

IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES OF THE CULTURE DEPARTMENT

DURING THE YEAR 2010-11.

The Department of Culture is looking after the overall promotion of Art & Culture with the co-operation of the Sub-ordinate offices and autonomous organizations functioning under it.

For promotion of Music, Dance and Orissan Culture, National Odissi Festival has been organized at Rabindra Mandap, Bhubaneswar from 26th December-2010 to 30th December-2010. It has been decided to organize such Festival outside the State.

2. On the occasion of 50th Anniversary, Odisha Sahitya Akademy has celebrated its Golden Jubilee programme in a pompous manner in different parts of the state. The Akademy has organized Akademy Awards for the year 2005-06 on dt.06.10.2010 in which about 18nos. of Eminent Authors were felicitated. Similarly the Akademi felicitated 50 old and Eminent writers of the state on 14.09.2010 at Bhanja Kala Mandap, Bhubaneswar.

The Odisha Sahitya Akademi has organized literary Seminar on “Odia Bhakti Sahitya” on 29.12.2010 at Bhanja Kala Mandap, Bhubaneswar, Prof. Artaballav Mohanti, Memorial Lecture on 20.01.2011 at Bhanja Kala Mandap, Bhubaneswar. Birth centenary of “Radhamahan Gadanayak” on February 10,11, 2011 at Bhanja Kala Mandap, Bhubaneswar in collaboration with Central Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi; National Book week on 20.11.2010 at Bharatiya vidya Bhawan, Bhubaneswar in collaboration with NBT-New Delhi and Lekha O Lekha Programme at Keonjhar on 13.02.2011. This Year 6 nos of books have also been published by the Akademi.

3. The International Museum Day was celebrated in Odisha State Museum in the year 2009-10. On that day an exhibition on Gitagovinda and Dasabbatara was

organized. The renovation work of Archaeology Gallery, New Numismatic Gallery, Epigraphy Gallery and Bronze Galleries of the Odisha State Museum has been completed and opened for public. A book titled "Museums of Odisha" was also published by the State Museum.

The renovation work of the Baripada branch Museum and Khiching branch Museum is under progress.

4. There is a provision of indigent Artist Pension for 1500 Artists of the State @ Rs.1000/- per month and steps are being taken to enhance the number of such pensioners from 1500 numbers to 3000 numbers.
5. Like State Film Awards, Culture Deptt. has decided to confer the State Awards to Artists personalities involved in Oriya T.V. serial and Oriya Jatra Shortly.
6. The Statue of Veer Surendra Sai, Late Biren Mitra, Maharaja Shreeram Chandra Bhanjadeo have been prepared and installed in various places of State Capital.
7. An Archival publication titled as "Vasa Vitika Swatantra Odisha Pradesh Gathan, Vol-I, Part – I & II" have been completed and ready for release shortly by the State Archives. Apart from that the State Archives has repaired about 1,08,696/- pages of rare records and digitized them into DVD format.
8. Odisha Lalitkala Akademi, has organized the State Level Children Art Competition on the occasion of "Prativa Anyesvana Programme" on dt.13.2.2011 at Governor's House, Bhubaneswar. About 60 Children from 30 districts were participated in this programme. His Excellency Governor of Odisha has presented the Governor's Trophy to the best students for their creative activities on dtd.14.02.2011 in a function organized at Bhanja Kala Mandap.

9. A five day long Drama Festival on classical style was organized by the Odisha Sangeet Natak Akademy from 6th July to 10th July, 2009 in Rabindra Mandap on the memory of renounced poet of Odisha who have created a number of Kabyas in Oriya Literature.

The prestigious Kabisamrat Upendra Bhanja Award and Other Akademi awards programme for the year 2006-07 was organized by the Odisha Sangeet Natak Akademi on dtd.25.01.2010 at Bhanja Kala Mandapa, Bhubaneswar and 12 numbers of eminent artists (one – Kabisamrat Upendra Bhanja Award & other 11 won Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards) on different faculties were conferred with the Akademi awards.

10. The conservation work of 92 monuments of the State have been completed from the funds awarded by the 12th Finance Commission. Similarly, conservation work of 17 nos. of Monuments of Puri Town have also been completed. Further, development work of Heritage Park at Santiniketan Dist. Balasore has been taken up by the ACA Grant and the work is in progress. Under the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZMP) 8nos. of monuments have been identified for conservation and improvement of the Monuments. The important components under this project are Structural Conservation, Chemical Conservation, Landscaping and Illumination of the monuments.