

फ।सं.न.15-424/एनएमए/एचबीएल-2026

भारत सरकार
संस्कृति मंत्रालय
राष्ट्रीय संस्मारक प्राधिकरण

सार्वजनिक नोटिस

जनसाधारण के ध्यान में यह लाया जाता है कि सक्षम प्राधिकारी द्वारा संरक्षित संस्मारक - चंद्र केतु किला, बाराचम्पा (बेराचम्पा), जिला - उत्तर 24 परगना, पश्चिम बंगाल का धरोहर उप-विधि का मसौदा प्राचीन संस्मारक तथा पुरातात्विक स्थल और अवशेष अधिनियम, 1958 की धारा 20(ई) के अनुसार तैयार कर लिया गया है। राष्ट्रीय संस्मारक प्राधिकरण (प्राधिकरण के अध्यक्ष और सदस्यों की सेवा की शर्तें और कार्य संचालन) नियम, 2011 के नियम 18(2) के अनुसार, उपरोक्त प्रस्तावित धरोहर उप-विधि जनसाधारण से आक्षेप या सुझाव आमंत्रित करने के लिए निम्नलिखित वेबसाइटों पर अपलोड किए गए हैं:

क. राष्ट्रीय संस्मारक प्राधिकरण www.nma.gov.in

ख. भारतीय पुरातत्व सर्वेक्षण www.asi.nic.in

ग. भारतीय पुरातत्व सर्वेक्षण, कोलकाता सर्कल www.asikolkata.in

2. किसी भी व्यक्ति को कोई आक्षेप या सुझाव हो तो वह सदस्य सचिव, राष्ट्रीय संस्मारक प्राधिकरण, 24, तिलक मार्ग, नई दिल्ली-110001 को लिखित में या ईमेल आईडी अर्थात् arch-section@nma.gov.in पर 30 सितम्बर, 2026 तक भेज सकता है। आक्षेप या सुझाव देने वाले व्यक्ति को अपना नाम, पता और मोबाइल नंबर भी देना होगा।

3. प्राधिकरण, राष्ट्रीय संस्मारक प्राधिकरण (प्राधिकरण के अध्यक्ष एवं सदस्यों की सेवा की शर्तें तथा कार्य संचालन) नियम, 2011 के नियम 18(3) के अनुसार सक्षम प्राधिकारी एवं अन्य हितधारकों के परामर्श से 30 दिन अर्थात् 30 सितम्बर, 2026 की अवधि समाप्त होने से पूर्व प्राप्त आपत्तियों अथवा सुझावों पर निर्णय लेगा।

सत्यसाची मारवाहा
31/8/26
(कर्नल सत्यसाची मारवाहा)

निदेशक, एनएमए

F.No. 15-424/NMA/HBL-2026

Government of India
Ministry of Culture
National Monuments Authority

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is brought to the notice of public at large that the draft Heritage Bye-Laws of Protected Monument **Chandra Ketu's Fort, Barachampa (Berachampa), District-North 24 Parganas, West Bengal** has been prepared by the Competent Authority, as per Section 20(E) of Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958. In terms of Rule 18 (2) of National Monuments Authority (Conditions of Service of Chairman and Members of the Authority and Conduct of Business) Rules, 2011, the above proposed Heritage Bye-Laws are uploaded on the following websites for inviting objections or suggestions from the Public:

a. National Monuments Authority www.nma.gov.in

b. Archaeological Survey of India www.asi.nic.in

c. Archaeological Survey of India, Kolkata Circle www.asikolkata.in

2. Any person having any objections or suggestions may send the same in writing to Member Secretary, National Monuments Authority, 24, Tilak Marg, New Delhi- 110001 or mail at the email ID i.e. arch-section@nma.gov.in latest by **30th September, 2026**. The person making objections or suggestion should also give their name, address and mobile number.

3. In terms of Rule 18(3) of National Monuments Authority (Conditions of Service of Chairman and Members of the Authority and Conduct of Business) Rules, 2011, the Authority may decide on the objections or suggestions so received before the expiry of the period of 30 days i.e. **30 September, 2026**, in consultation with Competent Authority and other Stakeholders.


(Col. Savyasachi Marwaha)
Director, NMA



**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
NATIONAL MONUMENTS AUTHORITY**



**Draft Heritage Bye-Laws for Chandra Ketu's Fort, Barachampa
(Berachampa), District-North 24 Parganas, West Bengal**

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
NATIONAL MONUMENTS AUTHORITY**

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 20E of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958, as amended, read with Rule [22] of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Framing of Heritage Bye-Laws and Other Functions of the Competent Authority) Rules, 2011, the following Heritage Bye-Laws for the Protected Monument **‘Chandra Ketu’s Fort, Barachampa (Berachampa), District-North 24 Parganas, West Bengal’**, prepared by the Competent Authority, in consultation with Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology, Bhubaneswar, as required by sub-rule 2 of Rule 18 of the National Monuments Authority (Conditions of Service of Chairman and Members of Authority and Conduct of Business) Rules, 2011, for inviting objections or suggestions from the public;

Objections or suggestions, if any, may be sent to the Member Secretary, National Monuments Authority (Ministry of Culture), 24 Tilak Marg, New Delhi-110001 or email at arch-section@nma.gov.in within thirty days of publication of the notification;

The objections or suggestions which may be received from any person with respect to the said draft bye-laws before the expiry of the period, so specified, shall be considered by the National Monuments Authority.

Draft Heritage Bye-Laws for ‘Chandra Ketu’s Fort, Barachampa (Berachampa), District-North 24 Parganas, West Bengal’

CHAPTER - 1

PRELIMINARY

1.1 Short title, extent and commencement:

- (i) These Heritage Bye-Laws may be called the National Monuments Authority Heritage Bye-Laws, 2026 of the Protected Monument **“Chandra Ketu’s Fort, Barachampa (Berachampa), District-North 24 Parganas, West Bengal”**
- (ii) These shall extend to the entire Prohibited and Regulated Area of the Protected Monument.
- (iii) The provisions of these bye-laws shall have effect notwithstanding anything inconsistent therewith contained in any other bye-laws, whether made before or after the commencement of this bye-laws, or in any instrument having effect by virtue of any bye-laws. It shall not be obligatory to carry out amendments in these bye-laws to make them consistent with any other bye-laws.
- (iv) These shall come into force with effect from the date of its publication.

1.2 Definitions:

1. In these Heritage Bye-Laws, unless the context otherwise requires, -
 - (a) “ancient monument” means any structure, erection or monument, or any tumulus or place of interment, or any cave, rock sculpture, inscription or monolith, which is of historical, archaeological or artistic interest and which has been in existence for not less than one hundred years, and includes -
 - (i) the remains of an ancient monument,
 - (ii) the site of an ancient monument,

- (iii) such portion of land adjoining the site of an ancient monument as may be required for fencing or covering in or otherwise preserving such monument, and
 - (iv) the means of access to, and convenient inspection of an ancient monument;
- (b) “archaeological site and remains” means any area which contains or is reasonably believed to contain ruins or relics of historical or archaeological importance which have been in existence for not less than one hundred years, and includes-
 - (i) such portion of land adjoining the area as may be required for fencing or covering in or otherwise preserving it, and
 - (ii) the means of access to, and convenient inspection of the area;
- (c) “Act” means the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958, as amended;
- (d) “Archaeological officer” means an officer of the Department of Archaeology of the Government of India not lower in rank than Assistant Superintendent of Archaeology;
- (e) “Authority” means the National Monuments Authority constituted under Section 20F of the Act;
- (f) “Competent authority” means an officer not below the rank of Director of archaeology or Commissioner of archaeology of the Central or State Government or equivalent rank, specified, by notification in the Official Gazette, as the competent authority by the Central Government to perform functions under this Act:

Provided that the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, specify different competent authorities for the purpose of sections 20C, 20D and 20E;
- (g) “construction” means any erection of a structure or a building, including any addition or extension thereto either vertically or horizontally, but does not include any re-construction, repair and renovation of an existing structure or building, or, construction, maintenance and cleansing of drains and drainage works and of public latrines, urinals and similar conveniences, or the construction and maintenance of works meant for providing supply of water for public or the construction or maintenance, extension, management for supply and distribution of electricity to the public or provision for similar facilities for public;
- (h) “Government” means the Government of India;
- (i) “maintain”, with its grammatical variations and cognate expressions, includes the fencing, covering in, repairing, restoring and cleansing of a protected monument, and the doing of any act which may be necessary for the purpose of preserving a protected monument or of securing convenient access thereto;
- (j) “owner” includes-
 - (i) a joint owner invested with powers of management on behalf of himself and other joint owners and the successor-in-title of any such owner; and
 - (ii) any manager or trustee exercising powers of management and the successor-in-office of any such manager or trustee;
- (k) “prescribed” means prescribed by rules made under this Act;
- (l) “Prohibited Area” means any area specified or declared to be a prohibited area under section 20A;

- (m) “Protected Area” means any archaeological site and remains which is declared to be of national importance by or under this Act;
 - (n) “Protected Monument” means any ancient monument which is declared to be of national importance by or under this Act;
 - (o) “Regulated Area” means any area specified or declared under section 20B;
 - (p) “re-construction” means any erection of a structure or building to its pre-existing structure, having the same horizontal and vertical limits;
 - (q) “repair and renovation” means alterations to a pre-existing structure or building, but shall not include construction or re-construction;
2. The words and expressions used herein and not defined shall have the same meaning as assigned in the Act or the rules made thereunder.

CHAPTER - 2

Background of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (AMASR) Act, 1958, as amended

2.1 Background of the AMASR Act:

The Heritage Bye-Laws are intended to guide physical, social and economic interventions within 300 metres in all directions of the Protected Monument. The 300 metres area has been divided into two parts (i) the **Prohibited Area**, the area beginning at the limit of the Protected Area or the Protected Monument and extending to a distance of 100 metres in all directions and (ii) the **Regulated Area**, the area beginning at the limit of the Prohibited Area and extending to a distance of 200 metres in all directions.

As per the provisions of the AMASR Act, 1958, as amended, no person shall undertake any construction or mining operation in the Protected Area and Prohibited Area while, permission for repair and renovation of any building or structure—which existed in the Prohibited Area before the 16th day of June, 1992, or, which had been subsequently constructed with the approval of the Director General (DG), Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and permission for construction, re-construction, repair or renovation of any building or structure in the Regulated Area, must be sought from the Competent Authority.

2.2 Provisions of the AMASR Act related to Heritage Bye-Laws:

Section 20E of the AMASR Act, 1958, as amended and Rule 22 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Framing of Heritage Bye-Laws and Other Functions of the Competent Authority) Rules, 2011, specify the framing of Heritage Bye-Laws for Protected Monument. The said Rule provides parameters for the preparation of Heritage Bye-Laws. Rule 18 of the National Monuments Authority (Conditions of Service of Chairman and Members of Authority and Conduct of Business) Rules, 2011, specifies the process for the approval of Heritage Bye-Laws by the Authority.

2.3 Rights and Responsibilities of Applicant:

Section 20C of the AMASR Act, 1958, as amended, specifies the details of the application process for repair and renovation in the Prohibited Area, or for construction, re-construction, repair, or renovation in the Regulated Area, as described below:

- (a) Any person, who owns any building or structure, which existed in a Prohibited Area before 16th day of June, 1992, or, which had been subsequently constructed with the approval of the Director General and desires to carry out any repair or renovation of such building or structure, may make an application to the Competent Authority for carrying out such repair and renovation as the case may be.
- (b) Any person, who owns or possesses any building or structure or land in any Regulated Area and desires to carry out any construction or re-construction or repair or renovation of such building or structure on such land, as the case maybe, may make an application to the Competent Authority for carrying out construction or re-construction or repair or renovation as the case may be.
- (c) It is the responsibility of the applicant to submit all relevant information and abide by the National Monuments Authority (Conditions of Service of Chairman and Members of the Authority and Conduct of Business) Rules, 2011.

CHAPTER - 3

Location and Setting of the Protected Monument - Chandra Ketu's Fort, Barachampa (Berachampa), District-North 24 Parganas, West Bengal

3.1 Location and Setting of the Protected Monument:

The Chandra Ketu's Fort, locally known as Chandraketurgarh is a Protected Monument situated in Chandraketu's Fort is located in Hadipur Village, under Hadipur Jhikara-I Gram Panchayat, Hadipur Chuprijhara Mouza, Barasat Subdivision, North 24 Parganas District, West Bengal.

Berachampa is a nearest census town, while Hadipur Chuprijhara village falls under the Hadipur Jhikra-I Gram Panchayat. Barasat is the nearest city to Hadipur Chuprijhara village for all major economic activities, which is approximately 27 km away.

The geographical coordinates of the Protected Monument are as follows:

Longitude: 88° 41' 29.5" E; **Latitude:** 22° 40' 47.2" N.

The nearest railway station is Harua Road Station, which is approximately 4 km from the Protected Monument. Most visitors travelling by local trains from Sealdah Station get off at Harua Road, completing the rest of the journey to Hadipur via auto-rickshaws or local vans. The nearest airport is Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport which is approximately 36 kms from the Protected Monument. The Protected Monument is located in close proximity to State Highway-2 (SH-2), which passes through Berachampa, and is accessible from the Berachampa-Harua Road/SH-2 corridor through a local approach road leading to the Northern end of the Eastern rampart. The Protected Monument is encompassed by agricultural fields, with numerous residences bordering the rampart on its Southern side, and a few structures within the Protected Boundary. The ramparts towards the Northern side are inaccessible due to thick vegetation, while the Eastern rampart is accessible owing to sparse vegetation. The Fort is situated atop a mound amidst arable lands and small waterbodies.

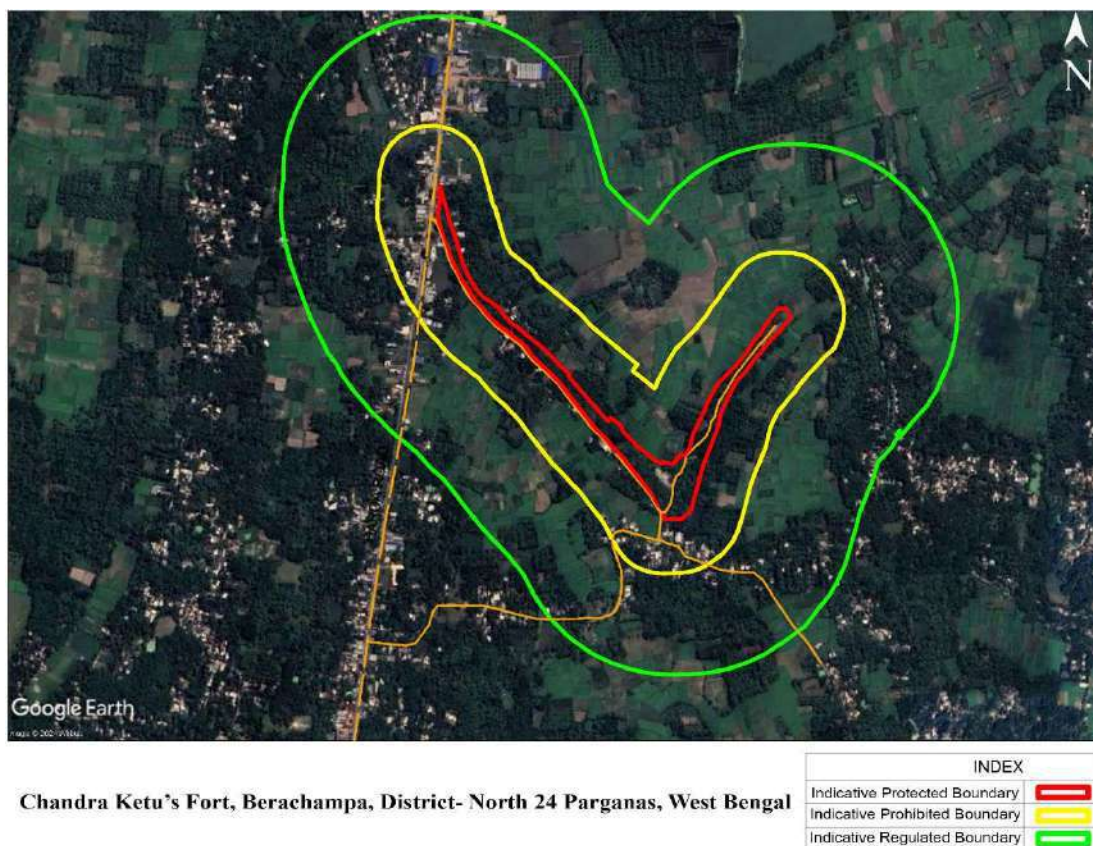


Figure 1: Satellite image showing the location of the Chandra Ketu's Fort, Barachampa (Berachampa), District- North 24 Parganas, West Bengal.

3.2 Protected Boundary of the Protected Monument:

The boundary of the Protected Monument Chandra Ketu's Fort, Barachampa (Berachampa), District-North 24 Parganas, West Bengal may be seen at **Annexure-I**.

3.2.1 Gazette Notification as per ASI records:

The copy of the Gazette Notification of Chandra Ketu's Fort, Barachampa (Berachampa), District-North 24 Parganas, West Bengal may be seen at **Annexure-II**.

3.3 History of the Protected Monument:

The location known as Chandraketugarh derives its name from the legendary King Chandraketu. Initially excavated by the Ashutosh Museum of Calcutta University from 1956-57 to 1965-66, unveiled a seamless progression of cultures divided into six periods spanning from the Pre-Mauryan era to the Pala period. This Fort included a mud fortification and significant discoveries including exquisite Sunga Terracotta, Silver Punch marked coins, cast copper coins, and terracotta figurines representing the Maurya, Sunga, Kushana, Gupta, and Pala-Sena eras. Among the unearthed artifacts are silver punched marked coins, along with beads crafted from various materials, bone objects, and other valuable items. The characteristics of the ramparts, archaeological remains, and artefacts discovered at the Protected Monument indicate that Chandraketugarh was a prosperous urban settlement during the early historical period.

3.4 Description of the Protected Monument (architectural features, elements, materials etc):

The Protected boundary comprises of an earthen rampart forming an L-shaped enclosure, with the

Eastern and Western ramparts meeting at the Southern corner, which is the access point presently. The width of the rampart varies, with maximum width around 25 metres at the junction of the Eastern and Western Wall. The grass- covered rampart contains the evidences of an early historical urban settlement.

3.5 Current Status:

3.5.1 Condition of the Protected Monument - condition assessment:

The maintenance and preservation of the Protected Monument is the exclusive domain of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). The photographs depicting the present condition of the Protected Monument is appended at **Annexure-IV**.

3.5.2 Daily footfalls and occasional gathering numbers:

The Protected Monument receives an average daily visitor footfall of approximately 15–20 visitors, which increases to around 30–40 visitors per day during the winter season. In addition to heritage enthusiasts, the monument is also regularly visited by villagers and local residents.

CHAPTER - 4

Existing zoning, if any, in the Local Area Development Plans

4.1 Existing Zoning:

The Protected Monument, ‘Chandra Ketu’s Fort’ is located at Hadipur Village, under Hadipur Jhikara-I Gram Panchayat, Hadipur Chuprijhara Mouza, Deganga C.D. Block, Barasat Sadar Subdivision, North 24 Parganas District, West Bengal.

At present, no Zonal Plan or Development Plan has been notified for the area encompassing the Protected Monument. The Fort is a Protected Monument under ASI Jurisdiction and beyond it are other lands, both private and panchayat property.

4.2 Existing Guidelines of the Local Bodies:

As the Protected Monument is located in the Gram Panchayat, the West Bengal Gram Panchayat Administration Rules, 2004¹, as and when amended, are applicable.

¹ <https://panchayat.gov.in/en/document/the-west-bengal-panchayat-gram-panchayat-administration-rules-2004/>

CHAPTER - 5

Information as per First Schedule, Rule 21(1) / Survey Plan of the Prohibited and the Regulated Areas on the basis of boundaries defined in Archaeological Survey of India records

5.1 Survey Plan of the Protected Monument:

The Survey Plan of Chandra Ketu's Fort, Barachampa (Berachampa), District-North 24 Parganas, West Bengal may be seen at **Annexure-I**.

5.2 Analysis of surveyed data:

5.2.1 Prohibited Area and Regulated Area details:

- i. Prohibited Area of the Protected Monument is 2,75,546 Sqm (68.08 Acres) approximately
- ii. Regulated Area of the Protected Monument is 7,15,907 Sqm (176.90 Acres) approximately

5.2.2 Description of built-up area:

i. North:

Within the Prohibited Area, the outer edge of the rampart is bordered by arable land used for agriculture. In the Regulated Area, a water reservoir is situated near the North-Western end of the Eastern rampart. Further North along Harua Road towards Berachampa village, there are commercial and mixed-use structures, including a Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited Petrol (HPCL) fuel station and servicing station, Gems Global School, and the Berachampa New United Nursing Home. The Hadipur Garh Masjid is located at the entrance of the village road leading to the Fort.

ii. East:

In the Prohibited Area, residential density is sparse and surrounded by dense vegetation. Most of the residential buildings are along the Singherati Road. The Regulated Area is predominantly characterized by arable land used for agriculture.

iii. South:

In the Prohibited Area, residential density is low, and the area is characterized by extensive vegetation. To the South of the Regulated Area, lies the Hadipur Jami Masjid. Further South, within the Regulated Area, residences are located along the village main road connecting to Singherati Road. Multiple small to medium ponds are located along this route.

iv. West:

The North-Western side of the boundary, adjacent to Harua Road, the surrounding area comprises commercial and mixed-use buildings. Toward the Southern end of the Western rampart, both the Prohibited and Regulated Areas consist primarily of arable land, with a few residences located along the western edge of the ramparts.

5.2.3 Description of green / open spaces:

i. North:

The Northern side of the rampart is predominantly characterised by extensive arable land used for agriculture. A large water body is located adjacent to the North-Western part of the Regulated Area.

ii. East:

The Prohibited Area is characterised by dense vegetation. The Regulated Area predominantly comprises of arable land used for agriculture.

iii. South:

Within the Prohibited Area, a dense cluster of vegetation is located among the residential buildings. Beyond this, the Regulated Area is predominantly characterised by arable land, with several small and medium-sized ponds distributed throughout the area.

iv. West:

Within the Prohibited Area, the land is predominantly used for cultivation. Beyond this, in the Regulated Area, the landscape is predominantly arable land used for agriculture, with few small to medium-sized ponds present.

5.2.4 Area covered under circulation - roads, footpaths etc.:

The Protected Monument can be accessed via Harua Road, which extends in a North-South direction on the Western side of the Fort, connecting Berachampa with Hadipur Chuprijhara village. Another thoroughfare is the village street that runs along the Western rampart and links with Singherati Road on the far West within the Regulated Area. The roads are primarily unpaved, except for the concrete-paved Harua Road.

5.2.5 Existing Heights of Buildings:

i. North:

In the Prohibited Area, buildings along the Northern edge of the rampart on Harua Road are generally G+2 storey to G+3 storey, with a maximum height of 10.5 metres. In the Regulated Area to the North and North-West, the residential area consists of high-density, low-rise structures, primarily G+1 storey to G+2 storey, with heights up to 8 metres. In the far North of the Regulated Area, some buildings reach G+3 storey, with a few structures attaining heights of up to 13.5 metres.

ii. East:

In the Regulated Area, development along Singherati Road consists mainly of individual residences in clusters of 8–10, dispersed throughout the zone. Most structures are G+1storey to G+2 storey, with maximum building heights of 10.5 metres.

iii. South:

This area mainly comprises of low-rise, low-density residential development, interspersed with dense vegetation and small ponds. Most structures are G+1 storey to G+2 storey, with maximum building heights of 10.5 metres.

iv. West:

Built density in the area is sparse, characterised by a few G+1 storey to G+2 storey structures along the Harua road. Most structures have maximum building height of 12.5 metres.

5.2.6 State Protected Monument and listed heritages buildings by local authorities if available within the Prohibited / Regulated Area:

No state Protected monuments and listed heritage buildings specified by Local Authorities, are present, within the Prohibited or Regulated Area of the Protected Monument.

5.2.7 Public Amenities:

Public amenities, including toilets and drinking water facilities, are absent within the Prohibited Area. In the Regulated Area, these facilities are available only at the fuel station.

5.2.8 Access to the Protected Monument:

Road access to the Protected Monument is via Harua Road, onto a *kutchha* village road that leads to the Southern edge of the Fort ramparts. Entry to the Protected Monument is through a narrow earthen passage that opens up into a larger open area leading to the entrance gate.

5.2.9 Infrastructure services (water supply, storm water drainage, sewage, solid Waste management, parking etc.):

The absence of sewerage facilities necessitates most households to depend on sewage pits. Parking is limited to on-road due to the lack of designated spaces.

5.2.10 Proposed zoning of the area as per guidelines of the Local Bodies:

There is no development plan prepared and made available in public domain by any of the current Local Authorities, therefore no zoning is proposed at present.

CHAPTER – 6

Architectural, Historical and Archaeological Value of the Protected Monument

6.1 Architectural, Historical and Archaeological Value:

Only the ramparts survive at the site, with limited architectural value; however, they remain significant as remnants of a former urban settlement. Excavations have uncovered artefacts, primarily dating between 300 BCE and 100 BCE, with evidence of occupation from the Maurya, Sunga, Kushana, Gupta, and Pala-Sena periods. These discoveries provide valuable insights into the socio-cultural, economic, and urban development of ancient Bengal, highlighting the site's significance as a testament to an advanced civilization and its role within the broader historical and cultural landscape of the Indian subcontinent.

6.2 Sensitivity of the Protected Monument (e.g. developmental pressure, urbanization, population pressure etc.):

The vicinity surrounding the Protected Monument is characterised by low-scale development, predominantly comprising of cultivated lands. The Protected Monument's dense vegetation and distinctive topography contribute to its scenic character; however, these features may also present challenges for regular maintenance as vegetation can sometimes damage heritage structures through roots, moisture and biological growth.

6.3 Visibility from the Protected Monument or Area and visibility from the Regulated Area:

The Rampart is densely covered with trees, obstructing the view of the adjacent road and plots located to the South, South-West, West, and North-West of the Protected Monument. However, the cultivated lands in the East and North remain visible from the site.

Due to its scale, the structure's presence is noticeable; however, the rampart remains obscured from the North-West and West. The mound, however, is clearly visible from the cultivated lands situated to the East and North.

6.4 Land use:

The areas beyond the Protected Area boundary towards the North, East, and South comprise predominantly arable land, while the plots along Harua Road towards the West are characterised by mixed-use and public and semi-public land uses.

6.5 Archaeological heritage remains other than the Protected Monument:

No known archaeological heritage remains are present near the Protected Monument in the Prohibited and Regulated Area.

6.6 Cultural landscapes:

There is no defined cultural landscape within the Prohibited or Regulated Area around the Protected monument. However, the landscape forming the backdrop to the rampart may be associated with the earlier fortification and could potentially be considered part of the historical cultural landscape.

6.7 Significant natural landscapes that forms part of cultural landscape and also helps in protecting the Protected Monument from environmental pollution:

The dense vegetation surrounding the rampart plays a crucial role in stabilizing and holding the earthen mounds together. The vegetation is safeguarding the mound from environmental impacts.

6.8 Usage of open space and constructions:

The area is surrounded by extensive cultivated lands and dense patches of vegetation. Additionally,

a few vacant plots are located towards the North.

6.9 Traditional, Historical and Cultural activities:

There are no traditional, historical and cultural activities being followed in the Protected, Prohibited and Regulated Areas as such.

6.10 Skyline as visible from the Protected Monument and from the Regulated Areas:

Skyline as visible from the Protected Monument:

The skyline visible from the Protected Monument predominantly consists of cultivated land, except in the North and South directions. To the South, it is marked by a low density cluster of modern buildings, mostly one to two storied high. Whereas the skyline to the North and North-West features a moderately dense collection of structures, including two to three-storey residences, mixed-use buildings, commercial establishments, and public buildings.

Skyline as visible from the Regulated Areas:

The skyline visible from the Regulated Area towards the Protected Monument is predominantly characterised by consists of dense vegetation, with large trees lining the rampart.

6.11 Traditional architecture:

There is no such prevalent architectural style or element seen in the Prohibited and Regulated Area. Few old two storey high earthen houses of vernacular construction techniques are sparsely found in the Regulated Area.

6.12 Developmental plan, as available, by the local authorities:

There is no development plan prepared or made available in the public domain by any of the current Local Authorities.

6.13 Permissible Building related parameters:

6.13.1 Repair and Renovation (in Prohibited and Regulated Area):

Internal changes and adaptive reuse may be generally permitted. However, external changes shall be subject to detailed scrutiny by the Competent Authority. Such changes which include retrofitting/renovation may be permitted when the building is structurally weak or unsafe or when it has been adversely impacted by any natural calamity and renovation is absolutely necessary. Original building vocabulary and layout along with built-open relationships are to be adhered to. General repair and upkeep of buildings will be permissible, subject to prior permission from the Competent Authority.

The repair and renovation of building/structures should be sympathetic and congruous with the heritage character of the Protected Area and its surrounding areas. New cladding materials like Aluminium Composite Panels (ACP), High Pressure Laminates (HPL), laminates, tiling or glazing are to be discouraged as far as feasible. The use of locally available building materials should be encouraged in carrying out repair and renovation works.

6.13.2 Reconstruction:

Reconstruction is defined in Section 2(k) of Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (AMASR) Act, 1958, as amended. Permission for reconstruction in Regulated Area is accorded as per Section 20C(2) of the AMASR Act, 1958, as amended and Rule 6 (IV) and Rule 7 of the AMASR (Framing of Heritage Bye-Laws and other functions of the Competent Authority) Rules, 2011. In case of any type of building or structure located in the Prohibited or Regulated Area of the Protected Monument or

Protected Area, collapsed or damaged and found beyond repair due to natural calamities, the permission for reconstruction is accorded as per Rule 16 of AMASR (Framing of Heritage Bye-Laws and other functions of the Competent Authority) Rules, 2011. Reconstruction of building or structure damaged due to natural calamity shall be permissible only to the extent it is damaged. The new structure or building as a replacement to the older building in case of reconstruction shall follow the same horizontal and vertical limits as per the pre-existing structure. The use of incongruous materials in the façade such as glazing, metal cladding, Aluminium Composite Panels (ACP), High Pressure Laminates (HPL), tiles, laminates will not be permissible. The new structure should be sympathetic and congruous with the heritage character of the Protected Area and its surrounding area.

6.13.3 New Construction:

6.13.3 A Prohibited Area:

In general terms, as per Section 20A(4) of the AMASR Act, 1958, as amended, no new construction including carrying out any public work or project essential to the public or other construction, shall be permitted within the Prohibited Area of the Protected Monument.

6.13.3 B Regulated Area:

Since no land-use plan/ master plan/ zoning regulations have been prepared by the local Authorities, the height and other building related parameters prescribed in this Heritage Bye-Laws will be applicable for all types of construction in the Regulated Area of the Protected Monument. All the development control norms and building regulations specified in the West Bengal Gram Panchayat Administration Rules, 2004 , as and when amended, shall be applicable. However, the height and other parameters specified in this document shall be applicable in the Regulated Area of the Protected Monument.

1. Height of the new construction on the site (including mummy, parapet, water storage tank, machine room, generator room, HVAC unit, solar panel, rainwater harvesting system, penthouse structures of terrace garden etc. or any other services on the roof):

- i. The maximum height limit for new construction or additions/alteration to existing buildings shall not exceed **10.5 metres** (including mummy, parapet, water storage tank, machine room, generator room, HVAC unit, solar panel, rainwater harvesting system, penthouse structures of terrace garden etc. or any other services on the roof).
- ii. Construction of the basement should be discouraged as far as feasible.

2. Usage:

- i. Since no Master Plan or Development Plan is prepared for the area, therefore the current land use may be retained as existing.
- ii. The dense vegetation and farmlands are important part of the natural landscape of this region may be retained.

3. Façade design:

- i. New constructions should be in harmony with the existing architectural style and compatible with the surrounding historic character and streetscapes. The vernacular architecture using traditional local building materials should be encouraged.

- ii. The façade design of any new construction should be minimalistic in nature, so that it does not overpower the Protected Monument and the overall character of the surround area. The façade should be plastered and painted in earthy colour tones. Façade treatments, materials and finishes should be compatible with the prevailing local vernacular character and should avoid excessive ornamentation, reflective surfaces or visually intrusive elements.
- iii. Use of coloured glazing should be discouraged.

4. Roof design:

- i. The roofs of new buildings shall be compatible with the existing roof character of the surrounding area. The roof form, orientation and pitch shall be designed to complement the prevailing vernacular sloped-roof typology and avoid visual contrast with the surrounding built character.
- ii. Structures using temporary materials such as tin sheets, aluminium, fibre glass, polycarbonate or similar materials shall not be permitted on the roof of the building.
- iii. Erection of Structures, even of temporary nature, using materials such as aluminium, fibre glass, polycarbonate or similar materials should be discouraged on the roof of the building.
- iv. All services such as large air conditioning units, rooftop water storage tanks or large generator sets placed on the roof to be screened off using screen walls (brick/cements sheets, louvers, jaalis or other such design elements). All of these services should be included in the maximum permissible height.

5. Building material:

- i. Consistency in building materials and colour along all street façades of the Protected Monument may be maintained as per the surrounding historic buildings and streetscapes.
- ii. Modern building materials such as aluminum cladding, glass bricks, and any other synthetic tiles or materials should not be permitted for exterior finishes. Traditional building materials such as brick and stone should be used.

6. Colour:

The exterior colour should be of a neutral tone in harmony with the Protected Monument such as buff sandstone colour, white, beige and other earth colours which does not create a harsh contrast with the Protected Monument and its immediate surroundings.

7. Other Regulations:

Proposals for the construction of large-scale public infrastructure projects, such as Metro Rail Systems (underground or elevated), rail or road over bridges, flyovers, multi-level parking facilities, or such other development projects, and institutional buildings undertaken in the public interest or which are essential for public purposes, shall be subject to a detailed Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA). Such projects may be considered only if it is clearly established that they will not cause any significant adverse impact on the preservation, safety, security, visual integrity or accessibility of the Protected Monument or its immediate surroundings and shall be exempt from the maximum height restriction prescribed above and all other development regulations contained herein.

6.14 Visitor facilities and Amenities:

Visitor facilities may be considered in the vicinity of the Protected Monument as per feasibility.

CHAPTER - 7

Site Specific Recommendations

7.1 Site Specific Recommendations:

- i. Directional signages should be strategically installed at key intersections along the main access routes including district roads and village roads leading to the Protected Monument, clearly indicating its direction.
- ii. The signages should be designed in a style that respects the heritage character of the area, using materials and colours that are in harmony with the surroundings such that the signages do not damage the historic fabric, nor diminish the historic character of the Protected Monument and its immediate surroundings.
- iii. LED or digital signs and signages made of plastic, fibre glass, or any other highly reflective synthetic material should not be used in the vicinity of the Protected Monuments or their immediate surrounding areas.
- iv. Advertisements in the form of hoardings, bill-boards or posters should not be permitted near the Protected Monuments particularly on or along its Protected Boundary.
- v. Proper signages may be set up for easy identification of the entrance to the Protected Monument.
- vi. The Protected Monument may be clearly demarcated with a defined perimeter to avoid encroachments.

7.2 Other recommendations:

- i. Extensive public awareness programme about the Protected Monument may be conducted.
- ii. Whenever the Master Plan, Zonal Plan or Development Plan is prepared or amended, it should clearly show all Protected Monuments/Areas and their Prohibited and Regulated Area.
- iii. Provisions for differently abled persons shall be provided as per prescribed standards.
- iv. The area should be declared as Plastic and Polythene free zone.
- v. National Disaster Management Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Sites and Precincts maybe referred at <https://nidm.gov.in/PDF/pubs/NDMA/20.pdf>

ANNEXURE – I

Survey Plan showing Protected, Prohibited and Regulated Area of Chandra Ketu's Fort, Barachampa (Berachampa), District-North 24 Parganas, West Bengal



Gazette Notification of the Protected Monument

Original Notification

CHANDRAKETU'S FORT, BARACHAMPA
PART I] THE CALCUTTA GAZETTE, NOVEMBER 24, 1920. 2189

No. 1283Mis.—The 22nd November 1920.—In exercise of the power conferred by section 3, sub-section (1) of the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904 (VII of 1904), the Governor in Council is pleased to declare the ancient monuments in the district of the 24-Pargannas which are described in the following table to be protected monuments within the meaning of the said Act:—

Serial No.	Locality.	Names of monuments.
1	Dum-Dum	Tablet of Dr. Oling.
2	Paikpara	Tablet and pillar in front of Justice Chalmey's residence.
3	Ditto	Semaphore tower.
4	Belghoria	Ditto.
5	Sukchar	Ditto.
6	Barrackpur	Ditto.
7	Dhulhunda	Tablet in the station Hospital for British troops.
8	Barachampa	Chandra Ketu's Fort.

2. Any objections to the issue of this notification which are received by the undersigned within one month from the date on which a copy of the notification is fixed up in a conspicuous place on or near the said monuments will be taken into consideration.

No. 1238Mis.—The 22nd November 1920.—In exercise of the power conferred by section 3, sub-section (1) of the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904 (VII of 1904), the Governor in Council is pleased to declare the ancient monuments in the district of Jessore which are described in the following table to be protected monuments within the meaning of the said Act:—

Serial No.	Locality.	Names of monuments.
1	Sagaridhari ...	Pillar with tablet in memory of the Poet Michael Madhusudan Dutt.
2	Mahammedpur.	Lakshmi Narayan Temple.

2. Any objections to the issue of this notification which are received by the undersigned within one month from the date on which a copy of the notification is fixed up in a conspicuous place on or near the said monuments will be taken into consideration.

No. 1273Mis.—The 22nd November 1920.—In exercise of the power conferred by section 3, sub-section (1) of the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904 (VII of 1904), the Governor-in-Council is pleased to declare Henry Martin's Pagoda at Serampore in the district of Hooghly to be a protected monument within the meaning of the said Act.

2. Any objections to the issue of this notification which are received by the undersigned within one month from the date on which a copy of the notification is fixed up in a conspicuous place on or near the said monument will be taken into consideration.

Minister in charge: The Hon'ble Mr. P. C. Mitter, C.I.E.

No. 2447 Mis.—The 8th December 1921.—In exercise of the power conferred by section 2 of the Kazis Act, 1880 (Act XII of 1880), the Government of Bengal (Ministry of Education) are pleased to appoint Maulvi Elahi Baksha temporarily to be the Kazi for the celebration of marriages and the performance of other rites and ceremonies within police-station Sherpur, in the district of Mymensingh, during the absence, on leave, of Maulvi Syed Wahebullah, or until further orders.

Minister in charge: The Hon'ble Mr. P. C. Mitter, C.I.E.

No. 2466 Mis.—The 10th December 1921.—In exercise of the power conferred by section 3 of the Bengal Muhammadan Marriages and Divorces Registration Act, 1876 (Bengal Act I of 1876), the Government of Bengal (Ministry of Education), are pleased to appoint Maulvi Muhammad Hanif temporarily to be a Muhammadan Registrar within police-station Kurigram, in the district of Rangpur, during the absence, on leave, of Maulvi Zahurul Huq, or until further orders.

Minister in charge: The Hon'ble Mr. P. C. Mitter, C.I.E.

No. 2467 Mis.—The 10th December 1921.—In exercise of the power conferred by section 2 of the Kazis Act, 1880 (Act XII of 1880), the Government of Bengal (Ministry of Education) are pleased to appoint Maulvi Muhammad Hanif temporarily to be the Kazi for the celebration of marriages and the performance of other rites and ceremonies within police-station Kurigram, in the district of Rangpur, during the absence, on leave, of Maulvi Zahurul Huq, or until further orders.

Minister in charge: The Hon'ble Mr. P. C. Mitter, C.I.E.

No. 1283 Mis.—The 10th December 1921.—Notification No. 1283 Mis., dated the 22nd November 1920, published in the Calcutta Gazette of the 24th November 1920, which declared certain monuments, in the district of the 24-Parganas, in the Presidency Division, to be protected monuments, is confirmed under section 3 (3) of the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act of 1904 (VII of 1904) only in respect of the Fort of Chandraketa at Barachampa.

Minister in charge: The Hon'ble Mr. P. C. Mitter, C.I.E.

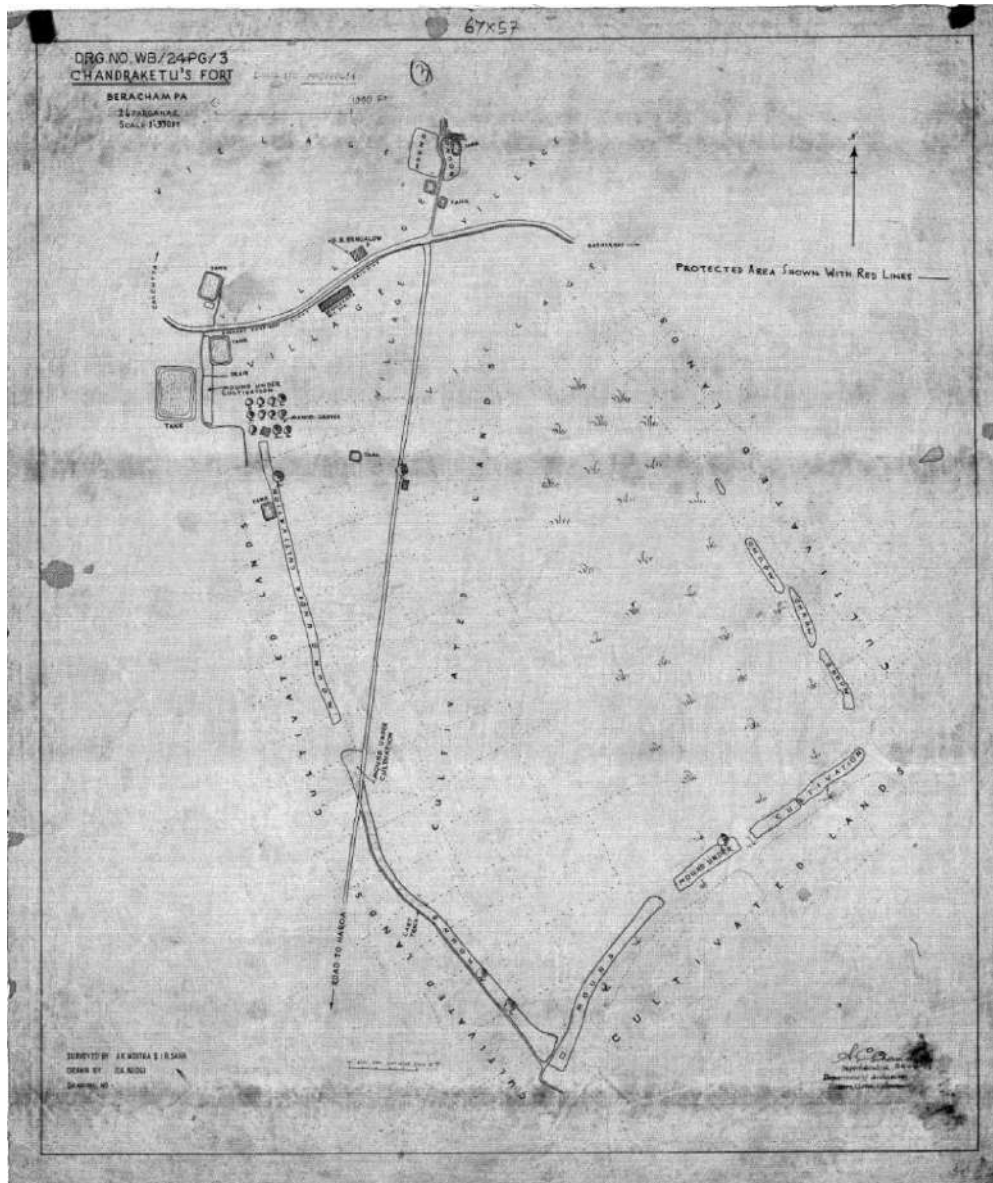
No. 2484 Mis.—The 10th December 1921.—In exercise of the power conferred by sub-section (3) of section 3 of the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904 (VII of 1904), the Governor in Council is pleased to withdraw the notification No. 1283 Mis., dated the 22nd November 1920, published in the Calcutta Gazette of the 24th November 1920, which declared certain monuments, in the district of the 24-Parganas, in the Presidency Division, to be protected monuments under section 3 (1) of the Act, so far as it relates to the monuments named below:—

1. Tablet of Dr. Cling.
2. Tablet and pillar in front of Justice Chalmey's residence.
3. Semaphore tower.
4. Ditto.
5. Ditto.
6. Ditto.
7. Tablet in the station Hospital for British troops.

S. W. GOODE,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal (offg.).

Archival Map



Images of the Protected Monument and its surrounding areas



Image 1: View of the entrance to the Fort (towards North-East).



Image 2: View of the approach road to the Fort from the village (Southern corner of the rampart).



Image 3: View towards the Eastern rampart.



Image 4: View towards the Western Rampart.



Image 5: Outward View from the Fort towards North.



Image 6: Outward View from Eastern Rampart towards the South-East.



Image 7: The road leading to the entrance of the Protected Monument, coming from South.



Image 8: From the Southern tip of the Protected Monument looking West.



Image 9: Road in Regulated area towards the South of the Protected Monument.



Image 10: Road connecting the Protected Monument to Harua Road.



Image 11: Entry to the road connecting to the Protected Monument to Harua Road.



Image 12: View of the Regulated Area towards West.



Image 13: View of the Regulated Area towards West.



Image 14: View of A Nursing Home and adjoining filling station towards North in Regulated Area.