

19.08.2025

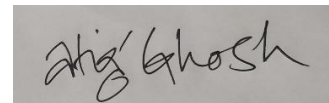
**PRESS STATEMENT CONCERNING THE FISH SCULPTURE BY SHRI RAMKINKAR BAIJ**

Regarding the misleading news article/s that have been published about the Fish Sculpture by Shri Ramkinkar Baij next to the Pampa Lake within the Uttarayan Complex, Visva-Bharati, accusing Visva-Bharati of having defaced a heritage sculpture, the Superintending Archaeologist, Archaeological Survey of India, Government of India, has confirmed in a letter to the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Visva-Bharati, that: "With reference to ... the colour of Fish Sculpture made by Shri Ramkinkar Baij and placed at Pampa Lake of Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, I have the honour to inform you that before conservation work the Fish Sculpture was covered by moss and lichen. During examination at the time of conservation stain of bluish colour was detected. Accordingly, after conservation the same bluish colour matching to the original has been applied. So, the sculpture is giving fresh look after restoration."

Further, the Superintending Archaeologist, Archaeological Survey of India, Government of India, urged the Visva-Bharati authority thus: "It is therefore, submitted for your kind perusal with the request to please take up the matter with Editor of Newspaper and the agencies concerned in any kind of controversy."

In this connection, it should be mentioned that Visva-Bharati is in possession of the detailed restoration and conservation report (complete with photo-documentation) of the Archaeological Survey of India, Government of India, pertaining to the Fish Sculpture in question.

We would, therefore, humbly request the community at large—including our friends in the legacy media—not to give unexamined credence to wildly speculative and possibly prejudicial hearsay.



In-Charge, Public Relations  
Visva-Bharati