

# Bhasha Annual Report 1996 – 97

The Bhasha Centre is a newly established institution, its main purpose is to document, conserve and promote languages, literature and the Arts of tribal communities in India. Several eminent personalities are associated with the centre as Trustees. These include, Shri Bhupen Khakhar, Prof. Jyoti Bhatt, Smt. Nisha Grover and Dr. Ravikant Joshi. The Chairman & the Managing Trustee is Prof. G. N. Devy, who works in the Centre on a full-time honorary basis. The Centre has its own office premises and office equipment as also the equipment necessary for documentation. The Centre is about to start the work of setting up a campus for training & Research activities related to tribal culture in Tejgadh, a tribal village at 90 kms distance from Baroda. During the 1996-97 year, the Bhasha centre organised the following activities:

- 1) Two Workshops involving tribal artists, folklorists, linguists and other scholars,
- 2) Two Seminars on Tribal Culture and Literature involving scholars from a variety of fields,
- 3) A Verrier Elwin Memorial Lecture Series was instituted;  
The First Elwin Lecture was delivered by Prof. K.G. Subramaniam.
- 4) A directory of scholars and institutions involved in research and field work all over India was prepared.

## Major Activities Planned for 1997-98

- 1) Further Development of the Tejgadh Campus
- 2) Establishing a Computer Education Programme for Tribal students in Chhotaudepur area.
- 3) Launching of Dhol, an Oral Magazine in Six Tribal Languages, with six issues in every language.

Dr. G. N. Devy  
Managing Trustee