

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY
POLICY NOTE
2017-2018

INTRODUCTION

1. Archaeology is the scientific study of ancient cultures and the way people lived based on the things they left behind. The purpose of archaeology is to understand how human beings in the past interacted with their environment and to preserve the history for present and future learning. The study of the cultures includes the examination of the artefacts, objects made, used or changed by man. To some extent, it can be defined as our voyage

to the past, where we discover, who we were and therefore who we are. In broad scope, archaeology relies on cross-disciplinary research. Archaeology always relies heavily on the materials left behind by our forefathers.

OBJECTIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT

1.1 The Department of Archaeology was established in 1961 by the Government of Tamil Nadu to conserve and preserve the ancient monuments in the State and to conduct excavations at archaeologically and historically important places. Its activities also included copying, deciphering and publishing of stone inscriptions, setting up of site museums, chemical preservation of art objects. A library is

exclusively functioning at its headquarters, Chennai with valuable, unique and rare books for the benefit of staff members and scholars.

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

1.2 The Department of Archaeology is functioning under the control of the Commissioner of Archaeology, assisted by Deputy Director, Deputy Superintending Archaeologist, Assistant Superintending Epigraphist, Assistant Executive Engineer, Assistant Director (Regional), Curator, Epigraphist, Archaeological Officer, Pre-Historic Archaeologist and Archaeologist.

CONSERVATION OF MONUMENTS

1.3 So far, 90 ancient and historical monuments including religious and secular buildings have been declared as protected monuments by the State Government. Recently in the year 2016-2017, "Cave Temples namely Karivartharaja Perumal cave temple, Sivan Temple, Vedhandheeswarar Cave Temple" at Vallam Village, Chengalpattu Taluk, Kanchipuram District have been declared as protected monuments. In addition to this, 21 new historical monuments were identified to be declared as a "Protected Monument" of Department of Archaeology.

**SHORT TERM SIX WEEK COURSE ON
"HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND
RESTORATION OF MONUMENTS" FOR THE
HINDU RELIGIOUS AND CHARITABLE
ENDOWMENTS ENGINEERS**

1.4 As a first of this nature in the country, the Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology had conducted a short term six week course on "Heritage Conservation and Restoration of Monuments" for 44 Engineers of Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department in two batches in the year 2014-2015 at a cost of Rs. 24 lakhs. Similarly, the Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 25 lakhs to conduct a short term six weeks course on "Heritage Conservation and Restoration of Monuments" for the year 2015-2016 to 40 Engineers and Sthapathies of

Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department. These courses were very useful for the engineers for conserving and restoration of the ancient temples within the boundaries of archaeological principles.

In continuation of this venture in the year 2015-2016, the Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 20 lakhs to conduct a revamped short term course for a duration of two weeks on "Heritage Conservation and Restoration of Monuments" for 75 Executive Officers of Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department in three batches from 08.09.2016 to 19.10.2016. This course was very useful to the Executive officers who were directly connected

with the conservation of structures, paintings and other day to day activities of conservation and preservation of the ancient temples.

EXCAVATION IN HISTORICALLY IMPORTANT SITES

1.5 One of the primary activities of this department is to carry out excavations at historically important places. So far, excavations have been carried out at 39 historical sites and out of which 36 excavation reports have been brought out in book form.

Under the scheme of Archaeological Excavation at historical sites, in the year 2015-2016 the excavation conducted at Pattaraiperumbudur in Tiruvallur District at a cost of Rs.10 lakhs has been completed.

Documentation of excavation and publication of report is nearing completion. The excavation revealed the political, socio-cultural significance of these historical places in ancient Tamil Nadu. An exhibition showcasing the unearthed antiquities from the recent Pattaraiperumbudur excavation of Tiruvallur District was organized on 04.07.2016 in Government High School at Pattaraiperumbudur. This exhibition was well received by the students, scholars and general public.

During the year 2016-2017, under Rule 110 of Legislative Assembly, the then Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu announced to conduct a large scale excavation at Alagankulam

of Ramanathapuram District at a cost of Rs.55 lakhs to reveal the political, socio-cultural, maritime trade contact and its significance of this historical place in ancient Tamil Nadu. The preliminary works are in progress.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE MUSEUMS

1.6 The valuable antiquities that have been unearthed from excavations and explorations have been preserved and exhibited for the benefit of the scholars, researchers and the general public in the 14 archaeological site museums situated in various Districts of the State.

S. No	Site Museums	Place / District
1)	Danish Fort Site Museum	Tarangambadi / Nagapattinam
2)	Under Sea Archaeological Site Museum	Poompuhar / Nagapattinam
3)	Gangaikonda cholapuram Site Museum	Gangaikonda cholapuram / Ariyalur
4)	Ramalinga Vilaasam Site Museum	Ramanathapuram / Ramanathapuram
5)	Arcot Site Museum	Arcot / Vellore
6)	Pre-Historic Site Museum	Poondi / Tiruvallur
7)	Tirumalai Nayakar Mahal Site Museum	Madurai / Madurai
8)	Rajarajan Site Museum	Thanjavur / Thanjavur
9)	Maratta Site Museum	Thanjavur / Thanjavur
10)	Karur Site Museum	Karur / Karur
11)	Coimbatore Site Museum	Coimbatore / Coimbatore
12)	Courtallam Site Museum	Courtallam / Tirunelveli
13)	Tirukkivilur Site Museum	Tirukkivilur / Villupuram
14)	Dharmapuri Site Museum	Dharmapuri / Dharmapuri

EPIGRAPHY

1.7 One of the primary functions of the Department is to copy, decipher, edit and publish inscriptions. At present, this Department is in possession of about 24,454 estampages of inscriptions from 29 districts out of 32 districts. In the remaining districts, namely Pudukkottai, Sivagangai and Thoothukudi, the works are in progress. About 14,000 have been deciphered by the Department Epigraphists, out of which, 6,827 inscriptions have been published in 47 volumes.

An Institute of Epigraphy is functioning in the Commissionerate since 1974, which conducts a one year Post Graduate Diploma

Course in 'Epigraphy and Archaeology'. Every year, 8 Post-Graduate Students are being enrolled and training is given in Epigraphy and Archaeology. So far, 219 students have undergone this course. A sum of Rs.2000/- is paid as stipend to each student every month.

PUBLICATIONS

1.8 The modernized Department Press is exclusively meant for bringing out books in Tamil and English on Epigraphy, Monuments, Excavation reports, District Archaeological Guide books, Museum Guide books and Temple Monographs. The department has so far published 285 books. A quarterly journal "Kalvettu" is also being published. So far,

100 issues have been published. Till date, 250 publications of the Department are available in the official website www.tnarch.gov.in of the Department.

CHEMICAL CONSERVATION

1.9 The chemical conservation section was established in Chennai and Madurai to chemically conserve the antiquities brought to light from excavations. Later its facilities were extended to carry out chemical conservation works in 14 site museums and to co-ordinate with structural conservation section in maintenance and conservation of 90 protected monuments.

GOVERNMENT ORIENTAL MANUSCRIPTS LIBRARY AND RESEARCH CENTRE

1.10 Government Oriental Manuscripts Library and Research Centre started in 1869 is under the control of this department. The Library which functioned in the campus of University of Madras has been shifted and functioning at the 7th Floor of Anna Centenary Library, Kotturpuram, Chennai. 72,748 rare manuscripts and 25,373 reference books in various subjects like Mathematics, Astronomy, Siddha, Ayurveda, Unani, Vedas, Agama, Architecture, Music, Fine Arts, History and many other subjects written in Tamil, Sanskrit, Marathi, Urdu, Arabic and Persian Languages are being preserved in this Library.

MANUSCRIPTS HOSTED ONLINE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC

1.11 So far, 2400 Manuscripts bundles of 3,00,000 pages have been digitalized and are available online. These resources are hosted in the www.tnarch.gov.in website. The information in the online website will be useful to the research scholars and all other readers worldwide.

MANUSCRIPTS RESOURCE CENTRE

1.12 "The National Mission for Manuscripts" (NMM), in New Delhi under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India is engaged in the process of collecting all the manuscripts available in India and it has recognized the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library in Chennai under the

control of Archaeology Department as "Manuscripts Resource Centre" (MRC) for collecting the manuscripts in the State of Tamil Nadu and listing the manuscripts for conversion into disc form. The work is in progress.

Till date, 58,000 manuscripts have been documented in Electronic form and the same has been sent to the National Mission for Manuscripts, New Delhi. In this process, the details of the manuscripts about Tamil culture, Astronomy etc. are documented and preserved.

IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES - 2016-2017

1.13 Monthly lectures were conducted on the topics such as "Social Historical Evidences through Inscriptions", "Ancient Tamil Society",

“Historical Monuments of Pallavas”, “Recent Excavations carried out in and around Kanchipuram District”, “Hero Stones”, “Importance of Exploration in Excavations” at the Conference Hall of Archaeology Department, Chennai.

Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology and Chennai 2000 Plus, jointly organized a five day seminar on “Ancient History and Archaeology of Chennai Region” and six lectures were delivered from 20.09.2016 to 24.09.2016.

World Heritage Week was celebrated in this Department from 19.11.2016 to 25.11.2016. As a part of celebration, the visitors

were allowed at free of cost in these days in the historical monuments namely Tirumalai Nayakkar Mahal at Madurai, Ramalinga Vilaasam at Ramanathapuram, Manora Memorial Pillar at Sarabendirarajapattinam of Thanjavur District, Tarangampadi Fort at Nagapattinam District. Nearly 15,000 visitors were benefitted. Likewise, quiz program, drawing competition, training on copying and deciphering the inscriptions, lectures, training to preserve antiquities by chemical methods, archaeological classes, cleaning the monuments through the NCC students of various schools, guided tours for students community, etc were conducted by the 14 Archaeological Site Museums officials.

TAMIL NADU INNOVATIVE INITIATIVE (TANII) SCHEME, 2016-2017

1.14 Under Tamil Nadu Innovative Initiative Scheme, a sum of Rs.10 lakhs has been sanctioned for the publication of Epigraphy book titled "Tamil Nadu Inscriptions Volume IX, X, XI, XII" and purchase of two computers and accessories. At present, the books are under printing.

CONCLUSION

1.15 Archaeology, a multi disciplinary science, reveals the heritage of a region with authentic evidence that are collected through explorations and excavations. Archaeological findings are helpful to reconstruct the history and

pre-history of a particular region. The invaluable antiquities unearthed from the excavations expose the maritime trade and cultural contacts with the other States and overseas in ancient times. In addition, the archaeological monuments reflect the art and architectural splendour and engineering skills of our ancestors. In the task of preserving the heritage of Tamil Nadu, the Department of Archaeology has been carrying out various schemes for revealing the political, social and culture conditions that prevailed in ancient Tamil Nadu.

DEPARTMENT OF MUSEUMS

POLICY NOTE

2017- 2018

INTRODUCTION

2. Museum is an institution that collects artefacts, specimens of historical and natural science and preserves them for posterity. Early Museums began as the private collections of art and rare or curious natural objects and artefacts by wealthy individuals, families or institutions. Museum may be defined as "Permanent institution in the service of society and of its development, open to the public, which acquires, conserves, researches,

communicates and exhibits the tangible and intangible heritage of humanity and its environment for the purpose of education, study and enjoyment”.

Objectives of the Department

2.1 Museums to make the exhibits available for public viewing through permanent galleries, special and thematic exhibitions. To impart non-formal education for all walks of life through their collections. Museums have become a visual supplementary to the students by providing the material evidences along with interactive display. To provide edutainment and infotainment with cutting edge tools of Information Technology to take the visitors to

the next plane. Museum exhibits communicate different perception to the laymen and to the scholars. The Department of Museums strives hard to achieve the above mentioned goals.

Administrative Structure

2.2 The Department of Museums, having the Government Museum, Chennai Museum and 20 District Museums functions under the Director of Museums with the assistance of Assistant Director (Technical), Curators, Assistant Curators, Guides and Technical Staff.

GOVERNMENT MUSEUM, CHENNAI

2.3 The Government Museum, Chennai, started in the year 1851 AD is the second oldest

museum in India. It is situated in the heart of the city with six individual buildings – three heritage buildings and three modern buildings, housing 54 galleries that deal with subjects like Arts, Archaeology, Numismatics, Anthropology, Geology, Botany, Zoology and Children's Museum. It is spread over 16.25 acres of land. Besides, Education Section, Design and Display Section and a Chemical Conservation Section cater to the needs of the public. The world famous South Indian Bronze icons, Amaravati limestone sculptures, Adhichanallur megalithic collections, coins of India, a Skeleton of a Blue whale, Ravi Varma paintings etc., are renowned collections of the Government Museum, Chennai. There are

inter-active displays and a 3D theatre in the Children's Museum; a life size animated model of Tyrannosaurus rex and a model of Pterodactylus – an extinct flying reptile in the Geology Gallery apart from a Museo'Bus are the recent additions and added attractions of the Government Museum, Chennai.

DISTRICT MUSEUMS

2.4 In addition to the premier Government Museum, Chennai, there are 20 district museums functioning at Pudukkottai, Salem, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli, Vellore, Erode, Cuddalore, Udagamandalam, Coimbatore, Kanyakumari, Krishnagiri, Tirunelveli, Sivagangai, Tiruvarur,

Palani, Nagapattinam, Kanchipuram, Ramanathapuram, Karur and Virudhunagar under the control of Department of Museums, Government of Tamil Nadu.

Important Schemes in the Museum during 2016-2017

2.5 (1) The then Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, under Rule 110 of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, announced Rs.10 crore in 2016-17 for the Up-gradation of Display arrangements, Visitors' amenities, Internal Roads with pavements, Landscaping the entire campus with suitable entrance in the Government Museum, Chennai. For providing financial allocation, this project is included in the Asian Development Bank's –

Infrastructure Development and Investment Programme for Tourism - Tranche IV schemes and detailed project report (DPR) is being prepared through the experts of Project Management Unit (PMU).

(2) The then Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu also announced Rs.1.20 crore in 2016-17 for the provision of Fire Alarm System along with Security Gadgets in Government Museum, Chennai and Government Museums in 20 Districts, for which, financial sanction was accorded and the works have been entrusted to M/s. ELCOT.

Announcements - 2016-2017

2.6 (1) A sum of Rs.30 lakhs has been sanctioned for the erection of new showcases to display Bronzes from the reserve collection in the vacant halls of the Bronze Gallery building, Government Museum, Chennai and the works are nearing completion.

(2) A sum of Rs.20 lakhs has been sanctioned for the Display of Amaravati sculptures from the reserve collection by extending the gallery in the halls adjacent to the existing Amaravati Gallery of the Main Building, Government Museum, Chennai and the works are nearing completion.

(3) A sum of Rs.30 lakhs has been sanctioned for the Display of Birds collection, Mammal's skeletons and wet preserved specimens from the reserve collection of Zoology Section in the extension block of the Main Building, Government Museum, Chennai and the works are nearing completion.

New Additions of Antiquities

2.7 The Director of Museums being a Treasure-trove Officer, initiated and followed up the acquisition activities through the District Collector concerned for acquiring treasure trove that are being unearthed that includes gold and silver ornaments and numismatic collections, icons of bronze and stone. In the Financial Year

2016-2017, 674 grams gold ornaments from 5 Districts, 389 South Indian Gold *panams* along with 792 other Coins, 58 icons and pooja utensils were received as treasure-trove objects apart from a few costume dolls and art works as gift and added to the collection.

Project Proposals Initiated and Sanctioned

2.8. For the first time, a proposal was initiated under Corporate Social Responsibility and a sum of Rs.50 lakhs has been received on 5.2.2017 from the "Bank of Tokyo" under the comprehensive Drinking water supply scheme, for construction of over head tank with a sump of 50,000 litres each along with suitable supply line connectivity at the Government Museum,

Chennai and the work has been entrusted with Public Works Department. Moreover, a project proposal has been initiated for the comprehensive barrier free environment for the differently abled persons at the Government Museum, Chennai under the Government of India scheme "*Samarthyam*". A sum of Rs.219 lakhs has been sanctioned as 50 per cent of the total envisaged project cost in this financial year 2016-2017. The project is being done by the Public Works Department.

Ongoing Project Works

2.9 The then Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu made an announcement in the

Collector's Conference for the establishment of "Fossil Museum at Ariyalur" at a cost of Rs.2 crore. The foundation stone was laid by the then Honourable Chief Minister on 27.6.2014 and construction of the building is nearing completion.

The then Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, under Rule 110 of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, also announced Rs.11 crore for the repair and restoration of the National Art Gallery – an unique example of Indo-Saracenic architecture, which is considered as one of the land marks of Chennai. The works are in progress and nearing completion.

For the Construction of Visual Storage building and to display the reserve collection at the Government Museum, Chennai, Rs.1 crore was sanctioned. The construction of Visual Storage Building of 2000 sq. ft. area was completed by the Public Works Department for Rs.63 lakhs and was inaugurated by the then Honourable Chief Minister on 15.9.2015 through Video Conference. The thematic display arrangements of Numismatic, Medals and Philately Collection along with erection of new showcases are now nearing completion by incurring the remaining Rs.37 lakhs.

**Significant Educational activities
conducted - 2016 - 17**

2.10 At the Government Museum, Chennai

1. Unique exhibits from the different sections of Chennai Museum have been selected and displayed suitably so as to highlight the importance and sharing of knowledge with visitors on every week under "Exhibit of the Week".
2. Rao Bahadur Vemuru Ranganatham Chetty Endowment Lecture on "Urban History of Tamil Nadu-Few Perspective" was held on 30.8.2016 at the Museum Theatre.

3. Sri Narayana Guruviah Chetty Endowment Lecture on "Early Chola Temples of Kaveri Basin – A Historical Study" was held on 17.10.2016 at the Centenary Exhibition Hall.

4. Tourism Endowment Lecture on "Thiruindalur Copper plate - A Critical Study" was held on 26.10.2016 at the Centenary Exhibition Hall.

5. Prof. Balakrishnan Nair Memorial Endowment Lecture on "Flora and Fauna Representation in Rock Art of Tamil Nadu" was organised on 09.11.2016 at the Centenary Exhibition Hall.

6. In connection with Children's Day Celebration - 2016 Drawing and Oratorical competitions were organised for 350 School Children of 65 Schools from UKG to XII Std. On 14.11.2016, the drawings drawn by the students displayed as a Special Exhibition; Prizes and certificates were distributed to the 63 winners of the competitions. Nearly 500 School Students from various Schools in Chennai witnessed this Children's Day celebrations.

7. A popular lecture on "Gudiam Caves" - 28.12.2016, "Jainism in Tamil Nadu" -

29.12.2016 were organized at the Centenary Exhibition Hall.

8. One day workshop on "Collection Care for Tamil Nadu Museums" was organized on 06.1.2017 at the Government Museum, Chennai in collaboration with Aus-Heritage for the benefit of Curators of Department of Museums and Archaeology.
9. International Women's Association Endowment Lecture on "Glimpses of the History of Mathematics in India" was organized on 27.1.2017 at Museum Theatre.

10. Internship training in various Sections of the Government Museum, Chennai was given to 276 students of 16 Colleges.
11. Special Thematic Exhibition on "Scripophily (Ancient Indian Stocks & Bonds)", first of its kind was organised from 2.3.2017 to 17.3.2017 at the Government Museum, Chennai.

At the District Government Museums

1. Special Photography Exhibition on "Save the living beings of Wild" was conducted from 18.5.2016 to 31.5.2016 at the Government Museum,

Krishnagiri in connection with International Museum Day.

2. Painting Competition on World Environment Day and Prize distribution function was held on 3.6.2016 at the Government Museum, Virudhunagar.
3. Lecture on "How to identify the bronze statues based on the physical appearance" was delivered with Power Point Presentation on 21.6.2016 by the Curator, Government Museum, Krishnagiri during his participation in the workshop on "Prevention of illegal trafficking of Statues" held at

Archaeological Survey of India,
Bengaluru.

4. Workshop on "Preservation of Zoological Specimens" for the College Students on 28.7.2016 was conducted at the Government Museum, Sivagangai in collaboration with Zoology Section, Government Museum, Chennai.
5. A Research Paper on "Archaeological Evidences in Dharmapuri District" was presented on 30.7.2016 by the Curator, Krishnagiri, Government Museum in the Seminar organised by the Sacred Heart College's Research

Committee on Indian History and
Tamil Nadu Archaeological Research
Institution, Tirupathur.

6. Special lecture on "Pudukottai District
Inscription" was delivered on
30.8.2016 by the Curator, Government
Museum, Pudukottai for the students of
History Department, Government Arts
College, Pudukottai.
7. Short term training on 'Epigraphy' was
given to 69 first and second year
post-graduate students of the
Government Women's Arts College,
Pudukottai from 19.9.2016 to

22.9.2016 at the Government Museum,
Pudukottai.

8. Photography exhibition on "Forts of Tamil Nadu" was conducted on 27.9.2016 at the Government Museum, Palani in connection with World Tourism Day.
9. Various currency notes from more than 100 countries were displayed in the Special Exhibition on 15.12.2016 at the Government Museum, Palani.
10. Special exhibition on "Importance of Cereals, Pulses and Natural Foods" was conducted on 26.12.2016 at the Government Museum, Kanyakumari.

11. Special exhibition on "Minerals" was held on 27.12.2016 at the Government Museum, Coimbatore.
12. Special exhibition on Contemporary art with a title "Natural Scenario of Countryside", was held from 30.12.2016 to 01.1.2017 at the Government Museum, Madurai.
13. Training on "Preservation of Zoological Specimens" was conducted on 03.1.2017 at the Government Museum, Tiruchirappalli.
14. "Medicinal Plants" exhibition was held on 04.1.2017 at the Government Museum, Udagamandalam.

15. Special Exhibition on "Wood Inlay Paintings" was held on 13.1.2017 at the Government Museum, Madurai.
16. Special exhibition on "Ethnographic Objects of Nilgiri Tribes of Nilgiris" was organised on 24.1.2017 at the Government Museum, Udagamandalam in connection with Humanitarian Week Celebrations conducted by the Udagamandalam Adi-Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department.
17. "Special Photography Exhibition on Tourist Sites" was conducted from 25.1.2017 to 29.1.2017 at the

Government Museum, Tirunelveli
in connection with National Tourism Day.

18. During a weeklong exhibition on 'Medicinal Herbs', 81 varieties of herbs were exhibited from 27.2.2017 at the Government Museum, Vellore.
19. Photography Exhibition on 'Indian Scientists', in connection with National Science Day, was conducted on 28.2.2017 at the Government Museum, Coimbatore.
20. "Science Exhibition" was organized with 262 science models designed by students of 30 schools, prizes and certificates were given for the best

models, on 28.2.2017 at the Government Museum, Palani.

21. Drawing Competition on "Scientists and Scientific Inventions" was conducted on 28.2.2017 in connection with "National Science Day", prizes and certificates were awarded at the Government Museum, Erode.

22. Special exhibition on "Paintings and Handicrafts of Best Artists of Tirunelveli District" was held on 3.3.2017 at the Government Museum, Tirunelveli jointly with Poompuhar and Tamil Nadu Handicrafts Development Association, Tirunelveli.

23. Special exhibition on "Geological Exhibits of Recent Times" was conducted from 08.3.2017 to 23.3.2017 at the Government Museum, Karur.
24. "Workshop on Epigraphy" was organized jointly with Meenakshi Womens Arts College on 11.3.2017, at the Government Museum, Madurai. Special lecture was delivered by the Curator on *Brahmi* inscriptions.
25. Special Photography Exhibition on "Medicinal Plants" was conducted at the Government Museum, Udthagamandalam

in connection with World Forests Day on 21.3.2017.

26. "Conservation & Protection of Ancient Manuscripts", lecture was held on 27.3.2017 at the Government Museum, Nagappatinam.
27. Photography exhibition on "Ancient Monuments of Tamil Nadu" was conducted from 27.3.2017 to 30.3.2017 at the Government Museum, Salem.
28. "Disappeared ones with the passage of time" - a Gramophone Special Exhibition was held on 27.3.2017 at the Government Museum, Palani.

29. "Medicinal Plants", exhibition was conducted at the Government Museum, Coimbatore, in connection with World Forests Day on 29.3.2017.

Consultancy and Services rendered to other Departments

2.11 Chemical Conservation Section of the Government Museum, Chennai restored 31 portraits of yester-year Justices of Madras High Court.

Conclusion

2.12 Museums function as centres of education and tourism. They attract the discerning tourists. No visit to a city or tourist place is complete without a visit to the local

museum. Museums have an important role in preserving and disseminating the indigenous knowledge for the forthcoming generations. It is expected that Museums will continue to play a major role in shaping the thinking process of mankind particularly students, scholars and visiting public.

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