

Section III

**PROMOTIONAL
ACTIVITIES
2008-2009**

PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES 2008-09

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PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES 2008-2009

One of the major objectives for which the ICHR was established by the Government of India, is promotion of historical research in the country. The prime responsibility of ICHR is to make rigorous assessment of the quality of research work and exercise a close monitoring of results before providing funds to individuals/ institutions for research and publication. During the year under report this objective was achieved through various research funding schemes of the Council which include award of Fellowships; Research Projects; Contingency(Study-cum-Travel) grants; grants for foreign travel of Indian scholars and their maintenance abroad and for visits of foreign scholars to India; publication subsidies; and financial assistance to professional organizations of historians for holding seminars/symposia/conferences/workshops etc. on the subject of historical significance, as per the details given below:

A. RESEARCH PROJECTS, FELLOWSHIPS AND CONTINGENCY (STUDY-CUM-TRAVEL) GRANTS

The information regarding the research funding provided to the scholars under the schemes viz. Research Projects, Fellowships and Contingency (study-cum-travel) Grants of the Council since its inception is charted below:

| Year | Research Projects | Fellowships | Contingency (Study-cum-Travel) Grants | Total columns 2 + 3 + 4 | |
|---------|----------------------|-------------|---|-------------------------------|-------|
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| 1972-73 | 19 | 8 | 1 | 28 | |
| 1973-74 | 8 | 11 | 2 | 21 | |
| 1974-75 | 7 | 14 | 2 | 23 | |
| 1975-76 | 18 | 12 | 15 | 45 | |
| 1976-77 | 21 | 37 | 82 | 140 | |
| 1977-78 | 5 | 21 | 159 | 185 | |
| 1978-79 | 22 | 31 | 115 | 168 | |
| 1979-80 | 18 | 44 | 138 | 200 | |
| 1980-81 | 17 | 94 | 106 | 217 | |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| 1981-82 | 49 | 86 | 183 | 318 | 1982- |
| 83 | 15 | 135 | 180 | 330 | 1983- |
| 84 | 10 | 76 | 59 | 145 | |
| 1984-85 | 30 | 141 | 199 | 370 | |
| 1985-86 | 30 | 88 | 166 | 284 | |
| 1986-87 | 23 | 63 | 138 | 224 | |
| 1987-88 | 32 | 134 | 198 | 364 | |
| 1988-89 | 20 | 104 | 73 | 197 | |
| 1989-90 | 19 | 147 | 88 | 254 | |
| 1990-91 | 18 | 93 | 67 | 178 | |
| 1991-92 | 22 | 107 | 97 | 226 | |
| 1992-93 | 30 | 153 | 51 | 234 | |

| | | | | |
|-----------|----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1993-94 | 12 | 82 | 90 | 184 |
| 1994-95 | 7 | 59 | 32 | 98 |
| 1995-96 | 14 | 63 | 83 | 160 |
| 1996-97 | 4 | 19 | 30 | 53 |
| 1997-98 | 29 | 93 | 22 | 144 |
| 1998-99 | 9 | 29 | 45 | 83 |
| 1999-2000 | 2 | 6 | 18 | 26 |
| 2000-01 | 11 | 137 | 97 | 245 |
| 2001-02 | 27 | 178 | 66 | 271 |
| 2002-03 | 20 | 293 | 173 | 486 |
| 2003-04 | 18 | 257 | 118 | 393 |
| 2004-05 | 18 | 287 | 111 | 416 |
| 2005-06 | 26 | 169 | 109 | 304 |
| 2006-07 | 57 | 368 | 69 | 494 |
| 2007-08 | 45 | 407 | 123 | 575 |
| 2008-09 | 44 | 487 | 124 | 655 |

Research funding provided to the scholars/institutions/associations of professional organizations of historians during 2008-09 is summarized hereunder:

1. Research Projects

(a) approved: 30

(b) on going : 14 - 44

2. National Fellowship - 03 (on going)

3. Senior Academic Fellowships

(a) approved: - 16

(b) ongoing: - 08 - 24

4. Post – Doctoral Fellowships

(a) approved: - 18

(b) ongoing: - 21 - 39

5. Junior Research Fellowships

(a) approved: - 216

(b) ongoing: - 205 - 421

6. Foreign Travel Grants approve - 64

Including participation in international conferences, collection of sources, additional grant, etc.

7. Contingency (Study-cum-Travel) Grants- 124 including additional grant and revalidation.

8. Publication Subsidy approved - 60 including theses, manuscripts, journals, proceedings of seminars, etc.

Books/Journals/Proceedings received after publication under Grant-in- and Scheme

(a) Books 12

(b) Journals 21

(c) Proceedings 04

9. Seminars / Conferences / Congresses / Workshops: 103

In order to ensure an optimum utilization of the resources, each proposal received in the ICHR is carefully examined by the experts and placed before the appropriate Committees of the Council for consideration. Keeping in view the merit of each proposal, the Council approves the research proposals for financial help.

As shown above, during the year 2008-2009, in total, the Council approved Research Projects / Fellowships / Contingency (Study-cum-travel Grants)/ Publication subsidy under Grant-in-aid Scheme/ Seminar/Symposia/Conferences etc./Foreign Travel Grant (FTG) apart from bringing out its own publications, and continued the funding of on-going ones. The figures shown in the table above are Research Projects 44, Fellowships 487 inclusive of 03 National Fellowships (on going), Contingency (Study-cum-travel) Grant 124 and Foreign Travel Grant (FTG) 64, Publication Subsidy 60, and 103 cases of extending financial assistance to the professional organizations of historians for holding seminars /symposia/ conferences etc. on the subject of historical significance. During the year 2008-09 the Council received 12 Books, 21 Journals and 04 Proceedings after publications under its Grants-in-Aid Scheme. Details may be seen at **Appendices VI to XIV.**

It is seen that, over the years, various research funding schemes of the Council have gained popularity. Consequently, the number of applicants for financial assistance in this regard has increased manifold.

B. FOREIGN TRAVEL GRANTS FOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES/COLLECTION OF SOURCE MATERIALS FROM REPOSITORIES ABROAD.

During the period under report, the Council approved 64 cases of scholars for attending and participating in different International Conferences / Congresses in different parts of the world, and for collection of source material relating to their research work from the different repositories abroad. For details, see **Appendix XI.**

C. LIBRARY-CUM-DOCUMENTATION CENTRE (MEMBER OF DELNET AND JSTOR)

The progress made during the last three years is given in the following comparative table:-

| S. No. | Title | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 |
|--------|---|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 | Total collection of books | 51,000 | 67,500 | 68,500 |
| 2 | New books purchased | 924 | 816 | 700 |
| 3 | Visits made by Scholars | 4,000 | 2,400 | 2,500 |
| 4 | Repographic Service to Scholars (No. of exposures provided) | 39,200 | 31,317 | 35,000 |
| 5 | Foreign & Indian Journal Subscribed | 110 | 110 | 100 |

D. ICHR PUBLICATIONS

The Council achieved the following targets during the last three years as is reflected in the comparative table given below:-

| S. No. | Title | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 |
|--------|-----------------|--|--|---|
| 1 | Books published | 02 | 11 | 06 |
| 2 | Journal (IHR) | (i) Vol.xxxiii- No.2 (ii) Vol.xxxiv- No.1 | Vol.xxxiv- No.2 (July2007) Vol.xxxv- No.1 (January 2008) | Vol.xxxv- No.2 (Devoted to the theme: Issues of Gender: Colonial and Post-Colonial India) |

E. CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME 2008-09

During the period under report the following academic activities/programmes were approved for financial grant:-

1. INDO-IRAN CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

Under the Indo-Iran Cultural Exchange Programme the ICHR approved an amount of Rs.80,000 to Dr. Reikibuddin Ahmad, Reader, Department of Persian, Guwahati University, Gopinath Bardoloi Nagar, Guwahati for holding a four-day International Seminar on *Indo-Arab-Iran Relations from the Historical Background*. The Seminar was held at Guwahati University, Guwahati during 2nd to 4th February 2009 in which 32 foreign and 15 Indian scholars participated actively.

2. INDO-RUSSIAN CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

Under the Indo-Russian Cultural Exchange Programme, the ICHR organized a three-day joint seminar on *Peasants in Russian, Central Asian and Indian History* from 7th to 9th September 2008 at the India International Centre, New Delhi.

Russia sent a delegation consisting of five scholars under the leadership of Dr. (Mrs.) Irina V. Deryugina. The other members of the delegation were Dr. Eric N. Komarov, Dr. Alexander V. Gordon, Dr. (Mrs.) Liubov N. Denisova and Dr. (Mrs.) Svetlana E. Sidorova. All the scholars belong to the Institute of Oriental Studies (RAS), Moscow. The Indian side was represented by Professors Sabyasachi Bhattacharya, Chairman, ICHR, Irfan Habib, AMU, Aligarh, Mridula Mukherji, Director, NMM&L, New Delhi, Shireen Moosvi, AMU, Aligarh, A. Satyanarayana, Osmania University, Hyderabad, Arupjyoti Saikiya, Guwahati, Shri Prakash, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, Arup Banerjee, Delhi University, B.P. Sahu, Delhi University, R.P. Rana, Delhi University, Archana Prasad, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, Nandita Khadria, JNU and Ravindran Gopinath, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.

The inaugural session which took place on 7th September 2008 started with an introductory and welcome speech by Professor Sabyasachi Bhattacharya on behalf of ICHR. He spoke on the theme of the seminar and also about the modalities of Indo-Russian Cultural Exchange Programme. Dr. (Mrs.) Deryugina spoke on behalf of the Russian side. The inaugural address was delivered by Professor Irfan Habib, Emeritus Professor, AMU, Aligarh. He spoke at length on the theme, *Peasants and the Revolution: The 20th Century Experiences*. Highly academic deliberations were recorded in the form of papers presented by the participants of the seminar, both Indian and Russian.

3. MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD MEMORIAL LECTURE BY PROFESSOR JAN BREMAN

In pursuance of the Government of India's instructions, the ICHR organized the first Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Memorial Lecture on 11th December 2008 at the Constitution Club, Rafi Marg, New Delhi. The programme started with a welcome address by Dr. Ishrat Alam, Member Secretary, ICHR. Professor Sabyasachi Bhattacharya, Chairman, ICHR, spoke of the life and work of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. He also introduced the learned speaker, Professor Jan Breman, and the theme of his lecture. Breman in his lecture dwelt at length on the topic, *Colonial Profit from Cheaper Labour in Colonial Java: 1720-1870*.

Shri Arjun Singh, Hon'ble Minister of HRD, presided over the function. He reminded the audience of the memorable role played by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad in promoting composite culture and national integration. 'His sacrifices during the freedom struggle and contribution he made after the independence in his capacity as the Education Minister of India will always be remembered by his countrymen', Shri Arjun Singh observed. Shri Shabi Ahmad of the ICHR coordinated the programme and moved a vote of thanks to the Hon'ble Minister, His Excellency the Ambassador of Netherlands, scholars, media persons and staff-members present

4. INDO-FRENCH CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

Under the Indo-French Cultural Exchange Programme the nominations of the following scholars were approved as per norms:-

- (a) Professor Rila Mukherjee, Professor History, Hyderabad University, Hyderabad to work on the topic entitled, *Religion, Politics and Society in the Early Modern World: Commodities, Cultures and Networks in Southeastern Bengal and Arakan*.
- (b) Dr. Swati Das Gupta, Lecturer, Department of Germanic, and Romance Studies, University of Delhi, Delhi-7 to work on the topic entitled, *The French Opinions on India 1857*

F. ICHR FOUNDATION DAY

The ICHR Foundation Day ceremony was held on Friday the 27th March 2009. Professor Romila Thapar, Professor Emeritus, JNU delivered the Foundation Day Lecture on, *Recognizing Historical Traditions in Early India* at 4.00 p.m. at the Auditorium of the Nehru Memorial Museum & Library. On this occasion the ICHR's publications, as noted below, were released by Professor Mridula Mukherjee, Director, NMML:

1. *Towards Freedom Project Volume 1946 (Part II)* edited by Professor Sumit Sarkar and *Volume 1940 (Part 1)* edited by Professor K.N. Pannikar.
2. *Indian Railway Acts and Rules 1849-1895 (Vol. IV)*, Professor A.K. Bagchi, General Editor and Dr. Bhubanes Misra, Coordinator
3. *Documents on Economic History of British Rule in India 1858-1947; Eastern India in the Late Nineteenth Century (Part I) 1860s-1870s*, Professor A.K. Bagchi, General Editor and Professor Arun Bandyopadhyay, Associate Editor.