

Celebrating Fifty Years of Maharashtra

**A Proposed Exhibition on *Maharashtra: Gaathaa Samruddha Paramparechi*
SIES College of Arts, Science & Commerce on January 22, 23 & 24, 2010**

The South Indian Education Society's College of Arts, Science and Commerce, a premier institution of higher education in the city, is celebrating its Golden Jubilee in the year 2009-2010. Fortuitously the state of Maharashtra is also celebrating its Golden Jubilee in the same year. Our College, founded in June 1960 and inaugurated by the first Chief Minister of the State Y.B. Chavan, was a 'gift' of the South Indian Community in Mumbai to the newly born state of Maharashtra established on 1 May 1960. Therefore among the several activities planned by the college throughout the year to celebrate its fiftieth birthday, a major activity will be the setting up of a grand and comprehensive exhibition on the state of Maharashtra, *Maharashtra: Gaathaa Samruddha Paramparechi*, to commemorate its fiftieth anniversary. The proposed exhibition will showcase history, culture, politics, art, literature, cuisine- in fact the life in Maharashtra in its entirety. The event is scheduled for 22, 23 & 24 January, 2010.

We are organising this exhibition in partnership with the Archives of the Government of Maharashtra. We have already established this partnership through Dr. Bhaskar Dhatavkar, Director of Archives who has graciously agreed to lend us four hundred posters, panels, photographs prepared by Archives to set up exhibitions in different parts of the State in the Golden Jubilee year. The exhibition is conceptualised thematically and we will choose suitable exhibits from the Archival collection. But many more posters/panels will be prepared by our students from different departments which includes posters/ pictures and also three dimensional models, display of traditional clothing, jewellery and accessories and articles of household use and through enactment of dance, drama and music.

We have planned a day's seminar on *Glimpses of Maharashtra- South India Relations* on 22 January 2010 during the exhibition. The seminar will look into historical, social, cultural and political aspects of Maharashtra- South India interaction. We believe that our college is perhaps most appropriate for conducting a seminar on this theme. In addition our students will participate in a symposium to review the achievements of the State in past 50 years.

Our aim is to involve students and make them aware of the glorious history and rich culture and literature of the state. This exhibition will be **OPEN TO PUBLIC** and special invitations will be sent to schools and colleges in the vicinity.

The proposed exhibition/ poster presentation *Maharashtra: Gaathaa Samruddha Paramparechi* aims at showcasing the State of Maharashtra in all aspects of its life and culture. The themes broadly delineated are as follows-

Historical

- Evolution of the region of Maharashtra and Marathi,
- Ruling Dynasties
- Bhakti tradition, literature of the Saint Poet
- *Maharashtra Dharma* and Shivaji Founder of the Maratha Empire
- Maratha Rulers
- Map of the Maratha Empire
- Advent of the British Rule 1818
- Awakening and Social Reforms } Prominent leaders and their contribution briefly
- Freedom Movement } ”
- Revolutionaries
- Map of the Bombay Presidency

Political

- Evolution of Maharashtra as a Polity
- Early Stirrings; Samyukta Maharashtra Movement- Leading personalities
- Establishment of Maharashtra State
- Maps- Bombay Province, Bilingual Bombay State, Maharashtra
- A brief overview of major Political Events 1960- 2010- Chief Ministers
- Regional Political parties
- Sons of soil Movement- Shiv Sena, MNS

Economic/ Commercial Aspects

- Demographic and economic statistics
- Economy of Maharashtra during the colonial period
- Post 1960- A brief review- Agriculture & Industries
- Decline of textile Industry; Growth of Service Sector
- Industries and industrialists, Contribution to national Economy
- Trade and Commerce

Sub-regions

- Western Maharashtra, Konkan, Vidarbha, Marathwada

Language and Literature

- Genres of literature in Marathi: Novels, Short Stories, Essays, Plays, Poetry,
- Travelogues, Biographies, Autobiographies
- Serious Literature and Humour
- Leading writers and their works in the 19th & 20th centuries
- Unique literary contribution- *Diwali anka* (Magazines)

Cinema and Theatre

- Savedada and Phalke - pioneers of Indian Cinema
- Marathi Cinema: prominent works, Directors, Actors
- Maharashtra's Contribution to Indian (Hindi)Cinema- personalities
- Rich Theatre tradition

- 🌿 Unique feature of Marathi Theatre- *Sangeet Natak*
- 🌿 Prominent playwrights, their works, stage actors

Art, Dance and Music

- Traditional- Chitrakathi, Warali, Ganjifa
- J J School of Arts – tradition well known artists, sculptors
- Traditional Dance and Music- Bharud, Gondhal, Tamasha, Lavani, Folk dance
- Music- Classical- Instrumental and Vocal- Contributors
- Natya Sangeet, Sugam Sangeet- *bhaav geet*- Contributors

Intellectual contribution

- ♣ Philosophy, Sociology, Anthropology, Economics and serious Literature
- ♣ Science- Physics, mathematics, Statistics, Medicine

Tourism in Maharashtra

- Forts, Pilgrimages, Places of worship, cave paintings, carvings, Hill Stations, national parks and sanctuaries, important cities

Maharashtrian cuisine

- * Pictorial information
- * Setting up food (snacks) stalls for students and public (commercial)
- * Maharashtrian feast for teachers of the college (contributory)

Traditional Clothing, Jewellery, accessories and household goods

- Posters and actual exhibits wherever possible

Games and Sports

- Mallakhamb, hututu, lagori, viti dandu, kho-kho
- For girls and women
- First Circus in India brought by Vishnupant Chhatre, horse trainer of Rajah of Kurudwad

Maharashtrians outside Maharashtra

- Tanjavur, Marathi Diaspora in North India after Panpat III, Baroda, Indore, Gwalior, Hyderabad,

Models

- Traditional lamp of Maharashtra- Laman Diva
- A Fort, Shanivarvada

Audio Visual representation-

- Inaugural function -*Maharashtrachi Lokadhara* 30 minutes programme of traditional folk dance & music and one act play of 30 minutes duration.
- Third Day- One hour programme of Marathi songs.