

Government of India
National Monuments Authority
Ministry of Culture

24, Tilak Marg,
New Delhi -110001
Dated: 23/08/2022

F.No. 35-12A/NMA-2022/CA

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Forwarding of NOC applications by Competent Authorities to National Monuments Authority (NMA)–reg.

As per provisions of Section 20D(2) of Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (AMASR) Act, 1958 (as amended in 2010) and Rule 10 of AMASR (Framing of Heritage Bye-Laws and other functions of the Competent Authority) Rules, 2011, after inspection and impact assessment study and documentation, the Competent Authority shall record its observations including assessment of impact of such construction on the protected monuments or protected area in question and forward the NOC application within a period of fifteen days from the date of receipt of NOC application, to the Authority as per Form –II, for construction, reconstruction, repair, renovation, as the case may be, in the prohibited or regulated area of the centrally protected monument or protected area. The Authority while considering the NOC applications forwarded by the Competent Authority have observed that in many cases the provisions of the act and rules ibid or not been followed in letter and spirit by the Competent Authority.

2. The following are the specific directives of the Authority for the strict compliance by the Competent Authorities:

- a) In many cases, the Competent Authority while forwarding Form –II does not give its specific recommendations whether the NOC may be granted or not. Under its recommendations, the Competent Authority is merely stating the facts about the proposed construction site or its immediate surroundings but not making any specific recommendations. Authority directs that all Competent Authorities while forwarding NOC applications to the Authority shall invariably give its specific recommendations whether the NOC may be granted or not. In the absence of specific recommendations of the Competent Authority, the Authority may be constrained to return the NOC application to the Competent Authority without taking any final decision. The onus for delay on this account shall entirely be of the Competent Authority.
- b) It has been observed that the prescribed timeline of 15 days from the date of receipt of NOC application, for making site inspection and impact assessment and forwarding its recommendations in Form –II along with complete documentation is not being adhered to by the Competent Authorities in the majority of cases. It has also been observed that in the case of many physical NOC applications, the date of receipt of NOC applications by the Competent Authority is not mentioned with a view to avoid identification of delays on the part of Competent Authority. The Authority has taken strong exception to this and has directed that in order to mitigate harassment to applicants due to the delay in processing of NOC applications by Competent Authority, all NOC applications shall be mandatorily submitted online through the NOAPS with immediate effect. The Competent

Authority shall pro-actively facilitate and provide necessary handholding to any applicant who requires assistance in filing online NOC application in NOAPS. Physical NOC applications shall be accepted only in those cases where the Colour Coded Zonal Map (CCZM) of centrally protected monument and protected area is not available on the BHUVAN portal.

3. This issues with the approval of Chairman, NMA.



(Bhaskar Verma)
Member Secretary
Tel: 011-23073837

To: -

1. All Competent Authorities