

Periodic Reporting Exercise On The Application Of The World Heritage
Convention

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

II.1. Introduction

a.	Country (and State Party if different): INDIA	01
b.	Name of the World Heritage property: TAJ MAHAL	02
c.	<p>Map (in triplicate) attached</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Centre point : 27° 10' 25" N; 78° 2' 38" E</p> <p style="text-align: center;">North-west point : 27° 10' 29" N; 78° 2' 30" E</p> <p style="text-align: center;">South-east point : 27° 10' 20" N; 78° 2' 44" E</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Total Area : 22.44 hectares</p>	03
d.	Date of inscription on the World Heritage List: 09.12.1983	04
e.	<p>Organization(s) or entity(ies) responsible for the preparation of this report</p> <p>Organization(s) / Archaeological Survey of India, Agra Circle entity(ies): Person(s) responsible: Address: 22 - The Mall, City and post code: Agra - 282001 UTTAR PRADESH Telephone: (91) 0562 - 2227261 & 63 Fax: (91) 0562 - 2227262 E-mail: asiagra@sancharnet.in</p>	05
f.	Date of preparation of the report: December 2002	06
g.	Signature on behalf of State Party	07

Periodic Reporting Exercise On The Application Of The World Heritage Convention

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

Signature: Name: Mohammed K.K. Function Superintending Archaeologist, Agra Circle	
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II.2. Statement of significance

<p>At the time of inscribing a property on the World Heritage List, the World Heritage Committee indicates its outstanding universal value(s), or World Heritage value(s), by deciding on the criteria for which the property deserved to be included on the World Heritage List. Circle the criteria retained for the inscription:</p> <p>Cultural criteria: <input checked="" type="radio"/> i - ii - iii - iv - v - vi</p> <p>Natural criteria: i - ii - iii - iv</p> <p>Were new criteria added by re-nominating and/or extending the property after the original inscription? YES/NO</p>	<p>08</p> <p>09</p>
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Periodic Reporting Exercise On The Application Of The World Heritage
Convention

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

If YES, please explain:	010
<p>Please quote observations concerning the property made by the Advisory Body(ies) during the evaluation of the nomination:</p> <p>None</p>	011
<p>Quote the decisions and observations / recommendations, if appropriate, made by the World Heritage Committee at the time of inscription and extension (if applicable):</p> <p>DECISION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE: 7TH SESSION</p> <p>The Committee made no statement.</p>	012
Identify the action taken as follow-up to those observations and/or decisions:	013
<p>Please propose a statement of significance by providing a description of the World Heritage value(s) for which the property was inscribed on the World Heritage List. This description should reflect the criterion (criteria) on the basis of which the Committee inscribed the property on the World Heritage List and it should also detail what the property represents, what makes it outstanding, what the specific values are that distinguish the property as well as what its relationship with its setting is, etc.:</p> <p>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:</p> <p>Constructed during 1631 - 48 AD by Shah Jehan in the memory of his beloved Queen Arjumand Banu Begam, Taj Mahal, famous equally for its architecture as well as for the serene aesthetic beauty of white marble, stands majestically on masonry well foundations necessitated by the close flowing river. Double bulbous dome sitting on tall drum, outwardly tilting minarets at the four corners are the architectural features best executed at Taj Mahal. Artistically laid out 'charbagh' garden in the foreground is an aesthetic departure from the early models of garden Tombs.</p>	014
<p>For the extension of a property or the inclusion of additional criteria a re-submission of the property may be considered. This might be regarded as necessary in order to recognize cultural values of a natural World Heritage property, or vice-versa, become desirable following the substantive revision of the criteria by the world Heritage Committee or due to better identification or knowledge of specific outstanding universal values of the property. Should a re-nomination of the property be considered?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES / NO</p>	015

Periodic Reporting Exercise On The Application Of The World Heritage
Convention

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

If YES, please explain:	016
Are the borders of the World Heritage property and its buffer zone (still) adequate to ensure the protection and conservation of the property's World Heritage values: <p style="text-align: right;">YES / NO</p>	017
If NO, please explain:	018
Is the State Party actively considering a revision of the property boundaries or the buffer zone?: YES / NO	019
If YES, indicate what is being done to that end: A 500 metre wide green belt around the property is being developed, which will act as an extended buffer zone.	020

II.3. Statement of authenticity / integrity

Have the World Heritage values identified above been maintained since the property's inscription? YES / NO	021
If NO, Please describe the changes and name the causes:	022
What was the evaluation of the authenticity / integrity of the property at the time of inscription? (Please quote from the ICOMOS / IUCN evaluation): The Taj Mahal is one of the most well known monuments in the world due to its architectonic beauty. The rhythmic combination of solids and voids, concave and convex and light shadow stirs the inner depth of the connoisseur. Balance, symmetry and harmonious blending of various elements such as arches and domes further increases the aesthetic aspect. The colour combination of lush green scape reddish pathway and blue sky over it show cases the monument in ever changing tints and moods. The relief work in marble and inlay with precious and semi precious stones make it a monument apart. Taj represents the brilliant culmination of the architectural inheritance Mughals had acquired from India Persia, Central Asia and Turkey. <i><u>This exceptional monument, the Taj Mahal, could be inscribed on the World Heritage List based on criterion I.</u></i>	023

Periodic Reporting Exercise On The Application Of The World Heritage Convention

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

<p><u>ICOMOS would propose, however, that cultural property should be cited in a new proposition which would not dissociate it from the Agra Fort, another monument of Mughal dynasty.</u></p>	
<p>Have there been changes in the authenticity / integrity since inscription?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES /NO</p>	024
<p>If YES, please describe the changes to the authenticity / integrity and name the main causes?</p> <p>The Archaeological Survey of India, which is responsible for the repairs, conservation and maintenance of the Taj Mahal has taken adequate measures to preserve and protect the monument without disturbing its originality.</p> <p>Baring essential repairs and conservation to render longevity to the old structures no changes have been made in the authenticity / integrity of the property since inscription. Even the replacing of the decayed stone pieces and other conservation has been done in such manner as to match with the original with traditional material.</p> <p>However, tourism pressure and visitor facilitation has necessitated some alteration in the originality (integrity) of the property. All these interventions and alterations are add-ons and not of permanent nature.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forecourt concrete paving • Ribbed metal walkway low bridges around central tank to facilitate visitor movement. • Coir matting walkway spread (from March-April to July-August) to prevent burns to feet due to hot marble surface. • Barricades along water channels to keep the crowd from spoiling water. • Digital boards for displaying air pollution data 	025
<p>Are there (further) changes foreseeable to the authenticity / integrity of the property in the near future?</p> <p>YES / NO</p>	026
<p>If YES, please explain and indicate how these changes might affect the World Heritage values of the property:</p>	027

Periodic Reporting Exercise On The Application Of The World Heritage Convention

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

Development of tourist facilities like interpretation centre, information kiosk, toilet blocks, water points, provision of ramps to facilitate physically challenged and provision of rest areas is proposed which may entail which might affect the functional aspect of some of the enclosed areas or entry points.

II.4. Management

<p>How could the arrangements for the protection and the management of the property best be defined (more than one indication possible)?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Legal (√)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Contractual ()</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Traditional ()</p>	028
<p>Please describe and assess the implementation and effectiveness of these arrangements for the preservation of the values described under item II.2 at the national, provincial and/or municipal level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Implementations of the arrangements depend upon the co-operation of the local authorities, since ASI does not have enforcement machinery. ✚ However, in most of the cases local authorities have extended fullest co-operation and the implementation has been optimum. ✚ If properly implemented and enforced these arrangements have proved very effective. 	029
<p>In general terms, can this legislative, contractual and/or traditional protection be considered sufficient? YES / NO</p>	030
<p>Please explain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ The Act of 1958 provides for the protection and preservation of the Centrally Protected monuments from all perceivable dangers caused by human interference to the monuments. 	031

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

Provide a list and summaries of laws and regulations concerning cultural and natural properties protection and management (including extracts of relevant articles from the Constitution, Criminal Law, Law/Regulation on Land-use, Environment Law and Forestry Law, amongst others). Please also attach any documentation available concerning these points:

032

✚ The Taj Mahal has been notified as a Centrally Protected Monument of national importance under the “Ancient Monuments, Sites and Remains Act”, 1958. Rules to the Act were formulated in 1959 provide for its implementation. A significant amendment to the provisions of the Act was made in 1992 whereby:

- All Centrally protected monuments in India will have a 100 metre prohibited zone where no mining or construction will be allowed & by a further 200 metre regulated zone where the development will remain under control and in accordance of ASI.
- *“No person shall, within a protected monument do any act which causes or likely to cause any damage or injury to any part of the monument: or*
- *Discharge any fire arms; or*
- *Cook or consume food except in areas, if any permitted to be used for that purpose; or*
- *Hawk or sell any goods or wares or canvass any custom for such goods or wares or display any advertisement in any for or show a visitor around for monetary consideration, except under the authority of, or under and in accordance with the conditions of a licence granted by an Archaeological Officer; or*
- *Beg for alms; or*
- *Violate any practice, usage or custom applicable to or observed in the monument; or*
- *Bring; for any purpose other than the maintenance of the monument, (1) any animal, or (2) any vehicle except in areas for the parking thereof”.*

✚ In recent times Hon’ble Supreme Court has also passed land mark directions for supplementing the Law.

- “We make it clear that the ASI shall not permit any shopping complex to come up within the Taj premises and also within 200 metres outside and around the premises”. WP (C) No. 13381/84 Dated 04.10.1996.

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “We make it clear that henceforth no commercial activity shall be allowed within the premises of the Agra Fort or in other protected monument at Agra in the Taj Trapezium”. <i>Interlocutory Application No. 52/1996 in WP (C) No. 13381/84 Dated 07.12,1998</i> • “For the security deployment it has been agreed that the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) would take over the security of the Taj Complex from 1st May, 2002. It is also agreed that on 30th April, 2002, there will be a formal meeting of the concerned officers of the State as well as the CISF, for handing over the charge”. <i>Interlocutory Application No. 111 in WP (C) No. 13381/84 Date 26.04.2002</i> <p>✚ Implementation is the responsibility of ASI with the help of local authorities.</p> <p>✚ These arrangements are quite effective, if implemented properly.</p>	
<p>Describe the administrative and management arrangements that are in place for the property concerned, making special mention of the institutions and organizations that have management authority over the property as well as of the arrangements that are in place for the coordination of their actions:</p> <p>✚ Conservation Assistant (Site Manager) supervises the management and administration of the property under the guidance of the Superintending Archaeologist of the Agra Circle. ASI is responsible for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administration of the site. • Carrying out the repairs, restoration, maintenance and conservation work. <p>✚ Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has been made responsible for internal as well as external security of the site.</p> <p>✚ Agra Development Authority is responsible for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drinking water outlets. • Bus service from Agra Fort to Taj Mahal • Maintenance of security lights. 	033

Periodic Reporting Exercise On The Application Of The World Heritage
Convention

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

<p>Please indicate under which level of authority the property is managed:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Local (√)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Regional ()</p> <p style="text-align: center;">National (√)</p> <p>Other (please describe):</p>	034
<p>Please provide the full name, address and phone/fax/e-mail of the entity(ies) directly responsible for the management (conservation, preservation, visitor management) of the property:</p> <p>Sr. Conservation Assistant, Archaeological Survey of India, Taj Mahal, Agra.</p> <p>Phone : +0091-562-2330498</p>	035
<p>Is it necessary to revise the administrative and management arrangements for the property?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES / NO</p>	036
<p>If YES, explain why this is the case:</p>	037
<p>Is there a management plan for the property? YES / NO</p>	038
<p>If YES, please summarize, indicating if the plan is being implemented and since when:</p> <p>Xth Five year plan has been drawn up in the year 2002 for addressing to the conservation and management related problems in phased manner after duly prioritising the need of the monument / property.</p>	039
<p>Please report on legal and administrative actions that are foreseen for future, to preserve the values described under item II.2 (e.g. passing of legislation, adjusting administrative and management arrangements, implementing or drawing up of a (new) management plan, etc.):</p>	040

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

 A site management plan is under development as a collaborative effort of the Archaeological Survey of India, National Cultural Fund and the Indian Hotels Company Ltd.	
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Please provide detailed information, particularly in case where changes have occurred since the inscription of the property, on the following matters:	
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- Conservation

Make reference to all major interventions at the property and describe its present state of conservation

1997-98

- Decayed and sunken red and yellow sandstone flooring of the courtyard of main entrance were restored.
- Restoration to various sunken or raised stone mouldings were carried out.
- Black and white inlay bars and other pieces of various patterns were restored and those loosened were fixed.
- Missing inlay pieces of the floral patterns on the marble screen around the cenotaph were provided with new ones.
- Open joints of marble chhatri at north-eastern burj were water tightened.
- The wooden gate of the eastern entrance to fore court was mended.

1998-99

- Repairs to arches and inner façade of the main gate were done.
- Restoration of missing inlay pieces on outer façade of main gate was done.
- North-east corner burji was restored.
- At Naubat Khana repairs were carried out.
- The terrace of the main Mausoleum was water tightened with Silicon SC provided from Rhodia Chemicals, France through UNESCO.

041

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

1999-2000

- Repair to the terrace of the main Mausoleum
- Pointing was done at Naubat Khana
- East side dallans were repaired and conserved.
- Missing inlay pieces of the main Mausoleum façade were restored.

Present State of Conservation

The Taj complex itself is in a good state of preservation. Minor defects such as cracking of stones due to the corrosion of iron clamps and wearing out of roofing have occurred and are addressed as part of a regular and substantive maintenance programme. It also suffers from wear and tear and some more degradation due to large number of visitors. There is, however, no evidence of any structural distress nor any foundation failure but a geo-technical survey may always be advised. This would be justified in view of the importance of the monument and its World Heritage status.

The Archaeological Survey of India, which is responsible for the repairs, conservation and maintenance of the Taj Mahal has take adequate measures to preserve and protect the monument without disturbing its originality.

- Ownership

Make reference to all major changes in the ownership of the property and describe its present state of ownership:

Government of India *there has been no change, whatsoever, in the ownership status of the property.*

042

Please, give a detailed description of the staffing of the site:

FOR STRUCTURAL CONSERVATION

043

Periodic Reporting Exercise On The Application Of The World Heritage
Convention

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

Sr. Conservation Assistants (site managers)	1	
Foreman	1	
Caretaker	1	
Monument attendants	68	
Temporary status employees	20	
CISF	145	
 FOR HORTICULTURAL MAINTENANCE		
Sr. Horticultural Assistant	1	
Foreman	1	
Gardeners and other Group 'D' Staff	42	
 For Air Pollution Lab		
Assistant Superintending Archaeological Chemist	1	
Senior Chemical Assistant	1	
Watchman	1	
Is the staffing level sufficient for adequate management of the property? YES /NO		044
If NO, what should be done to improve the situation?		045
 Considering the multifold increase in the visitor inflow and the resultant increase in threat of vandalism it is pertinent not only to increase the manpower at all the levels but also to introduce state-of-art gadgetry to monitor and control the visitor crowd. Many posts are currently lying vacant which may be filled up.		
Does the staff need additional training? YES /NO		046

Periodic Reporting Exercise On The Application Of The World Heritage
Convention

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

	<p>If YES, what are the training needs for your staff?</p> <p>Staff at different levels require different training such as computer literacy to clerks, Foreman and Conservation Assistant, training in visitor management is also required for the group 'D' staff.</p> <p>Specific technical training in study and preparation of lime is desirable for the Conservation Assistant. Further, training in application and usage of GIS is also needed.</p> <p>The Assistant Archaeologists associated with the World Heritage site require special training in -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geographical Information System, • Total Station Surveying (Digital Survey) • Ground Penetrating Radar System 	047
	<p>Describing the funding and financial situation of the property, indication sources, level and regularity of financing:</p> <p>Funds for regular conservation work are received from the Government of India. The ASI undertakes all structural conservation and preservation works. Every year proposal listing the urgent works to be undertaken is prepared by the Senior Conservation Assistant. It is placed before the Directorate Office, which after scrutiny approves and accordingly the Directorate releases funds.</p>	048
	<p>Is the available funding sufficient for adequate management of the property? YES /NO</p>	049
	<p>If NOT, describe the financial resources that would be required for the management of the property:</p>	050
	<p>Indicate International Assistance from which the property has benefited: NONE</p>	
	<p>World Heritage Fund: X</p>	051

Periodic Reporting Exercise On The Application Of The World Heritage
Convention

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

	UNESCO X	International	Campaign:	052
	National and/or regional projects of UNDP, The World Bank or other agencies: X			053
	Bilateral X		co-operation:	054
	Other X		assistance:	055

	Describe the IT (computer) equipment of the site and/or management office and assess its effectiveness: At present computer facilities are available only at the Regional Office at Agra.	056
	Are you using (multiple indications are possible): PC (✓) Apple () Mainframe ()	057
	Please, give the number of available computers: -----	058
	Does an operational access to the Internet exist? YES / NO	059
	Is e-mail used for daily correspondence? YES / NO	060
	Is there a Geographical Information System (GIS) for the site? YES / NO	061
	If YES, What software do you have and how is the GIS used?	062

	List scientific studies and research programmes that have been conducted concerning the site:	063
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Periodic Reporting Exercise On The Application Of The World Heritage
Convention

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

Describe financial and human resource inputs for the research programmes and or facilities:

064

No provision exists.

Describe how the information / results are disseminated?

065

Are there any visitor statistics for the site?
YES / NO

066

If Yes, please summarize the statistics and attach to this report:

067

TOURIST INFLOW AT TAJ MAHAL

Year	Tourist		Total
	Indian	Foreigner	
1997	15,54,189		15,54,189
1998	16,57,985		16,57,985
1999	17,46,455		17,46,455
2000	19,55,404	39,757	19,94,161
2001	19,77,458	2,49,267	22,26,725
<u>2002</u>	<u>8,86,668</u>	<u>95,455</u>	<u>9,82,123</u>

Bold and underlined entry is only upto August 2002

**REVENUE EARNED THROUGH TICKET SALE AT
TAJ MAHAL**

Year	Currency		Total In INR
	INR	US\$	

Periodic Reporting Exercise On The Application Of The World Heritage Convention

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

1997	77,70,945		77,70,945
1998	82,89,925		82,89,925
1999	87,32,275		87,32,275
2000	3,36,20,995	91,650	3,80,20,195
2001	10,03,50,060	4,93,810	12,40,52,940
<u>2002</u>	<u>2,78,11,680</u>	<u>98,375</u>	<u>3,25,33,680</u>

Bold and underlined entry is only upto August 2002

US\$ are converted @INR 48

What visitor facilities do you have at the property?

068

- Toilet blocks for men and women.
- Water point
- Post office
- Three cloak rooms one at each entry point to the Forecourt.
- Shoe racks near main mausoleum.
- Shoe covers.
- 50 benches are provided.
- Lockers for video cameras is provided at the main entrance.
- First aid facility is available with the site manager.
- Signage detailing information about the monument is provided in the Forecourt.
- Signage for directions and tourist facilities are there.
- The Taj Museum is housed in the west Naubat Khana. Visitors are charged an entry fee of Rs. 5/-.

What visitor facilities are you in need of?

069

The site of this magnitude requires tourist facilities like -

- Interpretation/orientation centre to transport the visitor to the period of the monument.
- Information kiosk,
- Toilet blocks unobtrusive and at convenient points,

Periodic Reporting Exercise On The Application Of The World Heritage
Convention

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water points, • Provision of ramps to facilitate physically challenged • Provision of rest areas • Publication counters. • Library and research centre for public use. • Improvement of visitors' access to the site. • Upgrading of ticketing system • Enhancing tourist facilities. • Security equipments such as Door Frame Metal Detectors, Hand-Held Metal Detectors, X-Ray Machines, Close Circuit TV System, etc. 	
<p>Is a public use plan (tourism / visitor management plan) in existence for the property?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES / NO</p>	070
<p>If YES, please summarize, if NO explain if one is needed:</p> <p>A Site Management Plan is the urgent need of this World Heritage Monument. In fact ASI is working towards this in collaboration with National Culture Fund & Indian Hotels Company Limited for the "conservation, restoration and upgradation and beautification of the Taj Mahal and surrounding areas".</p>	071
<p>Indicate how the property's World Heritage values are communicated to residents, visitors and the public (please attach examples of leaflets, videos, posters, etc. and print-outs and/or the address of the web page):</p> <p>Cultural activities on the occasion of World Heritage Day, World Heritage Week, Independence Day, Republic Day etc.</p> <p>ASI & other publications on Taj Mahal are available for sale. On above mentioned occasion school students are invited and involved into various educational or creative activities to arouse the feeling of relatedness with the monument.</p> <p>Official website of the Archaeological Survey of India: www.asi.nic.in contains few pages on Taj Mahal</p>	072
<p>Are there educational programmes concerning the property aimed at schools?</p> <p>YES / NO</p>	073
<p>If YES, Please Describe:</p>	074
<p>What role does World Heritage inscription play for the site concerning the visitor number, the research programmes and/or the awareness building activities?</p>	075

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

Inscription on the World Heritage List makes it a place of special importance. Its is helpful in getting international publicity which attracts general tourists, researchers as well as professionals. While all this helps in the development of the monument, it also brings the property under various types of pressure.

II.5. Factors affecting the property

Please comment on the degree to which the property is threatened by particular problems and risks, such as development pressure, environmental pressure, natural disasters and preparedness, visitor / tourism pressure, number of inhabitants. Also mention all other issues that you see as problematic.

076

A. Development Pressure

-  **As per 2001 Census Agra has a population of 11,47,000 heads.**
-  **2,65,000 petrol/diesel run vehicles.**
-  **City has a bustling tourism based economy with rapidly growing small and medium scale industry.**
-  **Infrastructure has not been able to keep pace with population growth.**
-  **Basic amenities like electricity, potable water and quality breathing air are not adequate to meet the requirement.**
-  **Rise in hotels**
-  **Number of Small Scale Industries (SSI) has risen from 84 in 1997-98 to 6463 in 2001.**

B. Environmental Pressure

-  **Most of the SSIs are operating from within the city and have pollution impact potential of 2 to 5 km.**
-  **Emission approx. 2,65,000 number of vehicles adds to the air quality. Hon'ble Supreme Court has identified 292 industries and Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board has identified further 96 industries as air polluting industries. Most of the industries have a pollution impact potential of 2 to 5 km.**
-  **River Yamuna carries highly polluted water. The degradation of wastewater that mainly contains sewage with organic load produces H₂S (hydrogen sulphide gas), which is highly corrosive to marble. Although the concentration of these emissions could not be monitored it is evident from the**

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

<p style="text-align: center;">odor that substantial amount of pollutant exists in the air.</p> <p> Air pollution I Agra has been calculated to be 58.50 t/day.</p> <p>C. Natural Disaster</p> <p> Flood</p> <p> Seismic shocks: Considerable number of seismic epicentres lie to the NW of Agra and two quite serious events with magnitude between 6.3 and 7.0 are recorded within 100 km of Agra. It is possible that rayleigh waves from distant earthquakes could affect the minarets and pinnacles.</p> <p>The different elements of Taj Mahal will react to different seismic modes. The most vulnerable elements are the chhatris.</p> <p>The main mausoleum, being square with chamfered cornes has an almost perfect anti-seismic plan. The subsidiary buildings are, however, more vulnerable.</p> <p>D. Visitor Pressure</p> <p> About</p> <p> Floors and the approachable portion of the structure bear the burnt of the tourist inflow.</p> <p> Vandalism</p> <p>E. Population within the buffer zone</p> <p>F. War/Terrorism</p>	
<p>Is there an emergency plan and / or risk preparedness plan for the property in existence?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES / NO</p> <p>If YES, please summarize the plan and provide a copy:</p> <p>If NO, describe what is being done – and by whom – to counteract the dangers that threaten or may threaten the property:</p> <p>As per Hon'ble Supreme Court's Order Central Industrial Security Force is responsible for the internal as well as external security of the Taj Complex. CISF is</p>	<p>077</p> <p>078</p> <p>079</p>

Periodic Reporting Exercise On The Application Of The World Heritage
Convention

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

<p>well trained out fit to combat with man made dangers on the ground. CISF has already commissioned two sniffer dogs for searching explosives etc.</p> <p>CISF liaisons with local administration for tackling the situation around the monument.</p>	
<p>Indicate areas where improvement would be desirable and/or toward which the State Party is working:</p> <p>Sophisticated system for screening visitors and to keep a watch over the crowd movements is essentially required.</p>	080
<p>Give an indication if the impact of the factors affecting the property is increasing or decreasing:</p> <p>Increasing</p>	081
<p>What actions have been effectively taken, or are planned for the future, to address the factors affecting the property?</p> <p>As part of the Taj Trapezium Zone Master Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of green belts around the monuments in particular and in Agra city in general, • Creation of Heritage zone making Agra Fort and Taj Mahal as one unit and the other unit on the other side of the river as part of the 'Taj Ecocity' • Controlled development of Taj Gunj area in the immediate vicinity of the Taj Mahal in to a crafts promotion area is also envisaged. 	082

II.6. Monitoring

<p>If applicable, give details (e.g. dates, results, indicators chosen) of any previous periodic or reactive monitoring exercises of the property:</p>	083
<p>Is there a formal monitoring system established for the site? YES / NO</p>	084
<p>If YES, please give details of its organization:</p> <p><u>Structural Monitoring</u> - ASI</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The Archaeological Survey of India has a regular system of monitoring of the</p>	085

Periodic Reporting Exercise On The Application Of The World Heritage
Convention

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

property. The Conservation Assistant (Site Manager) supported by his Monument Attendants ('watch and ward staff') keep a regular watch of any change in the structure or its ambience and report to the Circle Superintendent.

Superintending Archaeologist and his subordinate archaeological officers also visit the monument and prepare visit report. All such reporting are supported by photo-documentation. The process of deterioration is, thus, detected in its initial stage itself and then begins the remedial process.

The photo-documentation, which is kept in the archives with due recording of date, month and year provides a good monitoring tool.

Air Quality Monitoring: ASI, Central Pollution Control Board & Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board.

If not already in place, is the establishment of a formal monitoring system planned? YES / NO 086

If YES, please outline the functioning of that system, taking into consideration the key indicators you will be asked to define below (see 089 / 090) 087

Are there any indicators established for monitoring the state of conservation of the property? 088

YES / NO

If YES, please provide up-to-date information with respect to each of the key indicators established and/or used. Care should be taken to ensure that this information is as accurate and reliable as possible, for example by carrying out observations in the same way, using similar equipment and methods at the same time of the year and day. Name and describe the key indicators for measuring the state of conservation of this property? 089

Each and every development in the property is recorded photographically and a systematic record is meticulously kept.

To monitor cracks and settling tell-tale glasses have been fixed. However, so far, no formal 'key-indicators have been fixed.

If NO indicators have been identified and / or used so far, please define key indicators for future use in monitoring: 090

Indicate which partners, if any, are involved or will be involved in the regular monitoring exercise: 091

The Taj Mahal Conservation Collaborative (TMCC)

Periodic Reporting Exercise On The Application Of The World Heritage
Convention

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

Identify the administrative provisions for organizing the regular monitoring of the property:	092
Describe what improvement the State Party foresees or would consider desirable in improving the monitoring system:	093
In specific cases, the World Heritage Committee and/or its Bureau may have already examined the state of conservation of the property and made recommendations to the State Party, either at the time of inspection or afterwards. In such cases the State Party is requested to report on the actions that have been taken in response to observations or decisions made by the Bureau or Committee. Give details, if applicable:	094

II.7. Conclusions and recommended actions

Please summarize the main conclusions regarding the state of the World Heritage values of the property (see items II.2. and II.3. above):	095
<p>Please summarize the main conclusions regarding the management and factors affecting the property (see items II.4. and II.5. above):</p> <p>Legal Provisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ The Act of 1958 provides for the protection and preservation of the Centrally Protected monuments from all perceivable dangers caused by human interference to the monuments. ✚ In recent times Hon'ble Supreme Court has also passed land mark directions for supplementing the Law. ✚ Implementation is the responsibility of ASI with the help of local authorities. ✚ These arrangements are quite effective, if implemented properly. ✚ Implementations of the arrangements depend upon the co-operation of the local authorities, since ASI does not have enforcement machinery. ✚ However, in most of the cases local authorities have extended fullest co-operation and the implementation has been optimum. 	096

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

- ✚ If properly implemented and enforced these arrangements have proved very effective.

Administrative And Management Arrangements

Site is managed both at LOCAL as well as National level with following agencies playing their respective part.

- ✚ ASI
- ✚ Town and Country Planning Organization (TCPO)
- ✚ Agra Development Authority (ADA) manages the constructional activities.
- ✚ Central Pollution Control Board.
- ✚ UP Pollution Control Board
- ✚ Nagar Palika (Municipal Corporation) maintains the water supply, sewage and other municipal services.
- ✚ Public Works Department (PWD).
- ✚ Indian Railway.
- ✚ Uttar Pradesh Electricity Board maintains the electricity supply to the site.
- ✚ UP Tourism manages the only public.

Requirements/Recommendations

Periodic repairs conforming to archaeological and international norms have been carried out from time to time as part of annual and special repairs programmes to render longevity to the monument

Considering the multifold increase in the visitor inflow and the resultant increase in threat of vandalism it is pertinent not only to increase the manpower at all the levels but also to introduce state-of-art gadgetry to monitor and control the visitor crowd. Many of the posts are lying vacant at present.

Staff at different levels require different training such as computer literacy to clerks, Foreman and Conservation Assistant, training in visitor management is also

Periodic Reporting Exercise On The Application Of The World Heritage
Convention

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

<p>required for the group 'D' staff.</p> <p>Specific technical training in study and preparation of lime is desirable for the Conservation Assistant. Further, training in application and usage of GIS is also needed.</p> <p>The Assistant Archaeologists associated with the World Heritage site require special training in -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geographical Information System, • Total Station Surveying (Digital Survey) • Ground Penetrating Radar System <p>At present no computer / IT paraphernalia exists for or at the property, which is badly needed.</p> <p>Basic visitor facilities are available at the monument at present, however, the site of this magnitude requires advanced tourist facilities of international standard conforming to the ancient ambience.</p> <p>Visitor management plan is very much the need of the site, in fact efforts towards this end are already on. ADA and TCPO are working with ASI on this.</p>	
<p>Give an overview over proposed future action / actions:</p> <p>Site Management Plan is to be developed for proper maintenance, monitoring and visitor facilitation.</p>	097
<p>Name the agency responsible for implementation of these actions (if different from 005):</p> <p> ASI</p> <p> ADA</p>	098
<p>Give a timeframe for the implementation of the actions described above:</p>	099
<p>Indicate for which of the planned activities International Assistance from World Heritage Fund may be needed (if any):</p>	100
<p>Are there any contacts with the management units of other properties within or outside your country?</p> <p>YES / NO</p>	101

Periodic Reporting Exercise On The Application Of The World Heritage
Convention

Section II: State Of Conservation Of Specific World Heritage Properties

<p>If Yes, please explain: Within the country YES. All the Manpower, excepting the Group 'D' staff is kept rotating all over the country. Further, 16 of the total World Heritage Sites in India are under the control of ASI.</p>	102
<p>Please indicate which experience made during the periodic reporting exercise and/or during the on-going conservation / protection efforts of the property could be shared with other State Parties dealing with similar problems or issues:</p>	103
<p>Provide the name(s) and address(es) of organization(s) or specialist(s) who could be contacted for this propose:</p> <p>Agency / Organization: Archaeological Survey of India,</p> <p>Person responsible: Superintending Archaeologist</p> <p>Address: ASI, Agra Circle, 22 The Mall,</p> <p>City and post code: Agra - 282 001</p> <p>Telephone: +0091-562-2227261& 63</p> <p>Fax: +0091-562-2227262</p> <p>E-mail: asiagra@sancharnet.in</p>	104

II.8. Assessment or the Periodic Reporting exercise for Section II

<p>Was sufficient and adequate information made available to the responsible authorities and individuals during the preparation phase of the Periodic Reporting exercise (information given, meetings, etc.)?</p>	105
<p>Was the Questionnaire clear and did it help to comply with the reporting requirements of the State Party? YES/NO</p>	106
<p>What are the perceived benefits and lessons learnt of the exercise? It will make a good reference point and would act as a bench mark status report.</p>	107
<p>Please describe the expected outcome of the Periodic Reporting exercise and the desired follow-up by the World Heritage Committee:</p>	108

