

MINUTES OF THE 38<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE HERITAGE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE  
HELD ON THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2014

**A. Project Proposals :**

**Item No. 1 : Add./Alts. in respect of the Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan of President's Estate.**

The above proposal forwarded by NDMC was last considered by the HCC at its meeting held on January 21, 2014 when an expert group was constituted to scrutinize the proposal.

The group scrutinized the proposal at its meetings held on 04.02.2014 and 11.02.2014.

The observations/recommendations of the expert group since conveyed to all concerned for compliance were placed before the HCC. A letter received from Prof. A.G.K. Menon in response was also taken note of. During discussions the members mentioned that the letter of Prof. Menon was received on March 5, 2014 so they could not get sufficient time to study the same. The issues were deliberated upon and the members were requested to study the observations /recommendations of the expert group and also the letter received from Prof. Menon so that matter could be discussed at next meeting of the HCC.

**Item No. 2 : Plans in respect of proposed Museum (at existing garage) in schedule 'B', President Estate.**

The proposal forming part the overall scheme of President's Estate forwarded by the NDMC was considered by the HCC at its meeting held on January 21, 2014. It was found acceptable and approved with certain observations including the incorporation of the points emerging during the scrutiny of CCMP, if any.

The observations included :

- i) The concept write up of the Museum need to be submitted.*
- ii) The architectural expressions of the building proposed should respect the architectural controls as per the Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan (CCMP).*

- iii) *There should be a post audit mechanism to ensure that the proposal has been implemented as per the approval.*
- iv) *Certain reservations were expressed with regard to the housing existing/proposed next to the museum for which it was suggested that possibility of having compatible use may be explored.*

The revised proposal received vide letter no. SA(NDR)I/301/348-352 dated 20.02.2014 from Chief Architect (NDR) CPWD was considered and also discussed with the Senior Architect (HQ) CPWD. The HCC decided to release the approval of proposal to NDMC with the conditions that the relevant final recommendations/observations on CCMP would be incorporated by the proponents in the above proposal. The compliance to be ensured by the NDMC.

**Item No. 3 : Plans in respect of Garages & stores in Schedule 'A', President's Estate.**

The proposal forming part the overall scheme of President Estate forwarded by the NDMC was considered by the HCC at its meeting held on January 21, 2014. It was found acceptable and approved with certain observations including the incorporation of the points emerging during the scrutiny of CCMP, if any.

The observations included :

- i) *The provisions of ETP need to be made in the scheme.*
- ii) *The architectural expressions of the building proposed should respect the architectural controls as per the Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan (CCMP).*

The revised proposal received vide letter no. SA(NDR)I/301/116-119 dated 27.01.2014 from Chief Architect (NDR) CPWD was considered and also discussed with the Senior Architect (HQ) CPWD. The HCC decided to release the approval of proposal to NDMC with the conditions that the relevant final recommendations/observations on CCMP would be incorporated by the proponents in the above proposal. The compliance to be ensured by the NDMC.

**Item No. 4 : Plans in respect of commercial building at plot no.86, Khasra No.175/110, Daryaganj.**

The proposal forwarded by the SDMC was found acceptable and approved.

**Item No. 5: Installation of monumental flagpole at Central Pole Rajiv Chowk, Connaught Place.**

In view of the telephonic request received from the proponents, the consideration of proposal was postponed.

**Item No. 6: Plans in respect of Renovation and repair work in premises no. M-115, 2nd floor, Connaught Circus.**

The proposal forwarded by the NDMC was scrutinized and discussed with architect. It was found that the drawings and model do not tally with each other. The architect was advised to correct the submission. Further consideration of the proposal was accordingly deferred.

**Item No. 7: Placing issues raised by ASI for consideration of HCC - Letter received from Delhi Division, Ministry of Urban Development**

The matter relates to letter, dated 31.03.2014 received from Ministry of Urban Development (Delhi Division) for placing following issues raised by the ASI in the meeting of the Heritage Conservation Committee (HCC) :

- 1) *Relocation of MCD waste yards (Dhalaw) located near Centrally Protected Monument.*
- 2) *Lowering down of roads near Centrally Protected Monuments (Example Delhi Gate, Ajmeri Gate, Tripolia Gateways etc.)*
- 3) *Shifting of electric and other installations from surrounding of Centrally Protected Monuments.*
- 4) *Action on complaint lodged and notices issued by Archaeological Survey of India against unauthorized constructions.*

2. The Ministry of Urban Development vide aforesaid letter have also enclosed minutes of meeting chaired by Hon'ble Minister of Culture on 29.07.2013. Para 3 of the minutes stipulates that HCC may be entrusted with protection of monuments not coming under the purview of the Central or State Govt.

The other action points relating to the HCC pertain to the para 10 of the minutes, which stipulates :

*"The Committee under AS(UD) may be activated....."*

*"The Committee under AS(UD) can look into issues of policy nature requiring inter-Ministerial and inter-Government coordination and resolution".*

3. The matter was deliberated upon and also discussed with the representatives of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), National Monument Authority (NMA) and the Chief Town Planner SDMC.

The HCC observed that the 1<sup>st</sup> issue pertain to Centrally Protected Monuments which fall within the purview of ASI and concerned enforcement agencies. It is felt that HCC would not be directly concerned with the aforesaid issues in terms of provisions of rule 23 of the Delhi Building Bye Laws, 1983.

The other issue relates to the protection of monuments not coming under the preview of Central or State Govt. in Delhi.

4. The HCC observed that to start with the ASI may make available requisite basic ground information with drawings, documents etc. in respect of 2-3 important areas for which the Design Cell of HCC could help ASI to develop the proposals as desired by the Ministry of Culture.

5. During the meeting Chief Town Planner SDMC raised an issue that they had invited comments on Special Area Redevelopment Plan from ASI but no substantial opinion or comments were received. The representative of ASI was requested to look into the matter and respond to SDMC in terms of related aspects of Monuments/Heritage buildings in Special area development plan.

**B. Other matters :**

**Item No 1 : Compilation on Heritage of Delhi.**

The HCC was apprised of, the creation of the Design Cell as per its decision of November 12, 2013. The Design Cell has started functioning. The members were requested to suggest the terms of reference in respect of the work to be done by the Design Cell on the subject.

**Item No 2 : Composition of HCC - Co-opted new members of HCC.**

Because of paucity of time, consideration of the matter was postponed.

**C. Letters :**

**Item No 1 : Unauthorised Constructions - Letter received from the President, Bengali Club, Kashmere Gate.**

A copy of letter dated 17.01.2014 received from M/s Bengali Club was placed before the HCC.

The matter was last considered at HCC meeting held on November 12, 2013 and the following observations were made :

*".....It was recalled that the matter had been considered earlier by the HCC at its meeting held on May 26, 2011. The HCC had taken note of the facts in the matter wherein the Town Planner, MCD had informed that there was some litigation between the owner and the tenant. Prof. A.G.K. Menon, Convener, Delhi Chapter, INTACH (that time Member HCC) had informed that the work was assigned to INTACH and that the proposal would be submitted to HCC through MCD in due course of time.*

*While no such proposal for conservation/preservation had been received, it has been reported that large scale constructions are going on at site. The matter was discussed with the Chief Town Planner of Municipal Corporation who was present in the meeting. The HCC directed that Municipal Corporation should get the construction stopped immediately and issue show cause notice for reply within 48 hours and submit a detail report in the matter to the HCC urgently."*

2. The matter was discussed. Chief Town Planner, Municipal Corporation who was present in the meeting stated that because of the court case in the matter they are unable to move in the matter. HCC reiterated its earlier observations in the matter that protection of Heritage structure should be ensured by the Municipal Corporation.

**Sd/-  
(Vinod Kumar)  
Member-Secretary  
Heritage Conservation Committee**