



# COMOS

COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES

NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF ICOMOS

**ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021**



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**SECRETARIAT**

Lipika Khanna, Research Intern

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The main well, Rani ki Vav, Gujarat. Photo credits: Sukrit Sen

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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dr Navin Piplani

Dear Members,

I wish to convey my gratitude for your effort, time, engagement, cooperation and patience over the past year. We have seen the phenomenon of time and nature of relationships, closely than ever before. May I request that we remember the contribution of members of the heritage community and our loved ones who have moved on to eternal journeys, and have left behind the footprints of their work, love and passion to guide us into the future.

Amidst the memories of the past, there are a lot of 'new' happenings this year: a new leadership team in the Executive Committee; a new National Scientific Counsellor; a new, and enthusiastic leadership representing the Emerging Professionals Working Group; several new members at International Scientific Committees (ISCs); new members elected to the position of office bearers of ISCs; a newly developed Strategic Plan; a new quarterly newsletter; several new channels for discussion and communication; a new research intern position at Secretariat; and a new ICOMOS India Scientific Council and Steering Committee. This clearly demonstrates a progression of ICOMOS India as an organisation at the administrative, structural and membership levels.

The Covid-19 pandemic brought about a global and unprecedented crisis. Despite personal and professional challenges and losses that members faced, their commitment to the cause of nation's heritage has been unwaivered. A detailed account of activities conducted throughout the year is included in this Annual Report. A significant aspect has been that most of the activities have been collaborative initiatives amongst ISCs, Zones, NSCs and WGs. This has further strengthened the cross-disciplinary and inter-generational dialogue, learning and interaction both internally within the organisation and with external like-minded experts and organisations.

One of the key objectives of ICOMOS and its national committees is the scientific research and dissemination. The rigour and engagement towards scientific advancement continued this year with the hosting of the Annual Scientific Symposium, National Scientific Committees Conclave and a wide range of webinars. All events led to substantial discussion and deliberation, and were attended by participants of equally diverse backgrounds and interests. Many of these events were open to the general public, which helped disseminate the message from ICOMOS India to a large spectrum of audiences. The proceedings of the Annual Scientific Symposium are in an advanced stage of publication. As a result of a stimulating initiative, a vision statement or white paper was developed by the NSCs. This will add to the intellectual capital and scientific resource of ICOMOS India.

On the occasion of the Annual General Meeting to be held online on 25th June 2021, I wish to thank members of the Executive Committee, NSC Counsellor and Coordinators, Working Group focal points, EPWG representatives and the entire ICOMOS India membership for their solid commitment and enviable participation in building up our organisation. A lot has been achieved, and a lot more needs to be done. Stay safe, stay connected!

Dr Navin Piplani  
President, ICOMOS India

# MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY



Ms Shalini Dasgupta

Dear Members,

It gives me great pleasure to co-present along with the President, Mr. Navin Piplani, the Annual Report of ICOMOS India activities for the year 2020-2021. The Annual report presents the variety of efforts taken by members to promote ICOMOS India agenda and fulfil its vision. It puts forth our many accomplishments possible only because of the integrated nature of our organisation which brings all people concerned about Heritage matters together on one platform. It has been our endeavour to keep the members updated with COMOS news and happenings. We have been consistently sharing news and updates to all the members via our new venture - the Quarterly Newsletter. The Annual Report is a collation of all our quarterly efforts.

In today's COVID Pandemic times, Conservation of Heritage faces massive challenges. The far reaching network of ICOMOS India, which spreads through its six zones in all corners of the country, becomes even more relevant. Every member of ICOMOS India is a Heritage Warrior in his town/ city/ zone / state. The membership is the actual strength of ICOMOS India which has been growing with every passing year. It has been our endeavour to empower the membership to undertake activities related to Cultural Heritage in their area of interest through the well established network of various National Scientific Committees. We have been trying to facilitate and enable scientific dialogue among the members of our fraternity so as to contribute towards the larger interest of safeguarding our Country's heritage.

I thank all the existing members of ICOMOS India for their support and welcome the new members to bring fresh ideas and energy within the organisation. We strongly hope together we will be able to help take ICOMOS India to greater heights.

I would like to express thanks to all Executive Committee members who have been tirelessly contributing voluntary time, energy and resources towards a lot of unseen backend regular work to run this organisation.

Lets put our thoughts and energies together to make ICOMOS India's presence felt globally.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Shalini". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined.

Ms Shalini Dasgupta  
Secretary, ICOMOS India





# COMOS IN A WIDER CONTEXT

*Shrines and security posts along Tugabhadra, Hampi, Karnataka. Photo credits: Samhitha Polamuri*

# ABOUT COMOS

Council on Monuments & Sites (COMOS), a non-government organisation, is registered under 'the Societies Registration Act of 1860'. It is acknowledged as the National Committee of International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) in India. The Society provides a platform for multidisciplinary experts to dialogue, develop and advocate for appropriate mechanisms, policies, frameworks relating to India's diverse heritage. It strives to establish good benchmarks of professionalism. This organisation is linked at the regional and international level with complementary ICOMOS committees and presents the Indian viewpoints that are rooted in specificities of our context, whilst gaining from international experiences. The primary aim and objects of the Society are for the benefit of the general public, as outlined below:

- 1 Conservation, Protection, Rehanilitation and Enhancement** of historical monuments, groups of buildings and sites on the national level.
- 2 Forum for Discussion and Exchange** on matters of principle, and of technical, legal and administrative practice, affecting the conservation, restoration, rehabilitation and enhancement of monuments, sites and groups of buildings and historic landscapes.
- 3 Establish National Scientific Committees** to promote research in specific themes related to the conservation, rehabilitation and enhancement of cultural heritage sites and disseminate the research to the general public.
- 4 On World Heritage Matters**, advise the Government on nomination, periodic monitoring, including the conservation and management frameworks for World Heritage Sites.
- 5 Regional Cooperation** within the SAARC territories to promote greater understanding and regional exchange in the heritage field and to guarantee the generational renewal of all heritage professionals in the region.
- 6 Advisory Role** to various Government institutions on policy matters in the field of heritage conservation.
- 7 Awareness and Capacity Building for Young Professionals** to facilitate, through its expert members, capacity building and professional training programmes.
- 8 Organise Seminars, Conferences, Discussions and Exhibitions** at the regional and national level to discuss heritage issues relevant to the Society's mandate.
- 9 Heritage Education** to promote a better understanding of the country's diverse multi-cultural heritage sites among the university and school children through regular awareness workshops and programmes.
- 10 Promote Traditional Building Crafts Skills** to document traditional building crafts skills and knowledge systems as well as promote and preserve such skills through the organization of regular workshops, training programmes.
- 11 Partnership with Community-based Village Bodies and Institutions** at the rural level in developing capacities of community based village bodies and institutions to manage, preserve, rehabilitate and enhance their heritage by providing access to technical expertise and resources. It shall serve to mainstream heritage concerns at the village level with decision making bodies at the district, state and central administration.
- 12 Collaboration with Urban Civic bodies and Administration** at the Urban level, the Society will work with municipalities and urban governance in promoting the preservation, rehabilitation and enhancement of historic centres and monuments by providing technical expertise. It shall work closely with urban civic bodies and administration as well as communities living in and around historic centres on issues of urban heritage conservation.



# STRUCTURE of COMOS



- 79 Individual Members
- 13 Young Professional Members
- 25 Associate Members
- 01 Student Members
- 02 Institutional Members
- 00 Sustaining Member

# Zonal Participation of COMOS Members

- 55 Individual Members
- 28 Young Professional Members
- 23 Associate Members
- 00 Student Members
- 01 Institutional Members
- 00 Sustaining Member

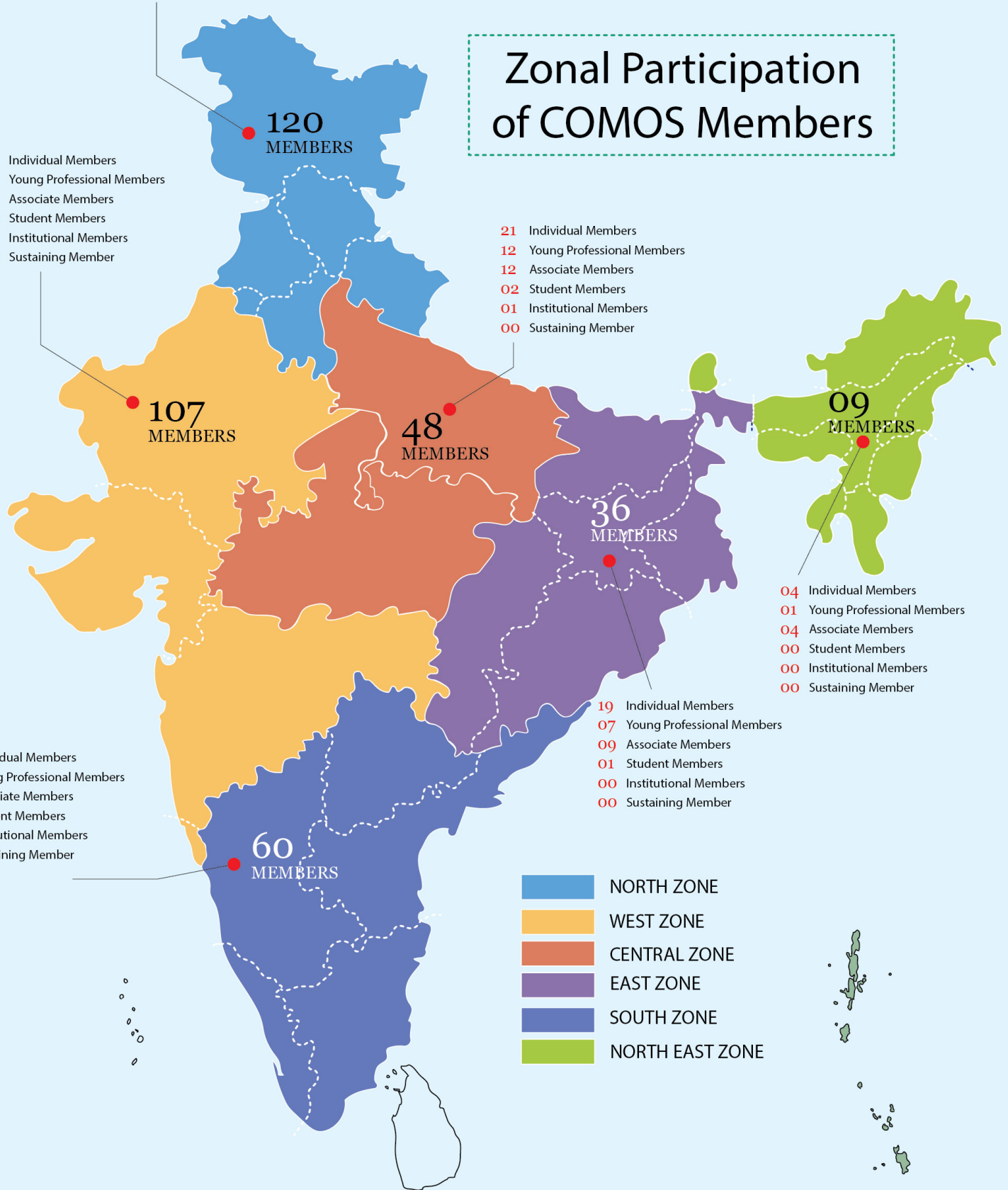
- 21 Individual Members
- 12 Young Professional Members
- 12 Associate Members
- 02 Student Members
- 01 Institutional Members
- 00 Sustaining Member

- 04 Individual Members
- 01 Young Professional Members
- 04 Associate Members
- 00 Student Members
- 00 Institutional Members
- 00 Sustaining Member

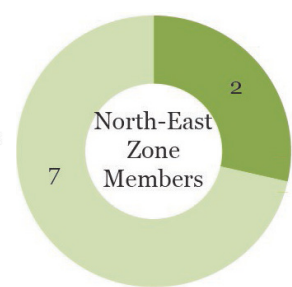
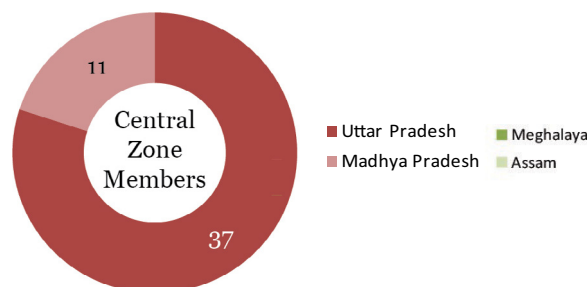
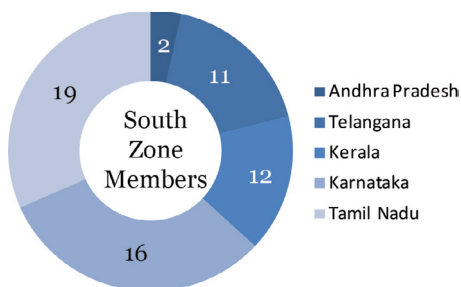
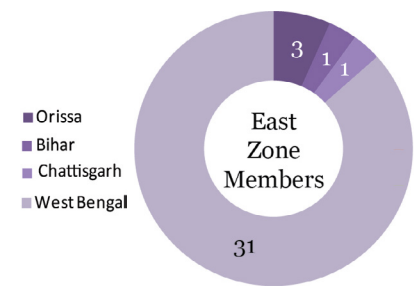
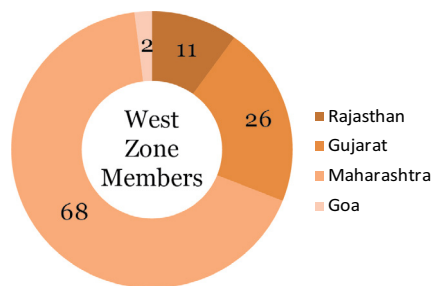
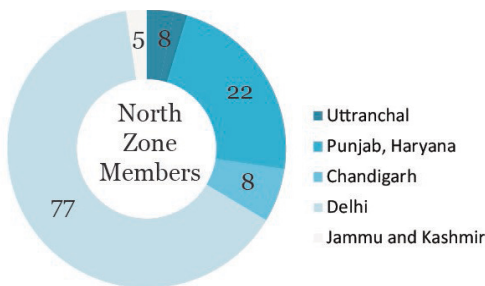
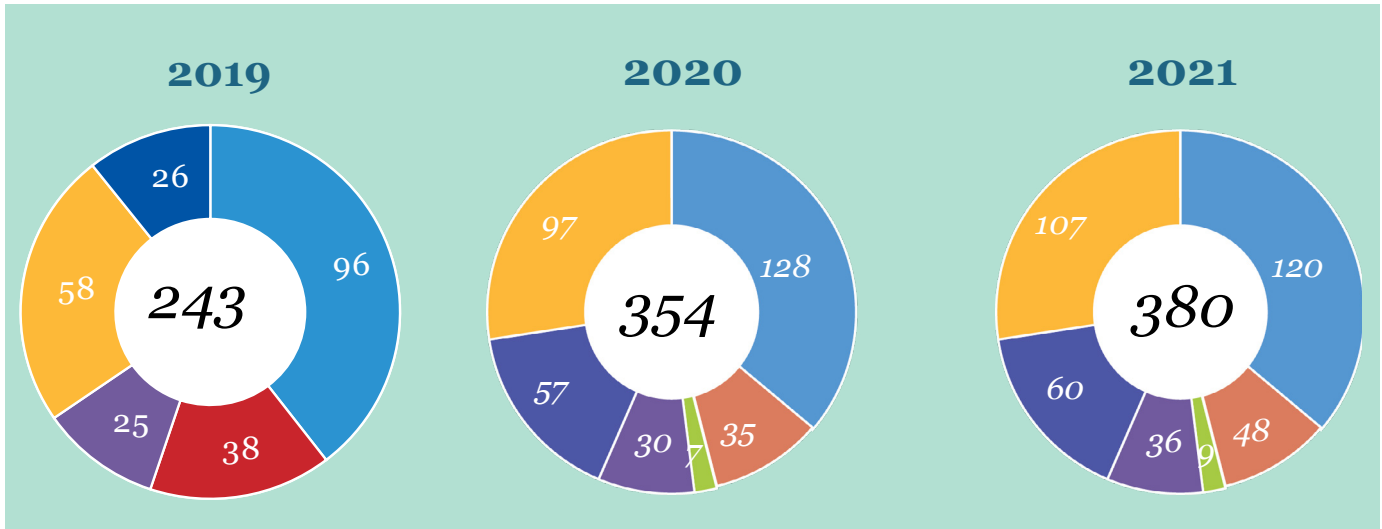
- 30 Individual Members
- 15 Young Professional Members
- 12 Associate Members
- 00 Student Members
- 03 Institutional Members
- 00 Sustaining Member

- 19 Individual Members
- 07 Young Professional Members
- 09 Associate Members
- 01 Student Members
- 00 Institutional Members
- 00 Sustaining Member

- NORTH ZONE
- WEST ZONE
- CENTRAL ZONE
- EAST ZONE
- SOUTH ZONE
- NORTH EAST ZONE



# MEMBERSHIP ANALYSIS



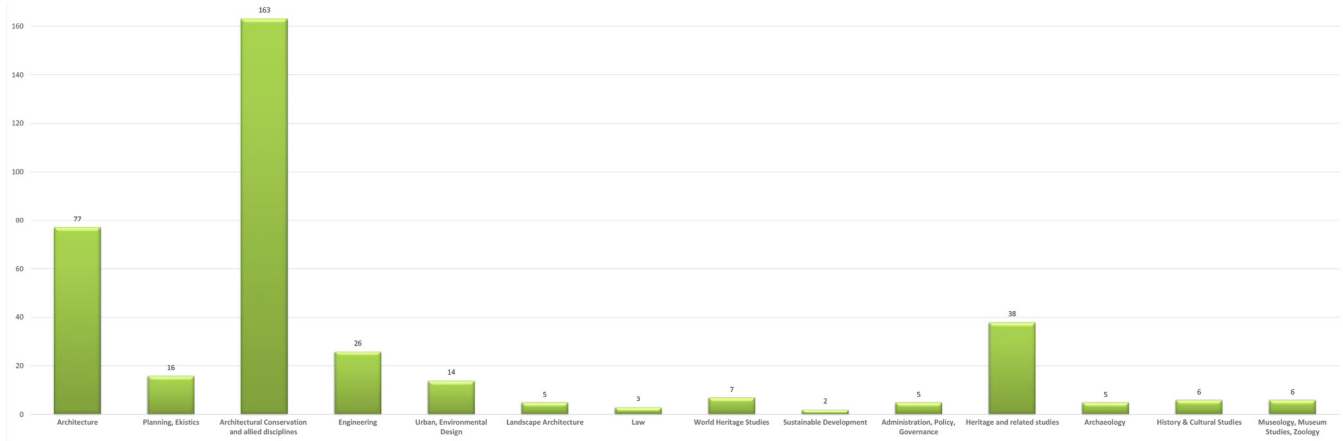
YEAR	TOTAL	IND	YP	ASC	STD	INSTT	SST
2019	243	132	45	56	3	5	1
2020	354	201	69	73	3	8	0
2021	380	208	76	85	4	7	0

\*IND - Individual  
YP - Young Professional

ASC - Associate  
STD - Student

INSTT - Institutional  
SST - Sustaining

### Key Professions among ICOMOS India Members



A barchart showing key professions of ICOMOS India members.

An analysis was conducted in order to illustrate the nature and composition of ICOMOS India membership. This included a detailed study of the educational and professional backgrounds of all members of 2021.

The detailed findings of the analysis can be read with the help of the barchart shown above in conjunction with the tabulated information provided below. Some of the key observations are as follows:

44 percent of the total membership is from architectural conservation background or allied fields. This means that these members have specialised in the field of heritage or architectural conservation after having received their first degree in architecture.

21 percent members are architects, many of whom have expertise in the fields of vernacular settlements, architectural theory, habitat design and so forth.

Furthermore, 10 percent members are working in the field of heritage and have received education in related subjects after graduating from arts, commerce or science backgrounds.

\*This study does not include institutional members, which are 7 in number.

**Thus, the findings do reflect a diverse and multidisciplinary composition of the membership. However, a more balanced representation may be achieved in the future.**

Key Professions	Volume
Architecture	77 (21%)
Planning / Ekistics	06 (04%)
Architectural Conservation	163 (44%)
Engineering	27 (07%)
Urban / Environmental Design	14 (04%)
Landscape Architecture	05 (01%)
Law	03 (01%)
World Heritage Studies	07 (02%)
Sustainable Development	02 (01)
Administration, Business, Policy, Governance	05 (01%)
Heritage and related fields	08 (10%)
Archaeology	05 (01%)
History and Cultural Studies	06 (02%)
Museum Studies / Museology, Zoology	06 (02%)

Table showing key professions of members of ICOMOS India and their concentration within the organisation.



# REPORT FROM THE SECRETARIAT

*Shore Temple, Mahabalipuram. Photo credits: Purvasha Saxena*

# JOIN ICOMOS INDIA BECOME A MEMBER

JOIN ICOMOS INDIA IF YOU FEEL CONCERNED AND WOULD LIKE TO ENGAGE WITH HERITAGE MATTERS BOTH CULTURE AND NATURE. BECOME A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL AND GLOBAL COMMUNITY OF ICOMOS!

Becoming a member makes you part of a *growing family of professionals* such as,

***Historians, Architects, Archaeologists,  
Conservators, Planners, Educators,  
Curators, Interpretation Specialists,  
Anthropologists & Engineers***

and other people with *experience of working in heritage conservation*. Different benefits and requirements apply to the different categories of membership.

In the midst of COVID 19 pandemic, ICOMOS India's first online AGM was successfully conducted on 12th June 2020. The AGM was attended by 142 members including 80 voting members. The first online Executive Committee Election results were announced during the AGM. The new Executive Committee was elected for a term of three years (2020-2023).

Mr Navin Piplani - President  
Ms Reema Hooja - Vice President  
Ms Shalini Dasgupta - Secretary  
Ms Priyanka Singh - Treasurer  
Ms Ananya Bhattacharya - East Zone Representative  
Ms Poonam Trambadia - West Zone Representative  
Ms Smita Makhija - North Zone Representative  
Mr GSV Surya Narayana Murthy - South Zone Representative  
Mr Nishant Upadhyay - Central Zone Representative  
Ms Jigna Desai - Representative CEPT (Institutional member)

The year 2020 started as a very challenging year due to COVID 19 pandemic restrictions. Hence new ways were devised from our previous in person meetings and events to a more online and digital presence. This required that extra effort and fine tuning to our working patterns even at the secretariat. New perspectives with a digital twist were brought into our working with the Zoom Platform becoming an integral part of our work ethics. The year started with World Heritage day celebrations by various Zones and NSC's on 18th April. Due to the Pandemic the Scientific Symposium could not be held along with the AGM as traditionally conducted. The Scientific Symposium was held in collaboration with IIT Chennai through virtual mode on 22nd/23rd May 2020. This was followed by the Executive Committee Elections & the Annual General Meeting on 12th June where the election results were announced. Post the

commencement of the term of the new Executive Committee in June, Institutional Representative, NSC Counsellor, North East Zone Coordinator & Research Intern were appointed. Many 'get to know' meetings were organised between the Ex Com and the Zones / NSC's/ Working Groups. Many Sub-Committees were formulated to undertake specific tasks & agendas namely The Publications Sub-Committee; The Central Vista Sub-Committee; The IIMA Heritage Alert Sub-Committee.

The SGM was organised to approve the Strategic Plan, Annual Budget 2020-21 and certain modifications to the SOPG. EPWG elections were held online and the NSC Conclave was also held through the online mode. Voting members from ICOMOS India participated in the virtual GA and elections for the ICOMOS general assembly, a session of which was chaired by the outgoing vice president- Dr Rohit Jigyasu, the former President of ICOMOS India. It was a proud moment for ICOMOS India when Ms Nupur Prothi Khanna was elected as the ICOMOS Board member.

The first membership cycle was opened in September upto Mid October followed by the second cycle of membership from November to mid December and the Third & Final cycle from Mid January to end March. The membership numbers have been on the rise from 239 in 2018 to 243 in 2019 and 354 in 2020 to 380 in 2021.

ICOMOS India through its various communications channels (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Youtube channel, list served mail etc) provided a platform to concerned heritage professionals, organisations & institutions to voice their concern for heritage. ICOMOS India will continue to expand partnerships through collaboration with institutions and government bodies as per its mandate.



Event poster for Online Scientific Symposium 2020.

## Online Scientific Symposium 2020

The Scientific Symposium 2020 was virtually organised through Zoom platform on 22nd and 23rd May 2020 by Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS India) in collaboration with IIT Chennai with National Centre for Safety of Heritage Structures (NCSHS). The symposium was focused on the key thematic area of “Structural & Material Analysis in Built Heritage Conservation” with an emphasis on science, structure and material aspects of Heritage buildings. The objective was to access tools and methodologies to analyse tangible fabric, identify the key role of analysis within the conservation process and further develop an integrated approach that connects various stakeholders.

The confluence became a platform for 113 registered professionals and researchers from diverse backgrounds to share their experiences of scientific assessment in heritage conservation and to collectively discover an inclusive integrated approach. The paper and poster presentations were done under 5 variegated sub-themes.

1. Technology for Documentation and Condition Mapping.
2. Forensic Analysis of Materials and Structures.
3. Risk Assessment and Mitigation.
4. Traditional Knowledge Systems and Intangible Heritage.
5. Education and Capacity Building.

The Symposium proceedings and papers have been collated as the first e-publication of ICOMOS India.

## Executive Committee Elections 2020

The Secretariat successfully conducted the Elections for the Executive Committee of ICOMOS India. As per clause xxiii of Rule 12 of the Rules & Regulations (Bye-laws) of COMOS, the elections were held for the entire Executive Committee for the new term of

2020 - 2023. Dr Manoj Kumar Kini was appointed as the Election Officer and Shri Manikonda Veda Kumar was appointed as Returning Officer for the elections of the Executive Committee of COMOS. In addition, Mr Nitin Sinha, Vice President ICLAFI, was appointed as an Observer for the said Elections. The polling was conducted online via e-voting procedure for the first time for ICOMOS India with an overwhelming response. Of the total 137 voting members, 130 members voted (95%). The following was the schedule of elections followed:

20 Mar 2020	Announcement of Executive Committee Elections
	Appointment of Election officer and Returning Officer
	Circulation of Notice for Election and Election Schedule
21 Mar 2020	Display of Voter List (via email and on website)
	Issue of Nomination Form (via email and on website)
22 Mar - 10 Apr 2020	Receipt of Candidate Nominations
22 Mar - 13 Apr 2020	Review of Nomination Forms and preparation of First list of Candidates
14 Apr 2020	Announcement of List of Nominations Filed (via email and on website)
15 Apr - 21 Apr 2020	Review of list and Filing of appeals or objections if any
22 Apr - 28 Apr 2020	Disposal of appeals/objections, if any
29 Apr 2020	Last Date for Withdrawal of nomination by Candidates
30 Apr 2020	Announcement of Final List of Candidates for various posts (via email/website)
	Returning officer to notify procedure for e-voting (via email/website)
03 May 2020	e-voting starts 10.00 AM onwards
19 May 2020	e-voting ends 06.00 PM
21 May 2020	Counting of Votes by Returning Officer & Election Officer in presence of Observer at the AGM & Announcement of Result

The posts for the Secretary, Treasurer, and the Zonal Representatives remained uncontested with only one nomination for each post. Contested Elections were held for the post of President & Vice President; between Ms Gurmeet Rai and Mr Navin Piplani for the post of President; and between Ms Rima Hooja and Mr R C Agarwal for the post of Vice President. Counting of the votes was done at the AGM by the Returning Officer and Election Officer in presence of the observer. The results were declared and the above mentioned Executive Committee was appointed.

### Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The 7th Annual General Meeting of ICOMOS India was the first online AGM, organised through the Zoom platform on 12th June, 2020. As per the RR 10 of the Memorandum of Association of the Society, the quorum for the meeting, i.e., 25% of the total members and 55% of the voting members must be present at the start of the meeting. The Society had a total 354 members. Accordingly 89 members (25%) in total and 76 voting members, i.e., 55% of the total 137 voting members, must be present. The Secretary ascertained the attendance. A total 142 members, including 80 voting members were present. Since both the conditions of attendance had been met, she declared the quorum to be present and, thus, the meeting validly constituted to proceed to discuss the agenda for the day.

The President of the society, Prof Kiran Joshi was appointed the chair to preside over the Annual General Meeting. The agenda items transacted included the approval of minutes of the last Annual General Meeting (2019), presentation of the Annual Report (2020-2021), presentation of the Expenditure and the Audited accounts (2019-2020), presentation of the Budget for 2020-2021, appointment of the Chartered Accountant and Auditor (2020-2021), presentation of Strategic Plan, up-dates from Zonal Representatives, Updates from NSC Counsellor on NSC activities and SOPG amendments, Updates from Working Groups followed by the announcement of Election Results. The Annual Report can be accessed at <https://www.icomosindia.com/library/annual-report-2019-2020.html>

### Nomination of Institutional Member as Ex-Com Member

As per the RR 12.xviii in the MoA, the seat for Institutional member in the Executive Committee



Banner for digital communication of AGM 2020.

shall be held by rotation among various institutional members based on a draw of lots. The draw of lot was conducted by the President from among the voting institutional members – CEPT University, Aga Khan Trust for Culture and Sushant School of Art and Architecture. The CEPT University won the draw. CEPT University nomination was unanimously agreed by the Ex-Com members. Dr Jigna Desai was nominated as the CEPT (Institutional Member) representative on the Executive Committee.

### Appointment of new NSC Counsellor

The term of the NSC Counsellor, Dr Jigna Desai, concluded on 31 July 2020. The NSC Counsellor is a post nominated by the Executive Committee of COMOS for a period of two years. The Call for Candidature for NSC Counsellor with modalities of engagement, Scope of Work and Qualifications was circulated on the listserv and the website for all members of ICOMOS India to respond. Ex Com received two applications in response - Dr Venugopal and Prof Dr Arun Menon. The Ex Com evaluated the two applications and unanimously agreed to nominate Prof Dr Arun Menon. He took charge from 1st of September, 2020.

### North East Zone Representative

The members expressed the need to appoint a Zonal Representative from the newly formed North East Zone. It was agreed that the East Zone



Representative, Ms Ananya Bhattacharya would coordinate among the 7 members of North East Zone to arrive at a consensus member representative, who shall coordinate activities in the region and become a part of the Executive Committee once they complete the minimum 2 year term. Mr Shankar Krishna Das was unanimously accepted as the NE Zone Coordinator by the members of the Zone.

## Membership Process 2021

The yearly membership of ICOMOS India opens from September upto February/ March before the financial year ends in March. The old members renew their membership during this period by paying the annual membership fee as per the RR of MoA. Forms are available for new memberships for General category (Individual, Young Professionals, Associate and Student), Institutional category and Sustaining category. As per the MoA, an applicant is supposed to attach a copy of Address proof, ID Proof, statement of Intent, ethical statement to be signed by the member uploaded on the form, updated Curriculum vitae and a passport size photograph along with basic information required for communication with the members once registered.

The new membership forms are vetted by the Executive Committee and as per their age, education and experience, they are assigned their categories. They are informed about their categories via the portal to make the payment and complete the process of registration. The Individual, Institutional and Young Professional's categories lists (new and old members) are updated on [icomos.org](http://icomos.org). By December, we receive the cards from Paris and distribute them among the members. The whole process is repeated again and the membership closes by February end. The old members also apply for upgradation of

their category from Associate/Student to Individual/ Young Professionals by sending their requests to the executive committee at [icomosindia@gmail.com](mailto:icomosindia@gmail.com).

The First Cycle of membership 2021 was announced and started from 1st September to 15th October. The Second cycle for new registrations and renewals started on 1st November to 15th December and the Third & final cycle started from 15th January to end March. The membership this year is a total of 380 members (7 Institutional; 373 General members) with 208 Individual members, 85 Associate Members, 4 Student members and 76 Young Professional members.

## EPWG Elections (2020-2023)

EPWG elections for new representatives were conducted from 16th to 26th Nov for seven positions: 1 National EPWG Representative and 6 regional representatives. for a three-year term (2020-23).

An EPWG Elections Volunteer Group comprising of Ms Ritika Khanna - EPWG National Representative, Ms Priyanka Singh - Treasurer, Mr Nishant Upadhyay - Central Zone Representative & Dr Jigna Desai - Institutional Member Representative facilitated all work leading up to the elections. The criteria, schedule of elections, along with rules of procedure and all relevant information was detailed and put together as a document. Ms Vartika Sharma, Advocate and a member of NSC-LAFI, was invited to undertake the role of the 'Elections Officer'. All matters related to the election were coordinated by the Election Officer. All communication and sharing of information regarding the elections was done through the official email ID: [epwgelections2020@gmail.com](mailto:epwgelections2020@gmail.com), privy only to the Officer. The following schedule of elections was followed:



Poster for call for new memberships and renewals.

16 Nov 2020	Announcement of Elections and Request for Candidature
20 Nov 2020	Last date for Receipt of Candidature by 6 PM IST
21 Nov 2020	Announcement of List of Candidates and Voting Open
25 Nov 2020	Voting Closed at 6 PM IST
26 Nov 2020	Announcement of Results via e-mail
27 Nov 2020	Presentation of Election Report at NSC Conclave

The counting of votes was done through an online secret ballot via google forms, which was privy only to the Elections Officer - who was responsible for the announcement of the results and preparation of the election report. The Election Officer, Ms Vertika Sharma, Member NSC-LAFI, presented EPWG elections report at the NSC Conclave on Day 1 (27 November).

The following EPWG members were elected as the new EPWG Representative Team -

- Ms Saranya Dharshini K - National Representative
- Ms Aditi Rai - North Zone Representative
- Ms Lakshmi Ravikumar - South Zone Representative
- Ms Nigar Shaikh - West Zone Representative
- Ms Shuchita Singh - Central Zone Representative
- Mr Sukrit Sen - East Zone Representative
- Ms Krittika Mohan - North-East Zone Representative

### Special General Meeting (SGM)

In accordance with the decision at the AGM 2020, the Special General Meeting was held through Virtual (Online) mode on Sunday, 1st November 2020, from 11.00 AM to 1.30 PM, chaired by the President of ICOMOS India, to transact the below special agenda items:

1. Considering and Approving the Strategic Plan
2. Considering and Approving the Annual Budget 2020-21
3. Approving and Adopting the amendment to SOPG -Annexure 14.

An overwhelming response was received by the members and as per the MOA, a quorum of 33% membership was achieved during the online SGM. With the unanimous agreement of the members present at the SGM, the Strategic Plan was approved and adopted, The Annual Budget for 2020-21 was approved and adopted and the amendment to the SOPG - Annexure 14 was approved and adopted. The Minutes are enclosed herewith as Annexure 1.



SGM 2020 in session.



Event poster for NS Conclave 2020.

### National Scientific Conclave 2020

The NS Conclave 2020 was held through Virtual (Online) mode on 27 and 28 November from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. A wide participation of NSC Coordinators, WG Focal points & members was seen on both days. The two day conclave discussions were focussed around the way forward and vision for the National Scientific Committees and Working Groups, the triennial scientific plan for 2020-23, alignment with ISC's and mechanisms and timelines for NSC research grants.

### Signing of the Agreement of Cooperation between COMOS and Jindal Global University

An Agreement of cooperation was signed between ICOMOS India and Jindal Global University on 9th December 2020 for a period of three years, to establish ties of cooperation for the purpose of promoting mutual understanding and academic development to enrich theory and practice in cultural and natural heritage management, specifically in the subject of Rights Based Approaches (RBA) in heritage management aligned with Sustainable Development Goals 2030.

The title of the program for cooperation is 'Building Capacity to Support Rights-Based Approaches In Heritage Management: Learning from Research of Existing Heritage Practice, Management Systems and Legal Frameworks'. The program is anchored with the RBA Working Group of ICOMOS India. Ms Gurmeet Rai (Focal Point of the WG) would be leading the program towards this association.

## Meeting with Delhi Urban Heritage Foundation (DUHF)

The 17th Meeting of DUHF constituted under the section 5-A of Delhi Development Act 1957 was held on 25th February 2021 at 12:30 PM online under the Chair-manship of Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Delhi. The meeting on behalf of ICOMOS India was attended by the Vice President. DUHF has requested ICOMOS India to extend advisory services for the formulation of DUHF regulations based on UNESCO guidelines. For the same a MOU is being formulated between ICOMOS India and DUHF.

## ICOMOS India meet with Chief Minister's Rajasthan Economic Transformation Advisory Council (CMRETAC), Rajasthan

The Technical Support Organization (TSO) of CMRETAC, Indicc associates, who have been hired by the Rajasthan CM's Economic Revival and development initiative, have showed interest in collaborating with ICOMOS India to do a quantification study of Intangible Cultural Heritage. The meeting was held on 11th March Thursday at 11.30 am and was attended by the President on behalf of ICOMOS India.

## Publications Sub-committee

The secretariat announced on 25th September via listserv, the Publications Sub-Committee with the Objective to publish quarterly newsletter to disseminate information to all members, to Publish academic monographs, conference proceedings, symposium papers, Webinar proceedings, etc. for outreach and Archiving and Publication of peer reviewed Journal to create higher visibility for ICOMOS India. The Sub Committee members are Ms Rima Hooja (Convener), Ms Shalini Dasgupta, Dr Jigna Desai, Ms Poonam Trambadia, Mr Nishant Upadhyay and Dr Arun Menon. Objectives of the Sub Committee. The Objectives of the Sub Committee were agreed upon as -

- To publish quarterly newsletter to disseminate information to all members.
- To Publish academic monographs, conference proceedings, symposium papers, Webinar proceedings, etc. for outreach and Archiving.
- Publication of peer reviewed Journal to create higher visibility for ICOMOS India.



*ICOMOS India Quarterly Newsletter Issues for 2020-21.*

## Working protocols within the committee

- Dr Rima Hooja, the Vice President was unanimously nominated as the Convener of the Sub Committee.
- The Publications envisaged were categorised broadly under - ICOMOS India Publishing Responsibility and ICOMOS India Support and facilitation.
- It was decided to start the process of applying for ISBN & ISSN no.s for ICOMOS India publications.

IPR matters critical to publications were sorted by the Ex Com based on the recommendations of the existing IPR Sub-Committee comprising of Dr Jigna Desai, Dr Arun Menon & Ms Vidhu Gandhi.

## Tentative target dates & schedules

- The Quarterly news letter was decided to be published as per the following schedule-
  - Qtr. 1 - Jun/Jul/ Aug - Sep Quarterly
  - Qtr. 2 - Sep/Oct/ Nov - Dec Quarterly
  - Qtr. 3 - Dec/Jan/ Feb - Mar Quarterly
  - Qtr. 4 - Mar/Apr/ May - June Quarterly (Possibly the Annual Report)

### Allocation of responsibilities

Three Verticals were identified with the responsible person as-

1. Quarterly Newsletter/ Annual Report - Dr Jigna Desai/ Ms Shalini Dasgupta
2. AGM Publications - Ms Poonam Trambadia / Dr Arun Menon
3. Proposed Publications by NSC's/ Zones - Mr Nishant Upadhyay/ Dr Rima Hooja

The Sub Committee achieved its agenda of publishing the three quarterly Newsletter and one Scientific Symposium e-publication.

### IIM Ahmedabad Heritage Alert Submitted through ISC 20C and NSC 20C

Post the submission of initial Heritage Alert by NSC 20 C member - Prof AGK Menon to ICOMOS, the International Secretariat approached ICOMOS India to assist in formulating the Heritage Alert for IIM Ahmedabad followed by world wide condemnation of the proposed demolition of parts of original campus fabric. ICOMOS India offered to help and support ISC 20C in this endeavour through its NSC 20C members.

The Secretariat announced on 25th December via listserv, the IIMA Heritage @ Risk Sub-committee with the Objective to send a representation to IIMA marking our strong concern over the proposed demolition of 18 Dorms of IIMA. The sub-committee members were Prof AGK Menon, Prof Kiran Joshi (Co-Covener), Ms Annabel Lopez, Mr Navin Piplani, Dr Rima Hooja (Convener), Dr Arun Menon, Ms Poonam Trambadia, Ms Ritika Jharia, Ms Nitya Iyer, Ms Chirashree Thakkar & Ms Shalini Dasgupta. Dr Rima Hooja agreed to be the Convener and Prof Kiran Joshi the Co-Convener of the Sub-committee.

After the formation of the IIMA Heritage @ Risk sub-committee, members met to put their thoughts together to send a letter of Concern to the concerned authorities at IIMA. The letter of concern was sent by the President ICOMOS India on 27th December to the authorities at IIMA. Discussions were also held with ICOMOS International and ISC 20C and other international heritage organisations for support for saving these buildings. The Sub-committee agreed to offer all support to ISC20C for the preparation of the ICOMOS Heritage Alert.



*Arcade of dormitory D4, IIM-A. Photo credits: Mauricio Luzuriaga, 2015*

A letter was issued on 12th January 2021, by ICOMOS International Secretariat to the Chairman of the Governing Council IIM Ahmedabad, regarding the worldwide Heritage Alert through its International Scientific Committee on Twentieth Century Heritage. Thereafter on 1st February 2021, ICOMOS International published the Heritage Alert.

### Scientific Council and the Steering Committee of the Scientific Council

ICOMOS India proposed to form a Scientific Council & Steering committee within to carry forward its scientific activities. The Scientific Council is constituted of the NSC Coordinators and WG Focal Points, and the Steering Committee is composed of members with experience as NSC Coordinators and with senior members in advisory capacity, and the NSC Counsellor as the member secretary of the committee. For more details, [refer page 67](#).



*Shapes and Shadows, IIM, Ahmedabad. Photo credits: Sukrit Sen*

## Central Vista Sub Committee

ICOMOS India, after having realised the need to engage with “the Central Vista Redevelopment Plan” with respect to its impact on the heritage significance and values at multiple levels decided to set up a Sub-committee in August 2020. Twenty-one members volunteered. Three NSC’s partnered with the North zone. The process was initiated by NSC-20C and taken up by members from NSC-SBH, NSC-LAFI and NSC-HTV. Ms Smita Makhija, the North Zone Representative became the convener along with Prof Kiran Joshi as the co-convener along with four advisory members one from each NSC and one from North zone to be supported by their own working group members. Several online meetings were held to crystallise the vision and methodology of work plan for working group. A social media campaign was launched led by NSC 20C to collect memories of the Central Vista as a “People’s Place” “JANSTHAL” on the world democracy day, 15 September 2020. Thereafter, letters were sent showcasing concern to HCC and DUAC offices in New Delhi.

The Sub-committee has produced a technical document - a detailed document that presents the observations of ICOMOS India, on the ongoing “Redevelopment of Central Vista” Project. Critical issues regarding identification and safeguarding of heritage attributes of the Central Vista precinct that should be addressed along with the relevant sustainable intervention principles for the living heritage and designed HUL of New Delhi, ‘a city of international standing and significance,’ are stated in this document. This document can be accessed at: <https://www.icomosindia.com/upload/library/1621314888CV%20HRCIP%2030-04-2021.pdf>



Central Vista: JANSTHAL, A people’s place. Source: <https://unsplash.com/photos/8XZTZlfuNrM>

## Announcements

### Appointment of ICOMOS Research Intern

Executive Committee (ExCom) of ICOMOS India selected Ms Lipika Khanna for the position of Research Intern to work at the Secretariat. Ms Khanna commenced her internship at ICOMOS India office from 15th December 2020.

### Announcement of Listserv for members Discussion Forum and Netiquettes

COVID has made us realise the value of communication more than ever before. ICOMOS India opened a dedicated ‘Listserv forum’ for all its members to have meaningful discussions on 7 November 2020. This Discussion Listserv (d) Forum: [icomos-india-d@lists.icomos.org](mailto:icomos-india-d@lists.icomos.org) is separate from the existing Listserv: [icomos-indial@lists.icomos.org](mailto:icomos-indial@lists.icomos.org) The latter is a dedicated channel for announcements from ICOMOS India, in order that official information is not lost in a discussion forum. The Listserv-d is provided to exchange information that is relevant to the vision, objectives and activities of the organisation; to share ideas and knowledge that pertains to the organisation or a wider heritage sector. As the membership grows each year, a certain ‘etiquette guidelines’ are intended to ensure that all participants have a valuable experience: Healthy and engaging debate is core to a Listserv forum (henceforth, to be called listserv). The discussions on the lists are meant to stimulate conversation, not create contention. In order to assure a meaningful, dignified and respectful discussion amongst members, a document called ‘ICOMOS India Discussion Forum Netiquettes’ was also circulated.

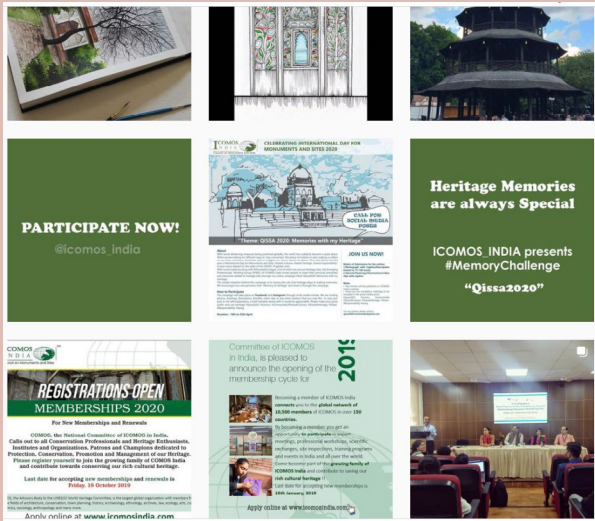
### Appointment of Executive Assistant

A call for appointing Executive Assistant for ICOMOS India secretariat was floated on 7 January 2021. A total no. of 38 applications were received and through online zoom calls, the shortlisted candidates were interviewed. Ms Bipasha Banerjee was selected unanimously by the Board members. She joined the Secretariat office at New Delhi from 15 March 2021.

### Appointment of ICOMOS Office Assistant

ExCom of ICOMOS India appointed Mr Chunchun Kumar for the position of Office Assistant to work at the Secretariat. He commenced his work at ICOMOS India office from 15th January 2021.

## Digital Communication and Outreach



As this past year has been marred by lockdowns, it has made everyone, including ICOMOS India transition to more digital platforms for engagement with its members and outreach beyond. Zoom has brought us closer in meetings, and has allowed us reach farther to people across the globe.

The Secretariat has been working on active digital outreach, by engaging with social media platforms including Facebook, Instagram and Twitter- for important announcements, webinars being conducted by ICOMOS India, and periodic updates on activities.

ICOMOS India's YouTube Channel has also been revived, with all stand-alone webinars, and webinar series conducted in the past year, added to our channel, and organised in playlists for ease of viewing.

The ICOMOS India Official website provides not only information, but also a forum for dialogue and discussion to members after they log in. Another forum for members' discussion is the Discussion Listserv- which was also activated this year.

Here is a comprehensive list of all the platforms of engagement and outreach:



Platform	Details	Audience	Type of Engagement
Listserv -L	Email id provided to members	Members only	Office Bearers to Members; One-way communication
Aim: Share official ICOMOS India & ICOMOS International updates			
Official Email Communication Channels	Email: <a href="mailto:icomosindia@gmail.com">icomosindia@gmail.com</a> , <a href="mailto:info@icomosindia.com">info@icomosindia.com</a> Details of official email IDs for Executive Committee, NSC Counsellor & NSC Coordinators	Public	Free access to all
Aim: Official communication to the Board and/or NSCs			
Facebook Group	Name: Council on Monuments and Sites, India	Members only	Member to Member; Not moderated ; governed by list of netiquettes
Aim: Allow members to share information on Heritage Conservation			
Facebook Page	Name: ICOMOS India	Public	Executive Committee to Public. Only admins of the page can post on the timeline. Visitor posts are allowed on the community; Moderated
Aim: Share activities, events and updates of ICOMOS India/ ICOMOS			
Instagram Handle	Name: ICOMOS_India	Public	Executive Committee to Public; Only admins of the handle can post; Moderated
Aim: Share activities, events and updates of ICOMOS India/ ICOMOS			
Twitter Handle	Name: ICOMOS_India	Public	Executive Committee to Public; Only admins of the handle can post; Moderated
Aim: Share activities, events and updates of ICOMOS India/ ICOMOS			
Youtube Channel	Channel name: ICOMOS India	Public	Executive Committee to Public Only admins of the channel can post; Moderated
Aim: Share recordings of events, webinars & videos by ICOMOS India			
Website	Weblink: <a href="http://www.icomosindia.com">www.icomosindia.com</a>	Public	Executive Committee to Public
Aim: Provide a one-stop platform for all information on ICOMOS India			
Publications/ Webinars/ AGM/ NSC Conclave	See website for details	Public	NA
Aim: Education and Capacity Building			
Listserv -D	Email id provided to members	Members only	Member to Member
Aim: Allow members to share information and relevant ideas			
Newsletter	Not moderated; governed by list of netiquettes	Members only	Executive Committee to Members; One-way communication
Aim: Share quarterly updates with members			

## PRESENCE OF ICOMOS INDIA IN THE INTERNATIONAL SCENARIO

1. 20th ICOMOS General Assembly (GA)- Voting members from ICOMOS India participated in the virtual General Assembly and elections. The 20th ICOMOS GA took place virtually between 3 and 16 December 2020. Voting took place via the Euro-vote platform.
  - Ms Nupur Prothi Khanna from ICOMOS India was elected to the ICOMOS Board.
  - The elections of the new Bureau of International Scientific Committee on Twentieth Century Heritage (ISC 20C) were held in October 2020. Prof Kiran Joshi, former President - ICOMOS India, was elected for the post of Secretary General and Ms. Smriti Pant as one of the six Vice Presidents. Prof Joshi aims to achieve the following during her term: (i) Expand the ISC 20C Membership Base, with special focus on underrepresented regions and countries, (ii) Enable and sustain participation of Emerging Professionals in Bureau functioning, (iii) Establish and maintain close liaison with all National Committees for disseminating information on objectives and activities of ISC 20C, (iv) Promote the establishment of NSC 20Cs within National Committees and, (v) Promote exchange between various National Scientific Committees through collaborative thematic studies, webinars, and, other social media activities.
  - Ms Priyanka Singh, current Treasurer of the National Committee of India, was appointed to the Resolutions Committee.
2. 'Crafting Resilience' and 'Bihu-an Agrarian Festival of Assam' Webinars were organised by NSC Intangible Cultural Heritage in collaboration with International Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICICH).
3. Ms Dharshini's article in the Chapter on "Role of Women in Subterranean Waterscapes of India", in the book "Water Heritage, Global Perspectives for Sustainable Development", edited by Dr Tino Mager, was published by Cultural Assets Bureau of the Ministry of Culture, Taiwan in December, 2020.

## Milestones Achieved

*ICOMOS India undertook a number of activities during the year 2020-2021 with the support of the Secretariat. The Secretariat spent a lot of time sorting out administrative, membership and financial matters. The milestones achieved are as follows:*

- The 7th Annual General Meeting of COMOS India was organized on 12th June, 2020 online.
- The National Scientific Symposium was held on 22/23 May, 2020 virtually.
- Agreement of Co-operation between COMOS India and O.P Jindal Global University for augmenting theory and practice in the subject of Rights-Based Approaches (RBA) was signed.
- Special General Meeting (SGM) was conducted on 1st November to approve the Budget, the Strategic Plan and SOPG amendments.
- NSC Conclave was held virtually on 27th and 28th November.
- Formation of Scientific Council and Steering committee.
- Collaboration with Delhi Urban Heritage Foundation.
- Elections were conducted for new EPWG term.
- Heritage Alert for IIMA through ISC 20C and NSC 20C.
- Publication & circulation of Quarterly Newsletter.
- Publication of first ICOMOS India e-publication on the Symposium 2020 proceedings.
- Multitude of Zonal Activities in all Zones on World Heritage Day in April and Heritage Week in November.
- Upgrading COMOS India website and creation of platform for NSC's and Working Groups.
- All membership related work completed by 30th March 2021.
- Closure of all accounting work for the FY 2020-2021.





# ACTIVITIES IN THE ZONES

*Ravi J. Matthal Centre, IIM-A. Photo credits: Mauricio Luzuriaga, 2015*



Central Vista: JANSTHAL, A people's place. Source: <https://unsplash.com/photos/8XZTZIfuNrM>

## NORTH ZONE

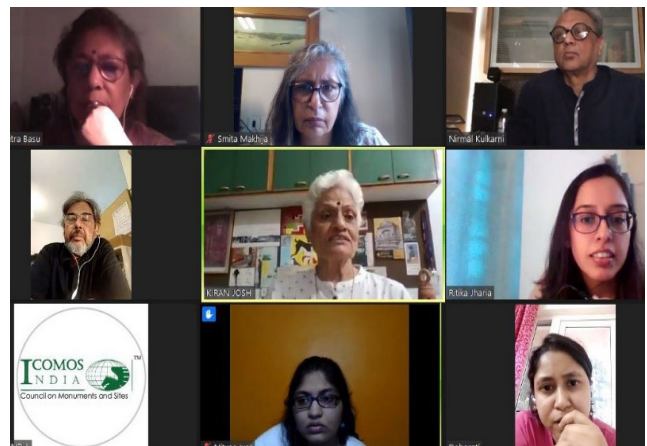
The North Zone started this year with a hope that the pandemic would be over in a couple of months. They undertook the task of working on heritage attributes and significance of the historic urban landscape of Central Vista, New Delhi, which was under threat due to an insensitive colossal redevelopment plan. As the plan unfolded, the urgent need for a scientific document, an awareness campaign and the need to send representations to government bodies was seen.

Representations were sent to HCC and DUAC to request them to recognise the value of the Central Vista as a single grade one protected entity and award it the protection it deserves.

The zone learnt new ways to interact and keep motivated this year. The zonal meeting was held virtually with a hope that the pandemic would be over soon and the work would resume as planned. The zone listed their priorities to work on the high altitude settlements and pick on thematic threads which tied the whole region together. These ideas were taken up with enthusiasm, but will reach fulfilment in the coming year. The zone continued to have zoom meetings to use this time to focus on structuring the format for further work.

## September 2020: Constitution of Central Vista Working Committee (CVWC)

Acting upon a request from the Coordinator of National Scientific Committee on Twentieth Century Heritage (NSC 20C) that was forwarded by ICOMOS India's Scientific Counsellor, the Executive Committee approved the constitution of the 'Central Vista Working Committee' (CVWC), as a technical-scientific group. In view of the location of Central Vista, the category of the property and various issues involved, it was decided that the CVWC would be led by ICOMOS India's North Zone with active participation of NSCs concerned with 20th Century Heritage (NSC 20C), Shared Built



CVWC virtual meeting on Zoom platform.



CVWC virtual meeting on Zoom platform.

Heritage (NSC-SBH), Historic Towns and Villages (NSC-HTV) and Legal, Administrative and Financial Issues (NSC-LAFI). Moreover, since the property is of national significance, participation in the Working Group was open to all ICOMOS India members, regardless of the zone or the NSC to which they are affiliated. Smita Datta Makhija (Convener and North Zone Representative) and Kiran Joshi (Co-convener and Past President, ICOMOS India) have worked meticulously with thirty advisory and working group members to document and list the resource concerns and intervention parameters for Central Vista Heritage Precinct.

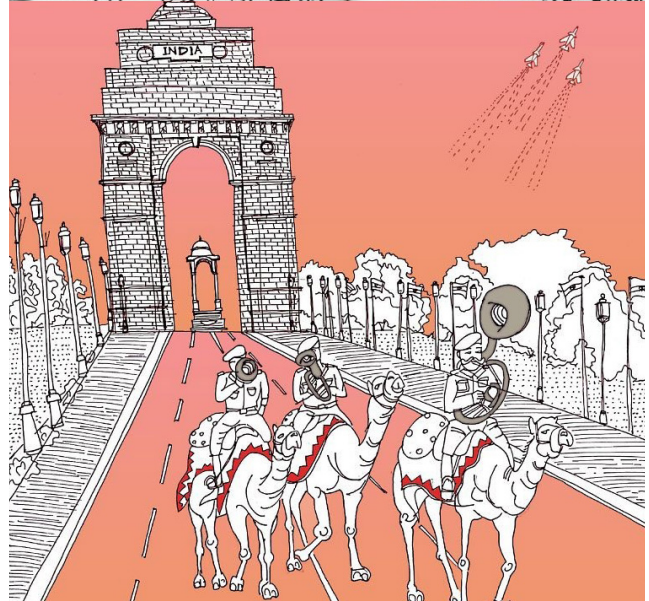
### September 2020: Central Vista Jansthal Campaign Open Call for Entries

A social media campaign was led by NSC-20th Century to collect memories of the Central Vista as a "People's Place" "JANSTHAL" was launched on the



Jansthal: A Monumental Public Axis for People by Sneha Shanbhag.

world democracy day, 15th September 2020. The campaign opened a platform for people from diverse backgrounds to share their thoughts on how to retain the significance of this core public place. Personal memories of 'Jansthal: A people's place' were shared by the multiple participants from all around the world, in form of photos, drawings, illustrations, doodles and video clips.



"Rehna tu, hai jaisa tu". PC: Juhi Jha, 2 (top); "The Folk Fair of India". PC: Anand Wadwekar (centre); "Rajpath: National Holiday Morning Screen". PC: Priyanka Panjwani (bottom)

#### CVWC Members

Smita Datta Makhija, Convener and North Zone Representative  
Kiran Joshi, Co-convener and Past President, ICOMOS India

#### Advisory Group Members

Neeraj Bhagat  
North Zone  
Annabel Lopez  
NSC-20C  
Poonam Verma Mascarenhas  
NSC-SBH  
Vertika Sharma  
NSC-LAFI  
Yashaswini Sharma  
NSC-HTV

#### Working Group Members, North Zone

Nirmal Kulkarni  
Eshani Khandpur  
Geetika Kalha  
Ritu Bamni  
Sangeeta Bagga  
Saumya Agarwal  
Suptendu Biswas  
Shikha Jain

#### Working Group Members, NSC-20C

Nityaa Lakshmi Iyer  
Ritika Jharia  
Debarati Pal

#### Working Group Members, NSC-SBH

Sarmistha Chatterjee  
Tapan Mittal Deshpande  
Aathirai Selvapandian

#### Working Group Members, NSC-LAFI

Aditi Rai  
Ashita Agarwal  
Shilpa Jain  
Nandini Mukhopadhyay  
Richa Mishra

#### Working Group Members, NSC-HTV

Srinivas Murthy G  
Vaidehi Lavand  
Jivantika Satyarthi

#### Contributing Members

Lakshmi Ravikumar  
Saranya Dharshini  
Priyanka Gorasia

#### Graphic and Illustration Design

Aditi Rai

List of members contributed to produce the technical report of CVWC.

## October 2020: Interactive session on Role of Students in Reshaping Heritage

North Zone in collaboration with Sushant School of Art and Architecture (SSAA), Sushant University, hosted ICOMOS India Executive Committee members for an interaction with students and faculty of the school on 9th October 2020.

The session was attended by 170 participants and was meant to open up avenues for engagement across ICOMOS India and SSAA, with focus on the role of students in the process. The important takeaways included exchange of ideas about popularizing heritage and generating awareness



Interactive Web Session with ICOMOS India Executive Committee Members.

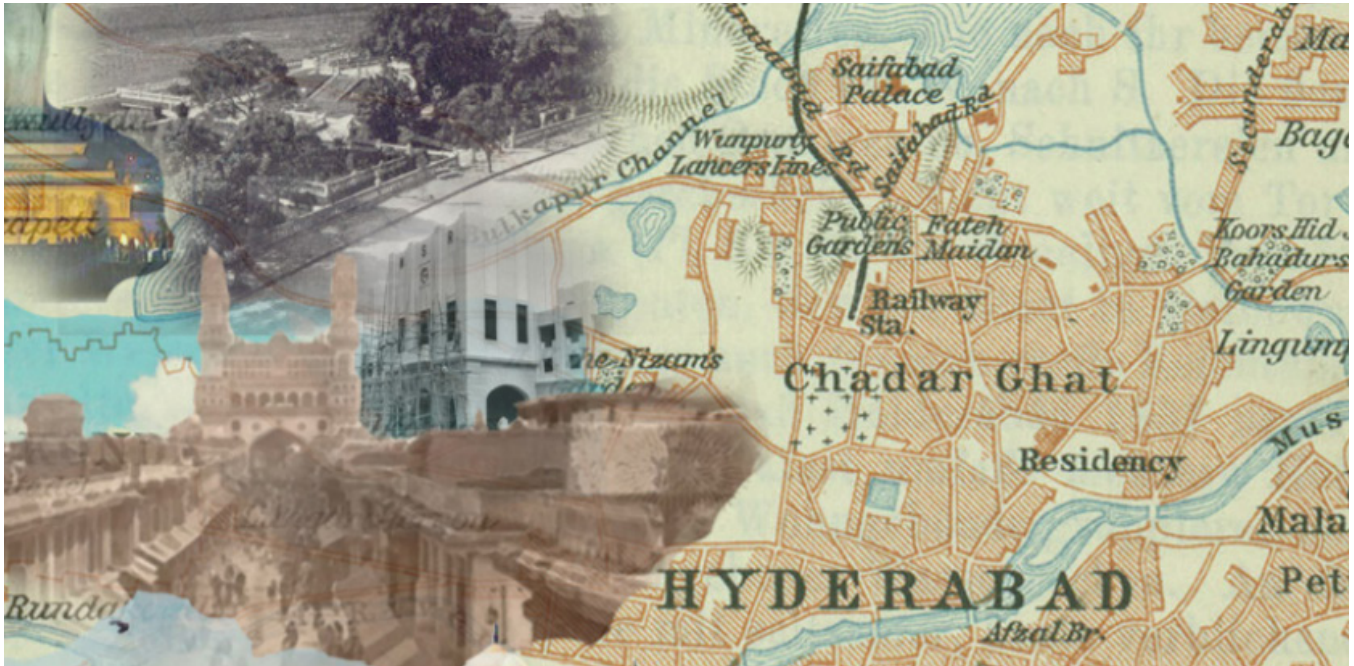


Students of Sushant School of Art and Architecture.

about it among students as well as wider audiences, enhancing interaction among ICOMOS India members and academic activities of SSAA and creating a collaborative platform for adopting a site or area and working on it to make real difference on ground.

Multiple ways of engagement were discussed, including:

1. Proposing the development of a student chapter,
2. Adopting a site in collaboration,
3. Establishing interactions b/w students and emerging professionals working group of ICOMOS-India (EPWG),
4. Involvement of ICOMOS India members as jurors, mentors and thesis advisors for SSAA M Arch and B Arch students,
5. Organising guest lectures with NSC members as speakers & discussants,
6. Exploring collaborative research & publications possibilities through involvement of students and faculty,
7. Organising one annual flagship event in collaboration with ICOMOS INDIA,
8. Best Thesis awards to be formulated for students,
9. Enabling students to volunteer and learn as part of ICOMOS initiatives such as National Scientific Conclaves etc.



South Zone 2020-2021. Photo credits: IHSRDM and Osmania University

## SOUTH ZONE

South Zone comprises of five States and two Union Territories (UT) of India, i.e., Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Tamilnadu, Kerala as States and Puducherry UT and Lakshadweep Islands as UTs. As of March 2021, there are in total, 57 Individual, Associate and Young Professional (YP) members, and 2 Institutional Members across the zone. The membership has grown from mere 5 in 2012 to 57 in 2020. The membership has active participation in various heritage related matters in individual capacities and also in ICOMOS India activities and National scientific Committees. Many activities were hampered by the COVID-19 pandemic during May 2020 to March 2021.

However, in February 2021, South Zone was able to support an International Conference conducted by the Department of Geography, Osmania University and Institute of Human Settlement Research Design Management on Zoom platform, which was also broadcasted on the ICOMOS India Facebook page. The event went live on 8 and 9 February 2021 and had over 3000 cumulative views on ICOMOS India Facebook page.

South Zone also collaborated with Central Zone of ICOMOS for a webinar 04: Cultural Heritage and Tourism India and Abroad.

### February 2021: Multi Disciplinary International Conference on Cultural, Urban & Environmental Landscapes

In this international Conference, over thirty research papers on sub-themes probing following topics: Place-making, Society and Culture Centric Landscapes, Heritage Tourism, Peri-Urban Region and Environment, Sustainability and Urban development, Urban Landscapes of Asia, and a special session on Hyderabad Urban Region for Heritage Inclusive development were presented by scholars across disciplines like Archaeology, Architecture, Environment, Geography, History, Tourism & Urban Planning.



Conference Co-ordinator and South Zone Co-ordinator Prof GSV Suryanarayana Murthy addressing the participants of Multidisciplinary International conference.



Prof. Rana P. B. Singh, NSC Co-ordinator of Cultural Landscapes giving his keynote speech on Emergence of cultural Landscape vis-a-vis Placemaking and Heritagisation.

Renowned personalities in the field of Cultural Landscapes and Heritage Tourism presented their views on the sub-themes. The keynote speech was given by Prof Rana P B Singh who is the NSC Co-ordinator of Cultural Landscapes.

The International Conference broadly examined the evolution, transformation, status, role and vision of placemaking in a city and urban habitat, while emphasising the approaches, theoretical constructs, methods and techniques for management, maintenance, development towards taking the Cultural Landscapes and their role in making the future of cities and Urban Habitats.

Participants from all across India as well as East Asian Countries joined the conference. The proceedings of the conference of selected papers will be published by Osmania University in the coming year.



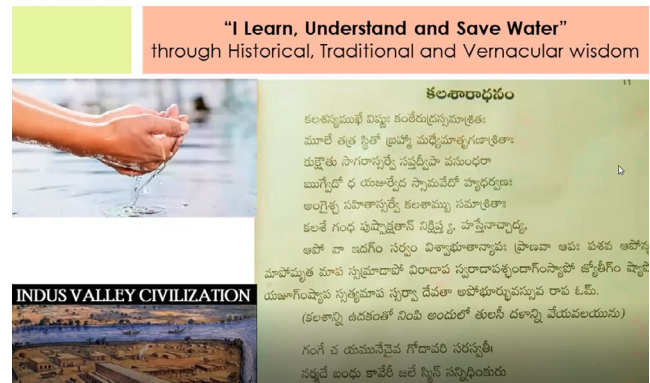
Conference Director Prof Bala Kishan, Head of Department of Geography, Osmania University.

## February 2021: Cultural Heritage and Tourism: India and Abroad Central and South Zone webinar 04

South Zone collaborated with Central Zone and NSC Cultural Tourism for a webinar conducted on Cultural Tourism. Prof GSV Suryanarayana Murthy spoke on the topic “Water as Learnt from Historical, Traditional and Vernacular Contexts” where he spoke about the significance of conserving water and traditional water infrastructure in the country through various vernacular contexts.

Ar. Shreamey Phadnis, a heritage Consultant and co-founder of Studio Gesalt spoke on the “Ancient Trade Route in Malwa-Nimar region”. The session explored the crucial role of this region in the ancient Trade Route with a focus on Maheshwar.

Ar. Madhu Vottery, NSC Co-ordinator of Cultural Tourism gave the participants a Virtual Tour of Cultural Heritage of Hyderabad. This session was aimed at educators to adapt to different methods of bringing heritage to people.



Prof GSV Suryanarayana Murthy's presentation on the presence and understanding of water in historical, traditional and vernacular contexts at the NSC CT Webinar.





Ratha Yatra at Puri. Photo credits: Dr Sumana Gupta

## EAST ZONE

The East Zone members connected virtually throughout the year and planned and organised several knowledge forums. The first webinar in April reflected on the challenges of the pandemic. There are several acts in West Bengal with respect to heritage resources, but absence of a feasible framework, lack of proper definition of heritage precinct and area, and a rational approach for grading and its implications as part of the acts, often lead to ambiguity, complications and rampant demolition.

The concept of Historic Urban Landscape is dynamic and hence evolving with time. Historic areas and precincts, through designation and local area planning and management, offer a huge untapped potential for a context based approach.

The post-pandemic world we are facing creates new challenges for sustainable development of heritage precincts. We collaborated with the National Scientific Committee of Historic Towns and Villages (NSC-HTV) organised a series of webinars on 'Resilient and Sustainable Development of Historic Precincts and Areas' with each webinar addressing a particular sub-theme. The core team comprised of Ms Ananya Bhattacharya - ICOMOS India East Zone representative, Dr Sanghamitra Basu - Coordinator NSC HTV, and a few ICOMOS India members.

## April 2020: International Day for Monuments and Sites (IDMS)

On the occasion of World Heritage Day i.e. April 18, 2020, we collaborated with Alliance Francaise du Bengale to conduct a webinar on 'Heritage at Crossroads: Shared Responsibilities'. Mr Anjan Mitra, Architect and Urban Designer talked about 'Retrofitting Heritage Responsible Development'. Dr Arjun Mukherjee, Architect and Urban Planner shared on Digital Technologies in his presentation on 'Virtual Heritage'. Mr Sukrit Sen, Architect, shared his valuable thoughts on 'Music in the times of Covid - The role of digital platforms as community platforms'. Mr Claudio Secci, a professor at an architectural school in Paris and Ms Kamalka Bose, an Urban Conservationist and researcher shared their knowledge regarding 'Post Pandemic Design Challenges in Old City Core Areas.'



Poster invitation for the East Zone IDMS 2020 event.

Claudio shared on his experience of working in several cities such as Udaipur, Benaras, Trivandrum, and Kolkata. Kamalika spoke of how the crisis has peaked at Chitpor in Kolkata. The webinar concluded with the note from Dr Rohit Jigyasu, specialising in disaster management and working at ICCROM in Italy. He shared that the key concepts for tackling the challenges that lie ahead should be adaptation. The lost livelihoods of the workers related to this sector must be secured. The virtual medium must be used as a tool and can be used to build capacity since the pandemic has affected the local ecology. He said, "Once things begin to normalise, all institutions, global and local must collaborate to find innovative solutions to this crisis."

### 27-28 August 2020: Webinars on Resilient and Sustainable Development of Historic Precincts and Areas - Concepts, Framework, Needs and Experiences – Focus West Bengal

The inaugural webinar of this series delved into Concepts, Frameworks, Needs and Experiences of Historic Areas and Precincts with a focus on West Bengal (Day 1) and Kolkata (Day 2). A total of 120+ attended in Zoom while 2.1 K viewed on Facebook.



Prof AGK Menon giving the inaugural address on 27 August 2020.

On day 1, moderator Dr Sanghamitra Basu introduced the theme. Professor AGK Menon, in his keynote address, reflected on the need to develop solutions by understanding problems rather than relying only on western models. Dr Arjun Mukerji and Mr Anjan Mitra shared their experiences of working for historic areas of West Bengal, Cooch Behar and Bishnupur respectively. This was followed by a panel discussion and Q&A session anchored by Ms Kamalika Bose, where discussants Mr Partha

Ranjan Das, IPS Mr Soumen Mitra, Mr Saptarshi Sanyal along with the speakers, shared their view points and experiences. Approaches like indigenous urbanism, broad people-centric urban development plans integrated with conservation principles, increasing community engagement at multiple levels, and instilling the ethos of conservation within the community, especially young adults, were identified as way forward.

On day 2, Ms Kamalika Bose and Mr Manish Chakraborti shared their experiences of working in historic areas of Kolkata, Chitpur Road and BBD Bag/ Dalhousie Square, respectively. The lively panel discussions, moderated by Ms Mukul Agarwal with discussants Prof KT Ravindran, Mr Amit Chaudhuri, Mr GM Kapur and Mr Anindya Karforma, along with the speakers, pointed out the need for adopting a decentralised localised approach, context specific bye laws to manage changes, planning for development responsive to local culture and setting up an appellate body to have a dialogue. What emerged as immediate tasks were delineating heritage precincts, documenting tangible and intangible characteristics, community engagement along with capacity building at multiple levels and integrating heritage in school education.



Art-deco style of house of Kolkata, as presented by Mr Amit Chaudhuri.



28 August session in progress.



## 1 and 3 October 2020: Webinars on Resilient and Sustainable Development of Historic Precincts and Areas - Heritage Economics, Legal Tools, and Management Mechanisms - Focus West Bengal



3 October 2020 webinar in session.

The webinars on 1 & 3 October, 2020, took a close look at the legal, administrative, and financial mechanisms that would enable economically viable and sustainable conservation of heritage precincts and areas.

Day 1 coordinated by Dr Sukanya Mitra was earmarked for global and national experiences. Dr Nikhil Joshi, in his key note addressed managing change in historic South East Asian cities in the context of investment in heritage, people and built heritage conservation illustrated with examples of Vigan City in the Philippines, Melaka and George Town in Malaysia and then Singapore. Case studies- Ahmedabad World Heritage city presented by Mr Ashish Trambadia and Pondicherry's heritage presented jointly by Ms Sunaina Mandeen and Ms Kakoli Banerjee (People of Pondicherry), discussed specific interventions by agencies and NGOs. During the panel discussion, and Q&A session anchored by Mr Bikramjit Chakraborty, citing cases from various places of India, the discussants Dr Benny Kuriakose, Mr Debashish Nayak, Ms Kirtida Unwalla and Mr Kiran Kalamdani, joined the speakers to highlight on possible development mechanism of heritage precincts.

The key note address on day 2 by Mr Donovan Rypkema, elaborated on various financial tools for conservation of heritage. Case study presentations on the historic town of Serampore by Dr Bente Wolff and Ms Puja Bhowmik, and Azimganj, Murshidabad by Ms Kamalika Bose, showcased management and financial mechanisms as well as possibilities of reactivation of local pride and economy. This was

followed by the panel discussion and Q&A session moderated by Dr Arjun Mukerji. Citing cases from various parts of West Bengal, the discussants Mr Darshan Dudhuria, Dr Haimanti Banerji, Mr Rajesh Sen and Mr Sushil Mohta, along with the speakers discussed how rejuvenation can be achieved through both tourism-oriented and community-focused activities integrating conservation with urban planning and development control. The webinars reached out to 2.7K people via Facebook.

## 21 November 2020: Webinar on Engaging Communities and Safeguarding ICH for Resilient and Sustainable Development of Historic Precincts and Areas-Focus West Bengal

Ms Ananya Bhattacharya opened the webinar on 21st November sharing on ICOMOS and the inter-linkages of culture and community. Thereafter, the keynote speaker Mr Ratish Nanda elaborated on the Nizamuddin Urban Revival Project and leveraging heritage assets to improve community lifestyle than merely focusing on monument conservation. Case studies on engaging communities in China Town, and Asansol (industrial heritage) were presented by Ms Rinkoo Bhowmik and Mr Santanu Banerjee respectively. During the panel discussion, moderated by Dr Dhriti Ray, the discussants presented on restoring heritage properties and areas through community engagement. Mr Saleem Beg, Mr Sandeep Khan and Ms Shama Pawar shared examples from various conservation and restoration projects.

The examples corroborated how engaging communities brought about change in the community attitude addressing sanitation and waste disposal problems and building resilience, and the kinds of support required in pulling off such a project. Facebook reach was nearly 1000.



Vision for China Town future as presented by Ms Rinkoo Bhowmik

## 25 November 2020: Webinar on Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage for Resilient and Sustainable Development of Historic Precincts and Areas- Focus West Bengal



Various forms of art and craft of Purulia- a district in West Bengal. Photo credits: Ananya Bhattacharya

The session on 25th November began with coordinator Kamalika Bose acknowledging the all-encompassing character of ICH. Keynote speaker Dr Shikah Jain focussed on connecting living heritage with sustainable development. The case studies by Ms Sumona Chakravarty and Ms Ananya Bhattacharya shared on how urban cultural landscapes are rich in diversity and how community may be engaged in understanding their heritage. Experiences were shared about a community-based arts organization, Hamdasti and safeguarding ICH in Purulia of West Bengal.

The ensuing panel discussion moderated by Dr Madhura Dutta examined policies and programs needed for integration of ICH, its revitalization and integration in conservation of historic areas that ensure cultural sustainability and long-term viability. Examples were shared about regeneration of Kathmandu by Dr Monalisa Maharjan, and experiences in Bardowa by Dr Sanjib Kumar Borkakoti. Discussants shared about their experiences inculcating ICH in urban planning policies. Deliberations that emerged from Q&A sessions elucidated the need for understanding the potential of development schemes and programs by professionals and the community and its effective implementation. Progress and gaps in harnessing the potential contribution of culture in achieving the sustainable development goals were also explored - across global, national, regional and local scales. Facebook reach was 1.9K.

## 5 December 2020: Webinar on Resilience to Disaster, Pandemic, Climate Change In Historic Areas And Precincts - Focus West Bengal

On 5th December, 2020, coordinator Mr Sukrit Sen set the tone of the webinar by mentioning how heritage may be mobilised for risk reduction and ensure local actions to achieve SGDs in historical precincts and areas. Dr Rohit Jigyasu, in his key note address, explained the vulnerability of urban heritage and inadequacy of planning process. He stated that transformative changes are important to make the heritage resilient. Dr Sumana Gupta and Dr Ranit Chatterjee, shared case studies, on Ratha Yatra, Puri and Sundarbans respectively.

This was followed by a panel discussion anchored by the moderator Dr Sanghamitra Basu and included Dr Repaul Kanji, Mr Sandeep Virmani and Ms Shalini Dasgupta along with the speakers. Idea of the resilience in the collective consciousness of the community, adaptability in coping up and living with the natural disasters, dissipation of tradition knowledge system through capacity building were some of the highlights of discussion and Q&A session. Role of a special working group of ICOMOS India towards sustainable development goals, facilitating other organizations and developing a road map for a resilient approach, was presented by Ms Shalini Dasgupta. The program concluded with summary and closing remarks by Mr Sukrit Sen. Nearly 900 persons viewed on Facebook.

For a detailed report on the webinar series on 'Resilient and Sustainable Development of Historic Precincts and Areas', read the section on NSC Historic Towns and Villages (HTV) on page 47.



Bhungas of Kutch, presented by Ar Sandeep Virmani.



'Heritage and Youth', Bhadra Fort, Ahmedabad. Photo credits: Poonam Trambadia

## WEST ZONE

The impact of COVID-19 pandemic had converted all activities of the zone to web based and online mode. While all the major monuments and sites were shut during March to September, the discourse on conservation and heritage education kept going on. The zonal members participated in many activities.

An international webinar with International Centre for Inclusive Cultural Leadership (ICICL) at Anant National University (AnantU) title Heritage Matters was a successful event held on the International Day on Monuments and Sites 18th April 2020.

Another event on the same day was targeted to inspire young minds and children to know and learn from their own heritage from the art. Arya Chavda, 10 year old citizen from Ahmedabad shared her own sketches and poems and informed the participants about her passion for heritage.

The annual meet of the zone also was conducted online this year due to special situation. Members of the zone pro-actively participated in the meeting and discussed the way forward in the time of crisis as well as strengthening the ICOMOS group by institutional associations and activities.

### April 2020: Webinar on Heritage Matters in association with Anant National University, Ahmedabad

Representating ICOMOS India at the first webinar on Heritage Matters with the International Centre for Inclusive Cultural Leadership (ICICL) at AnantU, Ahmedabad Featuring: Dr Anunaya Chaubey, Provost, AnantU, Salzburg Global Fellow; Dr Amareswar Galla, Prof. of ICL, Founding Director ICICL, AnantU, Salzburg Global Fellow; Dr Benny Kuriakose, Expert on Sustainability and Indigenous Knowledge Systems in Built Environment;



Interaction on heritage and holistic development.



*Introduction to the events on IDMS and importance of youth engagement with heritage.*

Poonam Trambadia, WZ Representative ICOMOS India, Asso-Prof., AnantU, Conservation Architect; and Ms Tejshvi Jain, Founding Director, Rereeti-Revitalizing Museums.

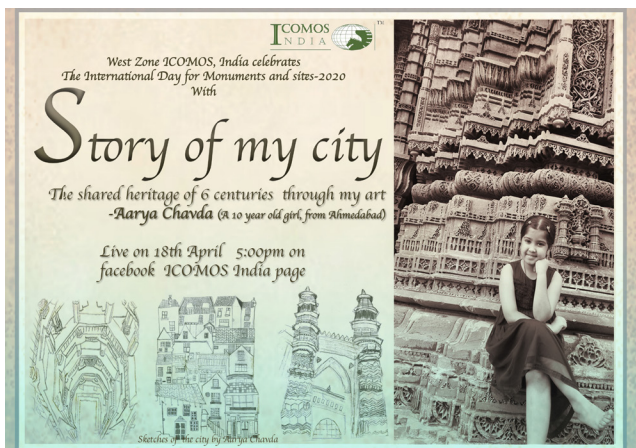
### Query and concern

The current COVID 19 situation has brought us all into a deep crisis. As we ride this wave of tsunami, the challenge remains in moving forward, building on the resilience of communities and cultural groups of our country and beyond borders.

- What are the pathways for the future?
- We know how much Heritage Matters, but how do we position it in a holistic discourse with sustainable development?
- How do we rethink the way we approach the UN SDGs?
- How do we continue to locate and advocate for culture in development through demonstration projects?

These and many similar concerns were addressed in this webinar.

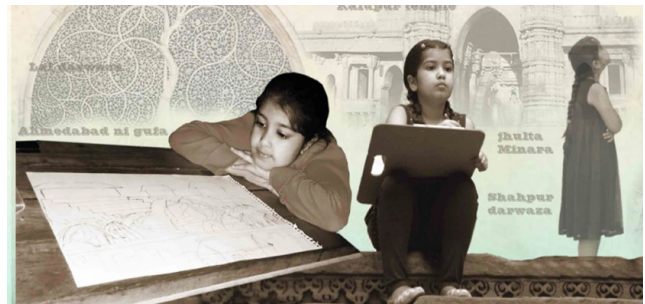
### April 2020: 'Story of My City' - Interactive Online Session on International Day for Monuments and Sites



*Invitation for the event.*

This year saw every one taking different and innovative approaches to everything. The pandemic took us further from each other physically but at the same time it allowed us to interact more frequently and with larger numbers through the digital medium. ICOMOS India has a special focus on youth engagement in heritage and the West zone, has always put stress on asserting and regards of the same, amongst the youth and the children.

Keeping this same thought in mind, the celebrations this year were conducted with online presentation session by a 10 year old, you girl, Ms. Aarya Chavda from Ahmedabad who is popular for her heritage As a child she has published a few of her works already. She has given an introductory speech during



*Presentation slides by Ms Arya Chavda on heritage through Arya's special lens.*

UNESCO convention in 2018. Her art is published by UNESCO Delhi. She was invited to provide her perspectives as well as showcase her artwork online. As she began the verbal sketch of the heritage of her city, her online webinar, during lock-down period, was to be an inspiring event for many children, youth and individuals. Her message: "We must never forget that our heritage is more than just stone buildings; It is a legacy given to us by our ancestors. We share the values it holds to our present culture and conserve it, to pass it on to our future generations."

## August 2020: Zonal Meeting (Online)

ICOMOS India West with many active members from Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Pune and other cities in the zone holds meetings from time to time and discuss the updates and way forward for the organization's inputs for monuments and sites for the region. A zonal meeting for members in the west zone was organized on 8th August 2020 online on zoom platform to ensure wider participation during the lockdown period. The members initially updated everyone their whereabouts and their present situation during the COVID-19 pandemic conditions. In duration of 2 hours, many important points like membership drive, protection of heritage under threat, institutional partnership and other activities were discussed. The discussions involved concerns for institutions membership, with opportunities and resources of including knowledge sharing, voluntary works, etc.

A policy reform was also discussed to be important for COMOS to make sure students from varied background and various age group can benefit from membership which is currently only for PhD registered students. Some members expressed their willingness to volunteer and form teams to take zonal activities further. A possibility of zonal newsletter, zone level event, adding new institutional members and other activities were discussed.

Some members expressed their willingness to volunteer and form teams to take zonal activities further. A possibility of zonal newsletter, zone level event, adding new institutional members and other activities were discussed.



*Hutheesing Jain Temple, Ahmedabad.  
Photo credits: Sukrit Sen*

Organised by Faculty of Architecture,  
Abdul Kalam Technical University, Lucknow

*Zoom link for the webinar to be shared on the website and facebook of the faculty on 13th April 2020.*



In  
partnership  
with



*Announcement of collaborative activity on 'Good Practices for Conservation of Monuments and Sites'.*

*Photo credits: Nishant Upadhyay*

## CENTRAL ZONE

Central zone in collaboration with Faculty of Architecture and Planning, Abdul Kalam Technical University (FOAP, AKTU), Lucknow organised a webinar on 13th April 2020. The webinar addressed the ICOMOS and UNESCO guidelines for the conservation of built heritage and illustrated them via through national and international case studies. A local case study of a new Interpretation Centre built in traditional material, in a historical garden named, Pateriya ka Bagh in Rajnagar, M.P., was shown as an example of how the historical landscapes can guide the design methodology for a new building in the historical context.

To strengthen the zonal vision document, all the zonal members from various regions of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh were requested to provide their inputs to envision common goals and ensure geographical representations, on the 16th August, 2020 in an online meeting. The meeting had a clear focus on the urgent need to initiate conservation and management of cultural landscapes in the zone starting with drafting a scientific framework for its documentation.

## April 2020: Webinar on 'Good Practices for Conservation of Monuments and Sites'

In collaboration with Faculty of Architecture and Planning, Abdul Kalam Technical University (FOAP, AKTU), Lucknow organised a webinar on 13th April 2020.

The webinar introduced the global guidelines and charters on design interventions and management of cultural heritage and its examples across the globe including India.

The webinar also advocated the need for an immediate action to understand the potential of industrial heritage, that India has in plenty. Citing the example of abandoned flour mills and a recently



Organised by Faculty of Architecture,  
Abdul Kalam Technical University, Lucknow

*Zoom link for the webinar to be shared on the website and facebook of the faculty on 13th April 2020.*

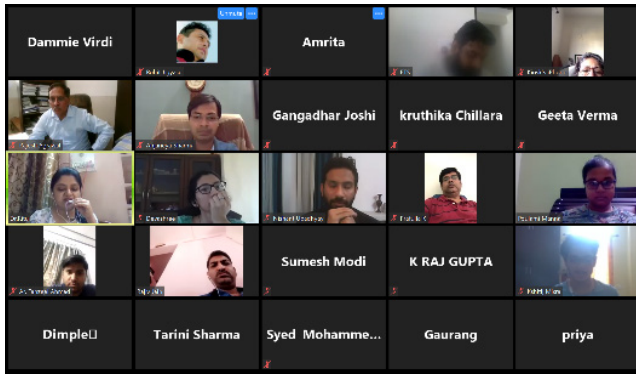


In  
partnership  
with



*Event poster for the aforementioned activity.*

*Photo credits: Nishant Upadhyay*



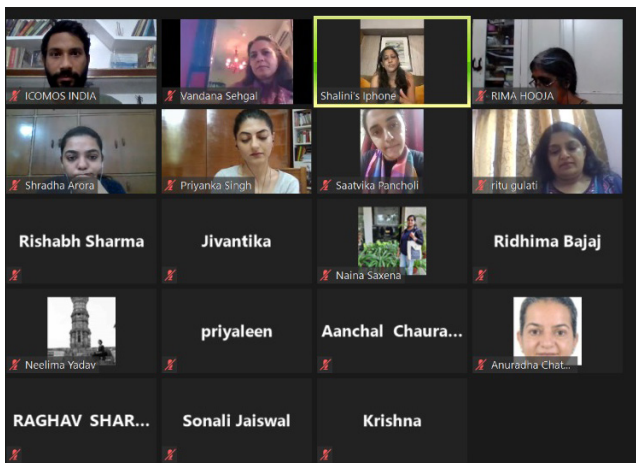
*Webinar in session, Photo credits: Anjaneya Sharma*

collapsed doorway of Sibtainabad Imambara in Lucknow, the speaker suggested taking measures to study and safeguard the local heritage. The webinar was a great success participated by 100 people, which could have been more if the online platform would have allowed. The participants included the students, heritage professionals and budding architects across the globe.

### August 2020: Virtual Meet on the vision and strategy for ICOMOS India

The ICOMOS Central Zone meeting was called on 16th August, 2020 to discuss the vision and strategy for the ICOMOS India for the coming three years and received a great response and participation from the zonal members. To strengthen the vision document for the Central zone, all the zonal members from various regions of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh were requested to provide their inputs to envision common goals and ensure geographical representations.

The information was requested in form of an initial localized SWOT analysis, which was discussed



*Meeting in session.*

later in the meeting along with a feedback session. Subsequently, brief presentations by the ICOMOS India executive committee members emphasized on the administrative and operational structure of their respective roles. The urgency for drafting Vision and strategy for the central zone for the protection of its rich and diverse cultural heritage was observed by all the speakers.

The importance of collaborations with institutional members was stressed as the common theme of addressing the conservation and management of the cultural landscapes in the zone. emerged from the overall discussions.



*Dharamsagar Lake, Panna, Madhya Pradesh, India.  
Photo credits: Rishabh Sharma*

# Bohag Bihu on way to being UNESCO's 'intangible cultural heritage'

MAMATA MISHRA

GUWAHATI, Sept 23: Bohag Bihu is on its way to getting a place in the list of intangible cultural heritage under the UNESCO, with efforts being stepped up by the North East Zone of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) in association with global cultural heritage experts to fetch this status to the major festival of Assam.

The move, according to experts, would give an exclusive international recognition to Bihu, contributing in both its preservation and promotion at the international level.

The ICOMOS is an international non-governmental organisation that rallies its network of experts to serve UNESCO's World Heritage Convention.

"After a number of well-presentations about the Bihu, its origin and evolution, the dance form, musical instruments etc., the global experts

of ICOMOS have conveyed to us that Bihu, especially Bohag Bihu, fulfils the criteria of getting enlisted as an intangible cultural heritage," Dilip Changkakoty, member of ICOMOS NE Zone told *The Assam Tribune*.

The ICOMOS International Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICICH) is one of the many international scientific committees of ICOMOS, which allow members from around the world to form networks of expertise in particular areas of cultural heritage. Members include internationally renowned specialists in their fields.

"After being created as a separate zone for the North East a couple of months back, we have taken the initiative to make the world aware about the cultural specialities of Assam and the North East.

With a number of cultural experts from Assam on board, we organised a web session on September 20 for the in-



ternational level culture heritage experts to showcase different aspects of Bihu, and its role as a melting pot for cultures and traditions of different communities and tribes. The presentations have earned lots of positive response from global specialists, paving the way for the cause,"

Changkakoty said.

From Assam Changkakoty and Dr Sanjib Kumar Borkakoti of ICOMOS India (North East Zone) are also the experts of global ICICH. In a proactive approach, Dr Hee Sook Lee-Niinioja, global president of ICICH had requested all members of

ICICH in different parts of world to attend the online events on Bihu.

According to the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, the term 'intangible cultural heritage' means the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills –

as well as the instruments, objects, artifacts and cultural spaces associated therewith – that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognise as part of their cultural heritage.

"This international recognition to Bihu would mean a greater international expo-

sure to Bihu dance, songs, traditional Assamese ornaments, textile, etc. It will open a world of opportunities to our artists and artisans alike," Changkakoty added.

So far, altogether 18 cultural elements from India including yoga, Vedic chanting, Manipuri Songkirtan, etc., have been recognised as intangible cultural heritage.

Dr Mrinalini Atray, expert from ICOMOS expressed hope that coming together of experts from across the globe in a web session on Bihu would make a case for enlisting Bihu in the list of world's cultural heritage. "Bihu festival is the

perfect blend of different tribes and clans who have made Assam their home. It is an organic whole, and is a true representative of Assam and its heritage. It must get a seat in the world heritage list," she mentioned.

Backing the cause, Munish Pandit, vice-president of ICOMOS-ICICH said for any kind of cultural heritage, ICOMOS can help in its safeguard. "Though the actual carriers of any cultural heritage are the local people who follow it, the global platform can provide some framework in terms of its documentation or its recognition," he added.

ऑयल इंडिया लिमिटेड  
(एनएसई 500 में सूचीबद्ध)  
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P.O. Duliajan - 786 602, Assam, India ; CIN : L11101AS1959GOI001148  
Oil India Limited intends to engage personnel on contract basis for its operations in Field Head Quarter (FHQ), Duliajan, purely for temporary requirement. The Walk-In-Interview for engagement of Process Engineer on contract (CONTI/PGE/2020-14) has been scheduled on 13.10.2020 at FHQ, Duliajan. Please visit our website [www.oil-india.com](http://www.oil-india.com) for details.

Media coverage of the Bihu Webinar in the Assam Tribune, Guwahati.

## NORTH EAST ZONE

North-east (NE) Zone Members, Mr Dilip Changkakoty and Dr Sanjib Kumar Borkakoti submitted seven inventories in July 2020 to NSC on Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) for roadmap of ICOMOS India.

In September 2020, NE Zone, NSC & International Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICICH) collaborated and organised a webinar on Bihu, which led to mass publicity and actual analysis by heritage experts. Dr Pradip Neog and Dinesh Gogoi were resource persons. As a follow-up programme to the Bihu Webinar, NE Zone proposed an online Essay competition on Bihu for Indian graduate, post-graduate & NRI Assamese students. This was also in collaboration with ICICH, as proposed by ICICH Expert members Dilip Changkakoty and Dr Sanjib Kumar Borkakoti. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic situation in India, the programme was postponed to April 2021.

Data collection and documentation for Vyah-Ojapali, endangered triple symphony was initiated under guidance of ICICH Expert member Mr Dilip Changkakoty. A public meeting was held at Vyah-para on 21 February 2021 to stand for heritage-sensitive Intellectual Property, Publicity and Promotion and Marketing strategies. As there are only three maestros alive in this traditional art-form, seven trainees were engaged to learn the vocal part.

## September 2020: Webinar on Bihu

Bihu is the national festival of Assam. This colourful agrarian festival deserves global recognition. So NE Zone of ICOMOS India organised an online webinar on Bihu in association with NSC ICH and ICICH on 20 September 2020 Sunday. Dr Sanjib Kumar Borkakoti, President of Society for Srimanta Sankaradeva and Expert member of ICICH moderated this event.

Dr Borkakoti said that Bihu is a unique festival as it is observed by both rural and urban dwellers, both farmers and non-farmers, in spite of the basic character of the festival being that of an agrarian festival. He also said that observation at three different times of the year was another distinctive feature of Bihu. He said that drawing the attention of the scholars across the world was the main aim of the webinar. The proceedings of the webinar are available on COMOS Youtube Channel.



Bihu webinar in session.





# SCIENTIFIC MATTERS

*Ruins of church built of coral and brick, Dhanushkodi, Tamilnadu*

## INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEES (ISCs)

### Engagement of ICOMOS India in ISCs

ICOMOS India initiated to create a database on ISC members from our national committee. An updated information on ISC members from India list was sought from all International Scientific Committees.

The list of ICOMOS India membership was updated to identify the members who are members of various ISCs. A concerted effort was made to encourage and facilitate ICOMOS India members to apply for membership in various ISCs.

It is heartening to report that 59 ICOMOS India members have joined ISCs in various capacities.

### Voting Members

In addition to this, recommendations were provided to members seeking 'voting member' positions within the ISC. Following members were provided support from the national committee -

Dr Arun Menon for International Committee on Analysis and Restoration of Structures of Architectural Heritage (ISC ARSAH)

Ms Kamalika Bose for International Committee on Shared Built Heritage (ISC SBH)

Dr Mrinalini Atrey for International Committee for Intangible Cultural Heritage (IC ICH)

Ms Radhika Dhumal for International Committee on Archaeological Heritage Management (ICAHM)

### Bureau Members

It is a pleasure to share that the following ICOMOS India members have been elected to the bureaus of ISCs:

Ms Ananya Bhattacharya, Bureau Member, International Committee on Cultural Tourism (ICTC)

Prof Kiran Joshi, Secretary General, International Committee on 20th Century Heritage (ISC 20C)

Mr Munish Pandit, Vice President, International Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICICH)

Dr Navin Piplani, Vice President, International Committee on Training (CIF)

Mr Nitin Sinha, Vice President, International Committee on Legal, Administrative and Financial Issues (ICLAFI)

Dr Rohit Jigyasu, Vice President, International Committee on Risk Preparedness (ICORP)

Ms Sangeeta Bais, Vice President, International Committee on Stone (ISCS)

Dr Shikha Jain, Vice President, International Committee on Fortifications and Military Heritage (ICOFORT)

Ms Smriti Pant, Vice President, International Committee on 20th Century Heritage (ISC 20C)

### Heritage Alert - Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad Old Campus



*The green courts between dormitory units.*

*Photo credits: Mauricio Luzuriaga, 2015*

ICOMOS Heritage Alert for the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIMA) was issued by ISC 20C under the guidance of Kiran Joshi, the Secretary General of ISC 20C. This worldwide Heritage Alert, ICOMOS's most consequential expression of concern, was issued to amplify awareness of the threat to IIMA Old Campus and drew urgent attention to the eminent risk of loss of the internationally magnificent buildings that make up the cultural landscape designed by Louis I. Kahn with his team of Indian architects, landscape architects and engineers.

The full Heritage Alert is available at <https://www.icomos.org/>

# ICOMOS INDIA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM 2020

**Date:** 21<sup>st</sup> May (AGM)  
22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> May (Scientific Symposium)  
**Venue:** ICSR Auditorium, IIT-Madras,  
Chennai

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

**Theme: Structural &  
Material Analysis in  
Built Heritage  
Conservation**

Photography By Pieter de Kooiker



**ICOMOS  
INDIA** <sup>TM</sup>  
Council on Monuments and Sites

### Papers to be shortlisted and presented under each sub theme.

<b>Abstract:</b>	300 words (max.) with 3-4 keywords, and the sub-theme identified.
<b>Full Paper for Publication:</b>	Should not exceed 5000 words; must follow ASCE formatting style.
<b>Full Paper for Presentation:</b>	Max. 15 slides for oral presentation of 10+2 minutes for Q&A.
<b>Poster Presentations:</b>	20 A1 sized posters

Closure of Abstract Submission for Papers/ Posters:	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2020</b>
Extended Date for Abstract Submission for Papers/Posters:	<b>15<sup>th</sup> February, 2020</b>
Announcement of Shortlisted Abstracts/Posters:	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2020</b>
Registration Opens:	<b>15<sup>th</sup> March, 2020</b>
Closure of Full Paper Submission:	<b>13<sup>th</sup> April, 2020</b>
Poster Presentation:	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2020</b>
Last Date for Early Bird Registration:	<b>15<sup>th</sup> April, 2020</b>
Last Date for Registration:	<b>30<sup>th</sup> April, 2020</b>

#### OBJECTIVES

##### Assess

Scientific tools and methodologies to analyse tangible fabric

##### Identity

Recognise the key role of scientific analysis within conservation process

##### Connect

Develop an integrated approach that connects various stakeholders

#### SUB-THEMES

1. Technology for Documentation and Condition Mapping
2. Forensic Analysis of Materials and Structures
3. Risk Assessment and Mitigation
4. Traditional Knowledge Systems and Intangible Heritage
5. Education and Capacity Building

#### SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

##### Prof. GSV Suryanarayana Murthy

Zonal Representative (South Zone), ICOMOS India

##### Dr. Arun Menon

Convener, NCSHC, IIT Madras and Coordinator, **NSC-ARSAH**, ICOMOS India

##### Dr. Jigna Desai

Scientific Counselor, ICOMOS India

##### Prof. Nalini Thakur

Coordinator, **NSC-TheoPhil**, ICOMOS India

##### Mr. Bikramjit Chakraborty

Coordinator, **NSC-HD**, ICOMOS India

##### Ms. Annabel Lopez

Coordinator, **NSC-VA**, ICOMOS India

##### Mrs. Geetika Kalha

Coordinator, **NSC-AHM**, ICOMOS India

##### Mr. Ashish Trambadia

Coordinator, **NSC-FORT**, ICOMOS India

##### Ms. Sharayu More

Coordinator, **NSC-Stone**, ICOMOS India



## ICOMOS INDIA ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM

### STRUCTURAL & MATERIAL ANALYSIS IN BUILT HERITAGE CONSERVATION

22-23 May 2020, IIT Madras, Chennai (Mode: ONLINE)

## SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM 2020

The symposium provided a virtual platform for 113 professionals and researchers to share their experiences on scientific assessment of matters related to heritage conservation. The discussion was focused on the key area of “Structural & Material Analysis in Built Heritage Conservation”, with an emphasis on science, structure and material aspects of heritage buildings. The objective was to access tools and methodologies to analyse tangible fabric, identify the key role of analysis within the conservation process and develop an integrated approach that connects various stakeholders.

In December 2019, a call for abstracts for paper and poster presentations was announced under 5 sub-themes:

1. Technology for Documentation and Condition Mapping,
2. Forensic Analysis of Materials and Structures,
3. Risk Assessment and Mitigation,
4. Traditional Knowledge Systems and Intangible Heritage,
5. Education and Capacity Building.

The event was planned as an in-person one. However, the scenario changed in March with the unforeseen and unprecedented impact of Covid-19 pandemic. The programme and mode of delivery of the symposium underwent an adaptation, making it a fully online event.

As a result, the registrations, confirmations and presentations in full shape were received from 27 authors / presenters for final presentations.

### DAY 1 (22nd May 2020) Introductory Session

Prof GSV Suryanarayana Murthy extended a warm welcome to participants and introduced the theme and objectives of the symposium. This was followed by an introduction to ICOMOS and COMOS by Prof Kiran Joshi, President (ICOMOS India). Further, the session was graced by the presence of Dr Ravindra Gettu, Dean (IC&SR), IIT Madras, who highlighted the aspect of sustainable heritage conservation.

Dr Arun Menon concluded the session with an introduction of sub-themes, panel chairs, rapporteurs, zoom volunteers and the day's proceedings, which included 14 presentations on 3 sub-themes.

#### *Session 1, Sub-theme 1: Technology for Documentation and Condition Mapping (TDCM)*

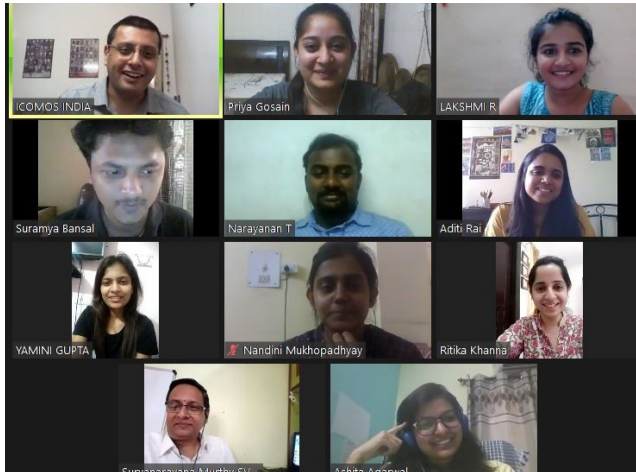
Chair - Prof Khushi Shah  
Rapporteur - Ms Aditi Rai

Six research works were presented, which focused on the potential scientific tools developed for documentation, damage mapping, SHM, etc. for the heritage structures.

#### *Session 2: Presentations, Sub-theme 2: Forensic Analysis of Materials and Structures (FAMS)*

Chair - Prof Shweta Vardia  
Rapporteur - Ms Yamini Gupta

Five research papers and case studies where scientific tests, analysis and structural assessment have revealed a new directional approaches to heritage conservation were presented.



*The Organising team - ICOMOS India Annual Scientific Symposium 2020 - DAY 02.*

### *Session 3, Sub-theme 3: Risk Assessment and Mitigation (RAM)*

Chair - Ar Poonam Verma Mascarenhas

Rapporteur - Ms Ashita Agarwal

Three papers were presented that explored the current systematic frameworks and demonstrated heritage impact assessment tools to address the issue of climate change and the resultant increase in the rate of natural and man-made disasters. The presentations were followed by Q/A session and a summary of each session by the respective panel chair, which provided a window to get to know the potential way forwards for each topic.

## **DAY 2 (23rd May 2020)**

### *Session 4, Sub-theme 4: Traditional Knowledge Systems and Intangible Heritage (TKSIH)*

Chairs - Prof Nalini Thakur, Prof Sangamithra Basu

Rapporteurs - Mr Suramya Bansal, Ms Yamini Gupta

Twelve research works were presented, which explored the relationship between the tangible built heritage and the intangible knowledge behind it and proposed integrated methods of recording, analysing and conserving the same.

### *Session 5, Sub-theme 5: Education and Capacity Building (ECB)*

Chair - Prof Ranee Vedamuthu

Rapporteur - Mr Narayanan T

Two papers were presented on the initiatives taken by CEPT University to facilitate Capacity Building for Heritage Conservation in India.

The presentations were followed by the Q/A sessions and respective summaries by the panel chairs. This was followed by the remarks from the EPWG National representative, Ms Ritika Khanna, who highlighted the extensive cross-learning process and the efforts made by the EPWG volunteers along with the organising committee. Vice-President Ms Gurmeet Rai also shared her reflections on the symposium.

The following five papers were recognised as the "Best Papers".

1. Ms Shivani Sharma and Dr Vishakha Kawathekar (TKSIH-08: Theory, Interpretation and Restoration – Markanda Temple, Gadchiroli),
2. Mr Sarath Chanra Boyapathi and Ms Sneha Borate (FAMS-09: Testing of materials and building components for restoration of Gagan Mahal, Anegundi),
3. Ms Kimaya Keluskar and Ms Sanaeya Vandrewala (TDCM-03: Energy efficiency within historic buildings: A study of occupant comfort and energy mapping),
4. Ms Karpagam Balamurugan, Ms Swathy Manohar, Ms Aishwarya KV, Mr Sudhakar Sekar, Mr Manu Santhanam and Dr Arun Menon (FAMS-06: Damage analysis of coral stone deterioration),
5. Ms Ritu Sara Thomas (RAM-04: An analysis of flood resilience of the built heritage of Thiruaranmula).

The following five research works which were awarded the "special mentions":

1. Mr Arpit Karnv (TDCM-10: SCAN to BIM - Process and benefits of implementing point cloud technologies in heritage building information modelling),
2. Ms Nigar Shaikh (TDCM-06: Characterisation of burnt clay units with respect to their production technology and raw material province: A case of the church of St. John of Nepomuk),
3. Ms Prathyusha Ravi Nilakantan (TKSIH-13: Kumbhabhishekam - A Cultural Phenomenon Safeguarding Tangible & Intangible Heritage),
4. Ms Nishi Poojary (TKSIH-16: Endurance of The South Canara Manor Houses),
5. Ms Malvika Mehta (TKSIH-17: Repairing an Endangered Traditional Knowledge System: The Case of Non-Hydraulic Lime Putty).

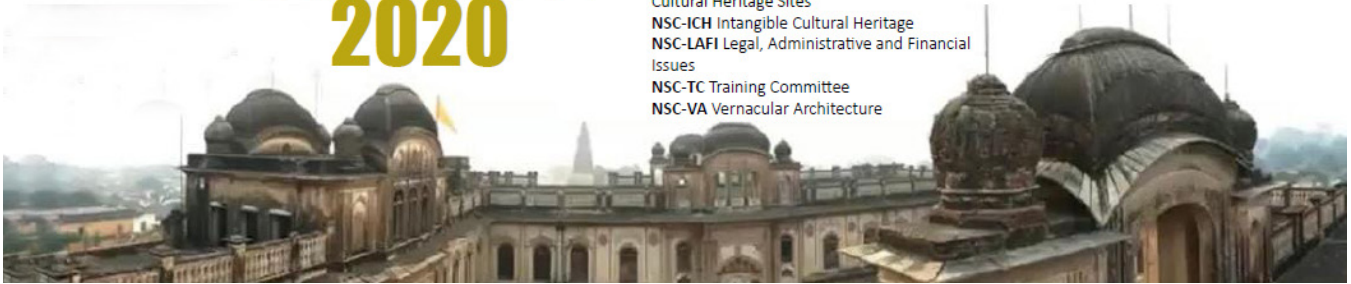
The event concluded with closing remarks by Prof GSV Suryanarayana Murthy and Dr Arun Menon.



27/28 NOVEMBER 2020  
TIME: 10.00AM TILL 3.00PM

“To recognise the primacy of scientific rigour and to empower the functioning of NSCs”

# NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONCLAVE 2020



Event poster for NS Conclave.

#### NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEES

NSC-ARSAH Analysis and Restoration of Structures of Architectural Heritage  
NSC-CL Cultural Landscapes  
NSC-AHM Archaeological Heritage Management  
NSC-CR Cultural Routes  
NSC-CT Cultural Tourism  
NSC-EAH Earthen Architectural Heritage  
NSC-Fort Fortifications and Military Heritage  
NSC-HD Heritage Documentation  
NSC-HTV Historic Towns and Villages  
NSC-IH Industrial Heritage  
NSC-IP Interpretation and Presentation of Cultural Heritage Sites  
NSC-ICH Intangible Cultural Heritage  
NSC-LAFI Legal, Administrative and Financial Issues  
NSC-TC Training Committee  
NSC-VA Vernacular Architecture

#### NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEES

NSC-MP Mural (Wall) Painting  
NSC-RP Risk Preparedness  
NSC-SBH Shared Built Heritage  
NSC-20C 20th Century Heritage  
NSC-THEOPHIL Theory and Philosophy of Conservation and Restoration  
NSC-SC Stone Conservation

#### WORKING GROUPS

Climate Change & Heritage Working Group  
Emerging Professionals Working Group  
Water & Heritage Working Group  
RBA Working Group

## NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONCLAVE 2020

A Report by NS Counsellor,  
Dr Arun Menon

The Conclave 2020 was conducted in a web-based mode on 27 and 28 November from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM on both days. Recalling the Principles for International Scientific Committees of ICOMOS (a.k.a. Eger-Xi'an Principles) adopted by the 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS in October 2005, NSCs in turn are expected to be “at the heart of scientific inquiry and exchange in their domains” to cultivate an interdisciplinary approach to heritage protection and management.

Conclave 2020 was an opportunity to bring up to speed new members on the genesis and objectives of the Scientific Committees, and an occasion to articulate the vision and a roadmap for NSCs by the NS Counsellor and the Executive Committee.

The Conclave committed to develop a roadmap for a Triennial Scientific Plan for ICOMOS India with immediate focus on activating a Scientific Council, completing the process of preparing NSC White Papers defining NSC objectives, alignment with respective ISCs and conceptualizing their scientific plans.

The Conclave also deliberated on plans to streamline NSC activity categories, mechanisms, and timelines for approval of grants and review in line with the Strategy Document and annual budgeting.

The Conclave witnessed two invited presentations: “Resilient and Sustainable Development of Historic Precincts and Areas: Focus West Bengal” by Prof Sanghamitra Basu, Coordinator, NSC-HTV; and “Establishing a Thematic Framework for Identification and Listing of 20C Architecture of Pre-Independence Period in India” by Ms Annabel Lopez, Coordinator, NSC-20C and team.

The second invited talk was followed by views from the Central Vista Working Committee (CVWC), specifically on the Role of NSC-20C, NSC-LAFI and NSC-SBH, by Ms Smita Makhija and Team CVWC.



NSC Conclave in Session.



Fig 1: Mr Janhwij Sharma presenting at the NSC VA Webinar of May 2020.

## NSC VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE

### May 2020: Webinar on “Vernacularism and the Built Heritage - Establishing the Cultural Landscape of the Western Himalayas”

24 May 2020

Speaker - Mr Janhwij Sharma, Conservation Architect and Joint Director General, Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), New Delhi.

The online talk was based on a region which includes Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh (mainly Lahaul and Spiti). Through the session, one learnt many interesting facts about the region which is a cold arid desert. Mr Janhwij Sharma also talked about the architecture in the region which has emerged and evolved over a millennium, taking into consideration the availability



Fig 2: Mr Janhwij Sharma presenting at the NSC VA Webinar of May 2020.

of building material. Mud, stone and in some cases timber are the materials used most often.

Different techniques such as earth construction, rammed earth, adobe have been used to build range of structures including forts, palaces, monasteries, mosque, residential buildings, which are scattered across the region. The presentation had taken the audience into a fascinating journey of Western Himalayas with Mr Sharma's perspectives and his thoughts on vernacular heritage and cultural landscape of Western Himalayas.

### July 2020: Webinar Series on “Rethinking Vernacular Architecture - Documentation & Lessons”

Session (I) - Hassan Fathy, Laurie Baker, Geoffrey Bawa & Beyond; Towards a Sustainable Vernacularism

17 July 2020

Speaker - Dr Benny Kuriakose

Moderator – Ms Poorva Patil

Kenneth Frampton and few others popularized the term critical regionalism, as a counter to the international style of architecture, by emphasizing the location and the identity of the place. Tropical modernism or regional modernism are other terms which are used to describe the works of some of the architects doing similar works. The relevance of vernacular architecture has increased many times due to climate change and global warming. Fathy, Baker and Bawa rediscovered some of the forgotten traditions and used them at a time when sustainability was not thought about. The terms used during those days were rural architecture, appropriate architecture, cost-effective architecture, tropical modernism etc., but had a common thread of vernacular architecture elements in their buildings. All three of them were able to influence a generation of architects in their own regions, but in the present context, the importance of the works of these great architects has increased. Dr Benny Kuriakose looked into the works of these three prominent architects of the last century from the perspective of Sustainable Vernacularism.

Session (II) - Understanding Vernacular Typologies - through the landscape of Uttarakhand, North-East India, Kutch & Rajasthan

18 July 2020

Speaker - Mr Akshay Varma, Architect

Moderator – Ms Poorva Patil, Architect

The presentation covered the understanding of the term 'Vernacular' and multiple parameters that form the repository of vernacular. The other key areas of focus were the built environment and methods to identify and decode the parameters of vernacular. This is important to be able to identify the variations in physical topographical context, climate, flora and fauna, occupation, craftsmanship, lifestyle, culture. Landscapes across Ultrakhand, North-East India, Kutch and Rajasthan were presented as case examples to show the variations and differences in the typologies. The idea was to expand the understanding of vernacular built form towards specifics rather than the generics.

Session (III) - Vernacular Heritage of Culturally rich Indian cities: learnings from House Forms in Lucknow  
19 July 2020

Speaker - Dr Ritu Gulati, Associate Professor at Faculty of Architecture, AKTU, Lucknow  
Moderator – Mr Shreeamey Phadnis, Architect

The presentation covered the relevance of learning from Vernacular Architecture in the contemporary context, along with the diverse lessons that could be adopted from the vernacular architecture of a region. Dr Gulati presented the case of Lucknow and its contrasting house forms in detail along with methods that could be adopted in its revival and upkeep. The case of Lucknow is true for vernacular heritage of many other culturally rich Indian cities.

Session (IV) - The reproduction of Vernacular Place in Disaster recovery and Build Back better  
25 July 2020

Speaker- Dr Ram Sateesh Pasupuleti, Architect and expert in Vernacular Architecture  
Moderator – Mr Shreeamey Phadnis, Architect

This lecture provided an over view of culture-place-risk phenomenon in the context of Disaster recovery and Build back better approaches. Here how different build back better has adopted top down and bottom-up participatory approaches. Dr Pasupuleti articulated on how different local communities across the globe have adapted or have responded to such cataclysmic changes occurred through disaster development processes. Case studies from India and Sweden and few secondary studies from Peru, Columbia and Turkey were presented. Based on the understanding of a variety of build back processes and responses, this study concluded on the determinants of the reproduction of a vernacular place in the Disaster-development contexts.

## NSC FORTIFICATIONS & MILITARY HERITAGE

### June - July 2020: Webinar Series on "Fortifications & Military Heritage of India"

NSC Fort organized a web based series of talks and discussion on fortification and military heritage covering almost all the regions and thematic areas of our country. A number of renowned speakers on the subject of fortification and military heritage were invited for keynote address in each session.

The poster features a vertical timeline of sessions on the left, a central grid of speaker portraits, and a large image of a fort at the bottom. The sessions listed are: 19 June 2020 (Deccan Fortresses), 20 June 2020 (Western Fortresses), 26 June 2020 (Northern Frontiers Central Strongholds), 27 June 2020 (Northwestern Frontiers), and 04 July 2020 (Southern & Eastern Fortified Heritage). The speakers shown are Jose Claudio Dos Santos (President, ISC-ICOFORT) and Dr. Pushkar Sohoni (Associate Professor, IISER, Pune). The event details for the first session are: June 19, 2020, 05:30 - 6:30 PM. The welcome note is by Ashish Trambadia, the opening note by Jose Claudio Dos Santos, the moderator is Tejaswini Aphale, and the keynote speaker is Dr. Pushkar Sohoni on 'Forts of Deccan in Bahmani Sultanate'.

Event poster for webinar series on 'Fortifications and Military Heritage of India'.

The slide is titled 'Forts of India - An Introduction' and focuses on 'Malhar Fort, Chhatisgarh, Approx. 3rd - 4th Cen BCE'. It includes a small video feed of the presenter, Mr. Janhwi Sharma, and two images: a satellite view of the Malhar Fort and a landscape view of a river and trees.

Mr Janhwi Sharma, presenting at the NSC Fort webinar of June - July 2020.

The series began on 19th June 2020 with welcome note by Mr Ashish Trambadia, NSC Coordinator and Opening note by Mr Jose claudio Dos Santos President ISC ICOFORT, followed by thematic session which ended on 4th July 2020. Members of the national scientific committee made detailed presentations followed by the keynote address. Sessions included presentations and speeches about Fortification and Military heritage from:



**Session (I) - Deccan Forts**

19 June 2020

Speaker - Dr Pushkar Sohoni

Moderator - Ms Tejaswini Aphale

**Session (II) - Maharashtra & Goa**

20 June 2020

Speaker - Dr Tejas Garge

Moderator - Ms Archana Deshmukh, Co-coordinator  
NSC Fort**Session (III) - Jammu, Punjab, Delhi, UP, MP & Gujarat**

26 June 2020

Speakers - Ms Amita Baig, Ms Hemani Badyal, Mr  
Ashish Trambadia and Ms Priya GosainModerator - Ms Priyanka Singh, Conservation  
Architect**Session (IV) - Rajasthan**

27 June 2020

Speakers - Ms Rima Hooja, Dr Shikha Jain and Mr  
Yash Pratap Singh

Moderator - Mr Munish Pandit.

**Session (V) - Southern & Eastern regions & Panel Discussion**

4 July 2020

Speakers - Mr Janhwij Sharma, Ms Nitya Bali, Ms  
Aparva Sinha and Ms. Somi Chatterjee

Moderator - Prof Sangeeta Bagga

The heritage of defense has a very different context today. The heritage of fortifications, arms and ammunitions, defense systems and architecture are being forgotten or at least not given their due diligence. Fortification are significant sources of knowledge of urban planning, natural topography, resource management, defense strategies and many more. The series shall also bring out various Regional variations and context based cases.

The finale was marked by a Panel discussion between eminent experts from diverse backgrounds including Dr Shikha Jain, Mr Janhwij Sharma, Dr Rima Hooja and Ar Shalini Dasgupta who discussed the present need of focus on Military and Fortification Heritage, the perspective of preservation, promotion and wider awareness building throughout the nation.

Panelists also provided certain facts and figures to corroborate the potential and research which can help continuing its values. Mr Ashish Trambadia concluded the series by thanking wider participation.



## SPEAKERS

Dr. Shikha Jain  
Director DRONAH &  
Vice President, ICOFORT



Yash Pratap Singh  
Shekhawat  
Principal Architect,  
Techarch Studio, Gurugram



The Speakers and Moderator are members of National Scientific Committee for Fortifications and Military Heritage, NSC ICOMOS India.

Conservation Dialogue on **FORTS OF INDIA**

Event Poster for NSC Fort webinar of August 2020.

**August 2020: Webinar on “Conservation Dialogue on Forts of India - Rajasthan”**

A webinar on “Conservation Dialogue on Forts of India with Special Focus on Forts of Rajasthan” was organized on 21st August 2020.

Department of Science and Technology, Government of Rajasthan hosted the event as part of the event series named as Design Conclave 2020. Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur and Department of Art & Culture were co-hosts of the design conclave and the event was supported by MSMSII Museum trust, City Palace, Jaipur and Dronah Foundation. The event was coordinated by Aayojan School of Architecture.

ICOMOS India got associated with the event through NSC Fortifications and Military Heritage. Members of the NSC Dr Rima Hooja (Vice President ICOMOS India), Director, MSMS II Museum Trust, City Palace, Jaipur, moderated the event and Dr. Shikha Jain, Director, Dronah and Vice President, ICOFORT with Ar Yash Pratap Singh Shekhawat, Principal Architect, Techarch Studio presented during the event.

The participants of the event comprised of Government officials, ICOMOS Members, Design Professionals and Students.



Dr Shikha Jain presenting at the NSC Fort webinar of August 2020.

## NSC RISK PREPAREDNESS

### July 2020: Webinar Series on “Decoding Resilience in context of Cultural Continuum”

5 July 2020

Decoding Resilience is like decoding creativity. Prevalent but not easy to define. As many minds that many perceptions and as many definitions. Open to many interpretations, resilience can be equated as an intangible, the human spirit to scientific as the inbuilt in human body the white blood cells. Amidst the agreement on building immunity as the best defence against the ongoing health challenge; one has to wonder if the same principle could be applied to the living environment - an inbuilt defence mechanism.

An enquiry into this aspect has to begin in the past settlements for not only have they survived centuries but have also flourished and perhaps it is time to view through this lens of resilience to understand the different players and factors. Employing case studies appears to be the best way forward. Is it the place or the people? Is it a practice or human consciousness itself? Can it be learned? Can it be copied? Can it be understood and emulated? Creating the bonds within the diverse inhabiting communities with the government bodies and professionals was identified as key for continuum along with using the in-built resilience system in the urban fabric as the core for creating planned intervention, i.e. to create a dynamic relationship between the people and the settlement fabric.

Resilience of people and place are anchored in the intangibles that endow the site and espouse ownership. However, political and cultural upheavals can cause fractures and tools for building- up these have not yet been recognized as primary requisite for resilience.

Ar Smita Makhija captured the essentials of Resilience in Historic City as:

- Eradicate ignorance - amongst all – the Govt., the residents, the players of developments.
- To do so- a digital repository that is open source for better understanding of evolution of city and later development along with all planned interventions.
- All interventions and revitalization projects must prioritise: Life, safety, health and well - being as primary goals.

- Community connect is crucial. Looking at past admin structure and present 74th amendment to constitution - can help resolve the gap between the top-down and down to top decision making process.
- Burden of going to court for basic rights by citizens need to be lightened and the system of planning needs to change keeping all of the above in mind.

Dr Arun Menon espoused:

- Partnership between the traditional knowledge bearers and contemporary educated professionals is a must for long lasting continuum.
- Technical advancements do not alone ensure appropriate solutions.
- Challenges of decisions on restoration, renovation, rebuilding- post a disaster are in negotiating between cultural knowledge systems and practices and the international charters. The discussions may present many perspectives and multiplicity should be accepted as positive engagement and negotiating these are a must.
- Modern education systems have continued to delineate the core strength of the cultural continuum of India.

The webinar was an initiation into resilience aspect of heritage to be furthered as informed mitigation strategy in ensuing climate change induced disasters that now threaten loss of both - lives and cultures.



Event poster for 'Decoding Resilience in context of Cultural Continuum'.



## NSC HISTORIC TOWNS & VILLAGES

**August - December 2020: Webinar Series on “Resilient and Sustainable Development of Historic Precincts and Areas”**



*Sagar Dighi in Cooch Behar Town which is declared as heritage city by West Bengal Government, presented by Dr Arjun Mukerji.*

The East Zone of ICOMOS India in collaboration with the NSC on Historic Towns and Villages (NSC-HTV) initiated a webinar series on ‘Resilient and Sustainable Development of Historic Precincts and Areas’ with its inaugural session on August 27-28, 2020.

*Inaugural Session (I) on “Concepts, Frameworks, Needs and Experiences of Historic Areas and Precincts”*

27 August 2020 - Focus West Bengal

Speakers - Prof AGK Menon, Dr Arjun Mukerji, Mr Anjan Mitra, Mr Partha Ranjan Das, IPS Mr Soumen Mitra, Mr Saptarshi Sanyal  
Moderator - Ms Kamalika Bose

Prof Dr Sanghamitra Basu (Coordinator, NSC-HTV) gave a background to the webinar series and presented the importance of heritage precincts and areas in preserving the identity of a place and to realize development potentials. Prof Menon highlighted four key issues: how present development is rooted in colonial ideology, a need to understand the problem to develop a solution, ICOMOS Venice Charter vs INTACH Charter, and indigenous urbanism as a way forward. He mentioned the contemporary projects of Varanasi – Vishwanath Plaza, Chandni Chowk Redevelopment project, and the Redevelopment of Central Vista in Delhi as some relevant examples.

Dr Arjun Mukerji shared experiences from Cooch Behar known for the Royal Palace and Madan Mohan temple. With illustrations, maps and images, he elucidated the rational approach adopted by the team at IIT Kharagpur to integrate heritage conservation in the planning process of Cooch Behar, a city that has been recently declared as a heritage city by West Bengal Government. Mr Anjan Mitra raised the pertinent question of prevailing development paradigm and urged for doing away with a culture that is defined only by built environment and guided by growth driven policies. He reminded the participants of the responsibilities to look at any place from a socio-cultural aspect, understand significance of indigenous development practices and traditional wisdom.

Ms Kamalika Bose anchored the panel discussion including all the speakers. The panel included Mr Partha Ranjan Das, IPS Mr Soumen Mitra, Mr Saptarshi Sanyal along with the speakers. Some of the key discussion were: law enforcement alone cannot be the tool to bring in the sense of heritage; a sense of belongingness to be brought in where many heritage structures are occupied by tenants and owners are untraceable; need of sufficient incentives; pivotal role that an administrator can play through actual restoration and adaptive reuse, and so forth. The panel emphasized upon: decentralized and localized approach in identifying and managing precincts; the importance of local pride and valorization; need to integrate local economy into way of living; encourage local craftsmanship and enhance capacity building at multiple levels. The final remarks focused on conservation as a continuous process in a country with diverse traditions with a need to recognize traditional systems. Ms Ananya Bhattacharya presented the vote of thanks to speakers and participants.



*An example of a typical temple in Bishnupur, a district in West Bengal, as presented by Mr Anjan Mitra.*

28 August 2020 - Focus Kolkata  
Speakers - Ms Kamalika Bose, Mr Manish Chakraborti, Prof KT Ravindran, Mr Amit Chaudhuri, Mr GM Kapur, Mr Anindya Karforma  
Moderator- Ms Mukul Agarwal



*An example of a neighbourhood along Chitpur Road, as presented by Ms Kamalika Bose.*

Prof Dr Sanghamitra Basu reminded that at the end of the session of Day 1, the following approaches were identified as ways forward: indigenous urbanism, people-centric approach, broad urban development plans incorporated with conservation principles, increasing community engagement at multiple levels, and instilling the ethos of conservation within the community, especially young adults.

Ms Kamalika Bose walked the audience through the multilayered socio-political milieu of Chitpur Road in North Kolkata, the different neighbourhoods that organically evolved along this arterial spine that was indigenously built by the Bengali elite and working class. She called attention to livability issues due to rapid change, risks and threats facing Chitpur's built heritage today. Mr Manish Chakraborti shared a brief history and overview of the conception of

BBD Bag previously known as Dalhousie Square, especially the prevalent use of European influences in the development of the square. Using his work on the Dalhousie Square Heritage Zone or Precinct as a case study, he underscored the need for comprehensive conservation led development strategy drafted with active participation from multiple stakeholders.

The presentations were followed by a panel discussion moderated by Ms Mukul Agarwal. The panels included: Prof KT Ravindran, Mr Amit Chaudhuri, Mr GM Kapur and Mr Anindya Karforma along with the speakers. Prof Ravindran, spoke about the roles played by Urban Art Commission and Heritage Conservation Committee in Delhi, in safeguarding heritage areas and precincts of Delhi. He deliberated on Kochin Plan, which applied the concepts of heritage precincts and prescribed what should be allowed and how to identify heritage districts. Mr Amit Chaudhary explained why and how Kolkata can be considered as a great city of modernity and how a vibrant inheritance of middle-class India is imbibed in its architecture and space and urged for inclusion of heritage precinct in the Corporation Act. Mr GM Kapur gave an overview of heritage legislation in India and the role of INTACH. Mr Anindya Karforma briefed about the initiation of the Heritage Conservation Committee of the Kolkata Municipal Corporation and the process followed in case of heritage properties.

The key discussion points included: enabling a more holistic dialogue to develop a deeper understanding of concepts, framework and shared experience related to historic areas and precincts; building knowledge systems that address the processes; challenges faced with grading and listing heritage properties, methods of delineating historic precinct; learning from the legislative actions undertaken by other heritage national organisations in the past and so on. The Q&A session highlighted the concept of historic landscape, issue of arbitrary downgrading of listed properties, need for an appellate body to have a dialogue, setting up of committees to act as watch dogs, and need for implementation.

Ms Ananya Bhattacharya thanked the audience, panelists, moderator and speakers for their presence and active participation. and editing process, in order to produce an output in the form of a publication that will be shared with the stake holders, policy makers and related organisations.

*Session (II) on “Resilient and Sustainable Development of Historic Precincts and Areas - Heritage Economics, Legal Tools, and Management Mechanisms: Focus West Bengal”*

01 October 2020 - Global Scenario

Speakers - Dr Nikhil Joshi, Mr Ashish Trambadia, Ms Sunaina Mandeen, Ms Kakoli Banerjee, Dr Benny Kuriakose, Mr Debashish Nayak, Ms Kirtida Unwalla  
Mr Kiran Kalamdani.

Moderator - Mr Bikramjit Chakraborty

The webinar commenced with the introductory remarks by Dr Sukanya Mitra who set the tone of the webinar by mentioning the divergent and parallel initiatives for heritage resources in West Bengal, and several initiatives taken by different public bodies, NGOs, etc. She also shared her experience of the challenges faced in the maintenance of an old house in North Kolkata.

Dr Nikhil Joshi, in his key note speech shared a presentation on 'Managing change in Historic South East Asian Cities' and elucidated the significance of culture's contribution to the economy and development, and how diversification is an important tool for sustaining economies. Illustrated through cases of Vigan City in the Philippines, Melaka and George Town in Malaysia and Singapore, he described how the local communities, traditional practices, buildings of the locals in these cities are affected due to the introduction of tourism as a major source of revenue earning for the state. He concluded with how few initiatives like collaborative efforts, heritage habitat seed fund, selective conservation approach, and TDR adopted as a tool for management, supported and recognised long-term tenants who have contributed to the safeguarding of the cultural heritage and thus ensured long-term tenants/ residents remained on the site and slowed down the process of out-migration.

The case study presented by Mr Ashish Trambadia on the topic “Heritage Management Mechanism for private houses in Ahmedabad Heritage City highlighted the recognition given to old buildings of the fortified city, formulations of first-time regulations, and the support that is given to locally listed heritage buildings and not monuments. The next case study presented jointly by Ms Sunaina Mandeen and Ms Kakoli Banerjee (People of Pondicherry) on “Pondicherry's Heritage – A people's movement”. Ms Banerjee highlighted the tangible heritage sharing the database of the old buildings maintained by

institutions like INTACH, and also by the owners themselves. Ms Mandeen described the. She recalled the popularity of heritage walks, the facade control measures, planning authorities, and guidelines followed in the town making the French precinct a good place to live in. She was followed by Ms Mandeen, who focused on intangible heritage of the town—the people, the natural Heritage of Pondicherry, and narrated the highlights of the Pondicherry Heritage Festival.

The panel discussion moderated by Mr Bikramjit Chakraborty included Dr Benny Kuriakose, Mr Debashish Nayak, Ms Kirtida Unwalla and Mr Kiran Kalamdani. Dr Benny Kuriakose narrated his work experiences on the pilot projects—Alappuzha and Muziris in Kerala and mentioned that heritage laws are effective when implemented with a proper mechanism. Mr Debashish Nayak highlighted his contribution towards the Ahmedabad heritage movement and how it has evolved over 20 years. Ms Kirtida Unwalla shared a short presentation on Mumbai's journey towards listing and heritage conservation. She focused on the positive aspect of citizens' participation, the overarching policies towards rent control, and the involvement of CSR and INTACH in the heritage management. She was followed by Mr Kiran Kalamdani, a Conservation Architect who shared his experiences of the various conservation projects like Advaita Ashram Mayavati, Shanivarvada, Sabha Mandap in Pune, Sikhar restoration in Satara.

This was followed by, a moderated Q&A Session inviting all the speakers. The discussion included the role of heritage values in heritage precincts, details on the conservation development plan, strategies to



*Dr Nikhil Joshi's presentation on 'Managing change in Historic South East Asian Cities'.*

avoid demolition of heritage, the fund allocated and guidelines, etc. Lessons which emerged from the discussion are: the need to be creative enough to establish the lost connection, the differences between the master plan and conservation development plan, the role of local community, bureaucrats and politicians in heritage management, allocation of funds in conservation as a collective decision, and to start with children for capacity building. It was also emphasized that the process of redevelopment of the precincts play an important role in conservation and localised system of heritage management is the need of the hour. The program concluded with closing remarks by Dr Mitra and vote of thanks by Ms Ananya Bhattacharya.

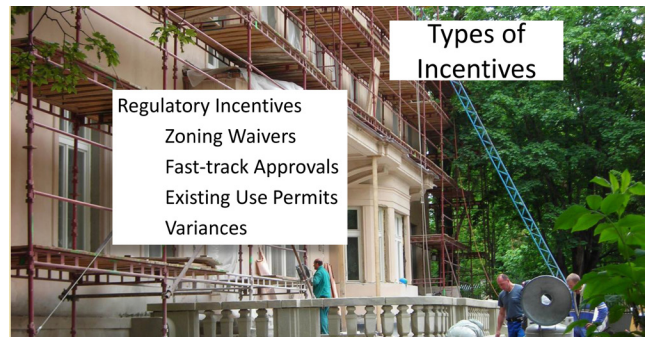
03 October 2020 - Local Scenario

Speakers - Mr Donovan Rypkema, Dr Bente Wolff, Ms Puja Bhowmik, Ms Kamalika Bose, Mr Darshan Dudhoria, Dr Haimanti Banerji, Mr Rajesh Sen and Mr Sushil Mohta

Moderator - Dr Arjun Mukerji

In her opening remarks for the second day of the series, Ms Puja Bhowmik highlighted the contradictions in attitudes towards heritage areas and precincts, and the impact of unmindful and incompatible changes induced by multiple stakeholders in these areas. Reflecting on the outcomes of the inaugural series of the webinars (August 2020), she stressed on the importance of the historic urban landscape approach for inclusive and sustainable conservation of the physical and human environment, in facilitating the economy of a heritage precinct, as well as in enhancing national and local identities. A summary of the regulatory and management mechanisms implemented for heritage conservation in various Indian cities, which emerged from the previous day's session, was also presented to establish the agenda of the current session.

Mr Donovan Rypkema delivered the keynote address on 'Financial tools for conservation of heritage precincts and areas'. The different kinds of costs and values involved with heritage preservation were presented and the various types of funding, risk-reward relationships, return expectations, and need for incentives were explained. He emphasized that the rampant destruction of heritage structures witnessed in urban areas was due to the disregard for their non-economic values, and established how historic preservation actually made economic sense. He urged the government, quasi-government entities, non-profit institutions, and the private



*Mr Rypkema shared on types of incentives in his keynote address on heritage economics.*

sector to share the economic burden of the private owners of heritage properties that provide non-monetary values to the society at large. Drawing on international examples, he highlighted how prudent public policy can attract private sector funding for heritage preservation, and concluded by listing a set of monetary and non-monetary incentives, and the historic urban landscape tools that can address the complexity of heritage economics in historic precincts and areas.

The keynote was followed by two case studies from West Bengal. The first case study by Dr Bente Wolff and Ms Puja Bhowmik showcased the organisational and financial mechanisms implemented for conservation in the historic town core of Serampore. Dr Wolff underscored the need to consult and engage local residents in order to create an ambiance of appreciation for heritage conservation. Rather than beginning with a masterplan, the pragmatic approach adopted was to create an exemplary success story through demonstration projects, such as the restoration of St. Olav's Church. Gradually, citizens, government authorities and media came to share a vision for the heritage precinct's upgrading. The evolution of the funding mechanism – from being solely international to garnering supplementing urban upgrading actions from the local government and triggering efforts to restore other heritage buildings and ultimately a plan for the Historic Town Square. She concluded by discussing the financial sustainability and income generation achieved through reuse as restaurants of the restored Denmark Tavern and former land registration office, while also ensuring harmonious co-existence with local small-scale businesses in the area.

Through the second case study of Azimganj, Murshidabad, Ms Kamalika Bose illustrated the possibilities of reactivation of the local economy through redevelopment of heritage precincts. Within

the diverse geographical and social context of Murshidabad, the historic evolution of the Oswal Jain community and the Azimganj Jainpatti along the banks of river Bhagirathi was discussed. A conservation strategy for this area was developed considering both value and viability, and the challenges of geography and local economy. The process involved identification and detailed documentation of the heritage assets and their economic potential, the delineation of five distinct zones, mobilization of actions and resources for a heritage-enabled ecosystem through community consultations, and interventions like travelling exhibitions, artistic collaborations, adaptive reuse, and capacity building. The restoration and adaptive reuse of Bari Kothi was presented as the pilot project, exemplifying returns generated from heritage preservation through tourism initiatives. Ms Bose concluded by emphasizing the role of local actions to unlock and tap the wider sectoral potentials and the proficiency of a community to self-organize itself in order to create local and sectoral impacts.

These case studies were followed by a panel discussion where Mr Darshan Dudhuria, Dr Haimanti Banerji, Mr Rajesh Sen and Mr Sushil Mohta joined the speakers of the session, with Dr Arjun Mukerji as the moderator.

Mr Dudhuria, who has been instrumental in preserving the Bari Kothi at Azimganj through its reuse as a heritage hotel, discussed the project through a brief presentation, and spoke about the importance of restoring heritage structures in order to create destinations of conserved culture and values, even if it did not make immediate economic sense. He identified tourism as one of the important pillars for supporting heritage-enabled, self-sustainable ecosystems in Bengal, and argued for a management mechanism that is authentic and ensures participation of the locals.



*Precincts of St Olav's Church at Serampore, presented by Dr Bente Olaff.*

The role of Murshidabad Heritage Development Society in creating awareness and addressing the intangible heritage was also discussed.

In contrast, Mr Sen presented and discussed the Zs' Precinct in Kolkata, which employs a model of adaptive reuse not entirely reliant on tourism. An art-deco house of a middle-class owner was conserved with minimum interventions in the existing building fabric to host a cafe, a museum-store, an art gallery, and a bed & breakfast, all of which could serve the local community as well as tourists. Mr Sen talked about the generation of value, improvement of the quality of life, and preservation of local identities of neighbourhoods, which came as added benefits of such restoration and reuse. The building thereby becomes viable to keep and earns its right to remain in existence. Citing the interventions at Serampore, Dr Wolff also emphasized the need to orient heritage conservation towards the needs of the local community as much as to attract tourism.

Dr Banerji took the discussion further with a brief presentation on the mechanisms proposed to honour development rights of owners of heritage properties, in the context of declaration of Cooch Behar as one of the first 'heritage towns' of West Bengal. To address the issue of opportunity cost in the context of development restrictions in the heritage zones, a system of Transferable Development Right (TDR) was adopted, developed through an extensive process of surveying and mapping both the heritage and the non-heritage built fabric, delineation donor zones and receiving zones, and detail stipulations regarding the mechanism and quantum of allowable transfers, formalized through a Land Use and Development Control Plan (LUDCP). In connection, she also explained the reforms suggested for the West Bengal Heritage Commission Act and the Municipal Affairs Act.

Mr Mohta discussed the challenges related to the TDR mechanism in the context of Kolkata, such as smaller plot sizes and high existing FARs. However, commenting as the President of CREDAI, he welcomed the restoration and reuse of identified heritage structures, which in turn can augment the value of the neighbourhood. He discussed the possibility of introducing sympathetic development regulations and incentives for micro-development zones identified within historic areas for an inclusive conservation approach, and urged the development authorities to fast-track approval and legal resolution processes.

Elaborating on the non-economic values for neighborhoods, social-environmental returns in general, and the means to measure them, Mr Rypkema shared his experience of working in the city of Calgary, Alberta, and discussed the methods being evolved based on willingness-to-pay surveys. These discussions were followed by a round of questions received from the audience on Zoom and Facebook Live, and each of the speakers responded to the queries directed at them. Mr Rypkema's responses briefly covered the US National Main Street Program that deals with core-city revitalization in the context of heritage buildings, low-interest loan incentives, the importance of property tax proportionate to property value, revenue flows for the local government to support the infrastructure needs, and issues related to the displacement and gentrification in historic precincts of the USA and India. Mr Rypkema also reinforced the need to identify ways beyond tourism to support heritage-based economy, and position people, especially locals, at the center of the revitalization process.

Mr Dudhoria addressed the challenges in preserving the marble flooring at Naubat Khana, as a part of the Bari Kothi Restoration Project. Mr Mohta urged for the implementation of TDR mechanisms as well as business models to ensure self-sustained use, and suggested a trust fund to facilitate the use of the monetary benefits availed from the TDR towards maintenance of the heritage properties. Dr Banerji clarified the role of TDR in compensating opportunity costs and the process of applying for Development Right Certificates (DRC). Based on the reflections that emerged from the previous day's session, Ms Bose explained the possible involvement and contribution of creative segments of the private sector in urban revitalization of Murshidabad.

In conclusion, each of the panelists contributed by identifying one key actionable point for the Govt. of West Bengal that would make conservation of historic precincts and areas more economically effective and sustainable. Suggestions included empowering the local government and fostering mindsets towards conservation, maximizing potential stakeholder involvement and local engagement, introducing tools like comprehensive heritage policy and incentives such as historic tax credit & funds.

Ms Puja Bhowmik concluded the discussions by sharing her reflections on the session's proceedings, where she talked about how sustainable planning and conservation of historic areas, neighborhoods,

or 'paras', which are embodiments of the history of the communities and their culture, can lead to the fulfillment of aspirations and economic prosperity. She focused on the evolution of the historic urban landscape approach to enhance sustainability by linking heritage, economic, environmental, and socio-cultural aspects as complementary elements rather than conflicting constituents. She emphasized on the conservation of the 'context', which exudes greater interest and creates a sense of pride.

The discussion showed how any recognisable activity undertaken by any authority in a 'locality' creates an atmosphere of zeal for all other stakeholders, and helps in ushering visible rejuvenation programs in all possible forms. This can be achieved through both tourism-oriented and community-focussed activities, such as heritage hotels, bed and breakfast opportunities in heritage properties, or reuse of old houses as boutiques, cafes, museums, or offices. However, for effective conservation of historic areas or precincts, it is also necessary to look beyond individual restoration or reuse projects, and integrate conservation with urban planning and development control, with proper identification of heritage zones duly considering their significance, development of mechanisms to honour development rights, and mobilization of funds and incentives to offset costs of preservation incurred by private owners.

The session ended with a vote of thanks by Dr Mukerji who recognized and appreciated the insightful contributions of the speakers and panelists, the active participation of the audience, and the continual support of the Core Team and the EPWG members.

*Session (III) on "Engaging Communities for Sustainability and Resilience of Historic Precincts and Areas" and "Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage for Historic Precincts and Areas"*



*Natmandir: the wrought iron and stained glass structure a pioneering example of the Industrial Revolution, presented by Mr Sandeep Khan.*



21 November 2020

Speakers - Mr Ratish Nanda, Ms Rinkoo Bhowmik, Mr Santanu Banerjee, Mr Saleem Beg, Ms Shama Pawar

Moderator - Dr Dhriti Ray

The session commenced with an introduction on ICOMOS and ICOMOS India's role and the earlier sessions on community engagement through skill-building and heritage education, by Mrs Ananya Bhattacharya. This led to the theme of the session. Keynote speaker, Mr Ratish Nanda, conservation architect and India CEO of Aga Khan Trust of Culture, spoke on 'Restoring Heritage, and Rebuilding Lives', focusing his presentation on the Nizamuddin Urban Revival project. His talk revolved around leveraging heritage assets to improve community lifestyle than merely focusing on monument conservation. He briefly spoke about the Nizamuddin area, its history, the MoU signed and how the institute started working for project Nizamuddin along with the basti community. The project involved establishing communication with the community, working in aspects of health and education infrastructure, waste disposal and empowering women financially.

Following that was Ms Rinkoo Bhowmik's presentation on Chinatown's dying craftsmanship and the urgent need to protect Chinese temples and social clubs that bind the community. She concluded stating the project's aim of building awareness of individual property owners to see value in preservation. The next presentation was by Mr Santanu Banerjee who focused on how their research group of independent heritage enthusiasts and the local community worked together for conservation of Asansol's Industrial heritage and shared different case studies. Among the discussants, Mr Saleem Beg first shared about Shehr-i-Kashmir, the historical city of Srinagar, starting with an introduction about the city, its architecture and case studies related to Srinagar's conservation project. Next Mr. Sandeep Khan presented on Narajol Rajbari emphasizing on heritage restoration through community efforts.

Ms Shama Pawar addressed sanitation and waste management problems in the Anegundi village of Hampi, Karnataka where they build a zero-plastic cottage industry using intangible knowledge of the local community and how they earned the 'Craft Tourism Village' title. Dr Dhriti Ray moderated the discussion. The examples corroborated how engaging communities brought about change in the community attitude and the kinds of support required.



*Research group member explaining Asansol Heritage to locals, as presented by Mr Santanu Banerjee.*

*Photo credits: Ashutosh Sarkar*

25 November 2020

Speakers - Dr Shikha Jain, Ms Sumona Chakravarty, Ms Ananya Bhattacharya, Dr Monalisa Maharjan, Dr Sanjib Kumar Borkakot

Moderator - Dr Madhura Dutta

Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH), passed down generations, has evolved in response to the natural and social environment of a place. It thereby strongly contributes to building a sense of identity, responsibility and belonging among communities. Series 3 webinar on 25 November 2020 focused on "Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage for Historic Precincts and Areas." Kamalika Bose opened the remarks by acknowledging that ICH is traditional, contemporary and living. It encompasses inherited traditions as well as rural and urban contemporary cultural practices, includes oral traditions, performing arts, social practices, rituals, festive events, knowledge and practices concerning nature and the knowledge and skills to produce traditional crafts.

Keynote speaker Dr Shikha Jain focussed on connecting living heritage with sustainable development through international and national discourses on people-centric approach towards heritage conservation. Alluding to efforts of UNESCO, ICCROM, Niti Aayog and INTACH, she emphasised that the significance of living heritage in Indian cities cannot be ignored and is imperative for achieving inclusive sustainable development. She concluded her presentation with four specific recommendations, (i) the integration of local living heritage values & SDGs in Master Planning, (ii) promoting ICH/local values-based heritage legislation, (iii) reviewing and redefining ICH/local values/rituals to make them meaningful within the framework of tangible (natural and built) heritage and (iv) valuing local crafts and arts as a socio-economic resource of the city.

The first case study presentation was by Ms Sumona Chakravarty who shared her work with Hamdasti, a community-based arts organisation in Kolkata. She illustrated engagements of the Chitpur Local Art Trail, an outcome of four-year (2014-2018) consistent involvement by a collective of 10 artists and over a hundred community collaborators. The second case study by Ms Ananya Bhattacharya, shared experiences of working in Purulia and how investing in ICH specifically, and heritage, in general, has led to a socio-economic transformation of this district. Highlighting the 'Art for Life,' a model by Banglanatak, the process included a bottoms-up approach to safeguard art, empower artists and rebranding villages as cultural hubs with a coverage of around 7000 people.

The ensuing panel discussion moderated by Dr Madhura Dutta examined policies and programs needed for integration of ICH, its revitalization and integration in conservation of historic areas that ensure cultural sustainability and long-term viability. Panelists shared experiences and concerns through action on ground and identification of best practices. Dr Monalisa Maharjan shared her research on integration of heritage and traditional knowledge in urban planning policies in the regeneration of the Kathmandu, Nepal. Dr Sanjib Kumar Borkakoti shared his experience from Bardowa showcasing its rich built heritage along with manuscript painting, wooden sculptures, dance and other components of ICH that create a cultural destination. Deliberations that emerged from Q&A sessions elucidated the need for understanding the potential of development schemes and programs by professionals and the community and its effective implementation. Progress and gaps in harnessing the potential contribution of culture in achieving the sustainable development goals were also explored - across global, national, regional and local scales.

*Session (IV) on "Resilience To Disaster, Pandemic, Climate Change In Historic Areas And Precincts"*

5 December 2020: Focus West Bengal

Speakers- Rohit Jigyasu, Dr Sumana Gupta, Dr Ranit Chatterjee, Dr Repaul Kanji, Mr Sandeep Virmani, Ms Shalini Dasgupta

Moderator- Prof Sanghamitra Basu

The webinar commenced with the introductory remarks by Mr Sukrit Sen who set the tone of the webinar by mentioning consideration of strategies for building resilience to disaster, pandemic and climate change and how heritage may be mobilised

for risk reduction and ensure local actions to achieve SDGs in historical precincts and areas. He then gave a brief introduction to keynote speaker Dr Rohit Jigyasu.

Dr Rohit Jigyasu ( Urban Heritage, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management, Programs Unit, ICCROM Rome) , elucidated on the natural disasters, pandemic and climate change with examples of several disasters like Nepal earthquake, Chandni chowk fire, floods in Mumbai and Bangalore city, and explained the vulnerability of urban heritage. Taking the case of Ayutthaya, Thailand, the process of transformation of houses on the riverfront, he described how traditional knowledge has been neglected in planning, design and construction, and the importance to learn the sustainable relationship of humans to their environment. Taking example of Nizamuddin Tomb precinct, New Delhi, he further explained how development is happening in heritage areas, the spatial transformation of heritage precincts, emerging new relationship, the realities of multiple ownerships in historic housing and inadequacy of the settlement planning process. The examples of Kyoto and Albania was cited by him to show how to make the cities safer from disasters, keeping the heritage values intact and the importance of engaging communities in disaster risk reduction. He concluded with the statement that transformative changes are important to make the heritage resilient.

Dr Sumana Gupta, Dept. of Architecture and Regional Planning, IIT Kharagpur, presented a case study 'Planning for resilience to the anthropogenic shocks in the heritage precinct: Case of Ratha Yatra, Puri'. She spoke about preparedness for hosting the religious events, management and participation during the event, sense of belongingness of the citizens, resilience to shocks as an after effect of a religious event. She described the Pilgrim Satisfaction Studies and the importance of crowd management of pilgrims to control man-made disasters like stampede etc. She concluded that integrated planning approach, risk preparedness and mitigation are essential for successful planning of religious festivals.

The next Case Study was on 'Managing uncertainty and Transformation in Sundarbans in the face of cascading hazards' by Dr Ranit Chatterjee from Graduate School of Informatics, Kyoto University. Dr Chatterjee spoke about the effects of natural disasters, migration, tourism on the ecology of linked landscape of Sundarbans and how shift in the occupational pattern and changing scenarios create

a knowledge stress and disruption of social cohesion. He elucidated the sustainable and safe practices related to the ecosystem and the community, and how it is impacted with the changing time. He concluded with a way forward by changing cultural assets into economic assets, integrating cultural belief systems into risk communication and mitigation measures, harnessing local knowledge to manage ecosystem and micro planning.

The panel discussion was moderated by Dr Sanghamitra Basu and included Dr Repaul Kanji (Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management at Gandhinagar), Mr Sandeep Virmani (Founder of Sahjeevan & Hunnarshala Foundation, Bhuj) and Ms Shalini Dasgupta (Heritage Conservation and Design Centre, New Delh). Dr Repaul Kanji explained the concepts of resilience, sustainable development and risk informed sustainable development. Resilience is very local, he emphasised, and described the livelihood of community in the heritage neighbourhood of the city, the response of the community to the pandemic - exploring solutions and creating demand as in digital festivities like Dugrapuja in Kolkata and Navrari in Ahmedabad. He concluded stressing on the idea of the resilience in the collective consciousness of the community.

This was followed by a presentation by Mr Sandeep Virmani on 'Banni Pastoral Communities, Cultural Constructs for Disasters and Droughts'. He gave an overview of the mechanisms developed by local community, coping up and living with the natural disasters like droughts, earthquakes. He spoke about the efficiency of the circular houses of the Bhunga's, which survived the earthquakes in the region and how these circular houses are examples of adapting technique of building activities to earthquakes by the Meghwal community of Gujarat.

Ms Shalini Dasgupta took the discussion further by sharing details about the Climatic Change and Heritage Working Group, ICOMOS India. She highlighted on the alignment of the working group with the parent body, work streams taken up by the Group and the four thematic teams within the group – mitigation/ energy efficiency, adaption, loss & damage and communication/ research. She concluded with the road map of activities of the Working Group in the year ahead. This was followed by the final session of the day, a moderated Q&A Session inviting all the speakers. Dr Rohit Jigyasu had specific suggestions to integrate the concerns of this resilience disasters, pandemic and climate change in the urban planning

processes of India where heritage concerns should be addressed in the urban development plans itself. In answering the question, Dr Ranit Chatterjee spoke about how integration of traditional knowledge, scientific research and awareness programmes can play an important role towards regeneration and resilience of the SDGs. He gave the example of Kharai Camel endangered breed of Kutch in the pasteurised land, occupation of the local community, and how the belief systems backed up with scientific evidence is important to understand the threshold and need to integrate it in the planning policies. On the next question on dissipation of tradition knowledge system through capacity building, Mr Sandeep Virmani, spoke about the training programmes for building artisans in decoding the scientific basis of the practices, and how the pride of the knowledge system in the community has a longer chance of sustaining.

Dr Repaul Kanji spoke about the solution towards Kolkata in reorienting the youth to understand the risk associated and act towards it. It's not always science and technology, he said "look into the past and look forward to future of capacity building". Dr Sumana Gupta explained some of the background studies that are required to make a development plan with a resilient approach. The last question was answered by Ms Shalini Dasgupta about how ICOMOS India is facilitating other organisations and how they are related to sustainable development goals. Overall, it was a well-attended event, which concluded with closing remarks by Mr Sukrit Sen. make a development plan with a resilient approach. The last question was answered by Ms Shalini Dasgupta about how ICOMOS India is facilitating other organisations and how they are related to sustainable development goals.

Overall, it was a well-attended event, which concluded with closing remarks by Mr Sukrit Sen.

#### Acknowledgement-

Core team members: Ms Ananya Bhattacharya, Mr Arjun Mukerji, Ms Kamalika Bose, Ms Puja Bhowmik, Prof Sanghamitra Basu, Ms Sukanya Mitra, Mr Sukrit Sen

EPWG members: Ms Aditi Rai, Ms Khushi Shah, Ms Zarna Shah, Ms Nityaa Lakshmi Iyer, Mr Shahzad, Ms Anshika Jain, Ms Mitali Gupta, Ms Nandini Mukherjee, Ms Priya Gosain, Ms Vasudha Sarogi

ICOMOS India office: Ms Sujatha Prasad

## NSC INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

**September 2020:** Webinar on 'Bihu- the Agrarian Festival of Assam'



*Meji burnt in Magh Bihu or Bhogali Bihu. Photo credits: Samiron Goswami*

ICOMOS India (North East Zone) organised a webinar on Bihu (the National agrarian festival of Assam) in association with the National Scientific Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage (NSC ICH) and International Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICICH) on 20th September 2020. Dr Sanjib Kumar Borkakoti, President of Society for Srimanta Sankaradeva and Expert member of ICICH moderated this event. The webinar was aimed at drawing the attention of the scholars across the world. The three panelists for the event included Dr Pradip Neog, Mr Dinesh Gogoi and Mr Mridu Moucham

Bora. Their presentations were based on the features, history and ornaments worn in Bihu. A video message by Ms Shalini Dasgupta, Secretary ICOMOS India, was shared at the outset. Mr Munish Pandit, Vice President ICICH, said that Bihu deserved recognition from UNESCO. "Though the actual carriers of any cultural heritage are the local people who follow it, the global platform can provide some framework in terms of its documentation or its recognition." he added.

Dr Mrinalini Atrey, Co-ordinator, NSC ICH, expressed hope that coming together of experts from across the globe in a web session on Bihu would make a case for enlisting Bihu in the list of world's cultural heritage. "Bihu festival is the perfect blend of different tribes and clans who have made Assam their home. It is an organic whole, and is a true representative of Assam and its heritage. It must get a seat in the world heritage list," she mentioned. Several videos of Bihu dance were shown which included performances under trees and Bihu Husori performances in the residences of people. The moderator Dr Sanjib Kumar Borkakoti summed up the discussion and solicited support from all in this journey. Dilip Kr. Changkakoti, Expert Member, ICICH, offered vote of thanks to the panelists and the participants. He specially thanked the President of ICICH Dr Hee Sook Niinioja for her support to the event.

## October 2020: Webinar on 'Crafting Resilience'

'Crafting resilience' Craft communities and their resilience as embedded in the traditional knowledge: A critical component of intangible cultural heritage, Webinar was organized by NSC Intangible heritage as a Part of International ICOMOS Webinar Series. Eminent Indian experts, Ritu Sethi, Dr Venugopal, Ananya Bhattacharya and Sushma Iyengar presented case studies from pan India which highlighted the resilience of craftsmen who had developed better strategies during pandemics. The presentations also focussed on heritage sensitive marketing and promotion and use of digital media. During discussion it was agreed that there is a need for integrating crafts data on national database and critical need for influencing the government policies towards this sector.

Dr Navin Piplani, President India ICOMOS, delivered the formal welcome. The Intangible Scientific Committee was introduced by Mrinalini Atrey, Coordinator and the webinar was moderated by Ms Niyati Jigyasu. Ms Anshikha Jain and Mr Sukrit



'Strengthening skill', as presented by Ms Ananya Bhattacharya at the ICH 'Crafting Resilience' webinar.  
Photo credits: banglanatak dot com

Sen coordinated technical section along with Ms Sujatha Prasad. Ms Nandini Mukhopadhyay was the rapporteur for the occasion.

Team Members: Ms Mrinalini Atrey, Ms Niyati Jigyasu, Mr Sukrit Sen, Ms Anshika, Ms Juhi Valia, Ms Nandini Mukhopadhyay, Ms Sukanya Sharma and Ms Zarna Shah.

### January 2021: NSC ICH Meeting on Draft ICOMOS ICH Charter

A consultative meeting was organised on 26 January 2021, by the National Scientific Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage (NSC ICH) to deliberate the draft ICOMOS ICH Charter as requested by the International Secretariat-ICOMOS. The meeting was attended by the members of the Executive Committee (ICOMOS India), NSC ICH, and a few individual members of ICOMOS India. Members had a threadbare discussion on all the aspects of the draft Charter. Some important suggestions were made in this regard.

The meeting was considered an invaluable opportunity to discuss the draft Charter and offer comments and suggestions from the NSC, particularly sharing the perspective from an Indian context. The suggestions and inputs especially with regard to Sustainable development, synergizing the convention of 1972 and 2003, Gender and Equality, came forth, during the deliberations, and were finally adopted by the members in unanimity. The document incorporating the suggestions and feedback was sent to the Executive Committee to be forwarded to the ICOMOS International Secretariat.

## NSC TRAINING

### November 2020: E-Seminar Effectiveness of Traditional Knowledge System in Disaster Management

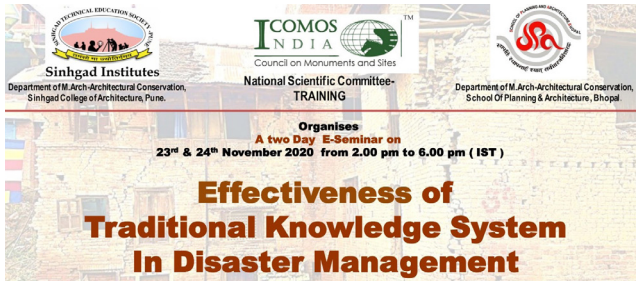
An E-Seminar on Effectiveness of Traditional Knowledge System in Disaster Management was held on 23rd and 24th November 2020. It was jointly organized by ICOMOS India - Training Committee, Sinhgad College of Architecture, Pune and School of Planning and Architecture, Bhopal. It was exclusively meant for the post graduate students of Heritage Studies across India. The participants were benefitted by the expertise of eminent resource persons from around the globe. Experts dealt with varied aspects of disaster management ranging from technical, socio-economical, theoretical as well as climate change. All the sessions were received very well by the participants. The program was appreciated by the participants for its organization as well as the contents and resource persons.

ICOMOS India offered Zoom platform for conducting the event while institutional partners conceptualized and executed the program including inviting experts, conducting the event and managing other logistics. This was the first time such collaboration involving institutes offering post graduate courses in heritage conservation and ICOMOS India was organized. The team included:

1. Dr Vaishali Latkar, Co-ordinator NSC -Training; HOD, M.Arch-Architectural Conservation, Sinhgad College of Architecture, Pune
2. Dr Vishakha Kawthekar, Member - NSC - Training; HOD- M.Arch-Architectural Conservation, SPA, Bhopal.
3. Ms. Sujatha Prasad, ICOMOS India - Technical support
4. Prof Sonal Karanjikar, Member – NSC- Training; Faculty, M.Arch-Architectural Conservation, Sinhgad College of Architecture, Pune

#### Event Coordination and Technical Support

1. Prof Poorva Patil, Faculty, M.Arch-Architectural Conservation, Sinhgad College of Architecture, Pune
2. Prof Ramesh Bhole, Faculty, School Of Planning & Architecture, Bhopal



Traditional Knowledge systems and its importance is well understood in academia and we continuously strive in the globalized world to keep pace with the technological advancement. Recent past witnessed many disasters affecting heritage worldwide, necessitating the need to address the same by including it as a part of heritage education in first place and identifying and incorporating traditional wisdom in heritage risks mitigating strategies in second. The program intends to cover basic concepts of Disaster Management domain with respect to heritage along with effectiveness of Traditional Knowledge in managing heritage in pre, during and post disaster situations

Background image © Dr. Rohit Jigy



DAY 01  
Dr. Rohit Jigyasu, ICCROM, Rome, Italy  
Dr. Ranit Chatterjee, RIKA, UINSPIRE, Japan  
Dr. Rohit Ranjitkar, KVPT, Nepal  
Dr. Arun Menon IIT Madras, Chennai, India



DAY 02  
Dr. Ram Sateesh Pasupuleti, IIT Roorkee, India  
Dr. Benny Kuriakose, Conservation Expert, Chennai, India  
Dr. Kim Downon, (DMUCH) Kyoto, Japan  
Ms. Vanicka Arora, (Western Sydney University, Australia)

Event Poster on 'Effectiveness of Traditional Knowledge in Disaster Management'.

## Preamble

Traditional Knowledge systems and its importance is well understood in academia and we continuously strive in the globalised world to keep pace with the technological advancement. At the same time, the built of the historic cores are crucified each day in the name of development.

The perception projected and propagated by the builders' lobby and supporters of development is that the historic areas along with its built is liability leading to large scale gentrification. The academia must go stronger in their arguments to awakening how tradition wisdom is sustainable and evolved with capacity to deal with the contemporary challenges including socio political economic administrative challenges, climate change and Disaster management.

The workshop focuses on effectiveness of traditional knowledge system in Disaster Management.

## Objective

The objective is to train and develop skills for Disaster Management of Cultural resources through knowledge system approach.

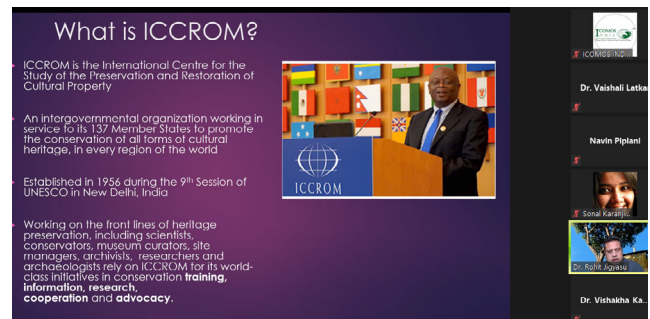
## List of Resource Persons

1. Dr Rohit Jiyasu , (ICCROM, Rome, Italy).
2. Dr Ranit Chatterjee (Kyoto University, Japan).
3. Dr Rohit Ranjitkar (KVPT, Nepal).
4. Dr Arun Menon (IIT Madras, Chennai, India).
5. Dr Ram Sateesh Pasupuleti (IIT Roorkee, India).
6. Dr Benny Kuriakose (Chennai, India).
7. Dr Kim Downon (DMUCH, Kyoto, Japan).
8. Ms Vanicka Arora (Western Sydney University, Australia).

210 registrations were received, and the event was attended by 147 participants.

The first day started with welcome note by Dr Vaishali Latkar and inaugural address by ICOMOS India President Dr Navin Piplani. Prof Sonal Karanjikar moderated first day sessions.

The second day sessions were moderated by Prof. Ramesh Bhole. The program concluded with a concluding note by Dr Vishakha Kawathekar. ICOMOS India Secretary Shalini Dasgupta proposed vote of thanks. All the sessions were received well. The program was appreciated by the participants for its organization as well as the contents and resource persons. The feed-back indicates the need to arrange such programs frequently.



Dr Rohit Jigyasu presenting at the NSC-TC E-Seminar.

# NSC CULTURAL TOURISM

## January - February 2021: Webinar Series on “Connecting the dots: Cultural Heritage and Tourism: India and Abroad”

**ICOMOS INDIA**  
Council on Monuments and Sites

**CONNECTING THE DOTS.....**  
Organised by National Scientific Committee of Cultural Tourism, ICOMOS India

**Cultural Heritage & Tourism: India and Abroad**  
Saturdays - Duration : 90 Min,  
Time: 5:30-7:00 PM  
23rd January till 20th February, 2021

We plan to represent the NSC Cultural Tourism by taking the participants on a visual journey of the colourful cultural fabric of India. The idea is to be inclusive and also present the lesser-known gems of India's vast cultural heritage. The discussion will lead to the best practices of Responsible Tourism. Take-aways and outcome-based event: for tourism entrepreneurs and young adults.

<p><b>23rd January, 2021</b> East Zone</p> <p>Dr Madhura Dutta Ar Smita Shree Swain</p> <p><b>Rural Tourism of Bengal</b> Incredible India's involvement Cultural Tourism in Odisha and the Buddhist circuit</p>	<p><b>30th January, 2021</b> North-East and West Zone</p> <p>Dr Bhanu B. Tewari Ms Bipinwati Ghosh</p> <p><b>Monoliths of Meghalaya</b> Heritage of Bhavnagar Gujarat</p>	<p><b>6th February, 2021</b> North Zone</p> <p>Dr Harveen Bhandari Ar Vipul Varshney</p> <p><b>The Shakti Peeth of Himachal Pradesh</b> Lucknow City of Dreams</p>
<p><b>13th February, 2021</b> Central and South Zone</p> <p>Ar Sri Srinivasan Phadnis Ar Sri Suryanarayana Shetty Ar Madhu Vottery</p> <p><b>The Ancient India Trade Route in Malwa Nimar Region</b> Virtual Tour of Hyderabad</p>	<p><b>20th February, 2021</b> INDIA TOURISM and The International connect</p> <p>Prof Lijinda Khoo Palaniyandi Ms Ritu Bhatti</p> <p><b>A round table with collaborators, connecting the learning with academia</b> Presentation on Cambodia, India and the Hispanic countries</p>	

For more information contact NSC-Cultural Tourism Coordinator  
Ar. Madhu Vottery at +91 98497 28841, nscct.icomosindia@gmail.com  
The webinars will be live on Facebook @icomosindia

COLLABORATOR  
**TEACHFORINDIA**

Event poster for 'Connecting the dots: Cultural Heritage and Tourism- India and Abroad'.

The event was organised by the National Scientific Committee Cultural Tourism (NSC-CT) of ICOMOS India in collaboration with Teach For India. The webinar series was a visual journey of varied popular and lesser known potential cultural tourism sites and its connection with other countries. The webinar was a success with informative and wonderful cases/stories presented by scholars, researchers and eminent guest speakers from ICOMOS and across the country.

*\*Note: The webinar series was divided in five parts for various zones. The zones are the geographical limitations (not connected with ICOMOS India Zones).*

### Session (I) on East Zone

23 January 2021

Speakers- Dr Madhur Dutta, Ms Smita Shree Swain

The session was coordinated by Ms Madhu Vottery. The first speaker was Dr Madhura Dutta – a Culture and Development Specialist, Researcher and Writer. Her talk titled, 'Indigenous Rural Cultural Tourism in Bengal with the involvement of Incredible India', was a case study on 'Development of Indigenous Cultural Tourism in West Bengal', designed and facilitated by 'banglanatak dot com' – a twenty year old social enterprise working towards poverty alleviation and inclusive growth through a culture based livelihood model across India.

The talk explored the idea of community development through culture based approach in the context of rural parts of Bengal with Art for life Methodology based on 3 key points – safeguarding art through heritage education, capacity building and market linkages for artists and rebranding villages as cultural hubs. The talk underlined the importance of community led local and cultural tourism with number of success stories across rural Bengal of cultural identity and brand building. Capacity building, global collaborations, technological interventions and connecting with the rest of the world through cultural heritage tourism perspective helped communities to build pride and value in their cultural heritage and made them sustainable economic models. The talk also highlighted the importance of linking cultural heritage tourism to overall sustainable development goals to improve the socio economic conditions and ensure the continuation of cultural practices of indigenous communities.

The second speaker was Ms Smita Shree Swain – An Architect and Urban Planner. Her talk titled, 'Cultural Tourism and Sustainable Development: Case of Odisha' was focussed on strategy, impact and success stories of community-led responsible cultural tourism. Odisha has a significant contribution of tourism industry in the overall economy of the state. The presentation started with the visual introduction of various important and popular cultural tourism sites in Odisha, statistics and analysis of tourist footfalls at these various sites and current tourism practices. Further, it introduced lesser known Cultural Heritage sites and aspects namely Buddhist Ruins, Tribal Heritage Rural tourism and local events and festivals showcasing traditional art, craft, cuisine and cultural practices of Odisha that have tremendous potential for tourism development.



*Konh girls in their traditional clothes and ornaments for festivities, as presented by Ms Smita Shree Swain.*

The speaker talked about probable positive and negative economic, environmental, social and cultural impacts of development of cultural tourism on the indigenous communities with various case examples and highlighted the importance of Responsible Tourism approach in achieving Sustainable Tourism Development. Session concluded with a brief talk by Mr Jitu Mishra, a traveller and educationist from Odisha. He talked about the work that he has been doing for tribal indigenous communities and their villages to develop sustainable and experiential tourism in Odisha through capacity building, skill development and participatory approach.

*Session (II) on North East Zone and West Zone*  
30 January 2021

Speakers - Ms Ibyanta B Tiewsoh, Ms Brijeshwari Kumari Gohil

The session was coordinated by Ms Madhu Vottery. The first speaker was Ms Ibyanta B Tiewsoh, who is pursuing PhD from SPA Delhi in Architectural Conservation. She is also working with an NGO for creating habitat for Agrarian community of Meghalaya. Her talk titled 'Cultural Heritage of Meghalaya' discussed current tourism scenario, responsible tourism and community-led-tourism case studies, as well as Monoliths and Megaliths of Meghalaya and impacts of rising tourism through sociological perspectives. The discussion on the North East Zone was on the natural heritage of Meghalaya.

The presentation started with the visual introduction to Meghalaya and its popular tourist destinations and tourism activities. The talk further gave insights into popular tourist attraction, the Living Root Bridges, its application, process of growth, its management and

maintenance by local communities and concerns safeguarding the same. Further, into the presentation, the Mawlynnong Village was discussed, which follows a community based ecotourism model. Finally, Ms Ibyanta discussed the symbolism, cultural significance and morphological and functional types of the Megaliths found in the region, followed by the origin of monoliths. Since tourism in Meghalaya is primarily connected with nature, growing tourism and its management become crucial, which emphasize the need of sustainable and community based solutions.

The second speaker was Ms Brijeshwari Kumari Gohil, who is an archaeologist and a member of the royal family of Bhavnagar, who founded the Bhavnagar Preservation Society Brijeshwari. Her talk titled, 'Discovering Heritage of Bhavnagar, Gujarat', was a visual tour with historical narrative of heritage assets of Bhavnagar and about various initiatives that are being conducted for their protection, preservation and promotion, engaging local communities and encouraging cultural heritage tourism. The talk helped in understanding the traditional architecture, art and craft forms, presence of various utility-based structures in the town such as the famous Sir Takhatsinhji Hospital and the Darbari Kothar along with other interesting facts.

The discussion also helped understand the cultural influences of the time and the manner in which art, architecture and engineering cross paths with one another. The talk highlighted the innovative and engaging activities and programmes with multi-stakeholder approach for awareness generation, capacity building, skill development and promotion of cultural heritage of Bhavnagar curated by the local community, which includes school children, youth and senior citizens. The talk concluded discussing the impacts of cultural heritage to encourage tourism, employment, revenue generation, supporting local artisans, heritage sensitivity and awareness along with urban planning and heritage conservation.

*Session (III) on North Zone*  
06 February 2021

Speakers- Sri Lokesh Ohri, Dr Harveen Bhandari, Ms Vipul Varshney

The session was coordinated by Ms Brijeshwari Kumari Gohil. The first speaker was Sri Lokesh Ohri, who is an anthropologist, author and cultural activist. His talk was about Himalayan communities' unique way of life and the 'Nature Culture linkages/ connect



in the state of Uttarakhand'. The presentation was a visual journey through the sacred natural landscapes of Uttarakhand highlighting its significance and association with local communities. Discussion also covered the upcoming infrastructure projects and its probable impacts on the natural and cultural landscapes of Himalayas. It was highlighted that promoting slow tourism with community-based approach can be the way forward to safeguard the sacredness of the region. This aspect was demonstrated with case examples. The talk enlightened the viewers about the balance between the natural and the built.

The second speaker was Dr Harveen Bhandari. She holds a PhD in Planning & Architecture. Her talk titled, 'Shaktipeethas of Himachal Pradesh' was focussed on the origin and development of these Shaktipeethas of Himachal Pradesh, their cultural significance, sociocultural values associated with them, religious and sacred tourism that they attract as well as the dynamic physical and the non-physical changes taking place at such sites. India has a rich repertoire of cultural heritage and a vast number of heritage sites which also includes living religious heritage (LRH). However, very few of them have gained national and global significance. Religion is a significant aspect in the life of Indians which make millions travel to various religious sites annually. Hindu pilgrimage sites dominate the Indian landscape and Shakti temples or Shaktipeethas of Himachal Pradesh, North India are one such venerated Hindu temples that symbolise our ancient cultural landscapes. The talk also highlighted the issues, concerns and challenges that need to be addressed through community-led and participatory approach at these living religious sites.



*Dr Harveen Bhandari's presentation on 'the Shaktipeethas of Himachal Pradesh'.*

The third speaker was Ms Vipul Varshney, who is an Urban Planner and author of four coffee table books. Her talk titled, 'Lucknow: the City of Dreams', and presentation was a take on a visual journey of Lucknow, discussing the historic layers of Lucknow from Prehistoric to Pre independence. It was a journey through the cultural heritage of Lucknow highlighting some of the important architectural marvels, cultural practices, art and crafts, literature, cuisine that contribute to the cultural tourism of Lucknow. It discussed the statistics of current tourism scenario in Lucknow along with the projects that could boost the tourist industry.

#### *Session (IV) on Central and South Zone*

13 February 2021

Speakers - Mr Shreemay Phadnis, Ms Madhu Vottery, Mr Suryanaryana Murthy

The session was coordinated by Ms Madhu Vottery and Ms Smita Shree Swain. The first speaker was Mr Shreemay Phadnis, who is a heritage consultant and co-founder of Studio Gestalt. His talk titled, 'Ancient Trade Route in Malwa-Nimar Region with a focus on Maheshwar', explored the crucial role of Malwa and Nimar Region in the ancient Indian trade route. The uniquely located geographic regions of Malwa & Nimar in Central India have always acted as a gateway between the Northern & Southern halves of India, with the Narmada acting as a strong natural demarcation. As these sites were occupied from the pre-historic times, these areas are a rich repository of varied historical evidences. The talk discussed the architectural character, cultural practices, art and crafts, intangible heritage assets, events and festivals that contribute to the cultural and religious tourism of Maheshwar and Narmada region.

The second speaker was Ms Madhu Vottery, who is an author and a conservation architect. Her talk titled, 'Cultural Heritage of Hyderabad - Connecting with the School Education', was focussed on connecting heritage with kids and common people through stories that connect people place and time. Hyderabad is a well-known historic city on the International map and have many interesting heritage sites. The speaker discussed the various collaborative activities that she has curated and conducted over time such as heritage walks, engaging kids with heritage sketch and color books, museum walks, nature trails etc. in order to connect the local with the cultural heritage of Hyderabad. The second part of the presentation was a virtual tour of Hyderabad with the help of mobile application

'Hyderabad Heritage', (available on Google PlayStore). 'Hyderabad Heritage' was curated by Ms Vottery after 14 years of research work. She created virtual walking tours in the historic capital of Deccan involving and training a dozen school children. The educators especially benefited from this session for having gained a greater insight into different methods in heritage education.

The third speaker was Mr Suryanarayana Murthy, who is a well-known conservation architect, and an International Member of Asian Cultural Landscape Association, Korea. Sri Murthy practices architecture, conservation, planning, and urban design with an approach of Reuse, Recycle, Restore, Appropriate Use and Maintain". His topic was "I Learn, Understand and Save Water through Historical, Traditional and Vernacular wisdom". The presentation explained the presence and understanding of water in historical, traditional and vernacular contexts through case examples like heritage structures and water system of Hyderabad, Alampur and Ramappa Temple (Telangana), Gandikota (Andhra Pradesh), Majuli (Assam), Amritsar (Punjab), Baidyanath (Jharkhand) taken from the professional experience of speaker. The presentation highlighted the existence and importance of water elements surrounding many historical/heritage sites, their association, use and management and impacts. The talk explained the various water systems and their mechanisms in historical, traditional and vernacular contexts.

*Session (V) on India and Abroad- Indian Connect with Cambodia and Hispanic Countries*

20 February 2021

Speakers- Ms Soity Banerjee, Prof Ujjwala Anand Palsuley, Ms Ritu Bammi, Dr Navin Piplani

This was the last session of the series where 'India and Abroad' was discussed and coordinated by Ms Madhu Vottery. The first speaker was Ms Soity Banerjee, who is a travel and food journalist. Her talk was about 'Changing Landscape of travel in India: celebrating historical, traditional and vernacular context'. The talk explained the concept of Responsible Tourism. It also highlighted the issue of invisible burden that tourism puts on fragile and sensitive cultural sites, landscapes and thereby local communities. The presentation explored amazing stories of social entrepreneurs from local communities across the country that are developing very interesting and engaging tourist experiences, developing responsible and sustainable cultural tourism practices.

The second speaker was Prof Ujjwala Anand Palsuley, who is a conservation architect, researcher, and academician. Her topic was 'Connecting the Cultural Past of India and Cambodia through its Architectural Manifestation'.

India and South-East Asia have always been a topic of discussion for their resemblance in architectural characteristics. The session focussed on historically, how the architecture of South East Asia and Dravidiadesha (southern India) had developed and the influential factors from both these regions which formed a rich architectural history of this region. The talk presented examples with details of architectural styles that connect both the regions. It also highlighted the significance of trade routes and important seaports along the coasts that contributed to the cultural knowledge exchanges, connects and influential factors from both the regions.

The third speaker was Ms Ritu Bammi, who is a Spanish Language Professional & Senior Faculty teaching Cambridge Curriculum at Delhi Public School (International). Her talk titled, 'Intertwining Intangible Cultural Heritage of India and Hispanic World - A facet of Cultural tourism', was about connecting threads of culture between India and Hispanic countries. The dynamic culture of India has its relation to the Western world in terms of dances, mythology, ethnicity, food, festival and geographical boundaries. The presentation focussed on these facets of Indian culture reflecting in the ethnic cultures of Hispanic Countries.

Dr Navin Piplani, President ICOMOS India, concluded the session. All the five sessions were received well by school teachers, research scholars, and professors of architecture, history, design and tourism colleges. The sessions also went live on ICOMOS India Facebook page and were viewed by many.



Fig 1: Ms Bammi's presentation on 'Intertwining Intangible Cultural Heritage of India and Hispanic World - A facet of Cultural tourism'. Fig 2: Prof Palsuley's presentation on 'Connecting the Cultural Past of India and Cambodia through its Architectural Manifestation'.

## ICOMOS INDIA SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL

### Background

At the National Scientific Conclave 2020, a proposition for a Scientific Council was put forward for further deliberation. The proposition was taken forward at the NSC Coordinators' Meet, held on 18th January 2021, where broad role and responsibilities were discussed, and the overall composition of the Council was suggested.

### Constitution of Scientific Council

The Scientific Council is constituted of the National Scientific Committees' (NSCs) Coordinators and Working Group (WG) Focal Points.

The activities of the Council will be conducted by the Steering Committee composed of members with experience as NSC Coordinators and with senior members in advisory capacity, and the NSC Counsellor as the member secretary of the committee. The Council will be assisted by two EPWG members in a dedicated manner.

The members of Steering Committee of the First Scientific Council of ICOMOS India (mandate: March 2021 to March 2023) are as follows:

Advisory Member (1): Prof Sanghamitra Basu  
Advisory Member (2): Prof Kiran Joshi  
Member (1): Ar Poonam Verma Mascarenhas  
Member (2): Ar Kamalika Bose  
Member Secretary: NSC Counsellor (Arun Menon)

EPWG members:  
(1) Ar Vaibhavi Dhote  
(2) Ar Megha Shah

### Task at hand

One of the first tasks on the table of the Scientific Council is the review of the White Papers, alignment and articulation of the scientific triennial plan of ICOMOS India. In this direction, the First Draft of the White Papers (Vol.1), where the efforts of 12 NSCs and 1 WG have been compiled.

## POSITION / WHITE PAPERS

National Scientific Committees (NSCs) are at the heart of scientific inquiry and exchange in their domains, cultivating an interdisciplinary approach to heritage protection and management. In the endeavour towards a Triennial Scientific Plan, ICOMOS India presents the first tranche of White Papers from 12 NSCs and 1 Working Group (WG).

### National Scientific Committees (NSCs)

1. NSC Analysis and Restoration of Structures of Architectural Heritage
2. NSC Archaeological Heritage Management
3. NSC Cultural Tourism
4. NSC Earthen Architectural Heritage
5. NSC Historic Towns and Villages
6. NSC Intangible Cultural Heritage
7. NSC Legal, Administrative and Financial Issues
8. NSC Shared Built Heritage
9. NSC Theory and Philosophy of Conservation and Restoration
10. NSC Training
11. NSC Vernacular Architecture
12. NSC Twentieth Century Heritage

### Working Group (WG)

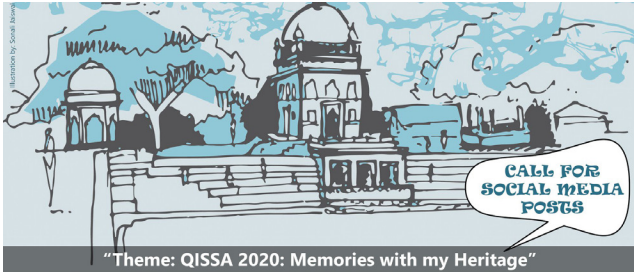
1. Emerging Professionals Working Group



## National Scientific Committee of ICOMOS India

## EMERGING PROFESSIONALS WORKING GROUP (EPWG)

### April 2020: 'Qissa: Memories with My Heritage'



Call for 'Qissa: Memories with My Heritage', circulated on all ICOMOS India digital communication platforms.

During International Day for Monuments and Sites 2020, EPWG, ICOMOS India organised a 15-day-long online campaign titled 'Qissa: Memories with My Heritage'. The aim of the campaign was to help community members connect with each other on a light-hearted note by sharing heritage related anecdotes and memories. The campaign received close to 300 heritage-related memories through a variety of mediums like photos, sketches, archival documents, videos, paintings, music clips and doodles. With this overwhelming response, the campaign was successful in creating heritage awareness as well as evoking community participation.

The most interesting outcome of this initiative was that it brought to surface the dynamic nature of 'memory' manifested in cultural, social and personal experiences of diverse identities and across different time periods.



One of the entries of Assam heritage received for 'Qissa - Memories with My Heritage'.

### December 2020: First Meeting of the Newly Elected EPWG Representatives

On 06 December 2020, the meeting was organised by the National Representative immediately after the election results. The incoming representatives had a meet and greet session ideating over the vision for the new term. Discussions were carried out to formalize a set agenda for the handover meeting. The representatives shared their vision for the new term.

There was a detailed discussion for the roadmap of EPWG and a range of suggestions were made. Some of the key suggestions are as follows:

- Carrying forward the work done by the previous representatives, the new EPWG envisage to achieve our objectives through short term and long-term goals in congruence with the EPWG resolutions 2020.
- Foster EP engagement within ICOMOS India at various levels including leadership, and management.
- Enable and execute Research and Outreach activities.
- Develop the Mentorship Programme.
- New Membership drive (for balanced representation from all zones).
- Execute collaborations with NSCs, ISCs, and working groups.
- A progressive strategy to tap and train the existing potential of the youth that will help in addressing the global challenges of climate change and SDG localisation and establish alignment with the process of equitable sustainable development & conservation.
- To facilitate schools and colleges to take active participation to understand the local heritage of the place.
- To involve young members from beyond the circle such as writers, artists, performers etc in heritage discourses.
- To mobilize inter-institutional participation.

## December 2020: Meeting for the Handover from the Previous EPWG Representatives

On 12 December 2020, Ms Saranya Dharshini, National Representative, EPWG ICOMOS India, called the meeting to order and appointed Aditi Rai, EPWG North Zone Representative as the Rapporteur. Meeting commenced with introduction from the EPWG incoming and outgoing representatives and the Executive Committee members of COMOS India.

The handing over procedure of the emails ids and soft copies of reports were discussed and confirmed between the outgoing and incoming representatives. Ms Khanna mentioned that she will be adding Ms Dharshini to the EPWG Asia-Pacific informal WhatsApp group. She suggested the participation of Ms Dharshini in the last teleconference to be organised for the outgoing reps on 19th December 2020. The Ex Com members agreed to the same.

Ms Khanna requested the Outgoing Zonal representatives to identify incoming EPWG reps with their roles and responsibilities. She also presented the points listed in the document, highlighting the roles and responsibilities of EPWG National and Zonal Reps, which was shared with the membership during the election process.

Ms Priyanka Singh, the Treasurer, updated the members with the process of strengthening the secretariat and the availability of the additional support from the upcoming interns & the Executive Assistant for the administrative purpose as well as for the scientific / technical research and workings. Followed by this the incoming team presented their vision for the new term including call for new EPWG members, inclusive collaborations, launch of Mentorship programme, and the position paper.

Mr Piplani encouraged the Incoming Representatives to refer to the three documents: (1) Memorandum of Association, (2) Strategic Plan Document, and (3) ICOMOS statutes, and align their activities/ proposals with each one of them. Mr Piplani thanked the outgoing representatives for their involvement and contribution to the last term and welcomed the incoming representatives for the upcoming term.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks by Ms Dharshini and a happy screenshot.

## December 2020: Launch of Hello EP Form

This activity has been formulated to help in developing an EPWG Membership Database and to plan activities for the upcoming term. The activity has been conducted through a google form called the "Hello EP" form in order to create a membership database with information on EP's educational/ professional background and expertise, NC/ ISC memberships, interested/ know-more about heritage field, proposal for new activities, and activities in which members are interested in leading for EPWG. The statistics from the Hello EP form highlights the diversity in the EPWG, encouraging the representative to tailor-make activities for the EPs.

Analytical study of the form shows a multicultural and range of expertise and enthusiasts from the heritage world. The form has been shared with all for equal participation from all members from all zones and the possibility of doing inter-zonal activities for balanced participation.

The outcome of this ongoing activity shall be to bring forth the voices of the emerging professionals on India's cultural heritage.

## February 2020: Ex-COM and EPWG Meet and Greet

The meeting had an impactful interaction between the EPWG representatives and the members of the Executive Committee (Ex Com). This meeting between the EPWG and Ex Com commenced with a discussion on the agenda for the meeting and the EPWG National Representative briefed on the EPWG activities planned for the first quarter with Zonal proposals, collaboration with NSCs and other proposed activities.

The call for the new EP's announcement date was finalized. The Ex Com and EPWG brainstormed collaboration strategies aiming at larger impact, long term collaborations and defining verticals.

It was discussed that the said impact could be achieved by webinars, publications and focussing on tangible outcomes etc. The verticals should be defined keeping in mind the concept, activity, reviewing/reporting, intra as well as inter communication and response of the group. It was agreed that the activities should be enhanced and should reciprocate to the NCS's themes.

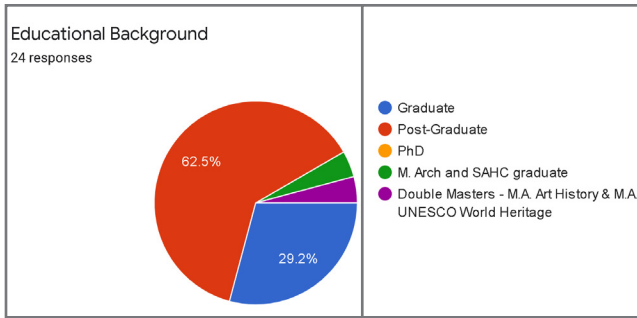


Fig 1: Pie chart showing analytical study of the Hello EP Form.

Communication and outreach also became focal points of discussion and references were provided by the Ex Com to guide the EPs. The Ex Com suggested EPWG to organise an impact survey of the activities within the organisation in order to understand the response and create engaging long term activities.

Furthermore, the President especially stressed upon the 'Sustainability of the Organization' while discussing the activity proposals. An important suggestion of forming an EP team for communication and using ICOMOS website space with well-articulated dialogue came through. Looking at the previous articles in the newsletter, the EPWG was advised to articulate the content in a way that the projection of the initiatives taken by the EPs is exhibited.

Another point of discussion was the Mentor-Mentee program. Streamlining of the Mentor-mentee framework by defining themes, methodology, time, outcome, assessment of outcome, outreach, availability of the mentor in India or overseas were discussed. Whether this program shall focus on global exposure or local context or both was the question left by the President for EPWG to ponder upon.

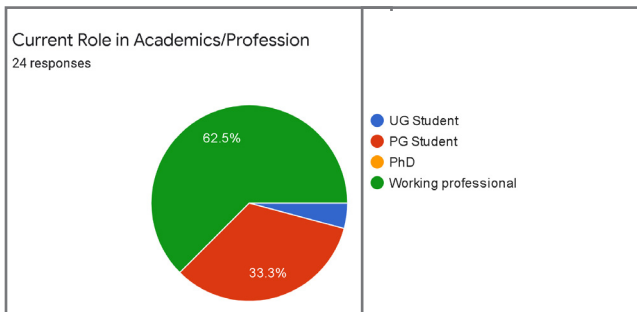


Fig 2: Pie chart showing analytical study of the Hello EP Form.

Aspirations, long term vision, strategic plan and dream document together became the concluding takeaway for the EPWG. Though the meeting was attended by a few members, the EPWG received great insights which are substantiating well with the on-going work of EPWG.



Bhukailash Temple Complex, Kolkata. Photo credits: Sukrit Sen



# KEY FINANCIALS

## OVERVIEW OF ANNUAL ACCOUNTS: FY 2020-21

FY 2020-21 was distinctive for COMOS' financial matters, as the Annual Budget for the FY was approved at a Special General Meeting held on 1st November 2020, instead of the Annual General Meeting. Based on membership inputs at the AGM, the entire format of the budget was revised to include 1: income and 2: clarity on the corpus accumulated.

The Annual Budget for FY 2020-21 anticipated an income of Rs 19,35,000, and expenditure of Rs 35,05,800. The actual income was Rs. 16,56,175, a minor variation from the anticipated amount; the actual expenditure was Rs. 22,96,052, almost 2/3rds of the budgeted amount.

### Income

This year's income was markedly absent in external donations. Income generation through donations and registrations for events will need to be actively engaged with in the upcoming year/s. More importantly, creation of institutional relationships and systems which financially support the organisation, will be critical in ensuring the long-term financial sustainability of COMOS.

### Expenditure

Key expenditure has been focused on running of the secretariat, professional fees for consultancies (accounting, auditing, other statutory needs) in addition to important expenses concentrated towards effective communication and outreach in the digital space during months in lockdown: via subscriptions to digital platforms (zoom, sonix), website maintenance and updates, and others.

Partial expenses towards one publication (Scientific Symposium 2020 proceedings) were made. Zonal expenses were minimal; and no research grants were given this year. Reimbursements of zonal expenses and memberships refunds from the last financial year remained pending and were cleared in this year as well. The focus this year was to streamline accounting at COMOS, and as of 31st March 2021, all expenses and reimbursements raised have been fully cleared, and pending liabilities have been comprehensively accounted for in the audited accounts.

### Statutory Compliances

All statutory compliances for the year, including Filing of TDS, Filing of Income Tax Returns, and GST Liabilities, have been met. Additional statutory needs raised and addressed this year:

- *Renewal and Application of 80G & 12A*

In response to the Finance Act 2020, COMOS was required to renew registration of its 80G and 12A status as a registered Society/ NGO. A fee of Rs 50,000 was charged by Alacrity Corporate Solutions Pvt Ltd (our existing accounting consultants) for reapplication, renewal and follow up. As of 31st March, the renewed certificates have not yet been received from the IT Department.

- *Income Tax Scrutiny of Accounts from FY 2017-18*

COMOS received a notice in the last FY, and again in January 2021, from the Income Tax Department regarding scrutiny of accounts from FY 2017-18. Collation of information and preparation of multiple responses was coordinated by the Treasurer, following which COMOS' response was accepted and the case was closed. The closure order, dated 27th February 2021, stated no monies remained due for overdue taxes. A fee of Rs 50,000 has been charged by CA Vinay Pandey (our existing statutory auditor) for the work. Penalty proceedings- amounting to Rs 10,000- are still underway, which COMOS has appealed.

- *GST Interest Liability from FY 2017-18*

COMOS received a notice in the last FY, from the GST Department regarding a pending liability of Rs 2,80,499 on interest not paid for the FY 2017-18. COMOS has contested the liability and made multiple representations to the GST Office this year with calculations and copy of records to support the contestation. The last representation was made on 19th March 2021 in which COMOS has put forward that the pending liability should be Rs 20,882 and submitted the same via hard copy. As of 31st March, no response from the GST Office has been received. While COMOS is keen on clearing the liability as per our calculations; based on our Accountant's advice, we continue to wait for a response/ notice from the GST Office before this is paid.



COMOS (COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES)						
Annual Budget 2020-21						
INCOME						
Category	Income Description	Details	Operating Income	Corpus	Total	
<b>A CASH ON HAND (IN BANK)</b>						
1	Revenue from Operation 2019- 2020	1.1 Membership Fee Renewal 1.2 Arrears paid towards Membership Fee 1.3 Bank Interest 1.4 Donations (NSC Conclave)	13,65,500 1,85,600 4,91,970 1,65,000	18,76,860	3,31,211	22,08,070
2	Prior Accumulated Surplus as of 31 March 2020 *	2.1 2017- 2020 *After accounting for deficit incurred in 2019-20 2.2 Prior to 2017		9,72,496	48,75,082 6,35,054	64,82,632
			<b>TOTAL A</b>	<b>28,49,356</b>	<b>58,41,346</b>	<b>86,90,702</b>
<b>B ANTICIPATED INCOME</b>						
3	Anticipated Revenue from Operation 2020-21	1.1 Membership Fee Renewal 1.2 Reimbursements from Advance Payments 1.3 Bank Interest 1.4 Registrations from Scientific Symposium	14,00,000 45,000 4,50,000 40,000	16,44,750	2,90,250	19,35,000
			<b>TOTAL B</b>	<b>16,44,750.00</b>	<b>2,90,250.00</b>	<b>19,35,000</b>
EXPENDITURE						
Category	Expenditure Description	Details	Operating Expenditure	Capital Expenditure	Total	
<b>A COMOS SECRETARIAT</b>						
1	Fixed Assets	1.1 1 Computer & 1 Printer	1,25,000	1,25,000	1,25,000	
2	Office Expenditure	2.1 Office rental @ Rs 26250/ month 2.2 Maintenance @ Rs 2000/ month 2.3 Broadband bills @ Rs 1500/ month 2.4 Printing & Stationary 2.5 Couriers 2.6 Travel & Conveyance 2.7 Accounting Softwares 2.8 Electricity 2.9 CCTVs 2.10. Miscellaneous	3,15,000 24,000 18,000 75,000 30,000 1,00,000 5,000 20,000 5,000 75,000	3,15,000 24,000 18,000 75,000 30,000 1,00,000 5,000 20,000	5,000	6,67,000
3	Salaries	3.1 Executive Assistant @ Rs 40,000/ month 3.2 2 Interns @ Rs 10,000/ month (each) 3.3 Cleaner @ Rs 1000/ month	4,80,000 1,20,000 12,000	4,80,000 1,20,000 12,000		6,12,000
4	Consultancies	4.1 Auditing & Associated Legal Work 4.2 Yearly Accounting 4.3 Legal Expenditure	85,000 2,16,000 75,000	85,000 2,16,000 75,000		3,76,000
5	Membership Fees to ICOMOS Secretariat	5.1 Individual & Institutional membership fees for 2020	6,50,000	6,50,000		6,50,000
			<b>TOTAL A</b>	<b>23,00,000</b>	<b>1,30,000</b>	<b>24,30,000</b>
<b>B RESEARCH, ADVOCACY, CAPACITY BUILDING &amp; OUTREACH</b>						
6	Virtual platform for meetings & events	6.1 Zoom annual subscription @ Rs 1200/-per month for 12 months (100 people maximum capacity)	14,400	14,400		14,400
7	AGM + Scientific Symposium (May & June 2020)	7.1 2 x Zoom add-on for large events @ Rs 4,000/- (500 people maximum capacity) E-Publication (graphic design, limited print copies, ISBN/ ISCN etc) @ Rs 50,000/- per publication (balance to be supported by external sources) 7.2 50,000/- per publication (balance to be supported by external sources) 7.3 Other miscellaneous expenses, including travel, conveyance, e-voting balance	8,000 50,000 15,000	8,000	50,000	73,000
8	NSC Conclave (Nov 2020)	8.1 Zoom add-on for large events @ Rs 4,000/- (500 people maximum capacity)	4,000	4,000		4,000
9	NSC Research Grants	9.1 Maximum Rs 1,50,000 per project	4,50,000	4,50,000		4,50,000
10	Zonal Funds	10.1 6 zones @ Rs 20,000/- each	1,20,000	1,20,000		1,20,000
11	YP/ EPWG Activities	11.1 6 zones @ Rs 5000/- each	30,000	30,000		30,000
12	Working Groups	12.1 3 working groups @ Rs 15,000/- each	45,000	45,000		45,000
13	Training & Capacity Building	13.1 2 capacity building workshops @ Rs 25,000/- per workshop	50,000	50,000		50,000
14	Publishing Work	14.1 Original design softwares 14.2 Newsletter add-on softwares 14.3 2 E-Publications (graphic design, limited print copies, ISBN/ ISCN etc) @ Rs 50,000/- per publication (balance to be supported by external sources) 14.4 Softwares for plagiarism checks 14.5 Miscellaneous	5,000 20,000 1,00,000 10,000 25,000	5,000 20,000 1,00,000 10,000 25,000	1,00,000	1,60,000
15	Website	15.1 Web hosting and domain 15.2 Website Design Update (continued from 2019) 15.3 Website Maintenance	5,400 1,15,000 24,000	5,400 1,15,000 24,000	1,15,000	1,44,400
			<b>TOTAL B</b>	<b>8,10,800</b>	<b>2,65,000</b>	<b>10,75,800</b>
			<b>TOTAL PROPOSED EXPENDITURE (A+B)</b>	<b>31,10,800</b>	<b>3,95,000</b>	<b>35,05,800</b>
<b>C DUTIES AND TAXES</b>						
16	GST	16.1 GST at 18%- Rent, Consultancies, Publications, Website Updates & Maintenance 16.2 Pending GST Interest Liability** (**raised but under investigation)	1,67,400 2,80,000	1,67,400 2,80,000		4,47,400
			<b>TOTAL C</b>	<b>4,47,400</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,47,400</b>
			<b>TOTAL PROPOSED EXPENDITURE INCLUDING TAXES (A+B+C)</b>	<b>35,58,200</b>	<b>3,95,000</b>	<b>39,53,200</b>

Note: Annual Budget 2020-21 adopted at SGM 2020.

## SUMMARY NOTE ON ANNUAL BUDGET 2020-21

### *Financial Year 2020- 2021*

On the basis of the actual expenditure incurred during FY 2019-20, the annual budget for FY 2020-2021 is being proposed at Rs. 35,05,800 for expenditure towards operations, research, advocacy, capacity building and outreach (excluding duties and taxes).

The proposed expenditure for 2020-21 was presented at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of 2020. Multiple recommendations from the membership were made to update this to indicate the income alongside. It was also brought out that clarity on the existing corpus be made. Both recommendations were recorded in the official minutes of the annual general meeting.

At the same AGM, results of the elections held were announced, and the newly elected Executive Committee took office from the day. Consequently, the responsibility of revising the budget fell to the new Executive Committee. This immediate task was set against the ongoing pandemic due to the outbreak of COVID-19, and consequent restrictions in travel and day-to-day functioning of the organisation. The new Executive Committee has been mindful to carefully study the impact on expenditure, over the past 3 months, and realign its priorities in this new normal before releasing the revised budget to the membership.

Three new documents are being shared related to the Annual Budget 2020-21- the *Budget*, this *Background Note* and an *Income Tax Computation Statement: 2017-2020* which offers clarity on the corpus accumulated. These three documents should be read alongside the *Audited Accounts 2019-20*, which was previously presented and approved by the membership at the AGM 2020 (available on the ICOMOS India website). The updated budget will be included in the Annual Report 2019-20, as an amendment.

Budget 2020-21, in its revised format, provides clarity on the cash on hand (in the bank) as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020, which amounts to a total of Rs. 86,90,702 - out of this Rs. 28,49,356 is the operating income, and Rs. 58,41,346 forms the corpus accumulated (see *Income Tax Computation Statement: 2017-2020* for clarity). Currently, all of this income is held in one bank account. The anticipated income for 2020-21 is Rs 19,35,00, based on income sources from past years.

Expenditure is proposed under two core heads- A: COMOS Secretariat, and B: Research, Advocacy, Capacity Building and Outreach- amounting to Rs. 24,30,000 and Rs. 10,75,800, respectively. Expenditure has further been categorized as, either, operating expenditure or capital expenditure.

Running of the COMOS Secretariat, includes office expenses, salaries and consultancies. Investments in additional fixed assets (computer and printer) have been added to the budget. The cost for a half-yearly audit of accounts, as recommended and approved at the AGM 2020, has also been incorporated as a critical addition. Almost a third of the expenditure under this head is allocated for transfer to the ICOMOS International Secretariat as membership dues.

Expenditure towards Research, Advocacy, Capacity Building and Outreach, takes into account investments into subscriptions to virtual platforms (Zoom), which have become essential to conducting meetings and hosting events. Provisions for an add-on for larger meetings (up to 500 people) are allocated for all COMOS annual events- the AGM, Scientific Symposium and NSC Conclave. Upgradation of the website is a key priority, and investment, which is being carried forward from 2019 into this year. The new Executive Committee has also formed a 'Publications Sub-Committee' since it took office, responsive to the need to re-strategize methods of outreach, which have in the past been through in-person events. This committee has prepared an action plan to include quarterly Newsletters and E-Publications (starting with compilation of papers from 2019 and 2020 Scientific Symposiums) which are duly reflected in the budget.

Expenditure within the core structures in ICOMOS India- its Zones, NSCs, EPWG and Working Groups- builds from allocations in past budgets, as well as the Strategic Plan, which offers an Action Plan for the year 2020-21. With the appointment of a new NSC Counsellor in September 2020, methods of streamlining funds for research work via NSCs and Working Groups – a concern raised at AGM 2020- will be deliberated upon aimed towards a resolution. All proposed expenditure in these heads is mindful of the current restrictions in travel and possibilities of in-person events, though has kept a comfortable contingency in case the situation improves in the coming months.

**COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES**  
**623-A, SOMDUTT CHAMBER-II BHIKAJI CAMA PLACE NEW DELHI 110066**

**BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31ST MARCH 2021**

PARTICULARS	Notes	As at 31 March 2021	As at 31 March 2020
<b>SOURCE OF FUND</b>			
<b>General Fund</b>			
Opening Balance		9,160,820.80	10022939.65
Add: Surplus (Deficit)		(639,877.12)	(862,118.87)
<b>Current Liabilities &amp; Provision</b>			
Other Current Liability	3	921,749.08	830,000.40
Duties and Taxes	4	5,963.00	4,925.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>9,448,655.76</b>	<b>9,995,746.18</b>
<b>APPLICATION OF FUNDS</b>			
<b>FIXED ASSESST</b>			
Laptop		10,779.39	17,965.65
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Trade Receivable	5	111,000.00	-
Cash in hand and cash at Kotak Bank	6	7,956,078.66	8,690,701.79
Duties & Taxes	7	1,250,797.71	1,146,178.74
Other Current Assets	8	120,000.00	140,900.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>9,448,655.76</b>	<b>9,995,746.18</b>
Significant accounting policies	2		

As per our Report of even date

For and on Behalf of the Board

For VINAY PANDEY & CO  
Chartered Accountants  
FRN 022378N

CA. VINAY PANDEY  
Partner  
Membership No. 511376

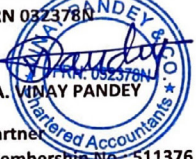
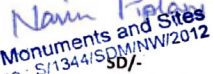


Place: DELHI  
Date: 17.06.2021

For COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES  
Council on Monuments and Sites  
Registration no. S/1344/SDM/NW/2012

Navin Piplani  
Council on Monuments and Sites  
Registration no. S/1344/SDM/NW/2012  
SD/-  
NAVIN PIPLANI  
(President)

Shalini  
Council on Monuments and Sites  
Registration no. S/1344/SDM/NW/2012  
SD/-  
SHALINI DASGUPTA  
(Secretary)

Priyanka  
Council on Monuments and Sites  
Registration no. S/1344/SDM/NW/2012  
SD/-  
PRIYANKA SINGH  
( Treasurer)

<b>COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES</b>			
<b>623-A, SOMDUTT CHAMBER-II BHIKAJI CAMA PLACE NEW DELHI 110066</b>			
<b>Statement for Income &amp; Expenditure</b>			
PARTICULARS	Notes	For the year ended 31 March 2021	For the year ended 31 March 2020
<b>INCOME</b>			
Receipt from Donation etc.	9	1,656,175.00	2,208,070.00
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>1,656,175.00</b>	<b>2,208,070.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Employee benefit expense	10	513,754.00	542,210.00
Other expenses	11	1,782,298.12	2,527,978.87
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>2,296,052.12</b>	<b>3,070,188.87</b>
<b>Excess of Income Over Expenditure</b>		(639,877.12)	(862,118.87)
<b>Tax expense :-</b>			
Current tax Provision			
<b>Net Surplus</b>		<b>(639,877.12)</b>	<b>(862,118.87)</b>
<b>Significant accounting policies</b>	2		
The notes referred to above form an integral part of the financial statements As per our report attached			
As per our Report of even date		For and on Behalf of the Board	
For VINAY PANDEY & CO Chartered Accountants FRN 032378R	For COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES Registration no. S/1344/SDM/NW/2012		
 CA. VINAY PANDEY Partner Membership No.: 511376	 NAVIN PIPLANI (President)	 SHALINI DASGUPTA (Secretary)	 PRIYANKA SINGH (Treasurer)
Place: DELHI Date: 17.06.2021			

**COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES**

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st march 2021

**Note 3 Other current liabilities**

Particulars	As at 31 March, 2021	As at 31 March, 2020
<b><u>Liabilities for Exp.</u></b>		
Alacrity	19,890.00	24,840.00
Vinay Pandey & Co.	129,800.00	53,100.00
Designdot Technologis Pvt. Ltd		6,975.00
Elixir Foundation		2,400.00
Sunil Pahilajani		28,350.00
International Council on Monuments and Site	649,185.08	667,766.40
Sujata Prasad		46,569.00
Airtel	119.00	
Bipasa Banerjee	160.00	
Lipika Khana	3,445.00	
Chunmun Kumar	851.00	
Priyanka Singh	3,072.00	
<b><u>Salary Payable</u></b>		
Chunchun Kumar	17,500.00	
Lipika Khana	22,000.00	
Bipasa Banarjee	17,727.00	
<b><u>Excess Payment Received from Members</u></b>		
Bhavya Ahuja (To be Refunded)	2,500.00	
Vama Communication. (To be Refunded)	50,000.00	
Arman Singh (To be Refunded)	2,000.00	
AGK Menon (To be Adjusted in Next Year)	3,500.00	
	<b>921,749.08</b>	<b>830,000.40</b>

**Note 4 Duties and Taxes**

Particulars	As at 31 March, 2021	As at 31 March, 2020
TDS on Professional Fee	4,163.00	2,300.00
TDS on Rent	1,500.00	2,625.00
TDS on Contract	300.00	
	<b>5,963.00</b>	<b>4,925.00</b>

**Note 5 Trade Receivable**

Particulars	As at 31 March, 2021	As at 31 March, 2020
Amruta Shrikant Uplekar	2,000.00	
Anuranjan Roy	2,500.00	
Aparna Tandon	3,500.00	
Deepak Das	2,000.00	
Indrajeet Bhattacharya	1,000.00	
R V College of Architecture	50,000.00	
Ansal University	25,000.00	
Srishti Manipal Institute of Art, Design & Technology	25,000.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>111,000.00</b>	<b>-</b>



Navin Piplani

Shalini

Priyanka

**Note 6 Cash and cash equivalents**

Particulars			As at 31 March, 2021	As at 31 March, 2020
Kotak Mahindra Bank			7,956,078.66	8,690,701.79
<b>Total</b>			<b>7,956,078.66</b>	<b>8,690,701.79</b>

**Note 7 Duties and Taxes**

Particulars			As at 31 March, 2021	As at 31 March, 2020
TDS Receivable_2017-18			-	46,050.00
TDS Receivable_2018-19			-	1,400.00
GST				
Electronic Cash Ledger			60,380.00	60,380.00
CGST Input			568,366.82	519,174.38
SGST Input			568,366.82	519,174.36
IGST Input			53,684.07	
<b>Total</b>			<b>1,250,797.71</b>	<b>1,146,178.74</b>

**Note 8 Other Current Assets**

Particulars			As at 31 March, 2021	As at 31 March, 2020
Advance to Project			45,000.00	60,000.00
Prepaid Exp			-	5,900.00
Security Deposit Rent			75,000.00	75,000.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>120,000.00</b>	<b>140,900.00</b>



Nain Piplani

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**COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES**  
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 2021

**Note 9 Revenue from operation**

Particulars	For the year ended 31 March, 2021	For the year ended 31 March, 2020
Membership Fee :		
Associates	167,500.00	147,500.00
Individual	764,500.00	808,000.00
Institutional Member	200,000.00	275,000.00
Student Member	4,000.00	2,500.00
Young Professional Member	147,500.00	132,500.00
Symposium Fee	47,080.00	
Prior Period Membership fee		185,600.00
Donation Recd.		165,000.00
Saving Bank Interest	321,165.00	491,970.00
Interest on Income Tax Refund	4,430.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,656,175.00</b>	<b>2,208,070.00</b>

**Note 10 Employee benefits expense**

Particulars	For the year ended 31 March, 2021	For the year ended 31 March, 2020
Salaries to staff	513,754.00	500,000.00
Staff welfare expenses		42,210.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>513,754.00</b>	<b>542,210.00</b>

**Note 11 Other expenses**

Particulars	For the year ended 31 March, 2021	For the year ended 31 March, 2020
Audit fees	40,000.00	90,000.00
Bank Charges	2,373.43	6,394.28
Bad Debts		26,316.00
CC Avenues Charges	11,376.00	
Courier Charges	22,510.00	26,512.20
Conclave Exp		101,586.00
Conveyance	24,753.00	
Deprication	7,186.26	11,641.00
Event and Project Exp		59,714.52
Electricity Exp	20,920.00	7,749.35
Foreign Bank Charge	4,584.08	
Insurance Charges	222.00	
Internet and Telephone Expenses	14,153.50	13,929.86
IT Expenses	50,127.75	
Late Fee, Interest and Penalty	405.00	9,312.77
Meeting Exps./Conference Exps		25,691.00
Membership Fee	649,185.08	1,103,295.87
Meal & Entairntainment		6,630.00
Office Exps	20,468.17	77,173.00
Other Expenses	13,502.00	31,184.88
Professional Fee	507,329.00	490,790.00
Printing & Stationary	55,880.56	42,416.06
Rent	296,250.00	315,000.00
Repair & Maintenance	25,650.57	27,220.30
Symposium Charges	8,259.00	
Tour & Travelling Exp.	7,162.72	55,421.78
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,782,298.12</b>	<b>2,527,978.87</b>



Nain Piplani

Shelini

Tejanka

COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES			
623-A, SOMDUTT CHAMBER-II BHIKAJI CAMA PLACE NEW DELHI 110066			
RECEIPT AND PAYMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 2020-2021			
RECEIPT	AMOUNT	PAYMENT	AMOUNT
OPENING BANK BALANCE	8,690,701.79	PAYMENT OF LAST YEAR LIABILITY	834,925.40
MEMBERSHIP FEE RECEIVED	1,172,500.00	SALARY	456,527.00
REFUND OF ADVANCE FOR PROJECTS	15,000.00	PROFESSIONAL FEE	417,439.00
ADVANCE FOR MEMBERSHIP FEE	58,000.00	IT SUPPORT AND WEB HOSTING EXP	50,127.75
INCOME TAX REFUNDS	51,880.00	COURIER	22,510.00
INTEREST FROM BANK	321,165.00	ELECTRICITY	20,920.00
SYMPOSIUM FEE	47,080.00	FOREIGN BANK CHARGES	4,584.08
		INSURANCE CHARGES	222.00
		INTERNET AND TELEPHONE CHARGES	14,034.50
		OFFICE EXPENSES	20,468.17
		INTEREST ON TDS LATE PAYMENT & FILING FEE	405.00
		CONVEYANCE	24,753.00
		TRAVELS EXPENSES	7,162.72
		PRINTING AND STATIONERY	55,880.56
		REPAIR AND MAINTANANCE	25,650.57
		RENT	296,250.00
		TDS PAID	45,075.00
		GST PAID ON EXP	79,178.95
		OTHER EXP	13,502.00
		SYMPOSIUM CHARGES	8,259.00
		BANK CHARGES	2,373.43
		CLOSING BALANCE	7,956,078.66
	10,356,326.79		10,356,326.79

As per our Report of even date

For and on Behalf of the Board

For VINAY PANDEY & CO  
Chartered Accountants  
FRN 032378N

CA. VINAY PANDEY  
Partner  
Membership No: 511376

Place: DELHI  
Date: 17.06.2021

Council on Monuments and Sites  
Registration no: S/1344/SDM/NW/2012

SD/-  
NAVIN PIPLANI  
(President)

SD/-  
SHALINI DASGUPTA  
(Secretary)

Council on Monuments and Sites  
Registration no: S/1344/SDM/NW/2012  
(Treasurer)



**COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES****Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2021**

(All amount are in Indian Rupees, except for share data, and if otherwise stated)

**1 Background**

Council on Monuments and Sites ('the Society') was Registered in India on 1st Oct, 2012 as per Society Act, . The Society is engaged in Conservation, Protection, Rehabilitation, Enhancement and Maintenance of Cultural Heritage in India and Abroad.

**2 Significant accounting policies****A) Basis of preparation of financial statements**

The Accounting Standard Issued by Institute of Chartered Accountant of India are Applicable to Non-Profit Entities only if any part of the activities of the entity is considered to be commercial industrial or business in nature. The Society is not carrying on any activity in the nature of commercial, industrial or business. Therefore the Accounting Standard are not mandatory and have been followed to the extent practicable or relevant. The Financial Statement have been prepared under the historical cost convention and accrual basis except stated otherwise. The accounting policies have been consistently applied by Society.

**B) Revenue / Expenditure Recognition**

All Grant, membership fee,expenditure and liabilities are recognised on accrual basis . Interest Income is recognised using time proportion method.

**C) Income Tax:**

a) The Society is registered with Income Tax Authorities under section 12A of the Income Tax Act. 1961 and hence the Income of the Society is exempt under section 11 of Income Tax Act subject to compliance of relevant provisions of section 11 read with section 12 and 13 of the Act. The permanent Account No. (PAN) of the Society is AABAC5060E.

b) Donation of the to the Society are eligible for Tax relief in the hand of donor under section 80-G of Income Tax Act 1961.

**3) Foreign Payment**

During the year Entity has made a payment to its foreign association ICOMOS International in foreign currency 5430 Euro which is in Indian Currency for Rs.6,49,185.



Navin Piplani

Shalini

Tejankka

**VINAY PANDEY & CO.**  
Chartered Accountants

CA

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

**TO the members of COUNCIL ON MONUMENT AND SITES**

**Report on the financial statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **COUNCIL ON MONUMENT AND SITES** ("the Society"), which comprise the Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2021 and the statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ended and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

**Management' Responsibility for the financial statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation of these financial statements that give a true and fair view of the financial position and financial performance of the Society in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in India. This responsibility includes maintenance of adequate Accounting Record in accordance with provision of the Act that give true and fair view and are free from material misstatements. Whether due to fraud or error.

**Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with standards on Auditing issued by the institute of chartered Accountants of India. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement. Including the assessment of the risk of material misstatement of financial statement whether due to fraud or error. In making those assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Society's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements. In order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of the accounting estimates made by management as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

**Opinion**

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us. The financial statements give information required by the Act in the manner so required and give a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India:

7/295, Lalita Park Laxmi Nager Delhi-110095  
Tel: +91-9899654900. Email: cavinaypandey@gmail.com



- (a) In the case of Balance sheet of the state of affairs of the Society as at March 31, 2021.
- (b) In the case of the Income and Expenditure Account, of the Surplus for the year ended that date; and

**Other Matters:**


- (a) we have obtained all information and explanations which to the best of knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit.
- (b) In our opinion proper books of accounts have been kept by the Society as appears from our examination of these books.
- (c) The balance sheet and Income and Expenditure Account dealt with by this report are in agreement with the books of accounts.

**Notes:**

- 1) That the Society has received a notice of demand in relation to interest on late payment of GST liability from GST department, but such demand was due to ambiguity in law that was later on clarify by govt. and issued a notification. After such notification we have no interest liability and we have filed an application to GST Department dated 19-03-2021 referring such notification but till date Society does not received any further communication from GST department.
- 2) During the year a scrutiny assessment for AY 2018-19 was initiated by Income Tax Department and we fight such assessment and got assessment order in favors of Society
- 3) During the Course of Scrutiny Assessment a show cause notice for Penalty of Rs.10,000/- was issued by Income Tax Authority and such initiative was pending as on 31-03-2021.
- 4) Management of Society has initiated for renewal of section 12A and 80G Certificate as per new Law and applied but it is Still under process.

PLACE: NEW DELHI:  
DATED: 17/06/2021

For A VINAY PANDEY & CO  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS  
FRN 032378N

  
CA. VINAY PANDEY  
PARTNER  
M.NO 511376

# FISCAL PLANNING FINANCIAL YEAR 2021-2022

The Annual Budget for FY 2021-2022 presents anticipated income at Rs.18,25,000 and an upper limit of Rs. 37,32,800 for proposed expenditure. Based on expenditure incurred in FY 2020-21, it is anticipated that only 2/3rds of the proposed expenditure will be utilized. The upper limit of expenditure lists funding under various heads, providing enough flexibility for activities and events to be undertaken by the organisation for its growth.

COMOS' income relies predominantly on membership fees; it is unmistakable that the continued patronage of members and association of new members are essential to the organisation. To ensure financial sustainability, income generation through donations and registrations for events is anticipated in the upcoming year.

Expenditure is proposed under two core heads- *A: COMOS Secretariat, and B: Research, Advocacy, Capacity Building and Outreach*- amounting to Rs. 26,46,400 and Rs. 10,86,400, respectively. Expenditure has further been categorized as, either, operating expenditure or capital expenditure.

Running of the COMOS Secretariat, includes office expenses, salaries and consultancies. Investments in additional fixed assets (computer and printer) have been added to the budget; this expense has been continued from the last budget as these purchases were not made in the last FY. Almost a third of the expenditure under this head is allocated for transfer to the ICOMOS International Secretariat as membership dues.

Expenditure towards Research, Advocacy, Capacity Building and Outreach, takes into account investments into digital and IT needs, which have become essential needs during the lockdown. As we see the world today, we anticipate that these will be essential expenses in the future as well. Funds allocated for subscriptions to virtual platforms (Zoom), also include provisions for an add-on for larger meetings (up to 500 people) which has been allocated for all COMOS annual events- the AGM, Scientific Symposium and NSC Conclave. Maintenance of the website, and updates to it, also find place in the budget as we upgrade our online presence.

Expenditure within the core institutional structures of ICOMOS India- its Zones, NSCs, EPWG and Working Groups- builds from allocations in past budgets, as well as the Strategic Plan, which offers an Action Plan for the year 2021-22. Grants to support the important work undertaken by various scientific committees finds due recognition in the budget. In addition, a substantial portion of the expenditure budgeted focuses on publication needs as we cement the outputs of research work done collectively by ICOMOS India members.

## COMOS (COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES)

**Annual Budget 2021-22****INCOME**

Category	Income Description	Details	Operating Income	Accumulated Income	Total	
<b>A INCOME</b>						
1	Revenue from Operation 2020-21	1.1 Membership Fee 1.2 Bank Interest 1.3 Registrations from Scientific Symposium 2020 1.4 Interest on Income Tax refund	12,83,500 3,21,165 47,080 4,430	14,07,749	2,48,426	16,56,175
2	Prior Accumulated Surplus as of 31 March 2021 *	2.1 2017- 2021 * After accounting for deficit incurred in 2020-21 2.2 Prior to 2017		5,53,075	48,75,042	60,63,170
				6,35,054		
		<b>TOTAL A</b>	<b>19,60,824</b>	<b>57,58,522</b>	<b>77,19,345</b>	
<b>B ANTICIPATED INCOME</b>						
3	Anticipated Revenue from Operation 2021-22	1.1 Membership Fee Renewal 1.2 Reimbursements from Advance Payments 1.3 Bank Interest 1.4 Donations 1.5 Registrations from Scientific Symposium 2021	13,50,000 35,000 3,00,000 1,00,000 40,000	15,51,250	2,73,750	18,25,000
		<b>TOTAL B</b>	<b>15,51,250.00</b>	<b>2,73,750.00</b>	<b>18,25,000</b>	

**EXPENDITURE**

Category	Expenditure Description	Details	Operating Expenditure	Capital Expenditure	Total	
<b>A COMOS SECRETARIAT</b>						
1	Fixed Assets	1.1 1 Computer & 1 Printer	1,25,000	1,25,000	1,25,000	
2	Office Expenditure	2.1 Office rental @ Rs 20,000/ month 2.2 Repair and Maintenance 2.3 Telephone & Internet @ Rs 950/ month 2.4 Printing & Stationary 2.5 Postage 2.6 Travel & Conveyance 2.7 Accounting Softwares (Zoho + CCAvenue) 2.8 Electricity 2.9 Miscellaneous	2,40,000 25,000 11,400 75,000 40,000 75,000 17,000 25,000 75,000	2,40,000 25,000 11,400 75,000 40,000 75,000 17,000 25,000 75,000		5,83,400
3	Salaries	3.1 Executive Assistant @ Rs 30,000/ month 3.2 Research Assistant @ Rs 30,000/ month 3.3 Other staff as needed (Office Assistant/ Interns) @ 10-15,000/month 3.4 Cleaner @ Rs 1000/ month	3,60,000 3,60,000 1,80,000 12,000	3,60,000 3,60,000 1,80,000 12,000		9,12,000
4	Consultancies	4.1 Auditing & Associated Statutory Accounting Work 4.2 Yearly Accounting 4.3 Additional Statutory Accounting Expenditure	85,000 2,16,000 75,000	85,000 2,16,000 75,000		3,76,000
5	Membership Fees to ICOMOS Secretariat	5.1 Individual & Institutional membership fees for 2021	6,50,000	6,50,000		6,50,000
		<b>TOTAL A</b>	<b>25,21,400</b>	<b>1,25,000</b>	<b>26,46,400</b>	
<b>B RESEARCH, ADVOCACY, CAPACITY BUILDING &amp; OUTREACH</b>						
6	Virtual platform for meetings &	6.1 Zoom Pro annual subscription (100 people maximum capacity)	13,200	13,200		13,200
7	AGM + Scientific Symposium	7.1 2 x Zoom add-on for large events @ Rs 4,400/- (500 people maximum capacity) 7.2 Miscellaneous	8,800 15,000	8,800		23,800
8	NSC Conclave	8.1 Zoom add-on for large events @ Rs 4,400/- (500 people maximum capacity)	4,400	4,400		4,400
9	NSC Research Grants	9.1 Maximum Rs 1,50,000 per project (Large), Rs 75,000 (Medium), Rs 10,000 (Small)	4,50,000	4,50,000		4,50,000
10	Zonal Funds	10.1 6 zones @ Rs 20,000/- each	1,20,000	1,20,000		1,20,000
11	YP/ EPWG Activities	11.1 6 zones @ Rs 5000/- each	30,000	30,000		30,000
12	Working Groups	12.1 3 working groups @ Rs 15,000/- each	45,000	45,000		45,000
13	Training & Capacity Building	13.1 2 capacity building workshops @ Rs 25,000/- per workshop	50,000	50,000		50,000
14	Publications	14.1 Plagiarism detection service subscription 14.2 Newsletter Software 14.3 3 E-Publications (graphic design, limited print copies, ISBN/ ISCN etc) @ max Rs 50,000/- per publication (balance to be supported by external sources) 14.4 SS2020 publication balance 14.5 Miscellaneous	10,000 20,000 1,50,000 30,000 25,000	10,000 20,000 1,50,000 30,000 25,000	1,50,000 30,000	2,35,000
15	Website	15.1 Web hosting and domain 15.2 Website Updates 15.3 Website Maintenance	6,000 1,00,000 24,000	6,000 1,00,000 24,000	1,00,000	1,30,000
		<b>TOTAL B</b>	<b>8,06,400</b>	<b>2,80,000</b>	<b>10,86,400</b>	
		<b>TOTAL PROPOSED EXPENDITURE (A+B)</b>	<b>33,27,800</b>	<b>4,05,000</b>	<b>37,32,800</b>	
<b>C DUTIES AND TAXES</b>						
16	GST	16.1 GST at 18%- IT subscriptions, Rent, Consultancies, Publications, Website Updates & Maintenance 16.2 Pending GST Interest Liability** (**raised but under investigation)	1,64,952 20,882	1,64,952 20,882		1,85,834
		<b>TOTAL C</b>	<b>1,85,834</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,85,834</b>	
		<b>TOTAL PROPOSED EXPENDITURE INCLUDING TAXES (A+B+C)</b>	<b>35,13,634</b>	<b>4,05,000</b>	<b>39,18,634</b>	





# ANNEXURE 1

*Hanging Time, Rabindra Setu, Kolkata. Photo credits: Sukrit Sen*

## MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

**Date:** 1st November, 2020 | **Start Time:** 11 am **End time :**

**Venue:** Zoom Platform link

**The Agenda for the meeting, as circulated by the Secretary through emails, was as follows:**

1. Opening remarks by President of ICOMOS India
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Apologies for Absence
4. Appointment of Chair
5. Approval of Rapporteur
6. Presentation of Strategic Plan, question-answer session and Adoption
7. Presentation of Annual Budget 2020-21, question-answer session and Adoption
8. Presentation of Amendments in Annexure 14 of SOPG, question-answer session and Adoption

**The following ICOMOS INDIA members were present:**

**The Executive Committee:**

1. Navin Piplani, President (In Chair)
2. Rima Hooja, Vice President
3. Shalini Dasgupta, Secretary
4. Priyanka Singh, Treasurer
5. GSV Suryanarayana Murthy, South Zone Representative
6. Poonam Trambadia, West Zone Representative
7. Ananya Bhattacharya, East Zone Representative
8. Smita Makhija, North Zone Representative
9. Nishant Upadhyay, Central Zone Representative
10. Jigna Desai, Institutional Member representative

**Members:**

- |                          |                          |                           |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. A.G.Krishna Menon     | 9. Amruta Shrikant       | 17. Arjun Mukerji         |
| 2. Aanchal Chaurasia     | Uplekar                  | 18. Arun Menon            |
| 3. Abhishek Suresh Ranka | 10. Ananya Bhattacharya  | 19. Ashish Trambadia      |
| 4. Aditi Rai             | 11. Anisha Sundeep Patel | 20. Ashna Patel           |
| 5. Ajaydeep Singh        | 12. Anjan Mitra          | 21. Bhawna Dandona        |
| Jamwal                   | 13. Annabel Lopez        | 22. Bikramjit Chakraborty |
| 6. Akshay Kaul           | 14. Anshika Jain         | 23. Chandrani             |
| 7. Alisha Anand Acharya  | 15. Antara Sharma        | Bandyopadhyay Neogi       |
| 8. Amit Tandon           | 16. Anuradha Chaturvedi  | 24. Chirashree Thakkar    |



## Council on Monuments and Sites

## Special General Meeting 2020

1<sup>st</sup> November 2020

- |                          |                            |                             |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 25. Darshan Dudhoria     | 60. NEERAJ BHAGAT          | 98. Sankar Krishna Das      |
| 26. Dhriti Ray           | 61. NIRMAL JAYANT          | 99. Saranya Darshini        |
| 27. Eshani Khandpur      | KULKARNI                   | Karunanithi                 |
| 28. Gauri Pramod Joshi   | 62. Nishant Upadhyay       | 100. Saumya Tripathi        |
| 29. Gitanjali Rao        | 63. Nishesh Jain           | 101. Shahzad Ahmed Malik    |
| 30. Gopa Sen             | 64. Nityaa Iyer            | 102. Shalini Dasgupta       |
| 31. Gurmeet Rai          | 65. Niyati Jigyasu         | 103. Shikha Jain            |
| 32. Jaspreet Kaur        | 66. Nowshad PM             | 104. Shivangi Shukla        |
| 33. Jatin Hashmukh Bhai  | 67. Nupur Bhatnagar        | 105. Shreejita Maity        |
| Ambani                   | 68. Nupur Prothi Khanna    | 106. Shuchita Singh         |
| 34. Jaydev Nansey        | 69. Pankaj Manchanda       | 107. Siddhajan Roy          |
| 35. Jigna Desai          | 70. Parth Joshi            | Chaudhuri                   |
| 36. Kamal Kumar          | 71. Poonam Trambadia       | 108. Smita Makhija          |
| Bandyopadhyay            | 72. Poonam Verma           | 109. Sonal Karanjikar       |
| 37. Kamalika Bose        | Mascarenhas                | Chitnis                     |
| 38. Khushi Dharmesh Shah | 73. Poorva Jayant Patil    | 110. Sonali Jaiswal         |
| 39. Khushi Shah          | 74. Prathyaksha Krishna    | 111. Srinivas Murthy G      |
| 40. Kiran Joshi          | Prasad                     | 112. Sukanya Mitra          |
| 41. Kirtida Unwalla      | 75. Pratiti Joshi          | 113. Sukrit Sen             |
| 42. Lakshmi Priya T      | 76. Priya Gosain           | 114. Suptendu P Biswas      |
| 43. Maanvi Chawla        | 77. Priyanka S Talreja     | 115. Suramya Bansal         |
| 44. Madhu Vottery        | 78. Priyanka Singh         | 116. Sushant School of Art  |
| 45. Madhura Dutta        | 79. Puja Bhowmik           | and Architecture,           |
| 46. Manikonda            | 80. Radhika Dhumal         | Ansal University            |
| Vedakumar                | 81. Rahul Subberwal        | 117. Suvarna Ashok Jain     |
| 47. Meera Natampally     | 82. Rana P.B.Singh         | 118. SV Suryanarayan        |
| 48. Moinak Bose          | 83. RC Agarwal             | Murthy Gullapalli           |
| 49. Moulshri Joshi       | 84. Rima Hooja             | 119. Swapna Kothari         |
| 50. Moushumi Chatterjee  | 85. Ritika Khanna          | 120. Tapan Mittal           |
| 51. Mrinalini Atrey      | 86. Ritika Ravindra Jharia | Deshpande                   |
| 52. MUKUL AGARWAL        | 87. Ritu Bammi             | 121. Ujwala Menon           |
| 53. Munish Pandit        | 88. Ritu Gulati            | 122. Vaidehi Vishwas        |
| 54. Muziris Projects     | 89. Rohan Madan            | Lavand                      |
| Limited - Nowshad        | 90. Rohit Jigyasu          | 123. Vaishali Prasad Latkar |
| Padiyath PM              | 91. Saatvika Pancholi      | 124. Vanicka Arora          |
| 55. Naina Saxena         | 92. Samhitha Sanjeev       | 125. Vasudha Saraogi        |
| 56. Nalini Thakur        | Polamuri                   | 126. Venugopal B            |
| 57. Nandini              | 93. Sanaeya Erach          | 127. Vrinda Jariwala        |
| Mukhopadhyay             | Vandrewala                 | 128. Yamini Gupta           |
| 58. Narayanan            | 94. Sandip Nowlakha        | 129. Yash Pratap Singh      |
| ThirunavukkARAYANA       | 95. Sangeeta Bais          | Shekhawat                   |
| N                        | 96. Sanghamitra Basu       | 130. Zarna Surendra Shah    |
| THIRUNAVUKKARASU         | 97. Sanjib Kumar           |                             |
| 59. Navin Piplani        | Borkakoti                  |                             |

**ASCERTAINING THE QUORUM:**

As per the RR 10 of the Memorandum of Association of the Society, a special General Meeting of the Society may be called at any time by a resolution of the Executive Committee, or by requisition of 33% of the voting members. The quorum at a Special General Meeting shall be 33% of members. The Society has a total 354 members. Accordingly 117 members (33%) of total 354 members, must be present. The Secretary ascertained the attendance. A total 130 members were present. Since the conditions of attendance had been met, she declared the quorum to be present and, thus, the meeting validly constituted to proceed to discuss the agenda for the day.

**Invitees:**

1. Ms. Pranav Kumar, Alacrity Corporate Solutions Pvt Ltd Accounting service provider
2. Mr Vinay Pandey, Vinay Pandey & Co. Auditor

**As per the Agenda, the following discussions were held and decisions were taken in the AGM:**

**1. Opening Remarks:**

Mr. Navin Piplani welcomed and thanked all the members for their presence in this important meeting and declared the meeting open.

**2. Approval of Agenda:**

The agenda was circulated among members on 10<sup>th</sup> October and 31<sup>st</sup> of November, 2020. There was no objection received by the members therefore declared Approved.

**3. Apologies for absence:**

Mr Vinay Pandey, Vinay Pandey & Co., Auditor was unable to attend the meeting and apologized for his absence.

**4. Appointment of Chair:**

Mr Navin Piplani was appointed as the chairperson of the Special General Meeting.

**5. Approval of Rapporteur:**

Ms Ananya Bhattacharya was appointed as the Rapporteur for the meeting.  
Ms Priya Gosain, EPWG member, was appointed to assist with moderating the session and collation of questions.

**6. Presentation of Strategic Plan:**

The Strategic Plan was presented by Ms Shalini Dasgupta and Ms Poonam Trambadia. The Strategic Plan, initiated in 2014, was last presented in AGM 2020. Suggestions received were incorporated and circulated again in October 2020. We received the comments and all changes included. A presentation on the revised Strategic Plan was made by Ms Dasgupta.

The Strategic Plan is a road map for the organization. It establishes a strong relationships among heritage professionals and bridge the gap between the experts and the common people. The NSCs, Zones & WGs especially EPs can initiate there research programs under:

1. Knowledge Building & Archiving
2. Advisory and Capacity Building Action Points.
3. Especially for the Zones can conduct their awareness programs under Advocacy and Outreach.

Tentative calendar was also presented which facilitates with certain event dates were the various awareness programs can suitably conducted.

Mr Munish Pandit had two concerns: 1. The plan is headed only by certain members and executive body and it doesn't elaborate on how the membership can contribute in the capacity building. The executive body should concentrate more on the functioning of the organization. 2. The plan doesn't elaborate on how the milestones are going to achieve at the end of three years?

Ms Shalini Dasgupta clarified that its only Ms Priyanka Singh and herself leading the WGs and rest of the NSCs/WGs are handled by the membership. We had always been requesting members to come forward and send us their action plans/proposals which are to be reviewed by the executive committee.

Ms Priyanka Singh further clarified that the nomination of coordinators for Working Groups had been undertaken in various ways in the past - either through an announcement to members for volunteers, or members of ICOMOS India in respective International WGs would take on the role of Focal Point at the National Committee. In the case of the Water Heritage WG, a proposal was sent by 2 members (including Ms Singh) to the ExCom for consideration, following which the request was placed at the AGM in 2018, and members agreed to the formation, duly recorded in the minutes. On formation of the WG in 2019, the same 2 members were nominated as coordinators. Following nomination to the post of Treasurer, Ms Singh explained that she had requested for the consent of the COMOS Board and the WHWG members to continue and complete a 2 year term responsive to proposed work of the WG.

Ms Sangeeta Bais raised a concern: 80% of our membership are from the background of conservation architecture and young professionals. She wanted to understand on how the Ex-Com has planned to work on the scientific & thematic areas mentioned in the Strategic Plan which needs multi-disciplinary professionals beyond conservation architects? How the Strategic Plan will enhance the membership, bringing in more professionals from the other disciplines? Before getting into such specific Themes, we need to have a framework and planning to work under these themes.

Ms Shalini Dasgupta answering the query, agreed that we lack such professionals in our fraternity and CCHWG has already initiated in their meetings to involve the multi-disciplinary

institutions, fulfill the lacuna and urged the membership to spread the awareness of the mandate of ICOMOS India, help us spread our network and bring in more and more memberships from different fields.

Mr Surya Murthy, agreeing with Ms Sangeeta Bais, asked to improvise on the definition of working team, coming up with new ways to include multidisciplinary individuals/institutions.

Ms Poonam Trambadia explained further that the themes are of wide concern areas, which are developed in such a way that the team structure will actually take place through the NSC/WG level. ICOMOS India will plan further once the NSCs/WGs propose the Outreach programmes in front of the Ex-Com.

Ms Nalini Thakur suggested for a strong collaboration with individuals/institutions that have experiences in these themes otherwise the vision is vague at present and it will not give complete results. She also suggested forming a team of 5-6 members as a committee to take on the discussion on changes/modifications.

Mr Munish Pandit suggested to list out the challenges which we may expect while achieving the goals and the kind of mitigation measures we are trying to foresee so that if there is any shortfall on membership/collaborations we fulfill that in advance. We should define our indicators by taking more time on this.

Mr Amit Tandon pointed out that Strategic document is not just the job of the Ex-Com, it's a collective effort and, these valuable suggestions/inputs if had been given earlier, would have saved a lot of time and incorporated well in advance for adoption.

Prof AGK Menon suggested to strengthen the vision statement of the strategic plan. There is a need to bring in more professional's expertise into the document.

Ms Shalini Dasgupta clarified that this is a dynamic document and all suggestions given by the members will be incorporated. At present, these are very broad-based categorizations of thematic areas that ICOMOS India has put up and the detailing of the themes will take place as and when the members come forward with their proposals to make the document more stronger.

Ms Smita Datta Makhija suggested to set out time and system for open discussion and brainstorm each theme and ask the whole membership to contribute and take their inputs on board with specific aspect and set a goal for each theme.

Mr Amit Tandon suggested to make a fully functional secretariat to build efficiency and streamlining the efforts taken by the Ex-Com.

Prof Kiran Joshi and Prof Menon urged all the members to welcome the paper for adoption and block it for another three years. Ms Ritika Khanna encouraged all NSC and WG members

to go through the document as it's a very clear guiding force to align the activities of ICOMOS India.

Ms Nupur Prothi Khanna brought to our notice that there are many professionals who are working on Climate Change, Nature Culture, SDG etc very actively, we will need an advisory role or form a group, these themes should become a centric point in our daily practices more as a perspective. We need to gear up connecting with the global agenda.

*Adoption of the Strategic Plan* was proposed by Prof Kiran Joshi and Seconded by Dr. Rohit Jigyasu. The below resolution was adopted without any objection.

***RESOLVED THAT the Strategic Plan presented before the meeting is hereby approved and adopted.***

7. **Presentation of Annual Budget 2020:** The Annual Budget 2020 was presented by the Treasurer Ms. Priyanka Singh.

Background to the need for this SGM and presentation of budget was explained. The proposed expenditure for 2020-21 was presented at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of 2020. Multiple recommendations from the membership were made to update this to indicate the income alongside. It was also brought out that clarity on the existing corpus be made. Both recommendations were recorded in the official minutes of the annual general meeting.

At the same AGM, results of the elections held were announced, and the newly elected Executive Committee took office from the day. Consequently, the responsibility of revising the budget fell to the new Executive Committee. This immediate task was set against the ongoing pandemic due to the outbreak of COVID-19, and consequent restrictions in travel and day-to-day functioning of the organization. It was explained that the new Executive Committee has been mindful to carefully study the impact on expenditure, over the past 3 months, and realign its priorities in this new normal, before releasing the revised budget to the membership.

Budget 2020-21 was presented, in a revised format, to provide clarity on the cash on hand (in the bank) as on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020, which amounts to a total of Rs. 86,90,702 - out of this Rs. 28,49,356 is the operating income, and Rs. 58,41,346 forms the corpus accumulated. It was explained that the Income Tax Computation Statement: 2017-2020 offers clarity on this calculation. Currently, all of this income is held in one bank account. The anticipated income for 2020-21 is Rs 19,35,00, based on income sources from past years.

The proposed expenditure was explained under two core heads- A: COMOS Secretariat, and B: Research, Advocacy, Capacity Building and Outreach- amounting to Rs. 24,30,000 and Rs. 10,75,800, respectively. Expenditure in the budget has further been categorized as, either, operating expenditure or capital expenditure.

At the end of the presentation, Ms Singh introduced Mr Pranav Kumar, Director of Accounting firm Alacrity hired by COMOS, as a special invitee to the meeting.

After the presentation, Mr Munish Pandit enquired on two matters: firstly, he wanted clarity on why there was an allocation for 'auditing and associated legal work' and 'legal expenditure' in the budget. It was explained that the associated legal work mentioned alongside auditing is towards financial legalities such as filing of form 10 & 10 B and Tax Returns. Further, the allocation for 'legal work' is a tentative expenditure allocation to update the Rules and Regulations, attached to the Society's MoA, which was made in 2012, and it has been recommended by past executive committee members that further clarity on many matters is required, to facilitate smoother functioning of the organization and its growing mandate. In addition, changes that have taken place at the ICOMOS International are also not reflected in the RRs, such as the mention of the Emerging Professional and others. The current Executive Committee is yet to evaluate this need, but has accounted for it in case the task to update it is taken up within the year.

His second question was to understand the GST interest liability from the FY 2017-18, and why despite funds available this had not been cleared yet. Ms Singh clarified that the first Notice dated 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 was received in hard copy at the COMOS later that month. As informed by the past Treasurer and Accountant/ Auditor, due to the onset of the lockdown soon after, and closing of the office, the Notice was missed and therefore not acknowledged in the Audit 2019-20. The online GST portal did not reflect this Notice at the time. Once it was found and acknowledged, it was the considered opinion of the accountants that it required investigation as many of the calculations in the computation sheet in the Notice did not match COMOS records. After the elected ExCOM took office in June, it pursued the matter, and representations to the GST office have been made supported with a computation sheet clarifying that the liability is much lower than in the Notice. Mr Pranav Kumar was invited to clarify the matter further and explained that the manner of calculation of the liability by the GST Department has been contested in various cases, and in response to these litigations, the GST is evolving. Reflective of this precedent, the representations to the GST Department made by COMOS also contest the liability. Subsequent to further clarity from the Department, COMOS will pay the final liability.

This was followed by a discussion on the need for future financial planning to ensure a minimum (or no) annual deficit, towards financial sustainability of the organization.

Clarifications on FCRA, symposium publications were provided in the Chat Box, as members posed questions during the presentation. The chat box also records recommendations from members on improved remuneration for interns, improved outreach (paid promotions, social media experts etc) and collaboration with institutions in the future (See annexure)

*Adoption of the Annual Budget 2020-2021* was proposed by Mr Ashish Trambadia and Seconded by Ms Ritika Khanna. The below resolution was adopted without any objection.

***RESOLVED THAT the Annual Budget 2020-2021 presented before the meeting is hereby approved and adopted.***

8. **Presentation of Amendments in Annexure 14 of SoPG:** Amendments in Annexure 14 of SoPG was already presented in NSC Conclave 2019 and based on the suggestions from the members that were incorporated and circulated again in March 2020 and comments received from Ms Nalini Thakur and from others, the IPR Committee circulated the final Amendments in October 2020. The Presentation in the SGM was made by Prof Arun Menon who stated that since ICOMOS India's Publication Sub-committee had already started working on the Publications, Plagiarism was also added in the 6 amendments that was already presented earlier. Mr. Ashish Trambadia had a query that in case coordinator collecting the articles, post-event for publications, will the individual authors will be responsible for the adherence? Which was answered Dr Jigna Desai, that, yes, the individual Authors are responsible for its adherence. Amit Tandon humbly objected the IPR policy. He requested ICOMOS India to explore creative commons which supports the spirit of Volunteerism, while IPR takes away the ownership of a common knowledge, our traditional and intangible heritage is evolved from generations, lets share. It gives us opportunity to attributes to ourselves, to an opportunity to modify or share it and requested ICOMOS India explore the possibility and if this can go in the paper as an amendment? Dr Jigna Desai agreed to Amit Tandon's suggestions and agreed to reviewed the suggestion by Mr Amit Tandon and present it in the next AGM 2021 but since we are already started working with Publications and looking forward to work with multiple organizations and authors who are members as well. Going for creative commons cannot be a blank head decision, it depends on a particular subject or situation and if some NSC is putting together an inventory of certain kind of heritage, that could become a part of Creative Commons and it will be a decision of everybody working in that NSC. Since many NSCs and Publication Sub-Committee have already started working on publications and Dr Desai suggested all members to adopt the amendments for now.

Ms Poonam Verma Mascarenhas requested more clarity on how to approach the organizations and as an NSC, how members can participate, as the members are not aware of a defined process and acknowledge the participation and take the ownership, which has been now put on the paper but there is a need for the definition of process by putting up a brainstorming sessions by the larger body with the executive committee, formulate a definition so that all the energies of the members are positioned correctly for all organizations that come together.

Dr Jigna Desai clarified that the definition would be a separate document completely which is dynamic but cannot be included in the policy.

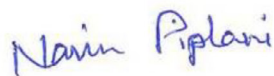
Mr Munish Pandit wanted a clarity - while formulating our own policies, what kind of references were taken from other international organizations or institutions and confident that we are at par with the other international organizations?

Prof Arun Menon informed the membership that the IPR Committee collated the standard IPR policies from different organizations like IIT Madras and Cept University and looked at good practices and tried to select the points that are suitable for ICOMOS India. Dr Desai added here that the Committee had taken references from international organizations that work on research on Intangible and cultural Heritage, and also referred to the guidelines of Ministry of Commerce and Industry on the creative products they follow as a reference point.

*Adoption of the Amendments in Annexure 14 of SoPG* was proposed by Ms Poonam Verma Mascarenhas and Seconded by Ms Madhura Dutta. The below resolution was adopted without any objection.

***RESOLVED THAT the Amendments in Annexure 14 of SoPG presented before the meeting is hereby approved and adopted.***

9. **Thank you note from Vice President Rima Hooja:** Ms Hooja congratulated all the members for their active participation and voiced for all three matters that were presented today, may or may not in agreement, Ms Hooja thanked the members for their suggestions which will be taken forward for consideration. She also encouraged more such meetings where members can have fruitful discussions and positive outcome.



Mr Navin Piplani  
President - ICOMOS India & Chairperson





*Ravi J. Matthai Auditorium, IIM-A. Photo credits: Mauricio Luzuriaga, 2015*



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