

**MINUTES OF THE 165<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE HERITAGE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE (HCC)**  
**HELD AT 04.30 PM ON FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2026.**

Sl. No.	Proposal	Observations/Recommendations	Decision
1.	<b>Proposal for Conservation/restoration of Circular Baradari and Colonnaded building (Old Hindu College building, Nigam Bhawan), situated at Kashmere Gate.</b>	<p>1. The MCD (email) forwarded the proposal for consideration by the HCC. The proposal is for the conservation and restoration of two adjacent 'listed' heritage buildings i.e. Circular Baradari and Colonnaded building listed at serial no. 15 in 3 (C) Zone-C (Grade-III) and Serial no. 44 in 3 ( B ) Zone-C (Grade-II) vide gazette notification dated March 4, 2010 issued by the Govt. of NCT of Delhi.</p> <p>2. The HCC did not accept the proposal for Conservation and restoration of Circular Baradari and Colonnaded building (Old Hindu College Building) at its meeting held on February 4, 2026.</p> <p>3. The revised proposal received from MCD (email) on 16.03.2026, at the formal stage, was scrutinised along with the replies submitted in response to the previous observations of the Committee communicated vide HCC letter no: 5(2)/2025-HCC dated 12.02.2026. Based on the replies submitted, and the revised submission made, the following observations are to be complied with:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a) The Committee reviewed the project report submitted by the architect/proponent which indicates that the intended use after conserving and restoring the Circular Baradari and Colonnaded building is as under:</p>	<b>Accepted, observations given.</b>

		<p>i. <i>Circular Baradari (The Baradari is intended to serve as a Living Exhibition space and gallery spaces dedicated to commemorating the members of the Hindu College community)</i></p> <p>ii. <i>Colonnaded Building (The Colonnaded Building is envisioned as a vibrant cultural hub that can serve as a potential anchor, supporting visitors, the local community while enhancing the urban landscape)</i></p> <p>b) No changes are permitted on the external facade, which should be retained as per the original design, while upholding the originality of the structure in terms of its heritage character, construction, colour, form, materials, and other defining attributes etc.</p> <p>c) The architect, in the report for the “Circular Baradari,” under the section titled “Methodology for Intervention,” has outlined the proposed approach for the repair of the roof truss as follows:</p> <p><i>“.....Replace and fix new metal sheets matching the existing gauge and profile...”</i></p> <p>The Committee advised that no new materials shall be introduced during the process, and the existing elements shall be retained in accordance with the original design, ensuring preservation of the structure’s heritage character in terms of its construction, colour, form, materials, and other defining attributes etc.</p>	
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<p><b>2.</b></p>	<p><b>Proposal in respect of “Restoration and rehabilitation in reference of the Gole Market”.</b></p>	<p>1. The NDMC (electronically) forwarded the proposal. The ‘Gole Market at SBS Marg, CP is listed at serial no. 50 in (Grade-II) vide gazette notification dated October 1, 2009 issued by the Govt. of NCT of Delhi.</p> <p>2. The HCC approved the proposal for Restoration of Gole Market at its meeting held on October 16, 2006.</p> <p>3. The proposal received from NDMC (electronically) on 06.03.2026, at the formal stage, was scrutinised, the following observations are to be complied with:</p>	<p><b>Not accepted, observations given.</b></p>

		<p>a) The comments submitted by the local body identify the building as Grade I; however, as per the Gazette Notification dated 01 October 2009, the structure is listed under Grade II. This indicates a discrepancy in the submitted documentation, which requires correction to ensure accuracy and consistency.</p> <p>b) As per the submitted title, the proposal pertains to the restoration and rehabilitation of Gole Market, including the development of an underground pedestrian subway and the Royal Block. Upon detailed examination, it is observed that the approval granted in the meeting held on 16 October 2006 was limited solely to the restoration of shops within the market. It was further recorded in the comments furnished by the HCC, vide letter no. 6(4)/2006-HCC dated 14 November 2006, that:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“Usage of the internal space is the prerogative of the owner/client.”</i></p> <p>Now as part of the current submission the internal space is proposed as a museum. However, requisite details pertaining to the proposed museum including activity programme, intent, significance along with detailed plans, elevations, sections and 3d views etc. have not been furnished in the submission, thus making it an incomplete submission.</p> <p>c) Committee suggested that, a comprehensive proposal integrating the Royal Block and Gole Market may be explored at grade level, keeping in view environmental, traffic, and economic considerations. The scheme should also incorporate surrounding areas, ensuring adequate buffer spaces are integrated into the design to facilitate smooth and</p>	
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		<p>comfortable pedestrian access to the building blocks and landscaping of the surrounding areas, while ensuring the inherent heritage character is maintained.</p> <p>Since the submission comprises multiple blocks, detailed information including heights, materiality, movement pathways, integration with surrounding public areas, along with location and design of signages shall be provided to ensure efficiency in design and planning. Adequate drawings and dimensions shall be provided to ensure that the scheme is complete and self-explanatory.</p> <p>d) Further, it was suggested to envisage and plan the proposed infrastructure, including an underground pedestrian subway for access, based on the anticipated foot fall, usages and considering financial viability. Instead, it is strongly suggested to explore alternate options at road level to ensure the museum is accessed safely by the visitors through appropriate design interventions.</p> <p>e) The submission does not include appropriate details of the security check-in, ticket counter, and related facilities, and therefore lacks clarity on these critical aspects. The same shall be provided in detail, including their location, size, and dimensions, for proper assessment.</p> <p>f) The submission indicates proposed modifications to accommodate a lift well for facilitating entry into the museum building. As this would involve alterations to the existing heritage structure, detailed structural drawings, along with provisions ensuring structural stability and safety, shall be submitted for review wherein the structural safety of the heritage building shall be ensured by NDMC.</p>	
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<b>Additional items:</b>			
1.	<p><b>Standardisation of Template for Preparation of Proposals for Conservation/Repair/Restoration of Heritage Buildings – Reg.</b></p>	<p>1. The Heritage Conservation Committee has been receiving proposals for repair, restoration, and conservation works from various local bodies for its advice. These proposals range from individual shopfronts in Connaught Circus to heritage havelis in the Shahjahanabad area. At present, submissions are being prepared by different architects in varying formats; however, the Committee’s requirements from a heritage perspective, particularly with respect to conservation methodology and treatment of heritage elements, remain precise and consistent.</p> <p>2. In order to streamline the process and ensure uniformity in submissions, a standardised template has been prepared. The template incorporates all relevant fields, including detailed conservation methodology and related aspects, to facilitate comprehensive and judicious review by the Committee.</p>	<b>Approved.</b>

		<p>3. As approved, this standardised template may be circulated to the concerned local bodies for wider dissemination among proponents and architects. This will enable the preparation of proposals in a consistent manner and ensure that all future works of repair, renovation, and restoration adhere to the prescribed template.</p> <p>4. The template was approved by the HCC and subsequently to be shared with the NDMC, MCD, and CPWD for adherence in the prescribed format and its uploading on the respective web-site including HCC for appropriate decimation among the stakeholders. It shall be ensured that all submissions strictly conform to and are presented in the prescribed template format.</p>	
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**(D. Thara)**  
**Chairman, HCC**  
**Additional Secretary (D),**  
**Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs,**  
**Government of India.**

**(Ashu Chaudhary)**  
**Member-Secretary, HCC**