

FAQ's

What are the possible planning strategies that may be applied in a heritage precinct?

- The strategy or policy shall ensure that alterations of existing houses and new buildings are sensitive and enhance the existing visual qualities of the streetscape in the precinct.
- The area needs Heritage Conservation Management Plan to identify, develop, and maintain the heritage buildings of high significant value
- The character is to be preserved in all the identified and listed heritage buildings in the precinct
- Steps to be taken for maintaining the listed heritage buildings and encouraging the restoration of street frontages
- Ensuring alterations and additions for maintaining the architectural integrity of listed heritage buildings and also enhancing the appearance of the general streetscape
- Parking restrictions are to be imposed in the precinct.
- Abandoned and dilapidated structures shall be restored by providing financial assistance and incentives to the owners in form of tax rebate, concessions etc.
- Modern and non-harmonious buildings in the areas are to be discouraged by proper development control in the area.
- Special Grants may be obtained from State and Central governments for getting finance for up-keeping of these buildings

What are the common issues that are seen in a heritage precinct?

- There is no comprehensive approach followed in identifying heritage buildings in the precinct area.
- New and tall buildings that were permitted by the local authority do not have the harmony with existing architecture and the area losing its significance
- The heritage structures of high significant value are

dilapidated in condition due to non-provision of financial assistance from the Government or Local Authority in conserving and maintaining them

- Original owners are disposing off their properties due to increase in land value and maintenance cost of these heritage structures.
- The number of vehicles plying in this precinct has increased over the years.
- Poor quality of roads and gutters although the area is unique in its character
- Street parking of vehicles is allowed, thereby reducing the carriage width of road by the outsiders who visit the area.
- There is no proper signage in the area to control the hoardings
- There is no Management Action Plan to improve the precinct with the support from the government for improvement and restoration of houses in the area

What are the main issues seen in the temple town of Srirangam?

- The *Rajagopuram* is surrounded by development around it and there are several elements which encroach the view frame (signage, hoardings, power lines, roof projections, etc.) and detract from the overall visual quality.
- This is mainly due to the heavy volume of pedestrian and two-wheeler traffic which passes through the *gopuram* to access the historic city of Srirangam
- The presence of obstructive elements which block the view partially was observed. These obstructions are both temporary and permanent day there is a threat to this viewscape, the urban development which is happening in the immediate setting of the temple is obscuring the visual dominance, importance or its aesthetic contribution once these monuments had to the townscape.
- The setting around a protected heritage resource or

monument is often an unprotected urban, suburban or cultural landscape.

- For world heritage sites, the setting is most often defined as the buffer zone around the protected cultural resource that is contiguous to it.
- Current Indian spatial planning policy and legislation do not provide adequate framework for the inclusion of views and vistas of heritage monument as a significant aspect.
- The setting of historic monument is defined by mere prohibiting the construction activities within the 200m radius from the protected property.
- If there is building outside this limits but causing significant visual impact over the heritage monument then the existing legislations has no role to play.

What is a heritage precinct?

Heritage precinct means an area comprising a heritage building or buildings and precincts thereof or related places that share wholly or partly certain common physical, social, cultural significance worth preservation and conservation.