

INDIA

Qutb Minar and its Monuments, New Delhi



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II.1 Introduction

Year of Inscription 1993

Organisation Responsible for the Report

- Archaeological Survey of India
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II.2 Statement of Significance

Inscription Criteria C iv

Statement of Significance

- Proposed as follows:
"Built in late 12th - early 13th century, the tower is built of marble, red and buff sandstone, and has alternate angular and semi-circular flutings at its first storey. The upper storeys have either angular or semi-circular flutings or plain surface. The surrounding archaeological area contains funerary buildings like magnificent Alai-Darwaza, a masterpiece of Indo-Islamic architecture, the Quwwatul-Islam mosque, the earliest extant mosque in India built of materials reused from twenty-seven Brahmanical and Jain temples, with an inscribed iron pillar dateable to circa 5th cent. AD fixed in the centre of the courtyard, Alaud-din's College and Tomb and Alai Minar."

Status of Site Boundaries

- The demarcation line and buffer zone are adequate.
- The site boundaries should be revised, in view of an extension (shown on a map) to the nominated site.

"To preserve the values in the future, actions against encroachments and legal and administrative actions against unauthorized constructions in the prohibited and regulated zones need to be taken."

II.3 Statement of Authenticity/Integrity

Status of Authenticity/Integrity

- Values and authenticity/integrity well preserved.
- No changes to the authenticity/integrity, nor are they foreseen in the future.

II.4 Management

Administrative and Management Arrangements

- Overall management made at the regional and national levels. The above arrangements are considered sufficient.
- The actual legal and traditional protection is sufficient.
- Management plan under preparation.
- To preserve the values in future: actions against encroachments and legal and administrative actions against unauthorized constructions in the prohibited and regulated zones need to be taken.

Present State of Conservation

- Property in good state of conservation. No interventions have occurred in the integrity and values of the property because conservation works are planned with respect to the original character of the monument.

Staffing and Training Needs

- 138 staff (111 at the local office and 27 horticultural staff) considered sufficient to monitor the site.
- The staff need additional training in the latest technologies and applications, security techniques and "handling" of visitors.

Financial Situation

- Sources of funds from the Central Government.
- Funding is considered as sufficient.
- International Assistance from the Indian Oil Corporation through the National Cultural Fund.
- * International Assistance from the

WHF: none.

Access to IT

- Remote presence facilitation system installed.
- 1 set of computers, no email or Internet access.
- No use of GIS.

Visitor Management

- 2001-2002, 1.66 million visitors.
- Various facilities: parking, admission, sales, publications, drinking water, toilets, WH plaques, signage, description, sandstone benches, Waste bins.
- Needed facilities: Site interpretation and museum, signage, cafeteria, visitor's movement plans, upgrading existing facilities, etc.]
- Plan for public use: there is no existing plan, but a proposal has just been finalised.



Flutings, floral band, after restoration

- Communication of WH values through: WH plaque, cultural programs, free brochures, celebrations, awareness programs, lectures, guided visits.
- Educational programmes: contact programmes with schools, college students and inhabitants, guided tours for school children, information and lectures.
- Role of the inscription to the List of World Heritage: curiosity and increased popularity of the monument at an international level.

II.5 Factors Affecting the Property

Threats and Risks

- Impact of commercialisation & urbanisation resulting in construction in buffer zone areas. Actions since 1992 have yielded positive results.

- Vehicle pollution harms the stones, but level have decreased since 2002 (introduction of compressed natural gas).
- Natural disasters and preparedness: lightning protection has been completed and no threat from floods and fire is are foreseen.
- Despite the number of tourists and visitors to the site there is no tourist/visitor.
- Inhabitants in buffer zone: some encroachments in buffer zone but under control since 1992.

Counteractive Plans

- No emergency plan.
- No eminent potential threat. In case of emergency, the ASI and other Government agencies are capable of attending to the threat.
- Improvements needed: training on risk preparedness, better co-ordination for development activities, educational awareness.
- Impacts of factors are under control.
- Measures adopted or planned: same as improvements above.

II.6 Monitoring

Monitoring Arrangements

- Regular inspections of state of conservation. Records of inspection notes to plan future interventions.
- Partners: science laboratories and organisations.
- Foreseen improvements: existing arrangements are adequate.

Monitoring Indicators

- No monitoring indicators described.

II.7 Conclusions and Recommended Actions

Conclusions and Proposed Actions

- Values: the value on the basis of which property was inscribed is intact.
- Management and factors affecting property: well managed, protected and preserved.
- Future actions: under preparation, Perspective plan for conservation works (2002-07) prepared. Management plan, conservation plan, integrated development plan and visitors movement plan under preparation.
- Timetable for the implementation of the Plans: March 2004.

* No State of Conservation Reports