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**Government of the Punjab Directorate General of Archaeology** Tourism Department

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Lahore Fort and Shalamar Garden are the Mughal Period monuments located in the capital city of Lahore, Punjab of Pakistan. Considering their Outstanding Universal Value these were inscribed on the World Heritage List of properties in 1981. The State of Conservation of the Fort and Shalamar Gardens were discussed in the 44<sup>th</sup> Session of the World Heritage Committee (WHC) in July, 2021 at Fuzhou, China. In that particular session the Committee took various decisions and requested the State Party to implement them and submit a State of Conservation Report to the World Heritage Centre for its review in the 45<sup>th</sup> Session of the World Heritage Committee.

The present State of Conservation Report consists of two parts. In the first part, progress on the decisions of the 44<sup>th</sup> Session of the WHC has been elaborated and the second part of the report deals with the conservation efforts of the State Party for Lahore Fort and Shalamar Gardens.

The State Party is committed to implement the recommendations of Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring Mission (RMM). After thorough examination of RMM recommendations, State party hold series of meeting with all the stakeholders and resultantly various studies were proposed to check the viability, detailed design, cost estimates and then supervise following execution of the recommendations of the consultant while remaining strictly within the confines of the directions of the Honourable Supreme Court of Pakistan. An international consultant was hired who prepared comprehensive TORs and a project (PC-II) amounting to Rs. **48.328** million based on the TORs approved by the Competent Forum. Government of the Punjab has allocated and released the funds for the project in 2021-22. Expressions of Interest from national and international consultants were invited through an open advertisement and a Consultant Selection Committee as per procurement rules was constituted. The Committee after following the lengthy and detailed procedure as per rules selected a consulted firm having large national and international experience to carry out the relevant studies to implement the recommendations of RMM.

A Lahore Fort Precincts and Buffer Zone Master Plan has recently been prepared to anticipate the new institutional settings of Lahore Fort World Heritage Site, in view of its likely expansion to include Badshahi Masjid, the Hazoori Bagh and the Sikh Funerary complex as well as inventories different components of the fort to establish conservation priorities and interventions. (Hard Copy of "Lahore Fort Precincts and Buffer Zone Master Plan" attached). Buffer Zone Management of the Shalamar Garden are the part of task assigned to the consultant firm for feasibility of recommendations of RMM. Study will give detailed information of existing urban development and recommend for Buffer zone management. All output from the current consultancy to address Reactive Monitoring Mission recommendations will be officially submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review.

The second part of the report deals with the conservation efforts of the State Party for Lahore Fort and Shalamar Gardens. The report contains detail of conservation/ restoration Picture wall, Royal Kitchen, Diwan-e-Khas, Shah Jahani Khawabgah, Paen Bagh Quadrangle, Khilwat Khana, Laal Burj, Kala Burj, Moti Masjid and Makatib Khana, Arz Gah, Akbari Hammam, Alamgiri Gate, Loh Mandir, Diwan-e-Aam, Daulat Khana Khas-o-Aam, Haveli Kharak Singh and Adaptive Re-use of Corner bastion of Lahore Fort. The report also contains the brief about the conservation and Preservation of Perimeter wall of Gardens, Moor Craft Building, Stairways & ramp, walkways, drainage system on southern side of Gardens, provision of public facilities & architectural illumination, Construction of Drainage system outside the southern wall and revival of horticulture works of lawns Shalamar Gardens.

Furthermore, the State Party is fully committed to implement the recommendations of the Reactive Monitoring Mission (RMM) and has already taken tangible steps which have also been reported to the World Heritage Center in the previous State of Conservation Reports. The State Party has developed a green area with trees and these trees are gaining height to form a natural "mask" for the newly-constructed Orange Line Metro Train track and conservation of Mughal hydraulic system, walkways and other components of the Garden etc. The Government has also adopted special measure during operation of Orange Line Metro Train and vibration and noise is regularly monitored and no adverse impact has been noticed so far. Hence, the remaining recommendations of the RMM will be implemented as far as possible based on outcome of the above mentioned studies and recommendations of consultants after the review & comments of World Heritage Center and Advisory Bodies prior to their implementation.