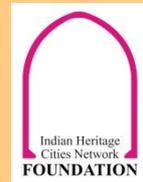




Newsletter of Indian Heritage Cities Network Foundation (IHCNF)



In – Heritance

For the Future of Our Cities

VOL.2 ISSUE NO.3 MARCH 2017

From IHCNF Desk in Bangalore

We wish to thank our readers for the continuing support to IHCNF's monthly newsletter which helps us keep you informed about our organizations activities on a regular basis.

Earlier this month, on 2nd March 2017, Dr M Ramachandran, Chairman IHCNF met the Hon'ble Union Minister for Urban Development Minister Shri M Venkaiah Naidu and presented to him the IHCNF publication on proceedings of the Heritage Cities Conference on 'Sacred Geography of Spiritual Cities' held on 6th and 7th October 2016 at New Delhi. Furthermore, the Ministry sought IHCNF's views on the proposed merger of HRIDAY and PRASADA schemes and improvements needed in administering the scheme.

We are pleased to inform our readers that Shri Rohit Jigyasu, a prominent Conservation Architect and International Risk Management Expert joined the Board of Trustees of IHCNF this month. It is a matter of great honor & privilege to have him on IHCNF's board. We welcome him and look forward to a fruitful and long lasting association.

In this month's newsletter, we have included a feature article on IHCNF's study on 'Skill Need Analysis for Built Heritage in Karnataka' which addresses the core need of developing skills in the built heritage sector in Karnataka. Furthermore, we continue our focus on the implementation of the Government of India HRIDAY scheme in the city of Amaravati in Andhra Pradesh.

We wish our readers an enjoyable read and look forward to your continued feedback.



20th Board of Trustees Meeting of IHCNF, 4th Board of Trustees Meeting of the HCDNS

The 20th Board of Trustees Meeting of IHCNF and the 4th Board of Trustees Meeting of the HCDNS was held on the 24th March 2017 at New Delhi. The meeting was chaired by Shri. M. Ramachandran, Chairman IHCNF, and attended by Shri. Subir Hari Singh, Vice Chairman IHCNF, Smt. Rathi Vinay Jha, Dr. Kulwant Singh, Shri. K. T. Ravindran, Shri. Chetan Vaidya, Shri. Anil Thakur, Proj Ajay Khare and Dr. Rohit Jigyasu.

Various ongoing activities of IHCNF were discussed in detail at the Board meeting. The proposed MoUs with the Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU), and All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIIILSG) was taken up for discussion. Decision was taken by the Board to hold the 5th IHCNF Biennial Conference in Bhubaneswar, Orissa for which Chairperson IHCNF and ED IHCNF would be visiting Orissa to finalize the arrangements with Government of Orissa and Infosys for conduct of the Biennial conference at the Infosys campus facility at Bhubaneswar.

Inside this Issue:

Feature Article

Pg 2

A short article on IHCNF's research study on "Skill Need Analysis for Built Heritage in Karnataka"

Activity Report

Pg 3

Activities under HRIDAY Scheme: Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh

News and Information

Pg 4

- **IHCNF Missions in March 2017**
New Delhi Mission
- **Meetings**
Meetings attended by IHCNF Secretariat staff in New Delhi and Bangalore, Karnataka
- **Upcoming Events**
Sur Ganga- An event being organized in Varanasi in April-May under the aegis of UNESCO Creative Cities Network.

Feature Article

Skill Needs of the Built Heritage Sector in Karnataka



Indian Heritage Cities Network Foundation carried out a state-wide survey to identify, quantify, and analyze the traditional building craft labor market by occupation in Karnataka. The purpose was to identify the resources available within Karnataka in terms of skill, craftsmen, material and tools for built heritage conservation in the state including the current gaps, the need, and the demand for traditional and specialized skill. This exercise helped to establish the regional variations in skill shortages, quantify demand, supply, and training requirements in the built heritage sector for taking further action.

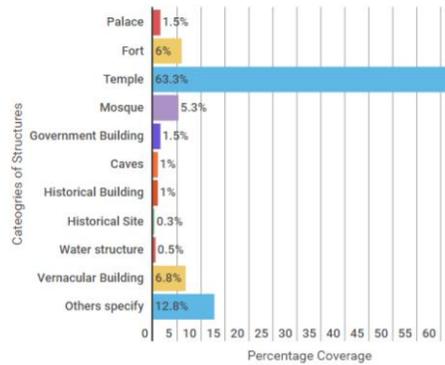
Traditional Skills are rudimentary for conservation of built heritage monuments; followed by material and tools. It was in this backdrop that prompted Indian Heritage Cities Network Foundation (IHCN-F) to embark upon "Skill Need Analysis for Built Heritage in Karnataka". This research activity made a nuanced attempt to understand the core need of developing skills in the built heritage sector and the gaps. The other focus was to explore essential material requirements. This ambitious research was initially contextualized to Karnataka as the State has a significant number i.e. 1360



Expert committee meeting held in Bangalore

protected monuments under the ASI and State Department of Archaeology Museum and Heritage in Karnataka. There are few thousands more that are unprotected or abandoned and that have not been put under any inventory, which poses challenges and opportunities for conserving monuments. The social component that persuaded for the research was to revive dying traditional building craftsmanship in Karnataka. This would support in conservation and also adapting modernity that would imbibe the traditional flavour to contemporary structures. The advantages of this are numerous that are both tangible and intangible. The tangible ones are improving the built heritage monument and the intangible ones are reviving traditional crafts, livelihood, tourism, culture and art. The process that was followed for the study was

based on a chronology of activities that would help in replicating it in a different geographic context. The architectural styles from different historical periods and influential dynasties in Karnataka were first considered with respect to built heritage monuments in conjunction to the predominant typology of structures of that period. Temple was found to be the most prominent structures from different periods.



Typology of Built Heritage covered in Karnataka

As part of this study architects, conservation architects, policy people and intelligentsia were interviewed. This contributed to the research immensely backed by their knowledge in this field. This has added relevant and factual knowledge to the findings. The other important source of information is the monument itself for an unadulterated approach to capture the information through observation. For example, one of the major findings of the study on a broader perspective was that conservation effort for the superstructure is high followed by the roof structure. The demand for attending to the super structure arise as it comprises of the flooring and side walls, yet these are not given much priority when compared to the roof the moment some water leaks are observed, and they get attention and are attended to.

The skill need for the conservation across different stakeholders were skilled mason-varying to highly skilled to super skilled mason based on their specialized vocation followed by stone mason and laying mason and the predominantly material need was stone, wood, lime mortar.

On the tools aspects awareness of basic tools were reported despite their lack of awareness of tradition tools. The masons have no qualms about availability of tools on the occasion of the need as they could locally manufacture it, which only reflects the prevalent Jugad spirit.

One of the most powerful response from respondents for "bringing back the traditional craftsmen", was they should abstain from practicing any mechanized works. The other responses were for special skills are to be well researched and documented for future use. It was suggested that the passion for the craft should be induced indirectly by opening avenues for regular employment. There was a felt need for traditional crafts to be appreciated, valued and adapted in the contemporary building and to be aesthetically displayed. That craftsmen work should be regularly featured and exhibited for public viewing.

Regarding training for developing skills in the built heritage sector, it was felt that it should adopt a workshop module imbibing traditional methods of training which are imparted by craftsman of experience, seasoned traditional craftsmen or seniors. Moreover older, abandoned and unprotected structures should be a laboratory for all the training on site for being more practically effective. This psychologically would also trigger their passion for traditional skills. About training components, creativity, ability to learn, ability to work in a team, communication skills topped the skill need requirements of the craftsmen.

ACTIVITIES UNDER HRIDAY SCHEME

AMARAVATI



Amaravati is a Gram panchayat located in Guntur district in India's south eastern state of Andhra Pradesh. It is a historic town with great spiritual touristic significance. It was one of the first capital cities of Southern India in ancient times. Its temples, Buddhist stupas, ancient art, Amaravati School and historic houses are yet to be adequately researched, documented, conserved and promoted. Amaravati, a centre of pilgrimage to both Hindus and Buddhists, attracts many visitors throughout the year. The city is also known as Punyakshetra or Amareswaram.

The recorded history of Amaravati and nearby Dharanikota is from 2nd century BCE. It was the capital of Andhra Satavahanas who ruled from 2nd century BCE to 3rd century CE. After the decline of Satavahanas, Andhra Ikshvakus and later Pallava kings ruled Krishna river valley. Subsequently, Eastern Chalukyas and Telugu Cholas held sway over the region. Kota Kings were in control of Amaravati during the medieval times. Kota kings were subdued by Kakatiyas in 11th century CE and Amaravati became part of the unified Telugu empire. Amaravati is considered sacred because of three aspects namely the Krishna River; 'Sthalamahatyam', an important 'Kshetra'; and the 'Sri Mahalinga Murthy'. In addition, according to Vajrayana traditional sources, the Buddha preached at Dharanikota/Dhanyakatakam and conducted Kalachakra ceremony, which would take the antiquity of Amaravati back to 500 BCE., Mahachaitya (The Great Stupa, built around the 2nd century, with intricate carvings that depict the life and teachings of Lord Buddha), and Buddhist sculptures and slabs with Buddhist inscriptions. The city's built heritage includes the famous Amareswara temple (dedicated to lord Shiva, present in the form of a 15 ft. high white marble Shiva lingam).

The major festivals celebrated in the Amareswara temple are the Maha Shivaratri, falling on the 'Magha Bahula Dasami', the Navaratri and the 'Kalyana Utsavas'.



Projects Update

4 projects have been proposed under the HRIDAY Scheme for Amaravati out of which three projects are being implemented. The projects are:

1. Heritage Park in front of Dhyana Buddha Statue

The Dhyana Buddha being one of the prime attractions of Amaravati, the site was considered as one of the heritage assets for development under HRIDAY scheme. A proposal for developing a Heritage Park was one of the identified projects. The land parcels available in front of this property has been conceived to be developed as a complimentary activity for the huge Buddha Statue. The concept plan proposes Tourist Information Kiosk, completion of partially constructed tourist amenity centre, landscaping and plantation, Lighting & illumination with Solar Panels, Drinking Water Taps with RO plant, Public Convenience, Eating Outlet/Cafeteria, Parking Area, Locker / Cloak Room, Shoe Stand, Dustbins etc.



2. Up-gradation of Approach Roads to Heritage Sites

To enhance the mobility within Amaravati town few roads has been identified which will be strengthened by suitable black top creation and road widening. Some major roads of the town have been identified for streetscaping which aims to enhance the heritage experience of the place. Also some of the missing road links are expected to be completed (Road between Bus stand to Vijayawada Road)



Map showing images of stretches under Project 1

The Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India, launched the National Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana (HRIDAY) scheme on 21st January, 2015, with a focus on holistic development of 12 heritage cities. AMARAVATI in Andhra Pradesh is one of the cities where the HRIDAY scheme is currently under implementation. In 2015, MOUD selected ICLEI-South East Asia as the City Anchor for Amaravati in association with IHCNF.

3. Heritage walk-way in Amaravati town (2.5 Kms)

The Heritage walkway focuses on developing a heritage walk connecting the Heritage sites along with Restoration and Infra development. The primary focus would be to create enabling infrastructure interconnecting major heritage sites. Proposed interventions include – Façade restoration of heritage buildings along the walk, Directional Signage, covering of open drains, street lighting inspired by local architecture, seating benches, beautification of walkway with heritage sensitive designs.

4. Parking area at Kalachakra Museum & Interpretation Centre

Kalachakra Museum and interpretation Centre is one of the important historic building in Amaravati. The museum was inaugurated by Dalai Lama when he visited the Amaravati Gram Panchayat to perform Kalachakra event in 2006.



The museum houses all the replicas of sculptures wall mounted in fibre glass panels of which few are original remains of Buddhist sculptures. The lack of parking facility at this place has a high impact on the tourism potential of this monument. Thus, the development of parking area is one of the projects to be taken up under the HRIDAY scheme.

The identification of projects has been done in a manner that it focuses on augmentation of urban infrastructure in-and-around the assets. Projects which have significant impact in preserving the heritage, promoting tourism and creating an identity of the assets/Amaravati have been prioritized.

NEWS AND INFORMATION



IHCNF MISSIONS

Mission to Delhi: Director (Projects) IHCNF attended the review meeting of the HRIDAY Scheme at New Delhi on 16th March 2017. The meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (W&H), Government of India and Mission Director (HRIDAY), Ministry of Urban Development to discuss the progress of HRIDAY scheme at HRIDAY cities and to take suggestions for the proposed revision to the HRIDAY guideline.

On 23rd March 2017, the Executive Director and Director (Projects) IHCNF visited the Office of All India Institute of Local Self Government at Janakpuri, New Delhi and for a meeting with the Shri Ravi Ranjan Guru, Sr. Executive Director AIILSG and Shri V. P. Mehendale, Head of Heritage Conservation and Engineering Services, AIILSG. The MOU between IHCNF and AIILSG was discussed for finalization along with nature of collaborative activities to be taken up in future. The activities discussed included jointly undertaking training and capacity Building for ULB's and developing heritage aspects in Smart Cities projects being implemented by AIILSG.

MEETINGS

ED IHCNF visited Bagalkot on 6th March 2017 to attend the CLAMC meeting held under HRIDAY scheme at Badami. IHCNF made a presentation on 3D Projection and Light and sound project proposed in Badami.

After detailed discussions 'Site 1' which is nearest to the Badami caves was selected. CLAMC approved the DPR with a condition that 5 years O&M should be part and parcel of the tender document. The 3D Projection Light and Sound is expected to be submitted to Govt. of India through Government of

Karnataka. Other matters discussed during the meeting included the Parking Plaza proposed in Badami under HRIDAY and Evacuation of 94 families from the banks of Agastya Teertha water tank.

ED IHCNF met with Shri M Lakshminarayana, Principal Secretary Public Works Department, Government of Karnataka on 2nd March 2017 to discuss a proposal for listing and documentation of PWD heritage structures in Karnataka.

ED and Director (Projects) IHCNF had a meeting with Shri Baldev Raj, Director, National Institute of Advanced Studies on 8th March 2017. Under the framework of the MOU between IHCNF-NIAS, a decision was taken to hold a workshop in June 2017 at NIAS, Bangalore to present IHCNF's work on Bidar Karez. Experts from varied disciplines such as history, linguistics, archeology, material scientists, and landscape would be invited for the workshop for discussions to help address research gaps in the ongoing research and investigations on Bidar Karez studies. NIAS to help identify and invite the experts from its pool of experts and research scholars for this workshop

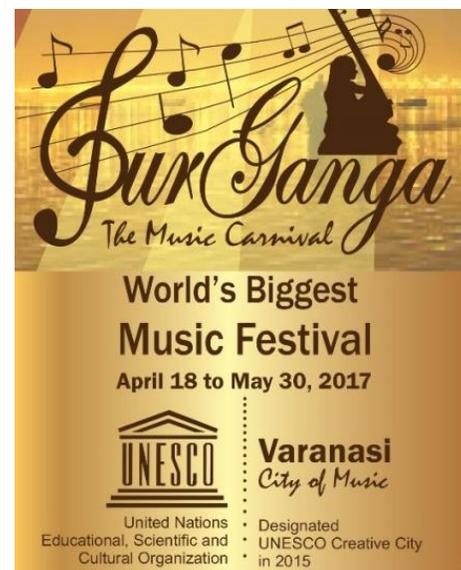
ED and IHCNF Bangalore team attended a meeting chaired by Minister Tourism, and Minister Municipal Administration, Government of Karnataka at the Tourism Secretariat, Vidhan Souda on 20.03.2017. IHCNF gave a presentation on its past and present projects in Bidar, Karnataka. It was informed that approval for the preparation of the DPR for the Bijapur/Vijayapura Historic Water network rehabilitation and revival project has been accorded.

ED IHCNF and the Bangalore IHCNF team attended a meeting chaired by Director Tourism on 22nd March 2017 to discuss about the development of 16 tourism destinations in Karnataka.

IHCNF was asked to indicating the broad outline of projects and scope of work including preparation of Master Plan that can be taken up under destination development for Bidar, Gulbarga, Malkhed, Sannati, Vijayapura, Badami-Aihole and Pattadakal, Magadi and Srirangapatna, Chandanpura and Mysore.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sur Ganga – A Music Carnival is being organized by Pahal Society in Varanasi with support from Varanasi Municipal Corporation in late April – May 2017 under the aegis of UNESCO Creative Cities Network. Varanasi is one of the first two cities from India that have become members of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) in 2015. Varanasi was designated as the City of Music under UCCN.



This mega music festival is being organized along a 7-km stretch on the Ganga riverfront in Varanasi to celebrate the inclusion of Varanasi as a UCCN member. It will promote the rich musical legacy of Varanasi and the diversity of Indian music.