

## **Suo Motu Disclosure under RTI Act, 2005**

### **Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata**

#### **ITEM NO 1: Particulars of VMH, Functions and duties (including Organization Chart).**

VMH is an institution of national importance as per the Govt. of India Act 1935. It is an autonomous organisation under the administrative control of the MoC, Govt of India and is exclusively a place of Culture and the most visited public Museum in India. For smooth management of works overall organisation system of VMH is divided into units e.g. Administration, Accounts, Security, Caretaker, Education, Restoration Conservation, Library Documentation etc under the head of the office, the Secretary & Curator

VMH collects, conserves and disseminates knowledge among the general public about art objects, historical relics, and documents relating mainly to Indian history in the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries and also organizes regular special exhibitions, lectures, publications, cultural programmes and interactive educational activities – both on-site and in different parts of India and abroad – in its four focal areas of activity, namely, art, culture, heritage and the environment.

The VMH promotes research through its research fellowships and library resources, networks extensively with other museums, historical societies and the academia. It seeks to promote positive social change through its outreach activities with non-museum organizations and community groups. It always strives to be – and is recognized by the wider community – as a museum without walls.

#### **ACTIVITIES**

##### **Museum:**

A period museum focusing on Indo-British history. Collection of 28,394 objects, including oil paintings, watercolours, sketches, lithographs, photographs, rare books and manuscripts, stamps and postal stationery, coins and medals, arms and armour, sculptures, costumes, personal relics, etc. Many of them displayed in 9 existing galleries. Temporary exhibitions are held throughout the year. Recently acquired 5,000 paintings of Bengal School of Art on enduring loan from Rabindra Bharati Society. By far the most-visited government museum in India, and one of the most-visited museums in the world (34 lakh gallery visitors in the year 2014-15).

##### **As Education Centre**

Organizes Lectures/Seminars/Workshops on Art, Culture, History, and Heritage on regular basis. Celebrates important national / international/ days by organizing various programmes.

Library has 15,000 books including rare ones. Leading library of art history and museology in Bengal. Organizes programmes for involvement of visitors, specially students, in museum activities. Light & Sound show (under renovation) on history of Calcutta

## Art Preservation

VMH has full-fledged Restoration/ Conservation Unit, also provides technical support to other institutions in conservation/restoration and has provided technical assistance to museums in North Eastern States in recent past. It organizes training /workshops for both in-house staff and other museum professionals regularly.

## Entertainment

VMH with its vast and picturesque garden, together with pathways and waterbodies, is a huge attraction for people. The iconic building built in the Indo-Saracen style is also a big draw. Gardens alone annually visited by very large crowds.

## Number of Visitors

Year	Visitors	Amount
2016-2017	36,05,331	Rs. 619.47 lakh
2017-18 ( upto 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan 18)	30,81,697	Rs. 556.43 lakh

NBCC Ltd. is performing the work of ongoing modernization programme in VMH.

Security arrangement of VMH has been handed over to CISF personnel w.e.f. 15.01.2018.

## Services

1. Library and Reading Room facilities for scholars and accredited students.

[Micro film reader available to study microfilm of archival documents.]

2. Enquiry from scholars (from India and abroad) on objects of V.M. Collection.
3. Restoration of Paintings etc. (including technical advice on conservation and planning) for collection kept in Government and Semi - Government as well as autonomous institutions
4. Photographs (in colour and B&W) of objects in V.M. collection made available to Scholars on payment of Rs. 1,000.00 (Rupees One Thousand only) per image, plus Postage Charges (if applicable).
5. Regular Guide Service for special groups of visitors on prior appointments.. For appointments e-mail us or call +91-33-2223-5142 (from outside India) or call 033-2223-5142 (from any where within India)

# VICTORIA MEMORIAL HALL ORGANIZATIONAL CHART Existing

