

Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative

ANNUAL REPORT – 2020

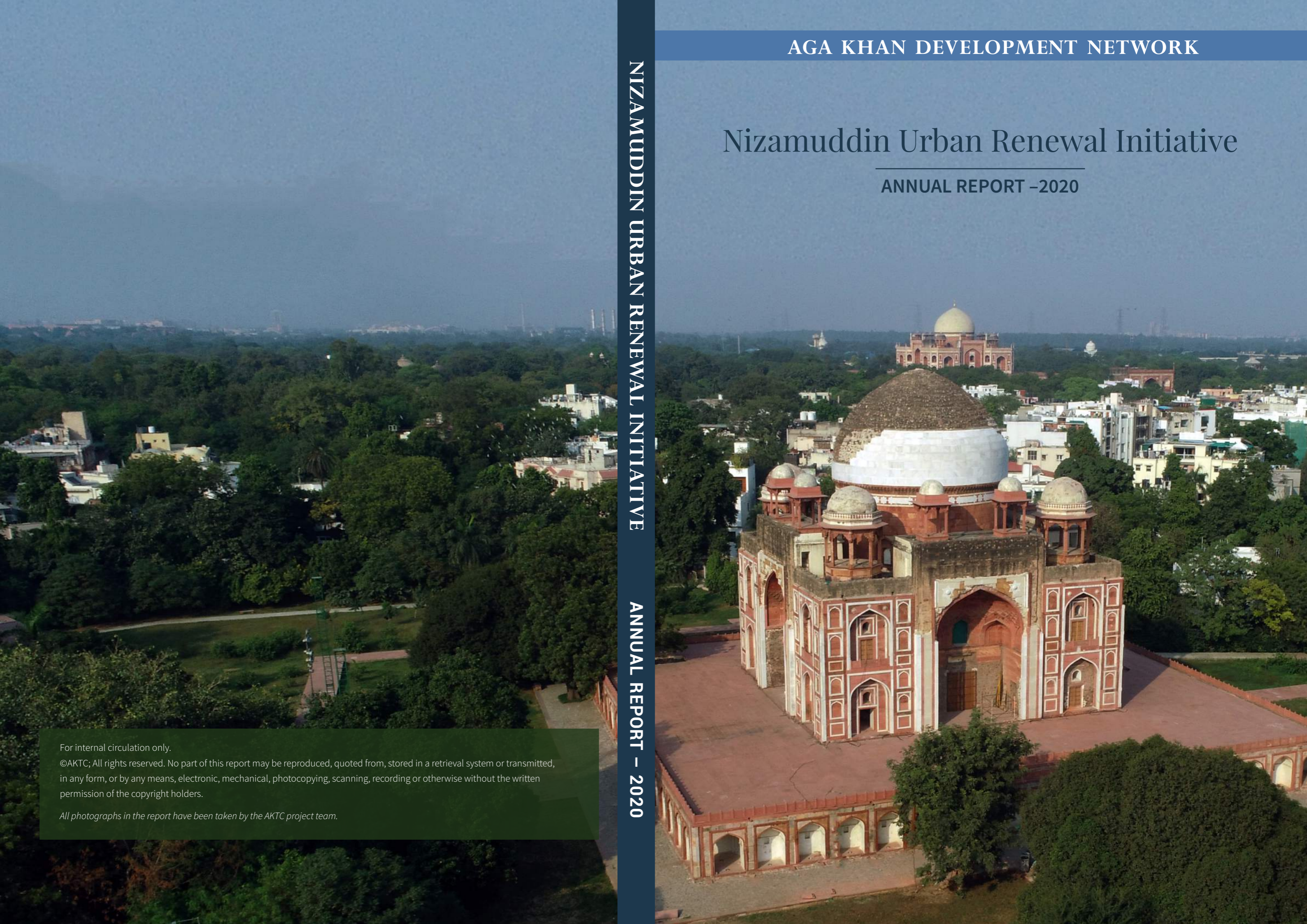
NIZAMUDDIN URBAN RENEWAL INITIATIVE

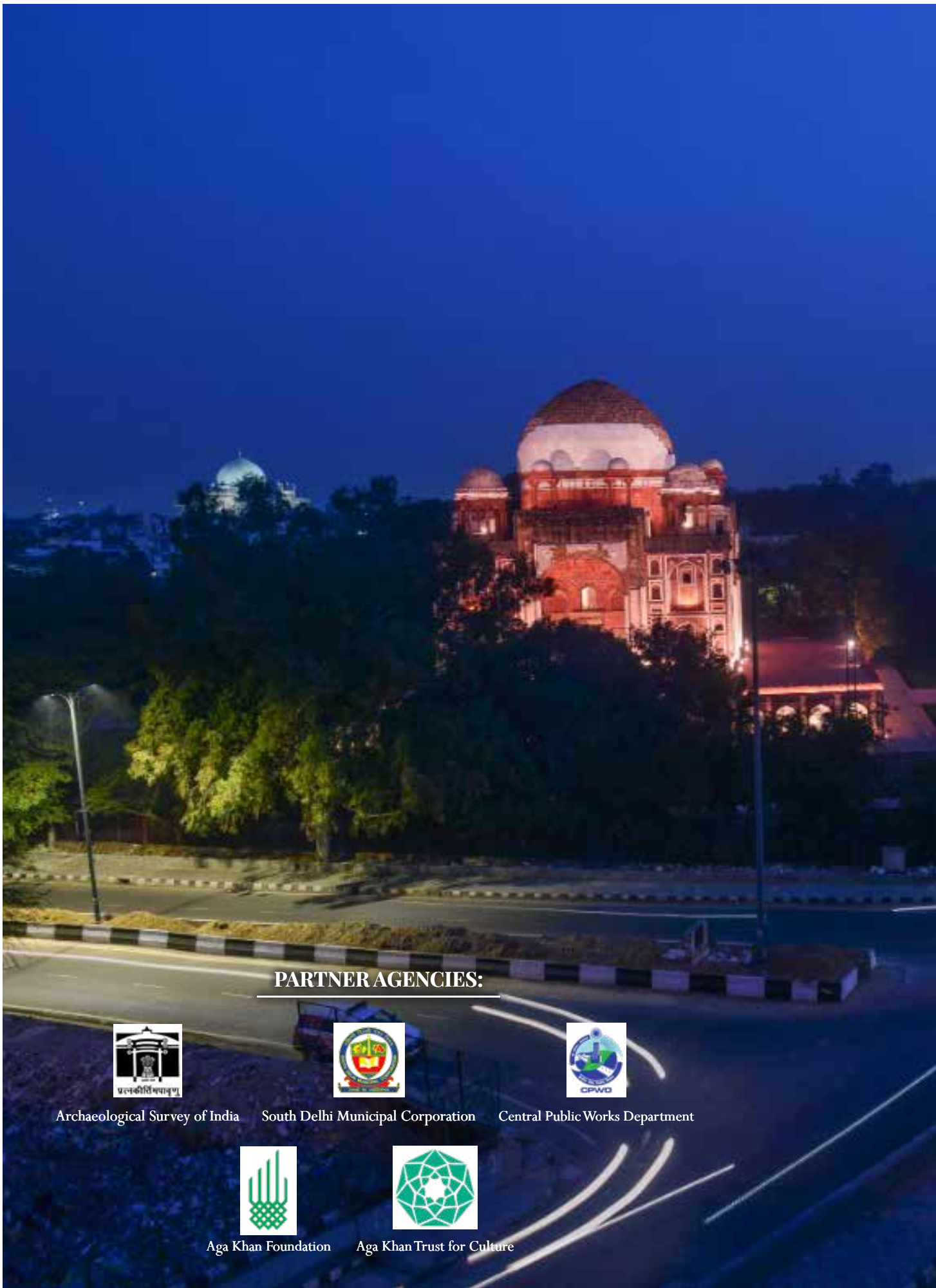
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PARTNER AGENCIES:



Archaeological Survey of India



South Delhi Municipal Corporation



Central Public Works Department



Aga Khan Foundation



Aga Khan Trust for Culture

Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative

A project of the Aga Khan Development Network on a non-profit **People Public Private Partnership** format, aimed at conservation led sustainable urban development.

The initiative has included the creation of Sunder Nursery - Delhi's heritage park, implemented multiple projects to improve the Quality of Life for inhabitants of Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti, created alternate attractions for the citizens of Delhi and enhance visitor experience for the millions of national and international tourists visiting the World Heritage Site.



www.nizamuddinrenewal.org



www.instagram.com/nizamuddinrenewal



www.facebook.com/NizamuddinRenewal



www.twitter.com/NizamuddinUrban



www.youtube.com/channel/UCouWCUYA4BwyLxYfCMYQ0ow

Supported By:



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State Department of Archaeology, Government of NCT Delhi



Hilti India Pvt. Limited



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Australian Embassy

Australian High Commission



FabIndia



German Embassy



Christie's



Aliph Foundation

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Acknowledgement

Public Agencies
Aga Khan Development Network
Community Teams





COVID RELIEF

Project efforts during Covid-19





COVID-19

The Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative responded to the covid situation in a manner that is aligned to the larger project i.e. addressing the multiple needs of the community and working with the community and government to minimise the impact of Covid. The project worked with the government in conducting house to house surveys post the sealing of the Tablighi Jamaat and subsequent sero surveys. In addition, the project worked with children to provide academic support, provided dry rations to the neediest families, facilitated medical intervention when needed, raised issues of community interest with the district administration , raised awareness, assisted in food distribution by government agencies and distributed masks.



ACTION TAKEN:

Supporting Government of NCT of Delhi

- Support the Government of NCT of Delhi and WHO in an intense house to house survey of 1852 houses in the first week of April 2020 immediately after the sealing of Nizamuddin. A second round was conducted at the end of May 2020.
- Assisting the state government by connecting with the community for 5 rounds of voluntary sero surveillance and for 4 rounds of voluntary Covid testing. People were very reluctant to get out of their home for conducting the tests. The health workers however used their skills of communication and motivated the population to come out for the tests.
- An empirical study on Covid Appropriate Behavior among the people in Hazrat Nizamuddin Area was conducted in the third week December on the request of the Government of NCT of Delhi. A report has been submitted to the government.

Health Awareness

- A regular broadcast on WhatsApp which functioned like community radio called 'Sehat Aappa No.1' was initiated. The objective was to spread awareness and clarify misconceptions related to COVID 19. Sehat Aappa # 1 comprised a daily audio/video is sent to people in community.
- The messages comprised information collected from World Health Organisation, Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. These were then translated into Hindi-Urdu, essentially using the local idiom, and capitalising on the trust that the Sehat Aappaas have in the community. These audio/video messages were interspersed with question/answer sessions. As of now, 193 such messages in the form audio/video have been disseminated in the community. To establish credibility, each message cited the source of the information being provided, so people could cross check if they wanted to.



Direct Support to community

- A total of 15,000 masks were distributed in the community through the toilet complexes, school and with the dry ration kits.
- A total of 400 families were identified and are provided with 5.5 kg of protein based dry ration that includes pulses, soya beans and edible oils for 3 months .
- 1000 children are being provided academic support through online and offline methods.

Sanitation and Waste Management

- User fee was waived off and borne by AKTC for all users during the time the Basti was a containment zone.
- Sanitation services continued non-stop, even when households were unable to pay for waste collection, during the period when Nizamuddin was sealed, to prevent spread of other diseases. The shortfall was met by AKTC.

Fund Raising

- The Sehat Sahayata Samooh which has been created under the project as a fund to help its members during medical emergencies ran an online fund-raising campaign to help those families whose livelihoods had been impacted the

most. This was hosted on an on-line platform that facilitated transfer of funds to the Sehat Sahayat Samooh account. The fund-raising campaign raised an amount of Rs 17,32,000.

- The group conducted a survey of 800 households through its network of Sehat Aapas and Sehat Sahelis and identified the families who were unable to earn during the lock-down and sealing of Nizamuddin. This also included women headed households, families with a person with a physical disability or chronic patients or a pregnant woman. The funds raised was used to give a kit comprising flour, rice, pulses, spices, soap, oil, tea, sugar and sanitary napkins. The kit distributed around Eid also had raw material to prepare sevian (vermicelli) through a generous donor and was much appreciated.

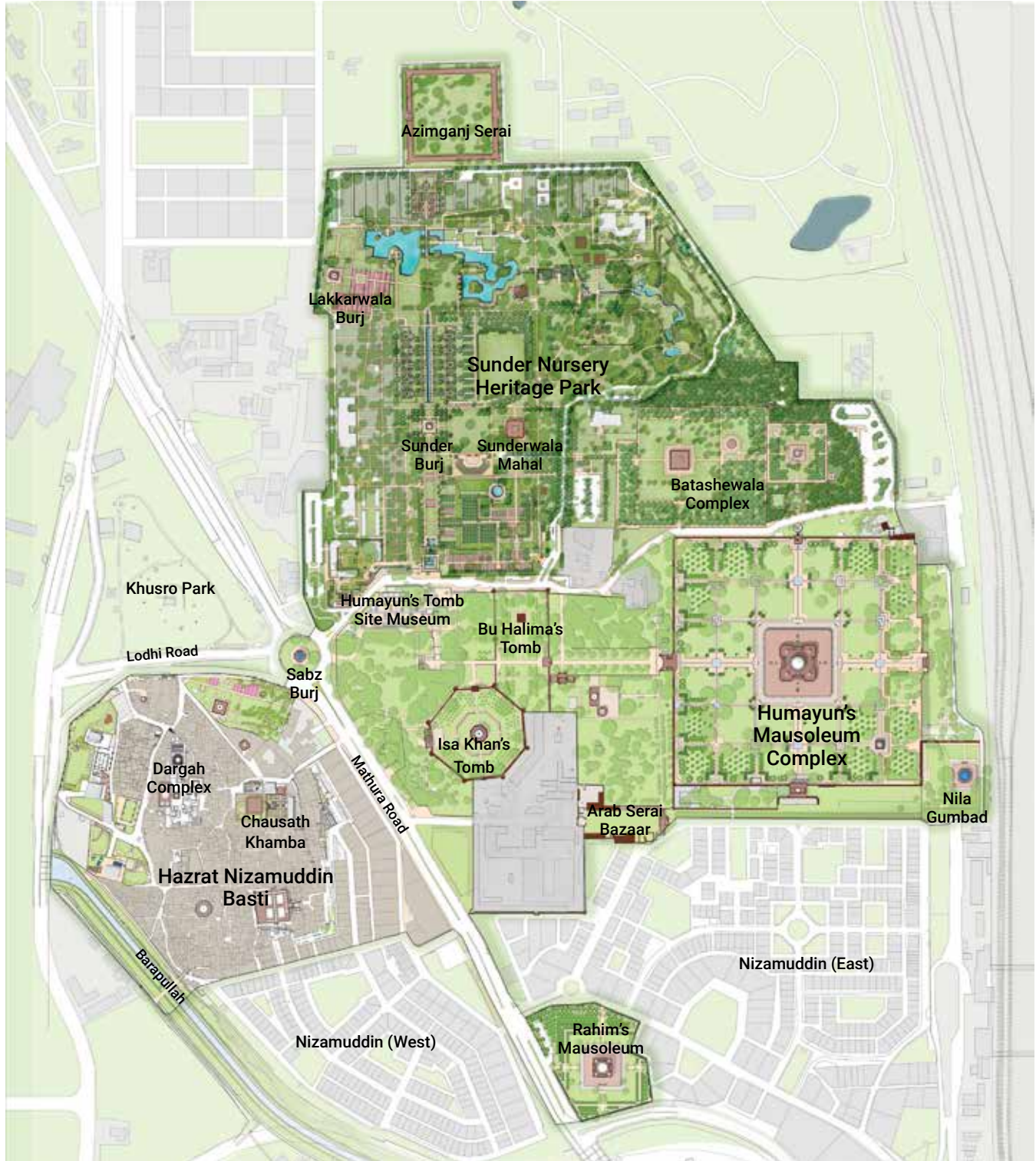
Supporting health and other emergencies

- A list of pregnant women whose delivery was due during the time Nizamuddin was sealed was shared with the government so that the women could reach the hospital and for other medical emergencies.
- Issues that caused the community hardship were raised in joint meetings – issues of the absence of ATM and a flour mill.
- Working with the district administration to rescue children who had been picked up by mistake.





The fund-raising campaign ran by Sehat Sahayata Samooh to help those families whose livelihoods had been impacted the raised an amount of Rs 17,32,000.



Above: The 300+ acres of the project area is located in the heart of the national

Executive Summary

The Nizamuddin renewal initiative has from the onset laid equal emphasis on the three principal project objectives: Conservation of the built heritage, Environmental development and creation of a city park and the improvements in Quality of Life for residents of Hazrat Nizamuddin through socio economic development measures.

2020 has been defined by the Covid 19 pandemic, the Nizamuddin area was no exception. **In early March 2020, the AKTC project team commenced a major awareness drive to inform residents of the risks of Covid 19 and required precautions.** One of the several Self Help groups established in Nizamuddin by AKDN, Insha e Noor, used their embroidery and crochet skills to start making cloth masks – over 20000 of which were bought and distributed by AKDN amongst the residents of the Nizamuddin Basti.

A few weeks later India's stringent lockdown was imposed and simultaneously, the congregation at the Nizamuddin Basti headquarters of the Tablighi Jamaat a major outbreak of Covid 19 was declared. Since this seven storeyed building attracts followers from worldwide location and at any given time over 10000 people reside here, from the onset it was considered a potential risk for spread of Covid 19 in the Nizamuddin Basti and thus the early AKDN efforts at awareness. As detailed later in this report, our efforts ensured not a single case of Covid 19 was recorded amongst the Basti residents until the close of the lockdown several months later. **This effort by the local community health team established by the project was recognised at the London based World Responsible Tourism Awards later in the year.**

Though several months of lockdown considerably slowed ongoing conservation works, 2020 saw the completion of conservation works on Rahim's mausoleum. This challenging effort, detailed in this report, was possible due to the financial support and partnership of InterGlobe Foundation and AKTC will continue to maintain the site for three years supported by Indigo. The conservation effort at Rahim's mausoleum gave us the opportunity to couple the enormous conservation effort with documenting and creating awareness about the intangible heritage associated with Rahim – through publications, festivals, films and more.

Shri Prahlad Patel, Hon'ble Minister of Culture felicitating the craftsmen at the completion ceremony of conservation works at Rahim's Mausoleum.



Amongst the many conservation initiatives undertaken two others stand out – both to be completed in 2021 – the conservation of the Sabz Burj and the Jamaat Khana mosque. At the Sabz Burj careful conservation revealed, what is now believed to be the earliest surviving painted ceiling at any Islamic monument – with generous use of Gold and Lapiz. The Jamaat Khana mosque – an unprotected monument – conservation works were undertaken by AKTC on the request of the community in whose care the mosque is; this then became the first ever scientifically carried out conservation effort at any of India's unprotected mosques in use for prayers. In both these structures inappropriate 20th century alterations were required to be carefully removed to reveal the significance of these sites.

For the two million annual visitors to the World Heritage Site, the Archaeological Survey of India and the Ministry of Culture, Government of India entrusted AKTC with building a

site museum. Construction works on this 10000 sqm building are now nearing completion. The pandemic has severely delayed the installation of the permanent exhibition and it is hoped that the facility should be opened to the public in late 2021. In 2020, detailed discussions led by the Hon'ble Minister of Culture, Government of India helped finalise the curatorial contents for the permanent exhibition. Here, the focus will be not only on Humayun and his mausoleum

but also the eminent personalities of Hazrat Nizamudin Auliya, Hazrat Amir Khusru, Abdur Rahim Khan-i-Khanan, Dara Shikoh. As well as the significant monuments of the Humayun's Tomb – Sunder Nursery – Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti.

*This effort by the local community health team established by the project was recognised at the **London based World Responsible Tourism Awards** later in the year.*

In 2020, on account of the devastation imposed by the pandemic on the poor communities within the Basti, the focus on education, vocational training, improving health and sanitation infrastructure, became much more important. Many amongst the basti residents are daily wage earners who lost livelihood for several months, others – at the bottom of the job market – lost well earned jobs. Here, in Nizamuddin Basti, the setback could be measured in years, and required the project teams to significantly enhance efforts.

Though several months of lockdown were imposed in Delhi in 2020, Sunder Nursery

These efforts led to the project winning twin awards at the annual ‘India Responsible Tourism awards’ – the project with the ‘Best Social Impact’ as well as the ‘Overall Winner’, across all categories.

attracted a record 304,000 visitors. Visitors of diverse backgrounds found refuge in Sunder Nursery for an equally diverse range of interests – the popular Sunday Markets, cultural performances, the urban forests created here the tranquillity of the lakes or the grandeur of the monuments. Providing a safe, clean, secure environment with breathtaking beauty meant that over 70% of visitors came here to picnic with family or friends.

On account of the conservation effort at 20 monuments at Sunder Nursery, of which four major monuments were supported by the US Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation, UNESCO Asia Pacific Awards honoured us with twin awards, the inaugural Sustainable Development mention and the Award for Excellence in Conservation.

Since 11 July 2007, when the MoU was signed to initiate the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative, our success in fulfilling and, exceeding project objectives, has been possible through establishing multiple partnerships. The hundreds of projects undertaken under the initiative have been supported by a diverse range of organisations including the Government of India as well as those of Norway, USA, Germany, and Australia. Support has also come from national and international trusts/ Foundations such as the Tata Trusts, Ford Foundation, amongst others. Corporates and Corporate foundations such as Havells, Indigo/ InterGlobe Foundation, Deloitte has been a more recent but critical support. All of the partnerships thus established have led to repetitive and continued support.

As the project draws to an end, the efforts have also been to create systems to ensure sustainability of all components, including the multiple socio-economic development measures that require significant additional support as a result of the devastation caused by the pandemic. These too, are further explained in this annual report.



Awards & Recognitions



UNESCO's Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation

- Sunder Nursery was awarded the Award for Excellence at the 2020 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation. The awards, which was established in 2000, recognises projects that have demonstrated a conservation approach that understands the significance of a place and displays a significant social and policy impact at the local, national and regional levels. **The Award of Excellence is the highest recognition for a project in this category.**

UNESCO's Special Recognition for Sustainable Development

- The Sunder Nursery Group of Monuments is also the first awardee of the Special Recognition for Sustainable Development, introduced in the 2020 Awards cycle for its **transformative impact in turning a barren site into an urban oasis in the heart of New Delhi.**
- The historic ensemble of Mughal garden-tombs and their associated sacred landscape was restored with native plantings and an extensive rainwater harvesting system. Meanwhile, a former dumpsite was converted into the city's only arboretum, which was planned as a designed wilderness and has become a local biodiversity hotspot for birds and other species.
- The project showcases technical excellence in built-heritage restoration alongside a commitment to socio-economic development, long a hallmark of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture. At the same time, it pays equal attention to ecological restoration, thus underscoring the message that heritage conservation is beyond monuments and is only truly sustainable when essential linkages between nature and culture are profoundly understood and nurtured.



Outlook Award for Indian Responsible Tourism:

- Outlook Group's Indian Responsible Tourism Awards (IRTA) awarded the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative Project Gold for best Social Impact project and overall winner for 2020 - across all categories.
- The jury appreciated the AKDN-led urban renewal project and its relentless effort in partnership with the Government agencies of Archaeological Survey of India, South Delhi Municipal Corporation, Central Public Works Department - to address Conservation, Environment Development and Socio-Economic Development in the historic city centre of Nizamuddin Area.



World Responsible Tourism Awards 2020:

- Followed by from the 'Overall Winner' at the 2020 India Responsible Tourism award to the project earlier Aga Khan Trust for Culture (India) receives the highest, '**Highly Commended**' recognition for efforts in the Humayun's Tomb - Nizamuddin area at the London awards ceremony.
- This year the judges decided to commend businesses and destinations which are taking responsibility and addressing the challenge of Covid-19 and to Highly Commend and Commend businesses and destinations.



26/11 Survivor's Award for Insha E Noor

- When the world was crippled by the pandemic, the women of Insha-e-Noor responded to the situation in their own humble and compassionate way. They produced over 20,000 masks while working from home, and did free distribution in Nizamuddin Basti - all this while the instructors guided them over phone and video calls.
- The group got a special mention and was featured in '**26/11 Stories of Strength**' by the Indian Express Group with a heartfelt mention by eminent film personality, Mr. Amitabh Bachchan.





Humayun's Tomb

Royal Gateway

Arab Serai Bazaar





Barber's Tomb

Nila Gumbad

Conservation

Rahim's Tomb



CONSERVATION

1. Mausoleum of Abdur Rahim Khan I Khanan

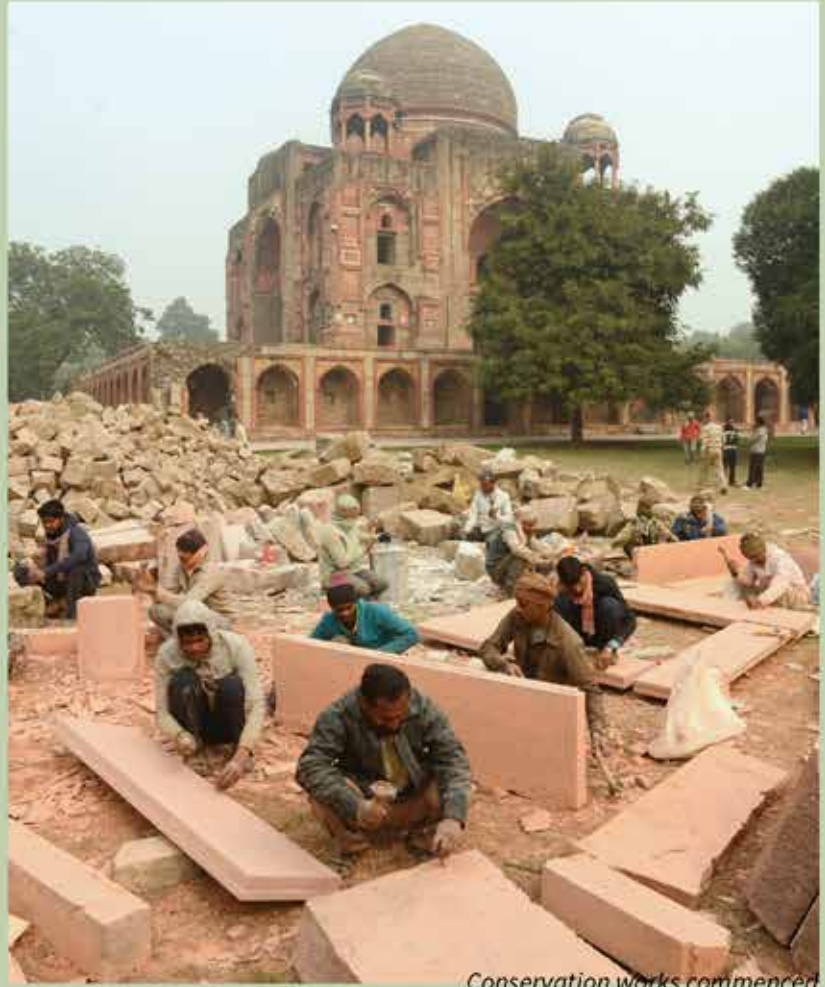
(Above) Mausoleum of Abdur Rahim Khan I Khanan after a six year long conservation effort, undertaken in partnership with the Archaeological Survey of India and InterGlobe Foundation

Standing in close proximity to the mausoleum of emperor Humayun is the monumental tomb built by Abdur Rahim Khan – I – Khanan for his wife Mah Banu, where he was also buried after his death in 1627 AD. The tomb is a significant expression of Mughal architecture with architectural innovations developed at the tomb serving as an inspiration for the later Taj Mahal.

Despite the immense historical, architectural and archaeological significance of the structure and its prominent location in central Delhi, Rahim's mausoleum stood in a ruinous condition with a risk of collapse. In 2014, the interdisciplinary Aga Khan Trust for Culture team - with the support and partnership of InterGlobe Foundation and the Archaeological Survey of India - commenced a six-year conservation effort. This became the largest conservation effort ever undertaken at any single monument of national importance in India and also the first ever privately undertaken conservation effort under 'Corporate Social Responsibility'. 175,000 man-days of work by master craftsmen has been undertaken for conservation.

Supported by:





Conservation works commenced with challenging structural repairs – to fix the cracks that threatened the building with structural collapse and included restoration of the intricate ornamentation – in stone and lime plaster. Over 175,000 person-day of work was carried out at the mausoleum.

Dome

Inner Dome

Canopy

Drum/Neck of Dome

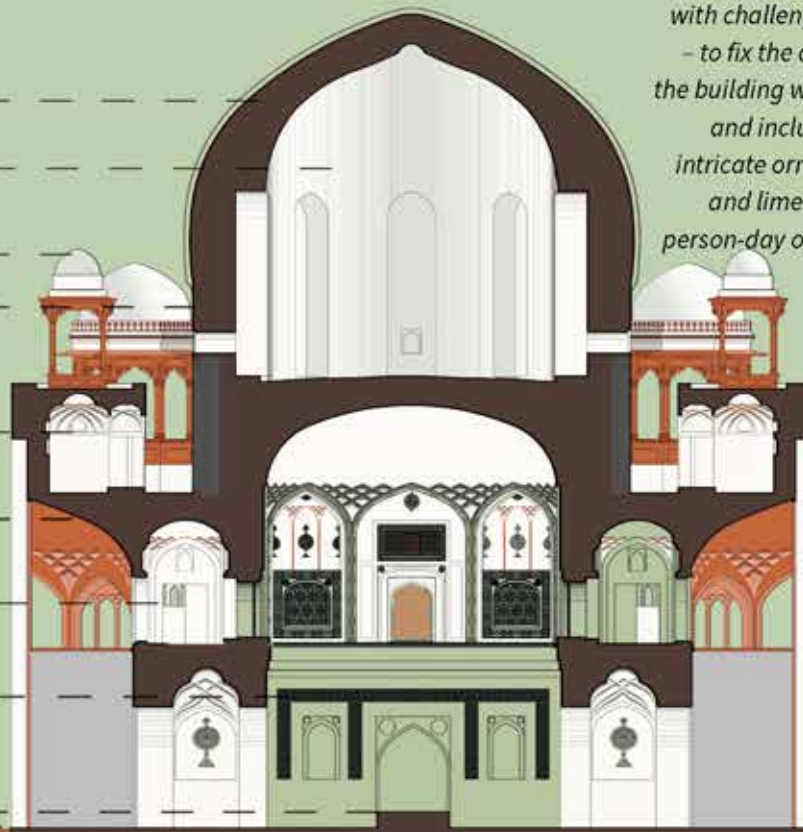
Pavilions

Building Facade

Balcony overlooking terraces & garden

Ornamental patterns like swastik in the interiors

Cenotaphs of Rahim and Mah Banu Begum



Ground floor Arcade

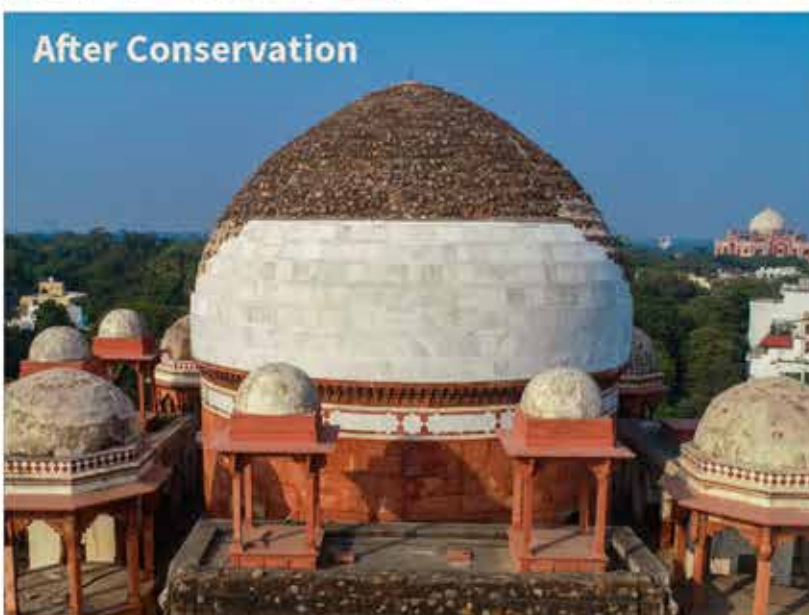
Crypt Chamber with a circumambulatory passage

DOMES

The mausoleum is crowned with a double dome, was originally have been clad in white marble, as is found at Humayun's Tomb. The marble would have also served as a protective layer for the underlying masonry. This marble was stripped in the 19th century exposing the underlying random rubble masonry. Restoration of marble to the dome was commenced in 2018, following a thorough structural analysis of the dome. It was decided to restore marble to the dome around the base to ensure structural safety to the dome while also conveying the original builder's intention.

ACTION TAKEN:

- The Delhi quartzite masonry of the dome was analyzed for any structural defects prior to the commencement of the restoration work.
- The masonry was carefully raked to remove any modern cement-based repairs and replaced with traditional lime mortar.
- Marble blocks were hand carved at the site by master craftsmen and keyed into the masonry of the dome to ensure structural stability and strength.
- A lime grout was used to fill any cavities and strengthen the masonry.



(Above) Collapsed portions of the building were reconstructed using traditional materials and building crafts. Restoration of marble cladding was limited - to strengthen the base of the dome and to indicate to visitors the original finish of the dome.

LARGE OCTAGONAL CANOPIES/CHATTRIS

The four corners of the roof are covered with large octagonal canopies that stand on a raised platform. Conservation of the canopies has included the restoration of missing sandstone eaves and cleaning of inner surfaces, removing added cement layers.

Restoration of missing and decorative elements such as the red-white kangura pattern below the dome.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Inappropriate modern cement layers were carefully dismantled from the neck of the domes and original profiles restored. The decorative red-white kangura pattern has been restored, where missing, using traditional tools and techniques.
- The layers of concrete have been carefully dismantled from the domes of the canopies, while taking care to ensure that there is no further damage to the domes.
- The dome have been repaired using lime mortar, including restoring their shapes to the original profiles.



(Above) Removal of layers of cement from the domes of the canopies has revealed red-white kangura patterns which have been restored where missing.

DALAN

In the centre of each of the four sides of the roof stand very low vaulted dalans. Three arched openings supported on twin sandstone columns provide access to the vaulted chamber. Due to water percolation from the roof above severe damage to the vaulted ceilings required to be carefully repaired.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Structural cracks were carefully replaced using stone and lime mortar gouting.
- Past cement repairs have been carefully removed from the internal and external surfaces of the dalans.
- The surfaces have been re-plastered in traditional lime plaster with a final coat of lime punning.
- The roof layers of the dalan have been removed and replaced with a new layer of traditional lime concrete with adequate slopes for quick disposal of water and to prevent further ingress of water in the vaulted chambers below



(Above) Water percolation from the roof above has been addressed to prevent further water ingress. The vaulted interiors have been restored using traditional craftsmanship.



CHATTRIS

As with Humayun's Tomb, over each of the four dalans stood two canopies each, but only one on the northern face was found standing. Stone elements of the missing canopies were found scattered at the top and careful documentation of the stones. Four canopies were rebuilt using a majority of the original stones.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Master craftsmen have carefully reconstructed four canopies, two each in the south and west, respectively.
- The domes of the canopies were built using traditional brick masonry in lime plaster.
- The extant canopy in the north was repaired and made structurally sound.



(Above) stone elements found at the site have been used to reconstruct four of the seven missing canopies

FACADE

On account of the mausoleum being used as a quarry up till the 20th century, marble and sandstone blocks have been stripped from the dome facade, with the protective stone cladding removed, the building was in a poor state of preservation. Major works have been carried out to the four facades of the structure in the preceding years. The conservation of the façade was preceded by an in-depth structural analysis. Conservation works commenced in 2018 and have now been completed.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Architectural studies of all four facades based on in-situ evidence were carried out to determine the patterns where stone blocks are missing. This was preceded by a study of archival images to determine additions and removal of stone blocks in the 20th century. These have led to the preparation of detailed proposals for conservation of the facades by restoration of the stone blocks where evidence of their original patterns was available.
- Marble and red sandstone blocks were hand dressed on site to match the original details and carefully restored to the facade using traditional lime mortar.
- The 1920's Delhi quartzite repair, which has been retained as an example of good conservation efforts, was found to be in poor state of preservation. The underlying masonry behind the quartzite repair was found to have lost its strength and was in the danger of collapse. The masonry was repaired, and lime grout was used to strengthen the masonry.
- The spandrels of the arches are decorated with six-pointed stars with a central marble medallion. The medallion was carefully documented, and master craftsmen have carved on site the missing medallions using traditional tools and techniques. The missing portion of six-pointed stars have been restored.
- Portions of the façade, such as the areas above the large arches, where no evidence of original patterns could be discerned have been mostly left untouched.
- The large central arch in marble was also left incomplete to as it was not considered to be structurally sound.

Before Conservation



After Conservation



(Above) Following an in-depth structural analysis and documentation, facade restoration was carried out using marble and sandstone blocks matching the original details

UPPER PLATFORM:

The mausoleum has a large upper platform with a significant foliated water tank, supported by an elaborate water lifting mechanism to operate fountains at this level. The sandstone flooring of this large terrace was also possibly stripped in the 19th century.

ACTION TAKEN:

- The modern cement concrete flooring on the upper plinth has been dismantled and replaced with the red sandstone flooring as per existing evidence of stone thickness and patterns.
 - Along with the laying of red sandstone flooring on the upper plinth, further scientific clearance of the fountain in the floral tank was carried out. A vertical terracotta pipe, has been found and clearance has been carried out up to the depth of the lime concrete base of the foundations of the monument.
- It was decided to not carry out any further clearance beyond this depth. The findings in the pit have been carefully and extensively documented, including 3D laser scanning. Thereafter, the pit has been filled up using traditional Delhi quartzite masonry and sand infill.
- This year the existing water tanks and large foliated tank at this level have been repaired and made water tight. The tanks are connected by water channels with have been repaired and laid to appropriate slopes.



(Below) Layers of cement have been removed from the upper platform and replaced with traditional sandstone. The existing water tanks at this level have been repaired and made water tight and the terracotta pipe carefully documented.

PRINCIPAL CHAMBER

The cenotaph sits in a high domed chamber over the actual burial chamber. The cenotaph had been lost and replaced with a masonry block, plastered over. The cenotaph would have been highly ornamental marble block as is the room for early Mughal mausoleums.

ACTION TAKEN:

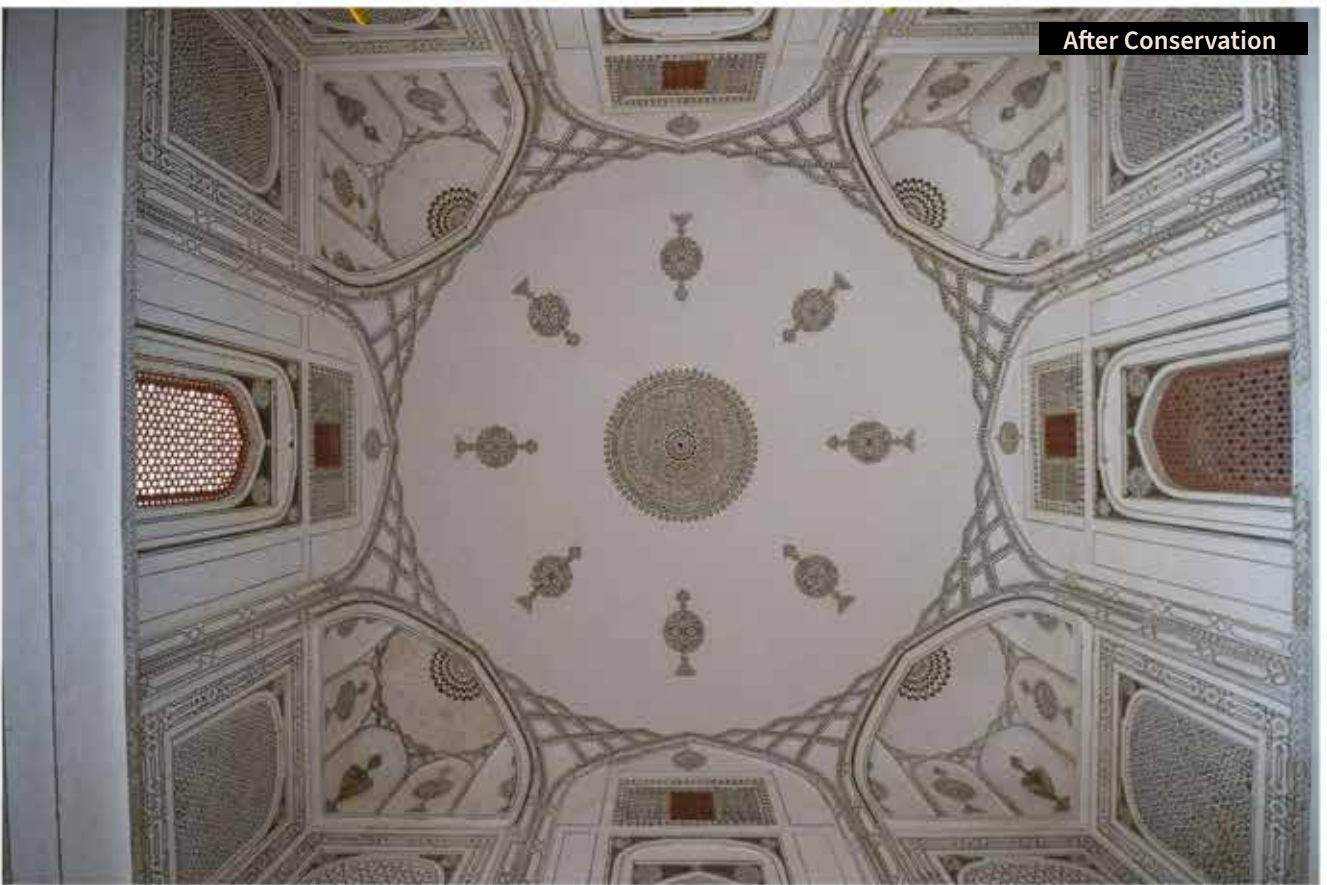
- Over the course of the conservation effort, careful cleaning of lime wash and soot layers was undertaken on the internal wall and ceiling surfaces, revealing highly ornamental incised plaster patterns.
- These were surprisingly largely intact though at places had been replaced by layers of pink cement-surkhi plaster where found missing. Decorative incised plasterwork has been restored after removal of the cement-surkhi plaster.
- In several of the openings within the principal tomb chamber, evidence of lattice screens was visible. Here, sandstone jaalis have been restored in patterns used in all monuments under the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal project.
- The late 20th century concrete flooring in the main tomb chamber has been replaced with traditional sandstone flooring.
- To restore dignity to the cenotaph, the existing brick and mortar platform has been plastered with lime and provided with a marbled edging. The positions for the two cenotaphs have been marked with simple carving to indicate the burial spaces for Rahim and his wife.



(Right) Main Hall - after conservation. The incredible ornamentation of the principal tomb chamber as well as the four ancillary chambers required painstaking cleaning to soot and 20th century paints followed by restoration of missing patterns.



Before Conservation



After Conservation

The restored ceiling

ANCILLARY CHAMBERS:

On the four corners of the principal tomb chamber stand domed ancillary chambers entered directly from the upper platform. As with the principal tomb chamber, they are profusely decorated using incised plasterwork. Layers of plain cement-surkhi plaster had been carried out in these chambers disfiguring original elements.

The intermediary floor between the principal tomb chamber and the roof comprises a series of vaulted and domed chambers, cracks in the vaults were noticed across this upper level.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Lime wash and soot layers have been carefully removed from the wall and ceiling surfaces and inappropriate past cement repairs have been replaced with traditional lime mortar.
- Cracks have been stitches with piecing in of local DQ stone with lime mortar.
- Decorative plasterwork where missing has been restored by trained master craftsmen using traditional materials, tools and techniques.
- Each of the ancillary chambers on the principal level would have been accessed via wooden doors and these have been restored.



(Above) Deep cracks in the masonry were repaired using traditional methods and lime wash and soot layers carefully removed

CRYPT

An arched opening at the arcade leads to the grave chamber a few steps below. The domed chamber is supported with an arcade and has a circumambulatory passage all around it. Major structural cracks could be seen in the roof of the chamber and heavy settlement of the flooring of the passage – both of which needed emergency repairs to be undertaken on them to ensure structural stability.

ACTION TAKEN:

- The cracks in the crypt were monitored using investigative tell-tales for a period of 6 months prior to the commencement of conservation works. There was negligible movement noted, even after two tremors in April 2015.
- Following the stitching of wide and deep cracks found in the crypt, as per the structural engineer's advice, the base of the circumambulatory passage in the crypt was stabilized with random rubble Delhi quartzite stone masonry to a depth of 5 feet below ground levels. This was required to 'bridge' the foundations of the walls of the crypt chamber with the foundations of the arcade.
- The cracks to the vaults in the crypt were repaired using traditional stitching with stone and lime mortar and collapsed portions of the vaults were rebuilt.
- Lime plaster has been restored to the wall and ceiling surfaces and finished with a layer of lime punning.
- A lime concrete floor has been laid in the chamber with two simple slabs of red sandstone placed to indicate the spaces of burial.



(Above) A year long effort was entirely focused on undertaking the structural conservation of the mausoleum which was in threat of collapse due to the wide and deep cracks in the crypt chamber

GROUND LEVEL ARCADE:

The ground level arcade comprises of seventeen arches on each of the four facades of the mausoleum. Major conservation efforts were undertaken on these arches to revive their original grandeur. The central arch on the southern façade leads up to the principal level of the mausoleum. This arch had collapsed and was in a state of disrepair.

Five chambers on each facade are plastered with decorative, incised plasterwork. The facade of the arcade comprises sandstone edging of each arch with spandrels of buff coloured sandstone with a decorative medallion on each stone. Significantly, medallions vary in design from arch to arch.

ACTION TAKEN:

- For the central archway, master stone craftsmen hand carved the block of red sandstone employed in the reconstruction of the collapsed arch.
- On the external facade, the four corners of the lower arcade, where the dressed stone quartzite blocks had been missing were restored as per the original details. Missing sandstone blocks were also replaced with new stones prepared using traditional tools.
- Modern cement-surkhi pink plaster applied to the arches in the ground level arcade, have been carefully removed and replaced with traditional lime plaster applied in layers and carefully matching the original.
- In the spandrels of the arches of the ground floor arcade are Dholpur stone slabs with decorative medallions. Significantly, each of the arches has a different motif and unusually for an Islamic tomb, the designs are not limited to geometric patterns and plant motifs but also include motifs such as peacocks. Severely damaged medallions, where original patterns could be discerned, were replaced with matching stones which were hand carved on site. Where stones were missing, replacement stones only have a plain medallion.



(Above) The chambers in the ground level arcade carries unique designs and ornamentation which were carefully restored where missing

LANDSCAPE

Rahim's grand mausoleum would have been set within a garden enclosure or the banks of the Yamuna, today's Barahpullah Nallah, with its gardens extending to the earlier Humayun's Tomb. Like Humayun's Tomb, the mausoleum would also have been enclosed within arcaded enclosure walls – lost to rapid urbanisation in the 20th century. A small formal garden has been laid in the space available to allow visitor movement and views to the monument.

ACTION TAKEN:

- The mausoleum was accessed from the busy residential area of Nizamuddin East and as part of the proposed landscape plan visitor access was moved to the West along the Mathura Road.
- Along the entrance was built parking for 20 cars, visitor amenities and space for a permanent site exhibit.
- The earth levels in the garden have been lowered to expose the Delhi quartzite plinth of the mausoleum, a significant interface between the garden and the mausoleum.
- Over 350 trees have been planted in the northern and western quadrants and along the boundary wall of the monument. The planting includes a citrus orchard and indigenous species, with more planting planned in 2021.



(Above) The original expanse of the garden was lost to rapid urbanisation and a small formal garden was laid here to allow visitor movement and views to the monument.

LOWER PLATFORM:

The ground level arcade had a raised chabutra or platform which no longer survived though was visible in archival images. Built of Delhi quartzite, this platform had been replaced with a sandstone plinth protection at a much lower level than the original chabutra – thus exposing foundations. As the platform is an important architectural element and a significant interface between the garden and the mausoleum the platform was restored to its original levels.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Scientific clearance was carried out along the existing plinth protection exposing original Delhi quartzite edge of the platform.
- The Delhi quartzite edge of large stone blocks on all four sides was carefully consolidated with a 4" thick red sandstone edge atop it.
- The existing sandstone plinth protection has been carefully removed and replaced with a Delhi quartzite plinth laid to original slopes and levels. This will ensure drainage of rainwater away from the foundations of the mausoleum.



ILLUMINATION:

Strategically located along Mathura Road and the Barapullah Nallah, the mausoleum is visible to 6 million commuters annually. An illumination scheme was planned for this structure that would greatly add value to the Delhi skyline. Specially designed lights, sensitive to the heritage structure, have been installed along the two visible main facades to highlight the unique elements of this grand structure.

Light fixtures and design for illumination provided by



Bound by Mathura Road and the Barahpullah elevated road, Rahim's mausoleum has a major impact on the Delhi skyline. The illumination on the monument has been accordingly limited to the southern and western facades of the mausoleum. The lighting design is by Fifth Dimension,

(Below) The mausoleum is visible to 6 million daily commuters and an illumination scheme was installed here adding to the Delhi night skyline





COMPLETION CEREMONY OF CONSERVATION WORKS:

The Hon’ble Minister of Culture, Shri Prahlad Singh Patel presided over a ceremony to mark the completion of this mammoth conservation effort on 17th December 2020. He also inaugurated a permanent site exhibition and illumination of this monument. Also present at the event were Ms Sanjukta Mudgal, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Ms Nirupama Kotru, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture and Dr. M. Nambirajan, Joint Director General, Archaeological Survey of India.

the event marked the inauguration of a permanent exhibition on the site, designed and curated by AKTC. The exhibition showcases various aspects from the multifaceted personality of Rahim and the major conservation project undertaken on his mausoleum.

NEXT STEPS:

The monument has been adopted by InterGlobe Foundatio, and AKTC will continue to be responsible for operation and maintenance of the site.



Peer Reviews

Undertaking the country's largest conservation effort at any national monument was informed by over 50 independent

"Rahim's tomb gets back its old glory by a careful treatment of the red and white sandstone facing of the facades and the cleaning of the amazing stucco decoration of the inner hall. We can now see again and marvel about the wonderful patterns which decorate the walls and the dome. Your work changes our perception of Mughal monuments".

- Prof Ebba Koch, Mughal Historian

"As an archaeologist I really appreciated the incredible attention to historical processes, rigorous documentation and state of the art recording and conservation techniques. The project stands out as exemplary, not only in India today, but globally".

-Prof Lynn Meskell, Department of Anthropology Stanford University

"The work at Khan I Khanan's tomb is most exciting..., a monument far more damaged has turned into a thing of beauty. I have passed the crumbling skeleton of the tomb and always regarded it as something of a wreck. Yet now it stands as one of Delhi's most beautiful interiors containing some of the city's loveliest decorative flourishes".

- William Dalrymple, Author

"Traditional Craft based conservation approach is being followed by utilising the skills of the traditional craftsmen to restore the architectural and artistic values of the monument based on the scientific evidence gathered. This approach is perfect in the Indian context, where traditional crafts are still practiced and heritage is very much part and parcel of the local community".

"The project has given many of us a sense of hope. Abdur Rahim Khan-e-Khanan's resting place emerges from its chrysalis - as not an outside mausoleum of a battered soldier, but as the beautiful monument that he dreamed up for his wife".

- Prof Narayani Gupta, Historian

"This project, with its sincere and meticulous research, preparation and planning, and consistently high professional standards, is making an invaluable contribution. This is one of the projects that prove that things can not only get better, they can inspire".

-Gillian Wright, Historian & Author

A mastercraftsman restoring the missing decorative pattern of the arcade in lime



Archaeological Survey of India





CULTURAL REVIVAL

Rahim Kavya Sankalan: Hindi Publication

Rahim, Commander-in-Chief of the Mughal army, was also the greatest of Akbar's nobles; a Statesman, Courtier, Linguist, Humanitarian, Patron and above all, Poet. On account of his poetry—drawing from the Hindu religious narratives, Rahim is often compared with the bhakti poets – Surdas, Tulsidas, Kabir.

Reviving Abdur Rahim Khan-i-Khanan's cultural legacy included documenting the works and various aspects of his personality and creating an awareness around it. As part of the cultural revival initiative, the project has documented Rahim's literary works, including his *dohe* (couplets), and its dissemination through various mediums like festivals, conferences, walks, website and publications. InterGlobe Foundation has generously supported this process by not only facilitating the conservation effort on the building, but also an intense research programme which resulted in the a major cultural festival and production of two books - a volume each in English and Hindi.

The English book published in association with Mapin Publishing named '**Celebrating Rahim**' comprises of 12 essays by eminent national and international scholars and proceedings of the three-day festival held in March 2017. The 'Verses in Music' section of the book has English translation of all the 10 compositions that are featured in the music CD. The music has also been introduced for the first time in the book through augmented reality. 'Celebrating Rahim' was released by Smt Syeda Hameed on 3rd October 2017 at India International Center.

Supported by:





ACTION TAKEN:

- Hindi publication on Abdur Rahim Khan-I-Khanan titled '**Kavya, Saundrya aur Sarthakta**' focusses on Rahim's literary works – of which 300 Dohas and his contribution to the pluralistic milieu of Indian culture are explained through various chapters by eminent authors.
- This book was released by Shri Prahlad Singh Patel, Hon'ble Minister of State for Culture & Tourism, Government of India on 31st Jan 2020 in the presence of Mrs. Rohini Bhatia, Prof. Harish Trivedi, and other dignitaries at the Garden Amphitheatre, Sunder Nursery Park.
- Published by Vani Prakashan and edited by well-known scholar Prof. Harish Trivedi, the book has a foreword by the eminent poet and film personality, Gulzar Sahib and Prof. Gopichand Narang as well as essays by several eminent academicians including Shri Ramchandra Shukla, Shri Namvar Singh, Shri Manager Pandey, Shri Uday Shankar Dubey, Shri Sadanand Sahi, Shri Sudesh Pachauri, Smt Anamika, Smt Deepa Gupta, Prof. Chandrashekar, Shri Pratap Kumar Mishra, amongst others.
- This publication which is focused on Abdur Rahim Khan I Khanan's literary genius, is a sequel to an earlier publication in English – Celebrating Rahim - produced by the InterGlobe Foundation and Aga Khan Trust for Culture focusing on Rahim's persona as a soldier, statesman, philanthropist and his association with the greats of the Bhakti movement.
- The event was followed by a musical performance by Ms Sonam Kalra, who sang a selected repertoire of Rahim's Dohes.



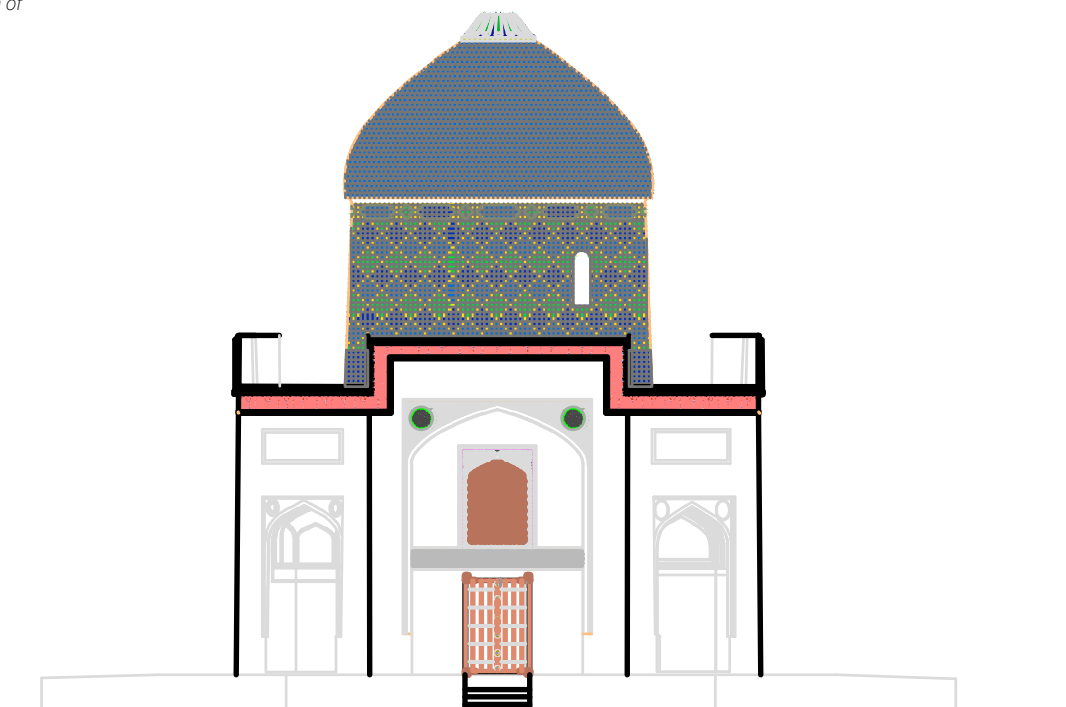
CONSERVATION

2. Sabz Burj

(Above) The conservation of the painted ceiling was preceded by testing of conservation measures in small areas prior to undertaking works; (Below) As first step, a detailed architectural documentation and 3D laser scanning was undertaken of Sabz Burj.

This magnificent monument is one of the earliest Mughal-era structure and is likely to have been built by Emperor Humayun.

Major conservation works here have focussed on restoration of missing elements and revealing the incredible painted ceiling from under various layers of 20th century paint layers.



Supported by:



DOMES

In 1986, the dome was covered with tiles that did not match with the colour and composition of the Mughal-era tiles. Also, these were fixed with cement on the dome. Since then, water seepage from the dome has resulted in the loss of the Mughal painted ceiling of the main chamber.

ACTION TAKEN:

- The primary concern is the damage to the 16th century painted ceiling of the inner dome, and after approval from the ASI, the tile work and cement layers were carefully removed. The tiles made of glazed terracotta have been removed.
- Following the removal of tiles, the dome was aired for a period of three months prior to the installation of tile prepared at the tile centre at Humayun's Tomb to match the original in every respect.
- Cement layers from the inner dome have been removed and replaced with traditional lime plaster with a coating of lime punning.

(Below) Removal of tiles installed on the dome and drum of Sabz Burj in 1986 and the cement layers.





CEILING:

- Art conservators led by Mr Anupam Sah have after several tests, established the cleaning methodology for the ceiling to remove later layers and restore the original brilliance of the ceiling.
- Water seepage from the outer dome has led to total loss of painting in the periphery of the dome and flaking of paint layers. This was a major challenge faced by the conservators in the cleaning process as extreme care was taken to prevent any further loss to the ceiling. The area was allowed to dry in

the previous year before any further works were undertaken in these sections.

- The conservation of the painted ceiling was undertaken in three phases and coupled with an extensive documentation of the ceiling patterns.

NEXT STEP:

Conservation works to continue as per the approved Conservation Plan. A landscape plan and lighting scheme is being developed for this strategically located building

MAIN CHAMBER

The ceiling of the main chamber is profusely decorated with intricate floral patterns. A layer of cement slurry covered a large portion of the ceiling. This was removed by trained art conservators, revealing the intricate floral patterns in blue, red and gold. Detailed analysis has revealed real Lapis and pure gold in the painted layers.

ACTION TAKEN:

INTERIORS:

- Similar cleaning of the wall surfaces has also revealed wall paintings in some areas. However, there is considerable loss of painting from the walled surfaces and very little evidence of the original wall paintings exists. Inappropriate cement-based repairs in the twentieth century has led to further loss and disfiguration of the wall paintings.
- Trained conservators have carefully removed the cement layers and restored traditional lime plaster to the walled surfaces, finished with a coat of lime punning.
- The openings in the main chamber would have had stone lattice screens or jaalis to filter out the heat and sunlight, which are now missing. Master stone craftsmen are now hand carving jaalis in a generic pattern, used throughout the project area, to restore the original character and builder's intent. Three jaalis have been restored on the principal level of the main chamber.
- The cement flooring of the main chamber was carefully dismantled and replaced with traditional red sandstone flooring. Works to continue on the main platform of the monument.



SABZ BURJ CEILING: BEFORE CONSERVATION

The main chamber is ornamented with a painted ceiling with intricate floral patterns with pure gold and lapis, showing signs of deterioration. As part of earlier repair works, patches of the ceiling had been repaired in pink cement-surkhi plaster, detracting from the original character of the built ornamentation.

As part of the ongoing conservation efforts, the cement layers and lime wash have been removed from the wall and ceiling surfaces by art conservators, revealing unique floral patterns.



Before Conservation



After Conservation

SABZ BURJ CEILING: AFTER CONSERVATION

Close-up of floral details found in the ceiling of Sabz Burj after it was cleaned painstakingly by art conservators.





CONSERVATION

3. Nila Gumbad



Nila Gumbad - Before conservation

The conservation works of Nila Gumbad commenced in 2008 under the larger Humayun's Tomb – Sunder Nursery – Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti Urban Renewal Initiative and included securing the setting of the tomb and reintegrating it with the Humayun's Tomb Complex. The conservation works were aimed at the long-term preservation of the tomb and included the restoration of tilework to the dome and the façade.

The northern façade of the Nila Gumbad is decorated with intricate tile work which was extensively documented in 2008. Owing to the unique designs visible here, tiles for the façade had to be specially crafted and glazed. Following the same principles set out at the conservation of tilework at Humayun's Tomb, conservation of the northern façade commenced in 2020. Great care was taken to secure the existing tile work and new tile installed only where tilework was completely missing. The handmade glazed tiles have been fixed using traditional lime mortar and works were completed this year.

Before Conservation



After Conservation





4. Jamaat Khana Mosque

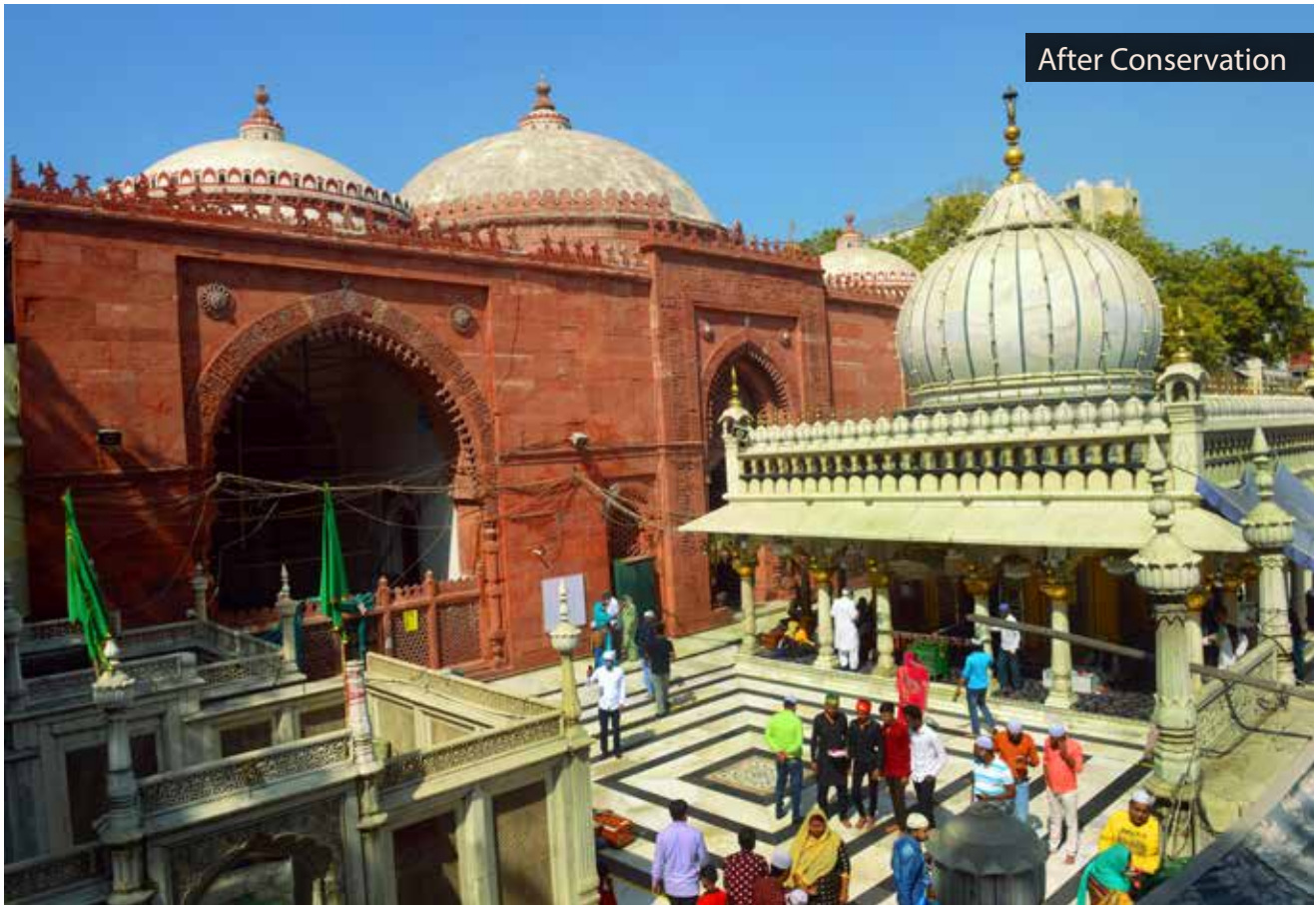


(Above) Craftsmen carefully removing layers of paint from the ceiling.

The principal mosque of the Dargah Hazrat Nizamuddin, this 14th century structure is the earliest mosque in Delhi that continues to be in use. In 2014, the Dargah Committee led by Janaab Najmi Nizami approached AKTC with a request to undertake an urgently required conservation programme on the structure. Conservation works were completed of North chamber and on the external plaster work of the domes in the preceding year.

ACTION TAKEN:

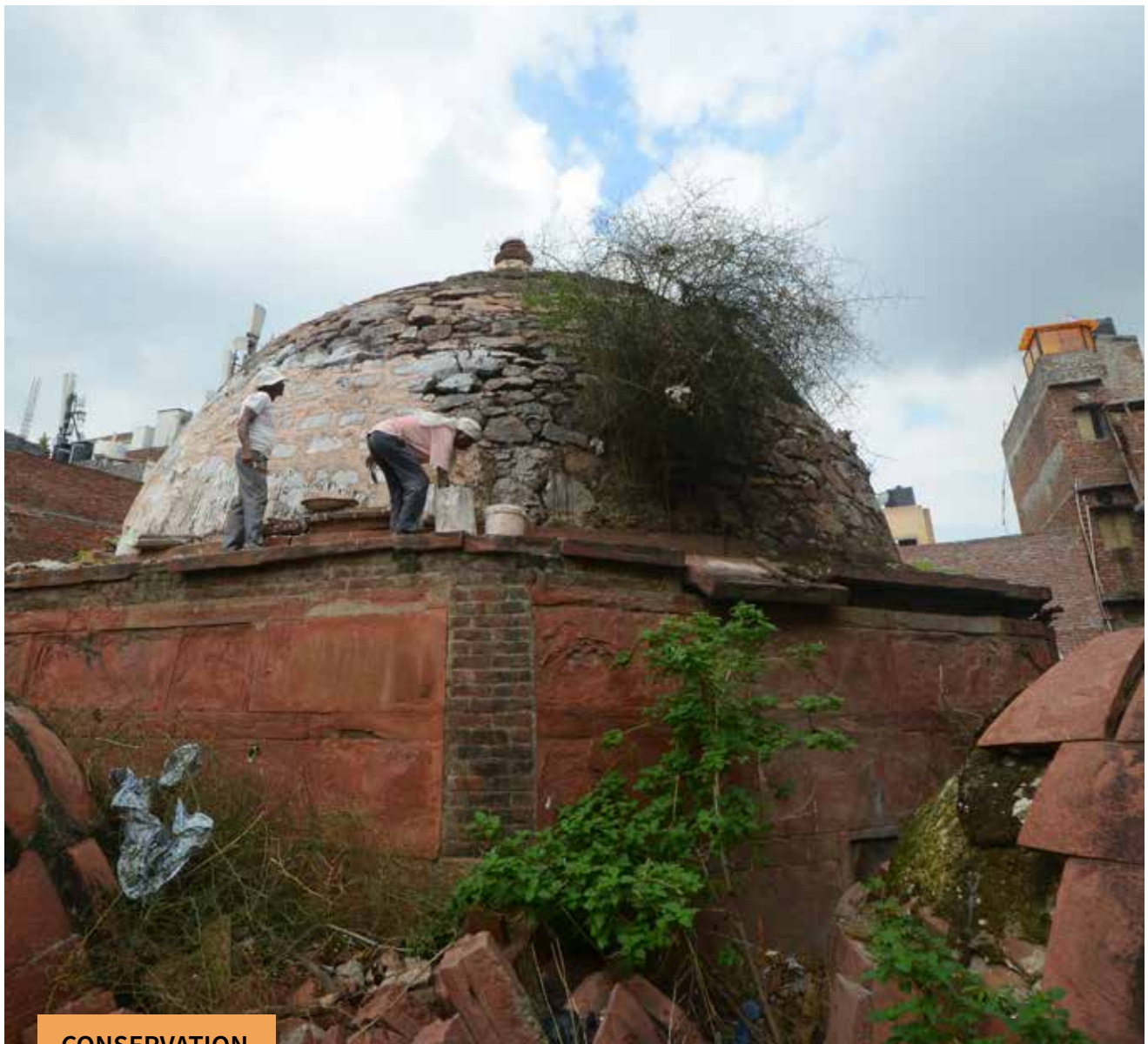
- The south chamber was inappropriately altered over the years with cement plaster on the walls and multiple layers of paint on the decorative incised plaster work on niches and dome. This existing layer of cement plaster of 250 sq.m was dismantled carefully revealing the original lime plaster layer.
- Over 1000 cu. feet of debris was removed manually from the south chamber. Lime plastering and punning of 370 Sq.m of the walls with provision of electrical conduits was carried out. The arches were repaired maintaining the original arch profiles and depths.
- The entrance jaali with the damaged red sandstone kanguras were conserved and the entrance gate has been installed matching the historic fabric of the mosque.
- Conservation work of ornamental plaster work of the medallions, niches and dome ceiling was carried out by removing multiple layers of paint from it. After cleaning the niche pattern, the missing pattern was completed matching the original patter. A microscopic investigation of original color in ornamental incised plaster work was also carried out to determine the original colours in the pattern.



(Left) Lime plastering of the walls by craftsmen providing provisions for electrical conduits and switch board points; (Right) Careful cleaning of the ornamental plaster work on the ceiling.

NEXT STEPS:

- **Flooring in South Chamber:** The existing terrazzo flooring is a 20th century intervention. Conservation work will include dismantling of terrazzo flooring and laying of red sandstone flooring of 94 sqm area as per the original level and detail.
- **Electrical layout:** Electrical wiring in the Dargah complex is done in a haphazard manner which impacts the visual integrity of the monuments and its surroundings. Underground cabling has been done and intelligent light fixtures will be installed to enhance the visitor experience.
- **Façade conservation work:** The ornamental red sandstone façade with motifs and inscription got damaged due to lack of maintenance and inappropriate repairs carried out in the last 40 years. Conservation of the damaged façade stones will be carried out in the first quarter of 2021.
- **Terrace work:** There is water seepage from the damaged drum stones of the main dome. In the next quarter conservation work for the terrace work is proposed by replacing the damaged stones from the drum wherever needed, making of the red sandstone kangooras and maintaining the slope levels of the roof.



CONSERVATION

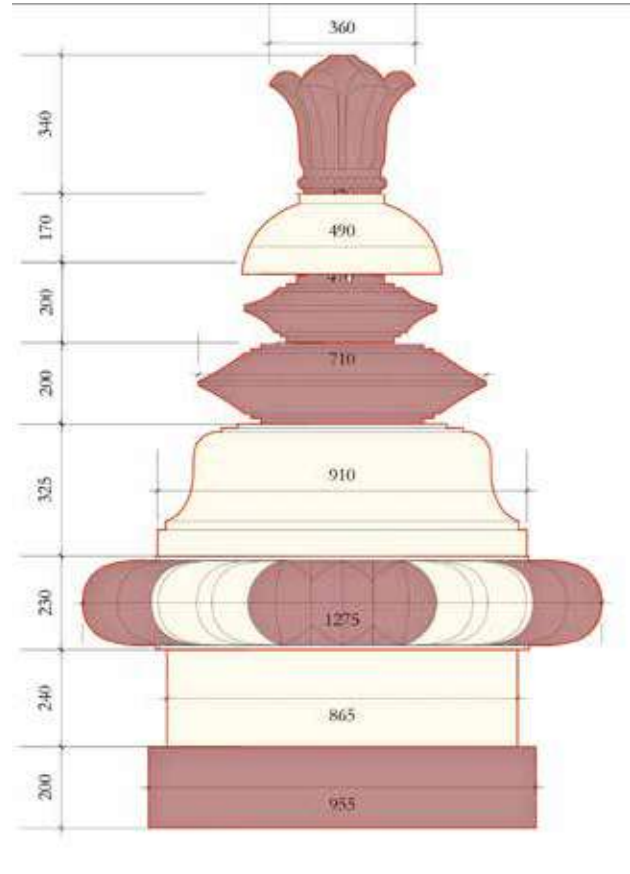
5. Tilangani's Mausoleum

Built in 1388 by Junan Shah, is the first octagonal mausoleum build in Delhi. Khan-IJahan Tilangani was the prime minister in the court of Firoz Shah Tughlaq. It was originally built within a walled enclosure, but now the enclosure has mostly disappeared, and only small remnants can be seen. The mausoleum has an octagonal burial chamber with larger octagonal verandah around the central chamber crowned. The centra dome was clad with red sandstone. The monument over the years has been encroached and inhabited by 35 families. Following AKTC efforts the central chamber is now accessible from the south archway.

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(Above A stone-by-stone detailed documentation and analysis of the finial's damaged pieces was undertaken by conservation architects, engineers and master craftsmen; Documentation of the damaged finial pieces

• ACTION TAKEN:

- Conservation work of the marble cornice: Documentation of missing marble cornice was completed and making of the marble cornice of 35 m as per original design and detail has been done. The cornice is carved matching the high quality makrana stone using traditional tools. Fixing of these cornice pieces will begin in the next quarter.

NEXT STEPS:

- Red sandstone flooring in the central chamber will be done as per the original flooring patches revealed after the removal of debris from the chamber.
- Conservation work of the Dome: The central dome was cladded with red sandstone historically and there are original cladding stone pieces that are lying on the roof. All these pieces are examined and documented carefully including the original plaster marks on the dome. The total surface area

- The red sandstone and marble finial was damaged and displaced from original position. The damaged stones were documented and replaced matching the original design and detail and a new finial will be restored to the structure.

- for 8 smaller domes and one main dome is 720 sq m and the work for cladding the stone on the domes will commence in the next quarter of the year.
- The red sandstone finial will be fixed in the next quarter of the year.
- Do Siriya Gumbad and Tilangani's tomb come under the heritage listing of the SDMC. As part of the MoU, follow up with DDA for the provision of 55 flats for the affected families residing in Tilangani Tomb premise.



6. Atgah Khan's Mausoleum

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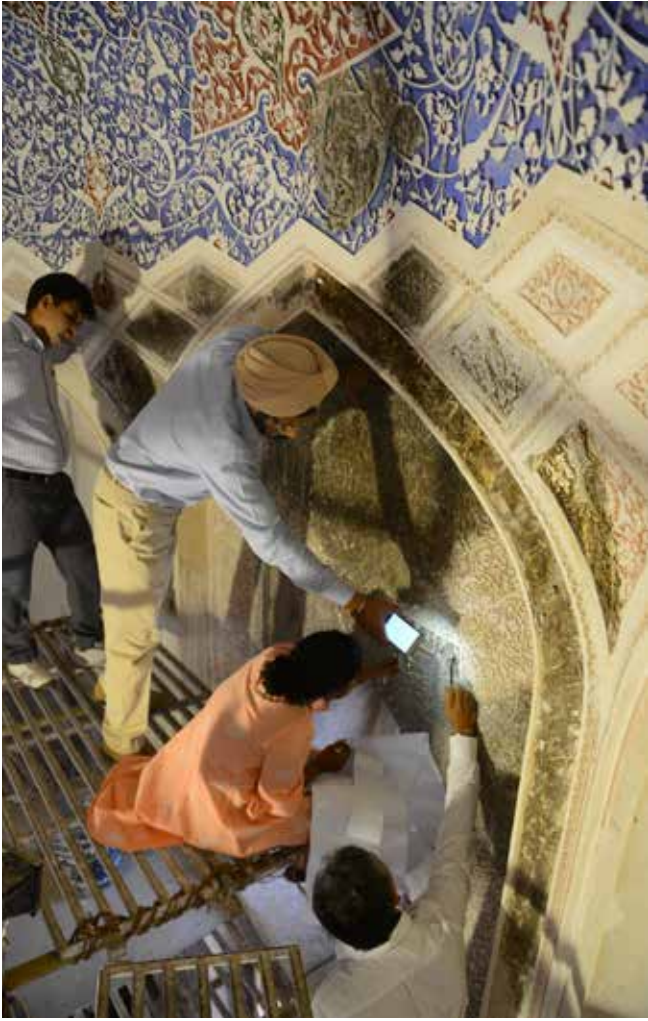


Delhi Urban Heritage
Foundation of Delhi
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Built in the year 1566-67 by Atgah Khan's son, Mirza Aziz Kokaltash (who held important position in Akhbar's court) This is the finest example of early Mughal architecture. The mausoleum is profusely ornamented and uses a combination of red sandstone and white marble with red sandstone inlay panels on all the four facades and decorative inscribed marble panels with handmade tile inlay work in the spandrels.

NEXT STEPS:

- Conservation works will be carried out on the damaged and decayed red sandstone with relief work in south façade and vertical stone panels in the central chamber.
- Restoration of missing stone dado work of the mausoleum chamber will be carried out.
- On the terrace, the layers of cement concrete layers will be dismantled and roof will be relaid with lime concrete to match the original level. The 50 parapet marble kanguras in red sandstone will be repaired.





Before Cleaning

CONSERVATION & DOCUMENTATION

7. Dargah Canopy

(Above) Rendering showing the proposed view of the replica of the Dargah canopy in the Humayun's Tomb Sire Museum; (Right) After detailed photo-documentation, architectural drawings were created by the AKTC team.

At the heart of the Nizamuddin area is the 14th century shrine of the Sufi saint Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya. The structure is protected as a national monument by the ASI. The Evolving over five centuries, the dargah complex weilds deep cultural and spritual significance and has mausoleums of three Mughal emperors and many other notable structures dating from the 14th century – 19th century, including Hazrat Amir Khusrau.

Throughout India, we can find a heterogynous mix of cultural genres and practices but there are some sites that stand out as extraordinary because they have managed to nurture creative forms that spread the message of peace, tolerance, and equity. The Dargah complex at Nizamuddin is one such space, pulsating with the energy of pilgrims and visitors from different religious communities who come to venerate or listen to the quwwali music.

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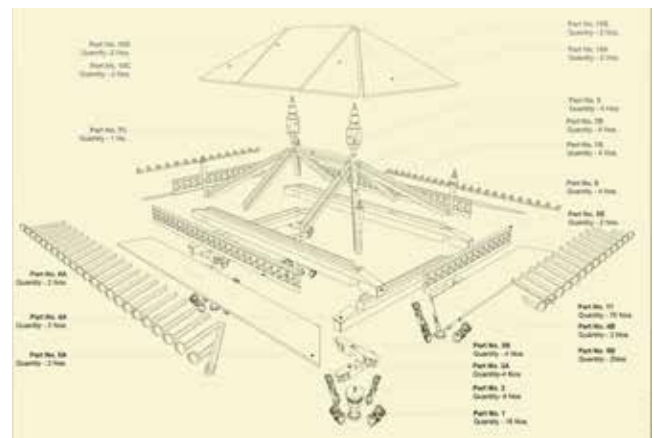


Aliph Foundation



ACTION TAKEN:

- Significance:** The wooden canopy housed inside the main shrine of Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya was built during the reign of Jahangir 1608-09 by Farid Murtaza Khan. It measures 3.57x2.45 m and built-in sandalwood, with exquisite inlay work in mother-of-pearl. The inlay patterns are intricate designs of various motifs from nature comprising of coils, branches, leaves and other flower motifs and it is inlaid in every inch of the canopy space. For centuries, this canopy was covered in textiles and thus collected soot over it.
- Documentation of the canopy:** The laser scans of the canopy, detailed photo documentation was carried out for over a year in different phases. With the help of the photographs the decorative pattern drawings were generated of 300 sq ft surface area.
- Damage assessment of the canopy:** The condition of the canopy has been severely affected over the period of time due to heavy smoke created through incense and oil lamps. The moisture content found in the wooden canopy due to lack of ventilation as it is always covered in curtains. Furthermore, portions of the ornamental patterns in the wood are lost due to poor negligence.
- Preparation of Drawings:** The original patterns were traced from the canopy and the drawing were prepared matching the original design for over a year. A total of 100 drawings were prepared for different patterns on the canopy.
- Cleaning of the canopy:** The shrine is visited by 9000 pilgrims every day and the major challenge was to document the canopy and carry on with the cleaning work. The canopy was cleaned by art conservators and included removing the layers of soot and revealing original design and patterns.





CONSERVATION

8. Dargah Complex Monuments

(Above) Mausoleum of Mughal Emperor Muhammad Shah 'Rangila' with intricately carved marble doorway; (Bottom) Pre-conservation view of the mausoleums in the dargah complex.

The three ASI protected mughal period marble Mausoleums namely Begum Jahanara's Mausoleum, Mohammad Shah Rangeela's Mausoleum and Mirza Jahangir's Mausoleum were constructed in different periods. The monuments embellished with exquisite ornamentation with unrivaled marble jalli enclosure and intricate ornate floral and leaf patterns on the arched doorways molding, Ornate plinth stones, highly ornamented marble door at the Mausoleum of Muhammad Shah is one of its kind and parapet is significantly unique in terms of its architecture and fine craftsmanship.



ACTION TAKEN:

- The intricately carved delicate marble jaali of the parapet which were damaged or missing at Jahanara and Mohammad Shah Rangeel mausoleum were documented. These are to be restored by handcrafted jaalis matching the original design and detail. Those replaced by the ASI in 2002-04 will be retained, however, the quality of craftsmanship will be improved to the extent possible.
- Lockable wooden doors installed to restrict visitor access into the mausoleum and preventing the structure from being used for storage.
- The damaged and mixing marble ornamental pinnacles at Jahanara's Mausoleum and Mohammad Shah Rangeela's Mausoleum were documented and the drawings were prepared allowing the missing ornamental marble pieces to be handcrafted as per the original designs and detail. Conservation of some of the damaged pinnacles was also carried out.





CONSERVATION

9. Humayun's Tomb Site Museum

Supported by:



Ministry of Tourism



HAVELLS

(Above) The site museum sits at a cross-junction of Humayun's Tomb-Sunder Nursery and Nizamuddin Basti; (Below) The sunken architecture of Humayun's Tomb Site Museum does not create any visual hindrance to the monuments in the vicinity.

The 10,000 sq.m. site museum at the entrance to the World Heritage Site of Humayun's Tomb Complex is an underground museum building, which will also serve as a bridge between and a gateway to both Humayun's Tomb World Heritage Site and the adjoining Sunder Nursery Heritage Park. The museum is wholly owned by the Archaeological Survey of India; however, all responsibility for planning, construction, design, curation and installing the permanent exhibition has been taken by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture.

The Museum's aims to enhance visitor experience to this vibrant historical-cultural-ecological zone and allow a better understanding of Mughal architecture and building craft traditions which are seen in the dense ensemble of buildings of Nizamuddin Area. The museum will also shed light on the development of the Nizamuddin area over a millennium and, most significantly, explain the pluralist Sufi cultural traditions that defined Hindustani culture for at least five centuries.



Humayun's Tomb Site Museum: Construction

FACILITIES BLOCK:

The museum has two main galleries along with two additional temporary galleries. Making it the single largest gallery for any museum in India. The pleated ceiling of the gallery has been kept at 6m height to accommodate all the services including the lighting tracks and will house large scale architectural replicas, original 16th century finial of Humayun's tomb, immersive projection screens and antiquities from the collection of National Museum (NM) and Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).

The Galleries have architectural replicas showing the unique and aesthetic aspects displaying the high craftsmanship of the Mughal builders.





Construction:

ACTION TAKEN:

- Civil works are nearing completion.
- Laying of Electrical conduits for CCTV, electrical cables and lighting was carried out in the gallery block.
- Following curatorial discussions, raceway was laid along the floors connecting service areas and exhibition showcases which houses lights and film screen.
- Fixing of 1200 m lighting tracks and profile with aligners in the gallery block is on-going and fixing of 16 electrical poles on the terrace plaza was undertaken.
- To absorb the extra noise from the interactive displays, HVAC background noise and other corresponding noise from the public areas and visitor gathering areas. Five-layer system has been designed and implemented on site. The first layer consist of 1.6 mm high performance non flammable acoustic membrane followed by aluminium frame work forming a 50mm gap between the membrane and the 12mm thick gypsum board fixed on top of the frame. The board is covered with grass wool followed by thick black paper to hold the grass wool. The final 10mm thick layer of micro fibre acoustic panel is fixed on top. Fixing of acoustic panels in service areas with an area of 456 Sqm has been completed. Installation of acoustic ceiling for the service areas is completed.
- Installation of plumbing fixtures in the toilet block has been completed and an inspection is scheduled for the next quarter.
- Plumbing works and installation of water filtration unit for Chini Khana and for water body on Ramp-II is in progress.
- Following the assessment of rainfall over the period of three years, the number and Capacity of pumps for all the pumps has been increased. The increased water pumping capacity will strengthen the system in case of heavy rainwater entering the building.
- The 200 metre of drainage pipe connecting Site Museum with Humayun's Tomb existing water well has been laid out. The system has been set up to pump stormwater whereby other surplus water into the existing water recharging to directly recharge the drying aquifer.
- The open-to-sky courtyard in the first gallery will have handcrafted highly ornamental marble niches with lamps and flowing water, called chini khana. These are typical Mughal landscape feature in which the flowing water forms a sheet over the lamps kept in the recessed niches behind. In conjunction with the Mughal landscape elements being presented in the gallery portion near the courtyard, the chini khana as a water landscape element will create a holistic experience for the visitors.
- The exit ramp which opens towards Sunder Nursery Heritage Park will have a traditional Mughal chaddar/ water cascade, making a symbolic and aesthetic connection with the landscape elements seen in the park.



CIVILWORKS:

- Grinding and polishing of granite and marble floor for gallery block was undertaken.
- A Strong Room (area 32 sq.m) was made to store the antiquities for the Museum. A strong door was purchased from Godrej for this room and it has been fitted with CCTV surveillance. As per the MoU with the ASI, the shortlisted antiquities from the ASI's Red Fort Museum Collection were shifted and securely placed at the Strong Room facility.
- Installation of fire alarms and sprinklers in gallery block is in progress.
- Fixing of 17 Ceremonial doors with an area of 248 square meter work included fixing, polishing of wooden planks and fire doors in gallery block were completed.
- Installation and fixing of tracks in reception area was undertaken after several discussions with HILTI and other agencies.
- Installation of HVAC ducts, pumps and cable trays along with proper dressing of cables in service areas was undertaken. Installation and fixing of IT racks in service area has been initiated. Laying of electrical cables is in progress.
- Red sandstone cladding for HVAC exhaust shaft for plaza level and entry level terrace landscape is in progress.
- Flooring and cladding of red sandstone on ticket counters has been completed.
- Installation of HVAC ducts, pumps and cable trays along with proper dressing of cables in service areas is also in progress.
- Installation and fixing of IT racks in service area has been initiated. Laying of electrical cables is now completed.
- Installation of fire alarms and sprinklers in gallery block is on-going.
- Fixing of Doors and counter tops at ticket counter is now completed.
- Installation of HVAC ducts, pump's and cable trays along with proper dressing of cables in service areas is also in progress.
- Construction of large water feature at Ramp-II which includes laying of marble flooring, cladding in marble and red sandstone of the walls has is on-going.
- Installation of 200-metre-long stainless-steel railing on Ramp-1, Ramp-2 and Exit Staircase was completed.
- Red sandstone wall cladding for Ramp II and 40 mm thick granite flooring connecting Sunder Nursery has been completed.

- Fixing of 50 mm thick red sandstone flooring of 556 square meter in fire paths and ramp-II is on going.
- Fixing of 150 mm thick red sandstone in steps at terrace level (gallery block) of 32 square meter is now completed.
- Fixing of 75 mm red sandstone coping at ramp - I, II, III, ticket counters, Admin block with an area of 350 square meter is now completed.
- Fixing of 330 square meter of Kota stone flooring at luggage rooms, ticket counter -II and chiller plant is now completed.
- 253 square meter of rendering work concrete slabs at ramp-II has been completed.
- Fixing of 20 square meter of granite flooring at Ramp -III has been completed.





ACTION TAKEN:

- Installation and fixing of glazing on facade of the facilities block has been completed.
- Laying of PCC and red sandstone paving on the pathway connecting gateway to Sunder Nursery is in-progress.
- Construction of a 100m long boundary in Delhi Quartzite masonry for the administration block has been completed. The DQ boundary wall along the marked fire tender movement path has also been completed.
- Red sandstone wall cladding for the ticket counter in admin area has been completed. Waterproofing treatment of the roof of the ticket counter has also been completed.
- Landscape work on the north side of administration block is in progress. It involves construction of DQ boundary wall along the temple and red sandstone cladding for the path leading towards the STP.
- Polishing and grinding of marble flooring in basement and polishing of kota on the terrace is in progress.
- Installation of fire alarms and sprinkler system along with wiring was completed.
- Installation of plumbing fixtures in toilets on all three floors has been completed.
- Installation and testing of lift in admin building has been done.
- Installation of railing for central staircase was completed.
- Installation and fixing of admin jaalis has been initiated.
- Laying of red sandstone paving 784 square metre at central courtyard of admin building has been completed.
- A proposal to install a solar power plant has been submitted to DG (ASI) in September 2020, and approval is awaited.



PREPARED BY: ESPAI VISUAL / AMBITO CERD

GALLERY 4 / VISUAL 22

Humayun's Tomb Site Museum: Exhibition Design

MUSEOGRAPHY & EXHIBITION DESIGN

ACTION TAKEN:

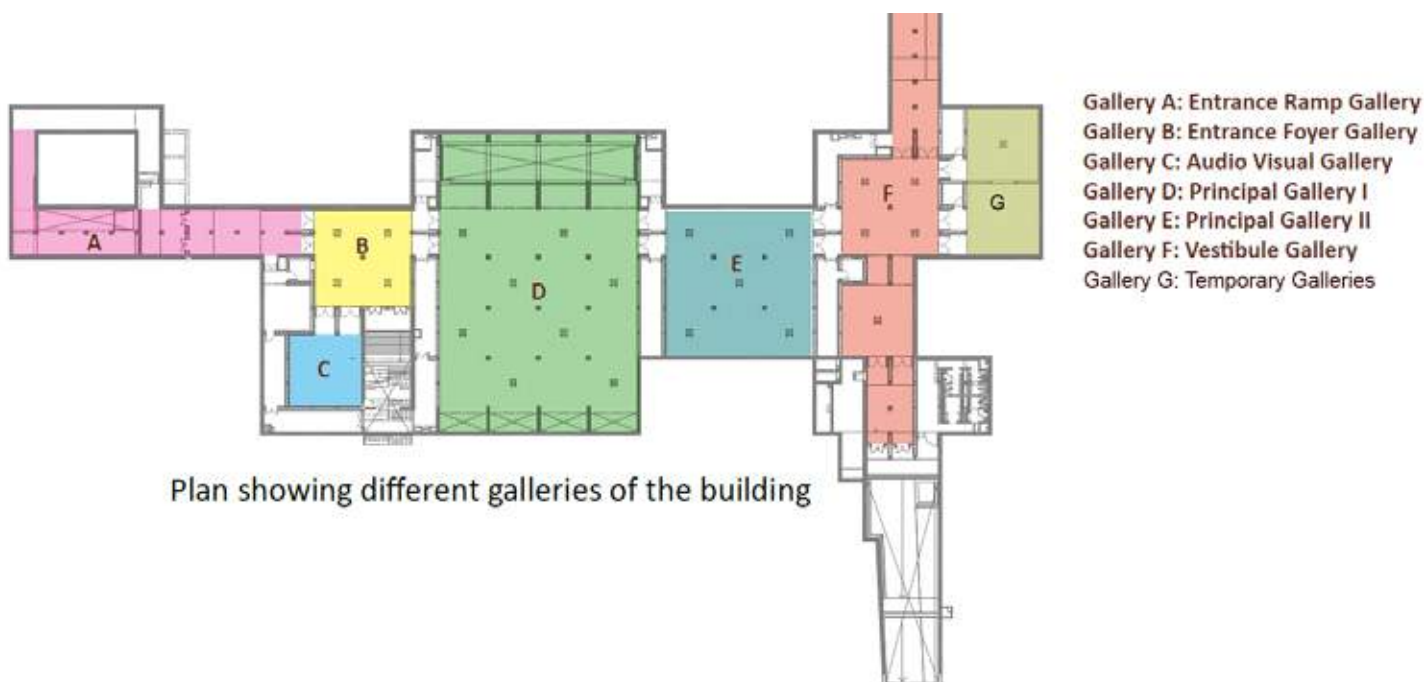
(Above) Renderings showing the design concept and museographic display in the Museum.

- Since 2017, based on exhibition design provided by Barcelona firm Espai-Visual, the team has worked with three different Indian manufacturers to create prototypes. Of the three prototypes prepared, the manufacturer Shark Enterprises was found to meet all standards required for preservation. These display totems will also serve as a standard of quality to be replicated at other museums and conservation sites across India. Work commenced on the exhibition design for the Museum in 2020.
- As per international norms, the display cases will adhere to strict climate control including temperature, humidity, and light, and each display case has been designed in consultation with conservators, to address unique preservation needs of each object.
- Delhi-based design studio- December Designs are providing graphic design for the Museum. Following several rounds of design and content discussion with them, work is now underway in creating final designs for the panels.
- UK-based lighting design company – The Fifth Dimensions- will be designing the lighting for the museum and totems. The light grid was laid out at the height of 4.5m and in addition to the ambience lighting, the museum will have specialized lighting for the key objects in the showcases, including the immersive and large projection screens.

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ACTION TAKEN:

- Over 100 objects of antiquity have been pledged to be displayed here by the Archaeological Survey of India, including several Mughal miniatures, manuscripts, decorative objects, Mughal armory, textiles, photographs, architectural drawings, Chinese ceramics. Many of these objects have never been on display.
- An MoU was signed between National Museum, Archaeological Survey of India and Aga Khan Trust for Culture following which the selected objects will be showcased at the Humayun’s Tomb Site Museum on a long-term loan.
- Following discussions with eminent Mughal historian Prof Ebba Koch (Principal advisor to the Musuem), the team has now commenced work on writing the exhibitions’ texts. Archival research and creating a repository of images, paintings and illustrations related to Early Mughals and Nizamuddin Area has been created.
- The process of procuring high resolution scans of miniature paintings and archival images for the graphic design and films from worldwide institutions has commenced. The AKTC team has conducted an exhaustive online secondary research to create a repository of visuals from both public domain and museum collections world over.
- High resolution digitization of the shortlisted folios from the coveted manuscripts in the Khuda Baksh Library, Patna was carried out. These will be part of the digital displays in the museum.
- Translation of Persian, Arabic and Urdu text segments on antiquities and items for display at the museum was undertaken under the guidance of Prof. Chandrashekhar, eminent Persian scholar and his student Amir. The decoding of historical text on objects such as miniature paintings, architectural antiquities, and Mughal objects like astrolabes has helped the team in gaining complete understanding of these exhibits.

(Below) Team discussions with historians, designers, and exhibition construction teams.

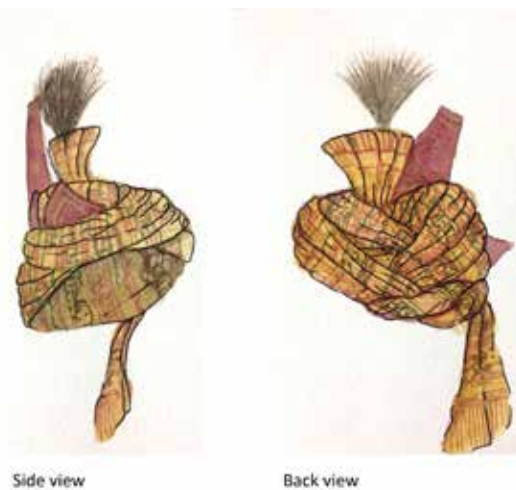




MODELS & REPLICAS:

- The museum will house several models showcasing the various architectural assets of Nizamuddin Area.
- These include models of Humayun's Tomb, Rahim's tomb, the five World Heritage monuments, Purana Qila, replica of Humayun's Tomb's main hall, Dargah Complex and Chausath Khamba. Work is now underway on the completion of models of Sher Mandal and Humayun's Boat Palace. All the above-mentioned completed models are stored in a secure and humidity-controlled environment in one of the galleries of the Museum.
- Following historical research and documentation, works have commenced with senior consultants towards the creation of two replicas from Humayun's life: seven bronze statues of Humayun showing the attire of the emperor w.r.t planetary references. These 40 cm tall statues are being made by UK-based sculptor Ms Jill Watson and will convey an important aspect from Humayun's life – his keen interest in astrology and astronomy. Second replica is of the royal headgear invented by Humayun, called Humayun's Taj-i-Izzat with eminent costume designers.

(Above) Architectural model of Humayun's mausoleum accompanied with an animation film will convey information on its construction; (Below left) Humayun's crown as seen in the miniature painting will be replicated.



ARCHITECTURAL REPLICAS

Through a permanent exhibition on the ‘Humayun’s Tomb and its Conservation’, the project aims to demonstrate the model conservation project undertaken at the mausoleum and showcase the best practices in built heritage conservation. The permanent exhibition will include architectural replicas and models demonstrating building craft traditions and the architectural grandeur of the structures.

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1. **Humayun’s Tomb’s Drum:** The drum of the dome of Humayun’s Tomb is barely visible to visitors from the ground level and this 1:1 architectural replica, reconstructed as per original design and material will inform visitors of this very important red-and-white aesthetic element of Humayun’s Mausoleum. The pattern on the dome, made of red and buff coloured sandstone has been hand crafted by master stone craftsmen and has been installed in the principal gallery of the museum to present the grand scale of this key architectural feature and showcase its design and craftsmanship.
2. **Humayun’s Tomb’s Canopy :** The rooftop canopies/chatris of Humayun’s Tomb are magnificent in their stone carving and tile work. A replica of the chattri in its true scale will bring the otherwise inaccessible rooftop-canopy in close proximity to the visitor. This replica will illustrate the synthesis of Mughal architecture that was combining indigenous architectural elements with Persian elements such as the tiles. Master stone craftsmen have hand carved the intricate decorative work on the stone brackets and pillar bases. The tiles for the canopy have also been prepared by master craftsmen.
3. **Humayun’s Tomb’s Six-pointed star :** A 1:1 replica of the six-pointed star would foreground the various theories of its origin and significance, while showcasing its true size and stone craftsmanship from close quarters. The star and other replicas emphasise the syncretic culture during the Mughal Era. The iconic six-pointed star will be displayed to showcase its true scale and marvellous craftsmanship, which cannot be closely observed by visitors on site due to the positioning of this architectural element. The marble medallion in the centre of the six pointed star is carved out a large block of marble, with only a fraction of the stone being visible on the surface. Each element of the carving is carefully chiselled and carved to perfection by master craftsmen. The central medallion has been completed.
4. **Nila Gumbad’s Finial:** Atop the Nila Gumbad dome is a 3m tall carved red sandstone and marble finial. A 1:1 scale replica of the finial has been created. A portion of the tiled dome has also been recreated to showcase the tilework and craftsmanship. This architectural replica is nearing completion and its installation has commenced in the principal gallery of the site museum.





FILMS & ANIMATIONS:

- The museum will host a series of films which will shed new lights on the key events and episodes from the life of Emperor Humayun; key personalities from Nizamuddin Area like Rahim and Amir Khusrau; and the conservation of several key monuments of Nizamuddin Area.
- The introductory film being played in the AV Gallery will be projected on a 270° screen will showcase the evolution of Nizamuddin over five centuries. Specialized photography has been carried out for this film by French film studio ICONEM.
- Work is underway on the creation of following films for the Museum: Introduction to Emperor Humayun, Mughals association with Nizamuddin Area; Humayun's lifetime and journey, Architecture by Emperor Humayun; Construction of Humayun's Tomb; Conservation of Rahim's Tomb; Conservation of Chausath Khamba and Evolution of the Nizamuddin Dargah over five centuries.

(Above & Below) The themes of the films in the Museum range from conservation to conveying the historical, cultural and architectural aspects of Nizamuddin Area's monuments.





10. Jahanara's Gravestone

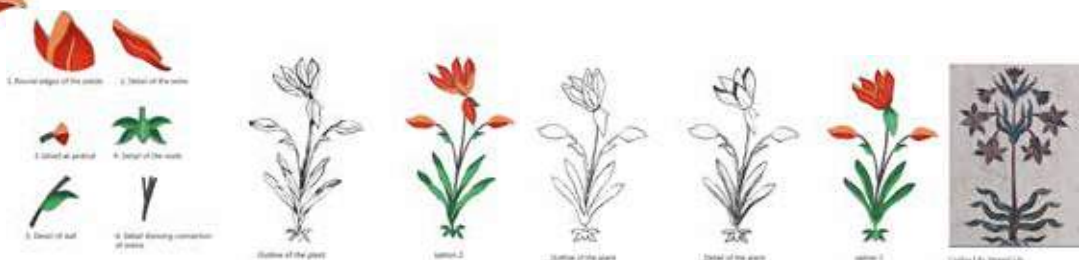


Photographic detail of bottom flower
Flower Description: Cylon lily also known as striped lily)

The Jahanara mausoleum is an enclosure open to the sky and measuring 13'9" by 11'6" externally. The headstone is a beautiful piece of craftsmanship that originally had peitra-dura work. AKTC had recommended to the ASI that the original headstone be preserved in the upcoming museum and be replaced with a replica. However, this was not agreed upon. A replica is now created for display at the Museum with an aim to demonstrate the craftsmanship in pietra-dura work.



Studying three-dimensional form of plant in order to achieve depth, tone, medium and lights



ACTION TAKEN:

- **Material used:** The semi-precious stones used for the replica are Agate, yellow Jasper, Carnelian, Belgium black stones
- **Documentation & Research:** The documentation of the headstone measuring 2000x575x100 mm thick was done. The pattern of pietra-dura work was examined carefully using microscopic devise. The microscopic images revealed the original adhesive details and remains of carnelian stone. Prof Ebba Koch was also consulted for her advise on the types of flower and details used in Mughal period pietra-dura work. Studying the examples from the patterns in Taj Mahal and multiple discussion with master craftsmen, the following points were discussed:
 - The plants at the bottom of the head stone was identified as stripped Lilly, the interior stamen of which is not visible. The petals would be in different shades of red (carnelian). Furthermore, the buds, sepals, and leaves details were match with the same plant. For shades of green agate is used, for red/ brow Carnelian stone, for yellow Jasper is used. The flowers making a part of flowery scroll on the margin



of the headstone would also be reddish with yellow centre following the similar lilly plant scheme seen from top view.

- Joinery details of each stone pieces which forms petals, leaves, stems, etc
- Craftsmanship process: The desired pattern is traced on the marble slab. The coloured stones are cut into varying shapes and different shades, according to the design, of roughly the same thickness. The cutting of pieces from precious stone is done meticulously by selecting the right shades in order to achieve three-dimensional form of a plant. The design is cut on the marble slab and inlay process takes place using traditional glue. The completed marble slab will then be polished with abrasive stones and waxed in order to smooth out the surface of the piece to achieve the final finish of the work.

Documentation



Craftsmanship



Proposed Display





11. Establishing Best Practices

(Above) The Humayun's Tomb Conservation works undertaken during 2008-13 were supported by the Tata Trusts and have also informed the National Conservation Policy drafted in 2015.

India has a vast and rich built heritage, manifested in the form of large number of monuments and sites spread across the country. Conservation being in the Indian constitution's concurrent list, there are heritage buildings and monuments protected by the Archaeological Survey of India, the Departments of Archaeology in most states as well as by municipalities and local bodies.

On account of India's vastness coupled with lack of systems in place to encourage interaction amongst those responsible for conservation, the conservation approach varies considerably and even well-meaning efforts at 'conservation' often lead to further damage and deterioration despite significant funds being involved. In order to provide a standard code to allow officials, decision makers, professionals, owners of heritage buildings, the project will – on behalf of the Tata Trusts - share the Technical Specifications of Conservation works, associated schedule of rates together with analysis of rates.

By establishing these standards and practices, we aim to assist decision makers improve the implementation of conservation works in the country empowering both public and private owners of heritage buildings in decision making. It will also allow for greater understanding of conservation works by administrators/decision makers and encourage greater conservation effort.

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ACTION TAKEN:

- The specifications are being prepared by an inter-disciplinary team of architects, engineers, archaeologists, experienced in conservation and associated works.
- To serve as the foundation of this exercise, data has been collated from Archaeological Survey of India, INTACH, State departments of Archaeology and practicing professionals.
- The accumulated data is being carefully compared and analysed and a framework has been created to prepare the first draft of the specifications.
- Based on AKTC experience, conservation specifications and analysis of rates are

NEXT STEP:

The specifications will be extensively peer reviewed in 2021 prior to being made available on an

(Below) Revival of traditional building crafts and craftsmanship has been one of the key objectives of the heritage conservation programme in the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative.





II Cultural Revival



The Nizamuddin area is recognized as one of the densest ensemble of medieval buildings in India. The significance of the area today comes from Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya, the revered 14th century Sufi saint who chose to establish his Khanqah in Ghiyaspur. On his death, the saint was buried in the courtyard of the Jamaat Khana mosque, and the area began to be known after him as 'Nizamuddin'. For almost 700 years, pilgrims have been visiting the shrine of the saint and since it is considered auspicious to be buried near a saint's grave, seven centuries of tomb building can now be seen here.

While this historically and culturally important area is in the heart of Delhi, it did not receive the attention it deserved till the AKTC initiative here.

The project has used several strategies to invite visitors to the area through conservation, heritage awareness activities and social development as the project adopts an integrated approach with an underlying principle of preserving the living culture of the area while supporting socio economic development of the community.

The focus of cultural revival programme has been:

1. Showcasing and reviving the intangible heritage of Nizamuddin Area
2. Heritage Awareness Programmes with schools through the Sair E Nizamuddin group of local youth.
3. Reviving the intangible heritage of Nizamuddin Area through concentrated efforts on the works of Hazrat Amir Khusrau and Rahim

CULTURAL REVIVAL

Heritage Awareness Programme

The programme aims to involve the local community to share Nizamuddin's tangible and intangible heritage with visitors and school children. Youth from Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti who have been trained to become heritage guides under the aegis of Sair E Nizamuddin (SeN) have been trained in the history of the area along with communication skills and they offer a unique experience to visitors, along with sharing the pride of their living heritage with them. Many heritage guides tend to be students, and this offers them an opportunity to support their education or choose to become full-time guides.

Following the outburst of the Covid 19 pandemic and subsequent lock-down period, created an atmosphere of unpredictability in the public behavior, especially in accessing and approaching outdoor behaviours. This led to some setback in the programmes which were planned and as such, it was not been conducive for many of the activities under this component. With schools being shut and shifted to online teaching model, and travel restrictions imposed around, the heritage awareness outreach programme was acutely affected.

However, following June-July, with relaxation in the lock-down rules, the team focussed its attention into looking at innovative ways to reach out the people, schools and visitors to create a new heritage awareness model. One of the ways was to shift focus to the virtual world and conducting specialized sessions across various themes to inform and engage with the viewers.



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Besides conducting few of the activities by the culture team, more focus was given on building the capacities of the members of the Sair-E-Nizamuddin (SeN). Sair-E-Nizamuddin is a self-help youth group of trained heritage volunteers comprising of young boys and girls from Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti. Formed in 2009, with the objective of offering paid guided heritage walks, as a livelihood option, in and around Nizamuddin Basti and various heritage sites, this group has now become self-sufficient. In addition, as part of heritage awareness and education programmes, Sair-e-Nizamuddin offers similar walks and other activities for school children. They also facilitate engagement between the local community and visitors to share the tangible and intangible heritage of Nizamuddin Basti.



www.instagram.com/sairenizamuddin/

Since 2010, SeN guides have walked over 55,000 participants through Humayun's Tomb, Nizamuddin Basti, Rahim's Tomb and Sunder Nursery from 324 schools, 52 university and 12 travel agencies.



ACTION TAKEN:

Heritage walks:

- The group conducted Sunday Walks from January to mid-March 2020 in collaboration with Zaika-e Nizamuddin. These were regular walks which were conducted every week and were conducted in the Nizamuddin Basti, World heritage site of Humayun's Tomb Complex and the Sunder Nursery Heritage Park.
- After a break of almost six months due to the COVID-19 lockdown, Sair-e-Nizamuddin resumed its services in September by conducting free heritage walks at Sunder Nursery Heritage Park. These were limited period special walk which were organized on-request by the visitors to the Park during morning and evening hours. This step proved to be very successful and helped the group to resume its operations.
- A total of 1020 visitors including Tourists, Researchers and Govt. officials have been walked by the heritage guides and project staff through Sunder Nursery, Humayun's Tomb Complex and Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti. Special covid precaution protocols are used during the walks now, like visitors wearing masks and maintaining social distancing during the walks.
- Before the schools shut down in March 2020, a total of 470 students and teachers from various schools of Delhi NCR were walked through Humayun's Tomb Complex, Sunder Nursery and Rahim's Tomb by Sair-e-Nizamuddin.
- Sair-e-Nizamuddin organized curated walks for: Worldwide Fund for Nature – this included pigeon flying demonstration, Rotary Club of India (Heritage Chapter), Sanjivani Society for mental health this year.

NEXT STEP:

In the wake of the covid pandemic, emphasis will be on creating online heritage products for schools and visitors to expand the repertoire of Sair-e-Nizamuddin.



13. Festivals & Workshops

Heritage awareness programmes also included celebrating special days and festivals to reach a larger and often new groups. Some of the days observed and celebrated in 2020 were:

CELEBRATING BASANT

- One of the objectives of the Cultural Revival programme is to showcase the rich living heritage of Nizamuddin Area. Since the time of Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya and Hazrat Amir Khusrau, Basant or the onset of spring is celebrated with great fervour and gaiety in the Nizamuddin. On this day, the members of the Nizami families pass through the meandering lanes of Nizamuddin Basti – singing songs composed by Amir Khusrau – and visit the dargah of Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya – holding small pots of sarson or mustard plant with yellow flowers.
- Keeping with the tradition, the group also organized special walks and curated programmes celebrating spring or Basant. Sair-e-Nizamuddin teamed up with Zaika-e-Nizamuddin (a women's self-help group from Nizamuddin basti). and organised a special nature walk, a sit-down meal comprising of cuisine of Nizamuddin Area creating an immersive atmosphere of the Sufi culture. The walk began by showcasing a wide range of mesmerizing flora of Sunder Nursery-Delhi's Heritage Park, followed by a specially curated for the occasion Basant lunch served by Zaika -e-Nizamuddin, a women self-help group from Nizamuddin. On the occasion all the guests were handed a small basket of seasonal flowers and incense for offering at the shrine of Nizamuddin.
- In addition, a special rickshaw ride, which was decorated with yellow marigold flowers was arranged for the visitors.



CULTURAL REVIVAL

14. Capacity Building Workshops

Supported by:

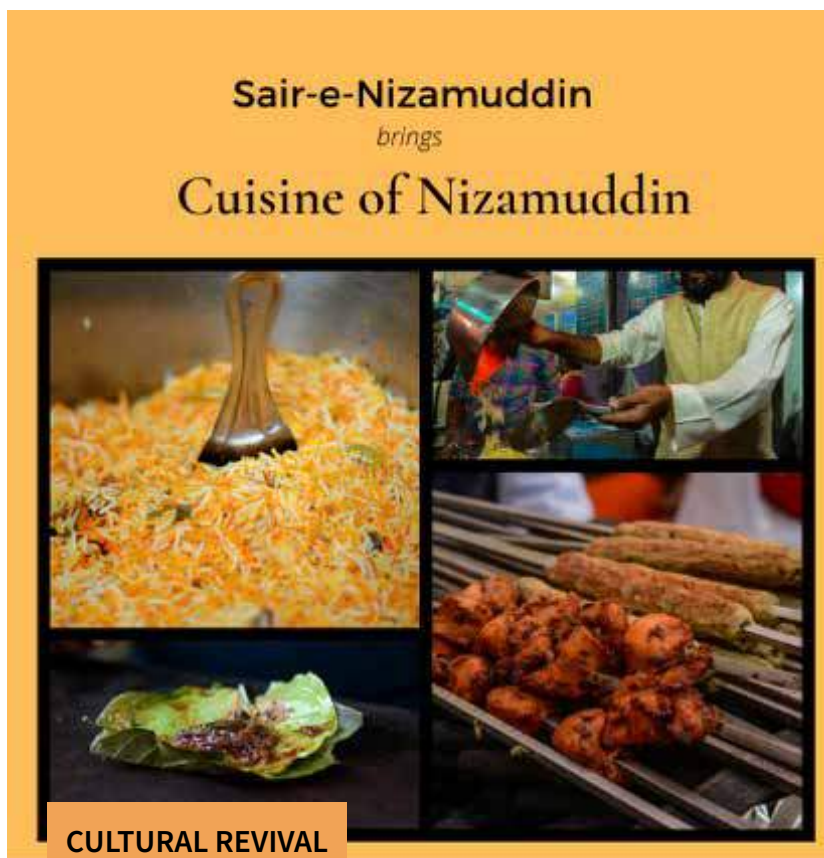


Aliph Foundation

The Covid 19 pandemic and subsequent lock-down period has not been conducive to many of the activities under this component and to the Sair E Nizamuddin group. Therefore, supported by a grant from ALIPH, the programme introduced a few activities and used this time to build capacities of the boys and girls working as heritage guides in the group.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Under the Aliph grant, a four-day training session on communication and marketing was organized for a group of 15 heritage guides. The four-day training included sessions on developing self-awareness and communication skills that includes presentation, marketing and negotiation. The sessions also imparted lessons on team building, developing vision for the group and aimed at inculcating sense of ownership amongst group members.
- Digital marketing plays a crucial role in the post pandemic world. To help Sair-e-Nizamuddin cope with the changing world and reach out to potential customers, a five days digital marketing training was provided to the SeN members in the month of December 2020.
- With the pandemic leading to plummeting tourism, the heritage group was out of work for almost 8 months. It was realized to tap the larger market in the tourism industry, SeN needs to work on its strategy. As a result, entrepreneurship skills enhancement training was planned for the volunteers. A total of 7 full day sessions were conducted spreading across 15 days. These were a mix of offline and online training sessions. At the end of the session, the participants came up with the short and long-term business plan for the group.
- To expand the repertoire of SeN heritage guides and expand their product range to add nature walks, a training programme was designed to train the members as nature guides at Sunder Nursery Heritage Park. The prime objective of these training sessions was to have a group of guides who can conduct nature walks in Sunder Nursery, such as trees walks, bird walks, butterflies walks, etc as individual components or all components clubbed under one nature walk. A total of 20 half-day sessions were conducted under this program, which was a mix of a classroom session and on-field training. By the end of the training, participants were confident to take nature walks at Sunder Nursery.



15. Celebrating Nizamuddin *‘virtually’*



To expand the scope of Sair-e-Nizamuddin from a walking group to a repository of the history and culture of Nizamuddin two digital campaigns were planned for the group during the last quarter of 2020.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Music of Nizamuddin: A digital marketing campaign on Music of Nizamuddin was designed for the group, for which SeN youth volunteers interviewed six people from Nizamuddin linked directly or indirectly with music traditions of Nizamuddin and break it down for a common people. All the interviews were shared on social media platforms of SeN in a form of series to engage the audience with the music of Nizamuddin.
- Cuisine of Nizamuddin: Under this campaign ten people from Nizamuddin were interviewed about the origin, cooking, and variety of food cooked in Nizamuddin. These interviews were shared on the social media platform of Sair-e-Nizamuddin in a series for 15 days to engage the audience with the food of Nizamuddin.
- Both the campaigns received a good response from the audience and was viewed by a total of 6305 people. It also helped the group to document the music and food of Nizamuddin with the artists and local people in the form of audio and video records.
- “A digital marketing campaign on Music of Nizamuddin was designed for the group, for which SeN youth volunteers interviewed six people from Nizamuddin linked directly or indirectly with music traditions of Nizamuddin and break it down for a common people. All the interviews were shared on social media platforms of SeN in a form of series to engage the audience with the music of Nizamuddin.”

Join us for the
Virtual Celebration of
**WORLD
HERITAGE
WEEK**

By Sair-e-Nizamuddin

23rd - 25th November, 2020

10:00 am - 12 pm

at [f sairenizamuddin](#) [i sairenizamuddin](#)

Join us in:
Virtual Heritage Walks,
Craft and Calligraphy
Workshops,
Talk with Experts



CULTURAL REVIVAL

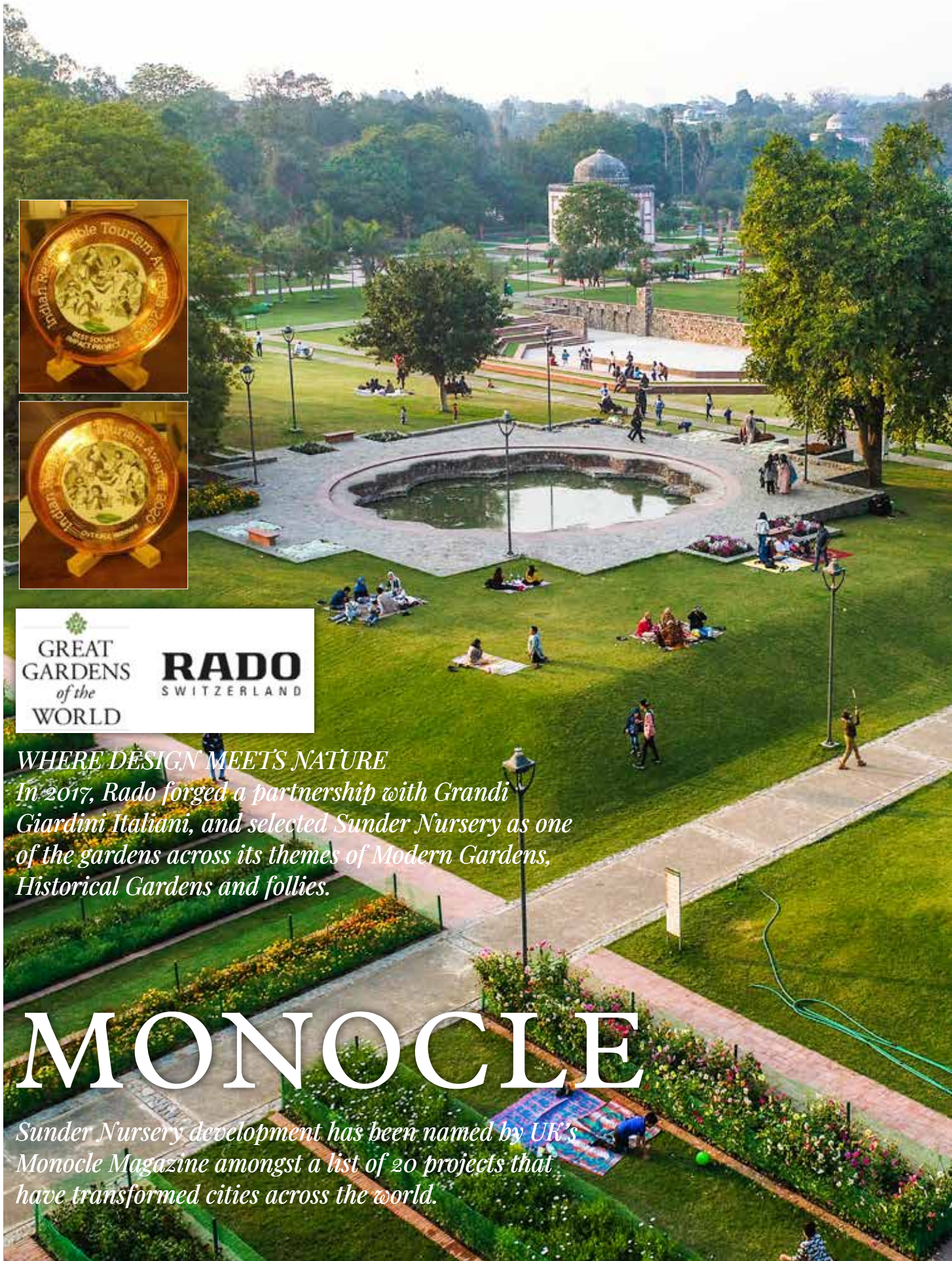
16. World Heritage Week



The World Heritage Week is celebrated in India from November 23rd - 30th November. The team puts together a series of craft workshops, heritage walks and student interaction sessions to showcase the various aspects of Nizamuddin Area and the project.

ACTION TAKEN:

- This year, due to the pandemic World Heritage Week was celebrated virtually. The celebrations were spread over three days and featured three components: Cuisine of Nizamuddin; Culture and Traditions of Nizamuddin, and Architectural Heritage of Nizamuddin. A set of pre-recorded sessions with scholars on these themes were shared over social media, which were viewed by over 7500 people.
- The first session was on Calligraphy by Mr. Anis Siddique, where the artist shared his journey and experience with the audience, later he also taught some easy ways to practice basics of calligraphy at home.
- The session on day-two was with Janab Mateen Amrohi, one of the senior-most Urdu poet of India who is acclaimed globally. The final day session was with Ms. Tanushree Bhoomik, a Delhi-based development professional, a food historian, and a food researcher, who took the session on how food has evolved over the years in Nizamuddin.
- In addition to these sessions with experts, Sair E Nizamuddin conducted virtual walks through Nizamuddin Basti through pre-recorded walks, virtual Dastagoi and a Craft workshop during the World Heritage Week.



WHERE DESIGN MEETS NATURE

In 2017, Rado forged a partnership with Grandi Giardini Italiani, and selected Sunder Nursery as one of the gardens across its themes of Modern Gardens, Historical Gardens and follies.

MONOCLE

Sunder Nursery development has been named by UK's Monocle Magazine amongst a list of 20 projects that have transformed cities across the world.

Sunder Nursery

Heritage Environment Nursery

UNESCO New Delhi is pleased to share that Delhi's Heritage Park, Sunder Nursery received the Award of Excellence for their successful efforts towards ecological and heritage restoration. Sunder Nursery was recognized for Special Recognition for Sustainable Development, in addition to its Award of Excellence, for its "transformative impact in turning a barren site into an urban oasis in the heart of New Delhi."

It is the first heritage complex in Delhi to receive 2 UNESCO Asia-Pacific awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation.



UNESCO



17. Sunder Nursery Management



As with all AKDN projects worldwide, the sustainability of all components of the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative in the post project phase was a concern from the onset and reflected in Clause 1 of the 2007 MoU.

Upkeep of national monuments in the Humayun's Tomb complex was already undertaken by the ASI. However, Sunder Nursery development as well as the several socio-economic development components at the Nizamuddin Basti are understood to require additional support to ensure eventual sustainability.

In 2018, the Government Sunder Nursery Management Trust was created, wherein AKTC and AKF accepted responsibility as Management Trustees for a period of 10 years.

ACTION TAKEN:

- The Management Trust has been responsible to ensure Sunder Nursery is used by visitors in the manner that it was designed for. This has led to 300,000 visitors in 2020 and Sunder Nursery now ranked attraction #4 in Delhi on Trip Advisor – amongst 500+ attractions that the city offers.
- Horticulture operations at Sunder Nursery are outsourced to multiple contractors tasked with upkeep and routine horticulture works as well as planting for
- **SECURITY:** Sunder Nursery has earned the reputation of being the safest place for women, children, and elderly. Sunder Nursery follows and implements the latest security policies, protocols, and procedures to ensure safety for the visitors.
- Security guards has been appointed to guard the park. Also trained to handle emergency situations and follow the prescribed safety protocol. Following the completion of civil works. State of the art electronic digital surveillance has been installed with 64 high resolution CCTV cameras spread across the 90-acre park.
- Considering the large inflow of visitors at Sunder Nursery, toilets, drinking water facilities need regular upkeep and care. In 2020, two additional toilets were built. Safest design layout was done keeping in mind the pandemic. Additional hand-wash areas have been provided on the exterior to prevent visitors from camping out inside the restroom.
- An external contractor is appointed to keep high maintenance levels of the facilities within the park.
- In 2020, Sunder Nursery Park received 50,000 children. Bearing in mind the large numbers, a community playground was conceptualized, which will offer multitude of benefits in improving community health and provide children with constant learning. The children playhouse will also provide economic impact with increased footfall.



- The unique playhouse layout was conceptualized with providing children the opportunity to sharpen key skills including social, cognitive, and physical. The designated area has been designed to be part of a larger children learning zone which includes wilderness zone, butterfly zone, bird habitat and a small amphitheatre.
- The Playhouse design artfully unites innovative learning module with the nature and serving diverse group of children of all ages and abilities.
- With a significant increase in visitor numbers, additional pathways were built at Sunder Nursery, as per the approved landscape design. These pathways are essential part of the design providing access to natural areas and connection between different zones of Sunder Nursery specially for visitors with limited physical abilities.
- Construction of a 110-metre-long pathway connecting two main arterial pathway on the East and west. Additional fire tender path was constructed to provide access to the restaurant site in-case of any natural disaster.
- For three years, Sunder Nursery has hosted a weekend organic market, providing organic farmers and other producers a much-needed economic opportunity.
- Car Parking within the Sunder Nursery peripheral road has been a boon for elderly visitors, allowing easy parking and access to multiple picnic spots across the park. The peripheral road – 8,000 sq.m. was one of the first building activities in Sunder Nursery – replacing the 24,000 sqm of internal road network earlier.
- The Management Trust also allows Sunder Nursery to host events, permit film shootings, rent out amphitheatre for events, amongst other activities.
- The Sunder Nursery social media outreach is also managed by the Management Trust.



NEXT STEPS:

The Management Trust will continue to take decisions in real time to fulfil the objectives of the Sunder Nursery development in building, creating facilities and planning activities.



ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMENT

18. Garden Restaurant

(Above and facing page) Renderings of the proposed Sunder Nursery Garden Restaurant.

The Delhi masterplan allows a restaurant in a District Park. Accordingly, the Sunder Nursery masterplan identified a potential zone for a restaurant. To enhance the visitor experience at Sunder Nursery, a lake side restaurant has been proposed retaining much of Professor M. Shaheer's restaurant ideas of height of the building, approach and to balance the number of seats with kitchen size, service areas, etc. Despite the smaller footprint, the new design could very comfortably accommodate 250 seats with covered and semi covered area of 400 Sqm. The concept will follow design vocabulary of Sunder Nursery in terms of material, geometric lines and axis.

ACTION TAKEN:

- The Lotus Studio- a Delhi based architectural practice has been engaged to prepare the design of the restaurant as per Delhi's masterplan requirement.
- The restaurant building is sited in complete coherence with the site and has no physical segregation from the rest of the Park.
- Mock-up the whole building was done to understand the massing of the building within the garden philosophy of Sunder nursery.
- The architectural design concept has been finalised, and the building's layout has been marked on the site.
- In addition, a survey of visitors at Humayun's Tomb, Sunder Nursery and restaurants in five popular locations covering 1000 visitors - domestic, international and local tourists was undertaken to eating and restaurant preferences of visitors.

NEXT STEPS:

The project drawings will be submitted to the concerned authority to seek permissions for construction in 2021.





ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMENT

19. Lake Side Food Kiosk

In 2018 with the opening of the park the total visitorship to the park was 54,807. This increased to 1,90,000 in 2019 and despite the lockdown in 2020 due to the pandemic the visitors increased to 3,20,000 in 2020 which was 68 % more than 2019. Therefore, to enhance the visitor experience at Sunder Nursery, a temporary food court was proposed to the Government Sunder Nursery Management Trust, which would be active for a period of six months starting from November 2020 to April 2021. The proposal was approved by the Board members in the 4th GSNMT General Body Meeting. There after the tender for operating the food court was floated.

The design of this food court is cost-effective and is made in steel frame with temporary roofing material, respecting the aesthetic language and the dense green vegetation around the lake.

The food court was inaugurated on the 1st November,2020 and has been a great success with the visitors to the Park. Ever since its inauguration, visitor foot fall has gone up by 25% of the total footfall increase of 167% as compared to last quarter in 2019.

With a a fully functional 150 Sq.m. of kitchen and covered and semi-covered area of 60 Sq.m., the cafe can comfortably accommodate 40 covers, with additional green area

ACTION TAKEN:

- After the formal processing of the tender, the contract for operating the food court was awarded to a chain of restaurants run by FabIndia – called the FabCafe chain of restaurant on 18th September, 2020.
- The design consists of covered and semi covered space of 60 Sqm which accommodates about 40 covers with and additional open green space along the lake for the visitors to experience the space between the lush green dense vegetation and flowing waters of the lake.
- Along with service area a fully functional kitchen with an area of 36 Sqm was a constructed keeping in mind the rising visitor numbers at Sunder Nursery since September 2020.
- Landscaping of 4000 Sqm area around the food court was done as per the proposed design as per garden philosophy of Sunder nursery.

NEXT STEPS:

- Landscaping of the remaining 0.4 hectare on the north side of the food court will be developed.
- The Proposed Lake side restaurant drawings will be submitted to the concerned authority to seek permissions for construction in 2021.





20. Bee Conservation Programme

(Above) A plantation plan favouring the bees, butterflies and dragonflies has been created which has seen a marked increase in the number and variety of these pollinators.

The bee population of the world is under threat due to rapid climatic change, urbanisation, use of chemicals in agriculture. Large urban centres such as Delhi, with growing pollution levels each year, lack favourable flora to sustain its bee population.

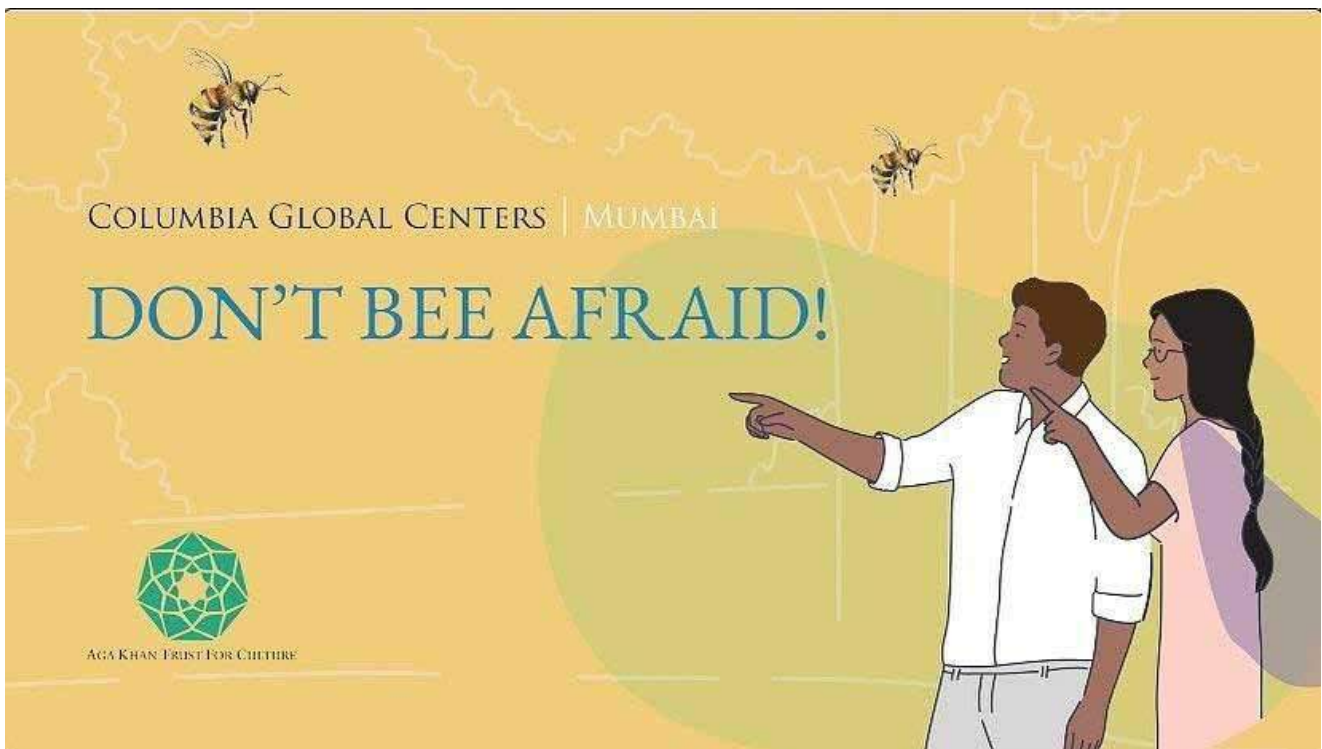
In order to create awareness on the importance of bees and create a favourable bee habitat in Sunder Nursery, various initiatives have been taken by the Sunder Nursery team.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Bee boxes in Sunder Nursery kept for educational and awareness purposes are being maintained by trained volunteers. These boxes serve as an educational resource for visitors on the importance of bees as well as to let the volunteers and participants of workshops get first hand practical experience of bee keeping.
- Regular mapping is being undertaken to mark out to mark out bee hotspots in /Sunder Nursery during each season. The existing as well as new colonies of naturally established colonies of indigenous bees such as Apis Cerana, Apis Dorsata and Apis Florea are regularly mapped by the team and are being protected.
- A bee friendly plantation plan was made and finalized with technical inputs from Golden Hive Foundation along with training of staff to manage the bee boxes.
- Various signage has been installed in Sunder Nursery, explaining the importance of bees for the survival of the planet and the human race and to generate awareness amongst visitors and especially school children.

Collaborators:
Golden Hive Foundation





Collaboration with Columbia Global Center

Collaborators:



The Aga Khan Trust for Culture, India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Columbia Global Centers, Mumbai in October 2019 for a period of two years. The Columbia Global Center is one of the nine global centers of Columbia University for promoting partnerships and innovative ways of addressing global challenges. The Center has is reputed to be a research-oriented knowledge hub for raising public awareness and advancing informed decision in the area of sustainability.

The MoU is to improve the 'Public Engagement Programs for Sunder Nursery' aimed to bring enhanced effectiveness and ecological impact of Sunder Nursery.

ACTION TAKEN:

- A document on best management practices for Asiatic honeybees and a floral calendar for honeybees in Delhi was brought out as a part of collaboration on initiatives to conserve bees in Sunder Nursery.
- Keeping in view the prevailing Covid 19 situation much of awareness on bees was undertaken through online medium in year 2020. Columbia Global Center was identified to undertake awareness and involve researchers to help support creation of better bee habitat.
- The video released on world bees day in year 2020, "The importance of honeybees: perspectives from India", highlights importance of honeybees, their role in sustainable development and food security and the severe threats and challenges they face.
- "Don't Bee Afraid campaign", as part of the Sunder Nursery project with support from Columbia Global Center was launched on world bees day, to increase awareness about honey bees and inspire citizens to participate in bee conservation efforts.

NEXT STEPS:

- Continue awareness workshops on bees and their importance and strengthen procedures on effective bee-keeping for visitors to Sunder Nursery. Continue with the efforts to map and protect indigenous bees through bee-friendly flowers and trees in Sunder Nursery.
- Increase the number of bee boxes and develop a specialized area for bee boxes for educational and awareness purposes in Sunder Nursery.



CULTURAL REVIVAL

21. Celebrating Butterflies



Birds and butterflies are two groups that can be used as ecological indicators, and are associated with highly specific habitat conditions, particularly the species of food plants during caterpillar or larval stage. With 20,000 saplings planted here over the past decade, in lieu of the 400 truckloads of construction rubble removed from here, the Park is home to over 35 species of butterflies. At Sunder Nursery, significant work has been carried out to create a safe and thriving habitat for butterflies, bees and insects. In 2019, efforts commenced to create an active butterfly habitat to spread awareness and find refuge to butterflies.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Situated in the wilderness zone, the butterfly habitat has plantation based on the types which are favored by the butterflies especially during the caterpillar and larval stages.
- This zone has been divided into two zones called the Host Plant Zone on the eriphery and the Nectar Zone in the centre.
- To support the life cycle of the butterfly, two water bodies have been built within the zone. Each of these is 5 feet deep and filled with clay as preferred by butterflies.
- The zone has also been planted with a variety of selective plantation under the guidance of Dr. Faiyaz Khudsar, scientist in-charge of the Yamuna Biodiversity Park.
- Pathway has been created around the nectar zone to enable visitors to experience the rich butterfly fauna.
- On the occasion of Big Butterfly Month in September, the team organized a competition for its visitors to spot and photograph butterflies at the park. Many nature enthusiasts participated in this competition and shared their pictures with the team. As a recognition to their photography, the winner who spotted the maximum number of species was awarded with a free annual membership to the Park.





22. Vermicomposting



A vermicomposting unit was established in 2015 to manage the leaf litter in Sunder Nursery as well provide good quality compost to the plants. It was established as a pilot project with one single bed with 1 tonne of leaf litter and 10 kgs earthworms. The unit now houses 32 beds with over 300 kgs of earth worms distributed in all the beds.

Leaf litter for composting is collected from pathways, lawns, area near the water bodies, road sides, picnic area, sides of peripheral road and areas near monuments to ensure that no leaf litter enters water bodies and drainage system, and pathways and monument areas remain clean. Leaf litter is not collected from zones designated for promoting biodiversity. Four people from Nizamuddin Basti have been trained to operate and maintain the unit.

The pandemic and the subsequent lockdown brought challenges in maintaining the vermicompost beds. Special arrangements were undertaken to ensure proper maintenance of vermicomposting beds during lockdown so that the earthworms do not die and compost is harvested in time.

ACTION TAKEN:

- An additional 14 beds of vermicomposting were started and over 9000 kgs of vermicompost was harvested from the unit during this year.
- Over 2600 kgs vermicompost was sold in weekend markets at Sunder Nursery and 6685 kgs of harvested compost was used for plantation in flower beds existing and new plantation in Sunder Nursery, development of micro forest in Sunder nursery, and area near Rahim's Mausoleum.

NEXT STEPS :

- The team will focus on increasing the capacity of vermicomposting unit in Sunder Nursery by adding 10 more beds. It will also make vermiwash (nutrient rich liquid derived from earthworms) in the vermicomposting unit.
- Organize workshops to spread awareness on composting on Sundays for visitors to the Park.



Now

ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMENT

23. Pathways



The Sunder Nursery landscape masterplan includes a range of pathways for walkers and pedestrians. Quartzite stone pathways around the monuments, sandstone pathways along the central vista's gardens of delight, trails in the wilderness zone and even stone chip and concrete pathways. In 2020 the path network north of the lakes was built by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture and in 2021, the entire planned network of pathways should be completed. The scenic walking trail takes walkers across a range of pathways and stunning sights. Walkers are requested to use these pathways and not the vehicular road that runs along the edge of Sunder Nursery.



In 2009

To enhance the accessibility across the various zones of Sunder Nursery, a few more pedestrian pathways were constructed as per the approved Sunder Nursery master plan. Developed in accordance with the landscape design of the heritage park, these pathways are designed to improve the connectivity within the park as well as ease out pedestrian congestion on the existing central pathways.

ACTION TAKEN:

- In accordance with the proposed lake-side landscape design, a pathway connecting the Azim Bagh zone with the Wild Almond Avenue and the Arc of Discovery was constructed. This pathway will connect two major arterial pedestrian paths on the east and west parts of the garden.
- Major works include connecting the area around the children's play area with the rest of the park and adding to the newly developed 3km scenic pathway route for visitors.
- In addition to the central pathways, an angular pathway was constructed on the northern end of the restaurant site. This pathway will provide direct access from the parking areas and the nursery beds on the north to the garden.
- Construction of 80 Cubic metre of brickwork and 1800 cubic metre earth filling in the pathways was done to achieve existing pathway levels.
- Construction of 450 Sqm red sandstone pathways done along with Delhi quartzite plaza to enhance the visitor experience through the dense fauna on either side of the pathway. One of the major objectives during the construction of the pathway was to retain every single tree and the plantations that existed on the site including two large Bamboo Groves.
- Ambience lighting was installed, along these pathways.
- For the security of the visitors, additional CCTV cameras were installed in this newly developed area for which Cat 6 cable measuring 200 metres was laid.

NEXT STEPS:

A 5-metre-wide access road which will also serve as the drop off point for the proposed restaurant will be constructed.



ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMENT

24. Site Museum Entrance Plaza

Humayun's Tomb Interpretation Centre gallery block is connected to Sunder Nursery through a 3 m wide ramp. At the meeting point of ramp and the Sunder Nursery a grand entrance plaza influenced by the Mughal gardens has been designed to enhance the visitor experience. The plaza layout consists of Mughal architectural elements like red sandstone pavilions, water features like single piece highly ornamental fountains placed in a square water pool of size. Highly ornamental marble chaddar to take the water to the gallery level.

The Square water pool with red sandstone pathways wrapped around it with Jhansi stone steps and the falling water from the ornamental marble chaddar will form the perfect balance between the elements of nature. The entrance plaza will provide easy access for the visitors to Sunder Nursery from the gallery block and as well as from the administration building parking.



ACTION TAKEN:

- Civil works including excavation of 8000mmX 8000m X 600 water pool and PCC concreting of the base measuring 65 Sq.m. was done.
- Kota stone flooring of 92 Sqm has been done.
- Fixing of ornamental marble fountain was done.
- Construction of marble chaddar of size 5m X 2m is on-going.
- All the electrical and plumbing works for the water pool has been completed and 80 sqm of Delhi Quartsite stone was done.

NEXT STEPS:

- Cladding of red sandstone will be done.
- Construction of red sandstone pavilions will be carried out in the next quarter.
- Fixing of Dholpur stone jallis on the bridge will done.
- Fixing of marble on both sides of marble chadar and cladding on the walls will be carried out.



(Above) Architectural rendering showing the majestic white marble chaddar/water-cascade planned at the Museum; (Below) View of the chaddar at Sunder Nursery Lake.



ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMENT

25. Children Playzone

“Children learn as they play. More importantly, in play, children learn how to learn.”

In continuation of Sunder Nursery’s aim to develop well served and well used community spaces integrated within natural and ecological zones of the heritage park. Play area for children has been developed where not only children but even young people can enjoy spending time, be physically active, interact with their natural surroundings, experience change and continuity, take risks in an environment where they feel safe in a wide variety of ways.

The layout of the play area has been designed organically into three zones with custom activities to serve different age groups into three categories keeping in perspective the physical engagement for child development along with social interaction, cognitive learning, and sensitisation of senses with well thought interactive railings with chalkboards, sensory elements assimilating looking, hearing and touching. In addition, physical activities like tree walkway with sliders, space trolley, Rope bridges and natural playscapes will serve as countless opportunities for teamwork and social interaction leading to stimulation of the child’s mind leading to cognitive development along with other skill development.

On its completion, this play-zone area will be one of its kind in the city and will also be one of the major attractions for the visitors to Sunder Nursery Heritage Park.

Supported by:





ACTION TAKEN:

- Works have complete on the 250 sq.m of red sandstone pathway, which will have movement pattern such as hopping, jumping, crawling, spinning. There will also be barefoot walking on the pathway, with section of different material and textures to provide information about the world heritage monuments in the Park through patterns and signages.
- Works completed on interactive railing around the sandpit area which has musical as well as multi sensory communication elements incorporated.
- Intricate patterns made by hand in tiles are completed on the ceiling of the 6m long entrance tunnel through the mound. These pattern are inspired from the heritage structures situated in the Park and will create awareness about the historic setting of the garden and provide tactile sensory experience to the children along with the understanding of geometry as seen in these tile patterns.
- Construction of 6 sqm Tree House connecting the decks with a rope bridge is under progress and will be completed by January 2021. It will creating opportunity for physical/ personal endeavour and teamwork.
- Work is underway on the construction of 2.9 metre high and 22 sq.m of elevated mound walkway with slides. These will have 40 mm thick wooden flooring, and the elevated walkway has been designed on the concept of tree walk for children to run around and slide down from different points.
- Fixing of Space trolley/Zip liner has been installed.
- Construction of texture walls and painting walls has been completed. The walls have different types of material used throughout the site in different monuments including DQ masonry, handmade tile surface and lime plaster walls. The vertical surfaces will offer different texture and wall for painting, where children can paint freely. The space will also have stone tables with board games embedded in them.
- Construction 1.7 metre wide and 20-metre-long sensory water pathway is on-going. Once completed the children will be able to experience the touch of different textures and enrich hearing senses through sound of the flowing water stream.

NEXT STEPS:

Work on the Children Playzone will be completed in the first quarter of 2021.



ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMENT

26. Archaeological Wall

During the excavation works for the construction of pathways connecting the Wild Almond Avenue with Azim Bagh zone, a foundation wall of a 16th century structure was discovered. The team took quick measures, and several inspection pits were excavated along the historic wall. The excavation revealed an 850 mm wide random rubble masonry enclosure wall with an octagonal bastion size of 3mX3m on the eastern corner. This incredible discovery will act as an added attraction to the existing 13 historic buildings in the heritage park.

ACTION TAKEN:

- At first, extant portions of the 16th-century wall structure were exposed after excavation works.
- The historic wall was documented on site and measured drawings were prepared for conservation works to be implemented.
- Following a series of discussions with conservation architects, civil engineers, and craftspeople, it was decided that the wall would be conserved and further consolidated up to a decided height including the eastern octagonal bastion.
- Conservation works of the rubble masonry is on-going.

NEXT STEPS:

The historic wall will be consolidated and extended to a height of 1.8 meters above the ground in the next phase.



27. Reviving Historic Wells

The groundwater table at the historic Sunder Nursery has shown a significant rise in the two years since it was opened for the public by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC), after a decade of restoration work.

When the Sunder Nursery development works commenced in 2007, there were seven wells discovered inside the complex, all of which had dried up. At present, after desilting, water level of about 20-25 feet have recorded the at each of these wells.





SIGNAGE SYSTEM

28. Park Signage

Since the park was opened in February 2018, it has seen an impressive increase in the visitor traffic. Keeping in mind this, the team has devised on a signage plan which not only informs but is also sensitive to the green and aesthetic setting of the park. Broadly, the park is divided into three functions – monuments, nursery functions, and the wilderness zone – and there are several routes planned for the visitors to enjoy the various spots and zones. The signage system considers all these aspects and is targeted at visitor segment from all categories.



ACTION TAKEN:

The following categories of signages have been installed in the Park:

Monument signages

- Sunder Nursery is home to 20 monuments and historic structures, and out of them six are UNESCO World Heritage Sites. To inform visitors about these monuments, a monolithic white marble signage has been installed outside all of these six monuments : Sunder Burj, Sunderwala Mahal, Lakkarwala Burj, Mirza Muzaffar Hussain's Mausoleum, Chota Batashewala, and Mughal Mausoleum.

Tree information

- The Nursery was planned in the early 20th century by the British when New Delhi was being planned and this space was used to propagate plants for the new capital city of India. Some of the trees found in this Park are over two centuries old and many of them are the lone species found in the city.
- Communication strategy was designed to inform, engage and educate visitors about various tree species planted in Sunder Nursery.
- As part of this strategy, work has started on installing tags on over 1500 trees and 100 tree information signage.
- The Tree tags contains the basic information like Botanical and Common name of the tree in hindi and English, installed with a metal wire around the girth of the tree, and ensuring that no damage is done to the tree. Around 150 tree species were covered in this exercise and more than 1600 tree tags have been printed so far
- The tree information panel has descriptive information on the tree specie and have details like leaf, fruit, seed and bark-types. These are installed on metal frame placed in front of the tree for easy-reading by the visitors.
- A Delhi-based nature-photographer Syed Qasim has undertaken the photo-documentation and content for the trees. These set of information will further be used for communication system developed for Sunder Nursery trees via - tree tag, tree panels and tree publications.
- Tree information panel is planned for around 100 trees in the park and 30 panels have been installed in the Park.



Zone Signage

- The park has nine designated zones and they have been named as: Garden of Delight, Flower Valley, Arc of Discovery, Gulistan, Azim Bagh, Wilderness, Wild Almond Avenue, The Farm, and Secret Garden.
- The red sandstone signage are on a low masonry pedestal with tiled border and their icons and graphics are sensitively designed keeping the aesthetic language of the space in mind.

Park information signs

- Be a part of Sunder Nursery and Rent a space signage were installed to inform and engage visitors for various programs that are organised here and the various venues which are available for rent at Sunder Nursery.
- Signage for Children: A special signage category was created for the young visitors to the Park. These 10 signages with environmental messages and child-friendly graphics have been installed along the various locations on the route to the children trail.
- Sunder Nursery aims to be a place of enjoyment and education for the children. Not only through its various heritage and ecology awareness activities and workshops, but the Park also engages with the children through its various specially-designed attractions like the upcoming Children Play Zone and the model farm patch.
- In collaboration with Beejom, the team has created a model farm in the wilderness zone of the Park where Kharif, Rabi and Zaid crops and many forgotten vegetables are cultivated. This space is aimed at creating awareness and interest amongst children for our traditional farming practices too. There are signage in the area which informs children on this subject.
- **COVID-19 signages:** After the park was reopened post lock-down, a proper covid system was set in place. Information relating to necessary covid measures were communicated through signages at various locations in park.

Directional signs

- Scenic walk route signage: A walking route of 2.1 km was developed for the visitors which highlights the various hidden attractions within the Park and also keeps them off the road. It is intended that more of such walking paths will be developed in the future.
- Do Not Signages: At Sunder Nursery, the team aims to create a model of visitor engagement and their engagement with the Park. Therefore, a set of regulatory signs have been installed throughout the Park which are low height and carry a positive message and engages with the visitors.





Bee workshop

- With the loss of habitat and increased pollution the ASIATIC BEE is under threat; Sunder Nursery aims to become a sanctuary for the Asiatic Bee. To meet this objective another 'know the Bee' workshop was conducted by Golden Hive Foundation. Around 25 bee enthusiasts of all age groups attended the workshop.

Sparrow Workshop

- The house sparrow population has been on the decline in many Asian countries, and this decline is quite evident in India. One of the reasons for this decline is the loss of their habitat. The new buildings and landscaped gardens which are constructed are not sparrow-friendly. The modern glass-clad box shape buildings do not have cavities which are important for sparrows to make nests.
- Towards the objective of imparting environmental conservation messages, the team organised a sparrow-nest making workshop in the Park. Nest making is one small effort towards safeguarding sparrows. The workshop on sparrow nest making out of recycled wood in association with Eco Roots Foundation at Sunder Nursery was conducted in which more than 30 people participated.

Silent Book reading WindWord Coonsulting

- The open-air-theatre in the wilderness zone has been developed as a venue for environment related topics and for group sessions which does not affect the peace and tranquillity of the bio-habitat in this area. Therefore, this place is apt for events like book reading or outdoor classroom session.
- A session on book reading was organized at Sunder Nursery by WindWord Consulting in which around 15 book readers participated.



ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMENT

30. Plantation Programme

In addition to the conservation of existing vegetation forest groves and mature trees, the project has aimed to enhance the biodiversity by planting of over 20,000 saplings since its inception.

ACTION TAKEN:

- The horticulture team continued to develop and maintain the plantations in the Sunder Nursery Heritage Park, in addition to the maintenance of the garden features in Rahim's Mausoleum garden, parks in the Nizamuddin Basti and plantation in the parking zones and area around Humayun's Tomb Site museum.
- During April to June, the maintenance of garden features included mowing of lawn grass, constant monitoring and watering to the grass, trees, shrubs, hedges, ground covers, creepers etc., and cutting of hedges, pruning of trees, shrubs etc. in the various areas in Sunder Nursery.
- During July to September, in addition to maintenance of garden features at Nursery, H.T.I.C and other areas the development and plantation of trees, shrubs etc. approximately 200 Bougainvillea were planted along with boundary wall near substation at Sunder Nursery, plantation of approximately 6000 ground covers on the ramp of lakes opposite of restaurant and 200 trees and shrubs were planted in the Batashewala complex.
- During July to October 2020, the team planted 50 Bougainvillea along with boundary wall of nursery near substation, 200 Trees in the Batashewala complex, and planted over 2000 trees and ground covers in the Humayun's Tomb Site Museum.
- The team planted 150 citrus and amla plants over an area of approximately 2000 sq.m. and over 10,000 annual plants in the flower beds of Sunder Nursery Park.
- The team also undertook plantation of approximately 2000 plants in the Humayun's Tomb Site Museum.
- The horticulture team undertook the propagation of over 4000 trees and shrubs and sowed Kharif crops in the model farm patch in the Sunder Nursery park

List of Plants to be planted in 2021 (Proposed)		
Sunder Nursery, Nizamuddin		
S.No.	Description	Qty.
1	Kinno	80
2	Shajna	15
3	Ficus Repens	50
4	Amaltash	20
5	Imli	50
6	Pilkhan	60
7	Chandni	200
8	Khirni	15
9	Ficus	200
10	Bauhinia	25

11	Enemy	200
12	Ber	50
13	Kronda	50
14	Chorisia speciosa	5
15	Dhak	15
16	Tecoma gori chori	10
17	Mahua	20
18	Long tulsi	10
Total Plants to be planted in year 2021		1,075



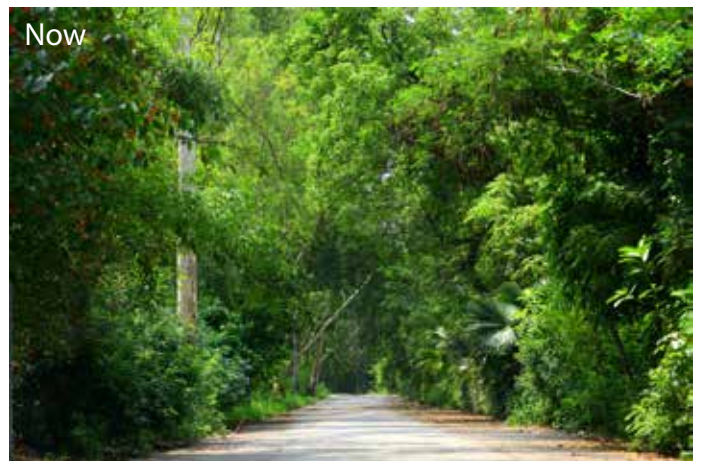
In 2009



Now



In 2009



Now

NEXT STEPS:

Over 1000 trees will be planted by the team in 2021 at the Park with more focus towards plants which attracts bees and biodiversity.



31. Dissemination of Project Learning

Every year, the project engages with academic institutions, cultural organizations, civil society, opinion makers, conservation professionals, students, policy makers who are keen to learn from the experiences or replicate the project model or its elements in their work areas.

The Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative has demonstrated a prototype for revitalization of a historic city centre in a not-for-profit people oriented public-private partnership model. The project has successfully integrated conservation with socio-economic and environment development and unified the three segregated sites of Humayun's Tomb, Sunder Nursery and Nizamuddin Basti into a cultural district for the city of New Delhi.



50 Walks
conducted
in 2020

10 Walks
with diplomats
from different
Embassy

25 Walks
with officials
from Govt.
of India

3 Walks
conducted for
student groups.

Name of the Visitor/s	Site Area	Date	Conducted by
Mr Amitabh Kant, Chief Executive Officer, NITI Aayog, Government of India	Various	01-Jul	Ratish Nanda
Ms Meenakshi Sharma, Director General, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India	Humayun's Tomb Interpretation Centre	07-Jul	Ratish Nanda
Mr Sanjeev Singh, Municipal Corporation of Delhi	Dara Shikoh grave	07-Jul	Ratish Nanda
Mr Rakesh Singh Lal, Additional Director General, Archaeological Survey of India	Rahim's Tomb site Inspection	08-Jul	Ratish Nanda
Mr Prahlad Singh Patel, Minister of Tourism and Culture, Government of India	Tree plantation at Rahim's Tomb	09-Jul	Ratish Nanda & Team
Mr Prahlad Singh Patel, Minister of Tourism and Culture, Government of India	Tree plantation at Humayun's Tomb	10-Jul	Ratish Nanda & Team
Mr William Bissel, Chairman, Fab India & Mrs Bim Bissel, Fab India	Children's play area at Sunder Nursery	21-Jul	Ratish Nanda, Neetipal Brar
Dr. Devyani Khobragade, Joint Secretary (Development Partnership Administration-II), M/o External Affairs	Sunder Nursery	23-Jul	Ratish Nanda
Mr M Nambirajan, Joint Director General; Mr N K Pathak, Regional Director North, Mr Trivedi, Archaeological Survey of India	Humayun's Tomb Site Museum	05-Aug	Unnati Pawar, Dinesh Patial, Ratish Nanda
H.E.Mr Emmanuel Lenain, Ambassador of France to India	Humayun's Tomb	30-Aug	Ratish Nanda
Mr Vijay Kumar Dev, Chief Secretary, Government of NCT of Delhi	Sunder Nursery	05-Sep	Neetipal Brar
Ms Priyanka Singh, Interglobe Foundation	Khan I Khanan	01-Sep	Ujwala Menon
Ms Anjali Puri, Journalist, Outlook Magazine	Khan I Khanan	19-Sep	Ratish Nanda, Ujwala Menon
Ms Johanna Borchardt, Head of Cultural Department, German Embassy, New Delhi	Sunder Nursery	06-Jun	Ratish Nanda
Mr Anand Kumar, Secretary, M/o Culture, Government of India	Sunder Nursery, Humayun's Tomb Interpretation Centre, Rahim Tomb	30-Jun	Ratish Nanda

Mr Jitendra Narain, Principal Resident Commissioner, Arunachal Bhawan	Sunder Nursery	02-Oct	Ratish Nanda
Mr Yogendra Garg, Principal Commissioner, M/o Finance, Government of India	Sunder Nursery	02-Oct	Ratish Nanda
Ms Rupindra Brar, Additional Director General, M/o Tourism, Government of India	Sunder Nursery	02-Oct	Ratish Nanda
Ms Johanna Borchardt, Ms Virginia Braun, Mr Jochen Schindelarz - Cultural Section of German Embassy New Delhi	Humayun's Tomb Site Museum, Sunder Nursery	23-Oct	Ujwala Menon
Ms Sujata Prasad, IAS, Government of India	Sunder Nursery	07-Nov	Ratish Nanda
Mr Anthony Miranda, Counselor for Cultural Affairs; Mr Mark Burrell, Regional English Language program; Ms Mandeep Kaur, All India Principal Program Advisor	AFCP Sites – Sunder Nursery, Humayun's Tomb Site Museum and Arab Serai East Gate	17-Nov	Ujwala Menon, Ratish Nanda
Mr Mustaq Ahmad, Director, M/o Mines and Mrs Moina Benazir, Director (Skills), M/o Minority Affairs, Government of India	Sunder Nursery	05-Dec	Kavita Kanojia, Amir Abbas, Rashid
Ms V Vidyavathi, Director General, Archaeological Survey of India, Government of India	Humayun's Tomb Site Museum and Rahim Tomb	14-Dec	Ratish Nanda, Unnati Pawar, Ujwala Menon
Mr Devendra Sharma, M/o Culture, Government of India	Rahim Tomb	23-Dec	Ratish Nanda
Mr Ved Prakash, Joint Secretary (Works), M/o Housing & Urban Affairs, Government of India	Sunder Nursery	26-Dec	Ratish Nanda, Rajpal Singh
Mr Mohammad Abid, Special Secretary Culture & Tourism, Government of NCT of Delhi	Sunder Nursery	26-Dec	Ratish Nanda
Mr Piyush Goyal, Union Minister – Ministries of Railways; Commerce & Industry; Consumer Affairs; Food and Public Distribution, Government of India	Rahim Tomb, Nila Gumbad, Sunder Nursery	26-Dec	Ratish Nanda
Mr Anurag Srivastava, Official Spokesperson and Joint Secretary, M/o External Affairs	Nizamuddin Basti	28-Dec	Rashid
Mr Ravinder Singh, Ex Secretary Culture, Government of India	Rahim Tomb	28-Dec	Ratish Nanda





- **SUPPORT TO THE GOVERNMENT DURING COVID**
- **ACADEMIC SUPPORT TO CHILDREN**
- **ADDRESSING MALNUTRITION**

IV

Early Childhood Care & Development

The Early Childhood and Care Development (ECCD) component of the project addresses educational and developmental needs of children between the ages of 0 to 6 years and aims to lay the foundation for learning in school through improved health, parenting practices and pre-school education. The ECCD programme interventions aim to work towards ensuring that when children reach school, they are healthy, well-nourished and ready to learn. The project's intervention in *aanganwadis* began later than the rest of the interventions in Nizamuddin as it entailed a separate MoU with the Department of Women and Child Development.

This MoU was renewed in 2020 till the end of the main project i.e. July 2022.

The ECCD component is implemented through the seven government *aanganwadis*, nursery section in the SDMC School and a maternal child health (MCH) centre. In addition, there are home visits, structured awareness programmes, community meetings and special events.

The programme emphasizes on strengthening pre-school education, addressing malnourishment, improved awareness in the community on ECCD and healthier child-care practices.

The functioning of this component was impacted by the Covid pandemic and had to be modified due to the changing situation. The support in these components has been described in pre Covid and post Covid phases.





EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT

32. Assisting Government efforts to control Covid

Supporting government to ensure dry ration for children reaches families

There was a need to improve the aanganwadis in terms of the physical spaces and the pedagogic processes in aanganwadis as the baseline survey of 2010 observed that 'preschool education was practically absent' in the government aanganwadis leading to poor school readiness among the children enrolled there. The project initiated preschool education in the aanganwadis in 2010 by appointing community teachers and later designing and field testing a curriculum for aanganwadis in urban areas. The school readiness study of 2016 indicated a huge improvement in the pedagogical practices in the government aanganwadis with the community teachers leading in the preschool education component.

“A digital awareness campaign was initiated by the ECCD teachers on raising awareness on Covid 19 and advice on preventive steps to the parents of the children enrolled in the aanganwadis.”

ACTION TAKEN:

Pre Covid-19 Activities (from January to mid March 2020)

- Three monthly Aanganwadi report cards were submitted to the Department of Women and Child Development, Government of NCT of Delhi, in this period. This community-based monitoring has worked to ensure regularity in functioning of the Aanganwadis and increase in pre-school learning hours.
- One day training was conducted with 12 members of Aanganwadi Avlokan evam Sahayata Samooh (AASS) to monitor the preschool activities at the aanganwadi centres.
- Two ECCD days were celebrated in this quarter with about 130 children and 90 mothers.
- A total of 15 mothers meetings were organized at the seven Aanganwadi centres.



Assisting govt team in survey for Covid

During Covid-19 Activities (from mid-March to December 2020)

- All the ECCD centres operated under the ICDS were closed from 22nd March onwards due to the pandemic.
- As the project area was declared as a containment zone, none of the activities could be conducted during that period.
- During the first phase of lock down (March to May) most of the aanganwadi workers were not available in Nizamuddin. This is when the members of the AASS stepped in and supported in the distribution of dry rations provided by the Department of Women and Child Development, Government of NCT of Delhi. About 200 families were covered which benefited 300 children in the age group of 0 to 6 years.
- This distribution of dry rations continued throughout the 2020 and since July 2020 the members of AASS have been supporting all the Aanganwadi workers on this. The distribution happened at the seven aanganwadis as well as homes where the parents were unable to come to collect.
- A digital awareness campaign was initiated by the ECCD teachers on raising awareness on Covid 19 and advice on preventive steps to the parents of the children enrolled in the aanganwadis.



Distribution of dry ration at the aanganwadi

NEXT STEPS:

- Greater focus will be on strengthening the community group of AASS for the smooth running of the aanganwadi centres in Nizamuddin.
- Support in organizing ECCD days through Aanganwadi Avlokan Evam Sahayata Samuh.
- Support in organizing the parents meeting at the aanganwadi centres.
- Support in organizing the parents meeting at the aanganwadi centres.



EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT

33. Academic Support

Community teacher explaining the weekly educational pack to the mother

Preschool education practically came to a standstill with the closure of aanganwadis. Most of the parents of children in aanganwadis, even if they were concerned, did not know how to deal with preschool education. Online learning was not an option for this level. When it became clear, that aanganwadis were not reopening in the foreseeable future, the project team piloted with working with the parents so that they could work with their children. Older siblings were also seen as a method of improving peer learning. Parents were offered guidance on possible activities to develop concepts and pre reading/writing and numeracy. They were also provided worksheets.

“A total of 240 children from aanganwadis and pre-primary classes were covered through home-based support programme.”

More than 200 parents have been supported to **support pre-school education activities** with their children at homes.”

Supported by:



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

ACTION TAKEN:

Pre Covid-19 Activities (from January to mid March2020)

- The pre-school intervention covered eight aanganwadi centres; the total outreach was 210 children. A total of 300 pre-school classes were conducted during January to mid-March 2020.
- Two days of training was conducted with 8 ECCD community teachers for enriching the ICDS curriculum and developing the teaching learning material for the Aanganwadis.
- Activities during Covid-19 Lock-down (from mid-March to December 2020)
- Due to Covid -19, all the aanganwadi centres were closed for children since mid-March 2020 which implied that the pre-school education component could not be conducted in the centres till the situation improves as per the order of the government.
- In the absence of pre-school activities, the ECCD teachers were engaged to support the online summer camp classes conducted for the primary class students during May and June 2020. They supported in mobilization of parents and connecting their children to the e-learning platform.
- With the lifting of restriction on Nizamuddin Basti, an alternative strategy to address the education needs of young children from July 2020 onwards was piloted. The strategy was for the community teachers to work with parents on a weekly basis and provide them an education kit comprising resource material and activities to enable them to work with children.
- A total of 240 children from aanganwadis and pre-primary classes were covered through home-based support programme. More than 200 parents have been supported to support pre-school education activities with their children at homes.
- A total of 7 days of training were organized for 8 community teachers including 6 ECCD and 2 nursery teachers. The agenda of the trainings included strengthening and supporting the pedagogy and supporting the parents to work with the children.
- The community teachers organized about 200 cluster meetings in small groups where 4-5 parents participated and trained them how to use the worksheet, play the games and do the poems with their kids at home.

Nutritional counselling session for caregivers in progress



NEXT STEPS:

- Continue home based learning support to the children till the situation improves
- Organize in-house trainings to the community teachers to make material for offline classes and training to the parents
- Continue training to the parents by the community teachers to help children at home.



EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT

34. Addressing Malnutrition

Supplementary nutrition programme for children

Young children of families with limited incomes are generally prone to malnourishment and the situation worsened with decreasing incomes and closure of aanganwadis. The project has been addressing malnutrition through monitoring growth of children. Growth monitoring of children under six years was carried out on a monthly basis before the lock-down either in the aanganwadi centres or at the household level. This activity had to be discontinued during the lock-down but has gradually been restarted. Children's growth monitoring restarted at the end of June and malnourished children provided supplementary nutrition.

Supported by:
TATA TRUSTS

ACTION TAKEN:

- Regular growth monitoring of 750 children under the age of six years continued at all the aanganwadi centres and at the household level on a monthly basis. This was discontinued from last week of March due to the lock-down and again restarted from July onwards.
- During the year 2020, 74 malnourished children have participated in the supplementary nutrition programme regularly, except the 3 months from March to June due to complete lock-down. Among them, 28 children have shown grade progression, 22 children achieved the normal weight as per their age requirements and 6 children progressed from being severely underweight to the moderately underweight category.
- For educating the mothers of the malnourished children, 8 nutritional counselling sessions were conducted with 110 mothers and 4 demonstrations on preparation of low cost healthy food conducted by the members of Zaika-e-Nizamuddin – a women’s enterprise supported under the project.



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Growth monitoring session ; Restarting of the immunization programme

NEXT STEPS:

- Growth monitoring of the children will continue aanganwadi workers supported by the community health team.
- Supplementary nutrition programme and the structured awareness sessions on nutrition will continue.



- **FACULTY DEVELOPMENT**
- **ACADEMIC SUPPORT TO CHILDREN**
- **MADARSA EDUCATION**
- **SCHOOL COMMUNITY INTERFACE**
- **ACCESS ENGLISH MICROSCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME**

V

Education Programme

The education component of the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative aims to address the educational needs of all segments of children living in Nizamuddin – the primary school children in the SDMC school - during and after school; children who have passed out of the SDMC school and children who study in *madarsas*. The education component also includes a special programme for the teaching of English to adolescents called the Access English Microscholarship Programme, supported by the American Centre with the objective of improving their English language skills, enhance their confidence and improve their employability.

The education programme is a key component and one of the earliest interventions in the community. The programme has worked towards improving the quality of education offered in the school through improvement of the physical infrastructure, the classroom processes and engagement with the community.

The schooling and nutrition of children in the SDMC school was severely impacted due to the Covid. Instead of a curriculum enriched with music, arts, computer education, heritage awareness and environment awareness activities, they did not have access to basic literacy and numeracy activities. The SDMC did initiate online education but due to very limited access to digital devices, the children could not access these. The project, with the support of Deloitte Foundation, met this educational gap by providing online and offline support in the form of working with parents to help their children and worksheets as it became clear that the schools would not be opening and the educational losses that the children were suffering would need to be recouped.

The project is also working towards strengthening the role of the community and increasing their stake in the school through regular monitoring of the school activities by providing hand-holding support to the School Management Committee.



EDUCATION PROGRAMME

35. Faculty Development

Planning and review meeting with teachers ; Training session for teachers in pre covid times

With the school being closed for almost 10 months in 2020, the project needed to revise strategies to minimize educational losses to children. Once Nizamuddin was 'unsealed', the team needed to be prepared to support the children with altered strategies.

This included working directly, with resource persons and volunteers to prepare the teachers to work with changed strategies.



Three days life skills training organized for school and community teachers including 6 SDMC and 19 community teachers in month of January 2020.

Supported by:

Deloitte.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Fifteen review and planning meetings were held 2020 between the SDMC school principal, and community teachers and the project team to develop the e-learning material for online/offline learning support.
- Three days life skills training organized for school and community teachers including 6 SDMC and 19 community teachers in month of January 2020. The main objectives were to introduce the concept of life skills to the teachers, to help them realize their strengths and challenges to carry out their roles effectively, to enable them to understand their emotions and be able to channelize an accept them, to encourage them to work with children from this position of strength.
- Three online training was conducted for community teachers to make e-materials and worksheets for online classes in the month of May and June during lock-down.
- A five-day training was organized for the 12 community teachers on how to provide home-based learning support involving the parents, development of learning materials and on the process of assessment of the students in the month of July.
- A total of 20 weekly workshops were conducted with 12 community teachers on the development of worksheets and teaching learning materials.
- Material development was also supported by volunteers of the Deloitte Foundation, who is supporting this component.



Planning and preparing the weekly educational pack to support children

NEXT STEPS:

- Capacity enhancement and academic support of community teachers will be continued to develop the learning material for online/offline classes.
- Training will be organized after the opening of the schools to identify the learning gaps among the students.



EDUCATION PROGRAMME

36. Academic Support

Community teacher explaining the weekly education support pack to parents

Children's lives were changed in numerous ways during the pandemic – schools were closed, they could not go out to play and they did not fully understand what the pandemic was all about. Children in Nizamuddin Basti did not even have the benefit of a learning environment at home or the 'online school' that many other children had.

Providing academic support to children in these conditions became critical to ensure that they had some sense of normalcy and had a continuity with academic work as even during the 'unlockdown' schools did not open to children.

Supported by:

Deloitte.

Regular music and visual arts and computer classes were organized for all the three SDMC schools covering 911 students.



ACTION TAKEN:

- There were three phases in 2020 is action taken report is in three parts – pre covid i.e. when the schools were operational and during covid when the schools had closed.

From January to mid-March 2020

- Before lockdown, the Learning Support Programme, supported by the community teachers, addressed the needs of 1324 students from the SDMC Primary schools and Madaras and 106 senior school students.
- The remedial classes were provided to 147 students of classes 3-5 those who were identified with low levels of competency.
- Regular music and visual arts and computer classes were organized for all the three SDMC schools covering 911 students.
- As a part of the weekly bag less day, the project organized arts, cultural, sports, environment and sanitation awareness activities and heritage classes on the first and third Saturday of every month.

From mid-March to June 2020

- Due to Covid-19, all SDMC schools have been closed to children since mid-March 2020, meaning that the education component cannot be operated in schools until the situation improves as per the government order. **The only option for holding the classes was through online platform. The education team conducted a survey in the area of Basti Hazrat Nizamuddin and Sarai Kale Khan and identified students who had access to smart phones.**
- Initially, about 250 students from SDMC Primary Schools and 50 senior students were covered through the online learning support program (April to June 2020).
- During this period the online remedial classes were provided to 85 students of classes 3-5 those who were identified with low levels of competency in literacy and numeracy.
- About 250 students from all the three schools participated

in the summer camp organized virtually by community teachers. The activities included visual arts, environment and sanitation, music, reading and heritage classes were provided for all the students.

From July to December 2020

- Seeing the large number of children who could not access the online academic support and that schools remained closed for children, the project team initiated an academic support programme for children which comprised working with their parents who would in turn support their children. This was in addition to continuing with the online support to those children who could access it or those who had gone back to the village with their parents. To do this, the education team developed teaching-learning material and the students received it through their parents and sometimes from the community teachers at their households. The school and community teachers worked regularly with the parents in the school so that they in turn could work with their children before submitting the completed worksheets and collecting the next lot.
- **A total of 1000 students were covered by the community teachers through 267 children through online support and 783 through offline learning support programme; this includes 911 students from all 3 SDMC schools, 39 Madarsa and 50 senior school students during this period.**
- In addition, online remedial classes were provided to 93 students of classes 3-5.
- All 911 students from the SDMC schools were provided with visual arts, reading activities, environment and sanitation and heritage classes through both online and offline learning support.
- About 20 students from subject enrichment class participated in an online storytelling session 'Aao Kahani Sune' organized by the National Book Trust of India (NBT) on occasion of the Hindi Diwas.

NEXT STEPS:

- Learning support to all the three schools and senior school students by community teachers will be continued through online/offline till the schools are closed.
- After opening of the school, an assessment will be done for all the students from all three schools to identify the learning gaps among the students during the school closure due to covid-19 pandemic.
- The remedial/bridge classes will be initiated to fulfill the learning gaps.



Examples of children's work at home - all three photos and the two at the bottom; Community connect



EDUCATION PROGRAMME

37. Madarsa Education

Republic Day celebrations with children from madarasas

While a majority of the residential madarasas had been closed for a long time as the children had been sent back home, some had returned from their home states to their madarasas in Nizamuddin. The academic support programme for them has been restarted since September 2020.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Two review and planning meetings were conducted with Madarsa staff. The agenda of the meetings was to initiate online/offline academic support to the students.
- A total of 39 Madarsa students (19 online and 20 offline) were covered through the Madarsa education programme.

NEXT STEPS:

The online/offline support will be continued till the situation improves.



EDUCATION PROGRAMME

38. School Community Interface

Meeting of the School Management Committee; Republic Day celebrations

School community interface took on a different meaning in 2020. The community and SMC members volunteered time in many activities that helped the community deal with the situation though not necessarily the school. School Management Committee meetings were held – some online and later in-person.

The parent community came forward to support the learning of their children with the help of the teachers.



ACTION TAKEN:

- Seven meetings, including one online meeting, were organized between the School Management Committee (SMC), teachers and AKF staff in all the three intervened schools during this year. Around 46 SMC members participated in these meetings.
- Three monthly report cards submitted by SMC members of SDMC Co-ed Pratibha Vidyalaya, Nizamuddin (West) to SDMC officials and SDMC Counsellor.
- A two-day training was organized for the SMC members for the two SDMC schools of Sarai Kale Khan in the month of February 2020. A total of 32 members participated in the training. The training was to raise awareness of the members on the Right to Education (RtE) act of 2009 and the roles and responsibilities of the SMC members.
- Republic day celebrated in all the 3 schools of Nizamuddin and Sarai Kale Khan where 1300 children and 500 parents participated.
- 700 students participated in sports-meet organized for the SDMC schools of Sarai Kale Khan in the month of January 2020.
- SMC members supported in the distribution of the food and ration kit provided by the Government of NCT of Delhi in the school on daily basis from the mid-March to June 2020 during lock-down while following all precautions.
- **More than 1500 masks were provided to the parents and other community members. The teachers as well as SMC members raised awareness on the importance of wearing masks and other preventive measures on Covid 19.**
- About 600 parents were supported every week during the parent-teacher meetings organized in all 3 schools. The parents collected the weekly worksheets from community teachers and submitted them after the work done by the children.
- **The community teachers made about 1500 household visits in the community in order to provide training to the parents regarding home-based learning and ensure better attendance for online and offline classes and awareness to the parents regarding covid-19 to safe and stay at home.**



Sports meet in SDMC school Online meeting of the School Management Committee

NEXT STEPS:

- Weekly parent-teacher meetings will be continued to distribute the worksheets to the students.
- SMC meeting and community-based monitoring by the SMC will be regularized.
- After opening the schools
- Capacity building/exposure visit will be provided to the new SMC members of all the three schools.
- Organization of special events, book fair, sports-meet etc.

The community teachers made about **1500 household visits** in the community in order to **provide training to the parents regarding home-based learning**



39. English Education

Access English Microscholarship class in progress in Covid times

The English Access Microscholarship Program provides a foundation of English language skills to bright, economically disadvantaged students, primarily between the ages of 13 to 20. The Access Program runs 400 hours over the period of two years and also includes 40 hours of summer intensive, computer and life skill workshops. The programme is supported US Department of State.

Access programs give participants English skills that aim to improve speaking, comprehension, reading and writing of English that may lead to educational prospects and enhance employability. Participants also gain the ability to compete for and participate in future cultural exchanges and study in the United States, Italy, Japan, Turkey etc. Since its inception in 2010, over 500 students have participated in the Access Program.

Supported by:



American Centre,
US Embassy

In all, 120 selected students participated in an orientation programme and over 70 hours virtual classes completed for Nizamuddin and Quetta DAV students.

ACTION TAKEN:

- About 180 students were identified from the Basti Hazrat Nizamuddin and Sarai Kale Khan area for the newly approved 6th batch of the Access Program. The program used a network of alumni and schoolteachers to mobilise interested students. Strategies were largely digital due to the ongoing COVID -19 pandemic.
- Four Access teachers and one trainer participated in online professional development workshop organized by the American Center's Regional English Language Office (RELO), US Embassy for seven-week series on "Tools for Online Teaching" led by an English Language Specialist.
- Three teachers were selected for professional development by RELO for a four-week virtual pilot program focused on empowering Access teachers to effectively use comics to aid English language learning along with media-literacy skills and American culture in their classrooms.
- A review and planning meetings were conducted with Access teachers, trainer and coordinator to plan for assessment of students, lesson planning and initiate the classes.
- An online Cambridge Assessment Test was conducted and based on the performance a total of 120 students shortlisted for admission into the new programme.
- In all, 120 selected students participated in an orientation programme and over 70 hours virtual classes completed for Nizamuddin and Quetta DAV students.
- Celebrated all-important days and events digitally as a part of the cultural enhancement activity - Teacher's Day, Thanksgiving, Halloween, Children's Day and X-Mas Day.



Meeting with parents of children enrolled in Access

NEXT STEPS:

- Initiate offline classes for Access Program students from 2021 as and when the situation permits.
- Training of teachers for better classroom management and use of teaching learning materials effectively.
- Monthly review planning and parents' teacher meeting for sharing of performance.



- **INSHA-E-NOOR**
- **ZAIKA-E-NIZAMUDDIN**
- **VOCATIONAL TRAINING**

VI

Livelihood Programme

The vocational education and livelihoods components work towards improving individual and thereby family incomes. This was an essential intervention as the 2008 Quality of Life Survey had indicated that only 1% of the youth had access to any kind of skill training making it very difficult for them to secure dignified jobs in the organized sector and only 9% of women were part of the workforce.

The project strategy has been to improve the overall quality of live by improving the urban services of health, education and sanitation which reduces family expenditure while the livelihoods component work towards increasing family incomes.

The programme interventions in this address the vocational training needs of almost all segments of the adult population of Nizamuddin Basti. The skill training programmes cover a range of options and educational backgrounds – youth who dropped out of school, youth who have completed school and need to work as many of them complete their university education, women with limited education and mobility.

There are several programmes in this component that cover training, linking with jobs, teaching a craft skill to name some. This component of the project offers information, skill training and placement to women and men with varying educational backgrounds and employment needs. In addition, this programme also promotes two women’s enterprises that showcase the craft and cuisine of Nizamuddin i.e. Insha-e-Noor and Zaika-e-Nizamuddin.



LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMME

40. Insha-e-Noor

Insha-e-Noor at Sunder Nursery; Making masks for distribution and sale; Amitabh Bachchan (national award winning actor) addressing the effort of insh -e-noor women mask project on television

Insha-e-Noor is a women’s enterprise and their brand of paper and textile products using the skills of sanjhi (hand cut patterns on paper), crochet, aari embroidery. Garment construction and the binding and packaging units support the finishing of products as well as take on orders for products. All products for the brand are hand crafted by women of Nizamuddin Basti.

Insha-e-Noor was initiated in response to the low workforce participation rate of women, which was only 9% in 2008 i.e. most of the women in the community depended on their husbands/family members for their requirements; with a monthly family income of Rs 9500 and an average family size of 5.75 this meant that the economic situation of the family was fragile. This combined with limited mobility of women, particularly older women and low formal education levels suggested home based occupation for women.

The project initiated the very popular training programmes for women in tailoring and embroidery. Most of the women are using skills learnt at the Insha-e-Noor centre either by producing products for Insha-e-Noor or as independent entrepreneurs from their homes.

Insha-e-Noor is a now a registered producer company with the members being the share. It is growing in strength and manages its expenses of its working capital and wages independently.

The past two years have been very difficult for Insha-e-Noor as the slowing down of the economy in 2019 and the Covid 19 pandemic impacted the working in a major way.

Supported by:



Aliph Foundation



Rizwan Adatia Foundation

ACTION TAKEN:

- Insha-e-Noor had a difficult year with the production centre being shut for almost three months in 2020 and fewest orders in past 5 years. This was in addition to the slowing down of the economy in 2019. The enterprise still managed to earn a total revenue of Rs. 24,42,000 in 2020. This is 25 % less than the 2019 and 41% less than 2018.
- A total of Rs. 8,64,000, 35% of the total sales, was disbursed directly among 74 members as their making charges. In addition to this, Insha-e-Noor supported its members by distributing a bonus amount of Rs. 1,01,500 and extending a cash advance of Rs. 1000/head to its 66 regular members during lock down.
- While the production centre was shut, the members worked from home with instructors guiding them over phone and video calls. Responding to the situation innovatively, Insha-e-Noor took up large scale production of cotton masks and has produced over 15,000 fabric masks till now. Almost 7000 of these were distributed, paid for by AKTC, to the residents of Nizamuddin Basti, through ration shops, community toilets and government schools as well staff and on-site.
- Several festive ranges were prepared and launched this year on the occasions of Rakhi, Diwali, Christmas and New year. They were marketed via various social media channels and helped create a periodic buzz in the market. A total revenue of Rs.2,50,000 was generated from these ranges.
- Insha-e-Noor continued to participate in the Organic and Lifestyle market, curated by The Earth Collective and hosted by Sunder Nursery. It also participated in a couple of other exhibitions namely Amarrass Nights organised by Amarrass Records India Pvt. Ltd. and Nature Bazaar organised by Dastkar. The Insha-e-Noor kiosk has been repositioned in Sunder Nursery, in place of Humayun's Tomb, from December 25, 2020 to capitalise on increasing footfall in Sunder Nursery.
- Insha-e-Noor has taken several steps to function as an independent producer company. It has appointed a chartered accountant who is helping the enterprise in fulfilling its compliance as a Producer Company. The Annual General Meeting was conducted on 31st December 2020. The new directors of the company are being taken through an intensive training programme, on a weekly basis, with the objective of familiarising them with group's operations and preparing them to take up a greater role.
- InN got some notable media coverage in 2020 including articles in The Hindu, Hindustan Times and Indian Express. It got featured in '26/11 Stories of Strength' by the Indian Express Group with a heartfelt mention by none other than Mr. Amitabh Bachchan.



Training session of board members of Insha-e-Noor ; Board members of Insha-e-Noor presenting at the Annual General Meeting

NEXT STEPS:

- With a Goods and Service Tax number in place, new marketing avenues like Amazon and export houses will be explored to expand the scale and scope of business.
- Packaging and labelling of the products will be revamped.
- Internal systems will be strengthened with training and greater involvement of the directors.



LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMME

41. Zaika-e-Nizamuddin

ZeN members with a Magasasay Award winning journalist in Sunder Nursery; Administrative work of ZeN being managed by members; ZeN member at JW Mariott hotel live counter

Zaika-e-Nizamuddin’s cuisine especially their shami kebabs are making their presence felt in an increasing number of homes in Delhi. It is a women’s enterprise built around the cuisine of Nizamuddin. It began as a response to malnourishment in children in Nizamuddin and the finding that snacks that were poor in nutrition contributed significantly to the poor nourishment of children.

A group of young mothers were organised to support the health and early childhood care and development programmes by producing low cost nutritious snacks to address malnourishment in young children in Nizamuddin in 2012. Zaika-e-Nizamuddin has been active as a functioning group since 2014 and now produces nutritious snacks, the cuisine of Nizamuddin and offers catering services for large and small gatherings. It is a regular presence in Sunder Nursery on weekends too.

The group is growing in experience and skills. They have been able to generate enough business to be able to manage their working capital expenses and the salaries of the two coordinators.



ACTION TAKEN:

- Zaika-e-Nizamuddin earned a total revenue of Rs. 22,85,000 in 2020, 81% of its revenue last year. This is in spite of the kitchen being shut for entire second quarter in the wake of the pandemic.
- Rs. 5,24,000 or 23% of the annual revenue, was disbursed as making charges to 11 member chefs in the year 2020. The average monthly take home for regular members amounted to Rs. 4000 (94% of the previous year). This includes fixed monthly wages given to the members from group's corpus to support them during lock-down.
- Apart from this, an annual bonus of Rs. 47,500 was also given to 11 members equivalent to their average monthly earnings.
- The group was invited by J W Marriott, Mumbai, for a women's day promotional event in March 2020. Six chefs from Zaika-e-Nizamuddin, went to Mumbai for a weeklong trip, wherein they stayed in the hotel and cooked delicacies from Nizamuddin at the hotel.
- ZeN collaborated with Sair-e-Nizamuddin (SeN) in the first quarter of the year and hosted two special events – Basant celebrations and third season of Sunday Heritage Walks. The group also hosted a couple of customized meals at its Pop-Up space.
- ZeN continued to offer its cuisine at Sunder Nursery on weekends, once Sunder Nursery was given permission to host the weekend markets. Sunder Nursery is a very strong marketing channel for the group and has played a key role in enhancing its visibility, customer base and also providing a crucial retail experience to the members. The group earned a total revenue of Rs. 9,58,000 through it, which makes for a significant 42% of its total annual income.
- ZeN continued to prepare and distribute nutritious meals for severely malnourished children under the Supplementary Nutrition Program of community health component of the project. The members also conducted several demonstration workshops for the mothers to guide and motivate them on making nutritious home cooked food for their children.



ZeN member in JW Marriott hotel kitchen

NEXT STEPS:

- ZeN will be legally registered with FSSAI license number.
- Packaging and labelling will be revamped.
- New marketing channels like food delivery partners will be explored

Six chefs from Zaika-e-Nizamuddin were invited by J W Marriott, Mumbai, for Women's Day event in March 2020.



LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMME

42. Vocational Trainings

(Above) Digital training was organized for youth from the Basti

The major intervention in this component was the setting up and managing the Career Development Centre which was initiated as a response to this non-existent skill training facilities for the women and youth of Nizamuddin Basti. The aim was to provide skill trainings, covering a range of professional and non-professional courses, to unemployed youth with different educational backgrounds and enhance their employability for various retail and service sectors. It provides a diverse range of subsidized trainings linking them with sustainable employment opportunities.

Since inception in 2010, over 3000 youth have been trained in various professional courses with an average placement rate of 67% and salary range of Rs. 120,000 to Rs. 180,000 per annum (CTC).

With the pandemic impacting the economy deeply and the cessation of a major grant, the programme was impacted adversely. Many young people who had been working lost their jobs. With the ‘unlockdown’ we were able to recoup some of the losses by training youth of Nizamuddin on professional courses for promotion of cultural heritage and includes training programmes such as, computer & digital training, heritage and tourism, training of chefs to promote Nizamuddin cuisine and other professional courses such as para-medical training, hair designing and beauty care coupled with career counselling, soft skills and life skills.

Supported by:



Rizwan Adatia Foundation

&



Aliph Foundation

ACTION TAKEN:

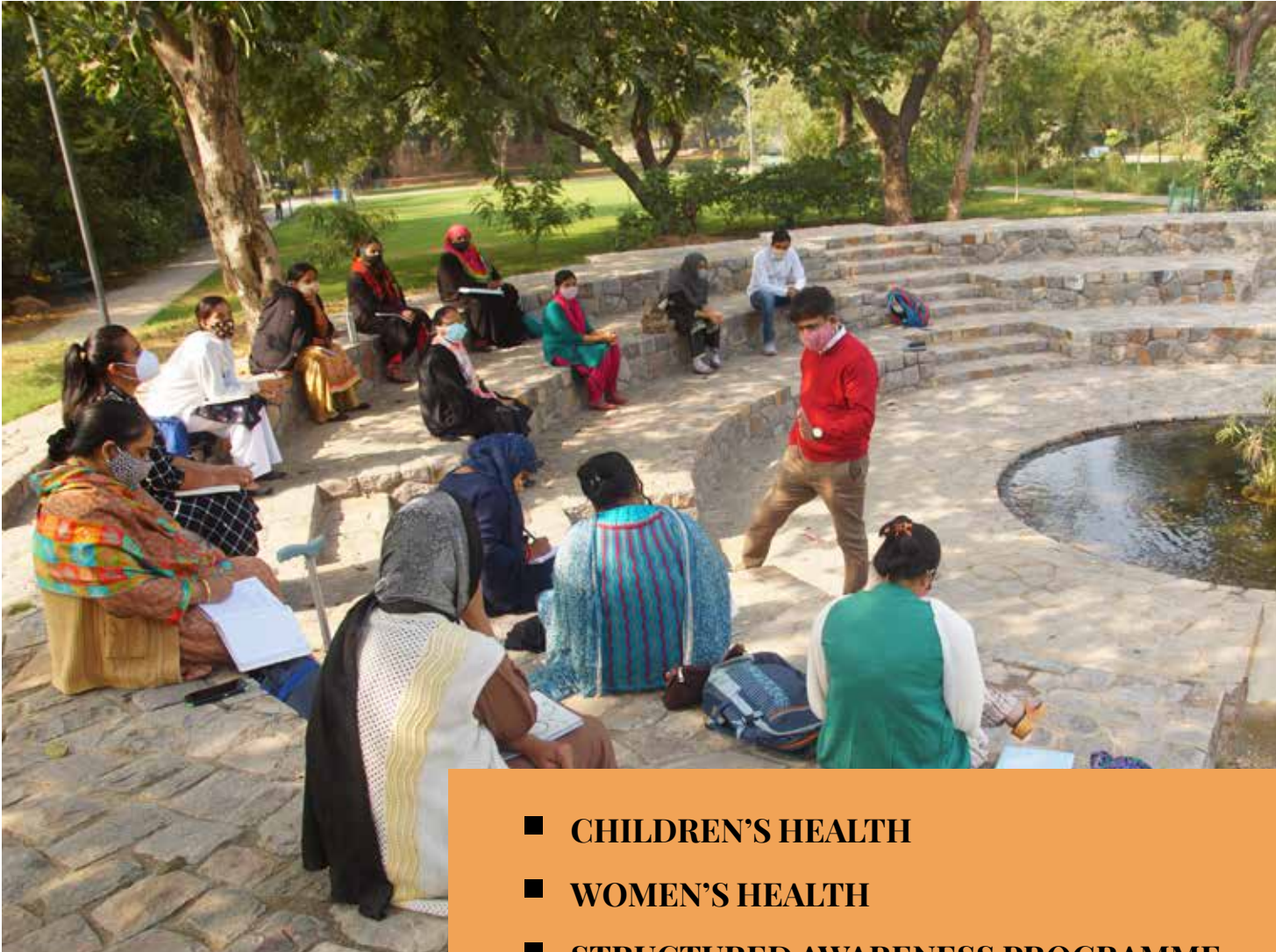
- A soft skills session for trainees was held on the importance of verbal and body language in order to communicate effectively. This session was attended by 215 trainees which helped them in their jobs.
- The skills of the student undergoing beauty and saloon course in LOOKS institute were tested through a formal format. All the participants performed well and were appreciated by the trainers.
- An online certificate course on computer and digital marketing has been conducted for 22 youth of Nizamuddin Basti. This course will be for 3 months and will be followed by internship.
- A Diploma in Tourism & Travel Management accredited by the Government of NCT of Delhi was initiated to learn and promote cultural heritage; 22 students from Nizamuddin have enrolled for it.
- A total of 28 students participated in a hospitality industry counselling session, 18 students selected based on knowledge and interest to enhance their understanding of the hospitality industry and the possible career options.
- An online assessment was conducted for 290 students at the centre by NIIT Foundation to assess their performance and certificate awarded to successful trainees.
- About 210 eligible trainees linked with several reputable companies through job fair and direct placement for possible employment – of these 110 females and 100 male candidates were selected.
- An online training was conducted by NIIT to enhance capacities of IT faculty on digital marketing and field staff on use of applications like Zoom, WebEx and other virtual skills required.
- The lock-down due to covid impacted those who had been employed negatively – a survey with 165 youth who had been placed revealed that 30% had lost their jobs; 35% were working at 50% salaries and 35% were asked to work for a delayed salaries.



Hotel management training for youth

NEXT STEPS:

- The Career Development Centre has demonstrated to the youth and larger community on the possibilities of employment outside of Nizamuddin Basti – which was the long-term objective of initiating the skill training and placement programme. Youth in Nizamuddin still need assistance in accessing suitable training programmes, career advice and placement.
- The Career Development Centre will now become a Career Resource Centre that will provide information and counselling to youth for higher educational opportunities, professional training, linkage with government schemes and placement through Job Fairs organised by other credible institutions.



- **CHILDREN'S HEALTH**
- **WOMEN'S HEALTH**
- **STRUCTURED AWARENESS PROGRAMME**
- **INITIATING WORK ON MENTAL HEALTH**
- **MOHALLA HEALTH AND SANITATION COMM**
- **CAPACITY BUILDING OF COMMUNITY HEALTH**
- **PATHOLOGY LABORATORY**
- **OUT-PATIENT DEPARTMENT FACILITIES**
- **COMMUNITY GYMNASIUM**

VII

Health Programme

The health component of the project has been working in partnership with the SDMC to bring about change in the health status of the community by strengthening the SDMC polyclinic through services, medical and non-medical staff. Further, it aims to work directly with the community to bring about a change in health practices and health seeking behavior. The health component also aims to create and nurture community groups that monitor urban services that impact health and sanitation.

It has two major components – the clinical component which is implemented by the SDMC with help from the project through improved facilities like a pathology laboratory and additional staff.

The second component is the community health programme that seeks to improve health indicators through a community led mechanism. This phase of the community health programme, supported by the Tata Trusts since inception in 2012, will come to a close in May 2021.

During the pandemic, the polyclinic functioned in a limited capacity.

In 2020, the community health team took on a new responsibility with the Covid pandemic. Given the nature of the partnership with the government, the AKDN community team in Nizamuddin took on the role of assisting the government in the initial house to house survey in the first week of April 2020 and followed it up with assistance in the subsequent sero-surveys. In addition, the community health team anchored an awareness programme for Covid and played a key role in relief operations



ITTEES
TH TEAM



HEALTH PROGRAMME

43. Children's Health

Growth monitoring of children at the SDMC polyclinic

Children under six years are the most vulnerable group amongst the population. Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative has several programmes that address children's health. The project has facilitated the setting up of a weekly satellite centre of the SDMC for immunization of infants and children. The project appointed a paediatrician in 2011 to address the health issues of children simultaneously worked with the SDMC for the creation of a position and the posting of a paediatrician. In 2019 SDMC has posted a paediatrician who is visiting the polyclinic thrice a week. In 2020, healthcare for non-covid conditions was low priority.

Growth monitoring of all the children under 6 years of age to identify and support severely malnourished children in Nizamuddin had become a regular activity, was discontinued during the lock-down but reinitiated as soon as possible.

All these interventions were complemented by the active engagement of the community health team with caregivers of children.

Supported by:
TATA TRUSTS

ACTION TAKEN:

- A total of 112 OPDs were conducted by the paediatrician to treat 1900 children.
- The community health programme through growth monitoring covered a total of 850 children (0-6 years) in 2020 on a monthly basis except for the time when services are closed due to nationwide lock-down.
- A total of 4585 visits were made to the households by Sehat Aapaas/ Sehat Sahelis for monitoring the health and to ensure timely immunization of the children. The household visits were stopped during the lock-down from 22nd March 2020 to end of July 2020.
- Many children had missed out immunization dosages due to the lock down and the services at the SDMC polyclinic being suspended due to the pandemic. With the relaxation of the lock-down, for child immunization, parents were linked with the SDMC run Maternity and Child Health Centre (MCH) located at Bhogal.
- About 561 schedules of immunization administered to children, 498 at satellite centre (SDMC Polyclinic) and 63 through mobile camp (Van) conducted by SDMC's Maternity and Child Health centre.



Demonstration of a healthy recipe by a ZeN member alongwith nutritional counselling of caregivers by a Sehat Aapaa ; Immunization

“As the lock-down eased in Nizamuddin Basti, a total of 292 children have been identified with missing immunization status. About **209** were linked to the polyclinic for receiving the pending dosages of immunization by the community health team and the mobilization of others is ongoing.”

NEXT STEPS:

- Efforts to ensure regular and sustained growth monitoring and immunization of children happens at the aanganwadi level with the support of the community based organisation initiated under the project.



HEALTH PROGRAMME

44. Women's Health

Parenting programme in the women's park in Nizamuddin

Gender remains an important social determinant of health since their health is impacted by factors other than biology; one of the important ones being access to healthcare. The baseline survey indicated 25% women underwent home deliveries despite the proximity of Nizamuddin to two of the major hospitals of Delhi. Further, the ante natal (ANC) and post-natal (PNC) care of pregnant women was very poor.

The project has worked towards strengthening the public health facilities while simultaneously developing community linkages to help women access healthcare.

The project has facilitated the setting up of a satellite maternal and child health centre of the SDMC for weekly ante natal care and immunisation. The project also placed a gynaecologist to address other issues apart from ANC and PNC.

Since 2019, the SDMC, agreeing to community requests, posted a gynaecologist in the polyclinic. The community health team works as a key link between the community and public health services. The community health team has worked on a regular and sustained basis to develop these linkages.

These efforts have resulted in the average ANC increasing from less than 3 in 2010 to 5 in 2019, though this was impacted due to Covid in 2020 and became 2.5 as the focus was only on Covid.

Supported by:
TATA TRUSTS

ACTION TAKEN:

- A total of 600 women were treated by the gynaecologist in 2020 at the polyclinic. During this period 232 ante natal checkups conducted by the gynaecologists.
- A total of 99 pregnancies were reported during 2020. Proper ante natal checkup were not happening at the SDMC polyclinic when Nizamuddin was sealed. Symptomatic treatment was however available to pregnant women. 80% of the pregnant women relied on government facilities; 20 % were able to access private services. AKTC raised the issue with the state government of giving permission to pregnant women seeking passage to hospital even during the sealing of Nizamuddin.
- In 2020, a total of 99 pregnant women were covered and among them 22 were high risk pregnancies. Of these 22 pregnancies, 10 women have delivered safely and the remaining 12 women are being supported to manage their pregnancies. They have also been registered in hospitals.
- The average ANC's for the period was low at 2.5 mainly due to Covid, 44 % women had 4 or more ANC's and 94 % institutional deliveries were recorded.
- The community health team comprising Sehat Aapas and Sehat Sahelis covered 1125 eligible couples to counsel and monitor their reproductive health problems and linking them with health facility



Demonstration of the correct way to wash hands in the parenting programme

“During the sealing of Nizamuddin Basti, 30 pregnant women were helped to access referral services, 12 women were helped to access a hospital for a safe delivery and 1 woman was helped to have a safe delivery at home.”

NEXT STEPS:

- The community health programme for improving the maternal and child health indicators will continue.



HEALTH PROGRAMME

45. Awareness Programmes

Citizen programme for adolescent girls

There are three areas where the project runs structured awareness programmes through the community health team.

The parenting programme is the oldest programme that was initiated in 2013. This programme has covered over 700 women so far and the modules are now refined, printed and available to the larger development community.

This programme for adolescent girls was initiated in 2016. The adolescent girl's citizenship program was in response to the demand of the community that we work with their adolescent daughters on health/life skill issues. Followed by this, in 2020 five batches of girls in the age group of 11 to 14 years and 15-17 years were formed. The trained health workers prepared the girls to deal with life situations, prepare for exams and management of reproductive health with the help of a module. The six-month citizenship programme has three components – life skills, academic support and vocational education if needed. This programme helps them develop into confident and thoughtful citizens of the country. In 2019, a programme for adolescent boys was also initiated.

Supported by:
TATA TRUSTS

ACTION TAKEN:

- In 2020, about 83 women participated in the parenting program in 5 batches. Batch sizes were kept small bearing in mind the need to maintain physical distance. Most sessions were conducted in the women's park. A total 44 sessions have been conducted by the Sehat Aapaas on topics related to pregnancy, childcare and nutrition. Each batch attend a total of 11 sessions, and in 2020 the parenting programme completed for 3 batches. The programme so far has reached to more than 733 women in the community.
- In 2020, a total of 129 adolescent girls and boys in the age group of 11 - 19 years attended the **Adolescent Citizenship Programme** in 5 batches. Here too, batch sizes were kept small bearing in mind the need to maintain physical distance. Most sessions were conducted in the women's park. During this year a total of 86 sessions conducted with these adolescents. The sessions of one batch were completed in 2020, while the others are in progress.



Citizenship Programme for adolescent boys

“During lock-down, efforts were made by Sehat Aapas to be in constant touch with adolescent girls and boys through digital medium. The group call aims to establish a safe communication channel in the challenging times of pandemic for the adolescent where they can easily discuss any worrisome thoughts that might be bothering them.”

NEXT STEPS:

- The sessions of all the four adolescent batches will be completed and new batches of both programmes will begin.



HEALTH PROGRAMME

46. Mental Health

*Capacity building on mental health
by the AIIMS team*

The pandemic accentuated the need to work on mental health.

Populations in resource poor areas tend to have high rates of serious and enduring mental disorders and very poor access to mental health care. Sufferers and their families are inclined to choose traditional and faith-based practices since these are more accessible, considered more affordable, and are more in tune with their cultural beliefs and traditions. It has been documented that faith-based and traditional healing plays an important part in delivering care to poor communities especially for common mental disorders like anxiety and depression, but those with serious mental disorders require additional biomedical treatment and follow-up.

The project aims to improve access to care and outcomes of mental disorders in Nizamuddin by developing a care model between traditional/faith healers, mental health professionals, primary care practitioners and community health workers.

Due to the pandemic of Covid 19 the planned intervention of mental health could not be implemented in the field. However as this is planned and prioritized activity of the programme the focus of the programme aimed at only building the capacity of the Sehat Aapas and Sahat Sahelis.

Supported by:

TATA TRUSTS

ACTION TAKEN:

- In the first quarter of 2020, 4 training sessions on mental health had been conducted as per the WHO's mhGAP Training of Health-care Providers (ToHP) training manual by the professors of Department of Psychiatry, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, (AIIMS). A total of 25 community health workers participated in these trainings.
- A total of 10 online digital training sessions on lay counselling were conducted with 21 Sehat Aapas, Sehat Sahelis and project staff. The main topics discussed in training are what are the skills of counsellors, difference between a counsellor and family member, qualities of a counsellor, prerequisites for conducting a counselling session, different methods of counselling, and question skills, etc.
- A total of 12 online sessions on mental health have been organized by the resource persons of The Banyan, Chennai, with 24 frontline health workers. The topics covered in the training are understanding mental health and mental illness, Common Mental Disorder (CMD), Severe Mental Disorder (SMD), identification of CMD and SMD cases, management of mental illness, and understanding community based mental health programme, etc.



Online training on mental health

The pandemic prevented the planned activities to initiate the mental health programme in Nizamuddin. The project focussed on building capacities of the community health team.

NEXT STEPS:

- The mental health programme which could not be initiated in 2020 will commence in 2021.
- Working with the All India Institute of Medical Sciences and University of Warwick to carry out the research on mental health.
- Identification of mental health patients and linking with government referral centres.



HEALTH PROGRAMME

47. Mohalla Health & Sanitation Committees

An MHSC meeting in progress at the Women's park in the Basti

The Mohalla Health and Sanitation Committees (MHSC) were set up as part of the process to increase community engagement with health and sanitation issues that impact the lives of the people living in Nizamuddin Basti.

There are five MHSCs that cover all the eight clusters in Nizamuddin Basti. These committees are almost 7 years old now. They have been trained on issues ranging from entitlements, processes to seek those entitlements from the government and other schemes of benefit to them. They have regular meetings and identify issues that need to be addressed in their neighbourhood.

The MHSCs have played an active role in identifying the issues in Nizamuddin and taking them to their logical conclusion.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Regular monthly meetings were held by members of all the 5 groups representing members from 8 different clusters of Nizamuddin. In all, 10 monthly meetings and 10 follow up meetings were conducted in the year - less than the preceding year as some meetings were cancelled due to the pandemic of Covid 19. The total number of participants were 81 with an average attendance record of 80 % at each meeting.
- One review meeting and one strategic planning meeting has also been organized in groups with 70 participants.
- The groups steadfastly pursued identified issues related to repair of sewer lines and proper lids on sewer holes, pension for old people in community, repair of streetlights, construction of a police beat house. Most of these issues were resolved through advocacy.
- MHSC members closely worked with the sanitation team members and supported the solid waste management programme. The coordination with others community groups also continued in 2020.
- The liaising with the government departments like SDMC, DDA, Delhi Jal Board, ASI was limited this year due to the pandemic.



MHSC members presenting Action taken during a review meeting

NEXT STEPS:

- The MHSC will play a major role in continuing its effort to resolve the issues affecting the community and is envisaged to perform its responsibility at a larger platform along with other groups created under the project.



HEALTH PROGRAMME

48. Capacity Building

Training on maternal and child health for Community Health Team

The community health team comprising 50 women from Nizamuddin Basti is at the cutting edge of the health initiative. Of this 50-member team, 40 work on a part time basis and are called Sehat Sahelis and ten who work on a full time basis are called Sehat Aapaas.

Selecting women from the community was a carefully chosen strategy for their familiarity with the community and their understanding of the local conditions. More importantly, they were seen as repositories of knowledge in the future.

The implication of this decision is that a significant effort has been made and continues to be made to increase their capacities to address the issues of health within the community.

This effort has been highly satisfactory as the community health team has emerged as a strong group of change agents who have been key in affecting change in health practices and health seeking behavior in the community.

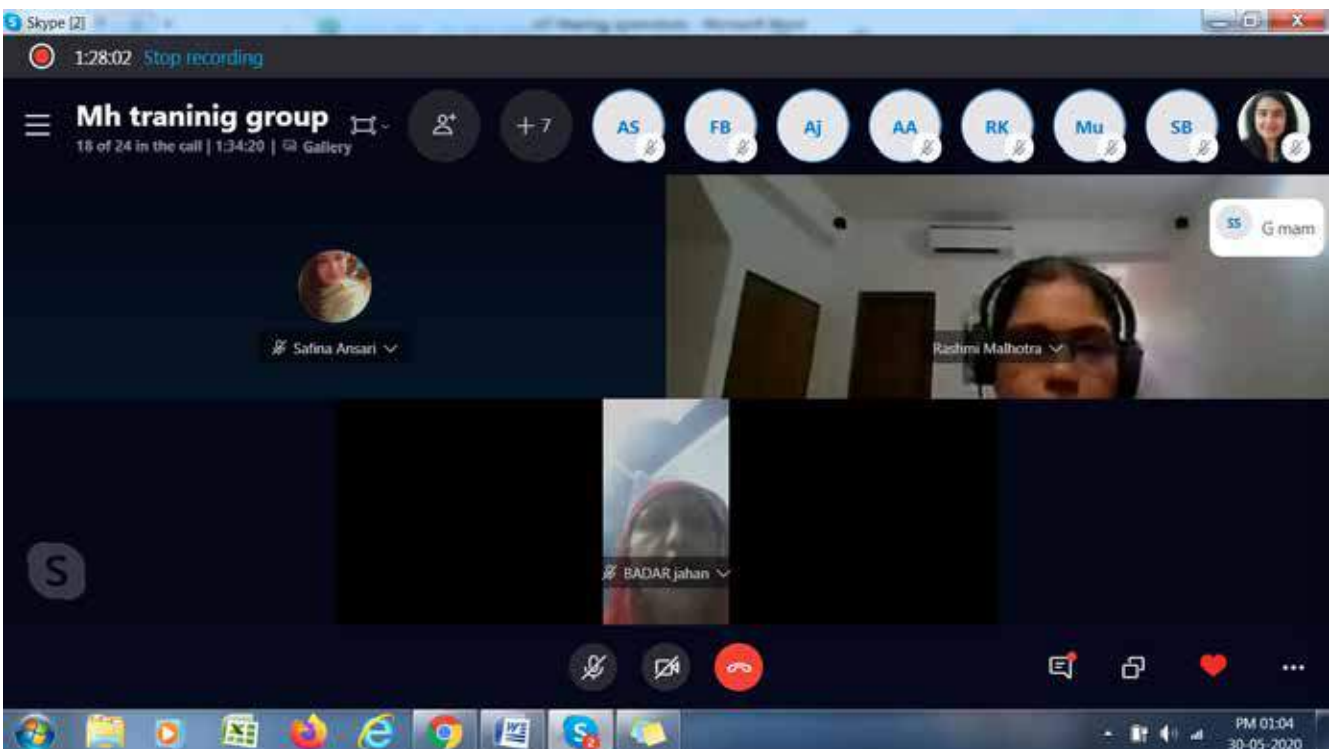
This year the focus has been on building awareness on Covid and addressing mental health.

Supported by:

TATA TRUSTS

ACTION TAKEN:

- In the first quarter of 2020, 4 sessions of mental health training had been conducted as per the WHO's mhGAP Training of Health-care Providers (ToHP) training manual by the Professors of Department of Psychiatry, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, (AIIMS). A total of 25 community health workers participated in these trainings.
- Two days of training on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) was organized with the Sehat Aapas and Sehat Sahelis along with senior staff. The sessions covered risk factors, early identification sign and symptoms, complications and counselling of important non-communicable diseases like Hypertension, Diabetes and Cancer, etc.
- Five days of maternal and child health along with the growth monitoring training was organized with all the community health workers. The sessions include complications, danger signs, important lab investigations at each trimester, high risks pregnancy, dietary support, milestones of growth monitoring, etc.
- A total of 10 online digital training sessions on lay counselling has been organized digitally with 21 Sehat Aapas, Sehat Sahelis and senior staff.
- A total of 12 sessions of digital online session on mental health have been organized by the resource person of The Banyan, Chennai, with 24 frontline health workers.



Online training of the community health team on lay counselling

The Banyan, Chennai worked with the community health team to build an understanding on mental health in an online training programme.

NEXT STEPS:

- Refresher training on needed topics.
- Training on mental health to initiate the research and referral programme



HEALTH PROGRAMME

49. Pathology Laboratory

The pathology laboratory was initiated on the recommendation of the study conducted by the Community Medicine Department of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, as the study pointed out that referrals were very low and treatment of the patients tended to be symptomatic. It is one of the earliest interventions to strengthen the SDMC polyclinic.

The pathology laboratory was initiated in August 2008 and since then has proved to be a valuable asset to the community and the SDMC polyclinic. It conducts 40 kinds of tests facilitating better diagnosis and greater accuracy in treatment.

The lab works in close coordination with the SDMC doctors as the doctors recommend the tests that need to be conducted. There has been in-principle agreement for the SDMC to fully bear the cost of the reagents for the lab. They have already provided one lab technician.

The lab has conducted 2,94,099 tests for 61,652 patients since its inception in August 2008.

It was closed for tests after March 21, 2020.

ACTION TAKEN:

- The sustained and regular advocacy with SDMC by the project team resulted in SDMC making provision of reagents for conducting the tests at the Lab.
- The path lab opened for only 66 days in 2020 and remain closed for rest of the year for Covid-19.
- During 2020, a total of 4962 tests conducted in the lab which covered 1210 patients.

NEXT STEPS:

- Follow up with SDMC for restarting the operations at the pathology laboratory.



50. Outpatient Department

Outpatient department services are services provided by the SDMC, initially strengthened by the addition of a gynaecologist and paediatrician from the project. In 2016, SDMC, based on requests by the community through the MHSCs, added a gynaecologist and paediatrician to the panel of doctors covering general medicine, ophthalmology and ENT services.

The SDMC polyclinic also dispenses medicines.

The Nizamuddin polyclinic presents a model for complete primary health care with a community health programme linking the community to the public health services combined with OPD services, medicines and medical tests all taking place under one roof.

Services were limited post March 2020 following the lock-down and pandemic.

The SDMC polyclinic also became the hub for conducting the house to house and sero-surveys.

ACTION TAKEN:

- In 2020, 22,674 patients visited the SDMC polyclinic with an average patient load of 77 for receiving treatment for various ailments.

NEXT STEPS:

- The services at the polyclinic will continue by SDMC
- Project will work towards ensuring that the SDMC gradually takes over all other services that are supported through the project.



HEALTH PROGRAMME

51. Community Gymnasium

Community gymnasium being used by residents of basti

The community gymnasium commonly known as “Avaam Fitness Centre” for women was set up by South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC). There was continuous demand from various women group for the renovation of the gymnasium. Obesity is one of the main medical and financial burdens for the government as it is a major risk factor for non-communicable diseases especially cardiovascular diseases. Overweight and obesity are emerging health problems in India. Given the small houses in Nizamuddin Basti, the gym and the parks are pathways for improved health. Aga Khan Foundation took the initiative and renovated the women gym under the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative in 2010.

ACTION TAKEN:

- As per the government guidelines the gym was closed due to the COVID-19 between March and August. The community gym was allowed to open from September by the government.
- During this period assessment and identification of equipment for renovation of the Avaam Fitness Centre was taken up and the new equipment and machines were ordered to replace the old ones.
- A meeting was organised with staff and members to discuss various issues related to better management and operation of the gym during this pandemic.
- Based on the need of the women gym users, new gym equipment and machines were procured.
- Over 85 users (30 women and 55 men) regularly using the Avaam Fitness Centre of Basti Nizamuddin.

NEXT STEPS:

- Formation of youth club to run the Avaam Fitness Centre activities
- Handover the gym to South Delhi Municipal Corporation.

STORIES of CHANGE

When the program had started the people of the Basti did not know about the clinic at all, since then we have come a long way in making the people aware about medical practices and healthcare. As far as the clinical side is concerned we conduct tests regularly so that we can ensure an early diagnosis, and provide the necessary counselling and treatment as required. The doctors are always available here for the patients to avail their help.

Rukhsana



HEALTH
COMMUNITY
WORKER
"SEHAT APA"

STORIES of CHANGE

We also have the adolescent program, which aims to help both boys and girls. Understand different aspects about themselves and teaches them important life lessons. Like finding one's own identity and self-worth, controlling one's anger and creating goals. And strategies for life. The children always come out of the program as strong and confident individuals, some of who have gone on to conduct heritage walks, many have steady jobs. I remember there used to be one girl who used to have four brothers and did not get much importance in her family despite doing all the chores, today she is very confident and makes sure that her voice is heard in the household while sharing all her chores with her brothers!

Shabjahan



HEALTH
COMMUNITY
WORKER
"SEHAT APA"





VII

Urban Improvement

Urban improvement interventions refer to a group of programme interventions that focus on improving public/common spaces and services in Nizamuddin Basti.

The physical surveys of 2009 documented and analyzed the urban setting and paved the way to design interventions that would improve the living and common spaces of the residents of Nizamuddin Basti. Further, these interventions also aimed to bring about improvements in critical urban services especially sanitation, helping community access government entitlements and bring about change in people's behavior about usage of public spaces and waste disposal.

Rehabilitation and reclaiming of public/open spaces seek to enhance the area's value and significance in terms of history, places of spiritual importance and recreation.





URBAN IMPROVEMENTS

52. Barapullah Nallah

Cleaning of the area around the nallah is carried out regularly.

The project sought and received permission to restore the 250-metre stretch of the Barapullah Nallah abutting Nizamuddin as a model that may be used for the entire stretch of the nallah.

The nallah is part of the natural watershed for the entire area though it is difficult to trace its origins as most of it is either covered or encroached. The redevelopment plan included connecting the households to a proper sewage system, using the area next to the nallah for recreation and plantation on both sides of the nallah with suitable trees.

This work is important as nallah development form an important part of flood mitigation strategies and serves to enhance the quality of life of the people living there.

Ensuring that the area near nallah remained clean during Covid-19 lock-down was one of the key challenges successfully met and waste was cleared daily ensuring maintenance of hygienic conditions in the area.

ACTION TAKEN:

- To ensure that the area near Barahpullah Nallah remains clean and hygienic for public use, various measures listed below are being undertaken.
- Waste collection from 144 houses at nallah side is being continued by the team with full safety measures as per the Covid-19 safety guidelines.
- After continuous follow ups by community groups the sewer lines on the nallah side were cleaned and repaired by the

Government of NCT of Delhi's Delhi Jal Board. The blocked trunk sewer line at the nallah side had resulted in overflow in the area and had become a cause of unhygienic environment in near the nallah. After clearing of blockage and repairs of the sewer lines the area near nallah remains clean and dry.

- Waste collection from sides of nallah, and community-based monitoring with cleanliness in the area is being continued at nallah sides.



Community group women monitoring sewer line repair work at nallah side ; Delhi Jal Board carrying out nallah side sewer line repair works after follow-up by community groups and CBO members.

NEXT STEPS:

- Plantation at nallah sides
- Efforts towards increasing government and community participation in keeping redeveloped area near nallah clean and well maintained to be continued.
- Waste collection system from households near the nallah to continue.
- Community monitoring system for maintaining clean and green area near nallah to continue.
- Advocacy with SDMC to include this area in their area for cleaning and maintaining, and with DJB to undertake regular maintenance of sewer line(s) near the nallah.
- Awareness activities with children on environment and sanitation at nallah side.



URBAN IMPROVEMENTS

53. Sanitation

RNS members' meeting on economizing operations of both community toilet complexes

Sanitation apart from being a key urban service is also a determinant for improved health status of the community.

The sanitation programme was initiated in the year 2009 after 2008, Quality of Life survey revealed that 25% houses in Nizamuddin did not have toilets. People specially women had to face problems using the public toilets in Nizamuddin as they were poorly maintained, lacked privacy and were unhygienic.

Thus, under the project two SDMC public-community toilets were re-built in years 2009 and 2013 respectively to address this issue and provide community with clean, safe well maintained and hygienic sanitation facilities. Further, a community group Rahmat Nigrani Samuh was formed to monitor and manage both these facilities.

In year 2017 a tripartite agreement between SDMC, Aga Khan Foundation and Rahmat Nigrani Samuh was signed which legally enables Rahmat Nigrani Samuh to manage both the community toilets in the basti.

Till 2020, the usage of the toilets on an average was 800 uses per day on normal days and 8000-10,000 per day on heavy pilgrim days like Urs and Moharram. With the closure of the shrine due to the pandemic and curtailed travel, the usage of the toilets has significantly come down. In 2020, there was no earning during the times of Urs and Moharrama where the average earnings used to Rs 8,000 per day.

ACTION TAKEN:

- In order to continue providing sanitation facilities to Nizamuddin residents during lock down period the big community toilet complex was kept open during the entire lock-down period, whereas the smaller community toilet complex was opened only after Nizamuddin was removed from the containment zone.
- User fee was waived off in the public-community toilet complexes for the people who had lost work due to lock-down and were unable to pay for the same. The normal charges were reinstated after the Covid 19 lock-down was eased.
- As an impact of Covid 19 lock-down and related regulations there was no pilgrim traffic and therefore the incomes of both the toilet complexes declined in the year 2020 to Rs 2,53,730 from Rs 4,80,000 in 2019. This was in addition to many Nizamuddin residents being unable to pay as they had lost their jobs.
- To ensure that the toilet complexes do not become a place of spread of pandemic, proper safety measures are being implemented in both the toilet complexes. Safety equipment, sanitization agents and gears, have been provided to the cleaners and managers of both facilities and regular sanitization is undertaken therein.
- Members of Rahmat Nigrani Samooh conduct daily inspection of the community toilet complexes to ensure that they are properly sanitized, and the cleaners and managers are following all safety instructions issued to them to avoid spread of infection through the community toilet complexes.
- Daily cleanliness audit of both the CTCs by RNS members is continuing and a complaint register has been placed in both CTCs for users to write down their suggestions and/or grievances, if any.
- Due to construction of a house, behind the old community toilet complex, it faced an issue of seepage of water in the walls. Maintenance works were undertaken by engineering team to repair and prevent future damages to the building of the toilet complex.
- The tripartite agreement between SDMC, Aga Khan Foundation and Rahmat Nigrani Samuh for management of the two community toilet complexes came to an end during the year 2020. The process of renewal of agreement is ongoing.



Covid 19 safety precautions are being by both managers and cleaners in community toilet complexes; CTC cleaner in protective gear undertaking sanitizing and cleaning work; Masks are given to CTC users if they do not have one

NEXT STEPS:

- Renewal of tripartite agreement between SDMC, Aga Khan Foundation and, Rehmat Nigrani Samuh for maintenance of both toilet complexes in Nizamuddin.
- Adopt further suitable measures to reduce operational and maintenance costs of community toilet complexes.
- Yearly financial audit of accounts of both community toilet complexes to be undertaken.



URBAN IMPROVEMENTS

54. Municipal Solid Waste Management

Community group members submitting street cleanliness audit report to SDMC official.

One of the primary requirements for clean and hygienic surroundings in any residential and/or commercial area is to have an efficient waste management i.e. collection and disposal system. Prior to the year 2010, Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti had no organised system of waste collection from households. Door to door waste collection began in 2012, initially with 20 houses and now covers almost 75% of the households. This has been possible as the door to door waste collection has emerged as a reliable service due to the support of the community groups and hard work by the waste collectors. The initiative has resulted in cleaner streets, elimination of waste piles from the lanes of Nizamuddin, and cleaner open spaces.

During the sealing of Nizamuddin and the lock-down the waste collectors played an important role in Nizamuddin by not stopping their work for even a single day keeping Nizamuddin clean and safe from disease.

As the number of households in Nizamuddin paying for the service has increased significantly, the programme looks ahead to run on its own with minimum financial support in future.

“A pilot composting unit to utilize kitchen waste started on terrace of big community toilet complex is running. A batch of 100 kgs of compost was sieved out from this unit- during year 2020.”

ACTION TAKEN:

- Door to door waste collection services are being availed by 1680 paid users under both residential and commercial areas in Basti. Waste collection services continued all through the lock-down to prevent spread of any other disease. The waste collectors were trained to adopt proper safety measures during their work and were provided with proper safety equipment, sanitization agents, and safety gear. All the waste collected from households is being sanitized before disposing the same in municipal bins.
- A pilot composting unit to utilize kitchen waste started on terrace of big community toilet complex is running. A batch of 100 kgs of compost was sieved out from this unit during year 2020.
- The small garden made from waste materials on terrace of the toilet complex, for demonstration, is doing well. This garden has evolved into a model for community people and children in Nizamuddin to learn various methods of using household waste materials. Recyclable waste like bottles, cans, old toys, and used cups are utilised as pots for plants in this garden. Compost made from kitchen waste from 10 households of Nizamuddin Basti is used for plants in this garden.
- The MHSC members are continuing with streets and sewer lines audits in residential areas of the Nizamuddin Basti. Monthly report cards of these audits are being submitted to SDMC and DJB officials.
- Apart from this, door to door visits and community meetings in different clusters of Nizamuddin Basti are being continued with social distancing to involve more houses under door to door waste collection program and build rapport between residents and waste collectors.
- From the last quarter of 2020 waste collection fee has been marginally increased by Rs 10 per household to reduce and further eliminate financial subsidy for waste collection programme in Nizamuddin.



Street audit by community member ; Door to door waste collection being done from 1600 households by waste collectors using safety gear; Household waste collected being sanitized and covered before being taken for disposal at municipal bin

NEXT STEPS:

- Community groups to support increasing number of households availing door to door waste collection services
- Community groups to engage with SDMC for awareness on segregation of waste at source
- Minimize financial subsidy for door to door waste collection programme
- Community groups to continue with street cleanliness audits



URBAN IMPROVEMENTS

55. Baoli

Continuation of cleaning of baoli water and premises with support from Dargah.

Built during the lifetime of Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya in the years 1321-22, this is the only Baoli in Delhi which still has underground springs. In July 2008, portions of the Baoli collapsed and after exhaustive scientific analysis and consultation with the community, conservation works to rebuild the collapsed portion could commence. For the first time in centuries, the baoli was de-silted to its original depth of 80 feet below the ground level and major repairs including the removal of the 20th century epoxy layer carried out.

Further, reconstruction of the collapsed wall of the baoli and conservation of the remaining part was done to avoid any future decay to conserve of this extremely significant monument of national importance.

The project has also restored the architectural character and enhance the setting of the 14th century stepwell.

ACTION TAKEN:

- With the ongoing pandemic and the closure of the shrine for a major part of the year, regular cleaning of the baoli happened.
- The houses near baoli were linked to a waste collector, and a dedicated person with support from the Dargah has been hired to clean baoli water twice in a week.
- The cleanliness of baoli water and stairs is being monitored by community team member on daily basis.



Continuation of cleaning of baoli water and premises with support from Dargah.

NEXT STEPS:

- Regular awareness programmes to maintain the baoli. Continuation of cleaning of baoli water and premises with support from Dargah.
- Implementing primary and/or secondary pilot level waste segregation in the Nizamuddin Basti.
- Continuation of paid system of sweeping of streets leading to the Dargah
- Street cleanliness and sewer audits to continue in association with community and concerned government agencies



URBAN IMPROVEMENTS

56. Open green spaces

Women using the all children's and women park at Nizamuddin basti.

Open spaces and parks play an important role in any urban setup by providing people with clean green area to walk, play, sit, exercise, rest etc. Under the project encroached lands of four of the five designated parks was reclaimed and parks were redeveloped back therein.

Each park developed under the project has a different usage – the central park is primarily used by elderly from basti as walking space during early mornings and evenings, besides this it is also used by the community for various activities, the outer park is used by older children to play football and cricket, there is park attached to the school that is open for all children in the evening and an exclusive park for women. These parks are managed through a MoU with the SDMC. It is planned that these parks are maintained through a Public private partnership agreement between Aga Khan Foundation, SDMC and community group. The challenges of maintaining these parks are many where the pressure on spaces is very high, given the high population density of almost 80,000 people/square kilometre.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Repair and maintenance work of swings in triangular park was undertaken in July 2020. Regular cleaning of the park premises is being undertaken in all the parks in the Nizamuddin.
- Community groups and CBO members have been involved to monitor parks regularly.
- The activities in parks remained low in year during year 2020, however till March 2020 and after the easing of the lock-down, the women and children park was used for various events and activities like citizenship programme for adolescent girls, meetings for mothers', adolescent girls, monthly meeting with community health workers and several community discussions.
- Before lock-down from last week of March 2020 till July 2020, 350 women and children had been using the Women's Park regularly.
- Due to the Covid 19 lock down all parks in Nizamuddin remained closed for public during lock-down and reopened after Nizamuddin was removed from containment zone post lock-down. The regular park users were briefed to follow social distancing norms and wear masks. Members of sanitation team monitor the parks for its cleanliness, maintenance and to ensure that park users are following covid19 safety measures.
- Parks' monitoring group has been formed involving tent houses owners and community members to ensure that the park is cleaned after every function or marriage. Members of community groups visited the houses near central park explaining them importance of parks in the basti and how they can help by keeping them clean and green.
- Regular cleaning of all the parks is being undertaken and 2 cleaners have been deployed for the same. Maintenance works such as repairs of swings, gates and grills are being undertaken as and when required.

(Below) The transformation seen in the Women's park since it was developed in 2010. The project has developed and landscped five parks in the Basti which are used extensively by the Basti residents, especially women and children.



NEXT STEPS:

- Renewal of MoU for maintenance of parks in Nizamuddin.
- Strengthen community-based monitoring of parks and their maintenance
- Increase user base of parks by popularizing its benefits and uses to the community
- Maintenance of parks on as and when needed basis to be continued.



URBAN IMPROVEMENTS

57. Environmental Awareness

Art work by children as part of environmental awareness programme

Environmental awareness program in the basti aims to develop a consciousness amongst community and children to care for rapidly deteriorating environment and to involve them in efforts to preserve environment.

The project therefore works with the youngest citizens, i.e. school children. Environmental awareness activities are carried out on three fronts viz- the children in the SDMC school, the eco club and the children of the Access English Microscholarship Programme.

In year 2020 The environmental awareness activities were limited to special online activities with SDMC school children, keeping in view the covid 19 situation.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Activities with children of SDMC School included special online sessions on environment with SDMC school children were conducted with themes such as reducing waste in class rooms and school, waste categorisation and waste as resource. This involved online workshops and activities for the children on environment, home assignments, and feedback sessions.

NEXT STEPS:

- The team will continue with the awareness activities on environment and sanitation online till the schools re-open.
- To undertake an awareness campaign for keeping nallah sides baoli water and premises clean.



EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT

58. Rehnumai Resource Centre

360 people were assisted this year to access various schemes.

Rehnumai, which means guidance is a resource centre that was set up in 2014 to address the information needs of the community. The centre offers information and guidance on government schemes and linkages to government entitlements by providing information on the process that needs to be followed to obtain specific government documents, the supporting documents needed and assistance in filling the forms if required.

Rehnumai has played an important role in bridging this gap and has over the period of its formation in 2014 to 2020, 11,167 thousand people have been assisted with 21 different kinds of government entitlements and services.

Rehnumai now needs to become an independent entity, offering a paid service, distinct from being an initiative of the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Registration with Government of India's Customer Service Centre
- Training of customer service centre executive at the Government of India centre took place. It could not however be completed.
- Processes to make it independent could not be carried out due to the Lock-down
- 360 people were assisted to access various schemes.

NEXT STEPS:

- Facilitating the setting up of Rehnumai as an independent centre with some hand holding support. It will be registered on government portal to work as Customer Support Centre and linked with State Bank of India for various government policies.
- Training will be provided to the centre coordinator and equipped to serve the community.
- Monthly counselling and guidance sessions will be organized to raise awareness community on various government entitlements and schemes
- The Rehnumai Centre, once independent, will charge for the services provided.



URBAN IMPROVEMENTS

59. Khusrau Park

(Above) Aerial view of the proposed landscape plan for Khusrau Park.

Landscape design for the prominently located 13-acre Amir Khusrau Park aims to create a public garden, with adequate parking, and linkages from both Oberoi Hotel and Humayun's Tomb. The design includes garden plaza dedicated to Amir Khusro.

The park was named 'Amir Khusrau Park' in 2006-07 and over the last decade got heavily encroached. The High Court ordered encroachments to be removed and also requested Aga Khan Foundation to assist DDA in preparing the landscape design.

The landscaped Amir Khusrau Park will serve as an extended green lung in central Delhi. It will provide a venue for morning/ evening walks to residents of Kaka Nagar, Bapa Nagar, Pandara Park, Nizamuddin Basti, Jangpura.

An MoU was signed between DDA and Aga Khan Foundation (India) for the design development of Amir Khusrau Park in Hazrat Nizamuddin Area signed in April 2019. Following detailed discussion on design issues like access, pathways, essence of Amir Khusrau, proximity to historic structure and other

important buildings adjoining site, it was decided that AKTC would submit the proposal with the concept note in August to be reviewed by Screening committee.

Moving forward, As per the MoU AKTC submitted the concept drawings along with 3D views in August 2019 after incorporating the changes suggested by DDA landscape department.

Supported by:



Delhi Development Authority



The proposed design comprises of a major garden spaces include:

- A commemorative garden for Amir Khusrau with a garden commemorating the poetry of Amir Khusrau, a contemplative place with seating and poetry engraved in stone.
- Entrance Garden near Subz Burj, with a stone pavilion and flower beds, providing access and link to the rest of the park.
- Peripheral walking routes enclosing flat area for open play. Pathways will also bound presently occupied areas to prevent further encroachment.
- Low lying areas – along east to be maintained as wilderness and for rain water collection and harvesting.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Landscape design for the prominently located 13-acre Amir Khusrau Park aims to create a public garden, with adequate parking, and linkages from both Oberoi Hotel and Humayun’s Tomb. The design includes garden plaza dedicated to Amir Khusro.
- The park was named ‘Amir Khusrau Park’ in 2006-7 and over the last decade got heavily encroached. The High Court ordered encroachments to be removed and also requested Aga Khan Foundation to assist DDA in preparing the landscape design.
- A MoU signed between DDA and Aga Khan foundation India, for the design development of AMIR KHUSRO PARK in Hazrat Nizamuddin Area signed in April 2019.
- After the detailed discussion on design issues like access, pathways,
- essence of Amir Khusro, proximity to historic structure and other
- important buildings adjoining site. It was decided that AKTC would
- submit the proposal with the concept note in August to be reviewed by Screening committee.
- Moving forward, AKTC conducted various site surveys and studies and submitted the concept drawings along with 3D views in August 2019 after incorporating the changes suggested by DDA landscape department.

NEXT STEPS:

- On approval of drawings, Aga Khan Foundation will assist in preparation of Tender Drawings and required Documents to undertake the development of the park.

60. Post Project Management

The Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative is a people-public-private partnership project. Each project component has evolved through dialogue with the community at several levels. The project has worked in the key urban services of education, health, early childhood care and development and sanitation. Each of these services is being monitored for quality and implementation through a specially created and trained community group. Almost all have been created on the initiative of the project except the School Management Committee that is mandated under the Right to Education Act.

As the project reaches a maturity level, it becomes important to have a plan for continuity of the interventions initiated during the project. It is to that end that a community-based organization (CBO) has been initiated under the project to sustain and manage on going project activities with minimal support from AKDN agencies. Members of the CBO are drawn from the other groups formed under the project.

Initiation, formation, capacity enhancement and hand-holding the CBO is the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative's strategy to transition out of the implementing role that it has been undertaking since 2007. The project has been able to demonstrate that urban services, if they function well, can improve the quality of life significantly.

The challenge now is to ensure that these services continue to do well.

While many projects aim to set up CBOs, the nature of CBOs vary. In Nizamuddin, we have been gradually building capacities of a core group of people to take on larger responsibilities so that they take ownership of the idea of building a Basti which would ensure a sustainable urban existence for their grand-children and the generations beyond, be concerned with what is taking place in this space which is building or destroying and make interventions to ensure that their dreams and visions are met.

By hand holding them as they monitored urban services, lobbied for urban services, organised small events, managed awareness campaigns, managed funds, ran businesses and engaged with government agencies while following appropriate processes, the project has provided opportunities for them to grow and build their capacities.

The CBO is now poised to grow into their role of ensuring the quality of life in Nizamuddin Basti continues to improve.



ACTION TAKEN:

- The CBO, named, Association for Development of Nizamuddin (ADN) is in the process of being formed. Members were identified from each community groups that has been created under the project to form a delegated body comprises of 23 core members.
- In 2020, once the unlockdown had begun, a formal capacity building process began with a senior organisation development professional. This is through a series of workshops that focuses on the psychology of shifting, long term thinking, understanding the community and internal dynamics of the CBO
- This community-based organization is functioning as an informal group now and conducting regular meeting on different local issues that are affecting the community. In all, 10 monthly meetings with members and covered issues related to construction of police beat house, crime and drugs, encroachment of parks, cleaning of sewer line, booking of barat ghar, conducted awareness camp on Malaria and Dengue, plantation at outer park and barahpulla nalah side.

NEXT STEPS:

- Trainings of the teams will be conducted on management and leadership skills. The project team will provide hand-holding support to the field team.
- The team will be working towards converting the community group into a legal body.

Public Agencies – 2020

Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)

Mrs V Vidyavathi, **Director General**

Mrs Usha Sharma, **Former Director General**

Mr Janhwi Sharma, **Additional Director General (Conservation)**

Mr T R Sharma, **Joint Director General (Archaeology)**

Dr M Nambirajan, **Joint Director General (Monuments, Archaeology)**

Dr Sanjay Kumar Manjul, **Joint Director General (Archaeology, Museum, Antiquity)**

Mr N K Pathak, **Regional Director (North)**

Mr T J Alone, **Joint Director General**

Mr Ajay Yadav, **Director (Admin)**

Dr Arvin Manjul, **Director (Monument Section-II)**

Dr K Lourdasamy, **Director (CEP)**

Mr Daljit Singh, **Director (World Heritage, Museum)**

Mr Anil Tiwari, **Director (Antiquity)**

Dr Gunjan Srivastava, **Superintending Archaeologist, Delhi Circle**

Dr T Arun Raj, **Superintending Archaeologist (Museum)**

Mr Praveen Singh, **Dy. Superintending Archaeologist**

Mr Imran Safi, **Sr. Conservation Assistant, Humayun's Mausoleum**

Mr Girish, **Horticulture Assistant, Humayun's Mausoleum**

Government of NCT of Delhi

Dr Geeta, **CDMO, South East District**

Dr Poonam Panwar, **ACDMO, South East District**

Dr Dharmender, **PO National Health Mission, South East District**

Ms Shuchi Sehgal, **Deputy Director, Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)**

Ms Aaliya Saeed, **Child Development Programme Officer, ICDS**

Ms Anita Ahlawat, **Former Child Development Programme Officer, ICDS**

Ms Mamta, **Supervisor, ICDS**

Ms Rashmi Sharma, **Supervisor ICDS**



Central Public Works Department (CPWD)

Mr Vinit Kumar Jayaswal, **Director General**
Mr Prabhakar Singh, **Former Director General**
Mr P S Singh, **Additional Director General(RD)**
Mr Bijendra Kumar, **Chief Engineer(NDZ-V)**
Mr Ashok Kumar Sharma, **Chief Architect(RD)**
Mr Vikas Rana, **Chief Engineer (NDZ-1)**
Mr P K Tripathi, **Deputy Director General (Horticulture)**
Mr Manoj Kumar Tyagi, **Director (Horticulture)**
Mr R Selvam, **Deputy Director (Horticulture)**

South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC)

Dr Gyanesh Bharti, **Commissioner**
Dr Puneet Kumar Goel, **Former Commissioner**
Ms Yasmin Kidwai, **Municipal Councillor, Delhi**
Mr Farhad Suri, **Former Municipal Councillor, Delhi**
Mr Randhir Sahay, **Additional Commissioner, Health**
Mr A.A. Tazir, **Additional Commissioner Education**
Mr Rahul Garg, **IRS, Former Additional Commissioner Education**
Mr Ashwini Kumar, **Deputy Commissioner, Central Zone**
Mr G Sudhakar, **Former Deputy Commissioner, Central Zone**
Mr Aqil Ahmed, **OSD to Commissioner**
Mr Deepak Khosla, **Executive Engineer (M)-1, Central Zone**
Dr Gaju Toppo, **Additional Director Hospital Administration (Med), Health Department**
Dr. Alka Gupta, **Additional Director Hospital Administration**
Dr Rajni Dutt, **RMS, SDMC Polyclinic**
Mr. Shirish Sharma, **Director of Education**
Ms. Aarti Lall, **Former Director of Education**
Ms Rashmi Singh, **Director, Department of Women and Child Development**
Mr S. B. Shashank, **Former Director, Department of Women and Child Development**
Ms Pushpa Devi, **Deputy Director of Education, Civic Center**
Ms Geeta Kumari, **Additional Director of Education, Civic Center**
Ms Manju Kahatri, **Additional Director of Education, Civic Center**
Mr Kanwaljeet, **Additional Director of Education, Civic Center**
Dr Surendra Singh Bhandoria, **Deputy Director of Education, Central Zone**
Mr Om Prakash Meena, **School Inspector Central Zone**
Ms Shashi Sharma, **Former School Inspector Central Zone**
Mr Mirza Iftekhar Hussain, **Former School Inspector Central Zone**
Mr Azra Imtiaz, **Principal SDMC School, Nizamuddin**
Ms Kusum Lata, **Acting Principal, SDMC Girls School, Sarai Kale Khan**
Mr Mahipal Singh, **Acting Principal, SDMC Girls School, Sarai Kale Khan**
Mr Umesh Chand, **Former Principal, SDMC Girls School, Sarai Kale Khan**
Mr C S Mangla, **Assistant Engineer (Civil)**
Mr Saad Akhtar, **Junior Engineer**

Aga Khan Development Network

Core Team

Mr. Ratish Nanda, CEO
 Mr. Rajpal Singh, Chief Engineer
 Ms. Jyotsna Lall, Director Programmes
 Mr. Somak Ghosh, Finance Manager
 Ms. Archana S Akhtar, Senior Programme Officer – Design & Outreach
 Mr. Neetipal Brar, Project Manager, Nizamuddin & Sunder Nursery
 Ms. Ujwala Menon, Project Manager, Conservation.

Conservation

Mr. N.C.Thapliyal, Engineer-in-charge*
 Ms. Aishwarya Das, Conservation Architect*
 Ms. Anam Sami, Conservation Architect
 Ms. Nishtha Goel, Conservation Architect
 Mr. M. C. Gautam, Senior Architectural Assistant*
 Mr. Saroj Pandey, Conservation Assistant (Art)
 Mr. Om Veer, Engineer
 Mr. Chuttan Lal Meena, Art Conservator
 Mr. Salauddin Saifi, Co-ordinator, Tile Centre
 Mr. Om Parkash Gupta, Field Supervisor
 Mr. Mukesh Kumar, Junior Engineer



Principal Consultants

Shaheer Associates, Landscape Consultants
 Vir Mueller Associates, Architects, Humayun's Tomb Site Museum
 Prof. Ebba Koch, Principal Advisor (Content), Humayun's Tomb Site Museum
 Prof. Chander Shekhar, Advisor on Persian & Arabic translations, Humayun's Tomb Site Museum
 Fifth Dimension, Lighting Consultant, Humayun's Tomb Site Museum & Rahim's Mausoleum
 Shark Pvt. Ltd., Exhibition Design, Humayun's Tomb Site Museum
 December Design Studio, Graphic Design, Humayun's Tomb Site Museum
 Mr. Ashok Khurana, Senior Consultant, Conservation Specifications
 Dr. R C Agarwal, Senior Consultant, Conservation Specifications
 Ms. Bhawna Dandona, Conservation Architect, Conservation Specifications
 Singh Modellers, Humayun's Tomb Site Museum
 Ms. Jill Watson, Artist, Humayun's Tomb Site Museum
 Dr. Himanish Das, Artist, Humayun's Tomb Site Museum
 Mr. Robin Roy, Film makers, Humayun's Tomb Site Museum
 Infodesign Solutions, Film makers, Humayun's Tomb Site Museum
 Worxpace Consulting Pvt. Ltd., Film makers, Humayun's Tomb Site Museum
 The Circus, Film makers, Humayun's Tomb Site Museum
 ICONEM, Film makers, Humayun's Tomb Site Museum
 Ms. Poornima Balakrishna, Conservation Architect
 Prof. Harish Trivedi, Consultant Editor of Hindi Publication for Rahim Book
 Mr. Rakesh Gupta, Bee Conservation Consultant, Golden Hive Foundation
 NIIT Foundation (Training Agency conducting courses)
 Mr. Anupam Saha, Art Conservator
 TAC Design Pvt Ltd, Architects, Sunder Nursery Restaurant
 Grafinity, Designers, Sunder Nursery Publication
 Syed Mohammad Qasim, Pole Star Solutions, Photographer
 Ms. Aparna Rajagopal, Beejom



Humayun's Tomb Site Museum & Sunder Nursery Environment Development

Construction Team:

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Ms. Poojan Kumar, Architect*

Mr. Vaibhav Mahindroo, Architect *

Mr. Nikul Kumar, Engineer

Mr. Ahmed Aziz, Field Supervisor*

Museography Team

Ms. Unnati Pawar, Art History Researcher

Mr. Dinesh Patial, Archivist

Ms. Dipanvita Yadav, Consultant - Programme Assistant*

Horticulture Team:

Mr. Kiran Pal Singh, Horticulture-in-Charge

Mr. Amarjeet Singh, Electrical Engineer

Mr. Kashi Ram Bhandariya, Engineer -in Charge

Mr. Vishal Kakkar, Project Engineer*

Mr. Kapil Mangla, Engineer

Mr. Bijender Mailk, Site Supervisor

Mr. Kewal Ram, Field Supervisor

Mr. Ganeshi Lal, Field Supervisor*

Mr. Ramesh Singh, Field Supervisor

Mr. Ishwar Singh, Field Supervisor*

Mr. Omdev, Field Supervisor*

** Have left the project.*



Cultural Revival

Ms. Nidhi Purohit, Programme Coordinator
Mr. Mohd. Rashid, Programme Assistant
Mr. Aamir Ahmed, Programme Assistant*

Design & Outreach

Ms. Vallery, Graphic Designer
Mr. Narendra Swain, Project Photographer
Mr. Rinkesh Rana, Graphic and Printing Officer
Mohd. Kabeer, Video Consultant

Urban Improvements

Mr. Arshad Rizvi, Programme Officer – Urban Improvements
Mr. Shani Srivastava, Coordinator – Community Development

Administrative

Mr. Sheelu Joseph, HR & Admin Officer
Ms. Kavita Kanojia, Executive Assistant to CEO
Mr. Amil Saifi, IT Manager
Mr. Neeraj Gupta, Assistant Finance Manager
Mr. Ankit Agrawal, Accounts Officer
Mr. Pravin Kumar, IT Assistant
Ms. Rabia Siddiqui, Office Clerk
Mr. Balveer Singh, Office Clerk

Sunder Nursery Management Trust

Mr. Hardeep Thakur, Administrative Manager
Mr. Prashant Kumar, Finance Officer
Mr. Nasir Khan, security Officer
Mr. Ashish Panwar, Horticulturist
Mr. Sundeep Kumar, Horticulturist
Mr. Chandra Maurya, MEP - Engineer
Mr. Chhote Lal, Horticulture Supervisor
Mr. Bilal, Electrician

Socio-Economic Programmes

Mr. Deepak Padhi, Senior Programme Officer, Monitoring & Evaluation, Health & Planning

Mr. Kishwar Khan, Senior Programme Officer, Livelihood & Community Development

Mr. Hyder M Rizvi, Programme Officer, Education

Ms. Ratna Sahni, Programme Coordinator, Vocational Education

Ms. Swati Batra, Programme Officer - Livelihood

Mr. Syed Faisal Mahmood, Programme Coordinator, Vocational Programme

Ms. Rukhsana Khan, Coordinator, Health Outreach

Mr. Mohd. Ayaz Khan, Assistant Monitoring & Evaluation

Mr. Sakshi Sharma, Health Coordinator

Master-Craftsmen

Mr. Dhani Ram, Field Supervisor

Mr. Attar Singh, Stone craftsmen Supervisor

Mr. Babu Lal, Supervisor cum Storekeeper

Mr. Amrik, Master Craftsman

Tile Center

Chota Bhaiya, Varendra Kumar, Lalit Kumar

Craftspersons' Team



Community Teams

Health Programme

Mussarat, Afroz Jamala, Farhat Khan, Heena Nizam Zaidi, Mehrunisha, Nazima Begum, Safina, Saira Qureshi, Shabnam Roohi, Shahjahan, Shivani, Suvaleha, Anisha Begum, Nikhat, Saira Ali, Afroz Begum, Akbari Begum, Anwari Begum, BadarJahan, Farida Begum, Farzana Parveen, Gulshan, Kehkasha Praveen, Najma Shaifi, Nighat, Noor Bano, Nuzhat Sultana, Razia Parveen, Rehana Khatoon, Saira Bano, Salma, Shahana Begum, Sabiya Bano, Shaheen Parveen, Shahjahan, Shaista Parveen, Shobha Rani, Zaheda, Zeenat Begum, Shaheen Begum, Nishaira, Shahana Praveen, Farhana, Tabassum, Talhat, Mejabein, Zahida, Anjum Nisha, Alsabha, Azra Begum, Anjum Begum, Madhubala, Soen, Alima and Rubama



Community Health Team

Education Programme

Subby, Fizza Khatoon, Firoza Parveen, Sharika, Razia, Azra, Ummi, Sana, Shania, Farzana (ECCD), Mehvish Parveen, Gazala, Baby Tabassum, Sana, Mohammad. Rafiq, Khursheed Bano Anita, Masooma, Afroz Bano, Reshma Khatoon, Priyanka, Ghulam Sarwar (Primary & Secondary Education), Mohsin Quereshi, Nazneen Khan (English Access).



Education Team

Waste Management

Syed Sajid Ali, Anisa, Mohd. Rafiq, Mobin, Munisha Begum, Saida, Rahima Khatoon, Shahida

Urban Services

Mohd. Salman, Mohd. Shawan

Community Development Centre

Sheenam Khan, Aman-uz-zaman, Faizan Ali, Junaid Alam, Sayra Begum, Sehnaz (CDC), Kahkashan Khan (Rehnumai)

Insha E Noor Crafts Center

Ms. Fehmina Baki, Ms. Rabiya, Krishan Mohan Shah, Sandeep Singh, Haseen Ali, Imran

Toilet Management

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Zaika E Nizamuddin

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