

NOTES AND TOPICS

LOSAR

WATER PIG YEAR is over. We begin WOOD MOUSE YEAR with this issue of the **Bulletin**.

The last year was memorable for the Institute: Silver Jubilee Celebrations were inaugurated by Hon'ble Smt. Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, on 29 July 1983. The new programmes announced on that date will be progressed through this year.

The **Bulletin**, in WOOD MOUSE year, will present our achievements through twenty five years. Besides notice of two bi-centenaries will feature in our pages this year.

ALEXANDER CSOMA DE KOROS

Csoma Koros, the pioneer in the field of Tibetan studies, was born in 1784. In this issue we carry three items: The Universal Man; Csoma de Koros - A dedicated life; and Polymath's Travelling Baggage. In the two succeeding issues articles on ancient cultural contacts between the Damodar (Eastern India) and the Daunbe (Central Europe) will be published.

TURNER'S REPORT

An excerpt from Captain Samuel Turner's Report dated Patna 2nd March 1784 is presented in this issue with necessary notes. More on trade with Tibet and other Inner Asian countries will feature later. In this connection Tibetan literature on Geography of India will be a special article in the next issue.

THROUGH TWENTY FIVE YEARS

Our publications during the years 1958-83 are summed up in a feature in this issue. The two succeeding issues will describe (i) the priceless icons received as free gifts from different sources and (ii) the rare and prized literary treasures, manuscripts and xylographs collected during these twenty five years.

THE MESSAGE OF BUDDHA

We open the LOSAR issue with "The Mesasge of Buddha". We have taken the liberty of transcribing the Prime Minister's Inaugural Address (29 July 1983) under this caption. We conclude with respectful greetings and grateful regards to Hon'ble Smt. Indira Gandhi for the extremely good words she spoke about our work in this Inaugural Address and while going round our collections of icons and literary treasures.

—JKR : NCS