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THE XV WORLD SANSKRIT CONFERENCE
(New Delhi, January 5th–10th, 2012)

AND

THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF SANSKRIT STUDIES
(I.A.S.S.)

REPORT ON THE FIFTEENTH WORLD SANSKRIT CONFERENCE

The 15th WSC was held in India again (for the fourth time) from January 5–10 2012 in conjunction with the deemed University Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, Delhi (see: http://www.sanskrit.nic.in/IASS/HOME_page.htm for the full list of WSCs).

The conference in Delhi was marked by punctuality and convenience couched in incomparable Indian hospitality. The delicious common meals – for more than a thousand participants – and the daily cultural programmes kept most of us together for most of the day.

There were 20 sections (e.g. grammar, linguistics, Buddhist studies, Jain Studies, philosophies, modern Sanskrit Studies) apart from 12 individual panels (e.g. Models and Theories in Sanskrit Grammar and Linguistics, Tāntric/Āgamic Traditions, Boundaries of Yoga in Indian Philosophical Literature).

Pandit *sammelanas*/get-togethers were impressive for the spontaneous erudition in Sanskrit. It was also intriguing to witness many papers in Sanskrit, and especially discussions cum questions/answers off the cuff. The large number of those who did this demonstrated that Sanskrit is indeed very much alive, and this was quite striking to witness.

See <http://www.sanskrit.nic.in/wsc3315.pdf> pp. 6–7 for the full programme.

The venue, Vigyan Bhavan in Delhi, is well-equipped for such an undertaking where up to five concurrent sessions took place. Credit for this feat of organisational skill accommodating the more than 1000 participants goes to Professor Radhavallabh Tripathi and his organising committee.

The Prime Minister Honourable Dr Manmohan Singh inaugurated the Conference with the Minister of Human

Resource Honourable Shri Kapil Sibal chairing the session. For the valedictory function the Honourable Dr Karan Singh MP was the guest of honour chaired by the Honourable Mrs Sheila Dikshit, the Chief Minister of Delhi.

The next two WSCs will be held in Bangkok (2015) and Vancouver (2018).

Jayandra Soni
Secretary General