FAQ's

1. Differentiate between adaptive reuse and preservation.

REHABILATION/ ADAPTIVE REUSE

The best way of preserving buildings as opposed to objects is to keep them in use- modernization with or without adaptive alteration. The original use is generally the best for conservation of fabric, as it means fewer changes. Adaptive use of buildings such as utilizing a medieval convent in Venice to house a school is often the only way that historic and aesthetic values can be saved economically and historic buildings brought up to contemporary standards.

PRESERVATION OF EXISTING STATE

This deals directly with cultural property. Its objective is to keep it in its existing state. Repairs may be carried out when necessary to prevent further decay. Damage caused by natural and manmade causes must be stopped in order to preserve the structure. Regular inspections of the property are the basis of prevention. Maintenance, cleaning schedules and good housekeeping also aid in prevention.

2. What is urban conservation? How is it different from architectural conservation?

- Architectural and urban conservation cannot be differentiated as they coexist share principles, procedure and outcome as well.
- While architectural conservation deals with one building/ set of buildings urban conservation goes a lot deeper and consists of multi-layer / levels of conservation. There are precincts within the urban core that form the historic fabric that needs to be conserved.
- Urban conservation is an important part of modern

heritage policies.

- Historic cities have acquired an incomparable status in modern culture and in modern life; a status defined by the quality of the architectural and physical environment, by the persistence of the sense of place, and by the concentration of the historic and artistic events that form the basis for the identity of a people.
- They have now become the icons of global cultural tourism and coveted places for the enjoyment of a different lifestyle and for cultural experiences for millions of people.

3. Name one international agency that works for the field on conservation. Briefly describe their role.

ICCROM- International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property

- It is an intergovernmental organization dedicated to the preservation of cultural heritage worldwide through training, information, research, cooperation and advocacy programmes. It aims to enhance the field of conservation-restoration and raise awareness to the importance and fragility of cultural heritage.
- The creation of the Centre took place as a result of a proposal at the UNESCO General Conference held in New Delhi, in 1956. Three years later, the Centre was established in Rome, Italy, where its headquarters remain to this day.
- ICCROM responds to the needs of its Member States, which are currently at 135.
- It also promotes the definition of internationally agreed ethics, criteria and technical standards for conservation practice. The in-house laboratory is also a reference point and resource for professionals, course participants, interns and fellows of the organization.