

Minutes of the First Meeting of the National Level Sub Committee in Respect of Software Development

The first meeting of the National Level Sub Committee in respect of software development for National Mission on Monuments and Antiquities was held under the Chairmanship of Additional Director General, Archaeological Survey of India in his chamber, on 21st May 2008 at 11 AM.

The following members were present at the meeting:-

1. Vijay S. Madan, ADG, ASI : Chairman
2. Gautam Bose, Dy. DG, NIC : Member
3. P. Jha, Director, IGNCA : Member
4. VN Shukla, Director, CDAC : Member
5. SB Ota, Director (Mission), ASI : Member Secretary

Dr. KP Poonacha, Director (Antiquity), ASI and Member of the committee could not attend the meeting.

Chairman welcomed the members to the first meeting of the National Level Sub Committee in respect of software development for National Mission and invited the Member Secretary to give a brief introduction on the templates followed by the National Mission that need to be organized into an appropriate Database Management System (DBMS).

The committee reviewed the template that has been prepared by the National Mission. The observations and decisions of the committee are as follows:

1. It was noted that both National Informatics Centre (NIC) and Centre for Development of Advance Computing (CDAC) has developed similar antiquity documentation software called 'Dharohar' and 'JATAN' respectively. It was decided that the functionalities of both the soft wares may be checked and anyone package selected and suitably customized as per the requirements of National Mission.

2. The committee while appraising the template on the Centrally Protected Monuments emphasized that development of suitable software should be taken on a priority basis.
3. The committee noted that the data pertaining to the built heritage and sites that is being compiled from secondary sources, is of non standard format and not conducive to a DBMS application at this stage. It was decided that this data could be archived in the form of hard copy for easy retrieval.
4. As regards the preparation of digital thematic map on Centrally Protected Monuments, it was noted that National Informatics Centre (NIC) has a GIS platform with various parameters that could meet the requirements of Archaeological Survey of India. It was suggested that the monuments and sites could be conveniently plotted under GIS platform of National Informatics Centre if Archaeological Survey of India could provide the geo-coordinates of all the monuments.
5. It was decided that a joint meeting between NIC, CDAC and National Mission may be convened in order to discuss the modalities to prepare appropriate software on built heritage and sites and a presentation made after two to three weeks on the progress made in the development of soft wares.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.