

IX. CONSERVATION OF BAZAARS IN THE WALLED CITY – UDAIPUR

CONTEXT

Udaipur is a major city in Rajasthan, which is rapidly urbanizing, with about half a million population and a decadal growth rate of 16%. It is the sixth largest city of Rajasthan

Udaipur is 400 year old major city in Rajasthan and a preferred tourist destination. The city is known for its history and lakes; along with the pristine lakes, Udaipur is famous for its historic palaces including traditional bazaars – these are of major interest to local and foreign tourists. Henceforth Udaipur has been making efforts to conserve the historic bazaars.

THE INTERVENTION

Project description

As part of the Udaipur Smart City theme: “Eternal Udaipur: World’s favorite Lakeside Heritage City”, there is a keen focus on heritage conservation. In this background, the initiative to conservation the historic bazaars of Udaipur has recently been taken up under the Smart Cities Mission – the intervention is part of the comprehensive heritage conservation of Udaipur walled city.

As a part of the initiative, a study of the city was done to identify the historic market places, where five major markets were identified for suitable conservation and development interventions. These interventions are subsequently being taken up by Udaipur. The interventions are expected play a major role in the upkeep, maintenance and up-gradation of the traditional markets of Udaipur; the interventions are:

- Conservation of the traditional character of the historic ‘bazaars’ – restoration and conservation of historic/ heritage building facade
- Development & up-gradation of physical infrastructure of the historic ‘bazaars’ – shifting overhead electrical/ other cables underground and street/ facade illumination
- Developing tourist amenities in the historic ‘bazaars’ – developing amenities like toilet, drinking water facilities, and parking spaces
- Uniform development and branding of the historic ‘bazaars’ (providing street furniture like benches, street signage, building/ shop signage, and uniform street section development)

The work under the intervention is scheduled for completion by December 2017. The intervention will help in resolving various issues that these bazaars have been facing. The interventions is likely to help the city is conserving its heritage and bring the following benefit:

- Upgrading infrastructure for local inhabitants
- Improving working environment within the bazaars
- Improving aesthetics of the bazaars



Ongoing conservation work of bazaars in the Walled City area