

Protection & Continuity of Tangible and Intangible Heritage and Cultural Expression

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Abstract: Heritage protection and continuity of heritage resources is of great significance not only because it is our legacy from past that provides a sense of identity but for cultural, aesthetic, educational, environmental, social, historical and other values attached to it. The more recent addition to this litany of values is the economic value which relates to socio-economic transformation or development. The theme "Protection and continuity of Tangible, Intangible Heritage and Cultural Expression" would largely concerned with specific laws and regulations that are promulgated for protection, preservation and conservation of heritage properties of various categories the implementation or adoption of which would ensure protection and continuity of our heritage. In this context it is important to be aware of the international conventions, national and state or regional level laws that are in place which can be instrumental for heritage protection and continuity to understand heritage and its linkages with developmental policies and programs at cross-sectoral level.

1.0 Introduction

Heritage is variously understood as tradition, custom, beliefs, legacy, inheritance, birthright, art, language etc but it is a broad concept referring to both natural and cultural legacy inherited from the past. So heritage encompasses wide range of natural and cultural resources. The **natural heritage** includes features such as hills, mountains, rivers, landscapes, flora, fauna, volcanoes etc that form the natural treasure of a place and referred to as natural heritage of a place or country. The **cultural heritage** is an expression of the ways of living developed by a community and passed on from generation to generation including customs, practices, places, objects, artistic expressions, language, folklore, religion, values etc. It is often expressed as either intangible or intangible cultural heritage (ICOMOS, 2002). The **tangible cultural heritage** refers to physical artifacts or assets produced, maintained and transmitted from generation to generation including built heritage, monuments, artistic creations, landscapes, books, literature, works of art, artifacts etc. The **intangible heritage** include songs, dances, music, festivals, rituals, folklores, language, drama, knowledge, skills, cuisines, crafts etc that cannot be touched or stored in physical form as artifacts of museum but can be recorded and experienced through a vehicle giving expression to that. The tangible heritage aspects are inextricably bound up with the intangible heritage. Therefore, today any conservation activity aims to preserve both tangible as well as intangible heritage.

The protection and continuity of heritage is largely concerned with specific laws and regulations that are promulgated for protection, preservation and conservation of heritage properties of various categories the implementation or adoption of which would ensure protection and continuity of our heritage. In this context it is important to be aware of the international conventions, national and state or regional level laws that are in place which can be instrumental for heritage protection and continuity. The understanding of these existing conventions, laws and their bearings on heritage protection and

management is of great significance not only for heritage managers or professionals but for entire state agencies or stakeholders to ensure not only protection and continuity of heritage but to contribute to the planning of developmental policies and programs to achieve development of state in true sense as heritage encompasses wide range of development driver resources -natural and cultural resources. In fact heritage protection and continuity depends upon the participation of all.

2.0 Heritage & Development

Heritage protection and continuity of heritage resources is important not only it provides a sense of identity but for values attached to it such as cultural, aesthetic, educational, environmental, social, historical etc. The more recent addition to this litany of values is the economic value which relates to socio-economic transformation or development. The heritage encompasses both natural and cultural resources which are the drivers of development. Development is understood in many different ways or sense but in the context of interlink between heritage and development it is understood as the process of socio-economic transformation or development based on complex cultural and natural or environmental resources or factors and their interaction. It is understood as the systematic use of both formal(science) and cultural or indigenous knowledge to meet our needs. So in both respects natural and cultural heritage resources are drivers of development but the key concern is balancing conservation with development.

Conservation is often juxtaposed with restricted sense of preservation and used interchangeably but it has wider meanings and implications inherent in it. It should be understood as concept involving - (i)ethic of resource use, allocation and protection; (ii) appropriate measure to prevent injury, decay, waste or loss of both natural and cultural resources; (iii) careful utilization of resources to prevent depletion, preservation and restoration, recreation for continuity. It is a deliberate act of keeping heritage of the present for the future generation. As a concept it recognizes the fact that heritage provides opportunities for economic, ecological, educational and social benefit based on the principle of sustainable or wise- use of resources for long run. This very concept of conservation in heritage management promotes systematic planning, control, coordination and monitoring of management and developmental activities. The key issue in the heritage management and protection is balancing conservation and development and that is sustainable development. The concept of **sustainable development** is very much in fashion in current development discourse and it was coined by the International Union of the Conservation of Nature (IUCN),one of the research organizations or advisory bodies of UNESCO in 1980, which means for improving the quality of human life while living within the socio-ecological ability of the supporting environment(natural and cultural heritage) to do so for the present and future generation. In other words sustainability means " meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generation to meet their needs from the same environment where we are living. The concept was strengthened by the World Commission on the Environment And Development in 1987 when they released the report " Our Common Future"(UN 1987).Sustainable development is inclusive and holistic in its approach. It includes economic growth, environmental protection and social equity. The concept is built on participatory principle and direct involvement of local stakeholders in planning and management of natural and cultural resources for their social

transformation. So, it essentially require preservation and conservation of natural and cultural resources.

3.0 Heritage Laws

For preservation, conservation and protection of heritage both tangible and intangible we have many international, national and state or regional legislations. We need to be aware of these legislation to learn, adopt and evolve our own framework not only to bring out safeguarding measures for heritage protection but also to understand their implications in developmental planning and integrate and utilize heritage resources sustainably in the developmental planning which would ensure balanced, responsible and equitable development of the state .Apart from that there are many laws or acts, subordinate rules and regulations, bye laws, management plans, even traditional protection and management systems based on customary norms and practices or indigenous knowledge system that are relevant and put into use for protection and effective management of heritage properties.

3.1 UNESCO's World Heritage Convention 1972

The UNESCO's *World Heritage Convention* which was adopted in the year 1972 by the United Nations General Assembly with a view to protect the world's natural and cultural heritage of which India is a signatory member. It is an international agreement concerning the protection of the world cultural and natural heritage through one of its programs that is World heritage site program. The convention aims to promote cooperation among the nations to protect heritage around the world that is of outstanding universal value for current and future generation. In its Article 4 and 5 it is expressed that the state party must ensure the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage as well as to adopt a general policy which aims to give the cultural and natural heritage a function in the life of the community and to integrate the protection of the heritage into comprehensive planning program. The scope of action of the convention goes beyond listed heritage sites to encompass national policies and wider development program[may refer whc.unesco.org/www/icomos.org].

At present India has 35 cultural and natural sites on world heritage list and 43 sites on UNESCO's tentative list of World heritage site including Thembang Fortified Village West kameng District and Apatani Cultural Landscape Ziro. India ratified this convention in 1977.

The understanding of this convention is important for protection, preservation and conservation of tangible natural and cultural heritage sites. Currently we have two heritage sites in UNESCO's tentative list of world heritage site namely- *Thembang Fortified Village* and *Apatani Cultural Landscape* under Cultural Category and one National Park namely *Namdhapa National Park* under Natural category from Arunachal. The potentiality of our natural heritage is quite evident from the number of protected areas like National Parks(2), Tiger Reserve(1), Biosphere Reserve, Wild Life Sanctuaries(11) etc.

3.2 The UNESCO's Convention for Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003)

It was adopted to safeguard the intangible cultural heritage. The basic objectives of adoption of this convention were: to ensure respect for the intangible heritage of communities, groups and individuals concerned; to raise awareness at local, national and international level of the importance of intangible cultural heritage; to provide for international cooperation and assistance. Its Article 2 defines the intangible cultural heritage as "the practices, representations, expressions, as well as the knowledge and skills (including instruments, objects, artifacts, cultural spaces) that communities, groups, in some cases individuals recognize as part of their cultural heritage. The intangible cultural heritage is transmitted from generation to generation, constantly recreated by communities and groups in response to their environment, their interaction with nature and history and provide them with a sense of identity and continuity thus promoting respect for cultural diversity and human creativity. It is manifested inter alia in the domains like (i). Oral traditions and expressions, including language (ii). Performing arts including songs, dances and music (iii) social practices, rituals, festivals etc. (iv) Knowledge and practices concerning nature and universe or beliefs, faiths and practices (v). Traditional craftsmanship [may refer <https://ich.unesco.org/en/convention>].

India ratified this convention in 2005. Till today 12 elements have been nominated in the UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage List from India; 23 elements in Backlog Nomination List; and the Ongoing Nomination is the Kumbh Mela.

The understanding of this convention is important in the context of Arunachal where there is no significant policy framework for protection and preservation of intangible cultural heritage. In fact, the potentiality of our intangible cultural heritage is much more than the tangible or built heritages.

3.3 UNESCO's Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions 2005

The UNESCO adopted another Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions 2005 which India ratified in 2006 [may refer <http://en.unesco.org/creativity/convention/about/text>]. The convention is concerned with the objectives: (a) to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions; (b) create the conditions for cultures to flourish and freely interact in a mutually beneficial manner; (c) to encourage dialogue among cultures with a view to ensuring wider and balanced cultural exchanges in the world in favour of inter cultural respect and a culture of peace; (d) foster interculturality in order to develop cultural interaction in the spirit of building bridges among peoples; (e) promote respect for the diversity of cultural expression and raise awareness of its value at the local, national and international levels; (f) to reaffirm the importance of the link between culture and development for all countries , particularly for developing countries and to support actions undertaken nationally and internationally to secure recognition of the true value of this link; (g) to give recognition to the distinctive nature of cultural activities, goods and services as vehicles of identity, values and meanings; (h) to reaffirm sovereign rights of state to maintain, adopt and implement policies and measures that they deem appropriate for the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions on this territory; (i) to strengthen

international cooperation and solidarity in a spirit of partnership with a view in particular to enhancing the capacities of developing countries in order to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions.

The understanding of this convention is significant in the context when economy is becoming informational, global, networked and cultural industrial creativity is being recognized as central input for all sectors. In other words, relevant for protection and regulation of our cultural activities, goods and services that come under the purview of Cultural expression. It is said that the current economy is global and based on information where creativity, innovation and knowledge are considered to play major role. The art and culture sector is often given less importance in developmental planning and seen as drain on the economy but cultural industries be it a textile design, crafts, fine arts and other contemporary creative works etc all over the world have proved this conventional notion wrong. In fact the products of cultural industry are consumed by millions of people all over the world. In the context of Arunachal, we have rich traditions of textile weaving, basketry making (cane & bamboo), wood carving, painting, carpet making etc. We also have rich oral traditions, folk songs, dances, musical instruments, tradition of staging drama (khamtis, monpas, Adis) which come under purview of performing arts. These are potential cultural components which if revitalized, innovated, approached with paradigm shift can contribute to the development of state. However, due to rapid change in life style, negligence, improper approaches, lack of innovative recreation these vast artistic cultural ingredients are fast disappearing. Therefore, we will seriously have to contemplate and rethink how these elements can be integrated into development process as culture cannot remain static and it should continuously evolve and recreated without distorting their meanings and values in the name of change and commercialization. Moreover, there is lack of research studies on art and cultural industry components in our state. Therefore, there is need of conducting critical research studies in the field of cultural industry before formulating any policy with this regard to assess various potentialities and challenges. Today, people of Arunachal are also engaged in different contemporary creative activities such as filming, designing, advertising, dancing, singing, publishing, writing etc. These activities generate jobs, income and revenue but such fields are currently facing challenges. The due recognition of the rights of the authors and artists is often challenged by the spread of piracy, e-piracy like problem is common across world. In this regard there is need of awareness, training, updating of national copyright legislation for adaptation to cyberspace.

3.4 The convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) 1992

It is an international agreement adopted at the Earth Summit, in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. It has three main objectives: to conserve biological diversity; to use its components in a sustainable way; to share fairly and equitably the benefits arising from the use of genetic resources. The CBD is now one of the most widely ratified international treaties on environmental issues with 194 member countries. It calls all state parties to prepare national strategies, plans and programs for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity into relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programs and policies. India ratified this convention in 1994.

The understanding of this convention is relevant for conservation of our Bio-cultural heritage components. This is also relevant in the context when the bio-cultural concept is widely employed in the heritage management. This convention and bio-cultural heritage management approach seeks the strengthening of the traditional knowledge system and traditional wisdom for effective management and protection of genetic biological resources be it crop varieties, medicinal plants, orchids, faunal species etc. However, it is important to be aware about current debates on the privatization of community knowledge, bio-resources, alienation of their rights and unfair exploitation of biological resources without permission or respect of customary laws. Therefore it is highly imperative to be updated about the Intellectual Property Right(IPR) regimes like Patent and Plant Variety Protection(PVP) which are becoming very strong and ubiquitous as a result of trade agreements of World Trade Organization (WTO) and proliferation of bilateral free trade agreements because this is accelerating the commercial use and privatization of indigenous knowledge and biological resources.

3.5 Indian Heritage laws

The responsibility of protection and preservation and promotion of cultural heritage in India is vested to the Ministry of Culture. It is also responsible for implementation of various UNESCO conventions in India. For protection, conservation, preservation and promotion the Ministry of culture , Govt of India promulgated various laws or Acts. India had its first law way back two centuries ago in form of *Bengal regulation XIX of 1810* and this was followed by *Madras Regulation VII of 1817* though both Acts did not concerned the buildings under the private ownership. The *Act of XX of 1863* was therefore enacted to empower government to prevent injury to and preserve buildings remarkable for their antiquity or historical or architectural value. The *Indian Treasure Trove Act 1878* was promulgated to protect and preserve treasure found accidentally but had the archeological and historical value. This Act was enacted to protect and preserve such treasures and their lawful disposal. The cultural heritage ushered in a new era when the *Ancient Monuments Preservation Act 1904* was promulgated. This Act provided effective preservation and authority over the monument particularly those which were under the custody of individuals or private ownership. Next was the *Antiquities Export Control Act 1947* and Rules thereto which provided a regulation over the export of antiquities under a license issued by the Director General and empowering him to decide whether any objects or articles or thing is or not an antiquity for the purpose of the Act .In 1951 The *Ancient and Historical Monuments and Archeological Sites and Remains (Declaration of National Importance) Act 1951* was enacted to protect all ancient and historical monuments and archeological sites and remains under which the 1904 Act was re-declared as monuments and archeological sites of national importance and another 450 monuments and sites of part B states were also declared as of national importance under section 126 of the States Reorganization Act 1956.

In order to bring the Act on par with constitutional provisions and provide better and effective preservation to the archeological wealth of the country the *Ancient Monuments & Archeological Sites & Remains Act(AMASRA) 1958* was enacted to provide preservation of ancient and historical monuments and archeological sites and remains of national importance, for regulation of archeological excavation and for the protection of sculptures, carvings and other objects. This Act repealed 1951 Act. In the year 2010 amendment was passed to insert few new provisions, one of them was constitution of National

Monument Authority that will be responsible for making recommendations to the central government for grading and classifying protected monuments and protected areas, oversee the working of the competent authorities to suggest measures for implementation of the Acts.

The *Antiquities and Art Treasures Act 1972* was enacted for effective control over the moveable cultural property consisting of antiquities and art treasures. This Act repealed 1947 Act.

The central government proposed a National Commission for Heritage Sites Bill in 2009 to comply with World Heritage Convention who will recommend short and long term policies to the state and central governments, conduct research and studies , publish periodically heritage maps, make list of heritage sites for nomination, make periodical reports etc but it remain pending and withdrawn in 2015 after having recommendations of various committees and stakeholders.

The public interest litigation(PIL) is an another important legal tool for protection of heritage properties through which we approach Supreme Court of India & High Court by filing writ petition under article 32 and 226 of Indian constitution respectively.

In regards to protection of Intangible Cultural Heritage(ICH) there is no specific laws or Art policy in India but Ministry of culture, Government of India, for safeguarding, promoting, and propagating of ICH formulates schemes for ICH such as cultural functions and production grant scheme (CFPGS),fellowship scheme, Tagore national fellowship for cultural research, scheme for safeguarding the ICH and Diverse cultural traditions of India etc. However, the Govt of India founded a number of institution that determined its cultural policy, for several other agencies, the dominant paradigms for the 'Art & Culture' as whole. Among these are the Indian Council of Cultural Relations(1950), Sangeet Natak Akademi(1953),Indian National Museum, Sahitya Akademi, National Gallery of Modern Arts and Lalit Kala Akademi(all set in 1954)Film Institute of India(1959), National School of Drama(1959) and National Institute of Design(1961).While these institutions recognize, engage in and support contemporary art practices both classical and modern but there is virtually no definitive space for autonomous contemporary art practices as such in any of the founding document of national cultural policy rather the role of these institutions fits mainly within a very different concept of cultural nationalism. The Archeological Survey of India, Anthropological Survey of India, National Archives, Asiatic Society,National Museum Institute, school of Archeology, Archives , Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad Institute for Asian Studies, Kalakshetra foundation etc come under Ministry of Culture. It's also custodian of all major libraries in the country. It also protect and promote Buddhist andTibetan culture through institutions located at Sarnath, Varanasi and Leh. Though the preservation efforts of ministry are being carried out in a scattered form but formulates various schemes for safeguarding promoting and propagating of ICH. Nevertheless, there is now emphasis on proactive policy development for cultural industries in India after Jodhpur Initiative in 2008.And the issues related to Copyright or Culture and Technology of Information started to be raised by critical research centers like SARAI and Law Forum of Bangalore. The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry(FICCI) has also commissioned to consult Delloitte the first report on Art Industry in 2010 but still there is no clear project to promote Artistic Industries in India. A turning point could be initiated following the BIMSTEC Agreement in 2014 by seven nations namely Bangladesh, India, Bhutan, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and

Thailand which is the Bay of Bengal Initiative for multi-sectoral including the cultural industries, technical and economic cooperation.

3.6 Arunachal Heritage Laws

In the context of Arunachal Pradesh, we have two heritage specific laws or acts namely *The Arunachal Pradesh Ancient Monuments, & Archeological Sites & Remains Preservation Act (1990)* and *Arunachal Heritage Act 2015* after two sites from AP came into UNESCO's tentative list of WHs namely **Thembang Fortified Village** and **Apatani Cultural landscape** in the year 2014. The former one is concerned with protection and preservation of ancient monuments, archeological sites and remains while the later one is concerned with protection and preservation of heritage sites in general including cultural and natural. The Directorate of Research under Department of Cultural Affairs is the nodal agency for World Heritage Matter in the State and the Department of Forest & Environment and other autonomous bodies State Medicinal Plant Board, Biodiversity Conservation Boards, Bamboo Development Board, SFRI etc are responsible for taking care of natural and biological heritage of the state. We have adopted and promulgated many laws or acts or regulatory mechanisms for protection and management of forest and environment under which the **Namdapha National Park** of Arunachal which was put into UNESCO's tentative list of WHS in 2006 can be reviewed and worked upon.

There is no specifically promulgated law or legislation for protection of intangible cultural heritage in Arunachal. Here also, the Department of Culture Affairs under which comes Directorate of Research, Art & Culture, IPR, Gazzetter, Library, SJETA etc are carrying out preservation and promotion of cultural heritage of AP without having any concrete policy framework or guidelines. For instance, the Directorate of Research may be called *five in one* department because under this directorate the Archeological, Archival, Museum, Cultural and Linguistic heritage components are dealt which in other states use to be separate institutions under Department of Cultural Affairs . Therefore there is a great need of institutional reformation in the light of concern of heritage protection and continuity. And recently we have also created Department of Indigenous Affairs that should also come Department of Cultural Affairs. Now when we should have been focusing more on institutional reformation, we still in need of policy frameworks for these institutions. For reformative policy making process we should base our policy framing on feasibility research based reports to avoid inconclusive, conflicting policy frameworks.

Despite having huge potential culture and heritage resources we have not been able to harness much economic benefits due to lack of concrete policy frameworks or guidelines as well as disarrayed institutional set up. The Department of Cultural Affairs in the state is not well set. Due to such institutional set up there are overlapping of schemes and projects. In Arunachal context, the departments like Industry, Handloom and Textile, Art & Culture, Town Planning, Forest & Environment, Agriculture, Horticulture, Tourism, IPR, Gazetteer, Research, SJETA, Printing etc are relevant governmental agencies which along with other relevant departments should work together in close collaboration and coordination for heritage preservation, promotion and protection.

4.0 Significance of understanding heritage laws

Understanding of heritage related convention and laws and their bearings on heritage protection and management is important not only to base our policy framework on them but to build up a comprehensive understanding of provisions, strategies of these laws and assess their appropriateness in the context of Arunachal society and then to bring out our own framework as per the needs. In the context of planning and development such understanding ensures not only effective management and protection and continuity of the heritage properties but also help planners to anticipate overlapping of developmental policies and programs and possible conflicts of approaches and jurisdiction between different developmental agencies.

In relation to conflict of jurisdiction few cases from Arunachal as have been experienced by the Directorate of Research may be cited here as follows:

- 1). Construction of Water Tank at *Eastern Gate Itafort* near Raj Bhawan by PHE department in spite of several objections from Research Department.
- 2). Without knowing the existing Heritage Act for monuments and archeological sites and remains, the Office of the Town Megistrate issued a court notice to Directorate of Research with regards to the *Western Gate Itafort* claiming that some portion of protected areas that run along the highway road as government land.
- 3). Encroachment and closing of entry gate of *Naksaparbat* an archeological site for construction of office of Circle Officer without serving any information or intimation letters to Directorate of Research.
- 4). Construction of Museum within the protected area of *World War II Cemetry* at Jairampur destroying several graveyards of the cemetry.
- 5) Construction of guest house by Tourism department in the *Malinithan* that too within the campus. The local dwellers who were residing within the campus of Malinithan are now reluctant to vacate the place claiming that those plots of land are their inherited properties. The Research Department has a court case in relation to this encroachment problem.

As per Heritage laws or Act and guidelines, construction of any structures with 100m distance from the protected area is strictly prohibited. But the cases cited above are examples of gross violation of heritage laws and persistent problem of encroachment in heritage site areas due lack of awareness of heritage and its importance, cooperation among various developmental agencies and people in general.

Regarding overlapping of projects and contesting approaches mention may be made of project formulations of various departments on common aspects the implementation of which may lead to conflict of approaches in development process and curtailment of the very objective of development. For instance, Water Resource Department, PHE and Agriculture Department formulate projects on irrigation channels and water bodies; Agriculture and Fishery department formulate and implement projects related to supply of fish fingerlings; Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department, UD and Housing and RWD formulate projects on cattle trap and other common aspects; Horticulture Department and Forest Department formulate projects on Medicinal & Aromatic plants. The forestation

program of Forest Department often clashes with horticulture activities. The protection and management of heritage become extremely challenging in the kind of situation when there is overlapping of project formulation, executions and contesting approaches. The careful examination of overlapping projects, promote careful planning of development. Therefore, heritage concern needs to be integrated into developmental planning so that heritage conservation activities can be carried out harmoniously and jointly with agreed implementing approaches. Heritage being a diversified resource should be collectively managed and protected by multi stakeholders through coordination, collaboration and cooperation between different departments.

5.0 Linkage between heritage and policy

The centrality of culture and heritage to the socio-economic development is widely recognized. Heritage is closely linked with policy making process because heritage including natural and cultural resources are important drivers of development. The heritage policy would help us in identifying and outlining our various potential natural and cultural resources which plays vital role in economic development.

Heritage management and protection promotes systematic planning, implementation and monitoring process. It requires participation of entire developmental agencies and community people thus guarantees social cohesion. The need of participation of wide sectoral developmental agencies in heritage protection and management would require cross-sectoral policy initiatives. For instance, heritage is concerned with wide range of activities such as tourism, forest and environment, town planning, Art and Culture, Research, museum, cultural industries like handloom and handicraft, film making, painting, literature, publishing, advertising etc. In this light it is highly imperative to integrate heritage concern in developmental policies and programs of the state. The need of multi-stakeholder participation will promote coordination, collaboration and cooperation between different departments which will further ensure protection and conservation of heritage resources for sustainable existence of society.

The heritage policy that recognizes environmental or biological resources as important part of heritage and need of their sustainable or wise use for long run will promote ecological resilience. More importantly, it will raise awareness about sustainability or sustainable development through the concept of heritage conservation among the people and encourage to adopt appropriate technology and knowledge suitable for development.

The recognition of culture and heritage as repository of knowledge promote the systematic use of formal knowledge(science) and traditional or indigenous knowledge and the policy based on integration of both knowledge will act as guide for evolution of morals, attitudes, beliefs and values in society. Since culture provides the ideological and philosophical foundation for societal development which is central to all development programs, the policy on culture would help in assessing and selecting ideas before adapting them to developmental program.

Arunachal Pradesh is a multicultural state manifested in uniqueness and plurality of the identities of different tribes and the policy recognizing this diversity will promote cultural tolerance and respect and enhance cultural exchange and cooperation.

The heritage policy that seeks to integrate all legal regulatory mechanisms and management systems will help in strengthening of various legal regulatory mechanisms and traditional protection and managements systems too. This will also provide the traditional knowledge and wisdom, customary norm and practices, a humble space in the heritage management system . The identification, documentation, recognition and integration of traditional knowledge system of community in heritage management system, will raise self esteem, confidence level and inclusive sense of community people in governance.

Thus heritage policy will enable the state to overcome various challenges posed by modernization, globalization, current development trend and its pressures, democracy, governance, conflicts, contradictions etc.

6.0 Conclusion

Heritage protection and continuity is largely determined by effective policy formulation and implementation. The policy implementation promotes systematic planning, implementation and monitoring process for which understanding of existing international, national and state or regional level laws or acts is important, not only to base our policy frame but to learn, asses appropriateness and evolve our own framework. Heritage protection and continuity also depends upon participation of almost entire developmental agencies in the state. Therefore, heritage concern must be integrated into developmental policies and programs at cross-sectoral level so that awareness about heritage also increases among different actors in the state. This will promote coordination, collaboration and cooperation between different departments which would ensure protection and conservation of heritage resources. This will also help planners to anticipate the possibilities of formulating overlapping projects, conflicting approaches and jurisdiction of different implementing agencies.

There are many conventions ratified and implemented by Government of India, laws or acts that have been adopted for protection and development of management strategies for various categories of heritage resources but there is lack of policy initiatives for intangible cultural heritage at both national and state level. In the context of Arunachal we have so far only two heritage specific laws or acts that are concerned with protection and preservation of tangible cultural and natural heritage resources but there is no specific policy framework and guidelines for intangible cultural heritage despite having huge potential intangible cultural heritage. Therefore, there is need of framing policy for intangible cultural heritage. Nevertheless, intangible culture is a vast subject covering wide range of cultural and contemporary activities. Therefore, the policy framing on intangible cultural heritage (ICH)must base on preliminary feasibility reports and impact assessment studies so that a comprehensive, complementary policy document can be prepared.