

**MINUTES OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> MEETING OF THE GANDHI HERITAGE SITES MISSION  
HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTMEBER, 2013 AT 11.30 A.M IN GANDHI SAMRITI AND  
DARSHAN SAMITI, NEW DELHI**

1. A meeting of the Gandhi Heritage Sites Mission was held on 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2013 at 11.30 A.M in Gandhi Samriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi. Shri Sailesh Kumar Bandopadhaya, Chairman, Gandhi Heritage Sites Mission chaired the meeting.

2. The list of participants is annexed.

3. Shri Sailesh Kumar Bandopadhaya, Chairman welcomed the members and the participants for attending the first meeting of the Mission and requested for brief introduction. Accordingly, brief introduction was made by the members giving the background of their past experiences. Thereafter, Chairman requested Joint Secretary (C) to give a brief background of the Gandhi Heritage Sites Mission.

4.1 Shri Pramod Jain, Joint Secretary (Culture) explained the background of the Mission and informed that Government of India has made a total budget outlay of Rs. 42.00 crore for Gandhi Heritage Sites Mission with a fixed term of five years and with its Headquarters at New Delhi. The Mission will coordinate the implementation of the Mission's project, strengthen the link between the State Govt. and the Mission with five existing Zonal Cultural Centres of the Ministry of Culture. J.S (Culture) also said that broadly, the core tasks of the Mission would be as under:-

- (i) The identification, collation and assessment of information on 'Gandhi Heritage' material for its management and deployment.
- (ii) The determination of conservation methodology and priorities, based on (i), for:
- (iii) The holdings: documents and objects, particularly from the points of view of archival storage and museology.
- (iv) The physical structures and sites, and guidelines for their subsequent maintenance.

4.2 The dissemination of material, based on relevant information from (i) and (ii), through:

- (i) A web-based portal
- (ii) Publications, audio/visuals (CDs, digital prints etc.)
- (iii) The "communication" through the core sites while specifying – where necessary – function and use

5. Prof. Venu Madhav Govindu enquired about the responsibilities and powers of the Mission. Dr. Sudarshan Iyengar, VC, Gujarat Vidyapeeth and the Member of the Mission clarified that the Mission has the responsibility for implementation and execution of the work assigned to it. It will also have advisory and supervisory role in the execution of the works.

6. Thereafter, the Agenda of the meeting was taken up. J.S, Culture explained the action taken by the MoC on the decisions of the Government as under:-

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Action Points</b>	<b>Action Taken</b>
(i)	Nomination of Chairperson and Members of Gandhi Heritage Sites Mission.	Chairman and 7 members of the Mission have already been nominated. However, out of 7 nominated members, one member Shri Ranesh Ray has since resigned.
(ii)	Creation of four (04) regular posts including one (01) post of Joint Secretary to Government of India, to act as the Secretary of the Mission (ex-officio).	Ministry has Issued necessary orders for creation of four (04) posts. The matter has been taken up with the DOPT for nomination of suitable officers.
(iii)	A proposal for appointing persons on outsourcing/contract basis is required to be initiated by observing the relevant rules under GFR.	A proposal has been submitted to the Ministry of Finance for approval for appointment of persons on contract/ outsourcing basis.
(iv)	Necessary action for accommodation for setting up of Gandhi Heritage Sites Mission is required to be initiated.	Directorate of Estates has been requested for providing suitable accommodation nearby Central Secretariat buildings. A D.O reminder from Secretary (C) to Secretary (UD) has been issued in the matter. Besides this, possibility is also being explored for making some space available in the existing building of the GSDS at Rajghat.

7. J.S also said that till the accommodation was made available by the Directorate of Estate, the Chairperson, GSDS has been requested to spare some accommodation at 5, Tees January Marg to which she has agreed.

8. The GHSM also deliberated on the constitution of the following Committees so that the conservation work could be taken up through the identified Government Executing Agencies:-

- (i) Conservation Committee
- (ii) Archival Committee
- (iii) Finance Committee
- (iv) Gandhi Heritage Sites Database Committee
- (v) Museum Committee

9. J.S said that the conservation work should be as per the criteria to be fixed with reference to the international standard specifications and side by side it should be ensured that the Heritage design of the buildings is not damaged.

10. Prof. Tridip Suhrud said that first creation of data base is very important for undertaking the conservation work. The Gandhi Heritage Portal has already been launched as the repository of intangible material. Most of the information can also be obtained from the National Archives and we would need to create large data. We have to identify agencies to get series of recommendations. We have to identify institutions / universities relating to Gandhian studies.

11. Chairman said that initially we should concentrate for conservation work in respect of 39 core sites and later on out of 2,000 sites already identified by Gandhi Heritage Sites Panel.

12. Dr. Sudarshan Iyengar said that the member who is interested in particular field should take the responsibility for the said work. Shri Anupam Mishra endorsed the same view. Prof. Tridip Suhrud said that most important data relates to Gandhi Heritage Sites. Shri Gopalkrishna Gandhi had done excellent work in compilation of 2,000 Gandhi Heritage Sites and 39 core sites. Gandhi Heritage Sites - A Comprehensive List was prepared and sent to the Publications Division of the Ministry of I&B for publication by the MoC with an outlay of about Rs. 21.68 lakh but this proposal has so far not been started as the data given in this list needs to be verified and sources are required to be re-verified to avoid any discrepancy at a later stage. He suggested that this work for verification of data of the "Gandhi Heritage Sites - A Comprehensive List" could be undertaken by the SAPMT with the financial support from the Gandhi Heritage Sites Mission, Ministry of Culture by engaging experienced Research Assistants. Prof. Tridip Suhrud said that this responsibility could be entrusted to SAPMT. Chairman agreed that Prof. Tridip Suhrud could coordinate Gandhi Heritage Sites Database Committee and the work be assigned to SAPMT. Prof. Tridip Suhrud agreed that SAPMT would send a detailed project proposal, including time plan and financial implications to the Chairman and the Mission Director for approval within a week's time.

13. Dr. Sudarshan Iyengar was given the responsibility for heading the Conservation Committee, Shri Anupam Mishra was given the responsibility of Museum Committee, and Prof. Shahid Amin was given the responsibility of Archival Committee. J.S said that in this Committee Prof. Tridip Suhrud, DG, National Archives and Director, NMM&L be associated. Prof. Tridip Suhrud also suggested that in the first instance 2-3 sites may be selected on pilot basis such as GSDS, Sabarmati Ashram including Kocharab Ashram, Sevagram Wardha and Hydari Manzil in Kolkata.

14. Prof. Tridip Suhrud said that some parameters should be fixed and one place be given to one agency. In the next meeting that agency should prepare atleast five pages report on the specification / conservation item and SAPMT database. J.S said that timelines for each work should be fixed and specifications should be of international standards without damaging quality of heritage conservation methodology etc.

15. J.S, Culture informed that Shri Ranesh Ray has submitted a letter addressed to the Secretary, Culture that he would not accept the membership of the Mission due to certain reservations. It was unanimously decided that services of Shri Ranesh Ray would be very useful and therefore, he may be approached for accepting the appointment as Member in the Mission.

16. After due deliberations of the Mission, the Chairman summarized the decisions as under:-

- The work of the following Committees will be coordinated by the Members as shown against each:-

(i)	Conservation Committee	Dr. Sudarshan Iyengar
(ii)	Archival Committee	Prof. Shahid Amin, Prof. Tridip Suhrud, DG, National Archives and Director, NMM&L
(iii)	Finance Committee	Mission Director
(iv)	Gandhi Heritage Sites Database Committee	Prof. Tridip Suhrud
(v)	Museum Committee	Shri Anupam Mishra

A Final decision regarding constitution of the above Committees will be taken in the next meeting of the Mission to be held on 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2013

- The Member concerned who will be the coordinator of the respective committee will submit atleast 5 names of reputed experts from reputed institutions for association as members in the Committees within 10 days to the other members and Chairman with a copy to MoC.
- The work relating to verification of data of the “Gandhi Heritage Sites- A Comprehensive List” will be undertaken by the SAPMT, Ahmedabad which was earlier given to Publications Division for printing by the MoC. A proposal in this regard will be submitted by SAPMT to MoC within 10 days.
- Necessary agencies / institutions will be identified for undertaking specifications of work for conservation by the members and submit to the Ministry of Culture within 7 days.
- All posts sanctioned under the Mission will be filled up by this Ministry so that the Mission can be made fully functional without any delay.
- Necessary arrangement for accommodation for housing the officers and staff of the Mission will be made by the Ministry on priority basis.
- Joint Secretary (Culture) will request Shri Ranesh Ray to accept the assignment of a Member in the Mission so that his expertise could be used for the work of the Mission.
- SAPMT will submit a detailed proposal for creation of database, which includes time plan and cost plan. The proposal will be submitted to the Ministry of Culture for placing before the Mission. The web based portal will be the Gandhi Heritage Portal.
- Next meeting of the Mission will be held in SAPMT, Ahmedabad on 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2013.

17. The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair and participants.

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS WHO ATTENDED THE FIRST MEETING OF GANDHI  
HERITAGE SITES MISSION HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2013 AT GSDS, NEW DELHI.**

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Name</b>
1.	<b>Shri Sailesh Kumar Bandopadhaya,</b> Chairman, GHSM
	<b>Members</b>
2.	Prof. Tridip Suhrud, Director Sabarmati Ashram Preservation and
3.	Prof. Sudarshan Iyengar, Vice Chancellor, Gujarat Vidyapith
4.	Shri Anupam Mishra, Gandhi Peace Foundation
5.	Prof. Venu Madhav Govindu, IIS, Assistant Professor
	<b>Officers from the Ministry of Culture</b>
6.	Shri Pramod Jain, Joint Secretary
7.	Smt. Nirmala Goyal, Deputy Director
8.	Shri J.P Sharma, Project Coordinator

