land at Suryapahar demarcated which is pending since long. In the absence of which Archaeological Survey of India is not able to take up developmental works at the site and which even resulted in Vandalism of the Jaina Tirthankara image and is leading to encroachment in the area by the local people. On the occasion uniform for the Archaeological Survey of India casual staffs was also released by the Chief Guest and the Guest of Honour.

The Guest of Honour Dr. A.K. Ahmed in his address spoke about the importance of the site and Goalpara in the History of Assam.

The Chief guest Shri Preetom Saikia, Deputy Commissioner of Goalpara District spoke about the importance of celebrating "International Museum Day" and on the importance and need for preserving our cultural heritage for posterity. He even assured that the District Administration is going to take up the demarcation of the Archaeological Survey of India land in the next couple of weeks and has assured Archaeological Survey of India of full co-operation in the development of the site. He even inaugurated the Photo exhibition at the site titled "Archaeological Heritage of North East - past and present". The exhibition will be open to the public from 9am to 5pm till 20th May 2014.

In the end of the function besides distribution of the Prizes to the winners of various competitions by the Chief Guest and the Guest of Honour, the teachers from various schools who came along with their students were also honored by the Archaeological Survey of India.

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Dr. Milan Kumar Chauley (Superintending Archaeologist)

Press note

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Archaeological Survey of India is thankful to all the schools, students and their parents for their active participation and in making the function a success.

Superintending Archaeologist

Drawing competition



Dance competition



Dance competition



V.I.Ps at Dias



Prize Distribution



Audience of the Museum Day Celebration



Heritage walk



D.C. Goalpara opening the exhibition



Interpretation of Photo by S.A to D.C. Goalpara

