Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative of the Aga Khan Development Network is a non-profit People Public Private Partnership aimed at conservation led sustainable urban development. We have aimed at improving the Quality of Life for local inhabitants, the citizens of Delhi and enhance visitor experience for the millions visiting the World Heritage Site.

PARTNER AGENCIES:

- Archaeological Survey of India
- South Delhi Municipal Corporation
- Central Public Works Department
- Aga Khan Foundation
- Aga Khan Trust for Culture

Nila Gumbad after Conservation, November 2019; (Above): Nila Gumbad Conservation & Landscape Restoration required providing alternate accommodation to 200+ families and seeking over 3 acres of land from the Northern Railways. As a result of this effort, Nila Gumbad is now accessible from Humayun’s Tomb after over 60 years - thus creating a major new attraction for visitors to the World Heritage Site.; Hon’ble Minister of State for Culture & Tourism Shri Prahlad Singh Patel opened the Nila Gumbad to the public in November 2019.
“... Through its programmes and investments, in collaboration with governments across the region, international partners, and communities, AKDN seeks to improve the quality of human life with a ‘core conviction that human progress depends on human cooperation,’ which can overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles. ... Public-Private Partnerships, when coupled with multiple complementary interventions, in our experience, magnify the socio-economic impact.”

–His Highness The Aga Khan

Supported By:

- Ministry of Tourism, Government of India
- Tata Trusts
- Havells India Limited
- Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Interglobe Foundation & InterGlobe Aviation
- US Ambassador’s Fund for Cultural Preservation & US Embassy
- Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany
- Delhi Urban Heritage Foundation of Delhi Development Authority
- Rizwan Adatia Foundation
- State Department of Archaeology, Government of NCT Delhi
- Hilti India Pvt. Limited
- Deloitte Foundation
- GSRD Foundation
- Australian High Commission

www.nizamuddinrenewal.org
www.facebook.com/NizamuddinRenewal
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Executive Summary

This Aga Khan Trust for Culture initiative in the Humayun’s Tomb – Sunder Nursery – Nizamuddin Basti area of Delhi aims to serve as a model project to demonstrate, amongst multiple objectives, that conservation and development can – and should be – part of the same process.

A review of this report will reveal that to implement such a project in a significant urban heritage precinct requires a deep understanding of the urban space and the resident community, simultaneous implementation of a diverse range of projects, build multiple partnerships, emphasise on meeting government objectives and priorities, adopt an inter-disciplinary approach, engage intensely with the local community, actively seek peer reviews, formalise policy framework, disseminate acquired knowledge and understanding, persistent monitoring and evaluation and to provide innovative solutions.
Partnerships

Since the signature of the MoU on 11 July 2007, over 300 sub-projects have been implemented to fulfil the objectives of several government agencies – the Archaeological Survey of India, Central Public Works Department, South Delhi Municipal Corporation - the original signatories to the MoU as well as Delhi Development Authority and the Delhi Government’s Department of Archaeology.

The efforts of the Aga Khan Development Network have been successful also on account of the significant partnerships forged and funding gratefully received from a diverse range of donors. These have included the Government of India and the Government of the National Capital territory of Delhi as well as foreign governments amongst which significant support has been received from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affair, Norway, Federal Republic of Germany and the Embassy of the United States of America.

From the onset of the project the Tata Trusts have supported a range of activities including conservation and the urban health programme. Similarly, support has been received from traditional national and international donors.

In earlier years, AKTC assisted the Ministry of Culture, Government of India in securing approval to utilise funds available under the ‘Corporate Social Responsibility’ Act a resident groups and help establish and we have benefited from the support of Havells Ltd as well as InterGlobe Aviation/ InterGlobe Foundation to implement extremely significant projects that may not have been possible without valuable additional funds.

Finally, the significant involvement of the resident community of Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti has been critical to make this a truly ‘People Public Private Partnership’ initiative. Each year, colleagues have held dozens of meetings with formal and informal resident groups to understand needs, ensure active involvement and inform of the diverse project activities.

New partnerships continue to be established to enhance the impact of the projects and to fulfil project objectives and vision.

Conservation

Over 60 individual monuments have been conserved within the 300-acre project area over the past decade. These structures have been built over 600 years or date from the early 14th century onwards till the early 20th century.

AKTC first partnered with the Archaeological Survey of India to restore the Humayun’s Tomb gardens in 1997 as a gift of His Highness the Aga Khan on the 50th anniversary of India’s independence. Over the past 23 years, we remain the only private agency undertaking conservation on national monuments. This unique role required us to formalise a conservation process and philosophy in keeping with the established international policy but rooted in the Indian context.

In India we are fortunate that many of the building crafts have survived – stone carvers, masons, carpenters, coppersmiths, amongst others – are able to use the same materials, tools and building techniques as the builders of our ancient and medieval monuments. We have leveraged these skills and employed traditional craftsmen to undertake the conservation works. Craftsmen have clocked over 1.5 million man (and women)-days of work – a strong case that conservation be recognised as an employment generator and be eligible for funds under national government schemes such as the Rural Employment Guarantee Act.

India is signatory to the ‘Historic Urban Landscape’ resolution of UNESCO, with Aga Khan Historic Cities Programme initiatives across the world, here too we have demonstrated the validity of the approach wherein the larger urban setting of the heritage zone is considered as historically significant as the monuments themselves.

The conservation initiative coupled with the urban development approach has led to 13 additional monuments designated on the extended Humayun’s Tomb World Heritage Site – now 67 acres compared to 26 acres designated in 1993.

In 2019, AKTC was invited to serve on a committee appointed by the Prime Minister’s office to review and suggest measures that need to be undertaken to significantly enhance heritage conservation in India. The committee, chaired by Niti Aayog chairman, Shri Amitabh Kant has submitted the draft report.

‘Since the signature of the MoU on 11 July 2007, over 300 sub-projects have been implemented to fulfil the objectives of several government agencies.’
Improving Quality of Life

With simultaneous action at urban improvements, cultural revival, building and upgrading health, education and sanitation infrastructure, creating a new city park, women empowerment, the project has aimed to meet the Sustainable Development Goals.

At the onset of the initiative in 2007 and at five yearly intervals thereafter, we have undertaken exhaustive monitoring to understand needs of the community as well as impact of project activities on development parameters.

Addressing many of the AKDN Quality of Life indicators has led to a project impact at the local level (resident community of Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti), city wide level (the 450,000+ people who have accessed the health facilities as well as the 200,000 who visited Sunder Nursery in 2019) and international level by enhancing visitor experience for the 2 million visitors to the Humayun's Tomb and the 4 million pilgrims to Nizamuddin Basti.

In addition to monitoring impact of the health, education, vocational training and other similar efforts, in 2019, the monitoring has expanded to receive feedback from Sunder Nursery visitors and accordingly build on improving the visitor experience.

Education Outreach

With the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal initiative being primarily positioned as a model project, it is imperative for us to share learnings. The project is of interest to a diverse group of stakeholders – administrators, conservators, urban planners, development practitioners, amongst others.

In 2019 an exhaustive project website – www.nizamuddinrenewal.org – was launched to share in-depth project related information.

Over 5000 school students were taken on heritage and ecological awareness walks to dispel ignorance. Intensive training workshops were held with architecture/ urban planning students of several universities. Public lectures and lectures to special interest groups were regularly carried out. A MoU with Columbia University’s Global Centre in Mumbai was inked that will provide access to the project to students and researchers from Columbia.

Creating a City Park

Sunder Nursery, designed by landscape architect M Shaheer has been in the making for a decade and 2019 was the first full year of operations with over 200,000 visitors.

A Management Trust under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs was created to oversee the management and operations of Sunder Nursery. While the key objective of the Trust remains to achieve financial sustainability, the management in keeping with the design intention will allow Sunder Nursery to become Delhi’s hub for cultural, ecological, family leisure destination. In turn, Sunder Nursery could help achieve government objectives in enhancing tourism, creating additional jobs, providing clean public spaces to citizens of Delhi.

The park has hosted a diverse range of cultural activities, carried out ecological awareness workshops and revived the tradition of family picnics in a safe and clean space and hosted a weekly organic farmers market.

Enhance Tourism

Though in creating the Sunder Nursery the principal objectives were heritage conservation and environmental restoration, the park was named as the ‘best new tourist destination’ in 2019 and with 200,000 unique visitors – not shared with Humayun’s Tomb – the potential as a new tourist destination was visible.

In 2019, the Ministry of Tourism also designated Humayun’s Tomb as an ICONIC Tourism destination and on account of the decade long engagement of AKTC with the site, were requested to prepared the Tourism Development plan – the first draft of which has been submitted and which envisages 30 additional projects of varying scale to provide tourist infrastructure for the World Heritage site and its wider setting.

In 2020, the Humayun’s Tomb site museum is also expected to be opened to the public – providing yet another significant tourist attraction and significantly enhancing the visitor experience to Humayun’s Mausoleum. This too shall serve as a model for other Iconic tourism sites in India.
Conservation

of 700 years of built heritage of Nizamuddin

- 55 Mughal-era monuments conserved
- Ongoing conservation of 11 historic monuments
- 250 Craftsman trained
- 600,000 man days of work created
Standing in close proximity to the mausoleum of emperor Humayun is the monumental mausoleum built by Abdur Rahim Khan – I – Khanan for his wife Mah Banu. On his death in 1627, he was also buried in the mausoleum he had built for his wife. The mausoleum is a significant expression of Mughal architecture with architectural innovations developed at the mausoleum serving as an inspiration for the later Taj Mahal.

Conservation works here commenced with the financial support of InterGlobe Foundation in late 2014 following approval of the Conservation Plan by the Director General, ASI as well as approvals of the ASI Care Committee meetings held on site. The conservation works at Rahim’s Mausoleum have been guided by national and international charters but especially with the 2014 National Policy for the Conservation of Monuments and the Manual on Conservation by John Marshall – both of the Archaeological Survey of India.

1. Mausoleum of Abdur Rahim Khan I Khanan

(Above) South elevation of Rahim’s Mausoleum. The conservation works preceded by high standards of recording to be undertaken are focused on restoring the ‘spirit and feeling’ of the space with an emphasis on craftsmanship, interpretation and supervision. (Facing Page) Images showing the various stages of conservation works on the structure.

Supported by:
DOME
The mausoleum is crowned with a double dome, which would originally have been clad in white marble, as is found at Humayun’s Mausoleum. 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. As per the recommendations of the ASI Core Committee, restoration of marble to the dome was commenced in 2017. A portion of the marble was restored to the dome to convey the original builder’s intention.

ACTION TAKEN:
• The Delhi quartzite masonry of the dome was analysed 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 on 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.

(Large) Marble blocks have been hand-carved on site by master craftsmen and keyed into the masonry 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. Since the commencement of conservation works here at the mausoleum, conservation of the canopies has included the restoration of missing sandstone eaves and cleaning of inner surfaces.

Earlier interventions in the 20th – 21st centuries have added unnecessary layers of cement plaster/concrete on the domes of the canopies disfiguring their original profiles and decorative elements such as the red-white kangura pattern on the neck of the dome.

ACTION TAKEN:
• Inappropriate modern cement layers have been 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 cement plaster/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 surfaces have been repaired using lime mortar to restore their shapes to the original profiles.

(Above) Marble blocks have been hand-carved on site by master craftsmen and keyed into the masonry of the dome.

(Large) As with other portions of the structure, the four corner canopies were covered with cement layers; these have been removed; the cracks repaired with traditional lime mortar; (Right) After conservation view of the canopy after removal of cement and restoring the fallen chajjas/eaves.
**ACTION TAKEN:**

- It was agreed that where evidence of original stone pattern was available, the stone cladding would be restored.
- The methodology to undertake the conservation works was established prior to the commencement of works. Owing to the structural concerns, works were carried out in a systematic manner, with only one portion of the façade being repaired at a time. This section was then allowed to gain strength, while works were carried out in another section.
- Marble and red sandstone blocks were hand-carved on site to match the original details and carefully restored to the façade using traditional lime mortar.

**FACADE**

In the 18th century, marble and sandstone blocks were stripped from the mausoleum with the protective stone cladding removed from large parts of the structure, the building is in a poor state of preservation. Major works have been carried out to the four corners of the structure in the preceding years. The conservation of the façade was preceded by an in-depth structural analysis. Conservation works commenced in 2017 and have been completed in 2019.

- The 1920’s Delhi quartzite repair, which is being 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 six-pointed stars have been restored where missing.

(Below) Following a careful stone-by-stone documentation and a sustained structural assessment and analysis of the structure, missing marble and sandstone elements from the façade are being restored. Blocks of stone have been hand-carved at the site and restored using traditional lime mortar. Restoration of decorative elements such as the marble medallions and the six-sided stars was undertaken.

- The modern cement concrete flooring on the upper plinth is being dismantled and replaced with the red sandstone flooring as per existing evidence of stone thickness and patterns.
- The works are nearing completion and expected to finish in the first quarter of 2020.
- Each of the ancillary chambers on this level would have been accessed via wooden doors and master carpenters are in the process of crafting these doors.

**UPPER PLATFORM**

The mausoleum has a large upper platform with a significant foliated water tank, suggesting an elaborate water lifting mechanism to operate fountains at this level. The flooring of this large terrace would have also been in sandstone.

- The parapet as well as sandstone block paring has been restored to the upper plinth.

**WOODEN DOORS**

Wooden doors are being restored to all the openings in the mausoleum.
LOWER ARCADE
The ground level arcade comprises of seventeen arches on each of the four facades of the mausoleum. Unlike at Humayun’s Mausoleum, these do not lead into mausoleum chambers. Major conservation efforts were undertaken on these arches in 2015 to remove 20th century cement layers and restore missing patterns in incise plaster and stone medallions. 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 prior to its restoration.

ACTION TAKEN:
• The archway serving as the principal entrance to the mausoleum stands in an arcade of similar arches.
• Master stone craftsmen hand carved the block of red sandstone employed in the reconstruction of the collapsed arch.
• A metal gate has been installed here as a security measure, in lieu of a wooden door that would have originally been here.
**LANDSCAPE**

The scheme is designed keeping in mind the historical character of the site, using materials that are complementary to the aesthetic and architectural value of the site.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- Currently, the site is accessed from the busy residential area of Nizamuddin East and as part of the proposed landscape plan visitor access is proposed from the West along the Mathura Road.
- The landscape plan also provides for visitor parking, visitor amenities and a permanent site exhibit.
- Construction works for the permanent site exhibit, the toilets and associated visitor amenities has commenced.
- The brickwork for the foundations of the parking area and permanent site exhibit have been completed.
- Preparatory works for the opening of access to the West has commenced.

**NEXT STEPS:**

- Conservation works are expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2020. The works are guided by the approved Conservation Plan and any further directions from the ASI Core Committee and recommendations of the ongoing external peer reviews.
Besides being a strong administrator and military commander, Rahim was a great scholar and poet, and is best remembered for his 700 Hindi couplets or dohas, for translating Baburnama into Persian, and, he also wrote verses in Turkish, Arabic, Sanskrit and Persian and several prose works, including two books on astrology. Therefore the conservation works were coupled with a three year programme on documenting, studying Rahim’s contribution to culture and disseminating this collected knowledge through publications, festivals, lectures and website.

Following years of exhaustive field research and interviews with experts, a three-day festival ‘Celebrating Rahim’ was organized in 2017. The festival constituted of musical concerts, lectures, symposiums, exhibition and heritage walks, and was attended by over 1000 people. The same year, an English publication of ‘Celebrating Rahim’ was released, which had essays by eminent historians and scholars on the multifaceted personality of Abdur Rahim Khan-i-Khanan. Work had been underway on the Hindi publication which has essays by eminent Hindi scholars and compilation of all the dohes’ or couplets by Rahim along with their vyakhyas’ or explanation.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- With an aim to bring together and disseminate the Hindi literary scholarship on Abdur Rahim Khan-i-Khanan with translations of his works, work commenced on the Hindi publication on Rahim’s literary contributions.
- Several rounds of discussions were held with noted Hindi scholars on the subject to work out a framework of the book. Prof. Harish Trivedi, an eminent Hindi professor has been commissioned to be the editor of this book and Vani Prakashan will be publishing the book.
- The book also has preface by eminent poet, Gulzar and foreword by Prof. Gopichand Narang, an eminent Hindi poet and scholar.
- The book is titled “Rahim Kavya Sankalan: Vyakhyah vah Vimarsah Sahit” and will consist of two sections. Section One includes essays by noted scholars like Sadanand Shahi, Sudhish Pachauri, Manager Pandey, Anamika, Pratap Mishra and Chandrashekhar covering various aspects of Rahim’s life and legacy. Section Two would deal with select translation of Rahim’s work of doha, nagarshobha, barvai, futkar and madnashtak. Special attention has been given not to repeat the aspects already covered in the English volume. The Sanskrit works of Rahim and praise poetry on Rahim in Sanskrit ‘Khankhanacharitam’ also has a special mention in this book.
- Multiple coordination and content discussion meetings were held with publisher, editor and with other authors.

**NEXT STEP:**

Work is in the final stages of design and copy editing of the book, and the book is scheduled to be released by early 2020.
2. Sabz Burj

The structure is an example of early Timurid architecture and could be dated to the 1520’s. It is unique for its architectural style and treatment. Havells India Limited and AKTC joined hands in 2018 to conserve the prominently sited Sabz Burj, one of the earliest Mughal structures in Delhi. It is a unique building, influenced by Central Asian Timurid architecture and richly ornamented with incised plasterwork, glazed ceramic tiles, wall paintings and decorative lattice stone work.

Conservation works have since revealed incredible ornamentation, wall paintings and glazed tile work. These are being restored, wherever there were evidence found of the original patterns.

ACTION TAKEN:

• The ASI had also sought the expertise of the Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee, to address the matter. Officials have conducted their preliminary investigations and discussions have been had with the scientists to expedite the treatment of the dome.

• The primary concern is the damage to the painted ceiling under the inner dome, and after discussions with the ASI, the tile work and cement layers are now being carefully removed. The tiles made of glazed terracotta have been fixed on the dome in 1986 and as such do not represent a significant historic layer. Moreover, comparison with archival records and images has established the composition and colour of the glaze of the original tile work. The tiles are now being prepared at the tile centre at Humayun’s Mausoleum to match the original in every respect. The dome will be allowed to dry for a period of three months prior to the restoration of carefully matching tiles.

• To further address the water ingress, cement layers from the inner dome have been removed and replaced with traditional lime plaster with a coating of lime punning.
SABZ BURJ
Condition Assessment showing the damages and state of the monument before undertaking conservation works.

MAIN CHAMBER
The inner dome and the ceiling of the main chamber were historically profusely decorated with intricate floral patterns. In the 20th century a layer of cement slurry covered a large portion of the dome hiding the painted layers underneath, which was removed in the previous years by trained art conservators, revealing the intricate floral patterns in blue, red and gold. Detailed analysis has revealed Lapis and gold in the painted layers. Similarly, the wall surfaces would have also been painted-only minor portions of these wall paintings layers have survived.

ACTION TAKEN:
1. The remaining portion of the ceiling was dulled by past chemical coatings and a layer of soot and dust. The art conservators have, after several tests, established the cleaning methodology for the ceiling to remove these layers and restore to the extent possible to the original brilliance of the ceiling.
2. Water seepage from the outer dome has led to loss of painting in the periphery of the dome. 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 after the monsoons before any further works were undertaken in these sections.
3. 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 paint exists. Inappropriate cement-based repairs in the twentieth century has led to loss and disfiguration of the wall paintings. Trained conservators have carefully removed the cement layers and where this has survived, restored traditional lime plaster to the walled surfaces, finished with a coat of lime punning.
4. The openings in the main chamber would have had stone lattice screens or jalis to filter out the heat and sunlight, which are now missing. Master stone craftsmen are now hand carving jalis in a generic pattern, used throughout the project area, to restore the original character and builder’s intent to keep out birds from the central chamber.
3. Nila Gumbad

Nila Gumbad, built in the 1530’s, is one of the earliest Mughal era monuments to have been built in Delhi. The mausoleum was built on an island in the River Yamuna and at a later date, Humayun’s Mausoleum was built abutting Nila Gumbad. The Nila Gumbad is unique in Delhi, deriving its name from the turquoise blue tiles that cover its dome. The northern façade of the structure is also covered with tiles of intricate patterns. In the 19th century, the northern portion of the Nila Gumbad garden was taken over by the railway lines and the Nizamuddin Railway station was built abutting the monument. Then, in the 1980’s a road was built bifurcating Nila Gumbad from Humayun’s Mausoleum and thereafter Nila Gumbad was occupied by a squatter settlement with over 200 jhuggis.

Efforts of the Archaeological Survey of India and the Aga Khan Trust for Culture to relocate the inhabitants of the squatter settlement succeeded in 2004-5. Thereafter, in 2014, agreements were reached with the Railways to shift the road bifurcating Humayun’s Mausoleum and Nila Gumbad to allow access to Nila Gumbad for visitors to Humayun’s Mausoleum.

This enabled the Aga Khan Trust for Culture to undertake major conservation works on the monument, restore its landscape setting and rebuild the alternate road over the past five years.

Conservation works needed to commence from the dome wherein 15000 brick like tiles were missing. This required to establish kilns at Humayun’s Mausoleum and revive a lost craft tradition – and employing youth from Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti. The layers of whitewash and cement were removed to reveal stunning ceiling in incised plaster and medallions in the Spandrels of the arches. Missing sandstone lattice screens were also restored to the monument.

Significantly with the land recovered from the railways at least half the original garden could be restored. During the conservation works, the archaeological remains of a ramp were discovered. This, it is believed that this ramp was used to lift stone and other building material that arrived here on boats - for the construction of Humayun’s Mausoleum. Over 10 feet of accumulated silt was also removed from alongside the eastern wall of the Humayun’s Mausoleum to restore the levels of the original riverbed. This revealed the northern arcade of Nila Gumbad – which was then reconstructed.

In 2017, Nila Gumbad was included into the World Heritage Site of Humayun’s Mausoleum.
Azimganj Serai is the earliest and largest Mughal period Serai in Delhi and stands in the residential zone of National Zoological Park, just north of Sunder Nursery. Years of neglect had led to major collapse and loss. Major efforts have been undertaken to seek permission of the zoo to allow visitors from Sunder Nursery to access the Serai.

**CONSERVATION**

**4. Azimganj Serai**

(Above) Views of Azimganj Serai from Sunder Nursery (Below) Artist’s rendition of the Serai after conservation; (Right) Azimganj Serai as seen from Sunder Nursery, from where the visitor access is planned.

Painting by: Himansh Das

**Supported by:**

State Department of Archaeology, Govt. of NCT Delhi

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- Conservation works on the Azimganj Serai include the reconstruction of the collapsed stone masonry structure. The structure is badly damaged due to neglect and dense growth of vegetation (invasive species like kikar and subabool) on the structure. The NE and SW corners of the serai have been restored as per the existing details.
- Conservation works in 2019 included consolidation of the Delhi quartzite masonry structure and restoration of a layer of lime plaster to the interior ceilings.
- Traditional lime concrete has been provided in the terrace areas where the structure has been conserved.
- Discussions are in progress to provide visitor access to the serai from Sunder Nursery, and several discussions have been held under the chairmanship of the Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in this regard.
- Discussions have also been held with the Director, National Zoological Park and the Central Zoo Authority to ensure that access to the serai is planned keeping in mind the well-being of the animals in the National Zoological Park. As such, the proposed access to the Serai is in the residential area of the zoo and will not hamper the welfare of the animals.
- The proposed access has been approved by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- In order to reveal and conserve the largely damaged south east and north west quadrants of the serai, approximately 90 trees growing over the archaeology need to be transplanted. An updated survey of the trees has been carried out, along with an inspection by the Dy. Director of the National Zoological Park to expedite the permission for transplantation. This is being done on the request of the archaeological department from areas on the archaeological remains. No trees will be cut from the inner courtyard of the serai. An alternate location for transplanting and new plantation has been identified.
- Discussions are in progress to provide visitor access to the serai from Sunder Nursery.
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- Discussions are in progress to provide visitor access to the serai from Sunder Nursery.

**NEXT STEPS:**

- Efforts are underway to seek permission of the National Zoological park to allow visitors from Sunder Nursery to access the 16th century Azimganj Serai. Conservation works have been undertaken for 50% of the serai building.
- The first phase of conservation works were aimed at the structural stabilisation of the North East and South West corners of the serai which were in urgent need of conservation. The second phase of conservation works are aimed at the North West and South East corners of the serai which are presently buried under several layers of earth and will need to be carefully exposed prior to undertaking the conservation works. The chambers in this portion of the serai have collapsed in most places and conservation works will be aimed at structural consolidation and reconstruction of collapsed areas will be limited to only where absolutely necessary.
- Simultaneously, development works are in progress to provide visitor access to the serai from Sunder Nursery.

(Right) Landscape plan showing the connecting path between Azimganj Serai and Sunder Nursery.
5. Baoli, Arab Serai

The baoli within the 16th century walled enclosure of the Arab Sarai complex is of a “L” shape, and dates from the late 16th – early 17th centuries. The baoli, built of rubble masonry, enclosed by walls on the north, south and west with descending steps on the east. The structure has a well on the south with a series of chambers on the upper and lower levels.

The step well was in urgent need of conservation with the walls of the baoli bulging dangerously and the roof above the tank having collapsed. Many structural elements had also collapsed or were in advanced states of collapse. Twentieth century repairs in cement mortar had led to severe decay of the building masonry.

Conservation works here commenced in 2019 with the support of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Supported by:

CONSERVATION

UNESCO World Heritage Site

ACTION TAKEN:

- The well of the baoli and the adjacent well had been filled with debris which had to be cleaned and removed manually. During the cleaning process, several stones from the collapsed walls were recovered, which were then used for the conservation.

- The main inlet of water to the well was blocked by accumulated debris and since the desilting of the well there has been a rapid increase in water levels.

- The joints in the masonry wall of the well had been filled in with cement mortar in the 20th century. This was carefully raked and pointed with traditional lime plaster.

- The main chamber where water would be collected from had collapsed and the chamber on the upper level was in advanced state of collapse. The collapsed roof vault was carefully reconstructed using traditional local stone and lime mortar. This work was carried out by master craftsmen using traditional techniques and form work. The structure was allowed to strengthen for a period of time and allow the mortar to gain strength, prior to undertaking any further works. The chamber above, had to be similarly reconstructed.

- A layer of traditional lime plaster was restored to the reconstructed ceiling surfaces. All joints in the wall masonry were carefully raked and any cement pointing has been removed and replaced with lime mortar.

- The ashlars wall masonry along the steps descending to the water tank was bulging dangerously and in a state of advanced structural duress. The wall had to be carefully dismantled manually in a systematic manner to prevent any further damage and to ensure safety of all the craftsmen.

- The inner masonry wall behind the ashlars masonry was then carefully consolidated and allowed to strengthen before commencing any further works. A lime grout was used to strengthen the structure.

- The stones from the ashlars wall had been numbered and documented prior to dismantling and the stones were rebuilt in their original position to the correct alignment. Stones that were badly damaged had to be replaced with new stones matching the original in every respect.

- Cement layers from the roof of the baoli was carefully dismantled and replaced with a traditional lime concrete terrace to adequate slope redirecting rainwater to the well.

- A metal grate has been provided over the baoli and adjoining well as a safety precaution.

- The conservation works were coupled with regrading of the earth in the adjoining areas to redirect rainwater back into the baoli and adjoining well.

Desilting of accumulated rubble was carried out, leading to the re-opening of groundwater aquifers.
6. Jamaat Khana Mosque

The principal mosque of the Dargah Hazrat Nizamuddin, this 14th century structure is the earliest and probably only living mosque in India to have undergone conservation following the request of the community and caretakers. 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 have continued ever since and need to be halted for festivals such as Eid, during the Urs and for the month of Ramzan.

**CONSERVATION**

**ACTION TAKEN:**

Conservation of Dome Plaster:
- The existing decaying layer of cement plaster was dismantled from all the five domes carefully revealing the 14th century intricate ornamental motifs in lime plaster of the domes on the external face. After removing the 20th century cement layer, the historic ornamental plaster on the domes was conserved as per the original detail and design. It took 2000 man-days of work to complete the conservation work.
- The Red sandstone kangura’s on the eastern façade were missing and damaged at many places. The kangura stones are being handcrafted as per the original detail and for restoration.
- The red sandstone finial from the north side dome was damaged and was replaced as per the original design and detail.

**NEXT STEPS:**
- The ornamental red sandstone façade with motifs and inscription got damaged due to multi layers of lead paint applied in the 20th century. Conservation of damaged façade stones will be carried out in the first quarter of 2020.
- 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. Under ground cabling has been done and intelligent light fixtures will be installed to enhance the visitor experience.
- South chamber: In the next phase conservation of the south chamber will continue which will include lime plastering, conservation works of Dome ceiling, motifs and other ornamental works in incised plaster work. The conservation work will commence in the next quarter after completing the finishing works at North chamber.
7. Mausoleum of Begum Jahanara

Jahanara, Mughal emperor Shah Jahan’s daughter was an ardent Sufi and was buried in close proximity to the saint grave in a mausoleum similar to that of Babur's habitat. The structure is fragile and has been and severally damaged.

The Jahanara mausoleum is inside an enclosure open to the sky and measuring 13'9" by 11'6" externally. The gravestone of Jahanara is a beautiful piece of craftsmanship. The letters of the inscription were inlaid in black marble, with a foliated border of coloured stones around; but almost all the tessellated pieces had been sacrilegiously picked out, and the adjoining surface of the white marble ground had been much chipped in the process. Of the coloured stones-agate, jasper and malachite—it was fortunate that some small fragments still adhered in their places; enough to make the restoration certain in every particular.

Action Taken:

- The intricately carved delicate marble jaali of the parapet is unique in terms of its craftsmanship. These jaalis have been damaged over the time due to high levels of vandalism.
- Except for one small fragment the original parapet jaalis date from the 20th century restoration of the ASI. These pieces are being judiciously worked up to improve quality of craftsmanship.
- Lockable wooden doors matching the historic fabric of the site was installed to restrict visitor access into the mausoleum ensuring longevity of the structure and its ornamental architectural elements.
- The damaged and mixing marble ornamental pinnacles at Jahanara’s Mausoleum and Mohammad Shah Rangeela’s Mausoleum were documented and the drawings were prepared. The missing ornamental marble pieces were handcrafted as per the original designs and detail. Conservation of the damaged pinnacles was also carried out.

Next Steps:

- The marble pinnacles at Jahanara’s mausoleum and Mohammad Shah Rangeela’s Mausoleum have been restored and will be fixed on-site.
- Similar conservation works will take place at Mirza Jahangir’s Mausoleum. The damaged marble elements will be repaired / replaced as per the original design and detail. The haphazard electrical wiring and fixtures around these monuments will be planned to retain the visual integrity of the monuments.
8. Atgah Khan’s Mausoleum

Built in the year 1566-67 by Atgah Khan’s son, Mirza Aziz Kokaltash, 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.

CONSERVATION

Supported by:

Delhi Urban Heritage Foundation of Delhi Development Authority

ACTION TAKEN:

- Restoration of highly ornamental incised lime plaster in walls is now completed.
- After reviewing the scientific testing reports of the historic paint scarpings collected from the dome plaster. The organic colours were then made from spinach leaves, indigo and hibiscus flowers as per the original historic composition. The ceiling, niches and pendentives were then painted as per the original detail and combinations.

NEXT STEPS:

- Conservation of damaged and decayed red sandstone with relief work in south façade.
- External lime pointing of marble cladding of the dome.
- Conservation of vertical stone panels in the central chamber.
- Restoration of missing stone dado work of the mausoleum chamber
9. Mausoleum of Khan I Jahan Tilangani

Built in 1388 by Junan Shah, is the first octagonal mausoleum build in Delhi. Khan-I-Jahan 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 central dome had been clad with red sandstone.

The monument is inhabited. Following AKTC efforts the central chamber is now accessible from the south archway.

ACTION TAKEN:

- For the conservation of the dome and internal façade, 4000 sq feet of internal lime plastering and lime punning has been completed.
- Architectural documentation of the existing plaster patches with stone cladding marks on the central dome was done. Based on recorded data drawings were prepared showing the patterned red sandstone cladding of the central dome has been done.
- The red sandstone and marble finial was damaged and displaced from original position. The original final design has been determined and a new finial will be restored to the structure.
- Repairing of Delhi quartzite stone masonry in central domes has been done ensuring long term preservation of the dome structure.

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.
- The red sandstone finial will be fixed.
- Dome cladding and conservation of the merlons and Delhi quartzite façade with marble cornice. The south façade, with its ornamental plasterwork and missing eave stones will be restored.
- The Delhi Urban Heritage Foundation is to offer alternate accommodation to the inhabitants in order to conserve the structure.
10. Humayun’s Tomb Site Museum

Humayun’s Tomb Site Museum is a facility to Humayun’s Tomb’s World Heritage Site which will bring alive the seven centuries of pluralistic cultural traditions of this unique historic ensemble. The Humayun’s Tomb Site Museum has a covered area of 3615 square meters and will house a permanent exhibition, a crafts centre for live demonstrations, multipurpose halls & an auditorium among other facilities. The Interpretation Centre will be a underground bridge between adjoining areas of Humayun’s Mausoleum, Sunder Nursery and Nizamuddin Basti and will enhance visitor experience for the estimated 2 million annual visitors.

CONSERVATION

Humayun’s Tomb Site Museum: Construction

GALLERY BLOCK

ACTION TAKEN:

- Construction of Ramp from entrance plaza to permanent galleries has been completed in all aspects which includes sadar ali granite flooring, rainwater drains, red sandstone cladding and coping, marble cladding on columns, rendering of ceiling and construction of sumps.
- Storage room has been created under the ramp which also includes a strong room as per the specification provided by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).
- Installation of all fire doors in gallery block has been completed.
- Installation of skylights and glazing work for gallery block has been finished.
- Marble cladding on all columns and gypsum plaster on all walls of gallery block has been completed, grinding and polishing of marble columns and floor is in-progress.
- Four layers of acoustic panelling which includes 2 layers of tecsound, one layer of glasswool followed by one layer of 12mm thick Gypsum board for all service (area 1800sqm) galleries has been completed. Pasting of the final layer of 10mm thick sonic block (micro fibre) has also been initiated.
- Laying of Electrical conduits for Projection, Audio, CCTV, lighting and DALI Panel (Digital Addressable Lighting Interface) and fixing of junction box to provide data and electrical wiring for exhibition showcase has been completed in gallery block. Telephone points and data points in gallery block has been created and conduits for the same has been laid.
- Sunken Court: DQ cladding work on the walls has been completed along with construction of red sandstone seat. Monolithic red sandstone steps have also been placed along with DQ planter. Laying of flooring stone is in progress.
- Fabrication of ceremonial doors using central province teak wood has been completed and fabrication of MS section for the gallery block is in progress.
• Flooring work and red sandstone & DQ wall cladding for the extended gallery terrace area is in progress.

• Civil, electrical and plumbing work for the ‘chini-khana’ in the central courtyard of the main gallery has been completed. Laying of marble is yet to be started.

• Ramp II (HTSM to Sunder Nursery) Civil work, Red sandstone wall cladding, laying of PCC for watertank and 40 mm thick granite flooring connecting sunder nursery is in progress. Carving of 9 marble lotus fountains and 5.5 m long ‘marble chadar’ has been completed.

• Museum Lighting: Marking on ceiling for installing tracks has been initiated. Special tools were procured from HILTI and a training regarding how to use the tools was also conducted on site to initiate this activity. Electrical contractor for carrying out the specialized job has been appointed.

• Contract for CCTV, IT active, IT passive, EPBAX (Electronic Private Automatic Branch Exchange) and Access control has been awarded.

Excavations for the exit ramps towards Sunder Nursery

• Agra Red Sandstone cladding for facade of building on all the sides has been completed and installation of glazing for all the openings is in progress.

• Landscape work for central courtyard (450 sqm) is in progress.

• Construction of 100m long boundary DQ wall for the admin building is in progress. The layout for the complete wall has been completed. Along with this the fire tender movement path has also been marked and work for this will commence in January 2020.

• Civil work for Ticket counter has been completed and Red sandstone wall cladding for the ticket counter in admin area has been initiated.

• Landscape work at the northside of admin building has also commenced.

• The 238 Red Sandstone jaalis and 108 Marble jaalis have been mock-up for installation of jaali façade is in progress.

• Installation of the pumps for the STP has been completed and the landscape work around the STP has initiated.

• Installation of cassette ACs, HVAC ducts at basement level and lift has been completed.

• Fibre optic cable connecting HTSM and admin block has been completed.

• To minimize construction waste, the facade has sensitively and aesthetically incorporated the marble and red sandstone blocks into its design.

• The building also provides barrier-free wide-ramped access to the underground gallery block on the other side of the road.

• At the Humayun’s Tomb Site Museum, there will be two museum shops offering sensitively designed products inspired by the heritage of the area, and the plethora of information which the galleries contain within them.

FACILITIES BLOCK

Though the gallery block is below ground, the site museum also has an above-ground facilities block being built on the foot-print of an earlier building. This block will act as a administrative and revenue generation facility for the Museum. It will have ticketing counters, a souvenir shop, conference facilities, auditorium, multipurpose room, open-air amphitheatre, cafes and restaurants.

Every effort has been taken to save the trees on site by designing the building along an open courtyard, which aims to serve as a meeting and discussion point place for its visitors.

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Facility Block Courtyard

The entry plaza, comprising multiple ticket counters, public amenities and a cafe, as well as access to a souvenir shop, an auditorium, library, crafts gallery and seminar rooms, is sensitively arranged under the foliage of large trees. The plaza also functions as a threshold from which visitors can orient themselves and familiarise with the area.
**EXHIBITION DESIGN**

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- Following the design concept provided by the Spanish design firm Espai Visual, the team carried out research to find the vendors to create exhibition panels matching the design and specifications of the design.
- Shark Design, a NOIDA based studio-workshop has been shortlisted to create the exhibition display panels. In August 2019, they presented a prototype of one of the panels which was approved by the team from Geneva and Delhi. The panels will be fabricated in their Greater Noida based workshop, where each panel will have metal sheets held together by magnets to provide a neat finished edge.
- Following discussions on content and showcases for the Humayun’s Tomb Site Museum, the team will now prepare design drawings for the panels, showcases and display cases, and present them along with their BOQs for the exhibition panels in the two main galleries.

**EXHIBITION DESIGN**

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- Following over four years of research, object-viewings and discussions with curators and personnel in charge of these collections, nearly 200 antiquities from the National Museum and Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) Collections at Red Fort and Purana Qila have been finalized. These antiquities have been selected to anchor the narrative of the exhibition, to engage and inform visitors and enhance the experience of the exhibition.
- The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Archaeological Survey of India, National Museum, Aga Khan Foundation and the Aga Khan Trust for Culture was signed on 31-October 2019 by all parties. This MoU pertains to the loaning of selected antiquities from these collections to the ASI for display at the Humayun’s Tomb Site Museum.
- Rare and crucial folios of manuscripts were identified in the Khuda Bakhsh Library Collection. Following continuous correspondence with the Library Director and her team, the Library granted permission to AKTC to photograph these coveted manuscripts, which would be used in the digital displays at the Site Museum.
- The team had discussions with Mughal scholar and principle advisor to the Museum, Prof. Ebba Koch to discuss the content of the exhibition for the Museum. During these sessions, the content of the narrative as well as the components and flow of the exhibition were discussed and fine-tuned by the team.
- A recurring element of the exhibition is the use of 3-dimensional architectural models to showcase the architectural details of some key monuments in Nizamuddin Area. Some of the key models in the museum are models of the 5 out of 13 UNESCO World Heritage Sites in the Area, a large model of the larger site of Nizamuddin including the river and the ridge, several monuments, as well as Purana Qila was completed, and the monuments in the Nizamuddin

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**Humayun’s Tomb Site Museum: Museography & Exhibition Design**

**MUSEOGRAPHY**

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Dargah Complex. The model of another important building associated with Humayun – Sher Mandal – was commissioned and is under production. A striking exhibit of the Museum is a cut-away section of the inner chamber of Humayun’s Mausoleum which would have digital projections depicting the possible interiors of the mausoleum. The fabrication of this model which is scaled at 1:7 has commenced.

• Work is underway on the production of a 9-minute duration introductory film which will provide a 270° immersive experience to the visitors in the Museum. The film is being produced by a Paris-based studio – ICONEM, who have used 3D modelling, miniature paintings, photogrammetry, and aerial photography to create this holistic information experience, which will be presented in the A/V gallery.

• Work is underway on other films for the Museum, namely: a film showing the construction of Humayun’s Mausoleum; evolution of the 14th century Nizamuddin Dargah Complex; dense ensemble of monuments in the Nizamuddin – Purana Qila Area; and various aspects related to the life and times of Emperor Humayun and Mughals.

• One of the key highlights of the museum will be the original 16th century gold finial of Humayun’s Mausoleum, which had got damaged in the storm of April 2015. Conservation works will be carried out on this 18 feet finial by conservation architects and master craftsmen, to repair the various pieces of the finial and restore them to be kept in the museum.

• The museum will also have architectural replicas of some key elements from Humayun’s Mausoleum and other monuments in Nizamudin. Following the on-site architectural documentation by conservation architects and draughtsmen, drawings are being prepared for the construction of 1:1 scaled replica of the drum of the dome of Humayun’s Mausoleum, Nila Gumbad finial, Humayun’s mausoleum’s tiled canopy and one of the bays of Chausath Khamba. These architectural replicas are a part of a series of exhibits that will highlight the true scale, architectural detail and craftsmanship involved in the construction of these architectural marvels in the Area, and will therefore inspire people to not only visit those sites, but also build a sense of appreciation for our architectural heritage.

Manuscripts & Paintings
Historic Antiquities from the National Museum Collection and the ASI Collections have been identified which will be a crucial part of the exhibition. Antiquities including miniature paintings, manuscripts, decorative objects, arms and weaponry will be displayed to engage visitors.

Antiquities
Conservation and landscape restoration works undertaken at Humayun’s Tomb since 1997 have resulted in the collection of at least 100 significant architectural elements such as terra cotta pipes, stone finials and lattice screens, fragments of waterfalls, decorative stone and incised plaster fragments, amongst others.

Architectural Replicas
Replicas of architectural elements in their true scale will be exhibited to engage and inform visitors. These will build a sense of appreciation towards these otherwise hidden elements. This would include a section of the main tomb in a large scale: roof top canopies, Nila Gumbad finial, a bay of Chausath Khamba amongst others.

Architectural Models
Architectural models to explain the diversity of building types within the Humayun’s Tomb – Nizamuddin area showcasing baoli’s, serai’s, monumental gateways, tomb types, garden pavilions – thus encouraging visitors to visit each of these structures and spend at least a full day in the area rather than the average half hour at present.

Films & Animations
Museum will use technology as an enabler – becoming a guide to the site’s incredible historical wealth. The digital content will be presented in stand alone galleries as well be embedded in smart objects, site signage, creating new experiences and immersing visitors into 700 years of History and development of the site.
11. Humayun’s Mausoleum: Iconic Tourist Sites

The Ministry of Tourism launched the ‘Iconic Tourists Site Development’ scheme in 2018-19. The scheme identified 17 sites in the country with the overall objective of Holistic development of selected Iconic Sites to global standards. It also aimed to develop sustainable tourism infrastructure, prepare robust Operations and Maintenance plans, and generate employment for local communities.

The world Heritage site was selected as one of the 17 iconic sites. AKTC India prepared the proposal for the development of the site under the scheme. Beginning in September of 2018, the proposals were arrived at through preparation of reports across various phases.

ACTION TAKEN:

- An initial ‘Inception Report’ assessing the gaps on site as well as the available tourist facilities and infrastructure was submitted. The report also detailed current and estimated tourist numbers. The site was also benchmarked with various local and global sites to set a standard for development.
- By October 2018, a ‘Draft Development Plan’ proposing 30 projects across the site was submitted. The projects were broken down under the following headings based on the needs at site: Physical Infrastructure; Environment Sustainability; Tourist Facilities; Soft Infrastructure and Tourism Services.
- A draft budget was worked out for each of the 30 projects, detailing the aim and objective of each intervention, explaining its contribution to the improvement of the overall ICONIC Site of Humayun’s Tomb.
- The ‘Draft Development Plan’ was further developed into a presentation that detailed the proposed site interventions as well as AKTC’s past work employed both globally and at the site of Humayun’s Tomb. Representatives from the Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Delhi Secretariat, Public Works Department and the Archeological Survey of India were present at the meeting. The presentation was well received by all present with suggestions of some small improvements.
- Post the 2019 general elections, both the report and the presentation were re-submitted with the required revisions and inclusions in the budget.
- Meetings regarding upgrading of pedestrian pathways between Khan-i-Khanan’s Tomb and Sabz Burj were followed up with the Central Public Works Department and the Delhi Government.
- Meetings were also held with both Central Public Works Department and the Delhi State Government, on the feasibility of a solar power plant to address the electrical requirements of the site.
- In March of 2020, after a follow up meeting with the Ministry of Tourism, a shortened presentation highlighting key projects, cost break up of funds to be distributed across site and an overall objective along with potential employment generation was submitted. As requested by the ministry a short movie exploring the proposed interventions on site is also being developed for submission.

NEXT STEPS:
The next steps towards the successful employment of this scheme would include regular follow up, contact with the ministry and submission of requested files.
WORKING WITH SCHOOLS

Heritage Awareness Programme is organized for children SDMC schools and NGO run education centres. The programme includes heritage walk as well as activities such as painting, sanjhi and calligraphy; 1152 children that included 615 school students from 10 SDMC schools and 537 children from 27 NGOs participated in the programme.

Cultural Revival

of 700 years of culture, poetry and crafts of Nizamuddin Area.

APNI BASTI MELA

The Annual fair at Nizamuddin Basti attracts over 15,000 visitors to the Area. This three-day long event comprises of heritage walks, musical evenings, Mughlai-cuisine workshops, craft stalls and traditional building workshop stalls.
Heritage Awareness Programme

A key strategy of the heritage awareness programme has been to set up a community group called Sair-e-Nizamuddin (SeN). Sair-e-Nizamuddin is a youth group established in 2010. It aims to involve the local community to share Nizamuddin’s tangible and intangible heritage with visitors and school children. SeN guides have been trained in the history of the area along with communication skills and offer a unique experience to visitors as they share their pride in 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.

Since 2010, the member guides have walked 53643 participants through Humayun’s Mausoleum, Nizamuddin Basti, Rahim’s Mausoleum and Sunder Nursery from 324 schools, 52 university and 12 travel agencies.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Under the awareness programme, 665 children from 11 South Delhi Municipal Corporation school students heritage walks by SeN guides. This programme was designed to give a understating about the culture and heritage of Nizamuddin. Participating students were given teaching-learning material to enhance learning.
- A similar programme was conducted for 240 children from resource poor communities who study in educational initiatives of other voluntary agencies.
- In 2019, Amity International School approached AKTC to facilitate heritage awareness session for all the Amity institutes present in Delhi NCR for one year through Sair-e-Nizamuddin. In response to this request, Sair-e-Nizamuddin members conducted five awareness programmes in which a total of 250 senior staff, teachers and students of Amity group have participated with more planned. All these programmes comprise a heritage walk to Humayun’s Mausoleum and Sunder Nursery followed exposure to the crafts of sanjhi, calligraphy, kite making, aari embroidery, tugho calligraphy, portrait making, through demonstration workshops.
- Visitors form diverse backgrounds including Li & fung and KPMG, students from Darden Business School (Virginia University), USA, Shiv Nadar University, Jindal University and Green Brigade were given guided heritage walk by Sair-e-Nizamuddin guides.
- As a part of the regular orientation programme of Hilti company, multiple group of new recruits were walked to Humayun’s to Mausoleum and Sunder Nursery by the SeN heritage guides.
- SeN members conducted a special walk for 195 teachers of 3 selected schools to the Sunder Nursery, Humayun’s Mausoleum and Nizamuddin Basti. The aim of this programme was to educate the schoolteachers about the project, and the different initiatives that have been taken to impart heritage education to students. Copies of the activity book were shared with the group so that they could appreciate how heritage activities could be included in the classroom.
- Multiple groups of senior citizens were also walked to Sunder Nursery by the heritage volunteers.
- An educational trip was organized for a group of 43 College students of the Delhi Institute of Heritage Research Management at Humayun’s Mausoleum and Sunder Nursery. The group was briefed about the heritage, conservation work, socio economic and cultural initiative taken under the project.
- Another season of Sunday Walks was organized from January to March 2019 in collaboration with Zaika-e-Nizamuddin. Under which both domestic and international visitors were walked to the Sunder Nursery, Humayun’s Mausoleum and Nizamuddin Basti.
- A group of 60 AKDN volunteers from Mumbai who visited the Humayun’s Mausoleum and Sunder Nursery. The aim of this visit was to educate students about the project, and the different initiatives that have been taken under project to impart heritage education to students.
- The list of Institutions included InterGlobe Foundation, American Indian Foundation, Hilti, National Council of India, National Institute of Urban Affairs and Drestad Gymnasium school, Denmark.
13. Celebrations & Worskops

The project created specialised heritage awareness programmes this year, which included celebrating special days and events to reach a larger and often new groups. The events ranged on various topics like conservation, environment, craftsmanship, storytelling and nature trails amongst others. Over 2000 people participated in these programmes.

The project intends to diversify and continue these special activities and events in future too.

BUILDING CRAFTS: STONE CARVING WORKSHOP

- In January 2019 an interactive stone carving demonstration workshop was organized for a group of 58 students from 2 different schools at Rahim’s Mausoleum. Students were introduced to the art of stone carving. The workshop included a talk on the importance of craftsmanship in India followed by interaction with master craftsmen who explained their tools, process, time and workmanship needed to complete the work. The demonstration was clubbed with a Sanjhi workshop where they were given the same design to cut on the paper to understand the application of ancient techniques for modern products with modern materials.

CELEBRATING GHALIB’S ANNIVERSARY

- Ghalib’s 150th anniversary on February 15, 2019, was observed at the Mazar-e-Ghalib at Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti. Ghalib’s mazar was restored by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture from a dilapidated and monument to a serene oasis where cultural events could be organized in 2010.
- The event was organized by the Ghalib Institute with Ghalib Academy and the Aga Khan Trust for Culture to pay tribute to the great Urdu poet Mirza Asadullah Khan Ghalib at the Mazar-e-Ghalib in Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti. Speeches on the life and works of Ghalib were delivered by eminent scholars on the occasion. This was followed by recitation of the poetry of Mirza Ghalib.

CELEBRATING WORLD HERITAGE DAY

- World Heritage Day 2019 was organized at Sunder Nursery - Delhi’s Heritage Park. The theme was Rural Landscape and included a Nature Walk and workshops on farming and composting. 275 students from 14 schools across Delhi took part in this event.
- Heritage guides from SeN with the support of Sunder Nursery’s horticulture team conducted the Nature Walk. The school children learnt to identify trees growing in Sunder Nursery as well as their importance to the ecosystem. The children were shown the rabi (winter) crops grown where they learnt about cropping patterns and participated in the harvesting of crops.
- At the biodiversity zone they learnt about the importance of water and forest and balance of nature in ecosystems.
- Children were also introduced to the rare trees of Sunder Nursery.
- The final activity was a composting workshop that helped them appreciate the need to segregate waste at source and about preparation of compost from household waste and its need in today’s time.
- All the participating students were given a booklet about the

SARDI KI PEHALI DAWAT

- Marking the advent of winter season in Delhi, the group initiated a special evening walk, called Sardi ki pehli Dawat.
- The walk comprised of a heritage walk conducted by the members of Sair E Nizamuddin group, and food organized by the Zaika-e-Nizamuddin - together showcasing the cultural diversity of the Nizamuddin Area. The visitors enjoyed the unique experience of walking through by lanes of Basti at the evening. The walk ended at Mashak Manzil where the Zaika-e-Nizamuddin group members served them authentic Nizamuddin dinner.

Sunder Nursery has become an active hub for various environmental activities for various school groups.
STORYTELLING FESTIVAL: KATHAKAR

• Kathakar - The International Storytellers Festival which is India’s first and only oral storytelling festival was organized at Sunder Nursery with AKTC being the venue partner. The 12th edition of this festival took place in Sunder Nursery, Delhi from 11th to 14th October 2019.

• The festival saw over 1000 people turn up for an engaging sessions of storytelling by artists from all over the world, and had special sessions on storytelling for over 800 school children. Surrounded by heritage, greenery and calm, the Park provided an ideal setting for a masterful skill called - storytelling - transporting audience to another space.

• As a part of the four-day festival Sair-e-Nizamuddin’s heritage guides walked students and teachers to Sunder nursery. During the festival Sair-e-Nizamuddin guide also helped in ushering, ticketing and other related activities.

WALK DURING RAMZAAN

• In the holy month of Ramzaan, Sair-e-Nizamuddin conducted a ‘Raunak-e-Ramzaan’ for a group of 25 domestic and international visitors at Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti. Layering through the various monuments and chowks/squares of the Basti, the participants were walked through the seven hundred years of living heritage.

• The heritage walk culminated with a pop-up restaurant setup by another SHG from the Basti - Zaika e Nizamuddin (a women’s group initiated under the project), where they enjoyed the authentic cuisine of Nizamuddin as well as the dishes of the other famous places.

• The group plans to diversify this type of heritage walk and include more local flavours, to showcase the assets of Nizamuddin Area.

PEHEL- A COMMUNITY WALK FOR INCLUSION

• As part of promoting Sunder Nursery heritage park as a venue supporting natural and lifestyle improvement place, the Government Sunder Nursery Management Trust has been partnering with various like-minded professional organizations working in this field.

• Bhor Foundation as a part of their work to create more inclusive spaces around disability and mental health conducted “The Art Mela and The Yoga Retreat” at Sunder Nursery for 30 participants that also included differently-abled persons. Sair-e-Nizamuddin conducted a Sunder Nursery walk for all these participants.
GLOBAL ENCOUNTER PROGRAMME

Global Encounter is an international youth programme under which youth are given an opportunity for leadership development, cultural exchange, and global citizenship.

A group students and facilitators from Global Encounters - an international youth programme of the AKDN visited the project area in Delhi over a period of five days. This was a comprehensive programme that began with an orientation about Delhi’s contextual setting over the years by noted historian and author Prof Narayani Gupta, followed by the guided visit to Sanskriti Museums. This also included an orientation to the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative that they would observe and experience during their trip.

The groups were shown various socio-economic programmes that are initiated in Nizamuddin Basti. The group also visited Humayun’s Mausoleum, Sunder Nursery and HTIC to understand about the conservation and landscaping work done there. Students were also introduced to Indian craft traditions through workshops on sanjhi, aari embroidery, and calligraphy workshop. They also participated in the sparrow nest making.

GLOBAL ENCOUNTER PROGRAMME

14. Heritage & Environment Walks

Sair-e-Nizamuddin has been expanding their portfolio of heritage products to attract a wider audience. This includes new products and new platforms.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Celebrate an event walk: Catalysed by a group of enthusiastic children and parents celebrating a child’s birthday by taking a heritage walk at Sunder Nursery. The group was first briefed about the project and then was given a heritage walk along with an on-site quiz competition which took their enthusiasm to another level. The group also did painting inspired from their surroundings. This is now being offered as a regular product.

- Free Walks to Schools: With aim of educating maximum number of students under the programme a weekly standing schedule for two major sites was prepared. Under which heritage guides were directed to stand at Humayun’s Mausoleum and Sunder Nursery during morning hours and offer a free walk to school groups, who came to visit Sunder Nursery. This proved to be very successful and helpful programme for both students and heritage volunteers.

NEXT STEPS:

The group will continue to expand on the type of walks to showcase the various assets of Nizamuddin Area.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Winter Walks at Sunder Nursery: During the winter of 2019, Sair-e-Nizamuddin introduced short walking tours at Sunder Nursery for visitors to expand their repertoire of walks and to cater all kinds of visitors, especially heritage and nature lovers at Sunder Nursery. Walks are being offered in the morning and evening. Visitors have also been offered a choice to register on the spot that has resulted in an increase in the number of groups helping the group increase its income and visibility.

- New Platform: Sair-e-Nizamuddin also took part in the weekly organic and natural lifestyle market at Sunder Nursery as a platform to reach out to larger numbers.
I feel very proud that I, as a resident of Hazrat Nizammudin Basti and a student history represent the rich cultural heritage of our community.

- Zareen

The impact of Sair e Nizamuddin has been crucial to the development of our society. People were not even aware of that there are so cultural landmarks right here in the like Mehmood Khan’s tomb, Humayun Tomb Chausath Khamba, Humayun’s tomb, Siri ki masjed and Sunder nursery. Through our Heritage walks we have been able to instill a sense of pride among the people about their rich history and culture.

- Hamaad

Sair-e-Nizamuddin is a youth group established under the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative in the year 2009. It was initiated with a vision of involving the local community for sharing the tangible and intangible heritage of Nizamuddin Basti while simultaneously creating livelihood opportunities for the youth.

The members were provided rigorous training that included language, history, communication and life skills as well as sessions by well-known historians, and heritage walks with experts. In addition, they were also trained in other cultural activities like dastangoi, theater and event organization. Some of the group members also got opportunities to perform with noted artists in the field.

Senior Heritage guides run a training for the youths of basti for those who aspire to be a heritage guide in future. They go through an intense training programme which include practical and classroom sessions. This training helps them in enhancing their communication skills and public speaking.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- To increase the range of heritage products and to attract a wider range of visitors, especially nature lovers, a training session on the trees of Sunder Nursery was organized with in-house resource people. Under this programme volunteers were taught about the variety, type and benefits of the trees found at Sunder Nursery.

- Most of the members of Sair-e-Nizamuddin work on a part-time basis. Most of them are students and are engaged in part-time employment. Given the transient nature of the group members, plans are being made to create a larger pool of volunteers.

- Sair-e-Nizamuddin participated in the Job Fair organized by Career Development Centre to explore the possibility of offering a part-time job as heritage volunteers to the youth of Nizamuddin. It gave Sair-e-Nizamuddin a new platform to present themselves among the youth of Nizamuddin.

- Sair-e-Nizamuddin members organized an orientation workshop for 25 students of the project’s Career Development Centre. During this session students learned about the group’s vision, possible opportunities to work as a heritage guide and its wide scope in coming future. As a result, five of the CDC students showed interest in joining the group and to learn about the living culture and heritage of Nizamuddin Basti and to disseminate it to others.

**CULTURAL REVIVAL**

**15. Capacity Enhancement Sair E Nizamuddin**

Supported by: TATA TRUSTS
16. Apni Basti Mela

Apni Basti Mela celebrates 700 years of history and continuous living culture based on the ideals of Sufism which emphasizes cultural plurality of Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti. Apni Basti Mela aims to promote an important history and section of Delhi’s living heritage; to generate integration between urban New Delhi and the Nizamuddin Basti; and to provide for their sustainability through outreach and cultural events.

The Mela showcases the historical and cultural resources of the Basti through a series of workshops, performances, art, craft and food stalls, heritage walks. The continuity of Apni Basti Mela is seen crucial to establish the annual event as a continuing tradition within the Basti besides promoting Nizamuddin Basti as a vibrant cultural and historical centre.

ACTION TAKEN:

• The year the annual Apni Basti Mela was organized from 29th Nov to 1st Dec 2019 with the support from Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway. The members of Sai-e-Nizamuddin coordinated and implemented the three-day festival.

• Under the environmental awareness programme, this year a Honey Bee workshop and Sparrow nest making workshop were introduced in the Apni Basti Mela. Both these workshops were well attended by visitors and students.

• Art workshops such as portrait making, and calligraphy, craft workshops such as paper toy making, sanjhi art, aari embroidery and jewellery making were organized, which were well attended by visitors, students as well as local community.

• The major attraction for the visitors were the local delicacies prepared by the women’s groups, food workshops, and heritage walks conducted by the youth heritage volunteers. 70 visitors participated in the heritage walks conducted by the heritage volunteers during the Apni Basti Mela.

• Magic shows, juggling and puppet shows for the general audience were hugely popular; as were the talent shows for children. The Mela also provided a platform to community members to showcase their talent.

• The above activities of the Mela were organized in the Outer Park Nizamuddin Basti while this year cultural evenings on last two days were organized at Sunder Nursery to motivate people to visit other part of Nizamuddin.

• Cultural evening on the first evening had the qawwali performance by Aslam Akram Warsi and second day Songs of the Sacred - a Sufi music performance by the renowned artist Ms. Sonam Kalra.

• 285 students from 3 school and 2 NGOs participated in the three-day event. All students were given heritage walk of Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti by the community volunteers. Students took part in various workshop and activities organized at Mela.
Environmental Development
Heritage | Environment | Nursery
The primary objective of the Government Sunder Nursery Management Trust will be to facilitate and organise activities that allow the use of Sunder Nursery as an ecological, cultural, heritage hub for the people of Delhi. Events of a diverse range will also attract visitors with varied interests.

By creating employment, enhance tourism numbers, implementing demonstration activities such as ensuring a safe, clean and green environment as well as water harvesting, Sunder Nursery Management Trust will aim to fulfill government objectives.

The Managing trustees (AKF & AKTC) will strive to manage Sunder Nursery – Batashewala complex in a financially sustainable manner that through presentation of the site, instill a sense of pride in the citizens of Delhi. Sunder Nursery will also serve as a buffer zone for the Humayun’s Tomb World Heritage Site and tourism infrastructure could be built here.

Partners of the Government Sunder Nursery Management Trust (GSNMT):
- Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD)
- Central Public Works Department (CPWD)
- South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC)
- Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)
- Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC)
- Aga Khan Foundation (AKF)

**17. Sunder Nursery Management Trust**

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**ACTION TAKEN:**
- The creation of the Trust allows revenue generated at the Sunder Nursery to be used to meet operating costs of the facility. The Aga Khan Development Network agencies have agreed to take the responsibility of Management Trustees for a period of ten years.
- In 2019, almost 189,632 people visited Sunder Nursery.
- Two meetings of the Management Trust were held in 2019 and all approved action were undertaken.
- Significantly, the required electric connections were secured from BSES for the full operations at Sunder Nursery.
- The Management Trust has been responsible for engaging and training security guards, horticulture maintenance of the 90 acre grounds, house-keeping to keep Sunder Nursery green.
- The Management Trust has facilitated numerous public events at Sunder Nursery during 2019.
- Curated heritage and ecological walks are now routinely held at Sunder Nursery.

**NEXT STEPS:**
- Various government approvals such as FCRA etc are being sought for the Management Trust.
- Exemption under 80 G has now been received.
18. 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 2020.
19. Children’s Zone

Sunder Nursery aims to serve as well-used and well-loved places to play will often be integrated within the cohesive design of a wider community space. The primary aim of designing the play area is to provide children a rich and healthy playing environment. It is essentially designed for children of different age groups for their healthy, physical, social and cognitive development. This includes opportunities for outdoor play for them to experience free following activities, challenges and risks while playing. The layout of the play area has been divided into three categories of social character, zone and design manifestation. Three categories are further divided into three zones of Sensory zone, Schematic zone and Assimilation. The play-zone will have custom activities with waiting areas to keep kids in view, interactive railings with chalkboards, tree walkway with sliders and natural play scapes.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- Brick work in foundation of the pathways have been completed.
- The 6m long entrance tunnel through the mound has been completed. This tunnel made in Delhi Quartzite stone will be provided with light fittings.

**NEXT STEPS:**

- Once completed the play-zone area will cater to the 500,000 children visiting the adjacent world heritage site of Humayun’s mausoleum and furthermore visitors visiting Sunder Nursery. The play-zone will be functional by the third quarter of 2020.
20. Park Information Measurement System

The Park Information Measurement System (PIMS) is a system to measure the effect and impact of Parks created and operated by AKTC on visitors and on the locals. This is a standard methodology that is applied on all Parks created by the AKTC spread across the world.

PIMS is aimed at measuring visitors experience at the Park, develop profiles of visitors and most importantly, assess the impact of Park, on the catchment in the medium term i.e. 4-5 years.

The catchment of a Park is defined as an area which is an easy 20-minute walk to the Park. For the assessment of the medium-term impact on the catchment area, 7 localities in and around the park namely Nizamuddin Basti, Nizamuddin East, Nizamuddin West, Bhogal, Jungpura, Sunder Nagar and Kaka Nagar were covered.

In 2019, the baseline, to measure the medium-term impact of Sunder Nursery, on the catchment area, was conducted along with the survey on the experience of the visitors at the Park.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Physical survey of the catchment area conducted in a prescribed format to cover indicators like land use pattern, built and open areas, heights, condition and use of the buildings.
- These were mapped using a GIS platform that enabled analysis of availability of green and open spaces for residents within their living environment in the catchment area. The open and built up ratio was taken as an indicator of building density.
- The real estate value in the catchment area was also documented.
- The presence of types of commercial activities in the vicinity of the park and in the catchment area was also mapped.
- Cognitive maps were created to identify challenges around congestion, safety and pedestrian movement.
- Focus group discussions were conducted with 17 resident groups of all the 7 localities in the catchment area across different segments of the population: Adolescents, Youth, Adult Male and Adult Female. The objective of the qualitative study was to understand and record the opinion of the people on the parks and open spaces, their visit to the parks, and perception about Sunder Nursery.
- Focus group discussions were also conducted with 4 small business enterprise owners i.e. e-rickshaw drivers, restaurant owners, vendors and heritage guides to ascertain the situation of their respective business.

NEXT STEPS:

- The study will be repeated in 4-5 years to assess the impact on the catchment area in terms of change in the physical infrastructures, open green spaces in the catchment area, building conditions and the changing pattern of use along with the change in the real estate value.
- The changing perception of the people about Sunder Nursery Heritage Park will also be studied and the impact on the small medium business enterprise will also be assessed.


21. Collaboration with Columbia University Global Centre

The Aga Khan Trust for Culture, India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Columbia Global Centers, Mumbai in October, 2019. 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 been 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:

- Panel discussion at Columbia Global Centers, New York on City of Haze, Gardens of Beauty: Reimagining Nature in Urban India by Mr. Ratish Nanda followed by a discussion on urbanization and green spaces moderated by Dr. Ravina Aggarwal and featuring Professor Ruth DeFries.
- Columbia Global Centre and Aga Khan Trust for Culture organized an expert consultation to share knowledge and facilitate a network of experts working on urban wildlife conservation that could provide a roadmap for future collaboration.
- It brought together academics, researchers and practitioners working in the field of wildlife legislation and conservation. The consultation focused on legal and policy perspectives.

NEXT STEPS:

- Organizing annual programmes - knowledge workshops, conferences, public lecture series, and interactive programs on the Environment and on Natural Heritage.
- Facilitate the design of environmental education and outreach programs, including visibility campaigns around ‘Champion Species’ in Sunder Nursery Park.
- Facilitate the development of training materials for a fleet of volunteers for environmental education and conservation outreach, especially women and girls from Nizamuddin Basti.
- Document and produce scholarly papers on the process of conservation and the environmental efforts carried out by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture in Sunder Nursery Heritage Park.
- Develop a proposal to seek funding for undertaking an ecosystem benefit valuation study of Sunder Nursery Heritage Park.

Experts focused on the conservation of birds in urban settings. And advocated for the creation of micro-habitats for urban species and increasing the vegetative diversity within them. Participants also highlighted gaps in data and the need to create baseline information using scientific methodologies, the importance of designating undisturbed green areas as ‘tested sites’ to monitor species diversity, and the need to better educate people on the legal and ecological aspects of wildlife conservation.

(Below) An expert consultation in partnership with the Aga Khan Trust for Culture to share knowledge on urban wildlife conservation.
22. Bee Conservation & Awareness

There are nearly 20,000 known species of bees including solitary species such as carpenter bees, leafcutter bees and mason bees, and social bees such as honeybees, bumblebees, and stingless bees. Bees play an important role in pollinating flowering plants and are the major type of pollinator in many ecosystems that contain flowering plants.

It is now established that the bee population in India and the world is under threat with the increase in the use of pesticides, reducing biodiversity and disappearing habitats.

At Sunder Nursery we are engaged in raising awareness on the importance of bees for a healthy ecosystem, creating and nurturing bee habitats, introducing bees in Sunder Nursery through bee boxes and training our staff in encouraging and managing bees.

**ACTION TAKEN**

- Golden Hive Foundation was identified to undertake awareness workshops and train volunteers from different teams on importance and process of bee keeping. The team of trained personnel is now able to monitor and take care of the bee boxes in Sunder Nursery.
- Bee boxes of stingless bees and Apis Mellifera bees have been placed in Sunder Nursery with a view to educate visitors on importance of bees as well as to let the volunteers and participants of workshops get first hand practical experience of bee keeping.
- To raise awareness on the importance of honeybees and process of bee keeping two workshops on bee keeping were organised in Sunder Nursery with Golden Hive Foundation. The workshops focussed on importance of honeybees, their lifecycle, process of honey production by bees, different types of honey and process of making heel care cream from bees' wax with visitors to Sunder Nursery. Apart from hands-on experience of handling bees, the participants of the workshops were given free samples of natural honey, bees wax and learnt how to make heel care cream as a part of the workshops. The workshops also covered the subjects such as beekeeping as a possible livelihood opportunity.
- A mapping was undertaken to mark honeybees’ hotspots in Sunder Nursery during the flowering months from October to March.
- A bee awareness stall was put in the annual Apni Basti Mela to raise awareness in school children and the larger community.
- The existing as well as new colonies of naturally established colonies of indigenous bees such as Apis Cerana, Apis Dorsata and Apis Florea were mapped by the team and are being protected.
- There are information signages which explain about the importance of Bees for the humans, to generate awareness amongst visitors and especially school children.

**NEXT STEPS**

- The team will conduct trainings and provide support on bee-keeping and bee conservation during the year 2020.
- Mapping and efforts to protect indigenous bees in Sunder Nursery to continue.
- The trained team members will conduct workshops on awareness about bees and importance of bees and procedures on effective bee-keeping for visitors to Sunder Nursery.
- The horticulture team will promote plantation of more bee-friendly flowers and trees in Sunder Nursery.
- Develop a dedicated area for bee boxes for educational and awareness purposes in Sunder Nursery.
- Increase number of bee boxes in Sunder Nursery installed for educational purposes.
23. Butterfly Zone

At Sunder Nursery, significant work has been carved out to create a serious bird habitat. In 2019, efforts commenced to create an attractive butterfly habitat to spread awareness and find refuge to butterflies.

ACTION TAKEN:
- The butterfly zone has been divided into two zones called the Host plant zone on the periphery and the Nectar zone in the centre.
- The 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.
- Variety of selective plantation including host plants and nectar plants with guidance from Dr. Faiyaz Khudsa, scientist in-charge of the Yamuna Biodiversity Park has been done.
- Pathway has been created around the nectar zone to enable visitors to experience the rich butterfly fauna.

NEXT STEPS:
The created zone will need plants to be added to and close monitoring.

24. Vehicular Entrance

As Sunder Nursery continues to serve as an active plant nursery, vehicular access is required by customers to the CPWD sales counter. Thus, vehicular access was created by removing encroachments of the New Horizon Public School.

ACTION TAKEN:
- Eight metre wide concrete road has been constructed with landscaping on both the edges for enhancing the visitor experience. The access road is 12-15 cars during busy hours to ensure no traffic congestion on the main road.
- An additional boundary wall with carved red sandstone posts and mild Steel grill has been constructed on the outer edge of the road to secure the entrance zone.
- Two new parking ticket counters have been constructed where the visitors can buy tickets for both vehicular parking and garden access. The counters and secured with CCTV surveillance and Boom barriers to control trespassing.

NEXT STAGE:
- Two-Wheeler vehicle parking close to the vehicular entrance gate will be developed.
- Landscaping around the parking ticket counter will be done in the next quarter.
25. CPWD Training Room

At the request of the CPWD, one of the two mist chambers was converted to serve as a horticulture training centre.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- The construction required an opaque roof - provided by insulation sheets.
- The earth finish has been replaced with granite flooring.
- Air conditioning, lighting have been provided.
- The training centre includes a pantry and toilets.

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26. Peripheral Road

Following the construction of the CPWD training centre the peripheral road was constructed along the western edge of Sunder Nursery.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- Stretch of 50 metres of concrete road was built as per the master plan.
- Electrical lines and water lines has been laid along the road keeping in mind future expansions and additions.
- Parking of 20 cars has been marked. The parking area will enable visitors to park cars close to western nursery beds, conference hall, VIP lounge and will also ease pressure on the existing parking areas.

**NEXT STEPS:**

- Parking space for 20 cars will be developed in 2020.
- Street lighting will be installed in 2020.
27. Vermicomposting unit

To manage leaf in Sunder Nursery a pilot Vermicomposting unit was established in 2015 with one single bed with 1 tonne of leaf litter and 10 kgs earthworms. The collection of leaf litter for composting is carried out from pathways, lawns, area near 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.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- 21 tonnes of Vermi compost was harvested from the unit in the year 2019.
- During the World Heritage Day, 275 children from 8 schools were given a demonstration of the process of vermicomposting leaf litter and food waste at home and in their gardens.
- Harvested compost was used for plantation in Sunder Nursery, area near Rahim’s mausoleum, including plantation at the Barapullah Nallah side and five parks in the basti.
- A pilot unit of vermicomposting was established in Huamyun’s Mausoleum area, and workers from horticulture department of ASI were trained to establish new units and maintain the same.

**NEXT STEPS:**
- To increase the capacity of vermicomposting unit in Sunder Nursery by adding 10 more beds.
- To organize workshops on composting on Sundays for visitors to Sunder Nursery.
- Selling of vermi compost in farmers’ market will be continued.

28. Food Kiosk

To enhance the visitor experience and add to the facilities offered at the Sunder Nursery a proposal was made and submitted to Government Sunder Nursery Management trust (GSNMT). The Management Trust in the second meeting of board of directors gave approvals for putting up three food kiosks at three different locations in Sunder Nursery Heritage Park.

Out of three proposed food kiosks one was designed by the AKTC team keeping in mind the architectural vocabulary of the park. The pricing of food and beverages had been designed to cater to all the economical strata of the society.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- The kiosk is placed at the entrance of exhibition lawn near Sunderwala Mahal. The size of this steel kiosk is 3metres X 5.5 metres was fabricated in context with and respecting its historic surroundings.
- The Kiosk was fitted with all the modern vending machines for serving food and beverages and enables visitors to spend more time in the park and improving their experience.
- The Kiosk has been designed on wheels so that it can be moved whenever required for service and repairs. The kiosk contains tea/coffee vending machine, popcorn making machine and refrigerator.

**NEXT STEPS:**
Construction of the other two Food kiosks as per the Management Trust’s approval will be done in the next quarter in 2020.
29. Outreach & Visitorship

Sunder Nursery was inaugurated by Mr. Venkaiah Naidu, Hon’ble vice President of India, and His Highness The Aga Khan, Chairman of the Aga Khan Development Network on 21-February 2018. Since then, the park has seen a steady growth in the visitor numbers and the Management Trust has ensured that there are a wide array of events, workshops, activities and facilities in the Park to keep up with the visitor engagement.

January  11,341
August   13,574
December 27985

ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMENT

ACTION TAKEN:

- **Website:** The Sunder Nursery website: www.sundernursery.org was created which showcases the various assets of the Park. The site also hosts visitor related information, image gallery, video clippings, documents showing the various stages of park development, and other event related information. The website aims to be a repository of all the resources related to Sunder Nursery Park and project.

- **Brochure:** The Sunder Nursery brochure consists of a beautifully illustrated map of the park, in addition to the key highlights like world heritage monuments, birds, butterflies, trees, and other amenities, giving the tourists important visitor information. The brochure is available at a price of Rs. 20 from the ticket windows at the two entrance gates.

- **Friends of Sunder Nursery:** The annual pass scheme for Sunder Nursery has three categories: Annual pass, Family Pass and Special Pass for senior citizens and children between the age of 5 and 12 years. As part of Become a Friend of Sunder Nursery programme, members are allowed unlimited visits to the Park, get information and attend all the events organized by GSNMT.

- **Volunteership Programme:** A volunteering programme has been initiated in Sunder Nursery. This was in response to frequent requests from visitors wanting to be part of Sunder Nursery. We also wanted to create a group of people to champion Sunder Nursery and help adding to the ‘Friends of Sunder Nursery’ data base. The Friends of Sunder Nursery is being seen as a database of people who will be the annual members and will form the data base where invites will be sent out for special events. Volunteers were also seen as visitor guides to either through walking them through or at specific sites or about nature – trees/flowers/birds/butterflies and helping to build goodwill towards Sunder Nursery.

- **Visitor Feedback Forms:** The visitor feedback is an exercise undertaken periodically to understand visitor perception with a view to improve visitor experience and facilities. In 2019, a total of 838 visitors were interviewed at different time throughout the year. The survey asked questions related to the visitors’ composition, group size, modes of commute, time spent at the Park, and their perception on different amenities and facilities that are present in the Park.

- **Social Media:** Sunder Nursery has active social media handles (mentioned in the left column), viz. Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, which are regularly updated with photographs, news and events related to the Park.
30. Sunder Nursery Gardens

The landscape master plan, designed by landscape architect M Shaheer has created a truly urban scale, deriving inspiration from the traditional Indian concept of congruency between nature, garden and utility coupled with environmental conservation.

The entrance zone of Sunder Nursery comprises of a series of intimate sunken gardens and spaces for annual flower beds at various levels, towards the northern edge are the Canna Gardens, Azimganj Serai forecourt garden which attracts the bees and butterflies, the north-western edge near the Lakkarwala Burj’s world heritage site has a rose garden with over 30 varieties of roses and herbal garden having 35 types of herbal plants.

31. Garden House

To enhance the ecological significance, a 30-acre microhabitat zone has been created within Sunder Nursery to simulate Delhi’s once rich and now quickly disappearing biodiversity.

With the Garden House, Sunder Nursery will serve as the ecological hub for the city of Delhi, which though has 18,000 parks, it has not a single arboretum, where children can be made aware of the city’s rich natural heritage. The Garden House will feature several flora from other regions that would otherwise not survive in the varied harsh climate of Delhi, adding diversity to the existing variety of trees within Sunder Nursery.

As one would enter the proposed Gardenhouse, a constant play of light weaves the three zones of desert, tropical and semi-tropical flora seamlessly under the sail-like roofs. Interpretation zones punctuate spaces and one is led by a gently rising ramp onto the next floor through the dense tree-cover in the open-to-sky courtyard.
32. Rain Water Harvesting

Every drop of rain that falls on Sunder Nursery is either stored in the lakes and underground tanks or recharges the ground water aquifers through the seven 16th century wells discovered in Sunder Nursery.

In developing Sunder Nursery, the Aga Khan Trust for Culture ensured that each of the historic wells were painstakingly de-silted of the accumulated rubbish to their original depth. Similarly, all new constructions such as the Garden Amphitheatre and car parking are connected with the network of underground pipes laid here to ensure effective rainwater harvesting.

- Sunder Nursery Parking has two large underground tanks which collects around 30 lakh litres of water during monsoons.
- Garden Amphitheatre collects water during rain season which is then stored in the wells.
- Sunder Nursery Wells There are five historic wells in the Park which collect 25 lakhs litres of water. The water collected in amphitheatre is stored in the wells.
- Sunder Nursery Lakes & Rivulet houses over 30 lakh litres of water and is home to several species of water-living plants, floating plants and submerged.

33. 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:**

- In addition to maintenance of horticulture features at various sites, the following development and plantation work have been executed during the monsoon season in 2019 in the park:
  1. Grassing and plantation of Tree, Shrubs, ground covers at area of vehicular entrance to Sunder Nursery, behind Mirza Muzaffar Hussain’s mausoleum, and along the pathways.
  2. Grassing and plantation in the area around the Lake. Several varieties of grasses have been planted in Sunder Nursery like, Vetiveria grass, Cenchrus grass, Sporobolus, Kans grass, Dhoob grass, Paspalum (Water finger grass), and Paspalum (Silt grass) amongst others.
  3. Development of plantation scheme in the butterfly zone with the consultation of Dr. Faiaz.
  4. Approximately 12,000 plants have been grown with the propagation, cutting an air lairing by the C.P.W.D on the mother plants that were planted by AKTC in Sunder Nursery.
  5. The butterfly zone was planted with 27 plant species which attract butterflies. Some of these are: Han singar, Palash, Jhau, Kamesha, Kaith, Hibiscus, Mitragyna, Umbrella sedge amongst others.
  6. Over 30 species of plants which aid in Bee pollination were planted too. Some of these varieties are: Jamun, Ber, Curry tree, Golden rod, Portulaca, Shewani, Bottle brush, Alyssum etc.
34. Public Art Display

Sunder Nursery also aims on giving emphasis to the creation of exciting areas to be used for Art and cultural activities, socialise and relax with public art as an essential component. Sunder Nursery hosted its first art exhibitions as part of the initiative to encourage artists to participate and put up art exhibitions in the form of Art Installations, Sculptures and other forms of art display bringing art to the larger audience from various background.

ACTION TAKEN:
• Sculpture exhibition “Circle of Life” was put up by renowned artist Seema Kohli hosted by Gallery Ragini in collaboration with Sunder Nursery. The exhibition was a combination of red sandstone sculptures and brass aching plates representing multiple forms of the Goddess as a community of agents that propels the nexus of correspondence between human and non-human life forms.
• 16th Century Lotus Pond at Sunder Nursery was selected as the prime site by the Artist for the assembly of polymorphic feminine energies, grounded to the earth and yet connected to the site.
• Inaugural Show for the exhibition was organised at the Amphitheatre. More than five hundred visitors and invitees from the field of art and culture attended the event held at Sunder Nursery.

NEXT STEPS:
In continuation to fulfil the objective of public art display at Sunder Nursery. The Heritage park will give space to the world renowned Gujral Foundation along with Award winning artist Ankon Mitra in collaboration with Sunder Nursery will show case art installations in 2020.

35. Other Public Events

Environment Events
The world heritage monuments, sprawling lawns, wilderness zone, bonsai house and varied species of birds, butterflies, bees and plants, Sunder Nursery provides a good platform for engaging on environment themed programmes. Various workshops and walks have been conducted with schools and citizens.

Cultural Events
To provide a platform for local musicians and music traditions within the picturesque setting amidst monuments, thus merging tangible and intangible heritage an amphitheatre has been created south of Sunder Burj - Mahal axis, near the Entrance Zone.
36. Attractions in the Park

Sunder Nursery Park derives its inspiration from the traditional Indian concept of congruency between nature, garden and environmental conservation. The Park has several facilities which are aimed at not only providing a meaningful leisure space for its visitors, but also sharing effective examples from world over to provide a safe habitat for its birds, insects, bees and butterflies. Some of these are:

**Bees & Insects**

The team has setup specialised structures like Bee boxes and insect hotels which provides dwelling habitat to a diverse type of bees and insects. A workshop was organized with the resource people from the Bombay Natural History Society at Sunder Nursery. These are regularly monitored by the team.

**Benches**

These benches are either Victorian originals or inspired by them, prepared in metal workshops in England and Scotland. Nearly a 100 such benches with 20 different patterns have been placed at various locations in the Park. People can also ‘Dedicate a Bench’ in the memory of their loved ones.

**Picnic & Leisure**

The neatly mown lawns of Sunder Nursery and quaint corners in the wilderness zone cater to all the visitor segments to the Park. Several events are organized regularly like a Silent Book Reading Club or Sparrow Nest making workshops to entertain and engage with the people.

**Children Activities**

The trees of the park attract attention not only due to their historic longevity, but also platforms for visitor engagement. The team has installed swings, ropes, treehouse around and on the trees, which are actively used by children and adults alike.

**Pathways**

Every effort has been taken to make Sunder Nursery easily accessible to all age and segment of visitors. Apart from the monuments, and some portions in the wilderness zone where the ridge habitat of Delhi has been replicated, the Park with its network of sandstone and concrete pathways and ramps is totally wheelchair friendly. One can even request for a wheelchair at no additional cost.

**Pigeon Tower**

Inspired by the chabutro or pigeon pavilions in the public squares of Rajasthan and Gujarat, Sunder Nursery has a 19th century wooden pigeon tower. This structure has been placed in the wilderness zone and provides a safe feeding & resting place for birds.
Early Childhood Care & Development

The 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 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 will need to be renewed in 2020.

The ECCD component is implemented through the seven government aanganwadis, nursery section in the SDMC School, a maternal child health (MCH) centre and crèches. In addition, there are home visits, community meetings and special events. The programme emphasises on strengthening pre-school education, addressing undernourishment, improved awareness in the community on ECCD and healthier child-care practices.
37. Aanganwadi/Day-care Improvement Programme

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.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- The pre-school intervention covers nine ECCD centres that includes seven aanganwadis and two nursery class of the SDMC schools Hazrat Nizamuddin and Sarai Kale khair; the total outreach is 461 children. A total of 1992 pre-school classes were conducted during the year.
- Three of the government aanganwadis are supported with additional rent so that it is possible to carry out pedagogic improvement activities and the current government rates are much below the market rates.
- A total of 22 days training was conducted this year with 9 ECCD community teachers. The objective of the trainings was to strengthen and support pedagogy and community engagement at the ECCD centres. These trainings also helped in planning the extensive outreach community event like ECCD days, Apni Basti Mela etc.

**NEXT STEPS:**

- The topics covered were discussion on developmental domains, storytelling and role plays, cognitive development and problem solving, pre-reading and language development, emotional development, creation of TLMs using different materials, use of arts and crafts for aanganwadi children, to modify/ include the activities/themes in existing ICDS curriculum and improving community contact and collaborating with CBOs.
- In 2019, the school improvement initiative programme commenced in two other SDMC schools in the neighbouring areas of Sarai Kale Khan including a nursery section. This is funded by the Deloitte Foundation.

**SUPPORTED BY:**

Australian Embassy

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**EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT**

(Above) The addition of community teachers in the aanganwads of the Basti has improved the quality of time that the children spend here. In the image above, teachers engaging in role play with the children.

**1,992 pre-school classes were conducted in 2019.**
Community Engagement Initiatives

The project had set up the ‘Aanganwadi Sameeksha evam Sahayata Samuh’ in 2017 – a group comprising parents of children enrolled in aanganwadis and members of the Mohalla Health and Sanitation Committees, to monitor and support the functioning of the aanganwadis through regular visits and observations that are recorded in a specially created format to be shared with the concerned government department. The focus this year was to strengthen the group by encouraging more mothers to be part of the group and go for observing aanganwadis before filing the monitoring report.

The programme also encourages young women to undertake a diploma in early childhood care and development as a career option and raise awareness.

Insha-e-Noor and Zaika-e-Nizamuddin organized toy making and nutritious food making workshops for children

Over 250 children and 150 mothers participated in the 9 ECCD days celebrated in 2019.

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Action taken:

- In this year project ensured the active participation of the parents in community-based monitoring activities. As a part of this, parents actively participated in the monitoring of the ECCD centres. A total of 12 report cards have been submitted to the Department of Women and Child Development (DWCD) during this year. This has ensured regularity in functioning of the aanganwadis and increase in early learning hours.

- A total of nine ECCD days were celebrated in this year with about 250 children and 150 mothers across all ECCD centres in each event. The women's livelihood groups of the project i.e. Insha-e-Noor and Zaika-e-Nizamuddin organized toy making and nutritious food making workshops for the mothers. Rehnuma, the information centre set up under the project and the school teachers offered school admission related information.

- 140 aanganwadi children and about 100 parents participated in story telling session, toy making workshops and fun activities organized the community teachers during the Apni Basti Mela, 2019.

- 120 children from all seven aanganwadi centres participated with their parents in sports meet.

- Regular growth monitoring of 316 children under six years continues at all the aanganwadis on a monthly basis with the help from the community health team.

Next steps:

- Community Based Monitoring will continue on a regular basis.

- Capacity building of the Aanganwadi Sameeksha and Sahayata Samuh to take on a more independent role.

- Parents involvement will be increased in community-based monitoring.

Growth monitoring of 316 children was done on monthly basis at the aanganwadis

140 aanganwadi children and about 100 parents participated in activities at Apni Basti Mela
39. Children’s School Readiness

School readiness requires a set of skills that helps children be prepared for school. School readiness has elements of cognitive, social and emotional development. The curriculum developed by us considers all three areas of development.

The 2010 baseline survey at the beginning of the intervention with aanganwadis had identified poor school readiness as a key issue that needed to be addressed. The project intensively trained aanganwadi workers appointed community teachers, developed and field tested a curriculum to address the issue. In late 2015, the project invited Ambedkar University to study the school readiness of children enrolled in the aanganwadis. The study revealed a marked improvement in the preschool component.

To further raise awareness on the need for preschool education, the programme uses several strategies to engage with the community thorough intensive and extensive means and includes house to house visits, mothers’ meetings and celebration of ECCD days. Extensive approaches include the Apni Basti Mela that is also an opportunity for the community to understand the elements of a good early childhood care and education programme.

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**Common lesson planning meetings by the aanganwadi workers and community teachers**

**Action Taken:**

- Common lesson planning meetings were done regularly by the aanganwadi workers and community teachers, with pre-literacy and pre-numeracy concepts at the core on the basis of ICDS curriculum.

- ECCD days, sports meet, Apni Basti Mela, story-telling sessions, toy making workshops and community-based monitoring were done with greater participation of parents.

**Next Steps:**

- Review and planning meeting will be organized on a regular basis with aanganwadi workers and community teachers.

- Coordination with the Department of Women and Child Development to ensure that the curriculum followed displays progression and includes variety for the children. Also advocacy with the government to strengthen the curriculum developed by them.
40. Addressing Malnutrition

Monitoring of the growth of children under six years is a regular activity undertaken at the aanganwadi on a monthly basis. It was with a view to demonstrate and monitor the growth of children that the project decided to monitor the growth of all children as part of the community health initiative. In 2016, after having demonstrated that it is possible to monitor the growth of children in the Basti, the project decided to work with renewed energy to initiate this at the aanganwadi centres as mandated by the ICDS with the help of the community health team in collaboration with the DWCD staff. The growth of children under three years is monitored at four of the aanganwadis and the remaining at the household level. This has been in response to the issue being highlighted by the Aanganwadi Sameeksha evam Sahayata Samuh members and support of the senior officials of the DWCD. In 2019, the growth of 300 children was monitored at the aanganwadi level and 450 at the household level.

- Nutritional Support was provided to about 68 children below six years of age under Supplementary Nutritional Programme in the presence of a caregiver and a member of the Community Health Team. Nutritional counselling and demonstration of nutritious meals by members of Zaika-e-Nizamuddin in addition to the Supplementary Nutrition Programme has resulted in the improvement of nutritional status of 27 out of 68 children, support to other children is ongoing. Grade progression is impacted by irregularity and due to families travelling.

- To build awareness on positive nutrition, this topic has been taken up on ECCD days, mother’s meetings and other forums by including demonstrations, facilitating experience sharing and other activities to reinforce messages on the same. In 2018, 34 mothers’ meetings at the aanganwadis were organized where 216 women participated.

- Zaika-e-Nizamuddin, a group of women from Nizamuddin, who started to prepare low-cost nutritious snacks for children, have been able to ensure regular supply to children by placing a cart at a prime location in Nizamuddin.

**Supported by:**

**TATA TRUSTS**

**34 mother’s meeting organized on nutrition**

**216 women participated**

**NEXT STEPS:**

- Work with community, especially through mothers meetings to increase the need for regularity in the supplementary nutrition programme.

**Growth monitored of 750 children**

- 300 at the aanganwadis

and 450 at the household level
Education Programme

The education programme aims to address the educational needs of a diverse group 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 madrasas. 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 enhance their confidence and improve their employability.

The education programme is a key component and the first interventions undertaken in the community.

The SDMC school now offers education that is enriched with music, arts, computer education, heritage awareness and environment awareness activities. In addition, children are provided after school academic support.

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.
41. Working with Primary School

The transformation of the South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) Pratibha Vidyalaya has happened under a people-public-private partnership with the SDMC and Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN). The work in the school began in 2008 after discussion with all the stakeholders. The entire building was improved bearing in mind the SDMC norms for school buildings as well as modifications to ensure an optimum physical learning environment.

The project team held several discussions with the community at the cluster level coupled with a visioning exercise that included drawing. Based on these findings, a team of engineers, architects and educationists drew up plans to transform the building into a learning space that invited children.

Classrooms: The classrooms were modified so that the children were physically more comfortable with the addition of fans, unbreakable polycarbonate sheets on the windows to protect them from winter winds, removing prison-like meshes from the windows to let in more light and the classroom look like a learning space, modifying window grills that were aligned to the academic levels, created learning boards/floors, increased storage spaces for the teachers, changed the blackboard from black to green, changed the furniture to colourful light weight ones that the children could rearrange as and when needed and added another door to increase the safety (should the need arise).

Common spaces: The common spaces play a critical role in creating a learning environment in the school. Bearing this in mind, the project redesigned the existing private spaces and carved out new ones.

The corridors were converted into learning and display spaces with tangrams, writing boards, notice boards, scales to measure height and length.

Open green spaces: Ideally, every school should have a park. Adjacent to the SDMC school in Nizamuddin was a park that had been encroached upon by drug peddlers and scrap aggregators. This was landscaped and connected to the school after removing the encroachments. Initially, the project had provided the play equipment but later the SDMC provided new equipment.
42. Faculty Development

This is a key activity as a critical component of the education programme is the appointment of community teachers in the SDMC School. They form an important link between the community and the SDMC school.

Capacity enhancement and regular academic support remains essential as these women from the community understand the children’s background and are able to encourage the children be in school while working with the SDMC teacher to enhance the teaching-learning process in the classroom.

In 2019, with the inclusion of two more SDMC schools, capacity enhancement of teachers happened in the new schools as well. The focus was on understanding of educational principles, alternative pedagogy, transacting the Hindi and Maths curriculum as suggested by the National Curriculum Framework. In addition, a special arts workshop was organized for all the teachers, not just the art teachers, to enhance their skill sets in working in the classrooms.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- A total of eleven days teachers training organized for the SDMC and community teachers in the project schools. The training was organized in two phases.
- In the first phase the training was focused on understanding basic educational concepts, pedagogy and subject teaching in depth to improve teaching learning processes based on NCERT books that are used by the SDMC schools.
- While in the second phase the training was focussed on capacity building of the teacher through classroom observation and analysis. A total of 38 teachers in first phase and 20 teachers in second phase including eight SDMC teachers from class I and II and twelve community teachers participated in the training.
- A 5 days arts workshop organized for the community teachers in the SDMC Co-ed Pratibha Vidyalaya, Nizamuddin (West). A total of 20 people participated in the training. The workshop was planned with varied activities and distinctive pedagogy each day, that collectively focussed upon domains in art, understanding creative expression, thinking beyond the creative block, cognitive development through art, significance of sharing ideas and outcomes through display and discussion and implementing and extending exercises in the classroom.
- Twelve review and planning meetings were held in this period between the SDMC school principal, teachers and community teachers and senior staff of AKF in all 3 schools. The main focus was to delegate responsibilities and prepare monthly joint lesson plans for class I and II and remedial classes.

**NEXT STEPS:**

- Capacity enhancement and academic support of SDMC teachers and community teachers for all the project schools will be continued.
- Organization of life skills training for SDMC and community teachers.
43. School Management

School management covers a lot of details that can enhance the quality of education offered to children - this includes ensuring that there is a timetable and that it is followed, ensuring that all children have access to the co-scholastic subjects, creating forums for children to learn life skills, creating opportunities for the parent community to engage with the teacher community among others.

Working on the school engagement has meant that the time in the school needed to be organized, the curriculum enriched to fill the gaps and a relationship developed with the community.

In addition, coordination and common planning is needed as the SDMC teachers and the community teachers need to work together to improve the quality of education.

**NEXT STEPS:**

- All activities will be continued in all the three schools.
- The heritage focused curriculum will be adopted for the students of the primary classes in both SDMC schools of Sarai Kale Khan.
- Eco-club will be developed in both Sarai Kale Khan’s schools and environment education classes will be provided to the school students as a part of bag free day.
- Class wise special morning assemblies will be initiated in Sarai Kale Khan’s schools.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- Regular visual arts and music classes were organized in all the three schools and computer classes continued in Nizamuddin School for all the students through a timetable developed with consultation of all three schools.
- As a part of the weekly bag free day, the project organized arts, cultural and sports activities on every 1st and 3rd Saturday in each month. These all were a new experience for the children of both Sarai Kale Khan schools to get an opportunity to nurture their talents and work as team.
- Environment and sanitation awareness activities and heritage classes organized for class 4 and 5 on weekly basic in SDMC school, Nizamuddin.
44. Academic support

Learning support programme covered over 1500 students from three SDMC primary schools

Among the many factors that influence the learning levels of children are curriculum transaction in the classroom and academic support after school. The project works on both through capacity enhancement of the teachers, supporting preparation of lesson plans and providing academic support during and after school.

The focus in 2019 was to provide academic support to those children who need it the most. The identification of children was done through a process of assessment of literacy and numeracy of all the children. These children are supported directly in the school hours so that they may be on par with their peers. Community teachers perform a critical role in the school as being from Nizamuddin they are more empathetic to the learning needs and home environments of the children.

Most of the children in the SDMC School do not have academic support at home or someone to help them with homework. The project works to fill this gap to provide learning support to children after school hours. Further, it aims to provide support in the so-called difficult subjects like Science, Maths and English to children in grades six to ten to discourage dropping out from school due to an inability to perform well enough in these subjects.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- The Learning Support Programme supported by the community teachers covered 1444 students from all the three SDMC Primary schools, the three madarasas and 95 students senior school students.
- As part of learning support to 151 selected students of classes 3, 4 and 5 whose performance was the lowest in the baseline assessment of students of all the 3 schools, the community teachers conducted remedial classes on regular basis.
- The Learning Support Programme during after school hours was extended to over 95 students in the grades I to IX by the community teachers.

**NEXT STEPS:**

- Learning support to all the three schools and senior school students by community teachers will be continued.
- Annual learning achievements assessment will be organized in the month of February 2020.

45. Computer access

Familiarity with computers and being able to use them remains a dividing line between communities in India. The project aims to reduce this digital divide by increasing access and therefore familiarity/competence to use computers from an early age.

Computers have been introduced in the SDMC School in Nizamuddin and the two schools in Sarai Kale Khan and all children have access to them on a regular basis.

The project had also installed computers on the street called ‘hole in the wall computers’ which are preloaded with school curriculum and learning games so that all the children in Nizamuddin have access to computers as few children in the Basti have computers at home.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- Organized regular computer classes for all school students at SDMC school Hazrat Nizamuddin though curriculum based digital learning resources developed by Azim Premji Foundation.
- About 70 to 80 children use the four ‘Hole in the Wall’ computer learning stations on a daily basis in Basti Hazrat Nizamuddin.

**NEXT STEPS:**

- The access to computers and digital learning process will be continued. Some of the ‘Hole in the Wall’ computer stations that need repair and replacement will be carried out.
- Regular computer classes will be introduced for both the SDMC schools of Sarai Kale Khan.
46. Madarsa education

The programmes with the Madarsas in the Basti commenced in 2013. Although these madarsas are located in Nizamuddin but the children studying there may not necessarily be from the Basti as Madarsas remain the option of the poorest from across India. Children in the Madarsas are usually provided only religious education. The project enhances this by providing education in Hindi, English and Maths and several opportunities to participate in co-scholastic activities.

The project has been working with two madarsas and one maqtab.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- Periodic meetings were organized with 3 madarsas/maqtabs of Nizamuddin Basti. The main focus was on improving the academic levels of the students, participation of madarsa students in world book fair, special events, apni basti mela and sport-meet.
- 126 madarsa students received on-site classroom support in language Hindi, English and Mathematics by community teachers.

**NEXT STEPS:**
Learning support to madarsa students will be continued in all the three madarsas.

47. English Education

The Access English Microscholarship programme is an extremely popular and sought-after programme and well-aligned to the expressed need of the community to learn English.

This programme takes adolescents through a two-year process and prepares them to use English in a range of situations and aims to improve speaking, comprehension, reading and writing of English. Access aims to improve the student’s English levels and thereby their employability.

The Access English Microscholarship Programme is a two-year programme that includes 390 hours of English learning the programme is supported by American Centre of the US embassy from 2010.

In 2019, the 5th batch of students completed the programme.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
Closing Ceremony of the ongoing Access programme was organized in Sunder Nursery. About 250 Parents and guests encouraged the graduating batch of 110 students.

**NEXT STEPS:**
A proposal to implement the sixth batch of the Access English Microscholarship Programme will be submitted to the American centre.

Supported by:
US Department of State
One of key strategies of the management plan in the post project period has been to create, strengthen and support community-based forums. This has been done gradually by creating mechanisms to engage with the community and encourage them to visit the school to increase their sense of ownership.

The project has facilitated celebration of special days and events and invites the community to see the developments first-hand and to experience the improved school environment and enriched school curriculum.

Further the project has facilitated the formation of the School Management Committee (SMC) as mandated by the Right to Education Act. The project is engaged in strengthening it.

In 2019, three new SMCs were elected, one for each of the schools that the project is working in. They have been meeting regularly and taking up issues to improve the school functioning.

**EDUCATION PROGRAMME**

**Independence day celebration at Nizamuddin west**

**48. School Community Interface**

Supported by: Deloitte Foundation

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- Eight meetings were organized between the School Management Committee (SMC), teachers and project staff during this period. Agenda included formation and capacity building of SMC, school monitoring, home visit to ensure regularity of the children, planning for celebrations of special events, Apni Basti Mela and sports-meet.

- Four report cards submitted by SMC members of SDMC school, Hazrat Nizamuddin to the SDMC officials and councillor.

- About 800 parents participated in 2 mega parent-teacher meetings organized by SDMC.

- 1200 students and about 500 parents participated in Republic day and Independence Day celebration programme in all 3 schools.

- The women’s livelihood groups of the project Insha-e-Noor organized the two toy making workshops in the Nizamuddin school for class 5 students and the mothers on the bag free days and Apni Basti Mela.

- Story telling session and visual arts and toy making workshops organized for children during Apni Basti Mela. The school theatre group played a drama ‘Bansuriwala’ in the Mela.

- 600 students including Nizamuddin school, aanganwadi, madaras and senior students from after school programme and all SDMC and community teachers/community members participated in the sports-meet.

- The community teachers made more than 1000 household visits in the community in order to ensure better school attendance in both field Nizamuddin as well as Sarai Kale Khan.

**NEXT STEPS:**

- Capacity building/exposure visit will be provided to the new SMC members of all the three schools.

- Regular community-based monitoring by the SMC will continue with greater degrees of independence.

- Organization of special events, book fair, sports-meet etc. will be continued.
Implementing the Nizamuddin Model

The physical space is a key determinant in the quality of education available in the school. SDMC school buildings offer opportunities to transform buildings into learning spaces, capitalizing on the existing features of the building and upgrading some wherever needed. School buildings tend to be unexciting spaces. The school transformation project aims to convert the school space into one that encourages learning.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
Under the school improvement programme, renovation works have been done at the Sarai Kale Khan School which include the renovation work of two nursery classrooms, one computer lab, one resource room, one toilet block and fixing of drinking waterpoints.

**NEXT STEPS:**
Physical improvement of 2 toilets, 4 classrooms, music room and waterpoints with support of Deloitte Foundation.

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**Supported by:**
Deloitte Foundation

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Before and After images of Sarai Kale Khan

**Toilets**

**Classrooms**

**Corridors**
50. Dissemination of Project Learnings

Situated in the historic settlement of Nizamuddin Area which boasts of a continuous cultural and architectural heritage, along with the World heritage Site of Humayun’s Mausoleum, the Nizamuddin Urban renewal Initiative has presented an effective model of revitalization of a historic city center. Following the mandate of His Highness The Aga Khan’s philosophy of using ‘culture as a catalyst for economic development’, this project in its over a decade long association with the Nizamuddin Area has combined the three-fold objective of heritage conservation of its over 50 monuments, restoring historic landscapes and its environment development, and the improvement of quality of life for the residents of this settlement.

The project has continuously attracted students and professionals from the fields of education, health, culture, development sector, livelihoods and urban planning, and conservation who have been keen observers to its various processes and impacts, especially the close working relationship with the community and government.
51. Linkages with Educational Institutes

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institutions</th>
<th>Output</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20 students from Masters in Social Work department of Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) visited in January 2019 and interacted with health workers and health coordinators to understand the health intervention as a part of the course work.</td>
<td>The group spent time understanding the project and learning about community health programme and its importance in preventive and promotive medicine.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In February 2019, 30 students from the Psychology Department of Lady Shri Ram College, Delhi University (DU) visited the Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) centers, health centers and interacted with community teachers and health workers.</td>
<td>The group gained exposure and learning from the ECCD and health interventions on the project and also learnt about the ECCD component of the project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As a part of their internship programme, students from the department of Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), Ambedkar University conducted a research study in May-June 2019.</td>
<td>Following the time spent on the project, the group prepared a report on the subject.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intern from Getty Conservation Institute visited the project site in June 2019 and to understand the various aspects of building conservation, especially effects of pollution on the historic stones, especially sandstone and marble.</td>
<td>Following an in-depth visit to the site to understand the conservation of stone undertaken across the site, the graduate intern was also given access to relevant material that would inform a graduate report.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 students from the Department of Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Ambedkar University, Delhi visited Nizamuddin Basti in August 2019 to understand the ECCD intervention being carried out in Nizamuddin, and to study the child-care service provisions available here. The group visited the various components of the programme like preschools, aanganwadis etc.</td>
<td>Following the time spent on the project, the students gained a first-hand experience of the functioning of the ICDS centers and learnt how a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model can be used to strengthen the government facilities.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description of Activity** | **Output**
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Students from the Department of Education, Ambedkar University visited the education programme to understand the classroom processes and sessions with children of SDMC school in Nizamuddin Basti. | The intention of the visit was to disseminate the knowledge about the project to a student community working the related area. |
| Student and Faculty members of the M. Sc. programme, from the Centre for World Natural Heritage Management and Training for Asia and the Pacific Region, Wildlife Institute of India (WII) visited the World Heritage Site of Humayun's Tomb and Sunder Nursery in September 2019. The students and faculty were keen to learn about the values and challenges of the conservation and management of a World Heritage Site. | The students were given an in-depth understanding of the Outstanding Universal Value of the site and the guiding principles and philosophy behind the conservation effort here. They also gained an understanding of the challenges to managing a World Heritage Site. |
| Students from the Lady Shriram College, Delhi University visited the project in October 2019 to understand AKDN’s multi-input area development programme initiated in Nizamuddin basti. They interacted with the project team and community. | Knowledge dissemination about the project. |
| Students and professors of the Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi visited the project to understand the community aspect of the project with special emphasis on urban health interventions. | Knowledge dissemination in the research work. |
| Students from the School of Education Studies, Ambedkar University visited the project in December 2019 and conducted in-depth interviews with community to understand the perception of the community on various intervention done by AKDN. | The community interactions and research will be compiled into a report. |
| 35 international participants from the National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development attended a lecture on ‘Self Help Groups’ as a part of training program on ‘Enterprise Development’ for international participants. | The project team shared learnings from Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative in an effort towards knowledge dissemination. |
| 35 international participants from the Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) attended lecture on livelihoods interventions in an urban renewal project for international participants ‘formal solutions for informal spaces’ | The project team shared learnings from Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative in an effort towards knowledge dissemination. |
Livelihood Programme

The vocational education and livelihoods components aim to provide economic opportunities. As improved urban services of health, education and sanitation serve to reduce family expenditure, the livelihoods component serve to increase individual and family incomes.

The programme interventions 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 that cover training, linking with jobs, teaching a craft skill to name some. The project offers information, linkage with government entitlements, skill training and placement to women and men with varying educational backgrounds and employment needs. In addition, this programme also promotes women’s enterprises established as part of the project.
52. Vocational Education & Livelihood Generation

In 2008, only 1% of the youth from Nizamuddin had access to any kind of vocational training. This led to limited options for employment. The vocational training programme has evolved since it began in 2010 from offering only computer-based training programmes to include newer areas like para-medical training and beauty care. This was done after identifying areas where the employability is higher and aligning the needs/interests of the youth with an appropriate training programme. Each training programme also includes a ‘soft skills component’ to include employability. In addition, each skill training is followed by offering placement options to the trained youth. Youth who have had to drop out of school to pursue a profession, usually as an apprentice or help with housework or other difficult circumstances are also helped to identify possible professions.

ACTION TAKEN:

- The Career Development Centre offers computer-based career courses in Customer Service Associate Training in Sales and Retail, Certificate in Data Entry, IT for professional. These training programmes use the NIIT Foundation curriculum.
- In addition, students were linked to training programmes offered by the Delhi Institute of Tourism and Travel of the Delhi Government, Jamia Millia Islamia University, Institute of Hotel Management, DIPS paramedical institute and LOOKS Academy. The CDC has trained or linked 385 youth in 2019. Of these, 194 were trained in professional courses and 191 in non-professional courses.
- All 194 students who have undergone the professional training programmes include content training, soft skills training, mock interviews, pre-placement, assessments, role plays and workshops such as financial literacy, digital India, sales and marketing, resume writing etc. were conducted in the past year.
- Apart from regular training the career students participated in workshops and were also taken to several exposure visits to organisations relevant to their respective courses like TATA Westside mall, Marks and Spencers, Eureka Forbes, Security Exchange Board of India to name some.
- Students who successfully completed their professional courses were awarded certificates.
- Mass mobilization and enrollment drives were conducted almost throughout the year by CDC staff and volunteers. In all, 1218 households in Basti Hazrat Nizamuddin, Sarai Kale Khan area and 8 neighbouring schools and NGOs were visited to create awareness about career courses. Total 805 potential youth were identified during the visit and their profiles and educational qualifications are also collected for various courses.
- The Career Development Centre conducted three Job Fairs. In addition to the 194 freshly trained youth about 60 alumni of CDC looking better opportunities or youth from the community participated in these. Fifteen prospective employers and ten recruiters from local market associations participated in these Job Fairs offering jobs to 166 youth. The salaries offered to the selected candidates ranged from Rs. 120,000 to Rs. 150,000 per annum (CTC).

NEXT STEPS:

- Youth will be assisted to identify and complete appropriate skill training programmes.
- Job Fairs and other strategies will be used to link trained youth to employment opportunities.
- Linkages with banks for education loans will be explored.
53. Insha-e-Noor

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 binding and packaging using paper. All products for the brand are hand crafted by women of Nizamuddin Basti.

Insha-e-Noor is a 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 one or skills either by producing products for Insha-e-Noor or as independent entrepreneurs from their homes.

Insha-e-Noor is in the process of being registered as producer company. It is growing in strength and manages its expenses of its working capital and wages independently.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Insha-e-Noor did total sales of Rs. 32,69,000/- in the year 2019.
- A total of Rs. 12,38,000/- (40% of the group’s annual sales), was disbursed directly into the bank accounts of 81 members as their monthly making charges. Along with the regular making charges, a sum of Rs. 1,34,000 was disbursed as bonus to 78 IeN members in the month of Eid. It was a goodwill gesture to motivate the members (current and old) before the enterprise enters a new phase - a Producer Company Limited.
- As a result of continued marketing effort, IeN was able to strengthen its forward linkages and a good number of new and prestigious clients were added to the client portfolio this year. These include Election Commission of India, Delhi Gymkhana Club, National Disaster Management Authority, Jaypore, Nasscom Foundation and more.
- Along with successfully delivering several bulk orders, the group also participated in fairs and exhibitions which play a crucial role in strengthening the brand’s presence. IeN put up its stall in the following exhibitions in 2019: Organic and Lifestyle market curated by the Earth Collective, hosted by Sunder Nursery, every Sunday - Smartworks Coworking Spaces Pvt. Ltd, Gurgaon; Tej Mela organized by the Railway Gymkhana Club, National Disaster Management Authority, Jaypore, Nasscom Foundation and more.

- The IeN centre was shifted to a bigger space with new storage equipment to cope with the growing scale of business. The new space offers adequate working room for all the crafts. The Humayun’s Mausoleum kiosk was also replaced with a new one this year. This helped in better display, enhanced aesthetics and customer traction.
- After a long struggle, Insha-e-Noor was finally incorporated as a Producer Company in the last quarter of 2019. A series of compliances and formalities follow for finalization of the process.
- An intensive management training cum exposure visit was organized for the team to understand the functioning of a Producer Company. The team included management, future directors and some regular members of IeN. The group visited Chitrakia Foundation in Hyderabad for a five-day training cum exposure visit. It was designed around developing a basic understanding of systems, account books and functioning of a Producer Company.
- With the objective of expanding the membership base of IeN, several demonstrations and field visits were organized this year in Nizamuddin Basti and Sarai Kale Khan area. The dedicated crafts instructors continuously focus on ‘on the job’ training of existing and new members.
- IeN members became resource persons as they conducted crafts workshops for students and visitors in 2019. These workshops help to enhance their skills and confidence while contributing to greater ownership and pride. They were invited as resource craftswomen to educational and craft institutions like Baal Bhawan, Sarvodaya Bhawan school, Sardar Patel school, Lady Shree Ram college, Sanskriti Kendra etc.
- The group also got some impactful media exposure in 2019 including articles in Civil Society magazine, The Business Standard, Livemint and The Indian Express.
NEXT STEPS:

- The compliance following company incorporation will be completed.
- New and relevant systems are planned to be introduced before IeN starts functioning as a Producer Company Limited.
- The group will work on and introduce a special range of products for the Humayun’s Tomb Interpretation Centre Museum shop.
- Work is underway on compiling the products range into an updated product catalogue.
- Capacity enhancement for the board of directors and shareholders of IeN will be carried out to help them function as a Producer Company.

Zaika-e-Nizamuddin is a women’s enterprise built around the cuisine of Nizamuddin. It began as a response to undernourishment 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 organized to support the health and early childhood care and development programmes by producing low cost nutritious snacks to address undernourishment 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 was a growing database of loyal customers and is a regular presence in the Sunday Lifestyle market in Sunder Nursery.

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 showed a significant increase of 133% in its revenue this year (from 2018). Total sales for the group in 2019 was Rs. 28,49,000/-. A total of Rs. 5,56,000, 20% of the total revenue earned, was disbursed as making charges to 11 member chefs in the year 2019. The average monthly take home for regular members came out to be Rs. 4800 (71.4 % more than the previous year). Members also received an annual bonus, equivalent to their average monthly earnings, in the month of Eid.

• ZeN participated in various exhibitions/events in the year 2019 namely Oz haat by Australian High Commission, Jashn-e-Rekhta by Rekhta Foundation, Kathakar - International Storytellers Festival, Apni Basti Mela by AKTC and Sair Erclave. Along with these, it continued to participate in the Organic and Lifestyle market by The Earth Collective organized every Sunday in the Sunder Nursery.

• ZeN has been able to carve a niche for itself in the intensely competitive food market. The product basket has expanded to include home deliveries, bulk catering for organizations and events, pre-booked customized meals, Pop-Up restaurants and special promotional products.

• Bulk catering orders included high tea catering for UNICEF’s 70th birthday event, Iftar4All, snacks for workshop organized by Indian Society of Landscape Architects and many more. Group also organized customised meals for organizations like National Foundation of India, Quest Alliance, American India Foundation and National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development.

• ZeN launched a Picnic Basket to enhance visitor experience while strengthening the group’s brand value.

• ZeN collaborated with Sair-e-Nizamuddin to offer varied cultural experiences to guests comprising heritage tours and food of Nizamuddin. Guests were invited to Nizamuddin for ‘Sardi ki pehli daawat’ - A Pop Up restaurant. They were taken for a heritage walk across Nizamuddin Basti by heritage guides of Sair-e-Nizamuddin, followed by a winter special dinner prepared and served by ZeN chefs.

• For overall skill enhancement of the members, regular ‘on the job’ training and supervision is coupled with planned sessions by professionals and experts. Two such training programs were conducted in 2019- kitchen management sessions by a food historian and Pop Up expert and ‘seekh kebabs’ skill training by an industry expert.

• Group members went to Lucknow for a food trip-cum-exposure visit in July, and visited Naimat Khana, a restaurant serving food from the homes of Lucknow, Sanatkada and Sadbhavana Trust to understand and learn from their work. The members also experienced the famous Awadhi cuisine of Lucknow as a part of their trip.

• ZeN members were invited to the Park Hyatt, Hyderabad, as guest chefs in August for a week-long food festival. The members shared with the hotel’s guests the authentic cuisine of Nizamuddin through exclusively curated meals. As a part of the event they did a cooking demo for a group of food bloggers, journalists and connoisseurs and delivered a talk sharing their journey at ‘Handi Talks’ session organized by ‘The Culinary Lounge’. It was a remarkable weeklong experience for the women chefs, full of learning, exposure, and new ventures.

• Zaika-e-Nizamuddin members were felicitated at Back to Roots - a platform for home chefs by Let’s Give Back Foundation for their contribution to popularizing the cuisine of Nizamuddin.

• 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 conducted several demonstration workshops for mothers. The objective is to guide them on making everyday home cooked food nutritious, which is the ultimate and sustainable way of improving nutrition standards of the children in the area.

NEXT STEPS:

• As the scale of business has expanded, Zaika-e-Nizamuddin will apply for a legal registration, PAN and GST numbers and FSSAI license this year.

• The group plans to launch a new and revised menu, simultaneously taking its packaging and labelling to the next level.

• The books of accounts will be audited this year by an external financial auditor.

• Quality control, streamlining of processes and varied marketing strategies will be the focus in 2020.
55. Building Community Assets in Nizamuddin

The AKDN-led Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative in the Nizamuddin Area has been working towards improving the quality of life of residents of the area since 2007.

Improving Aanganwadis & School
The little toddlers will be the caretakers of our future - therefore the project takes special care in nurturing them by creating safe, playful and better infrastructure through aanganwadis, schools and parks in the Basti.

Clean Streets, New Toilets & Better Hygiene
A toilet does not have to be dirty place - and the two community toilets in the Nizamuddin Basti prove this best! The streets are clean, the area near the toilets are safe and the toilets which are now community-managed are a treat.

linking to Government Entitlements and Generating Livelihoods
Creating meeting and discussion points in the basti for people to seek help, guidance and livelihoods - thereby creating an independent and self-aware community.

Improving Community Health
A robust SDMC polyclinic and a sensitive and aware community health outreach team, which not only ensures a healthy lifestyle amongst the residents, but a sympathetic ear to everyone's health issues.

Conserving Monuments & Reviving Culture
This 700 year old historic city centre is dotted with monuments at every corner. These monuments have been painstakingly conserved and sensitively landscaped, and are now an integral part of the Basti's physical fabric.

Creating Breathing spaces for Community
These open spaces - which were once a dumping ground - are now the only community spaces where men and women find space to talk and interact and children find space to play and read. From being drug-peddler's den, heaps of rubbish littered, nallah facing open defecation grounds, to becoming green and usable community spaces - these are the lungs of the Basti.
The health component of the project aims to work in partnership with the South Delhi Municipal Corporation (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 behaviour. 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.

In 2019, a total of 52062 patients were treated at SDMC Polyclinic at an average of 175 patients per day.

The year was characterised by the initiation of the mental health programme through orientation of the health team on the issue. The SDMC has almost completely taken over the clinical health component with the appointment of a gynaecologist, paediatrician and lab technician. They have also committed to bear the expenses of the reagents used in the path lab.
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.

Growth monitoring of all the children under 6 years of age to identify and support severely malnourished children in Nizamuddin is now a regular activity. All these interventions were complemented by the active engagement of the community health team with caregivers of children.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- A total of 93 ODPs conducted by the paediatrician to treat 3594 children.
- The community health programme through growth monitoring covered a total of 900 children (0-6 years) in 2019 on a monthly basis.
- About 795 schedules of immunization administered to children, 481 at satellite centre (SDMC Polyclinic), 187 through mobile camp (Van) conducted by SDMC’s Maternity and Child Welfare centre and 127 at the Aanganwadi centres in the Nizamuddin Basti.
- A total of 7800 visits are made with household by health workers for monitoring the health and ensure timely immunization of the children.
- The outreach of immunization services has improved and the better awareness level of the caregivers on cleanliness, hygiene practices also resulted in decrease in the number cases of diarrhoea among the children.

**NEXT STEPS:**

Greater efforts will be on increasing the complete immunization status of maximum children and grade improvement of the malnourished children through the community health programme.
Women’s Health

Studies show that gender disparity in seeking healthcare is still a challenge in large parts of India. The baseline survey indicated 25% 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 immunization. The project also placed a gynaecologist to address other issues apart from ANC and PNC.

There is now an SDMC appointed gynaecologist at the Nizamuddin polyclinic. All these efforts were complemented with the community health team working with the community on a regular and sustained basis to develop a linkage with the public health facilities.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- A total of 2296 women were treated by the gynaecologist in 2019 at the polyclinic. During this period 621 ante-natal check-ups conducted by the gynaecologists for 137 women.

- The community health programme aims at improving ANC status and promotes safe delivery. In 2019, a total of 130 pregnant women were covered and among them 41 were high risk pregnancies. The average ANCs for the period was 4.8, 70% women had 4 or more ANCs and 95% institutional deliveries were recorded.

- The community health team comprising Sehat Aapas and Sehat Sahelis covered 1100 eligible couples to counsel and monitor their reproductive health problems and linking them with health facility.

- Over 2500 women treated in the gynae clinic in 2019.

**NEXT STEPS:**

- The community health programme for improving the maternity and child health indicators will continue in Nizamuddin and the programme is extended to another location (Sarai Kale Khan).

- A total of 2296 women were treated by the gynaecologist in 2019. During this period 621 ante-natal check-ups conducted by the gynaecologists for 145 women.
58. Pathology Laboratory

The lab has conducted 2,89,137 tests for 60,442 patients since August 2009.

The pathology laboratory was initiated on the request of the community. This need was later rectified by a 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.

The pathology laboratory was initiated in August 2008 and since then has proved to be a valuable asset to the community. 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.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- The path lab conducted 29,589 tests during 2019, which covered 6115 patients.
- The lab is now supported by a senior lab technician posted by the SDMC.

**NEXT STEPS:**
- Follow up with SDMC has agreed to partly take over by making the provision of re-agents and other utilities.

59. Out-Patient Department

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 in Nizamuddin 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.

The services at the polyclinic will continue by SDMC and the project will ensure that SDMC gradually take over all other services that are supported through the project.

**NEXT STEPS:**
- The project has continued support by placing a gynaecologist, paediatrician, reducing the frequency of their visits, and this will be completely taken over by SDMC from 2020 onwards.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- In 2019, 52,062 patients visited the SDMC polyclinic with an average patient load of 175 for receiving treatment for various ailments.
- The project has continued support by placing a gynaecologist, paediatrician, reducing the frequency of their visits, and this will be completely taken over by SDMC from 2020 onwards.
Community Gymnasium

The Avaam Fitness Centre which is a community gym of the South Delhi Municipal Corporation was established under the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative in 2010.

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.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- Over 100 users regularly use the Avaam Fitness Centre developed under Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative programme.

- Assessment and identification of equipment with gym trainer and community stakeholders to purchase new machines.

- New gym equipment and machines were ordered to replace the old one and some of them repaired.

- The women gym users were also walking and using the open space at the women’s park.

**NEXT STEPS:**

- Gym will be upgraded with new equipment and machines for more effective and better functioning where more women will join in future.
61. Specialized Interventions

The family health folder comprising six cards that record all the family members and the presence of any illness in them is the tool of engagement with the community. The family health folder also records and tracks couples in the reproductive age groups, pregnancies and growth of children under 6 years. Data collected through the family health folder forms the basis for monitoring the interventions and also for designing new ones. In the initial years, the data indicated the need to work in the areas of disability, non-communicable diseases, malnutrition and substance abuse. Work with special groups like adolescents also emerged out of this. The specialised interventions are:

**Specialized Interventions**

**Substance Abuse:**

The project also initiated a programme for identifying individuals with a problem of substance abuse and referring them to a specialised agency. The community health team also works with the families to counsel them.

**Sehat Sahayta Samooh:**

The group has been started under the Tata Trust grant for health. The role of the fund was envisaged to be a community fund which people could use to meet their small health-related emergency expenses only. The process to form this group began from early 2017 where a lot of internal discussions were held to roll out the proposed plan. The members of the group have the responsibility for conducting monthly meetings and quarterly meetings for transparent functioning. This group became active in 2018 and now has 51 members and has disbursed 13 loans.

**Non Communicable Diseases:**

FHMS data indicated a high prevalence of NCDs in the community. In 2016, the community health team began an intervention for people suffering with non-communicable diseases like diabetes, hypertension and cardio-vascular problems. The health workers conducted a regular follow up and screening of patients by identifying the risk factors. The health workers have received training on understanding, prevention and management of these non-communicable diseases by medical specialists. Patients are counselled, individually and in groups, about health risks and behaviour and linked with suitable health services for treatment and referrals. Till now they have counselled 850 community members so far.

**Supplementary Nutrition programme:**

The program began in 2015 in which underweight children are provided the nutritious meals prepared by Zaika-e-Nizamuddin, a women’s SHG. In 2019, the program took a greater momentum in terms of outreach and awareness generation. Regular monthly meetings were held with mothers with the focus on improving child feeding and care practices. Food demonstrations which were held in Nizamuddin Basti with mothers in the community and involving aanganwadi workers is now being extended to Sarai Kale Khan.

**Supported by:**

**TATA TRUSTS**
Nutritional Counselling:
The nutritional counselling programme for mothers included monthly sessions for 20 women per batch as part of the programme on addressing undernourishment. Nutritional counselling is also a part of the programme to address non-communicable diseases where 750 patients have been counselled. In addition, the members of Zaika-e-Nizamuddin demonstrated the recipes used to prepare food for the supplementary nutrition programme to the mothers of the malnourished children.

Disability:
The project had begun interventions in disability in 2014. While in the initial period the focus was on providing treatment and referrals for people who seek help, in 2019 there was greater focus on increasing the community partnership towards the care of disabled person/child in the family. Parents of children and people with disabilities took greater participation in meetings and discussions on problems. People with disabilities were provided occupational therapy by a trained physiotherapist and simultaneously linked with various government schemes and services. This included linking them to schools for children with special needs.

ACTION TAKEN:
- To improve the quality of life of disabled people in Nizamuddin Basti, 51 physiotherapy sessions were conducted in 2019. There were more than 36 people including both adults and children who benefitted from the therapy. The community health worker supported such parents and families in linking them with special schools, facilitating government disability certificates and getting access to other government schemes and services like disability certificate and pensions.
- This year, 68 malnourished children under 5 years of age were linked with a supplementary feeding program that includes 2 meals, regular growth monitoring and nutritional counselling of mothers. Of these, 27 children have showed grade progression, 17 of them reached the normal category; work with the remaining children is ongoing. The community health workers continued support in promoting growth monitoring services and linking malnourished children with aanganwadi centres.
- In 2019 more than 750 patients were counselled on diet modifications, compliance to medicine and treatment, increasing physical activity and reducing alcohol and tobacco consumption.
- In 2018 several meeting with field teams were held and based on those discussions a guideline for the Sehat Sahayta group was framed. The members of the group were elected on the basis of elections in which 17 members were elected out of 100 field team members as representatives. The members were appointed as president, secretary, treasurer and core members on the basis of voting. The bank account of the group was opened in December 2017 and the membership of the group has been extended to 51 members. The group has done a collection of Rs 21,300 in 2019 as membership fee.
- The amount of Rs 50,000 which was kept as a Tata Trust direct contribution to community was also released in February 2018. The group now has a corpus of Rs 1,13,755 in its bank account. The group provided loans to 10 of its members during 2019.

NEXT STEPS:
- Linking more differently able children with the government schemes.
- Greater mobilization of the community by health team and Anganwadi workers to achieve 100 percent immunization status for the children.
- Further strengthening MHSC in Nizamuddin Basti and formation of 2 MHSC in Sarai Kale Khan.
- Sehat Sahayta Samooh will work towards reaching to more families in Nizamuddin Basti.
- Screening of the mentally ill patients will be conducted at the Dargah and at the household level in Nizamuddin Basti, new pathways will be created for the counselling and treatment of the patients.
62. Structured Awareness Programmes

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

The parenting programme was initiated in 2013 and has covered over 650 women. The modules are now refined, printed and available to the larger development professionals.

This programme for adolescent girls was initiated in 2016 in response to the demand of the community for work with their adolescent daughters on health/life skill issues. In 2019 three 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. The six-month programme has three components – life skills, academic support and vocational education. This programme helps them develop into confident and thoughtful citizens of the country. In 2019, a programme for adolescent boys was also initiated.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- In 2019 about 50 women participated in the parenting program and completed 11 sessions on topics related to pregnancy, childcare and nutrition. A valedictory session with 15 participants of the 10th batch was organized in 2019. The programme has reached to more than 650 women in the community.
- The citizenship programme for adolescent girls was initiated in 2016 as a cascade model where the community health workers and community teachers would be trained as trainers who would in turn work with the girls. The trained community health workers completed the training for the 128 adolescent girls and boys in the age group of 11 to 19 years in 5 batches.
- The adolescent boys and girls were given training on life skills, personal development and adolescent health issues and linked with subject enrichment classes and vocational courses.

**NEXT STEPS:**

- Another batch with at least 100 women for the parenting programme will be held both at Nizamuddin Basti and Sarai Kale Khan.
- The adolescent citizenship programme will involve another 80 youth in Nizamuddin Basti and Sarai Kale Khan.
Mohalla Health and Sanitation Committees

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, 6 years old now, 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.

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**ACTION TAKEN:**
- Regular monthly meetings were held by members of all the 5 groups representing members from 8 different clusters of Nizamuddin. In total 17 monthly meetings and 16 follow up meetings were conducted in the year. The number of members has increased to 105 with an average attendance record of 80% in each meeting.
- The groups steadfastly pursued their issues related to repair of sewer lines, pension for old people in community, exercise equipment to be fitted in women’s park, plantation in park behind polyclinic, earthquake mock drill and repair of roof. Most of these issues were resolved by advocacy.
- The MHSCs also played a leading role in organizing Women’s Day Mela on 8th March.
- MHSC members closely worked with the sanitation team members and supported the solid waste management programme. Close coordination with others community groups was strongly emphasised this year.
- Strong liaising with government departments like SDMC, DDA, Delhi Jal Board, ASI helped the members to get their most of the work done this year.

**NEXT STEPS:**
- The community health programme for improving the maternity and child health indicators will continue in Nizamuddin and the programme is extended to another location (Sarai Kale Khan).
- A total of 2296 women were treated by the gynaecologist in 2019. During this period 621 ante natal check-ups conducted by the gynaecologists for 145 women.
Addressing Mental Health

Populations in resource-poor areas tend to have high rates of serious and enduring mental disorders sometimes, 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.

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HEALTH

Learning through exposure, a visit to The Banyan, Chennai (A leading organization working on mental health problems)

ACTION TAKEN:

- Regular monthly meetings were held by members of all the 5 groups representing members from 8 different clusters of Nizamuddin. In total 33 meetings were conducted in the year. The number of members has increased to 105 with an average attendance record of 80% at each meeting.
- The groups steadfastly pursued their issues related to repair of sewer lines, pension for old people in community, exercise equipment to be fitted in women’s park, plantation in park behind polyclinic, earthquake mock drill and repair of roof. Most of these issues were resolved by advocacy.
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NEXT STEPS:

- Capacity building of the team to take on community level screening and referrals
- Working with the All India Institute of Medical Sciences and University of Warwick to carry out the research.
- Capacity building of community health team
65. Capacity Building

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

** ACTION TAKEN: **

- Three refresher Training for the Trainers (ToT) conducted for the health workers on Adolescent Citizenship programme.
- A 7 days training had been organized by the Equal Community Foundation, Pune for training on adolescent boys in which 4 senior community health workers and 2 senior members participated.
- Regular quality checks, supervisions and internal capacity building exercise in monthly meetings and on other occasions was undertaken to improve the quality of work in the field.

** NEXT STEPS: **

- Enhance capacities based on emerging needs of the community and the project.
- To enhance capacity of the community health workers on mental health and wellbeing.
Urban Improvement

The project includes a group of programme interventions that focus on improving public/common spaces and services in Nizamuddin Basti. The physical surveys of 2009 documented and analysed 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, helping community access government entitlements and bring about change in people's behaviour about usage of public spaces. 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.
As part of the urban renewal initiative the stretch the Barapullah Nallah abutting Nizamuddin was landscaped and houses upgraded to include toilets, sewage convertors and better ventilation 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.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- Strengthening linkage between nallah side monitoring group and various government departments such as SDMC and Delhi Jal Board in order to keep the redeveloped area near the nallah clean and green was the key focus during the year 2019. SDMC officials were involved during cleanliness audits along nallah sides as well as in door to door visits to households near nallah as a part of monitoring and awareness activities.
- The new tenants in buildings near nallah were identified and linked to door to door waste collection program. They were also explained in detail the good practises to avoid blockage in sewer lines and drains. Along with this the community group monitors daily collection of waste from 144 houses near nallah to ensure no waste disposal at the nallah sides.
- Plantation was undertaken at nallah sides by residents, community teams and eco club children, tree guards were setup to save the existing and newly planted trees at nallah side.

**NEXT STEPS:**
- 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.
- Activities with children on environment and sanitation to continue at nallah side.
Sanitation is important not just as a key urban service but as a determinant for improved health status of the community. The 2008 Quality of Life Survey revealed that 25% of the houses did not have in-house toilets; in fact, some families also rented a toilet in a separate house. There were also two South Delhi Municipal Corporation public toilets in Nizamuddin – one that was encroached upon and unusable and the other was in use but in very poor condition. In addition, the vast numbers of pilgrims also required toilets.

The project has upgraded both the public toilets. They are managed through a Memorandum of Understanding with the SDMC, Rehmat Nigrani Samuh (a community group) and AKF being the joint signatories. Both these toilets are functional, the smaller one since 2010 and the larger one since 2013.

The usage of the toilets on an average is 800 users per day on normal days and 8000-10,000 per day on heavy pilgrim days like Urs and Moharram.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- A tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the management of community toilet complexes between the SDMC, Rehmat Nigrani Samuh (RNS) and the Aga Khan Foundation was signed in year 2017. As per the MoU management of community toilet complex has been formally handed over to RNS with assistance in terms of supervision from AKDN agencies.
- As a part of capacity building of the members of community group training sessions were conducted for RNS members as well as staff of community toilet complexes. The training sessions focussed on issues of safety during work, conflict resolution, economizing operations and teamwork.
- The work roster of the community toilet staff was revised after consultation with members of the RNS. The number of cleaners in community toilet complexes was brought down from 6 to 4. This was done in such a manner that cleanliness of both the facilities are not compromised and the workers is not overworked either.
- After discussions with members of RNS, family card system for charging user fee was reinstated in both community toilet complexes. The charges of family card were revised to Rs 100 per person per month for using the community toilet complexes.
- Meetings were held with Additional Commissioner SDMC for waiving of free usage clause for the two community toilet complexes in the basti.
- Financial audit of accounts of community toilet complexes was undertaken in year 2019.
- Both community toilet complexes were kept open for public round the clock during the time of Urs and Moharram. Around 8000 people used the facilities during these days.
- 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.

**NEXT STEPS:**

- Renewal of tripartite agreement between SDMC, Aga Khan Foundation and, Rehmat Nigrani Samuh for maintenance of both community toilet complexes in Nizamuddin basti.
- Explore and 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.
68. Waste Collection

Cleanliness in general and street cleanliness had emerged as a major community need at the inception of the project. In 2007, at the inception of the project less than 25% of the houses had any kind of garbage collection – which was a private service and very unsatisfactory as Nizamuddin Basti was then characterised by dirty and broken streets with piles of rubbish.

Door to door waste collection began in 2012, initially with 20 houses and now covers almost 75% of the households i.e. 1694 households.

The other component of the solid waste management is ensuring that the mandated street sweeping by the SDMC happens regularly in the designated frequency. Further, the waste is collected and disposed as per the municipal norms.

A community group has been regularly conducting these ‘street audits’ and submitting the reports to the concerned officials. Nizamuddin Basti

ACTION TAKEN:

- Residential area door to door waste collection is being availed by 75% households in the with 1694 households being served and paying the waste collectors. 150 shop owners are paying for cleaning of streets leading to the Dargah.
- The waste collection continues to be subsidised by the project.
- A pilot composting unit to utilize kitchen waste was started on terrace of big community toilet complex previous year. Approximately 140 kgs of compost was sieved out from this unit during the year 2019. This unit is also used to educate Nizamuddin Basti residents and school children about the process of composting of kitchen waste.
- A model garden made from waste materials has been made on terrace of community toilet complex. This model garden is being used to educate eco club children and Nizamuddin Basti residents on various methods of using household waste materials. Dry 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.
- As a part of awareness activity to ensure proper disposal of meat and bone waste during Id-ul-Zuha, several strategies were used. The children were sensitised through a special assembly in SDMC school; Members from CBO distributed pamphlets and special announcements in mosques were made before namaz time in the week before Id. Additional cleaning of streets of residential areas was undertaken by SDMC cleaning staff on request from the community group.
- Besides this door to door visits and community meetings in different mohallas of Nizamuddin Basti are being continued to involve more houses under door to door waste collection program and build rapport between residents and waste collectors.
Developing Green Spaces

With increasing urbanisation, conserving urban green spaces has become increasingly important. The project is cognizant of these and has been engaged in reclaiming open green spaces as marked in the master plan. The project has been able to reclaim four of the five designated parks in Nizamuddin Basti.

Each park has a different usage – the outer park is used by older children to play football and cricket, the central park is used by the community for a variety of activities, there is a 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. 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 kilometer.

**Next Steps:**

- To strengthen community based monitoring of parks and their maintenance
- Increase user base of parks by popularizing its benefits and uses to the community
- Maintainance of parks on as and when needed basis to be continued.

**Action Taken:**

- Various activities were undertaken by SDMC school children and children from nearby households to create awareness on importance of plants and parks in Nizamuddin Basti.
- Along with regular repair and maintenance works in all parks, additional swings were installed in triangular park based on community demand.
- The women and children park are used for various events and activities like citizenship programme for adolescent girls, ECCD days at aanganwadi and creche children, meetings for mothers’ adolescent girls, monthly meeting with community health workers and several community discussions.
- Sports meet was conducted for school children and the teachers at the women’s and children park. Apart from this sports competition was organized for SDMC school children in outer park. On an average 350 women and children are using the Women’s Park regularly.
- The outer park is being used extensively for community functions and marriages by the residents of the basti. A 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. Besides this outer park is also used by youth for sports like football, basketball and cricket practices by the children in the Basti every day.
- Almost 200,000 pilgrims from different parts of the country visited Nizamuddin during Urs in March and Moharram in September. The outer and triangular parks were used by pilgrims as resting place.
- Apni Basti Mela was organized in Outer Park in the month of November 2019. Approximately 25000 people visited the park during the Mela.
- Around 250 trees were planted in central park, women and children park, outer park and triangular park during year 2019. Members from community, police personnel, SDMC ward councillor and officials, representatives from the Dargah, and SDMC school children actively participated during plantation. Post plantation tree guards were installed for protection of plants.
70. Environmental Awareness

One of the biggest challenges facing the world is climate change. The project recognises this and works with the youngest citizens, i.e. school children. Environmental awareness activities are carried out through three forums – the children in the SDMC school, the eco club and the children of the Access English Microscholarship Programme.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

Activities with children of SDMC School included:

- Special sessions with SDMC school in Bal Sabha (Children’s Assembly) were conducted with themes such as reducing waste in class rooms and school, waste categorisation and waste as resource.
- Students of SDMC school actively participated in awareness activities on importance of plants and parks in Nizamuddin Basti.
- A group of 40 children residing near the central park was trained to monitor growth of plants in the park. This group of children also participated in awareness play on importance of parks and green spaces in Apni Basti Mela.
- The trained group of children visited the houses near central park to join in their drive to keep parks in the Nizamuddin Basti clean and educate people on importance of trees and plants in parks.

**NEXT STEPS:**

- Continuation of awareness activities on environment and sanitation targeting residents of houses near central park and Nallah.
- To undertake an awareness campaign for keeping baoli water and premises clean.
- Continue with the monthly Bal Sabhas/children meetings adding subsequent themes on environment.

71. Rehnumai Centre

Rehnumai – literally meaning 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 in the areas of government schemes and entitlements, educational opportunities and scholarships and job opportunities through its market intelligence functions.

The number of visitors has grown steadily since 2014 as has the repertoire of services offered. Initiation of Rehnumai has meant that the community is helped to directly access the government scheme or the paperwork needed to access that particular entitlement.

Since 2014, about 10640 people have been assisted by Rehnumai on getting 21 different types of government entitlements and services. This is planned to be transitioned with the Rehnumai person being registered under the Government of India’s Customer Support Centre.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- A total of 945 people visited the resource centre for information and filling the form for domicile certificate, SC/ST certificate, ration card, birth certification, OBC certificate, PAN card, etc.
- About 785 people were linked with different government entitlements and received certificates and acknowledgments.
- A total of 53 online school admission forms were submitted from the centre under the economically weaker section quota of the Right to Education Act.
- A total of 55 youth were provided guidance and linked to job fair.

**NEXT STEPS:**

- Rehnumai will work as a Customer Support Centre of the Government of India to ensure its continuity after the project period is over.
- Monthly counselling and guidance sessions will be continuing to aware community about different government entitlements and schemes.
72. Community Based Organization

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 by a different community group. 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 ongoing project activities with minimal support from AKF. Members of the CBO are drawn from the other groups formed under the project.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- Community Based Organization - Hazrat Nizamuddin Development Association (HNDA). Members were identified from each community group that has been created under the project to form a delegated body comprising of 23 core members.
- In 2019, election was conducted and office bearers like President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer were elected.
- This community-based organization is functioning as an informal group now and conducting regular meetings 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, clearing of sewer line, booking of barat ghar, conducted awareness camp on Malaria and Dengue, plantation at outer park and barahpulla nalah side.

**NEXT STEPS:**
- Training on management and leadership skills
- Handholding support
- Converting it into a legal body
Baoli Audit

Built during the lifetime of Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya in the years 1321-22, this is the only Baoli in Delhi still fed by 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.

ACTION TAKEN:

- In year 2018, due to water contamination in baoli many fish had died. The contamination was triggered due to waste and waste soap water was found to be entering baoli from different sources. Subsequently many awareness, preventive and remedial measures were taken to control the water pollution. In year 2019 testing of Baoli water was undertaken twice to ensure that normal oxygen levels are maintained.
- Regular awareness was undertaken by playing recorded audio messages asking pilgrims and nearby households not to dispose anything in baoli water.
- 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.

NEXT STEPS:

- 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.
Public Agencies – 2019

Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)

Mrs. Usha Sharma, Director General
Mr. Rakesh Singh Lal, Additional Director General
Dr. Urmila Sant, Additional Director General (Museums)
Mr. Janhvi Sharma, Joint 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, Director (Monuments)
Dr. K. Lourdusamy, Director (CEP)
Dr. Praveen Kumar Mishra, Director (World Heritage)
Mr. V N Prabhakar, Director (EE)
Dr. Daljit Singh, Director (Museum)
Dr. D N Dimri, Director (Antiquity)
Mr. Gunjan Srivastava, Superintending Archaeologist, Delhi Circle
Dr. T. Arun Raj, Superintending Archaeologist (Museum)
Sh. Praveen Singh, Dy. Superintending Archaeologist
Mr. Imran Safi, Sr. Conservation Assistant, Humayun’s Mausoleum
Mr. Deependra, 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. Rashmi Sharma, Supervisor ICDS
Ms. Mamta, Supervisor, ICDS

Central Public Works Department (CPWD)

Mr. Prabhakar Singh, Director General
Mr. Jayesh Kumar, Additional Director General
Mr. Anant Kumar, Additional Director General
Mr. Bijendra Kumar, Chief Engineer (NDZ-V)
Mrs. Sonia Mehta, Chief Architect (NDR) & Chairman, Building Plan Approval Committee
Mr. Shatrughna Prasad Chaudhary, Chief Engineer (NDZ-1)
Dr. B N Srivastava, Deputy Director General (Horticulture)
Mr. Ashwani Kumar, Director (Works)
Mr. Ram Singh Meena, Deputy Director (Horticulture)
Mr. Rakesh Kumar, Assistant Director, Horticulture

South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC)

Dr. Gyanesh Bhatti, 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. Rahul Garg, IRS Additional Commissioner Education
Mr. G. Sudhakar, Deputy Commissioner, Central Zone
Mr. Vishvendra Singh, Former DC, SDMC
Mr. Aman Gupta, Former DC, SDMC
Mr. Vishwendra, Former Deputy Commissioner, Central Zone
Mr. Aqil Ahmed, OSD to Commissioner
Mr. Deepak Khosla, Executive Engineer (M-1, Central Zone)
Dr. Gajju Toppo, Additional Director Hospital Administration (Med), Health Department
Dr. P K Dash, Former Additional Director Hospital Administration (Med), Health Department
Dr. Rajni Dutt, RMS, SDMC Polyclinic
Ms. Aarti Lall, Director of Education
Dr. Surendra Singh Bhandoria, Deputy Director of Education (NGO)
Ms. Anita Nodiyal, Deputy Director of Education
Dr. Rita Sharma, Former Assistant Director (Education)
Mr. Kanwaljeet, Deputy Director of Education
Ms. Anita Nodiyal, Deputy Director of Education
Ms. Pushpa Devi, Deputy Director of Education
Mr. Dev Nath Metho, Deputy Director (Education), Central Zone
Ms. Shashi Sharma, School Inspector Central Zone
Mr. Mirza Iftikhar Hussain, School Inspector Central Zone
Mr. Ramdhan Meena, School Inspector Central Zone
Mr. Rajesh Bhagat, School Inspector Central Zone
Mr. Aza Imitiaz, Principal SDMC School, Nizamuddin
Mr. C S Mangla, Assistant Engineer(Civil)
Mr. Saad Akhtar, Junior Engineer
Aga Khan Development Network

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

Principal Consultants
Shaheer Associates, Landscape Consultants
Vir Mueller Architects, Humayun’s Tomb Site Museum
Ms. Ebba Koch, Advisor, Humayun’s Tomb Site Museum
Fifth Dimension (Lighting Consultant), Humayun’s Tomb Site Museum
Mr. Ashok Khurana, Senior Consultant, Humayun’s Tomb Site Museum
Prof. Harish Trivedi, Consultant Editor of Hindi Publication for Rahim Book
Prof. R.C. Agrawal, Advisory Consultant
Mr. Ram Rahman, Photography
Mr. Rakesh Gupta, Bee Conservation Consultant
NIIT Foundation (Training Agency conducting courses)

Conservation
Mr. N.C. Thapliyal, Engineer-in-charge
Ms. Aishwarya Das, Conservation Architect
Ms. Anam Sami, 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

HTIC & Sunder Nursery Environment Development

Construction Team:
Mr. N. K. Aggarwal, Engineer-In-Charge
Ms. Poojan Kumar, Architect
Mr. Vaibhav Mahindroo, Architect
Mr. Nikul Kumar, Engineer
Mr. Ahmed Aziz, Field Supervisor

Museography Team
Mr. Imran Khan, Architect*
Ms. Unnati Pawar, Art History Researcher
Mr. Dinesh Psalal, 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 Malik, Site Supervisor
Mr. Sundeep Kumar, Horticulturist
Mr. Ashish Panwar, Horticulturist
Mr. Chhote Lal, Horticulture 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.
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. Ruksana Khan, Coordinator, Health Outreach  
Mr. Mohd. Ayaz Khan, Assistant Monitoring & Evaluation  
Mr. Sakshi Sharma, Health Coordinator  
Mrs. Ruksana Khan, Field 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

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Cultural Revival

Ms. Nidhi Purohit, Programme Coordinator  
Mr. Mohd. Rashid, Programme Assistant  
Mr. Aamir Ahmed, Programme Assistant  
Mr. Faizan Nabi, Heritage Volunteer

Urban Improvements

Mr. M.P. Mishra, Engineer-in-Charge  
Mr. Arshad Rizvi, Programme Officer - Urban Improvements  
Mr. Shani Srivastava, Coordinator - Community Development

Administrative

Mr. Hardeep Thakur, Administrative Manager  
Ms. Kavita Kanojia, Executive Assistant to CEO  
Mr. Anil Saifi, IT Manager  
Ms. Ruchika Sharma, Human Resource Manager*  
Mr. Neeraj Gupta, Asst. Finance Manager  
Mr. Ankit Agrawal, Accounts Officer  
Mr. Prashant Kumar, Accounts Assistant  
Mr. Pravin Kumar, IT Assistant  
Ms. Rabia Siddiqui, Office Clerk  
Mr. Balveer Singh, Office CLERK  
Mr. Bilal, Electrician

Design & Outreach

Ms. Vallery, Graphic Designer  
Mr. Narendra Swain, Project Photographer  
Mr. Rinkesh Rana, Graphic Assistant  
Mr. Faisal Fahim, Assistant, Project Archivist

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Community Teams

Health Programme


Education Programme

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

Waste Management

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

Urban Services

Mohd. Salman, Mohd. Shawan

Career Development Center

Sheenam Khan, Aman-uz-zaman, Faizan Ali, Junaid Alam, Sara Begum, Sehnaz (CDC), Kakhashan Khan (Rehnunai)

Insha E Noor Crafts Center


Toilet Management

Mohd. Shariquddin, Surinder, Anil Jha, Sajrul Nisa, Sameena

Zaika E Nizamuddin

Noorjahan, Sakina, Saiba, Moina, Neha, Shehnaz, Fatima, Fatima Khatoon, Kulsum, Rubina, Shakeela

Sair E Nizamuddin

Mohammad Hammad, Shumayila, Zareen Shaikh, Mohammad Sameer, Mohammad Mustafa, Shibbi Zaman