

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EXPERT COMMITTEE FOR
'SCHEME OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR SETTING-UP, PROMOTION
AND STRENGTHENING OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL MUSEUMS'
HELD ON 3 NOVEMBER, 2009.

The third Meeting of the Expert Committee to consider applications under the scheme of 'Financial Assistance for Setting-up, Promotion and Strengthening of Regional and Local Museums' for the year 2009-10 was held on 3 November, 2009 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Vijay S. Madan, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture. The list of participants is at Annexure I.

2. The Chairman welcomed the Members and briefed them about the action taken on the recommendations of the Committee of the previous two meetings. He noted that on scrutiny of the applications received, it had been observed that some applicants had sought financial assistance for only 1 or 2 elements out of 8 elements defined in the Scheme. Since financial assistance can be granted only once in a period of 10 years, he stated that, in the interest of museum movement, the restriction of assistance once in 10 years should be applied in respect of those elements for which assistance was granted. In other words if a particular museum had sought, and received, financial assistance for upgradation of a particular element, it should still be permitted to apply for assistance for upgradation of other elements. This will also provide a better opportunity to the Ministry to monitor the progress of work in a better way and disbursement of assistance would be spread over a longer period. He informed the members to suggest any suitable safeguards or other stipulations, bearing in mind the interest of furtherance of museum movement.

3. Shri Sabyasachi Mukherjee, Member, stated that while the museums are aware of the Scheme of financial assistance, they often do not have the capacity to implement the projects with proper planning. This could lead to situations such as a museum purchasing new equipment but not having the trained manpower to utilize the equipment. He suggested that the museums must be asked to demonstrate availability of technical manpower and capacity to utilize the new equipments they intend to purchase with the financial assistance received from the Ministry.

4. Dr. O.P. Agrawal, Member (nominee of INTACH), pointed out that training of personnel on conservation (and other aspects) was integral part of the Scheme and that capacity building must be included as a necessary component in any project of establishing of a Conservation Lab. Further, in the event that a museum wishes to assign the development work to any agency other than the Government it should be done only through open tender processes. Dr. Agrawal also suggested that the institutions mentioned in Para 6.3 of the Scheme should also be permitted to undertake work along with those mentioned in Para 5.4 of the Scheme. This was found acceptable by the other members.

5. The Chairman stated that transparency and accountability being hallmarks of efficient functioning, the Committee may consider whether its deliberations (and

minutes of the meetings) should be uploaded on the website of the Ministry. Differing views were expressed by the members and it was decided that this issue may be further discussed in the next meeting. In the meantime, the members were requested to have another look at the minutes of previous meetings to assess whether publishing this information in the public domain will add to the transparency and credibility of the entire process.

6. On a suggestion made by a member on the stipulation in the Plan Scheme relating to recommendations of the State Government, it was noted that the write up of the Scheme, as approved by the Expenditure Finance Committee and the Ministry, included this stipulation on a mandatory basis. However, in the event an application is found to be complete in all respects (except the State Government recommendation), the same could still be considered by the Committee, and for reasons to be recorded, the Committee was free to recommend waiver of this condition in any specific instance. This was considered acceptable by all members.

7. It was noted that the Scheme did not require the beneficiary museum to provide 'credit' to the Ministry of Culture for the financial assistance received from it. It was unanimously felt that the beneficiary museum must display a permanent plaque / signage at the entrance to the museum stating the fact of financial assistance.

8. The Chairman pointed out that in the presentations made before the Committee in the past, no formal structure had been followed by the presenters with the result that it took time to elicit the necessary information. After discussions, the Committee decided that presentation to be made before the Committee must contain the following elements:

- a) A brief Introduction of Institute / Organisation
- b) Details of collection available
- c) Details of collection on Display
- d) Curatorial Aspects
- e) Space Requirements
- f) Storage Management
- g) Intensive cost breakup of the proposal.
- h) Financial details including income/expenditure, Annual turnover.
- i) Plan for sustainability of the Museum, generation of the income to maintain the museums, ticketing etc.

9. Taking into account the need for giving a special boost to the museum movement in the North East region, particularly with a view to conservation and restoration of collections available in that region, the Committee recommended that a special work shop on conservation / restoration of museum objects should be held there within the next 2 to 3 months. It was decided that the National Research Laboratory for

Conservation of Cultural Property (NRLC), Indian Museum and National Museum will jointly organize such a workshop in Manipur during the first quarter (January to March) of 2010.

10. After the general discussions above noted, the Committee took up the following applications (which are complete in all respects as per the check list) for consideration and made the following recommendations:-

(i) The Jaigarh Public Charitable Trust, the City Palace, Jaipur (Regn.No.42-E/08) has submitted a proposal for financial assistance amounting to Rs. 46,20,000/- for Extension/Modernization and Renovation/Repairs of their museum. The committee observed that the museum has an annual income of about Rs. 2.3 crore through gate / ticket collection and it was not clear as to why the museum needed support from the Government when they should be able to manage the upgradation from their own resources. It was decided to call for following information from the museum before any decision could be taken:

a) whether the building housing the museum is owned by the Trust; and

b) the reasons for seeking financial assistance from this Ministry, and why the Trust cannot undertake the desired works from its own resources.

(ii) The Maharaja Sawai Man Singh II Museum Trust, Jaipur has submitted a proposal for financial assistance amounting to Rs 96,50,000/- for Extension & Modernization, Conservation Artifacts, Equipment and Documentation. . The committee observed that the museum has an annual income of about Rs. 9.44 crore through gate collection. It was decided to call for clarification from the museum on the same line as mentioned in para 10 (i) above.

(iii) The Govt. of Bihar has submitted 5 proposals in respect of Gaya Museum (Regn.No.46-E/08), Maharaja Luxmishwar Singh Sangrahalaya, Darbhanga (Regn.No.47-E/08), Naradah Museum, Nawada (Regn.No.48-E/08), Chandradhari Museum, Darbhanga (Regn.No.49-E/08), Patna Museum (Regn.No.45-E/08). The committee desired that the Government of Bihar may be asked to make a presentation in respect of the 5 museums.

Dr. O.P. Aggarwal, Member, informed the committee that there are 18 museums in the state of Bihar. While the collections in these museums are of a high quality and significance, the objects are in urgent need of conservation / restoration. It was felt that one conservation lab to service all these museums could be set up. It was decided that the state Government may be requested to take appropriate action in this regard and submit a suitable proposal for financial assistance if they so wished.

(iv) The University Museum, Indira Kala Sangeet Vishwavidyala, Khairagarh, Chhatisgarh (Regn.No.50-E/08) has submitted a proposal for financial assistance amounting to Rs. 80,00,000/- . The committee desired that though the amount of assistance sought is less than Rs.1.0 crore, the museum may be

requested to make a presentation, in order to understand the project in greater detail.

- (v) The Tukpen Welfare Society, Arunachal Pradesh (Regn.No 14-E/08) has submitted an application for Renovation/Repairs/Construction of cultural hall at a total Project Cost of Rs.20,00,000/-. The committee recommended for sanction of an amount of Rs.18,00,000/- i.e. 90% of the project cost, the Society being in the North East.
- (vi) The Bhadrakali Socio-Eco-Cultural Centre for the Development of Women & Children, (Regn.No.18-E/08) has submitted an application with a total Project Cost of Rs 4,20,110/- for Publication. The committee recommended for sanction of an amount of Rs.3,36,088/- (80% of project cost) for the project. The committee also desired that they may be asked to send the details of the antiquities to the National Data Base.
- (vii) The Palli Sanskriti Kala Parisad, Puri, Orissa (Regn.No.31-E/08) has submitted an application for extension and modernization of galleries at a total Project Cost of Rs.25,00,000/-. The committee recommended for sanction of an amount of Rs.20,00,000/- i.e. 80% of the project cost.
- (viii) The Natural and Human Resource Development Organisation (NAHRDO), Imphal-West, Manipur (Regn.No.34-N/08) has submitted an application for setting up of museum at a total Project Cost of Rs.1.53 crore. As per decision in the meeting held on 15.09.2009 to ask all applicant museums with project cost of Rs. 1.00 crore or more to make a presentation, the committee decided that the museum may be called for presentation.
- (ix) Zogam Arts and Cultural Development Association, Churachandpur, Manipur (Regn.No.50-E/08) has submitted an application for extension of museum at a total Project Cost of Rs. 41,23,700/-. The committee recommended for sanction of an amount of Rs.37,11,330/- for the same i.e. 90% of the project cost, it being located in the North East.
- (x) A presentation on behalf of Sir Jadunath Sarkar Resource Centre for Historical Research, Kolkata for setting up of a museum with a project cost of Rs 3.80 crore was made by Dr. Tapati Guha Thakurta. The presentation and the concept of the museum were appreciated by all. The proposed museum lies at the intersection of domains of culture and science. It was noted that the proposal consists predominantly of civil construction with proposed museum display occupying only 1-2 floors of the proposed four floors. For the purpose of documentation, it was felt that instead of only purchasing equipment, the organization should go in for outsourcing which will be in their favour in the long run. For the purpose of conservation, a small cell is needed. Regarding sustainability of the project, the organization was not able to clearly spell out the sources of funds. All these concerns will have to be addressed by the organization in their DPR. The committee accepted the concept of the proposal, in-principle, and sanctioned Rs. 5.00 lakhs for preparation of DPR. The sanctioned amount shall be later subsumed in the total project cost and not

accepted as a separate item of work, as has been the case with other similar applicants who were sanctioned specific amounts for preparation of DPRs.

- (xi) The committee was informed that in pursuance of the recommendations of the Committee in its meeting on 15.9.2009, Heritage Transportation Trust was asked to furnish additional information on the points/concerns raised by the committee on certain clauses of the license agreement. In response, the Trust has agreed to amend the relevant clauses regarding ownership of the land and the collections as also to make the agreement irrevocable. The Trust has also submitted the Supplemental License Deed in this regard. The committee was satisfied with the remedial actions taken by the Trust to comply with the directions given to it as per the recommendation of the Committee and that all necessary documentation had been completed by the applicant. The Committee recommended to sanction Rs. 6.00 crore to the Trust for setting up of the 'Heritage Transport Museum'.

11. The recommendations of the committee that resulted in financial sanctions have been summarized in a statement enclosed as Annexure II. Other applications for financial assistance could not be considered for want of time.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

List of Participants

1. Dr. Vijay S. Madan, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture ... in Chair
2. Prof. Kishor K. Basa, Director, Indian Museum, Kolkata.
3. Dr. M.V. Nair, Director, National Research Laboratory for Conservation of Cultural Property, Lucknow.
4. Dr. Nagender Reddy, Director, Salar Jung Museum.
5. Dr. Jayanta Sthanapati, Deputy Director General, National Council of Science Museums, Kolkata.
6. Shri P.R. Meena, Director, Planning Commission, New Delhi.
7. Shri Sabyasachi Mukherjee, Director, Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya, Mumbai.
8. Prof. P. Chenna Reddy, Director, Department of Archaeology, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.
9. Dr. O.P. Agrawal, Director General, INTACH, Lucknow.
10. Shri S.P. Singh, Director (Conservation), National Museum, New Delhi. (Representing DG, National Museum)
11. Dr. Meenakshi Jolly, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Culture, New Delhi.
12. Shri N.P. Joshi, Under Secretary, Ministry of Culture.

ANNEXURE II

**STATEMENT SHOWING SUMMERY OF DECISION TAKEN BY THE
EXPERT COMMITTEE IN ITS MEETING HELD ON 3.11.2009**

S. No	Name of the Museum	Elements under which assistance sought	Estimated cost (in Rupees)	Amount Recommended for sanction/ Remarks. (in Rupees)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Jaigarh Public Charitable Trust, The City Palace, Jaipur (Regn.No.42-E/08).	Extension/Modernization	15,40,000/-	Seek clarification as per para 10(i)
		Renovation/Repairs	30,80,000/-	
		Total	46,20,000/-	
2.	Maharaja Sawai Man Singh II Museum Trust, Jaipur (Regn.No.43-E/08).	Extension & Modernization	80,50,000/-	Seek clarification as per para 10(i) & (ii).
		Conservation Artifacts	5,00,000/-	
		Equipment	10,00,000/-	
		Documentation	1,00,000/-	
		Total	96,50,000/-	
3.	Gaya Museum, Bihar (Regn.No.46-E/08).	Modernization of Reserve Collection	3,71,301/-	The Government of Bihar may be called for a presentation of 5 museums at S.No.7-10 & 13 As per para 10 (iii)
		Publication	3,52,900/-	
		Museum Library	2,65,427/-	
		Equipment	18,88,562/-	
		Total	28,78,190/-	
4.	Maharaja Luxmishwar Singh Sangrahalaya, Darbhanga, Bihar (Regn.No.47-E/08).	Publication	6,67,835/-	
		Museum Library	1,51,032/-	
		Equipment	12,35,270/-	
		Total	20,54,137/-	

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Naradah Museum, Nawada (Government. Museum), Bihar (Regn.No.48-E/08).	Renovation /Repair	10,97,400/-	
		modernization of reserve collection	1,51,032/-	
		Publication	6,67,835/-	
		Equipment	11,49,470/-	
		Total	30,65,737/-	
6.	Chandradhari Museum, Darbhanga, Bihar (Regn.No.49-E/08).	Publication	Rs. 6,67,835/-	
		museum library	Rs. 1,51,032/-	
		Equipment	Rs.12,35,270/-	
		Total	Rs. 20,54,137/-	
7.	Patna Museum, Patna (Regn.No.45-E/08)	Renovation/Repairs	48,78,300/-	
8.	University Museum, Indira Kala Sangeet Vishwavidyala, Khairagarh, Chhatisgarh (Regn.No.62-E/08).	Extension and Moder- nization of galleries	44,00,000/-	The museum may be called for a presentation [as per para 10 (iv)]
		Publication	10,00,000/-	
		Museum Library	14,00,000/-	
		Equipment	10,00,000/-	
		Documentation	2,00,000/-	
		Total	80,00,000/-	
		Publication	10,00,000/-	
		Museum Library	5,00,000/-	
		Equipment	10,00,000/-	
		Total	73,78,300/-	

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Tukpen Welfare Society, Arunachal Pradesh (Regn.No.14-E/08).	Renovation/Repairs (construction of cultural hall)	20,00, 000/-	18,00,000/- As per para 10 (v)
10.	Bhadrakali Socio-Eco- Cultural Centre for the development of Women & children, Hoogli, WB (Regn.No.18-E/08).	Publication	4,20,110/-	3,36,088/- As per para 10 (vi)
11.	Palli Sanskriti Kala Parisad, Puri, Orissa, (Regn.No.31-E/08).	Extension and Modernization of galleries	25,00,000/-	Rs.20,00,000/- As per para 10 (vii)
12.	Natural and Human Resource Development Organisation (NAHRDO),Imphal- West, Manipur (Regn.No.34-E/08).	Setting Up of Museum	1,53,31,941/-	The museum may be called for a presentation As per para 10 (viii)
13.	Zogam Arts and Cultural Development Association, Churachandpur, (Regn.No 50-E/08).	Extension of Museum	41,23,700/-	37,11,330/- As per para 10 (ix)
14.	Sir Jadunath Sarkar Resource Centre for Historical Research, Kolkata (Regn.No.68-N/08).	Setting up of a Museum	3,80,04,343	Rs. 5 lakhs for preparation of DPR. [para 10 (x)]
15.	Heritage Transportation Trust	To set up a Heritage Transport Museum.	Rs 905.00 lakhs	Rs. 600 lakhs [Para 10 (xi)].