

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. What is the process of project implementation in Pondicherry?

- Listing, documentation and intervention
- Legal Protection of Heritage Buildings
- Endangered architectural heritage
- Restoration
- New Buildings in heritage precincts
- The Asia- Urbs Programme
- 1. Model Street Restoration Project
- 2. Matching Grant Scheme
- 3. Building Plaques and Street Signboards
- Heritage awareness programme
- Project Proposals

2. What is status of architectural heritage in Pondicherry?

Attributes associated with the destruction of heritage:

1. Developmental pressure
2. High land value
3. Division of property (among heirs)
4. Lack of maintenance
5. Changing lifestyles and tastes
6. Lack of heritage awareness
7. Over 700 listed heritage buildings have been lost over the past 10 years, most of them in the Tamil town.

These have been replaced by structures that are aesthetically jarring to the traditional streetscapes, leading to the loss of identity

3. Discuss any legal protection if any awarded in the town of Pondicherry for heritage buildings.

- With no legal regulations for listed heritage buildings, the demolition cannot be prevented.
- The preparation of the Detailed Development Plan (DDP), with the assistance

of INTACH, to provide legal protection as well as financial and other incentives to heritage owners.

- Under the DDP, the old Boulevard and town of Pondicherry are declared as Heritage Zones comprising of the Tamil and French precincts.

4. What is Matching Grant scheme? (wrt Pondicherry)

With the objective of improving the survival rate of listed buildings, this scheme provided financial assistance to ten owners (grants of up to 50% of the cost, with a ceiling of 5000 Euros) to restore and modernize their properties.