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Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts Kala Nidhi Division

—◇ Cordially invite you to the ◇—

Professor Maheswar Neog 3rd Memorial Lecture on

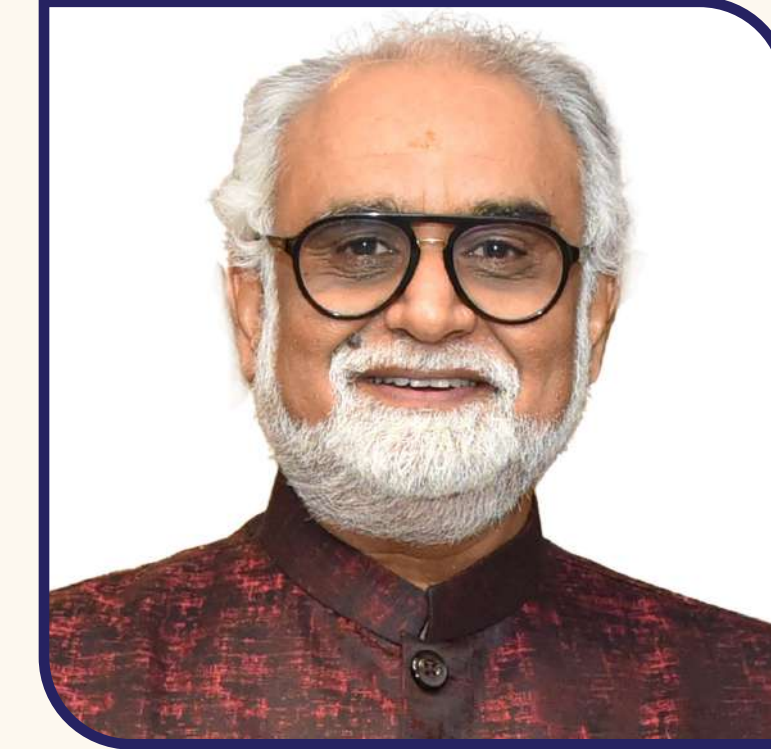
Relooking at the Archaeological Excavation of Sanati:
A New Perspective

— Speaker —



Prof. (Dr.) Kailasa Rao M
Director
School of Planning & Architecture, Bhopal

— Chair —



Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi
Member Secretary
IGNCA

— Welcome & Introduction —



Prof. (Dr.) K. Anil Kumar
HoD- Kala Nidhi Division
IGNCA



15th September, 2026
04.00 PM

Venue:

Samvet Auditorium, IGNCA,
Janpath Building, Janpath, New Delhi



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Professor Maheswar Neog (1915-1995)

Professor Maheswar Neog was a leading scholar dedicated to preserving Assam's literary, historical, and cultural heritage. He served at Gauhati University in various capacities, including as the Jawaharlal Nehru Professor of Assamese. He also served as the Srimanta Sankaradeva Professor at Patiala University and was instrumental in getting Sattriya dance recognized as India's fifth classical dance form.

His notable works include Sankaradeva and His Predecessors, Early History of the Vaishnava Faith and Movement in Assam, Rhythm in the Vaishnava Music, Religions of the North-East, Assamese Dramas and Theatre, The Bhakti Ratnakara of Sankaradeva, History of the Concepts of Bhakti, and many more.

Prof. Neog received numerous honors, including the Padma Shri and the Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship. Gauhati University conferred upon him the title of Professor Emeritus and the Saint Sankaradeva Award.

The Kala Nidhi – Reference Library of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts has, over the years, received the personal libraries of many renowned scholars and artists as gifts. These collections hold special significance in the field of art and related studies. Some notable Collections include those of Prof. Suniti Kumar Chatterjee, Thakur Jaidev Singh, Dr. Kapila Vatsyayan, Shri Devendra Swaroop, Prof. Namvar Singh, and Acharya Hazari Prasad Dwivedi.

As part of this series, in 1992, Shri Pranab Swarup Neog, the son of Prof. Maheswar Neog, donated a collection of 3,500 books and 27 Sanchipat manuscripts belonging to Prof. Neog to the Kala Nidhi – Reference Library of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts. In honor of these eminent scholars and as an expression of gratitude towards them, the Kala Nidhi Division has been organizing Memorial Lectures annually. This is the third lecture organized in memory of Prof. Maheswar Neog.

About the Speaker

Prof. (Dr.) Kailasa Rao M. is an architect and heritage expert, currently serving as Director, School of Planning and Architecture, Bhopal. He has earlier served as Professor of Architecture at SPA Vijayawada and has extensive experience in teaching, research, and academic administration. His areas of expertise include Architectural Conservation, Heritage Studies, Historic Settlement Management, and Traditional Knowledge Systems. He holds a Ph.D. from Manipal University, an M.Arch in Architectural Conservation from SPA New Delhi, and a B.Arch from JNTU Hyderabad.

Prof. Rao's research focuses on the heritage management of major religious centres in India, employing advanced documentation techniques such as LiDAR, drone-based 3D mapping, and digital surveys. He has served as a Member of the National Monuments Authority, Convener of INTACH, Member of the Academic Senate, SPA Vijayawada, and is a registered member of the Council of Architecture. He has led major conservation projects, including the ASI-funded Integrated Conservation of Sannathi Stupa project, and has received the Dr. T. M. A. Pai Endowment Chair from Manipal University.