

सक्चिदानंद जोशी सदस्य सचिव SACHCHIDANAND JOSHI Member Secretary









इन्दिरा गाँधी राष्ट्रीय कला केन्द्र INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS Janpath Building, (Near Western Court) Janpath, New Delhi-110 001 Tel: +91-11-23446563 / 23446564 Email: ms@ignca.nic.in, msignca@yahoo.com Website: www.ignca.gov.in

D.O.No. KNA/RL/Admn.131/25 18th August, 2025

Des Your Singh Ji I am pleased to inform you that Ministry of Culture, Government of India under the ages of Gyan Bharatam is organizing an International Conference on the theme "Reclaiming India's Knowledge Legacy through Manuscript Heritage" from 11th to 13th September, 2025 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.

- As you are kindly aware India possesses one of the richest and most diverse manuscript heritages in the world, with an estimated corpus of over ten million ancient manuscripts. These texts span an extraordinary range of disciplines, including philosophy, science, medicine, literature, Vedic rituals, mathematics, astrology, vāstu-śāstra, Sanskriti, Indian arts, and darśana. Composed in multiple scripts and languages, they are preserved in a wide variety of repositories-temples, mathas, monasteries, Jaina bhandāras, public archives, institutional libraries, and private collections. These manuscripts are not merely textual records but embody the Bhāratīya Jñāna Paramparā -the Indian Knowledge Systems - which has sustained India's civilizational continuity for millennia. Despite their significance, a substantial portion of these texts remains unpublished, un-translated, or subject to physical decay, posing an urgent challenge to scholars, archivists, and policymakers alike.
- In response, and in alignment with our Hon'ble Prime Minister's integrated vision of Vikas bhi. Virasat bhi which seeks to balance modern development with cultural preservation — the Government of India has announced the Gyan Bharatam Mission (GBM), in the Union Budget 2025-26. The Gyan Bharatam Mission envisions the systematic preservation, digitization, cataloguing, translation, and dissemination of India's manuscript wealth, leveraging contemporary technologies to make ancient knowledge accessible to modern audiences. Beyond conservation, the mission seeks to foster a new generation of scholars, institutions, and research ecosystems committed to revitalizing India's manuscript traditions.
- It gives me immense pleasure to cordially invite you to participate and contribute your insights toward reclaiming and reimagining India's manuscript-based knowledge traditions for the future in the above mentioned Conference. The brochure of the Conference is attached herewith for your kind perusal. For more information, you are requested to visit: Conference website https://gbm-moc.in Moreover, it is requested that this may kindly be circulated to all concerned departments under your University/Institution for wider publicity and participation.

Looking forward to your participation in the event.

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(Sachchidanand Joshi)