

Resettlement Planning Document

Document Stage: Draft for Consultation
Project Number: 40648

May 2017

ADB Loan No. 3223 - IND

India: Infrastructure Development Investment Program for Tourism, Himachal Pradesh

Sub-project: Rejuvenation of the Markandeya Temple Precincts and Provision of Visitor Facilities, Bilaspur District (Package No. HPTDB/11/1)

Prepared by the Government of Himachal Pradesh for the Asian Development Bank.

The resettlement plan is a document of the borrower. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of ADB's Board of Directors, Management, or staff, and may be preliminary in nature.

In preparing any country program or strategy, financing any project, or by making any designation of or reference to a particular territory or geographic area in this document, the Asian Development Bank does not intend to make any judgments as to the legal or other status of any territory or area.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The Infrastructure Development Investment Program for Tourism (IDIPT) Financing Facility develops and improves basic urban infrastructure and services in the four participating states of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand and Tamil Nadu—to support the tourism sector as a key driver for economic growth. It focuses on (i) strengthening connectivity to and among key tourist destinations (ii) improving basic urban infrastructure and services, such as water supply, road and public transport, solid waste management and environmental improvement, at existing and emerging tourist destinations to ensure urban amenities and safety for the visitors, and protect nature and culture-based attractions. Physical infrastructure investments will be accompanied by (iii) capacity building programs for concerned sector agencies and local communities for better management of the tourist destinations and for more active participation in the tourism-related economic activities, respectively.

2. **Proposed Sub-project:**Markandeya temple is located in Bilaspur district of Himachal Pradesh, it is at a distance of 20 kms from the town Bilaspur. Markandeya is first major town after entering Himachal on way to Manali. The temple was named after the famous sage Rishi Markandeya, the temple attained its popularity & fame following the belief worshipping in this temple provides safety, security and welfare to the children. There are natural water sources. Belief is that bathing in this water heals all skin problems.

3. The temple complex is located in somewhat interior location. Though it has regular tourists visiting, there is an increase in devotee's population during festive season and specific days such as Tuesdays, Saturdays and Sundays that stands around 800 to 10000 each day. And during festivals like *Chaitra*, *Shravan* and *Ashwin Navratri* (Indian calendar months), apart from New Year, *Holi* and *Basant Panchami* when special fairs are organized, the Temple receives about 1 to 2 lakhs (0.1 to 0.2 million) visitors. On annual basis around 40 lakhs (4 million) tourists visit the temple. It attracts many local people and the tourists from the neighboring States.

4. Over the years, there has been significant increase in number of tourists/devotees coming to this temple, and as a result infrastructure created now falls short of requirement today and therefore infrastructure needs to be upgraded not only to meet the present requirement but future requirements too. The temple lacks amenities like, changing rooms, adequate parking space, signage's, sitting arrangements, place for drying clothes, waste management, tourist information center etc. In order to make the area more tourist friendly, developing new facilities and upgradation of existing ones are essential. More tourist coming to the area would automatically have positive impact on livelihood of locals.

5. The project has been conceived to develop adequate infrastructure facilities in and around the Temple complex, to promote tourism in the area and enhance local economy by developing infrastructure and amenities in the area. An improvement of this sort will boost tourist inflow & local economy and as consequence this will have a positive impact on life &

livelihood of local people Rejuvenation of Markandeya Temple in Bilaspur District of Himachal Pradesh is considered under this subproject. Components of the sub-project are presented below:

- ❖ Upgrading the entire temple precinct in terms of:
 - Temple area surface improvement;
 - Provisions for seating around the complex;
 - Provision of public amenities like drinking water and street lighting;
 - Improvement of toilet facilities and improvement/extension of bathing area, changing rooms, area for drying clothes;
 - Improvement of the existing shops / Kiosks (involving the vernacular building techniques and typology).

- ❖ Provision of Visitor Facilities:
 - Improvement of lighting in & around the temple area;
 - Installation of signages, provision of railing and seating arrangements along the road at strategic locations;
 - Provision of parking for vehicles;
 - Amphitheatre / Wrestling Arena;
 - Tourist Reception Centre;
 - Waiting halls for visitors and pilgrims, restaurant, cloak room, toilets and souvenir shops.

- ❖ Restoration of *Gufa*(Cave) and improvement of area around Gufa.

6. **Summary of Resettlement and Livelihood Impact:** Initial impact assessment revealed that to start sub-project implementation, the existing Kiosks have to be dismantled. And that the Kiosk occupants will have to be shifted twice from their work place. This would impact upon livelihood of 11 Kiosk occupants. It also revealed that the project will not have to acquire land under the Indian Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. As all the works will be undertaken in land owned by the Temple Trust. All necessary no-objection certificates (NOC) have been obtained and attached to this RP.

7. As per the impact assessment, there were 11 affected persons identified. All the 11 APs were occupying Kiosks that belonged to the temple trust. The Kiosks were located on trust's land hence there was no issue of land acquisition. There are 2 SCs representing the vulnerable group, and 11 non-titled affected households, as all 11 APs were occupying Kiosks owned by temple trust on the trust's land. APs were paying a monthly rent as per the occupied land area. Out of 11 APs, around 6 of them had irregular income. All 11 APs have to be temporarily dislocated. The dislocation is required to happen twice.

8. There have been consultations with relevant stakeholders at definite time intervals, to assess the impact and plan out suitable mitigation measures. Following the RF and the new land acquisition law (LARRA, 2013), compensation provision has been made in this RP to

compensate livelihood disruption of the APs. As part of the mitigation measure, the APs will be provided with alternate Kiosks constructed by the temple trust. Assistance will be provided to all APs while shifting on a lean/non-working day. It was decided that one month's rent will be waived off, leaving no chance for livelihood loss, on top this would give additional benefit to the APs. An entitlement matrix will be prepared to highlight all those in the vulnerable category. APs in this category will get assistance on priority basis. The same way second time shifting will be coordinated. Thus, apart from these, the subproject will not have any impacts to common properties and residences. Road improvements will be carried out within the existing right-of-way (ROW).

9. **Categorization:** This subproject has been categorized as "B" for Involuntary Resettlement (IR) impact as per the ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (SPS), 2009. This resettlement plan (RP) is based as per Detailed Project Report (DPR) and final design and as per agreed Resettlement Framework (RF).

10. **Public Consultations:** Consultations were carried out during RP preparation and will continue throughout the subproject cycle. The social team carried out preliminary consultations, through focus group discussions (FGDs) and meetings with the affected persons (APs) as well as the general public on various dates. Discussions were carried out with the various stakeholders on policy related issues, displacement requirements and issues of compensation and assistance, input to alternative design were also discussed.

11. During consultation meetings, participants were of the view that this subproject is important and very much needed. All participants are pleased and committed to support the implementation of the project. There was no opposition for this subproject. Participants demonstrated great interest in alternative occupations and employment prospects which will be generated by the project. This was especially evident amongst affected Kiosk keepers.

12. **Policy Framework and Entitlements:** The policy framework and entitlements for the program are based on national laws: the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013, ADB SPS, 2009; and RF.

13. **Compensation and Income Restoration:** The Asset owners (Markandeya Prabandhak Sewa Samiti) will provide compensation in form of waiving of rent (1 month) and will provide shifting assistance. This has already been done in 1st stage of temporary location. All affected persons will be provided 30 days, and again 1 day, advance notice to ensure minimal disruption of livelihood during 2nd Stage when they will shift to permanent shops.

14. **Disclosure:** Goals and objectives of the project have been disclosed with the affected persons and other stakeholders through FGDs on various dates. The English version of RP will be disclosed in the project and ADB websites and to affected people on due dates, once the approval on RP is received. Leaflet prepared in local language (Hindi) will be distributed to the Affected Persons in due course of time for understanding the sub-projects scope, R&R provisions and GRC system under this project.

15. **Grievance Redress Mechanism:** Grievance of the public and particularly, the APs will be addressed through the project's GRC. For this subproject, grievance will be first brought to the notice of the site engineer and focal person of the project implementation unit (PIU), which will be forwarded to the project implementation unit (PMU). Grievances not redressed by the PIU will be referred to the PMU level, who will, based on review of the grievances, address them in consultation with the PMU Community/Social Development Specialist. If the grievance remained unresolved, the Project Director, will refer the issue to the state level empowered committee, which will act as grievance redress committee (GRC). The GRC will resolve the issue within one month from the date of registration of any case in the GRC.

16. **Executing and implementing agencies:** The executing agency is the Department of Tourism, Government of Himachal Pradesh. The implementing agency is Project Implementation Unit (PIU), with the support of the Design & Supervision Consultant (DSC) & Project Management Consultant (PMC) and in consultation with the Project Management Unit (PMU). Project Management Unit (PMU) is set up at Shimla to coordinate the overall execution. Project Management Consultant (PMC) at Shimla provides assistance to PMU in execution. Project Implementation Unit (PIUs) is set up at Shimla and Kullu, Kangra and Kullu being supported by respective Design Supervision Consultant (DSC) teams. The social safeguards issues are under the purview of Community Development Officer (CDO) posted at PIU and seek guidance with regards to RP implementation from PMU Community/Social Development Specialist. The Community/Social Development Specialists of DSC will assist PIU CDOs in RP implementation.

17. **RP Implementation and Monitoring:** RP implementation will be closely monitored by PIU with an effective basis for assessing resettlement progress and identifying potential difficulties and problems. The PIU, with assistance from DSC, will prepare monthly and quarterly progress report in terms of physical and financial indicators. In addition, the monitoring process will also look into: the communication and reactions of affected persons; use of grievance procedures; information dissemination to affected persons on benefits; and options and implementation time table, livelihood and living standard of affected persons in pre and post-project situations. Report prepared by PIU will be compiled by the PMU on a semi-annual basis for its due submissions to ADB.

18. **Resettlement Budget:** The resettlement cost for the sub-project is estimated at Rs. 13,640/- (rental waiver) which will be met by the Temple Trust.