Lok Virsa skills attract UNESCO DG

Irina Bokova, UNESCO Director General paid a visit to Lok Virsa National Institute of Folk & Traditional Heritage (Lok Virsa) here at Shakarparian Friday.

On arrival, she was warmly received by Dr. Nazir Saeed, Secretary Ministry of Information, Broadcasting and National Heritage, Mashood Ahmed Mirza, Joint Secretary (Heritage), Shahera Shahid, Executive Director Lok Virsa, and Amna Imran, Secretary General, Pakistan National Commission for UNESCO. Baleegh ur Rehman, Minister of State for Education, Trainings & Standards in Higher Education was also present on the occasion.

A special cultural show was also arranged on the occasion.

A number of diplomats, high-ranking officials and personalities related to culture and media also attended the function.

Later, the DG UNESCO was taken around various three dimensional cultural displays in the Pakistan National Museum of Ethnology, popularly known as Heritage Museum, depicting the living cultural traditions and lifestyles of the people of Pakistan not only from the mainstream but also from remotest regions of Pakistan.

She was very much impressed with the cultural dioramas in the Heritage Museum displayed in the authentic and artistic way.

She took keen interest in the display of "Truck Art" which is a colourful, dazzling, artwork on vehicles and other means of transportation, which is found in abundance in Pakistan. Decorations are not done only on trucks and buses but on all kinds of vehicles like tankers, mini-buses, trucks, rickshaws, tongas and even donkey carts moving on the road throughout the country.

Other dioramas which attracted the dignitary a lot were hall of ballads and romances presenting four love stories from four provinces of Pakistan including Heer Ranjha from Punjab, Adam Khan Durkhane from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Dhola Maro from Sindh and Hani Shah Mureed from Balochistan.