

**MINUTES OF THE 2ND MEETING OF THE GANDHI HERITAGE
SITES MISSION HELD ON 20TH DECEMBER, 2013 AT 3.30 P.M IN
SABARMATI ASHRAM, AHMEDABAD**

1. A meeting of the Gandhi Heritage Sites Mission was held on 20th December, 2013 at 3.30 P.M in Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad.
2. The list of participants is annexed.
3. The Secretary, GHSM welcomed all the participants to the 2nd meeting of the Mission. As informed in the Agenda Note, the Secretary conveyed that due to prolonged illness, Shri Sailesh Kumar Bandopadhaya, Chairman, Gandhi Heritage Sites Mission had regretted to attend the meeting and had conveyed that the meeting may be held in accordance with rules. Therefore, Dr. Sudarshan Iyengar, Member, was requested, by consensus, to chair the meeting. Thereafter, the Agenda Items were taken up for deliberations.

4. Confirmation of Minutes of the last meeting.

Secretary, GHSM informed that no comments on the Minutes have been received from any Members except from Prof. Venu Madhav Govindu, as indicated the Agenda Note. This was considered and it was decided to insert the comments of Prof. Venu Madhav Govindu in the Minutes. Thereafter, the Minutes of the first meeting of Gandhi Heritage Sites Mission held on 11th September, 2013 were confirmed with the inclusions as under:-

To be inserted after item 13.

With respect to conservation work at GSDS, Prof. Venu Madhav Govindu pointed out that the 'Report and Recommendations of the Gandhi Heritage Sites Panel' had explicitly stated under 'Exclusions' that the Dandi sites and Tees Janvari Marg (Birla House) "will remain out of the purview of the panel's work because they are already receiving prime attention from the Government of India".

To be inserted after item 16.

Prof. Venu Madhav Govindu reiterated that the original impetus for the Mission was to be towards physical conservation. As such, the work on intangible heritage should not detract the Mission's attention from the fundamental importance of physical conservation.

5. Action Taken Report of last meeting.

The Secretary informed the members about the action taken on the decisions of the last meeting. She also conveyed the latest developments with regard to the following:-

5.1 Arrangement for accommodation for the officers and staff of the Mission.

ASI had already earmarked about 3600 sq. feet space in the newly built office building in INA (on the 5th floor for the Mission). CPWD has been asked to take up the furnishing work in the premises. The members were requested to visit the building as per their convenience and to advice regarding the interiors.

5.2 Filling up of the posts sanctioned under the Mission.

The post of Secretary, GHSM has been filled up by the Government. A Director level officer has also been posted to assist her. The other regular posts would also be filled up soon. Ministry of Finance had been requested to clear the matter of filling up of other posts to be filled up on contract / outsourcing basis. As soon as clearance is received, necessary action for filling up of these posts on outsourcing / contract basis would be taken up.

5.3 Non-acceptance of membership by Shri Ranesh Ray

Shri Ranesh Ray was requested by the Ministry to reconsider accepting membership of the Mission. As indicated in the Agenda Note Shri Ray has informed that his decision for not accepting remained unchanged. The matter was deliberated upon and it was decided that Shri Ray's decision may be accepted, although with regret. However, he may be requested to render his invaluable guidance to the Mission on specific matters.

6. Constitution of the Committees

6.1 In the first meeting, it had been decided that the work of the following Committees would 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

6.2 It had also been decided that the Member concerned who would be the Coordinator of the respective committees will submit at least 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.

Prof. Tridip Suhrud, Shri Anupam Mishra and the Chairperson Shri Shailesh Bandopadhyay sent names to the Mission Director's office. The lists have been appended as an annexure -II.

6.5 Prof. Venu Madhav Govindu has communicated via e-mail dated 19.12.2013 addressed to all members, that he would be happy to serve on the Archives and Data base committee.

6.6 The suggestions were deliberated upon at length, and it was decided that in view of the role envisaged for the committees by the Government and Gandhi Heritage Sites Panel, it would be better that existing members of the Mission should take the responsibility of the Committees and experts could be co-opted as and when required. The composition of the Committees would therefore, be as under:-

(i)	Conservation Committee	Shri Kartikeya Sarabhai as Chairman and Dr. Sudarshan Iyengar as member
(ii)	Archival Committee	Prof. Shahid Amin as Chairman and Prof. Tridip Suhrud as member.
(iii)	Gandhi Heritage Sites Database Committee	Dr. Sudarshan Iyengar as Chairman and Prof. Venu Madhav Govindu as member.
(iv)	Museum Committee	Shri Anupam Mishra as Chairman Shri Kartikeya Sarabhai as member.

6.7 The Secretary informed the members that Government was of the opinion that the composition of the Finance Committee should be on the lines of other Missions under the Ministry of Culture. Therefore, the following constitution of the Finance Committee has been suggested by the Ministry of Culture:-

- (i) Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor, - Chairman
Ministry of Culture
- (ii) Joint Secretary & Secretary to the Mission - Member
- (iii) Director / D.S, Finance, MoC - Member
- (iv) Director / D.S, Special Cell, MoC - Member
- (v) Director / D.S, GHSM - Member Secretary

It was decided to agree with the above mentioned suggestion of Government.

6.8 The role and responsibility of these Committees were also deliberated upon during the meeting. Prof. Venu Madhav Govindu's comments sent via e-mail were also discussed. The Secretary briefed the members that the report of the Panel, mentions that the Committees need to supervise, guide and assist in (i) conservation initiatives, (ii) maintenance and preservation initiatives and (iii) creation of a data base of tangible and literary and visual Gandhi Heritage.

6.9 The Secretary circulated a State / Country wise list of 39 Core Sites as identified in the Report in order to facilitate further course of action in relation to the sites, in accordance with the brief of the Mission (list attached as annexure-III) With respect to other 2000 possible sites, they could be discussed after SAPMT, Ahmedabad provides a verified list. Prof. Tridip Suhrud assured that a verified list would be available by April, 2014. It was decided that the Committees (as mentioned in para 6.6) would submit their action plans for taking up further work,

within one month. The Mission in the next meeting would deliberate on the action plans of the Committees and thereafter, device a further course of action.

7. Proposal for “Creation and Verification of Database relating to Gandhi Heritage Sites”

SAPMT, Ahmedabad had submitted a proposal amounting to Rs. 74.68 lakh relating to the 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. The Secretary informed that the Publications Division, Ministry of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, has not informed the Ministry about the status of the publication. Prof. Tridip Suhrud said that the Publications Division had given the task for verification to Ms. Dina Patel. It was initially thought that the work of verification was limited. However, Ms Patel soon found that the verification had to be done at various levels even if minimum information relating to the sites was to be published. If she were to do it on her own it would take very long. There was no formal arrangement for financial resources and person power to undertake the work as specific assignment. The matter lingered. Publication Division, of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting had money only for printing and not editing of any kind.

It was realised during the discussions that the matter needs to be clarified with the Publication Division first. It was decided that the Secretary may take up the matter with the Publications Division and enquire about the status of the publication.

Thereafter, SAPMT’s proposal was discussed in detail. Prof. Venu Madhav Govindu’s comments sent via e-mail were also considered. The proposal went much beyond the mere verification and publication of the lists. It was decided that since this would be an entirely new Project, views of those members who were not present in this meeting may also be obtained and thereafter, a decision could be taken in the matter.

8. Proposal for Acquisition of a digital copy of the Indian Opinion.

Prof. Tridip Suhrud informed that in January, 2013, the Ashram Trust had approached the Hon’ble Minister for External Affairs seeking the help of the Counsel General in Durban, South Africa to locate a complete set of Mahatma Gandhi’s journal *Indian Opinion*, with a view that a digital copy be acquired which could then be placed on the Gandhi Heritage Portal and shared with major archives and repositories in India.

Shri Ravi Bangar, Additional Secretary, (E & SA), MEA has sent a letter to Prof. Tridip Suhrud for acquisition of a digital copy of the *India Opinion*. The total cost estimate for the same has been mentioned as Rs. 37.38 lakhs for a digital set.

9. The proposal was discussed and it was decided that the matter be taken up with MEA and the High Commission in South Africa and it may be enquired whether the copy could be procured directly from the Durban Library. A sample copy may also be obtained in order to verify the quality of the digital copy.

10. At the end, the Chairman summarized the decisions taken by consensus during the meeting as under:-

- The comments of Prof. Venu Madhav Govindu may be included in the minutes of the first meeting of the Mission.
- A letter may be sent to Shri Ranesh Ray conveying the decision as at para 5.3.
- Committees may be constituted as mentioned under para 6.6 and 6.7. Each Committee would send an action plan for undertaking further work within a period of one month to the Mission Secretariat which may be placed in the next meeting for consideration. Accordingly, further course of action regarding conservation of the identified core sites would be taken up.
- The views of other members who were not present during the meeting may be obtained for SAPMT's proposal for "creation and verification of database relating to Gandhi Heritage Sites"
- Publications Division, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting may be requested to inform about the status of the publication of the "Gandhi Heritage Sites – a comprehensive list"
- Regarding proposal for acquisition of a digital copy of Indian Opinion, MEA / Indian High Commission in Durban may be approached for obtaining the digital copy of the Indian Opinion directly from the Durban Library. Efforts may be made to obtain a sample copy in order to check the quality of the digital copy
- The next meeting may be convened in the second week of February, 2014.
- A presentation of the status of the Gandhi Heritage Portal by the SAPMT will be a regular agenda item in subsequent meetings of the Mission.

11. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks.

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS WHO ATTENDED THE SECOND MEETING OF GANDHI
HERITAGE SITES MISSION HELD ON 20th DECEMBER, 2013 AT SABARMATI
ASHRAM, AHMEDABAD.**

S.No.	Name
1.	Prof. Sudarshan Iyengar, Member, GHSM (officiating as Chairman for this meeting)
2.	Shri Kartikeya Sarabhai, Member, GHSM
3.	Prof. Tridip Suhrud, Member, GHSM
4.	Shri Anupam Mishra, Member, GHSM
	Officers from the Ministry of Culture
5.	Ms. Sreya Guha, Secretary, GHSM
6.	Shri J.P Sharma, Project Coordinator

1. List given by Prof. Tridip Suhrud:-
 - (i) **Archives Committee:** (i) Tridip Suhrud (ii) Shahid Amin (iii) Venu Madhav Govindu (iv) Director General, National Archives of India, (v) Director, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library. (Professor Shahid Amin was to be the convenor but due to indifferent health he has suggested that he may not be assigned this responsibility and Prof. Tridip Suhrud may act as its Coordinator.)
 - (ii) **Database Committee:** (i) Prof. Tridip Suhrud (ii) Shri Venu Madhav Govindu (iii) Dr. Sudarshan Iyengar (iv) Ms Dina Patel
 - (iii) **Conservation Committee:** (i) Dr. Sudarshan Iyengar (ii) Shri Kartikeya V Sarabhai (iii) Director General, INTACH (iv) Director, National Culture Fund (v) Director, National Manuscript Mission
 - (iv) **Museum Committee:** (i) Shri Anupam Mishra (ii) Shri Kartikeya V Sarabhai (iii) Director General, National Museum (iv) Director, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti (v) Director, National Gandhi Museum.
2. Shri Anupam Mishra had also given the names of Shri Brij Mohan Pandey, Shri Kabir Vajpeyi and Shri Dileep Chinchalkar.
3. Shri Sailesh Kumar Bandopadhaya, Chairman had proposed the following names for consideration:-
 - (i) **Shri Subhprasanna Bhattacharaya**, Chairman, Heritage Commission, W. Bengal, Govt. of W. Bengal, Eminent painter.
 - (ii) **Prof. Suparna Guptoo**, Director, Gandhian Studies, Deptt. of History, University of Calcutta, Alipore Campus, Kolkata, (Ph. 09830057666)
 - (iii) **Dr. Maya Ghosh**, Gandhi Museum , Barrackpur, 24-Pargans(North), (Ph. 09831005123)
 - (iv) **Shri Sankar Sanyal**, President All India Harijan Sevak Sangha, At: 97/3 Naskarpara Road, Ghosuri, Dist: Howrah, (Ph. 09831224445)
 - (v) **Dr. Razi Ahmad**, Director Gandhi Museum, Gandhi maidan East, Patna, (Ph. 0612- 2219339)
 - (vi) **Shri Bajrang Singh**, Baldao Foundation, Chittaranjan, Dist: Santalpargana, Jharkhand, (Ph. 09334653133)
 - (vii) **Ms Hema Bharali**, c/o Kastruba Trust, Sarania Asram, Guwahati.

State-wise/Countries-wise List of 39 Core Sites:

Bihar

- (i) Champaran – Courtroom in Motihari
- (ii) Sadaqat Ashram, Patna

Delhi

- (i) Dr. Ansari’s Residence
- (ii) St. Stephens College
- (iii) Valmiki Colony
- (iv) Bakhtiar Chisti’s Dargah at Mehrauli
- (v) Kingsway Camp

Gujarat

- (i) Porbandar and Rajkot Sites (Childhood period)
- (ii) Sabarmati Jail – Cell where interned
- (iii) Kochrab/Sabarmati venues
- (iv) Court Room, Ahmedabad
- (v) Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad
- (vi) Bhatgam, Surat

Himachal Pradesh

Manorville, Simla

Kerala

Vykom

Maharashtra

- (i) Juhu Cottage
- (ii) Mani Bhawan, Mumbai
- (iii) Maganwadi, Sevagram
- (iv) Sevagram Cottage

- (v) Bajajwadi, Wardha
- (vi) Navbharat Vidyalaya, Wardha
- (vii) Yeravda Jail (Cell), Pune
- (viii) Parna Kutli, Pune
- (ix) Aga Khan Palace, (Prison Cell) Pune
- (x) Dr. Mehta's Nature Cure Clinic, Pune

Tamil Nadu

- (i) Tilak Ghat, Chennai
- (ii) Building of Dakshin Bharat Hindi
- (iii) Venue in Madurai – where took to loin cloth

Uttarakhand

Kausani

West Bengal

- (i) Sodepur, Kolkata
 - (ii) Beliaghata, Kolkata
 - (iii) 'Step Aside', Darjeeling
 - (iv) 'Natun Bari', 'Shyamoli' and 'Santiniketan Griho' in Santiniketan
 - (v) The Study in Raj Bhawan, Kolkata
- London
 - (i) 20, Baron's Court Road, West Kensington
 - (ii) Kingsley Hall
 - South Africa
 - (i) Johannesburg – 11, Albemarle Street
 - (ii) Phoenix – 'Sarvoday'
 - (iii) Tolstoy Farm