

Challenges of Skill Development for Preservation of Built Heritages in India

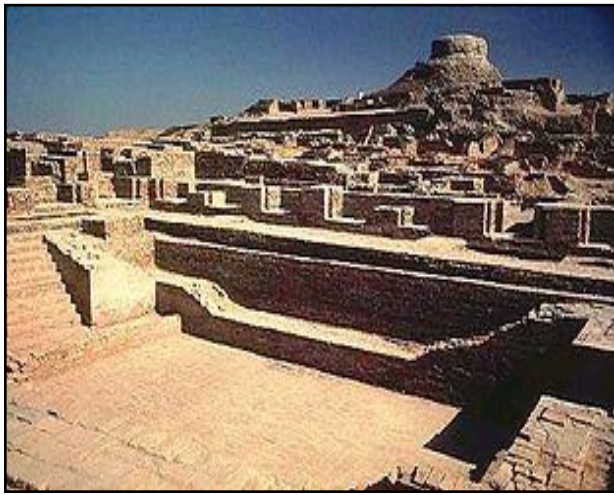
Biswajit Som

Director EISPE

Visiting Faculty, Jadavpur University

Kolkata, India





A FEW TREASURES OF ANCIENT INDIA

"India is, the cradle of the human race, the birthplace of human speech, the mother of history, the grandmother of legend " - Mark Twain



EARLY CIVILIZATION OF THE WORLD : STONE AGE



BHIMBETKA ROCK SHELTERS
7000 Years Old

EDAKKAL CAVE KERALA,
INDIA 7000 BC

In Central India & South India !?

Number of analyses suggests that at least some of these shelters were inhabited **more than 10,000 years back in human history as some of the Stone Age rock paintings found are approximately 30,000 years old from (Paleolithic Age).**

Diversity of Indian Tradition & Culture



BULAND DARWAZA (AD 1576), AGRA



DILWARA TEMPLE RAJASTHAN, INDIA, 11th



ST. PAULS CATHEDRAL CHURCH (1839-1847), KOLKATA



CHOLA TEMPLE (850 CE – 1250 CE), KARNATAKA

A.S.I recorded 3683, **very important** monuments in India.

If we take **only** 4 imp. Cities in India, there are **4585** monuments.

Chennai: 467

Kolkata: 1300

Delhi: 1317

Mumbai: 1500

REQUIREMENT FOR SKILLS FOR PRESERVATION & MAINTENANCE

Every year, we are taking more monuments for protection and an existing monument is getting one more year old, which means, it is subject to greater ageing. There is an increasing demand for conservation personnel. I am afraid, we have not been able to keep pace with this demand on the one side and on the other side, the theories and the techniques of conservation are actually evolving day by day. We may not be able to keep pace with the changing requirements “

Director General Arch. Survey of India. [Sixteenth report Estimates committee(2007-08),Ministry of Culture; Maintenance of monuments by Archeological Survey of India

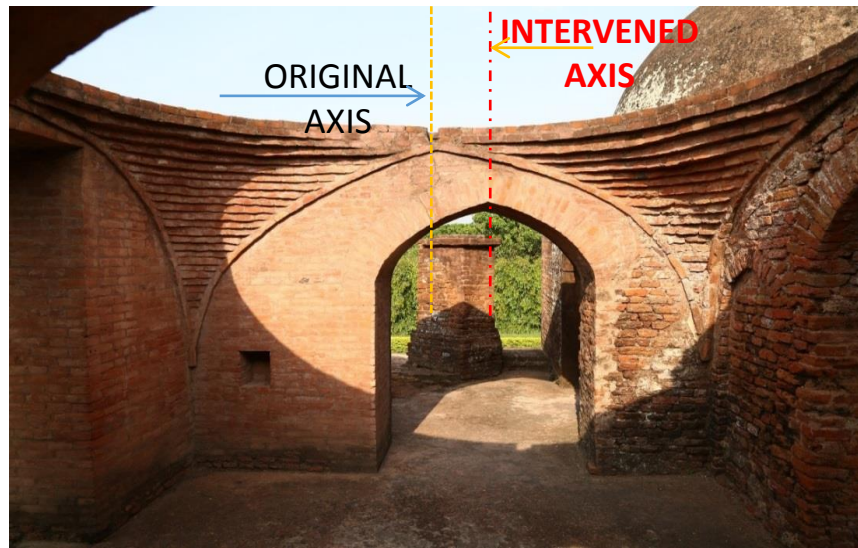


Shortage of Knowledge & Skill

It can be estimated that for preservation & maintenance of the monuments, average in four major cities, minimum manpower required in Skills is around 18340 Man /Per day



St. Augustine's Tower, Goa (1602)



Phuta Mosque, Murshidabad

Some Examples of Degradation of Heritage Structure in India



Katra Mosque, Murshidabad



Town Hall , Kolkata

Traditional Community Based Skill (TCBS)

In India, the development, preservation and maintenance of heritage sites is based on the contributions of community based skill.

- Historically TCBS is an unique feature of India .
- TCBS was nurtured and developed over the past several generations.
- However, TCBS has been decaying over the years.
- TCBS typically falls under non formal sector.
- Reviving TCBS is crucial for preservation of heritage sites.
- Introducing a combined model between the formal and informal sector is the key to fast track the skill shortage in heritage preservation in India.



Examples of TCBS in the making of Burnt Clay & Terracotta Artifacts & Tiles



Importance of heritage sites preservation in the light of Nepal Earthquake

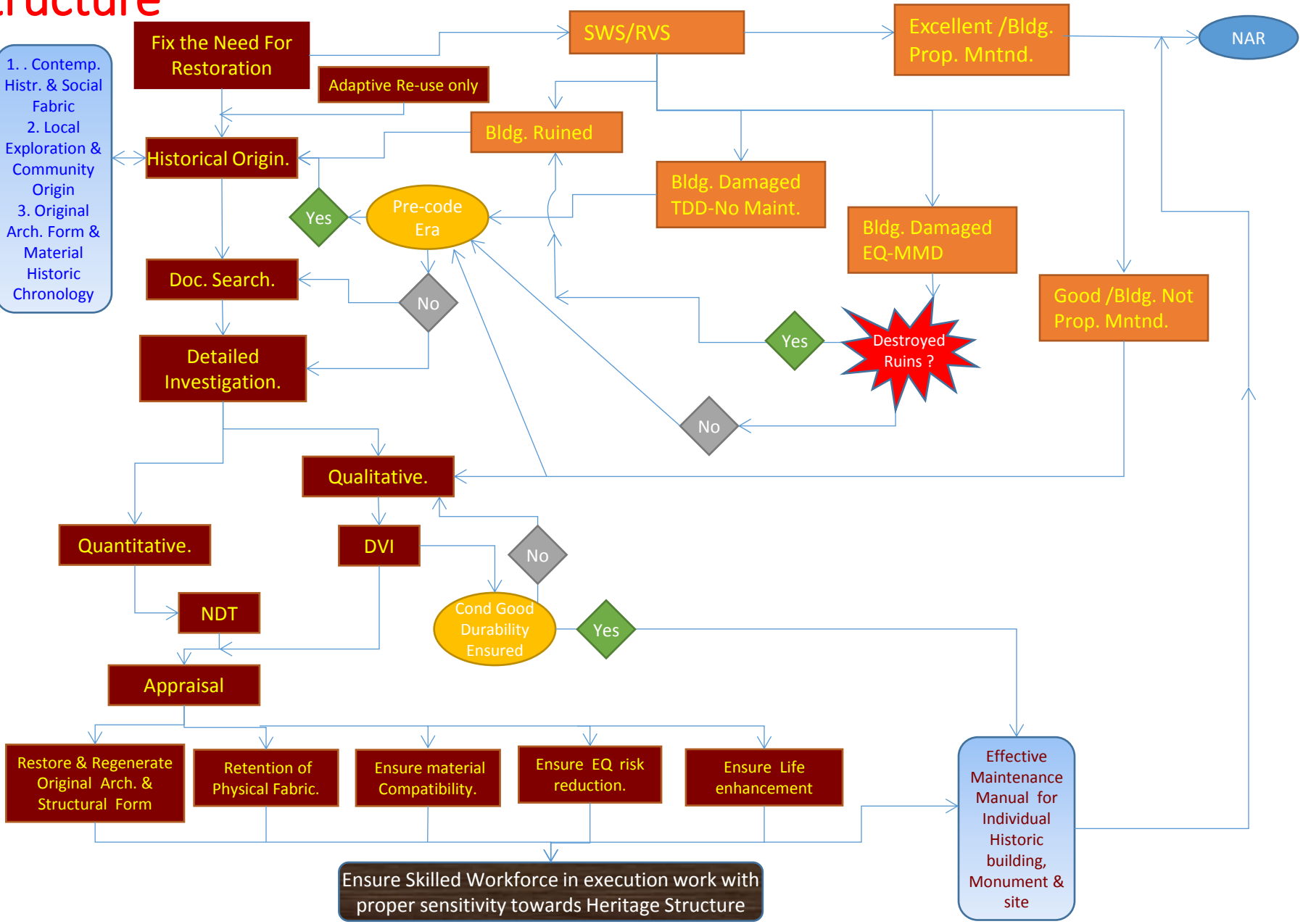
- Innovative approach to Restoration of Heritage sites.

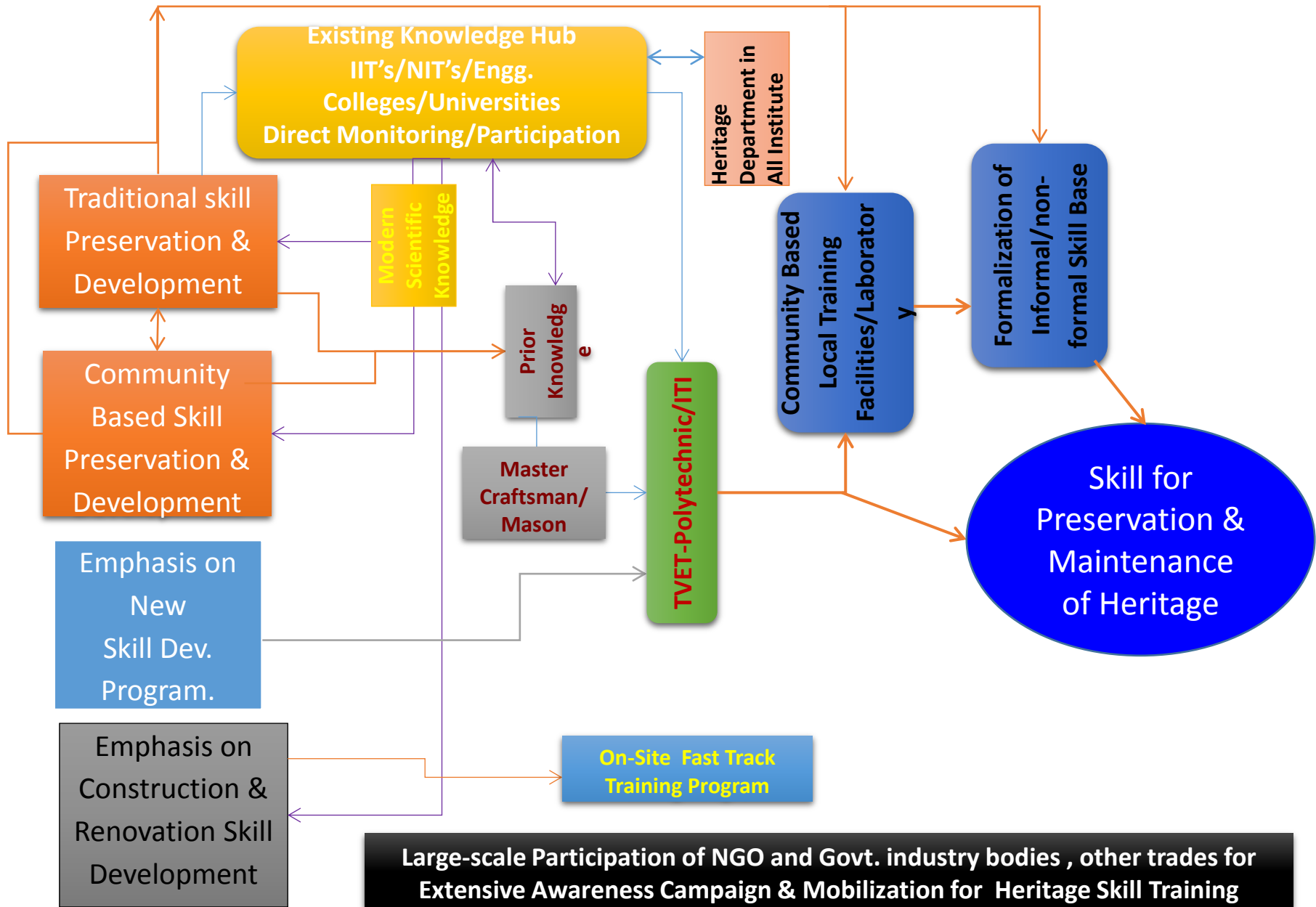


- It demands Prior Preparedness Through Intensive Maintenance Technique & Specified Skill for this type of Extreme Consequences.
- Requires special Skill Development Program utilizing and upgrading TCBS to preserve heritage sites effectively.

Innovative Approach of Restoration Strategy of Heritage structure

- 1. . Contemp. Histr. & Social Fabric
- 2. Local Exploration & Community Origin
- 3. Original Arch. Form & Material Historic Chronology





CONCLUDING REMARK

- ✓ An innovative model of combining formal education and informal education in preserving heritage sites are the key for India and most of the developing countries to optimize the utilization of resources in a cost effective manner.
 - ✓ Strengthen and upgrade the TCBS
 - ✓ Prioritization of heritage skills development program in the formal education sector in particular in TVET
- ✓ Massive advocacy and awareness program for developing heritage cultures through community participations.