

## PRASANTA CHANDRA MAHALANOBIS MEMORIAL MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

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|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of In-charge (2019-20)</b> | Dr. Kishor Chandra Satpathy                  |
| <b>Physical Address</b>            | Amrapali, ISI, 204 B T Road, Kolkata-700 108 |
| <b>Founded in</b>                  | 29th June , 1993                             |
| <b>Founded by</b>                  | Indian Statistical Institute                 |

The Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis Memorial Museum & Archives (PCMMM&A) was established in 1993 on the occasion of the birth centenary celebration of Professor Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis (PCM), a pioneering statistician and the founder of the Indian Statistical Institute. Its major objective is the collection, preservation, restoration, display, communication and documentation of personalia, memorabilia as well as rare source materials connected with the life and legacy of Mahalanobis, which also encompass the historical growth of the Institute and of statistical science in India.

### The Museum

It is housed in Amrapali, the erstwhile residence of Mahalanobis, located on the campus of the Institute at Kolkata. The ground floor, on the eastern side has a permanent exhibition on his life and work through photographic displays, spread over five galleries. There are 921 exhibits through 101 panels and a collection of artifacts related to PCM on display in these galleries. An open lounge called the Chatal, his study room and personal areas of residence, have been preserved for viewing on the first floor. In 2016, a new gallery (Gallery-VI) on the special relationship of Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis and his wife, Nirmal Kumari Mahalanobis, with Rabindranath Tagore was inaugurated on the 1st floor.



Chatal



Gallery VI

### Archives

The archival materials trace the history of the development of statistics in the Indian sub-continent during his lifetime and beyond, with special reference to his outstanding contributions in this area. They include official and personal documents, files, correspondence, scientific and literary papers, photographs, newspaper cuttings, diaries, and manuscripts related to Mahalanobis and Nirmal Kumari. Audio-visual materials like sound recordings and film footage, negatives and slides, also form a part of this collection. There are roughly 3 lakh documents, of which around 1.9 lakh have been treated. Digitization of the documents commenced in 2007. Till date around 25,000 documents have been digitized and metadata of approximately 20,000 documents have been saved on a customized server, while around 2000 documents have been uploaded to the D-space server.



## PCM Museum and Archives Collections

| Name of Collection                           | Brief Overview of Collection |
|--|------------------------------|
| <b>Files (Documents)</b>                     | 3,00,000 documents           |
| <b>Books</b>                                 | 550 approx                   |
| <b>Audio-video[Spool, Record, Cassettes]</b> | 93 nos, 89 nos, 101 nos      |
| <b>Photographs</b>                           | 4000 approx                  |
| <b>Negatives</b>                             | 5000 approx                  |
| <b>Slides</b>                                | 1236 slides approx           |
| <b>Artefacts</b>                             | 1330 approx                  |

## Major Activities

- **Conservation and Documentation** for preservation of the collection to ensure availability to present and future researchers.
- **Reference Services** for researchers and scholars desiring to avail the archival collection for reference purposes
- **Guided tours** for visitors
- **Participation in events and organization of activities related to PCM and the History of Statistics**

## Activities during 2019-20:

- Curated an exhibition on PCM's Life and Work in a book fair at the Biswa Bangla Convention Centre as part of India International Science Festival, 2019 during November 5-8, 2019
- Assisted MoSPI in organizing an exhibition during November 18-20, 2019 on the History of Statistics and Evolution of Agriculture Statistics, by providing documents from its collection.

## Visitors:

Besides general visitors, eminent persons, scientists and students from schools, colleges, Universities visited the museum (total no. 650 approx.).

Some eminent visitors are like:

- Joachim Frank, Nobel Laureate (23.01.2019)
- Parameswaran Sreekumar, Director, Space Science Programme Office, ISRO (11.11.2019)
- Spencer Pixton, Proquest, USA (19.09.2019)
- Oscar Blasco, Universided de Valencia, Spain (12.12.2019).



Visit of Joachim Frank, Nobel laureate, 23. 01. 2020



Visit of Oscar Blasco, Universided de Valencia, Spain



Dignitaries of Indo French workshop on Statistics and Artificial Intelligence for Data Science visits PCMMM&A, 13.01.2020



Seniors Officers of LBSNAA vists PCMMM&A, 03.06.2019



Visit of Spencer Pixton, 19.09.2019

