

MINUTES OF THE 67th MEETING OF THE HERITAGE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2018.

A. Proposals :

Item No. 1: Plans in respect of M-94, First floor, Outer Circle, Connaught Place.

1. The proposal forwarded by the NDMC online was scrutinised. It included the work in terms of change of flooring, false ceiling, partition (wooden), POP work, white washing/painting, electrical/plumbing, wood works, structural strengthening of column, beam and slab etc.
2. The proposal was found acceptable and approved with the following observations:
 - (i) The proposal should be fire norms compliant and the adequacy of access/entrance passage width need due care.
 - (ii) No changes are permitted on external side/facade, which should be retained as per the original design.
 - (iii) The structural safety of the buildings should be ensured.
 - (iv) Heritage Character comprising of architectural elements such as arches, cornices, quoins, gables, architraves, palladian style windows etc. should be retained in the modifications.

Item No. 2: Plans in respect of E-29, Connaught Place.

1. The proposal forwarded by the NDMC online was scrutinised. It included the work in terms of change of flooring, plastering, wall repairs (internal and external), POP, white washing, painting, polishing, electrical of false ceiling, water proofing of terrace, replacement of sanitary fittings etc.
2. The proposal was scrutinized and the HCC observed that the drawings received online lacked clarity. The superimposed plans showing existing and proposed need to be submitted.

Item No. 3: Verification of concept design no. 3 for National War Museum.

1. The matter with reference to design no. 2 referred by the Director, National War Memorial & Museum (NWM&M) was considered by the HCC at its meeting held on January 18, 2018 and certain observations were given.
2. At its meeting held on February 19, 2018, the HCC had made the following observations:

“.....2. Now, the proponents vide letter no. B/43050/IDS/NWM&M dated February 2, 2018 have again submitted a detailed design no.2 containing a CD walkthrough powerpoint presentation and project report for the consideration of the HCC.

3. *The letter was considered and the HCC observed that it has already given its decision/observation on January 18, 2018 as quoted above and there is nothing further to be observed in the matter.”*
3. Now, the proponents vide letter no. B/43050/NWM&M dated March 27, 2018 have submitted details of design no. 3 containing a CD walkthrough powerpoint presentation and project report for consideration of the HCC.
4. The matter was taken up for consideration and it was observed that the Central Vista Committee (CVC) at its meeting held on April 9, 2018 has taken the following decision:
“.....The committee’s considered view is that the presented design is not in consonance with the grandeur and style of Central Vista.”
5. The HCC’s examined the matter of design no. 3 in the overall context and reiterated its earlier observations of January 18, 2018, made while considering the design no. 2 as reproduced below:
“.....the Committee resolved to request the NWM&M to submit a specific proposal which it prefers for the consideration and observations of the Committee, whether it is design no.1,2 or 3 or any other design. Whenever such a proposal is received, the HCC would be in a position to examine the same in requisite detail and offer its specific observations including alterations if required in the proposed proposal, keeping in view the mandate with which HCC was constituted.”

Item No. 4: Plans in respect of Building no.60, Regal Building, Second floor with Mezzanine floor, Connaught Place.

1. The proposal forwarded by the NDMC online was scrutinised. It included the work in terms of change of plastering, POP work, patch work, water proofing, flooring, false ceiling, painting, furniture & fixtures, changing of toilet sanitararies etc.
2. The proposal was found acceptable and approved with the following observations:
 - (i) No changes are permitted on external side/facade, which should be retained as per the original design.
 - (ii) The structural safety of the buildings should be ensured.
 - (iii) Heritage Character comprising of architectural elements such as arches, cornices, quoins, gables, architraves, palladian style windows etc. should be retained in the modifications.

B. Other matters :

Item No. 1: Plans in respect of C-33, Connaught Place

1. The proposal forwarded by the NDMC online with certain comments was considered by the HCC at its meeting held on February 19, 2018 and the following observations were made :

".....So as to assess the ground situation, it was decided that a site visit of the premises will be made by the sub-committee comprising of the following:-

1. Prof. Rommel Mehta	...	Member HCC
2. Ms. Vertika Sharma	...	Member HCC
3. Shri D.K. Garg, CDO, CPWD	...	Member HCC
4. Chief Architect, NDMC	...	Member HCC
5. Member Secretary, HCC	...	Member convener"

2. The Sub-Committee made a site visit on March 26, 2018 and the observation of the sub-committee are as given below :

"(i). It was informed by NDMC officers present that an investigation/inquiry has been conducted by the IIT Delhi into the said matter which has been concluded, and a detailed report has been submitted to NDMC, with its findings on the reasons for the fall of the structure, which is under consideration of NDMC.

The sub-committee decided to request NDMC to give its comments/recommendations in view of the report submitted by the IIT Delhi.

- (ii) For the safety and security of the people around, the sub-committee recommended for the immediate removal of the overhead water tanks from the site.*
- (iii) The sub-committee also observed that necessary arrangements be made by the proponent for the protection of the structure against water stagnation during rains etc.*
- (iv) The sub-committee recommended that the matter be referred back to NDMC for seeking necessary report in the matter. The proponent should comply with sub-committee's recommendations at serial no. ii & iii in the meantime."*

3. The recommendations of the sub-committee were considered and accepted by the HCC. It was decided to ask for the comments/clarifications on the point raised by the Sub-Committee from NDMC.

Item No. 2: Plans for internal renovation work at M-14, Ground floor, M-71, First floor, Connaught Place – Letter received from Chief Architect, NDMC.

1. The above proposal forwarded by the NDMC had been approved by the HCC at its meeting held on May 12, 2017.

2. A letter no. CA/BP/M-14, Connaught Place/D-0327 dated 28.03.2018 has now been received from Chief Architect, NDMC indicating that the applicant has now proposed to retain, the part portion of mezzanine which was proposed for demolition in the plans submitted to HCC to make a double height of ground floor part portion.
3. The letter was discussed and the HCC decided to advise NDMC to forward the revised complete proposal as per HCC's guidelines for its consideration.

C. Additional item :

Item No.1: Plans in respect of E-17, Connaught Place.

1. The proposal forwarded by the NDMC online was scrutinised. It included the work in terms of change of plastering, POP work, patch work, flooring, false ceiling, painting, show window, sanitary fittings, glass glazing, door & other incidental work etc.
2. The proposal was found acceptable and approved with the following observations:
 - (i) No changes are permitted on external side/facade, which should be retained as per the original design.
 - (ii) The structural safety of the buildings should be ensured.
 - (iii) Heritage Character comprising of architectural elements such as arches, cornices, quoins, gables, architraves, palladian style windows etc. should be retained in the modifications.

Sd/-
(Vinod Kumar)
Member-Secretary
Heritage Conservation Committee