

**DEVELOPMENT AND VALUE MAXIMISATION
OF
THE HERITAGE COLLECTION**

Activities of the Photography cum Reprography Unit

PHOTOGRAPHY CUM REPROGRAPHY UNIT

The Photography Unit in the Victoria Memorial caters to both the internal requirements of the Memorial as well as various institutions and scholars who avail of its facilities in connection with their research or publication work.

During the period from April 2006 to March 2007 the Photo Unit —

- prepared and supplied 366 colour photographs to Conservation Unit,
- 7 photographs and 18 digital images to outsiders
- 189 colour photographs
- 177 colour transparencies and good number of digital images in Compact Disk of different stages of (before, during, after) restoration and conservation work
- Supplied 245 photographs of different objects
- 2381 digital images in Compact Disk of rare books, manuscripts, report of Lottery Committee etc. in Documentation Unit.

The Photo Unit covered the visits of important persons and several educational and cultural programmes of Victoria Memorial as listed below:

1. Visit of the group of 60 Muslim Scholars and 8 Senior U.S. Government Officials to Victoria Memorial on 06th April 2006.
2. Visit of the UK's Labour Friends of India Delegation to Victoria Memorial on 08 April 2006.
3. Lecture programme on Romanticizing The World: Romanticism and the Visual Arts by Mr. Anirudh Chari, Research Scholar, UK on 24.04.2006.
4. Meeting of the Arts Purchase Committee at Victoria Memorial on 09.05.2006.
5. Visit of Hon'ble Minister Smt. Ambika Soni and inaugural function of exhibition 'Emily Eden's Work' on 05.07.2006
6. Lecture Programme on 'The Angel: Fact & Fiction, Her Disease & Recovery' by Professor Madhusudan Bhattacharyya on 17.07.2006.
7. Workshop on 'Conservation of Photographic Material' co-ordinated by Professor A. S. Bisht from 24th to 29th July 2006 at Victoria Memorial.

8. Visit of Mr. Richard Boucher, US Assistant Secretary for South & Central Affairs on 04.08.2006.
9. Hindi Essay Competition on 20.09.2006 at Victoria Memorial.
10. Art Workshop – ‘Colours for Tomorrow’ on 25th September 2006.
11. Poetry Reading in collaboration with Krittibas, Kolkata on 25.09.2006.
12. Exhibition ‘Deep Focus’ in collaboration with UNICEF on 20.11.2006.
13. Lecture “Thakurdalans of Kolkata” by Dr. Debasis Bose on 23.11.2006.
14. Workshop on “Care & Conservation of Textile object” by Jennie Lightfoot, expert from U.K. on 25.11.2006.
15. Visit of the Hon’ble R. Wickremesinghe, former Prime Minister of Sri Lanka on 28th November 2006.
16. Exhibition, ‘Majestic Calcutta 1940-1971’ on 1st December 2006.
17. Panel Discussion on Poetry and Play Reading Session in collaboration with SOI, Kolkata on 11.12.2006.
18. Workshop, titled ‘Return Gift: Souvenirs of the 21st Century’ in collaboration with the British Council, Kolkata on 15th December 2006.
19. Hindi Workshop on 18.12.2006 at Victoria Memorial.
20. Special Lecture Programme, ‘Bangalnama: Pariprekshit’ by Professor Tapan Roychoudhuri on January 07, 2007.
21. Visit of the Singapore Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. George Yeo on 21.01.2007.
22. Reading by Rita Roy, The Edens in India (1836-1842) at Flag Staff House, Barrackpore on 31.01.2007.
23. Seminar on ‘Cultural Symbols: Calcutta and Melbourne on Post – Imperial Cities’ on 03.02.2007.
24. Visit of the Members of Parliamentary Committee on 11.02.2007.
25. Exhibition, On the Edge of Vision: new idioms in Indian & Italian Contemporary Art inaugurated by the Hon’ble Romano Prodi, the Hon’ble Prime Minister of Italy on 12.02.2007.

26. Meeting of the Art Purchase Committee on 14.02.2007.
27. Poets Meet in collaboration with Budh Sandhya on 05.03.2007.
28. Hindi Workshop on 06th March 2007 at Victoria Memorial.
29. Lecture on 'Storm of Chandernagar 1757' delivered by Dr. P.T. Nair on 23.03.2007.

The unit also covered the exhibitions at Rabindra Sarovar Stadium, Ganga Festival, Kolkata, Sit & Draw competitions and Quiz Contests at Purulia and Bishnupur, West Bengal.

The unit prepared 95 high quality digital photographs of oil paintings and other objects from the collection of Raj Bhavan, Kolkata.

As a part of activities in North-East Sr. Photographer attended the meeting with the Senior Officials and Minister, Art & Culture, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh and also with the Secretary and Vice-Chairman, Kalakshetra, Guwahati, Assam in the month of March 2007.

The post of Photographer is still vacant. The unit is manned by Shri Pratap Sinha, Senior, Photographer and Shri Jayanta De, Dark-Room Assistant.