

FORMAT FOR THE SUBMISSION OF STATE OF CONSERVATION REPORTS BY THE STATES PARTIES

(in compliance with Paragraph 169 of the *Operational Guidelines*)

Sacred Ensembles of Hoysala, India (1670)

1. Executive Summary of the report

The Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysalas, situated in Karnataka, is a serial nomination of the three most representative examples of Hoysala-style temple complexes dating from the 12th to 13th centuries in the present State of Karnataka - the Channakeshava temple in Belur, the Hoysaleswara temple in Halebidu, and the Keshava temple in Somanathapura, built during the medieval Hoysala kingdom in southern India. The World Heritage Committee, Inscribes Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysalas, India, on the World Heritage List on the basis of criteria (i), (ii) and (iv). While considering the nomination and declaration, the World Heritage Committee recommended the State Party to give consideration to the following:

1. Monitoring the impacts of the increasing air pollution on the sculptures and developing mitigation measures,
2. Encouraging community involvement in the conservation and management of the property,
3. Improving the conditions of the historical remains and significant views in the buffer zone of the Channakeshava Temple component part,
4. Developing and implementing a holistic interpretation plan and tourists' amenities

Archaeological Survey of India, Bangalore Circle have considered all the recommendations and a detailed note on the recommendation is included in this report.

2. Response to the Decision of the World Heritage Committee

The implementation report regarding the decision adopted during the 45th session of the WHC Committee decision: 45 COM 8B.38 for the World Heritage Site "Sacred Ensembles of Hoysala" is given below.

a) Monitoring the impacts of the increasing air pollution on the	All three World Heritage Components (i.e., Hoysaleswara temple at Halebidu, Kesava temple at Belur and Kesava
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sculptures and developing mitigation measures,	temple at Somanathapura) are situated in rural/taluk areas and no industrial activities or township is located nearby. Hence, there is no possibility of the impact of air pollution on the World Heritage Monuments. However, the World Heritage monuments and their sculptures will be monitored by the team from the Air Pollution & Stone Conservation Laboratory, Science Branch, Agra and Mysore Zone of Science Branch of Archaeological Survey of India.
b) Encouraging community involvement in the conservation and management of the property,	From time to time, the Archaeological Survey of India, Bangalore Circle organizes various Cultural awareness programs to encourage community involvement in the conservation and management. Maximum activities and workers who participated in conservation work of all three WH sites are local people. The day-to-day rituals and ceremonies of the living temple of Keshava temple are Belur is looked after by the temple committee formed by the members of the local community people under the guidance of HR & CI & ASI. Further, ASI shall organize meaningful workshops/training programs in collaboration with the local authorities and tourism department for the involvement of local communities in the conservation and management of the WH Properties. Experts shall be invited as and when required to share their experience for this purpose.
c) Improving the conditions of the historical remains and significant views in the buffer zone of the Channakeshava Temple component part,	The Department of Archaeology and Museums, Government of Karnataka done various works for the improvement of historical remains in the buffer zone by declaring the Vishnusamudra tank as a State Protected monument and started the conservation and beautification work of the same and other nearby historic remains. In the future, the regional-level appointed committee will monitor the developmental work in the buffer zone.

d) Developing and implementing a holistic interpretation plan and tourists' amenities;	At present tourist amenities (Toilet, drinking water, Baby feeding room & others) have been developed and upgraded at the World Heritage Monuments and Permanent Interpretation Centre showcasing the salient features of the Hoysala art and architecture have been set up at Halebidu and Somanathapura and a temporary interpretation centre has been established at Belur. The parking area near Kesava temple at Belur has been confirmed for setting up a permanent Interpretation Centre with the cooperation of the district revenue authorities.
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If the property is inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger
Please also provide detailed information on the following:

- a) Progress achieved in implementing the corrective measures adopted by the World Heritage Committee

Not Applicable (N.A.)

- b) Is the timeframe for implementing the corrective measures suitable? If not, please propose an alternative timeframe and an explanation why this alternative timeframe is required.- **N.A.**

- c) Progress achieved towards the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR)- **N.A.**

3. **Other current conservation issues identified by the State(s) Party(ies) which may have an impact on the property's Outstanding Universal Value**
Nil

4. **In conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, describe any potential major restorations, alterations and/or new construction(s) intended within the property, the buffer zone(s) and/or corridors or other areas, where such developments may affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, including authenticity and integrity.**
Nil

5. **Public access to the state of conservation report**

Recommended for Public access to the state of conservation report.