

President, IGNCA Trust, New Delhi in Banaras—the City of Light

Sri C.R. Gharekhan, Hon'ble President, IGNCA Trust favoured IGNCA, ERC, Varanasi with his gracious visit on 21st-22nd November, 2010 in order to review the course of academic and administrative activities of this office.

The date of his arrival being Sunday, Hon'ble President paid his official visit to IGNCA, ERC, Varanasi on 22nd November and held a small meeting with the staff members of this office. In this meeting Prof. K.D. Tripathi, Advisor, IGNCA, ERC, Varanasi, introduced all the staff members to the President and responsibilities shouldered by them in this office.

Thereafter the theme, methodology and scheme of Kalātattvakośa volumes being prepared by this office was explained to Sri Gharekhan one by one as to how we have selected the core terms, prepared reference cards, collect articles from the contributors and prepare the same for publication.

Then other projects undertaken by this office like Vākyapadīya Seminar Volume, Nātyaśāstra (Nepali version and Music part) volumes, Special Lecture volume entitled “*Meaning and Beauty: Shastric Foundation of Indian Aesthetics*” were presented before him and the progress made in each of the projects was explained.

After being convinced with the academic activities undertaken by IGNCA, ERC, Varanasi and taking its wider course of future plans and programmes into consideration, Hon'ble President deeply felt the necessity of a separate office building at Varanasi according to its importance and national status as well as for its smooth functioning.

Next to it, he went to Parshwanath Vidyapeeth, the venue of Workshop on Textual Criticism. He visited the workshop, got introduced with the participants and observed the academic pursuits, continued therein.

Apart from the official visit, previous morning with a desire to visit Lord Viśvanātha and *Devadīpāvalī* of the famous festival of the “Garlands of Light” on the full-moon night of the month of Kārtika, he reached Varanasi with his family. He went to the temple to have a *darśana* of Lord Viśvanātha like a dedicated devotee and roamed in the galleries of Museum of the Archaeological Survey of India, Sarnath, like an inquisitive researcher.

In the evening he had a boating-trip in Ganga to witness the glimpses of *Devadīpāvalī*, which is held to celebrate the awakening of Lord Sri Hari.

He was so enraptured and overwhelmed that he enjoyed it almost in a standing posture and took innumerable snaps in his mobile phone.

In a satisfied mind President Sri Gharekhan returned back to Delhi on carrying sweet memories of *Devadīpāvalī* and with bright assurance to IGNCA, ERC, Varanasi for its own building.











