Significant events for the month of December, 2015

A) Under the project ‘Bio-Cultural Diversity, Environment & Sustainable Development’, the following activities/fieldworks were undertaken.

One supervisor of the team along with a research personnel conducted fieldwork to Gosaba and Satjelia Islands of Sundarban, Dist. South 24 Parganas of West Bengal from 23rd to 25th December, 2015. Fifteen days fieldwork was conducted during the month of December, 2015 at upper and lower Lingthem village of Dzongu Reserve Area of North Sikkim. Fieldwork has been conducted to the village Shella of East Khasi Hills, Meghalaya during December, 2015. Third phase fieldwork on Nicobarese of Chowra Island has been completed and report writing is in progress. Second phase of fieldwork in Chetlat Island is in progress.

B) Under the project ‘Manpower Training’, the following activities were undertaken.

1. One officer of this Survey participated in Indian Heritage Festival 2015 held at Kalady, Kerala from 3rd to 5th December, 2015.

2. One senior officer participated in an urgent official meeting held in the office of UPSC, New Delhi on 8th December, 2015 and a meeting of stakeholders held under the chairmanship of Secretary (C) for the purpose of setting up the National Virtual Library of India (NVLI) under the National Mission on Libraries at Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi on 9th December, 2015.

3. The Survey deputed one senior officer as a Resource Scholar to deliver a lecture at the Department of Anthropology, West Bengal State University, Barasat, and Dist North 24 Parganas of West Bengal on 16th December, 2015.

4. The Survey deputed one research personnel to participate and present paper in the 44th National Seminar on Indigenous Knowledge System and Sustainable Livelihood for the Tribal’ scheduled to be held on 7th & 8th December, 2015 at Bidisa, and Dist. West Medinipur of West Bengal.

C) Under the project ‘Documentation & Dissemination’, the following activities were undertaken.

1. The Survey organised a Workshop cum Training programme on ‘Tusu Songs and Dance’ among the Sabar of Sarasbedia village, Dist. Bankura of West Bengal from 6th December, 2015 for a period of ten days.

2. The Survey organized an exhibition on Folk Art and Oral Narratives of Rajasthan’ during the Shilpagram Utsav held from 21st to 30th December, 2015 at Shilpagram Utsav of West Zone Cultural Centre, Udaipur.
3. The Survey organized an exhibition on ‘Life & Culture among the People of India’ in the 19th Sundarban Kristi Mela-O-Loko Sanskriti Utsav held at Kultali Milon Tirtha Society of Basanti, Dist. South 24 Parganas of West Bengal from 20th to 29th December, 2015.

D) Under the project, ‘People of India: Bio-cultural Adaptations, Genetics, Health and Family Study’, the following activities were undertaken.

1. The Survey organized ‘Health Awareness cum Screening Camp’ among the Ranchi Communities of Ram Nagar village, Diglipur, North Andaman District for three days in December, 2015.

2. The Survey organized 2-days Health Awareness Camp among the Lyngom Khasi, West Khasi Hills District of Meghalaya during 3rd week of December, 2015.

The following works has been done at the Southern Regional Centre, Mysore of this Survey.

1. Editing of sequenced data is in progress.
2. Family data analysis under MYFADS Project is in progress.
3. Analysis of family data for the association of various phenotypes is done.
4. Data analysis and report writing on the project, ‘Genetics and Biochemical Markers of Type 2 Diabetes.

E) Under the project ‘DNA Polymorphism of Contemporary Indian Population and Ancient Skeletal Materials,’ the following works done in the DNA Lab.

1. PCR work is in progress for the mt-DNA primers and the Sharaja samples.
2. Sequencing of Mitochondrial DNA samples of Lakshadweep tribes.
3. Editing of mt-DNA Sequences and Analysis of Y-Chromosome data is in progress.
4. Sequencing of repeat samples is in progress and standardization of Ion Torrent PGM.
5. Anthropometric data analysis is in progress under village study project.
6. Analysis of SNP data of NRY – Chromosome is in progress.

F) Under the project ‘Collaborative Scheme’, the following activities were undertaken.

1. The Survey extended financial assistance to Andhra University, Visakhapatnam for hosting National Seminar on ‘Dimensions of Tribal Health in India’ in the first week of December, 2015 and Indian Academy of Social Sciences (ISSA) for hosting National Symposium on ‘Emerging Interfaces of Anthropological Knowledge, Tribal Policies and Tribal Development in India scheduled to be held from 1st to 5th December, 2015 at Mangalore University Mangalore.

2. The Survey organized Post Recovery Joint Forensic Review Meeting between the DPAA team and Anthropological Survey of India held at Head Office Kolkata on 18th December, 2015 in collaboration with Indo-US JPAC Mission in India.
3. The Survey organized a short orientation programme on Palaeoanthropological Research and Advance Bio-anthropological Study among the tribal areas in the Palaeoanthropology & DNA Laboratories of Head Office, Kolkata under the supervision of senior officers of this Survey in which about 40 students of anthropology from University of Calcutta & West Bengal State University participated.

4. A collaborative workshop on ‘Digital Qualitative Research’ was conducted on 11.12.2015 at Southern Regional Centre, Mysore of this Survey.

G) Under Hindi Teaching Scheme:

The Survey organized Hindi workshop in its different centres during the month of December, 2015 in which most of the staff participated in the programme.