

## **A Note on the Research Projects of Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR)**

The ICHR has very recently taken up the following research projects:

### **Vernacular Sources of India:**

Keeping in view the importance of the vernacular sources for writing the History of India (Bharat) with Bhartiya perspective the ICHR has initiated this project. In the first phase of the project the ICHR is signing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with different organisations across the country.

The project will help in enriching the collection of ICHR's Prof. Satish Chandra Mittal Library-cum-Documentation Centre.

Once the ICHR will have access to the vernacular sources the first hand information in the form of primary source materials/manuscripts will serve the purpose of writing Indian history with Bhartiya sources and that too in different Indian languages. The whole concept of this project is to promote the India's traditional knowledge lying in vernacular literature. It will certainly help in fulfilling the objectives under New Education Policy.

### **Comprehensive History of Bharat:**

The ICHR has taken up a massive work of writing the comprehensive history of Bharat. It should be noted that the excavation at Harappa and Mohanjodaro, which led to the discovery of Indus Valley Civilisation at a time when the English people were still living in the jungle age. Under this project the ICHR has chalked out the plan of considering the exclusive use of Indian language sources.

Also, it will highlight Religio-cultural and Social Unity of India through the ages. Again, the powerful Indian kingdoms/dynasties like Mauryas, Guptas, Chola, Cher, Rashtarakuta, Yadavas, Ahoms, Marathas and so on who built the real Bharat right from the ancient times itself will be focused upon. Their contribution in cultural expansion of india, Indian arts, architecture, huge temple building, economic development, human welfare, rich literature, administration, environment, etc will be highlighted.

This project will bring the holistic multilingual study of the history of Bharat under the objectives of New Education Policy, 2022.

### **Economic History of India: Through the Ages:**

The project will bring altogether six volumes two volumes on each section i.e. Ancient, Mediaeval and Modern History of India.

The objective will be to trace the roots of Indian economic development under the Indian kingdoms which has not received adequate attention of the historians, earlier. The agricultural production, industrial development, trade and commerce, buliding of trade routes throughout the ages with the help of the vernacular sources like manuscripts, bahis (accounts related records of Indian dynasties) and so on. Also, the economic history will consider the main aspect quality of life with the economic development.

By doing this project the idea of self-dependent (Atmnirbharta) will be strengthened. It will highlight that India was economically self-dependent country.

### **History of Science and Technology in India:**

Science and technology have played a critical role in the evolution of human society. Humans have had a desire to observe and understand nature since prehistoric times in order to control and manipulate nature for their own benefit and welfare. Since ancient times, India has had a glorious culture of education, science, and technology, and has made significant contributions in the fields of astronomy, arithmetic, geometry, metallurgy, the ayurvedic system of medicine, and surgery.

The ICHR is doing this important project to emphasize on all these aspects to establish contribution of India's ancient knowledge system to the field of science and technology. This will prove India's authority in the world.

### **History of Ayurveda:**

Ayurveda is considered as one of the oldest of the traditional systems of medicine accepted worldwide. The ancient wisdom in this traditional system of medicine is still not exhaustively explored. The junction of the rich knowledge from different traditional systems of medicine can lead to new avenues in herbal drug discovery process. The lack of the understanding of the differences and similarities between the theoretical doctrines of these systems is the major hurdle towards their convergence apart from the other impediments in the discovery of plant based medicines.

This project aims to bring into limelight the age old history and the basic principles of Ayurveda. This would help the budding scholars, researchers and practitioners gain deeper perspicuity of traditional systems of medicine, facilitate strengthening of the commonalities and overcome the challenges towards their global acceptance and harmonization of such medicinal systems.

Needless to say that this project is an initiative of ICHR with an attempt to establishing the authority of India's ancient knowledge system.