



PRESS RELEASE

Madrid, 11 November 2015

Inspection of Banco de España building façade

On the morning of 28 October a piece of stone broke away from the cornice modillion on the Alcalá street façade of the Banco de España building.

An urgent inspection of the cornice was immediately commissioned, with protective scaffolding erected so that the specific area affected could be examined and all safety precautions taken while the inspection was under way. This urgent examination enabled other deteriorated pieces of the cornice to be detected, and immediate preventive action will now be taken.

The block occupied by the Banco de España, bordered by the Paseo del Prado, Hermanos Madrazo, Marqués de Cubas and Alcalá streets, comprises a series of buildings constructed as successive extensions to the original edifice, inaugurated in the late XIX century. Although the periods in which they were built differ, the Paseo del Prado and Alcalá façades have similar architectural features, topped by matching cornices. Accordingly, in light of the technical studies made, an exhaustive inspection has been deemed necessary. That will involve erecting scaffolding to ensure both safety and the successful completion of the inspection and any work to be undertaken, the extent, details and duration of which are still to be decided in light of its complexity.

The Madrid City Council has been kept informed at all times of the urgent action set in train since 29 October, and has offered effective collaboration and assistance. Given their heritage status, the Banco de España buildings enjoy a high level of protection; consequently, once the complete plan of action to be taken has been decided, applications will be made for the necessary authorisations from the pertinent competent bodies.

The Banco de España regrets the inconvenience caused for pedestrians and traffic alike on both the Paseo del Prado and Alcalá thoroughfares as a result of the scaffolding, which is necessary to ensure safety and allow the work to be done. Every effort will be made for the work to be completed as soon as possible.

Reproduction permitted only if the source is cited.