

Ministry of Culture

Minutes of the 18th meeting of Expert Committee on Museum Grant Scheme held on 22.12.2017

The 18th meeting of the Expert Committee to consider applications received in the Ministry under the 'Museum Grant Scheme' was held on 22.12.2017 under the Chairpersonship of Ms Sujata Prasad, Addl. Secretary, Ministry of Culture. List of participants is enclosed at Annexure-1.

2. The agenda items on the proposals received for financial assistance under Museum Grant Scheme were taken up for discussion as given below.

I. Proposal of Bharat Kala Bhavan, Museum of Banaras Hindu University, Banaras, Uttar Pradesh for modernization of Bharat Kala Bhawan Museum (Project Cost: Rs. 990.81 lakhs)

I.1 The proposal of Bharat Kala Bhavan, BHU, for financial assistance amounting to Rs. 17.65 crores for modernization of Bharat Kala Bhawan Museum was considered in 14th meeting of the Expert Committee held on 29.12.2016. After due consideration, the committee recommended Rs. 4.00 crore (maximum assistance as per the guidelines in 'Museum Grant Scheme'). After receiving an undertaking for bearing remaining amount of the proposal i.e. Rs. 13.65 crores, 1st instalment amounting to Rs. 2.00 Crores (i.e. 50% of recommended amount) was released to Bharat Kala Bhavan. Later, Bharat Kala Bhavan expressed their inability to bear the amount of Rs. 13.65 crore on its own and requested this Ministry to waive off the condition for bearing remaining amount of the proposal and permit them to do modernization work with the grant amount i.e. Rs. 4.00 Crore only. The request of Bharat Kala Bhavan was considered in the Ministry and it was decided with the approval of the competent authority to advise Bharat Kala Bhavan to revise its proposal by

scaling down the estimates for modernization of Museum and submit the same for further consideration of the Expert Committee. Bharat Kala Bhavan was also asked to return the sanctioned amount i.e. Rs. 2.00 crores along with interest earned thereon to the PAO, Ministry of Culture.

I.2 Accordingly, Bharat Kala Bhavan has sent a revised proposal with revised project cost amounting to Rs. 990.81 lakhs along with new estimates of plan on 20.12.2017. The Expert Committee considered the revised proposal of BHU. The committee noted that Bharat Kala Bhavan has a prestigious collection of miniature paintings belonging to the Pre-Mughal, Mughal, Rajasthani and Kangra Paintings. Besides, the museum also possesses wide range of Indian sculptures and terracotta from Mauryan, Kushan, Gupta (Sarnath School), Pal and Pratihara style. The building of the museum is not particularly designed to be climate controlled and the variations of temperature, humidity and the general pollution of the now expanding city of Varanasi pose a serious challenge for the preservation of the prized collection. Considering all these facts, the committee recommended Rs. 390.81 lakhs to Bharat Kala Bhavan as per its revised proposal so that the Museum may take appropriate steps for conservation and management of storage collection (climate controlled cabinet), renovation of building etc.

II. NSG Wives Welfare Association (NWYA), HQ NSG, Mehram Nagar, New Delhi-110037 for Development of National Security Guard Museum (Project Cost: 157.11 Lakhs).

II.1 NSG Wives Welfare Association (NWYA) has submitted a proposal for financial assistance amounting to Rs. 157.11 Lakhs under the Museum Grant Scheme for Development of National Security Guard Museum, Manesar, Gurgaon. The museum displaying 224 exhibits such as weapons, Explosive, Switches, Operational Gear/equipment, instrument, Photographs, videos of

operations conducted etc. The Museum also attempts to collect, restore and preserve NSG memorabilia.

II.2 Physical inspection of the Association was carried out by officers from Ministry of Culture. The team visited the site of the proposed museum and verified the art objects which are to be displayed in the proposed Museum. The organisation also made presentation before the Expert Committee about their proposal.

II.3 The Expert Committee considered the proposal. The committee noted that it is a theme based museum highlighting the role of NSG in defence of the nation. The committee ascertained that the museum will have adequate footfall as it will be open to schools, foreign delegations, civil servants and other visitors to the centre. Considering these facts, the committee recommended Rs. 125.688 lakhs (i.e. 80% of the total project cost) for modernization of the museum.

III Longleng Town Council, Longleng, Nagaland for setting up of World War II Museum Longleng (Project Cost: Rs. 1055.136 lakhs)

III.1 A proposal has been received from Longleng Town Council, Longleng, Nagaland for setting up of World War II Museum Longleng with a total project cost of Rs. 1055.136 lakhs. The council has mentioned that they have 1500 Artefacts related to World War II. The Council has stated that the proposed museum will showcase the live size cultural tools, weaponries, traditional attires, traditional games and activities that was practiced during world war-II. The museum will be a treasure house of a rare collection of articles belonging to the different tribes of Nagaland. The organisation has also made presentation before the Expert Committee about their proposal.

III.2 The proposal of Longleng Town Council was considered by Expert Committee. The committee noted that there already exists a World War-II museum in State capital i.e. Kohima. Further, the no. of artefacts and the

population of the region, which is to be proposed to be catered by this museum do not justify the project amount submitted. Besides, Ministry of Culture has already granted financial assistance under 'Museum Grant Scheme' for establishment of one ethnographic museum in Longleng district. The Committee also observed that the number of artefacts are few and the council failed to justify the future sustainability of the museum. Considering all these facts, the Committee has not recommended the proposal.

IV. Proposal of Allahabad High Court Museum, High Court, Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh for Development of Existing Museum (Project Cost: Rs. 26.22 lakhs).

IV.1 Allahabad High Court Museum, High Court, Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh has submitted a proposal amounting to Rs. 26.22 lakhs under the Museum Grant Scheme for development of existing Museum. Allahabad High Court Museum is functioning in the building of High Court, Allahabad and the area of the Museum is around 2700 sq. feet. The museum is showcasing a good number of old and rare documents pertaining to judiciary, which are of historical value and are very useful for the present and future generation of Lawyers and research Scholars. The museum is also showcasing mementoes like Commemorative Coins, Crystal Paper Weight, Pen etc.

IV.2 Considering the above, the Expert Committee recommended Rs. 20.976 lakhs (i.e. 80% of the total project cost) for modernization/upgradation of the museum.

V. Galaxy, Karunasai Road, Vellanad P.O. Trivandrum, Kerala-695543 for Setting up of Psychopark Museum (Project Cost: 1111.14 lakhs).

V.1 The proposal was received from Galaxy, Karunasai Road, Vellanad P.O. Trivandrum, Kerala for setting up of Psychopark Museum amounting to Rs. 11.11 crores. The organization stated that they have a large no. of artefacts

(10274) for display in the museum and they have also sufficient land (76.0809 acre) for the proposed museum. The artefacts include Statues, posters, Neuro Psychology, Psycho metric, oral audio-visual presentation etc.,

V.2 The proposal was earlier considered in the 15th meeting of the Expert Committee on 6.3.2017. However, after considering the proposal and the presentation made by the organization, the committee was of the view that the theme of the proposed museum does not comes under the parameters of the Museum Grant Scheme. It was noted that as per guidelines, financial assistance can be provided to the museums having objects including antiquities, Numismatics, painting, Ethnological collection, Folk Art, others including Art and Craft, Textiles etc. Considering all aspects, the committee did not approve the proposal

V.3 The organisation again submitted the proposal on 11.5.2017. A representative from Ministry of Culture visited the proposed site & submitted his report. He stated that the organisation has 12085 items of artefacts including antiquities, numismatics, paintings, Art and Crafts etc. and recommended for financial assistance to the organisation for setting up of museum. The proposal alongwith the physical inspection report was placed before Expert Committee in its meeting held on 31.8.2017 for consideration. The organization also made a presentation about the concept/vision of the museum before Expert Committee. In its presentation, the organization has mentioned that the proposed museum will be on the theme of Psychology. After due consideration, the committee observed that the organisation failed to co-relate the exhibits to be displayed in the museum with the theme of the museum. Further since the theme of the proposed museum is not covered under the Museum Grant Scheme, the committee did not approve the proposal for financial assistance.

V.4 Galaxy has re-submitted the proposal as a museum on Socio-Cultural development of the human race. Considering the revised subject of the museum, artefacts available with the organisation and the physical inspection report, the

Expert Committee recommended the proposal in-principal. However, the committee observed that the organisation has not demonstrated the relationship between the theme and the artefacts to be displayed in the Museum appropriately. Considering the theme and the artefacts available with the organisation, all the facts,. The committee has advised to develop a storyline linking the artefacts with the theme. It desired that the organisation should make a presentation before the Expert Committee about the curatorial aspect of the museum and how the museum will co-relate with the present theme of the museum i.e. "Socio-Cultural development of the human race", before release of the grant.

VI Proposal of Khongjom war Memorial Trust, Wangjing, Thoubal District, Manipur for Setting up of new Museum (Project Cost: Rs. 629.680 Lakhs).

VI.1 The proposal of Khongjom war Memorial Trust, for construction of Khongjom Arts & Crafts Museum at Khnongjom under the Museum Grant Scheme was earlier considered by the Experts Committee in its meetings held on 29.12.2016. Physical inspection of the society was carried out by officers from Ministry of Culture. The team visited the site of the proposed museum. The team in its report had mentioned that the artefacts were not available with the Trust. The acquisition and accession register in respect of the artefacts mentioned in the DPR was also not available with the Trust. The trust informed that plenty of artefacts are available in the nearby villages and they will acquire the artefacts as and when the grant is received by them. The Trust had displayed few photographs of artefacts and Anglo-Manipur War of 1891. The Trust has land measuring 0.5018 hec. The team had not recommended the proposal for financial assistance. Considering all the facts, the proposal of Khongjom war Memorial Trust, Wangjing, Thoubal District, Manipur was not approved.

VI.2 Now, the trust has submitted the revised proposal with revised project cost of Rs. 629.680 Lakhs and also provided the list of artefacts. The

representative of Trust has also made a presentation before the Expert Committee. According to the proposal they have only 146 artefacts to display in the proposed museum.

VI.3 Expert Committee has considered the proposal and observed that the artefacts are only 146 in number and their antiquity is also not verified. Considering these facts, the committee has not recommended the proposal.

VII. Aboi Museum, Mon Distt. Nagaland (Project Cost: Rs. 951.602 Lakhs).

VII.1 Deptt. of Art & Culture, Government of Nagaland, has submitted proposal for financial assistance amounting to Rs. 951.602 lakhs for setting up of Aboi Museum at Mon. Distract. Nagaland. The Deptt. has mentioned that the proposed museum will be Ethnographic Museum and will display 762 exhibits viz. carved gateposts, status pillars, traditional Nagas costumes, jewellery, oil paintings, terracotta, stone objects, metal objects, natural history specimens, clan motifs, precious stones, necklaces, traditional attires and inscriptions.

VII.2 The Expert Committee considered the proposal. The committee noted that the proposed museum is an ethnographic museum depicting tradition of Nagas. Ministry of Culture has already granted financial assistance to one organisation for establishment of museum on similar theme in the Mon District. The population of the region, which is to be proposed to be catered by museum do not justify the establishment of another museum on a similar theme in the same region. Considering all these facts, the committee has not recommended the proposal.

VIII. Tseminyu Museum, Kohima, Nagaland (Project Cost: Rs. 1004.446 lakhs).

VIII.1 Deptt. of Art & Culture, Government of Nagaland, has submitted proposal for financial assistance amounting to Rs. 1004.446 lakhs for setting up of Tseminyu Museum, Kohima, Nagaland. The Deptt. has mentioned that the

proposed museum will be Ethnographic Museum and will display 674 exhibits viz. ancestral weaponry, carved gateposts, status pillars, traditional Nagas costumes, jewellery, oil paintings, terracotta, stone objects, metal objects, natural history specimens, ceremonial drum belongs to Rengma Nagas.

VIII.2 The Expert Committee considered the proposal. The committee noted that the proposed museum is an ethnographic museum depicting tradition of Nagas. Ministry of Culture has already granted financial assistance to many organisations (including State Museum) for establishment/upgradation of museums on similar theme in and around Kohima. The committee did not found justification for establishment of another museum on a similar theme in the same region. Considering all these facts, the committee has not recommended the proposal.

IX.1 Chesore Museum in Tuesang Town Nagaland (Project Cost: Rs. 1041.406 Lakhs).

IX.1.1 Deptt. of Art & Culture, Government of Nagaland, has submitted proposal for financial assistance amounting to Rs. 1041.06 lakhs for setting up of Chesore Museum in Tuesang Town, Tuesang District Nagaland. The Deptt. has mentioned that the proposed museum will be Ethnographic Museum and will display 634 exhibits. The museum will showcase the live size cultural tools, weaponries, traditional attires, traditional games and activities that was practiced during ancient days which otherwise had being disappearing by the passage of time. The museum will also showcase Naga Morung, which are the hut models that display variance of architecture between the tribes. Musical instruments made of bamboo and buffalo horns will also be on display in this museum. The museum will be the collection of rare artifacts of all the 16 tribes that inhabit the state.

IX.2 Chare Museum in Tuesang Town Nagaland (Project Cost: Rs. 1000.00 lakhs).

IX.2.1 Deptt. of Art & Culture, Government of Nagaland, has submitted proposal for financial assistance amounting to Rs. 1000.00 lakhs for setting up of Chare Museum in Tuesang Town, Tuesang District Nagaland. The Deptt. has mentioned that the proposed museum will be Ethnographic Museum and will display 793 exhibits. The museum will showcase the live size cultural tools, weaponries, traditional attires, traditional games and activities that was practiced during ancient days which otherwise had being disappearing by the passage of time. The museum will also showcase Naga Morung, which are the hut models that display variance of architecture between the tribes. Musical instruments made of bamboo and buffalo horns will also be on display in this museum. The museum will be the collection of rare artifacts of all the 16 tribes that inhabit the state.

IX.3 The Expert Committee considered both the proposals of Tusang Town, Nagaland. The committee noted that both the proposed museums are ethnographic museum depicting tradition of Nagas and are in the same district. However, considering the fact that Tuesang District is the largest district of Nagaland and Ministry of Culture has not granted financial assistance to any museum in the district, the committee recommended for financial grant for establishment of one museum (Chesore Museum) in the district. As per guidelines in the Museum Grant Scheme, 90% of the project cost (subject to maximum limit of 10.00 crores) may be granted to the State Govt. for establishment of museum in the Tuesang Town Nagaland.

IX.4 The committee also advised the representative of Deptt. of Art & Culture to give focus on modernization/upgradation of existing museums of Department of Art Culture in spite of setting up of new museums.

X. World War-I Memorial Park at Kohima (Project Cost: Rs. 1077.99 lakhs).

X.1 Deptt. of Art & Culture, Government of Nagaland, has submitted proposal for financial assistance amounting to Rs. 1077.99 lakhs for setting up of World War-I Memorial Park Museum at Kisama, Kohima, Nagaland. The Deptt. has mentioned that the proposed museum will display 470 exhibits related to World War-I.

X.2 The Expert Committee has considered the proposal and observed that the proposal submitted is mainly ^{for} memorial park, while the scheme is for supporting museums only. Considering this fact, the Committee has not recommended the proposal.

The meeting ended with thanks to the chair.

List of participants who attended the Meeting held on 22.12.2017

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| 1. | Ms. Sujata Prasad | Additional Secretary
Ministry of Culture | In the Chair |
| 2. | Ms. Shefali Shah | Joint Secretary
Ministry of Culture | |
| 3. | Ms Riddhi Mishra | Deputy Secretary
Ministry of Culture | |
| 4. | Sh. Rajesh Purohit | Director,
Indian Museum | |
| 5. | Sh. Sarit K Choudhuri | Director
IGRMS | |
| 6. | Sh. D Rama Sarma | Director ,
National Science centre | |
| 7. | Dr. Arun Raj | Suptd. Archaeology
Archaeology Survey of
India | |
| 8. | Sh. Prem Kumar Nagta | Director (C&A)
National Museum | |
| 9. | Shri S. K. Singh | Under Secretary
Ministry of Culture. | |