



Heritage Management in Parliament



Lok Sabha Secretariat
New Delhi

Heritage Management in Parliament

The Parliament House, one of the most magnificent buildings in New Delhi, is a massive circular edifice.

The Parliament House Building has been declared as a Heritage Building Grade-I in the New Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC) area *vide* Gazette Notification dated 01 October, 2009.

To maintain the heritage character and grandeur of the Building, Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha constituted two Committees. The first is the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Maintenance of Heritage Character and Development of Parliament House Complex headed by Hon'ble Speaker. The second is Standing Technical Committee on Maintenance of Heritage Character and Development of Parliament House (STC) headed by Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, consisting of technical experts in the field. The STC has been given the mandate to advise the apex JPC about the maintenance of heritage character of Parliament House Building. The JPC is taking decisions are being taken to preserve, conserve and protect the heritage character of Parliament House. To strengthen the endeavour, the Hon'ble Speaker created a new Branch namely "Heritage Management Branch" to assist the aforesaid two Committees. CPWD submits its proposals regarding overall maintenance, renovation, upgradation of Parliament House to General Works Branch. General Works Branch examines and forwards the proposals in the form of a Memorandum to the Heritage Management Branch, if any heritage aspect is involved, for placing the same before the Standing Technical Committee/Joint Parliamentary Committee on Maintenance of Heritage Character and Development of Parliament House Complex. All major proposals for maintenance, construction, additions/alterations, etc. relating to Civil/Electrical/Horticulture in Parliament House, if such activities involve heritage character, are first examined in depth by the STC which submits their recommendations for consideration of the JPC for final approval.

Some of the important decisions/recommendations made by JPC/STC to maintain the heritage character of the Parliament House Building are as follows:

- (i) Structural soundness test of Parliament House Building;
- (ii) Removal of obstructions and encroachments in the fire exit routes in Parliament House;
- (iii) Decongestion of Parliament House and proper utilization of office in Parliament House Building;
- (iv) Shifting of cooking area outside Parliament House Building to avoid fire hazards and construction of a new Kitchen at Plot No. 118-A, P.H.;
- (v) Engagement of Heritage Conservation Consultant; and
- (vi) Proper maintenance of toilets as per international standards in PH.

Since Parliament House is a heritage building, awareness amongst all occupants and stakeholders is necessary. It is expected that all occupants and stakeholders contribute to proper maintenance of building.

In this context, on the directions of the Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha, a Training Programme in Archaeological Structures, Heritage and Conservation was organised by the Institute of Archaeology of the Archaeological Survey of India for the officers and staff of the Lok Sabha Secretariat and CPWD from 8 to 12 July 2013.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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**Cover Photo: A view of the colonnades along the
First Floor of Parliament House*