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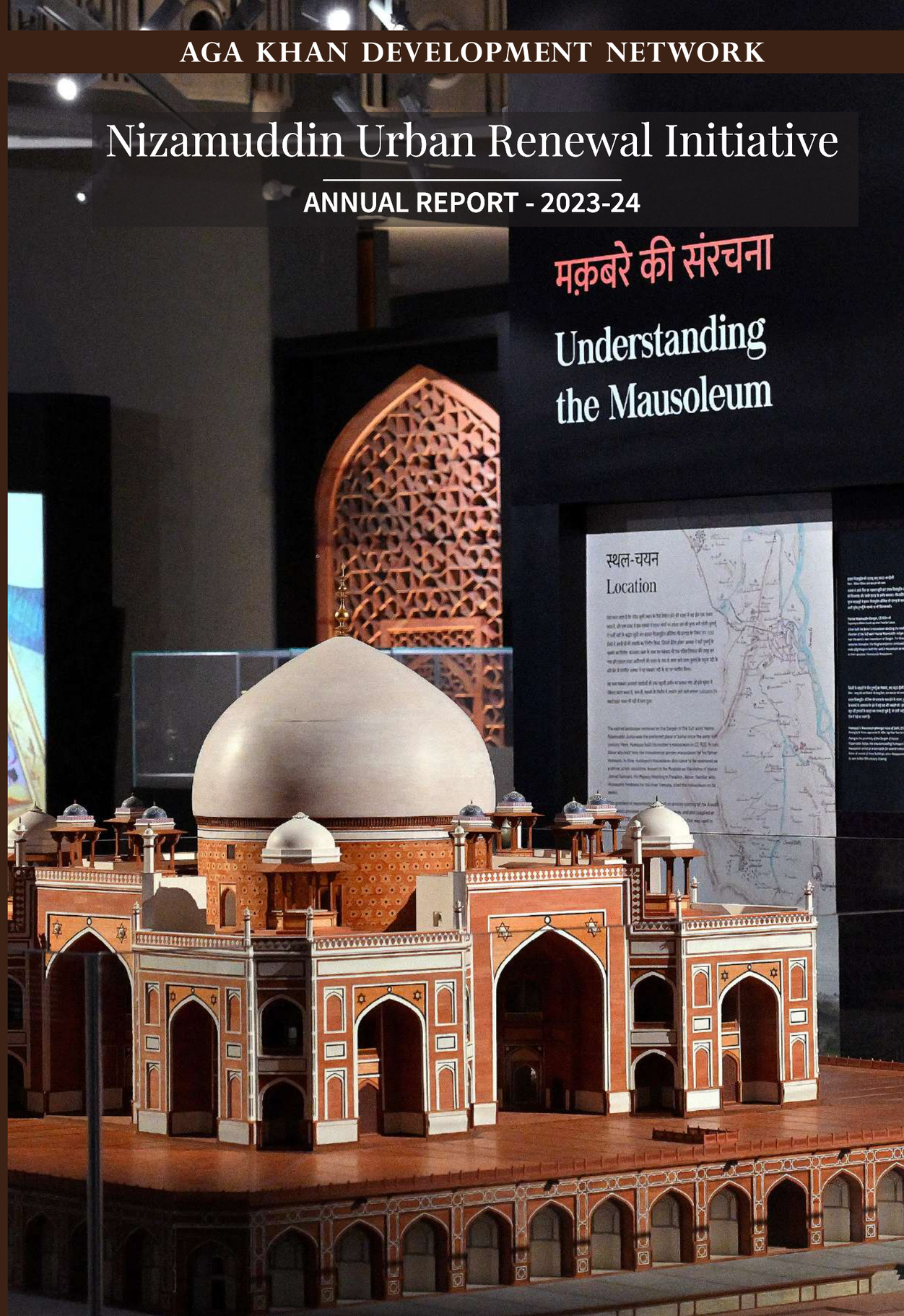
NIZAMUDDIN URBAN RENEWAL INITIATIVE

ANNUAL REPORT - 2023-24

AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative

ANNUAL REPORT - 2023-24



Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative

demonstrates a model for urban renewal in a non-profit People Public- Private Partnership model. An enhanced level of partnership between the Public and Private Parties in their mutually shared objectives of carrying out a model project leading to conservation based urban development, improved quality of life for local communities and improved access to basic
urban facilities.

PARTNER AGENCIES:

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA

SOUTH DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

CENTRAL PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

AGA KHAN FOUNDATION

AGA KHAN TRUST FOR CULTURE

Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative

a *People* Public - Private Partnership

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

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Supported By:

We are grateful for support from the following towards the various project components:

Havells India Limited

US Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation & US Embassy

Hilti India Pvt. Limited

Delhi Urban Heritage Foundation of Delhi Development Authority

Indigo Reach

Australian High Commission, New Delhi

UNESCO

Azim Premji Foundation Initiative

Indira Foundation

Lady Bamford Foundation

JCB Literature Foundation

Concor India

Vishal Saluja

DCM Shriram Industries Ltd.

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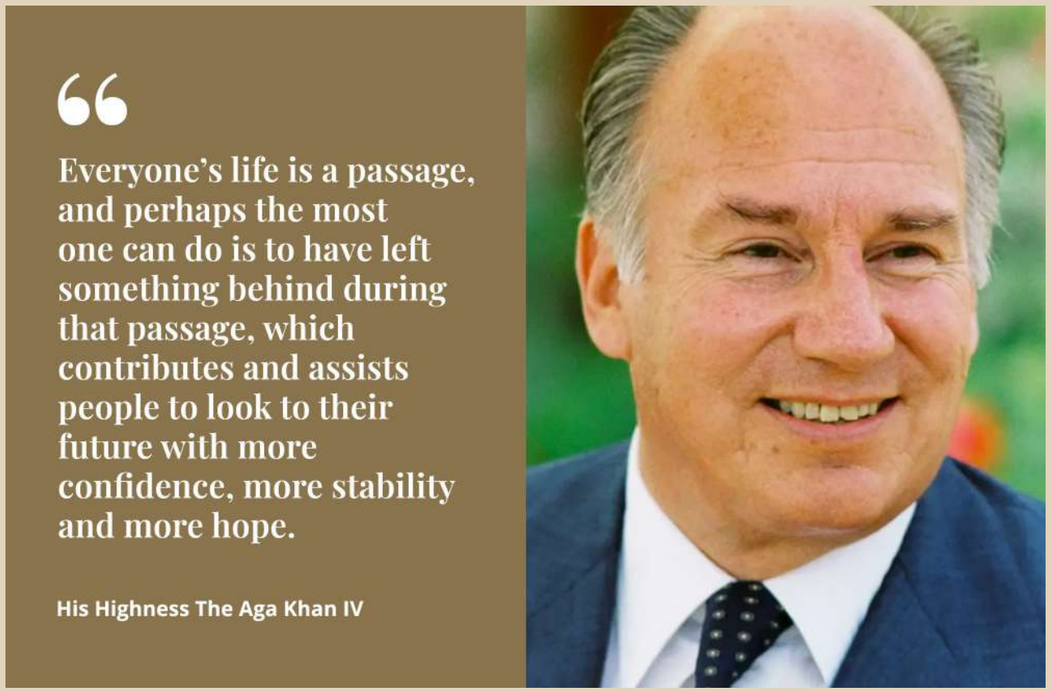
“Today, I remember the contribution of His Highness Karim al-Hussaini Aga Khan in developing Sunder Nursery. The work has become a blessing for all the culture lovers. Today, I am extremely happy to come here. Today, with music, it feels like the season of Spring, which Hazrat Amir Khusrau celebrated in all its glory,

सकल बन फूल रही सरसों
अंबुवा फूटे, टेसू फूले, कोयल बोले डार-डार
औरवों रंग रंगीली फूली
बन आयो ज बसंत बहार

(This traditional verse captures the vibrant arrival of spring (Basant) in the Braj region, with mustard blooming, mango buds sprouting, the flame of the forest (Tesu) in bloom, and cuckoos calling, painting a sensory-rich picture of seasonal joy)”

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Sunder Nursery

In Memoriam | Late His Highness, the Aga Khan IV (1936-2025)



His Highness Prince Karim Aga Khan IV passed away peacefully in Lisbon on 4 February 2025, aged 88. His Late Highness was the Founder of the Aga Khan Foundation and Aga Khan Development Network and the 49th hereditary Imam of the Shia Ismaili Muslims. One manifestation of his hereditary responsibilities was a deep engagement with development for more than 60 years.

In honoring His Late Highness’ legacy, the Aga Khan Trust for Culture remains committed to building a future where we all thrive together.

Executive Summary

During the UNESCO World Heritage Committee meeting held in Delhi during July 2024, the Humayun's Tomb World Heritage Site Museum was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister of Tourism & Culture, Government of India in the presence of Prince Rahim Aga Khan (now, His Highness the Aga Khan) and a host of dignitaries, diplomats, officials and opinion leaders. This required nine years since the Foundation Stone was laid by Late His Highness the Aga Khan.

"Totally dazzled by the new Humayun's Tomb Museum – its not just the best designed, best displayed, and best fit museum in Delhi, its probably the best new museum in the entire country."
–William Dalrymple
Historian & Writer

Tickets to visitors began to be issued in October 2024 and over 200,000 visitors are expected to visit the museum during 2025. Also in October 2024, the museum auditorium was completed and began to host public events. In 2025, the Museum Restaurant, Café's, Souvenir shop are planned to be opened.

In July, along with the Archaeological Survey of India, AKTC hosted the ICCROM led Site Managers Forum with the theme 'Heritage & Community'. The Forum was attended by 100 World Heritage Site Managers from across the world, with whom AKTC/ ASI shared the learnings of the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative with an emphasis on the Socio-Economic project components implemented in partnership with the ASI and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi to significantly enhance the Quality of Life for the community residing in the precinct of the World Heritage Site of Humayun's Tomb.

Since its operationalising in 2007, over 200 individual projects have been carried out under the aegis of the AKTC led Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative. These have led to fulfilling 15 (off17) Sustainable Development Goals. Participants of the ICCROM/ UNESCO Site Manager's Forum were especially keen to learn from the AKTC initiatives that have been in line with the now updated UNESCO Operating Guidelines that emphasise that local communities are engaged with and benefit from living in the vicinity of World Heritage Sites.

Since the onset on the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative in 2007, over 75 individual monuments have been conserved within the larger Historic Urban Landscape centred at the early 14th century Dargah of the Sufi saint, Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya. These monuments are spread across the 500 acres project area comprising the Humayun's Tomb Complex, the 90 acre Sunder Nursery park, the Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti and the adjoining Delhi Golf Club.

During 2023 – 24, the most significant conservation effort undertaken by AKTC has been the garden restoration of the enclosed Humayun's Tomb gardens. In 1993, on the designation of the Humayun's Tomb World Heritage Site, UNESCO/ ICOMOS had confirmed that the gardens were as significant as the monuments themselves – on account of their being the earliest example of a Char Bagh landscape design anywhere in the world. UNESCO/ ICOMOS had further directed that the enclosed 26 acres gardens be restored and to fulfill that direction, ASI & AKTC had undertaken a major garden restoration through 1997 - 2003. However, in the covid/ post Covid era the gardens had become derelict and attention to their state was drawn by the Prime Minister's Office.

Thus through 2023 – 24 AKTC efforts here included restoring the flowing water and reviving the gardens. On account of the numerous burials found within the gardens, no mechanical equipment could be employed in the gardens and all earth removal – to restore levels, replaced lost or damaged plants and relay water pipes – were carried out by hand. The key tasks for the garden restoration were completed by July 2024, in time for the UNESCO World Heritage Committee meeting held in Delhi.

Conservation works on major monuments of the Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti with a grant from the Delhi Urban Heritage Foundation have continued though despite years of follow up with the Delhi Development Authority the required funds for Conservation are yet to be released and nor have the required flats to relocated residents encroaching on the monuments been made available.

In 2023-24, major conservation works have been initiated at the monuments standing within the Delhi Golf Club. Off the eight monuments notified by the New Delhi Municipal Council conservation of four major monuments is being undertaken under Phase I – scheduled to be completed by December 2025. Thereafter remaining four monuments will be undertaken for Conservation.

Each of these eight monuments were in a state of severe deterioration and damage caused by very inappropriate past repairs – obliterating historic details as well as compromising structural stability.

At Sunder Nursery Park, opened to the public only in December 2018, both 2023 and 2024 saw over 1 million visitors. With significant attention to key visitor needs, the park has now successfully become the Environmental hub, Cultural Hub and heritage hub for the people of Delhi. Requirement of multiple licenses remains a major challenge in holding cultural events by individual artists who cannot spare resources required to seek these licenses. Many of the events held at Sunder Nursery in recent years have focussed on raising awareness on environmental concerns, events focussed on children's readings and literature.

Today, Sunder Nursery boasts of over 150 bird species, almost 20 species of bees and other pollinators, 30+ butterfly species and several dragonfly species alongside 300 tree species. Preserving and enhancing this ecological habitat is now a prime objective.

Though the Socio-Economic programme components being implemented in the Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti officially met their objective by 2022, AKTC had already embarked on a major endeavour to establish the 'Association of Development of Nizamuddin' comprising Basti residents to ensure project components are sustained in perpetuity. AKDN continues to provide oversight to ADN and provide financial support. During the course of the project, we had become aware of the significant mental health needs of the community and for three years now a major programme is being implemented to address such needs.

Conservation and environmental development works across the Humayun's Tomb – Sunder Nursery – Nizamuddin Basti area have brought significant attention to this significant heritage zone and have also led to the international Guidebook company to publish a guidebook focused on the Built and natural heritage of this zone as well as the associated intangible heritage. Another publication on the Sunder Nursery Park is scheduled for release in late 2025.

1. Inauguration

(Above) Prince Rahim Aga Khan, addressing the gathering on the inauguration of the Museum on 29-July 2024.

Speech by His Highness Prince Rahim Aga Khan at the opening of the Humayun World Heritage Site Museum

"Our gathering today celebrates the culmination of the initiative launched in 1997, when, to mark the 50th anniversary of India's independence, His Highness the Aga Khan offered the nation and its capital the restoration of the gardens of Humayun's Tomb.

So began, as a further chapter in a long-shared history, another fulfilling collaboration with the people and government of India.

The Humayun World Heritage Site Museum, inaugurated today, marks an accomplishment well beyond a building sensitively conceived within its landscape, its artefacts and its exhibits, and its intellectual offering. It marks a completion phase of the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative, a model public-private partnership.

At the turn of the millennium, His Highness the Aga Khan began to envision this entire area as a coherent cultural ensemble in a 300 acre-landscape. Integral to that aspiration was the will to improve the quality of life of the residents of the Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti, and to revive crafts and artistic traditions in danger of disappearing.

Beyond the restoration of the iconic Tomb, its gardens, and another 60 monuments – 20 are which are on the UNESCO World Heritage list – the Initiative has created the 90-acre Sunder Nursery, has upgraded public open spaces, has improved school and healthcare facilities, has implemented education and health programmes, public sanitation, water and waste management schemes, and has sponsored cultural revival through festivals, concerts and performances.

For over two decades now, the Aga Khan Trust for Culture has been honoured to work alongside the Archaeological Survey of India, the Central Public Works Department, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi, corporate and philanthropic partners, international donors, sister agencies within the Aga Khan Development Network, and, most importantly, with the citizens of Delhi and residents of Nizamuddin.

Together, we have strived to create for the world an exemplar of thoughtful, collaborative urban revitalisation.

Museums and historic landmarks preserve and reveal the story of humanity. Inherently, they are places that foster connections among people as we delve into our collective, intricate past, and consider how we can collaboratively shape a unified and better future.

The impact of this heritage was its commitment to pluralism, which is reflected in the distinctive architecture, literature, and customs that brought together diverse influences.

The Museum thus serves as a link, not only joining Humayun's Tomb with the Sunder Nursery, but also bridging the gap between history and the present.

Blended into the landscape and quietly sunken below gardens and fountains that surround finely crafted mausolea, the Museum will enhance the experience for millions of domestic and international tourists visiting the World Heritage Site. Within its walls, the story of Humayun's life, travels, and legacy come alive.

To enable a more profound understanding of the architecture and building craft traditions of the passing centuries, the Museum will shed light on the development of the Nizamuddin area over a millennium. It will, in the process, explain the pluralistic traditions that have defined Hindustani culture for at least five centuries."

(Above) Mr. Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Hon'ble Minister of Culture and Minister of Tourism addressing the gathering on the inauguration of the Museum on 29-July 2024.

In the inaugural speech, the Union Minister of Culture and Tourism, mentioned that the Humayun's Tomb World Heritage Site Museum echoes the vision of the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, i.e. the amalgamation of development as well as heritage – "Vikas bhi Virasat bhi", as the museum will significantly enhance visitor experience by providing an understanding of the Outstanding Universal Value of this ensemble that includes monumental buildings built from the 14th to the 19th century. He further highlighted that the museum illustrates what the Prime Minister said in his inaugural address at the 46th World Heritage Committee meeting, that, "India is so ancient that every point of the present here tells the story of some glorious past."

He also hightlighted our deep routed cultural matrix as he talked about the images of Dara Shukoh's Persian version of the Upanishad alongside his Quran, and Rahim's couplets inscribed on the walls alongside his translations of the Ramayan. Both Rahim and Dara Shikoh are buried in this area and are amongst generations of saints associated with this sacred landscape.

The Minister also appreciated the efforts of the Archaeological Survey of India and the Aga Khan Trust for Culture in joining hands and building this site museum and setting up yet another example of public-private partnerships to be forged for various other historical sites across India. He urged all to visit this museum which is a significant and welcome addition to the historical city of Delhi.

Mr Gajendra Singh Shekhawat unveils the museum plaque in the presence of Prince Rahim Aga Khan and Mr Yadubir Singh Rawat, Director General of the Archaeological Survey of India

Prince Ali Aga Khan along with senior dignitaries at the Museum Inauguration

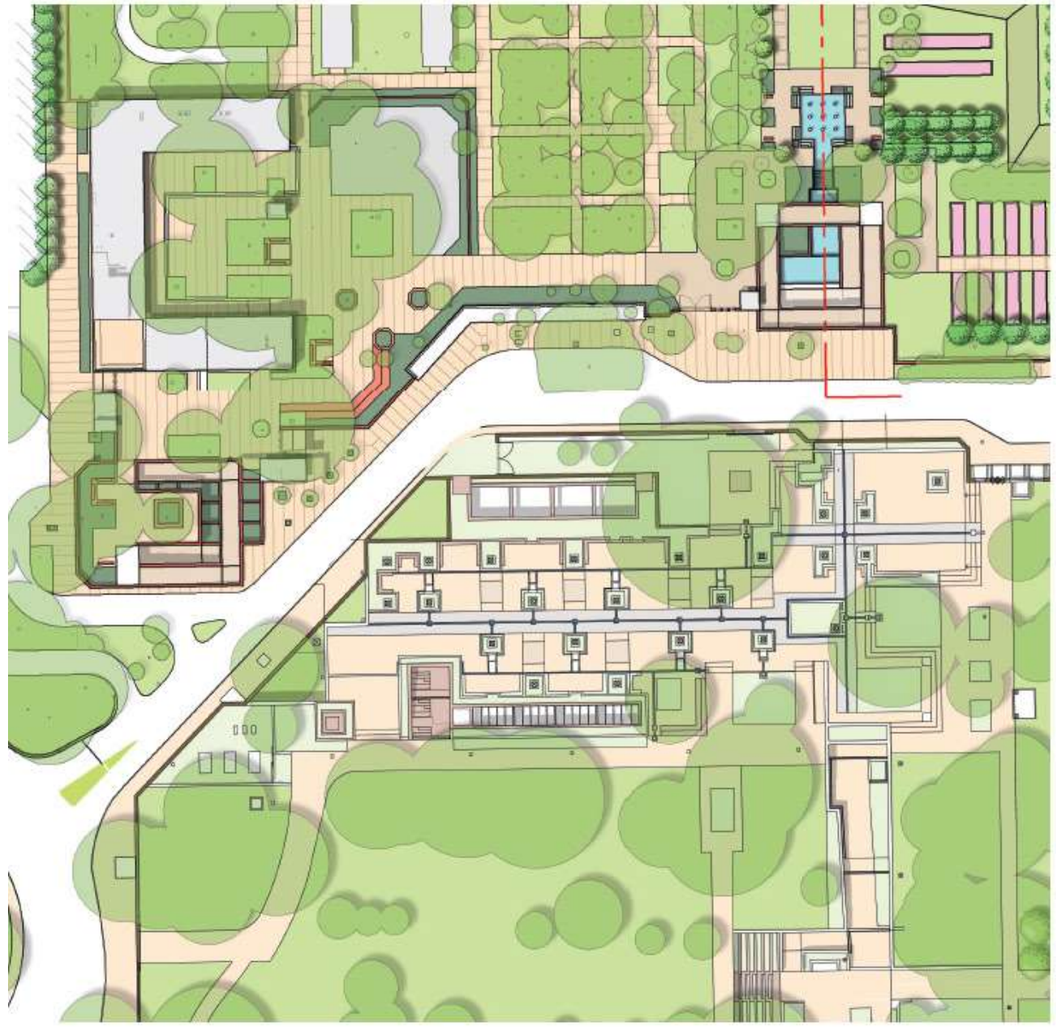
2. Humayun's World Heritage Site Museum

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

With the intention of providing a meaningful experience for the 2 million annual visitors to the World Heritage Site, AKTC in 2015, on the request of the ASI, embarked on the construction of a 10,000 square meter World Heritage Museum. The structure strategically located at the shared entrance of Humayun's Tomb and Sunder Nursery serves as an underground bridge between the two sites, thus allowing unhindered visitor movement across 200 acres and to over two dozen monuments located here. The museum draws light on the construction of Humayun's Tomb and the many other grand monuments that stand within the World Heritage Site and its buffer zone.

HUMAYUN
WORLD HERITAGE SITE
हुमायूँ विश्वदाय स्थल संग्रहालय
MUSEUM

Museum Identity



(Right) Humayun's Tomb Site Museum is located at the entrance zone of Sunder Nursery Park and Humayun's Tomb Complex

Total Number of visitors in Museum since August **49,530**

Admisitration Block comprises of Auditorium, Exhibition gallery, Food & Beverage Spaces & Business Centre.

(Above) Galleries block key plan

A: Entrance Ramp

Gallery B: Vestibule Gallery

Gallery C:Immersive Gallery

D: Emperor Humayun & Humayun's Tomb Gallery

E: Gallery on the Cultural Icons of Nizamuddin

F: Sunder Nursery Gallery *(upcoming)*

G: Temporary Exhibition Gallery

H: Museum Crafts Shop

Construction:

Supported by :

Ministry of Tourism

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GALLERY BLOCK

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

ARCHITECTURE

The architecture of the Museum has been inspired by the tradition of geometric forms in Mughal architecture. The gallery spaces are arranged in a sequence of intersecting squares, with wide column spans of eight meters. Given the high volume of visitors expected at the site, the public circulation sequence has also been developed along a primary axis, spanning the entire length of the Museum.

Natural light, filtered through skylights and open courtyards, illuminates the gallery areas. These courtyards are critical aspects of the gallery, enabling curated displays of Mughal architecture, including façade treatments, landscape elements and ornamental traditions. Complex engineering systems required for a modern museum are woven around each gallery through dedicated service corridors, thus facilitating optimal curatorial and management protocols.

The museum's layout is largely subterranean, ensuring that the building blends naturally with the surrounding landscape without overshadowing the historic Humayun's Tomb or the other monuments in the area, which is crucial in preserving the aesthetic integrity of the heritage site. Extensive surveys and impact assessments were conducted to ensure that the museum's construction did not disturb any significant archaeology.

The museum's architectural vision has been fully realised through exemplary civil construction. The gallery block—with its distinctive pleated 6-metre-high ceiling—has been completed in its entirety and the thoughtful design allows for dramatic spatial experiences. Traditional red sandstone used across facades and the use of white marble cladding both in the interiors and exterior, ties the structure contextually to the Mughal landscape.

In the administration block, the structural framework, stone finishes, and façade glazing have been completed, along with ticketing counters and public interface zones. The addition of ceremonial teak wood doors and finely carved stone details across the museum speaks to the craftsmanship and care with which the building has been constructed.

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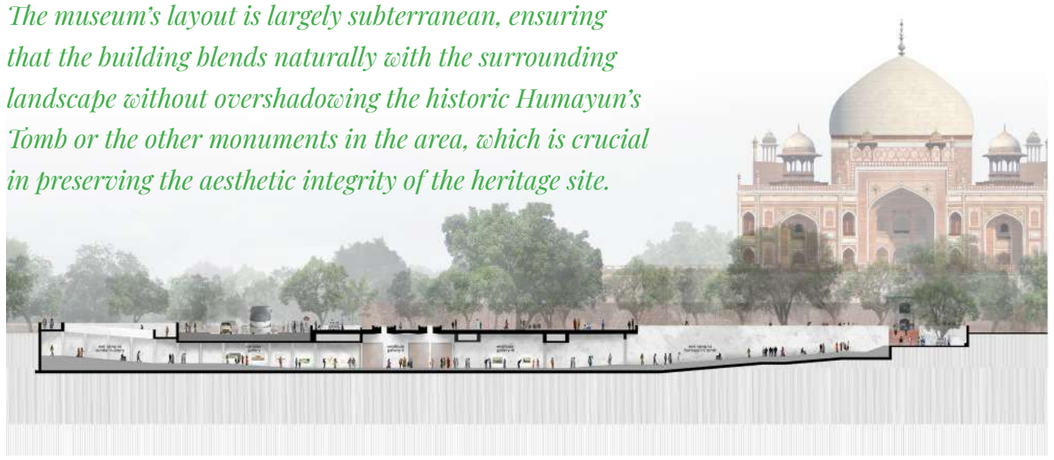


Ticket Counters

The museum has two ticket counters. The pedestrian ticket counter is opposite to the Humayun's Tomb, and second ticket counter will be made accessible from the car parking near the Sabz burj roundabout.

In keeping with the architecture of the museum, the ticket counter blocks are clad with sandstone. The counter sells three types of tickets: The Museum, Museum + Sunder Nursery; and Museum + Sunder Nursery + Humayun's Tomb Complex. The latter being a discounted ticket encourages visitors to experience the historic precinct with better understanding.

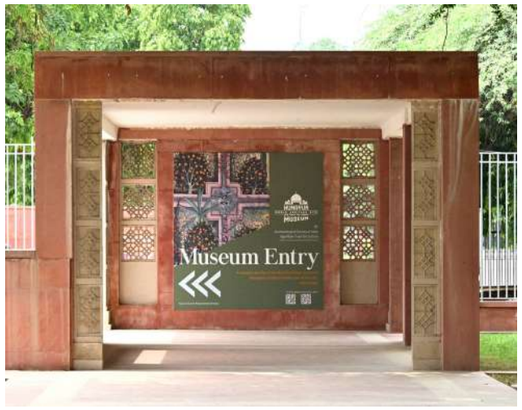
Museum Courtyard

The landscape is designed to function as a series of generously proportioned walkways, gardens and plazas offering a pleasant experience to the large numbers of people that will walk through them, and to provide well-defined sitting places where families, small groups as well as school parties can conveniently gather or rest.

Adjoining Banyan Courtyard in the Facilities Block, the entrance courtyard to the Gallery block forms the access point to the museum, and is centred around a mature tree, embraced by a gently curving ramp. This entry provides a seamless transition between the outdoors and indoors.

Gallery Pavilion

The approach to the museum is marked by elegantly designed sandstone pavilions that serve as architectural highlights and guide visitors toward the entrances. These pavilions feature intricately carved lattice screens (jaalis), blending traditional craftsmanship with functional design. Strategically positioned along the ramps leading to the museum, they create a sense of arrival and transition, framing the pathway with grace and cultural resonance. The use of sandstone and traditional detailing not only complements the surrounding heritage architecture but also enhances the overall visitor experience by offering shaded, visually engaging spaces that mark key entry points to the museum.



Entrance Ramp

The museum has been thoughtfully designed to ensure accessibility and inclusivity for all visitors. One of the most striking architectural features is the wide entrance, which is generously proportioned to accommodate high visitor footfall, including individuals with mobility needs. Clad in rich red sandstone, the entrance creates a bold and welcoming first impression, drawing inspiration from traditional Indian architecture while serving contemporary functional needs. The use of red sandstone not only enhances the aesthetic appeal by echoing the material palette of surrounding heritage structures, but also conveys a sense of permanence and dignity.

Exit Staircase

An additional exit staircase has been thoughtfully integrated into the museum's design to function as a dedicated emergency exit, enhancing visitor safety and ensuring compliance with modern safety regulations. What sets this staircase apart is its architectural inspiration—drawn from the traditional baolis (stepwells) that are an iconic feature of India's historical landscape.

The staircase reflects the characteristic stepped design and robust geometry of baolis, seamlessly blending form and function.

Exit Ramp to Humayun's Tomb

On the underground museum's southern edge, this Long Court acts as a transition from the underground galleries to the Humayun's Tomb complex. A broad linear pathway, shaded by trees and flanked by grassy slopes, gently ascends toward the Tomb, ensuring that historic visual alignments remain intact, creating a sense of continuity.

Humayun's Tomb Site Museum presents a thoughtful confluence of architectural restraint, landscape richness, and cultural storytelling. Its subterranean architecture honors the past without overshadowing it, while the landscape evokes historic forms in a language appropriate to the present time.

Chini-khana

Museum Court, an intimate open-to-sky courtyard, located on the northern edge of underground galleries is designed as an intimate space with a series of chini-khana, waterfalls, and raised planter beds with large ornamental trees and shade-loving ground covers, a reminiscent use of water feature and planting in a Mughal Garden.

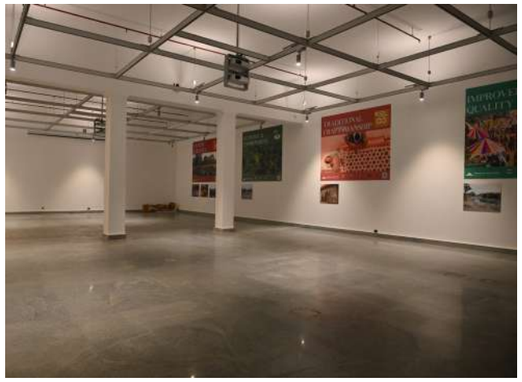
Chaddar Courtyard

The chaddar courtyard has been carefully designed to create a seamless connection between the museum and the surrounding landscape of Sunder Nursery. Drawing inspiration from traditional Mughal landscape gardens, the courtyard features a flowing water channel—or chaddar—that gently cascades over a sloped stone surface, mimicking the texture and movement of a natural stream.
This design element not only evokes the serene aesthetic of Mughal-era garden architecture but also enhances the sensory experience for visitors through the visual and auditory presence of flowing water. Positioned as a transitional space, the courtyard bridges the built environment of the museum with the lush greenery of Sunder Nursery, reinforcing the harmony between architecture and nature.

Temporary Galleries

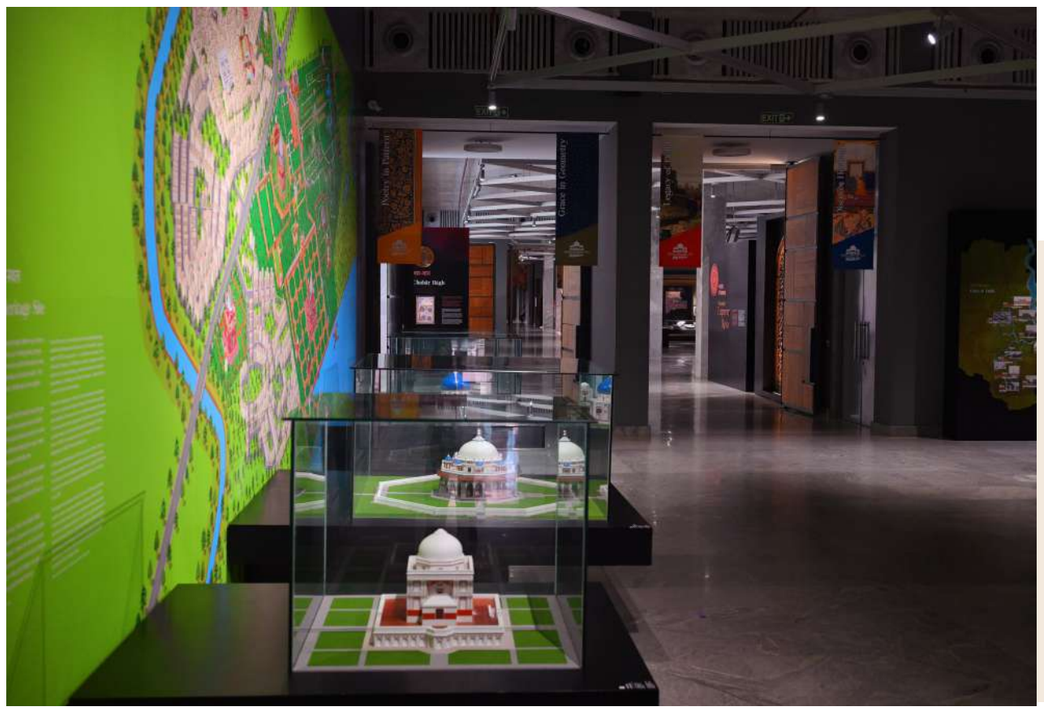
The museum has been designed with dedicated spaces to host themed exhibitions, providing a dynamic platform for showcasing both national and international collections. These versatile galleries are equipped to accommodate temporary exhibitions from renowned museums around the world, allowing for the display of rare artifacts, contemporary interpretations, and culturally significant works across a wide range of themes.

By creating opportunities for rotating exhibitions, the museum fosters cross-cultural dialogue, encourages knowledge exchange, and offers visitors fresh and engaging experiences with each visit.



VESTIBULE GALLERY

Wide ramps allow visitors to descend into the gallery block, which leads them to the first gallery – The Vestibule Gallery. This gallery at the entrance has antiquities, graphic panels, and architectural models which relays the history of Delhi and the larger Nizamuddin Area till Purana Qila. A 40 feet wide 3D-illustration shows the Humayun's Tomb World Heritage Property, its buffer zone, and how it was originally connected with the river Yamuna. Finely crafted architectural models of the prominent monuments in the world heritage site's precinct like the Nila Gumbad, Unknown Mughal's tomb, Sunder Burj, and Lakkarwala Burj are showcased along with the illustration. On the adjoining panel, Delhi's 2,500-year history is presented through an artist's map showing the seven cities of Delhi, along with artefacts representing several dynasties - discovered by the Archaeological Survey of India at excavations carried out at the Purana Qila site to a depth of 18 meters.



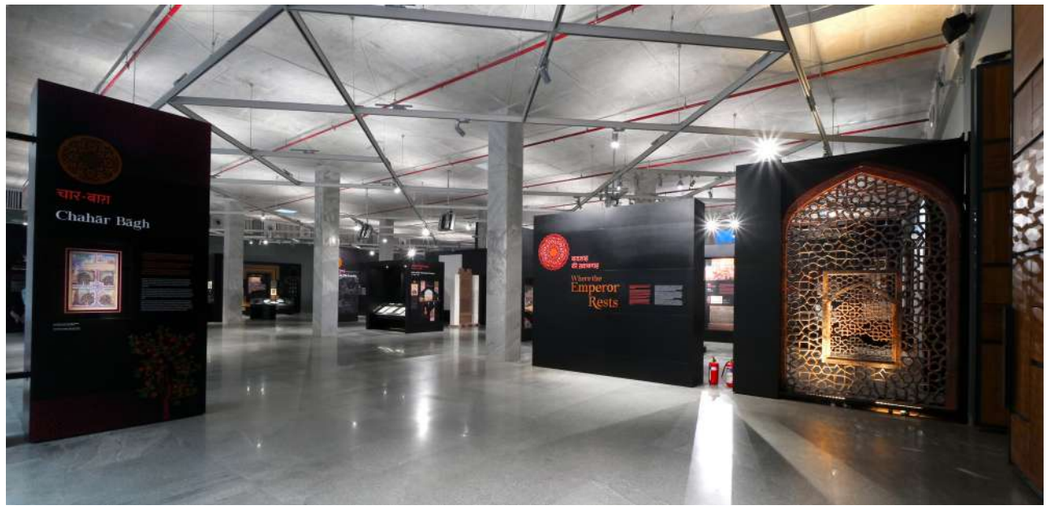
IMMERSIVE GALLERY

Just off the entrance zone is the Immersive Gallery wherein visitors, surrounded by a 270-degree panoramic screen, are provided a brief history of Nizamuddin Area and a virtual tour of the monuments and gardens of the World Heritage Site. The Museum has an array of films, animations, walk-throughs, and projection mapping, which presents a kaleidoscope of Nizamuddin Area's history, transformation, architecture, and cultural heritage. These audio-visual displays are expected to be of great interest to school children and youth – over 300,000 of whom visit the World Heritage Site annually - these include tracing Humayun's Footsteps over 34.000 kilometres of travel, construction of Humayun's mausoleum, as well as his Mystic Palace – of which no trace now remains. A film showcasing 500 years of building activity at the Dargah complex helps visitors understand how successive emperors added buildings to the complex. Projection mapping of striking tile patterns and gilded ceiling that once adorned Humayun's Mausoleum chamber on its 1:8 scaled life-sized model evokes a sense of awe in the visitor for the exquisite grandeur.

HUMAYUN'S GALLERY

The first principal Gallery, 'Where the Emperor Rests', showcases the architecture of Humayun's Mausoleum and the personality of Emperor Humayun – conveyed through stories of his travels, his deep interest in astrology and astronomy, his love of books and arts, his patronage to architecture. Over a decade of research for the museum has led us to an understanding of Humayun's contributions, now published in the voluminous book, The Planetary King authored by Prof. Ebba Koch.

The greater Nizamuddin area is recognised as the earliest Mughal 'city' with Humayun building his citadel of Dinpanah and his mother's mausoleum in close proximity to Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya's Dargah, and Akbar building several prominent buildings here, including his father's mausoleum. This sacred precinct is also where each of the 18 Mughal Emperors made several visits and pilgrimage, gave grants to the Dargah, and constructed monumental buildings. Eight Mughal emperors also lie buried here in the Dargah ensemble or within Humayun's Mausoleum, which is often referred to as the 'Dormitory of the Mughals'. The deep connection that the Mughals had with this sacred Sufi landscape of Nizamuddin is relayed here through miniature paintings, films, architectural exhibits, and stone antiquities.



NIZAMUDDIN GALLERY

The gallery, 'Icons of a Sacred Landscape', has exhibits focussed on the four iconic cultural personalities associated with this sacred landscape from the 13th century onwards. These are the 14th century Sufi Saint Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya – whose teachings of brotherhood and universal love have had a significant impact on Hindustani culture. The saint's favoured disciple who served in the courts of several Sultans, but remained a devout Sufi, the 14th century poet Amir Khusrau 'Dehalvi'. Khusrau also created the Qawwali music genre to sing praises for his Sufi master and is credited with the invention of musical instruments - the Sitar and Tabla. In the late 16th/ early 17th century, Rahim, who was Commander-in-Chief of Akbar's army and one of the navratan/nine jewels of his court, built a grand mausoleum for his wife in close proximity to that of Humayun's mausoleum.

Rahim remains famous today as a poet for his Hindavi Dohes, as well for his translation of the Ramayan into Persian and patronage of the arts. Finally, Prince Dara Shukoh, Shahjahan's favoured son and Begum Jahanara, his daughter – both devout disciples of Sufi masters – are also buried here. Dara translated the Hindu scriptures – the Upanishads into Persian.

Structure with Gallery roof at the Museum Fire Exit Staircase

Structure with Gallery roof at the ramp leading to Humayun's Tomb

ISSUES WITH BUILDING DESIGN AND RESULTANT DELAYS

The cumulative impact of Systemic lapses in both architectural design and site supervision by Vir Mueller architects led to significant delays in building commissioning, elevated maintenance requirements, and significant unanticipated expenditure to rectify avoidable shortcomings including inadequate systems for rainwater collection and disposal, insufficient fire safety systems and external door widths, non-adherence to required soil analysis coupled with lack of adequate water treatment of raft foundations, non-compliance with accessibility norms, poor planning of spaces resulting in inappropriate functions – such as high noise zones placed adjacent to quiet zones.

To rectify these errors by Vir Mueller Architects required the AKTC project management team significant unplanned expenditure in several crores and delayed building completion by 2 – 3 years. This required installation of supplementary infrastructure—such as additional drainage provisions, creation of sumps/ pumps, enhanced waterproofing systems, and remedial fire safety measures—to bring the building into basic compliance with statutory and operational standards – including demolition and reconstruction of three entrance zones of the facilities block. As can be understood, these issues required significant additional funds and also led to significant delays in obtaining completion and commissioning of the building.

Risk of ground water Ingress

Vir Mueller architects failed to design the systems for water levels indicated in the soil analysis report. No specification for water proofing treatment of construction joints in raft foundation were given nor was lack of water proofing observed during weekly site inspections.

With the ground water table rise envisaged, this required demolition of the completed granite flooring to carry out treatment of construction joints followed by relaying the museum flooring. Furthermore six dug wells were built in the periphery of the museum building block where groundwater levels are monitored three times daily and any excess water pumped out.

Rainwater Management and Drainage Infrastructure

The underground sumps and installed pumps designed by consultants appointed by Vir Mueller Architects was of inadequate capacity – by far - lacking required capacity for collection and disposal of rainwater during the kind of moderate/ heavy downpours now seen in Delhi several times every year. Specially when significant rainwater collection is expected from the open to air ramps and staircases on four sides of the museum.

To rectify this additional sump's were built at several locations and all pumps replaced with those of significantly higher capacity.

In the past year, AKTC has implemented a covering on the fire exit staircase and ramp leading to Humayun's Tomb. This is based on a design of Yogesh Kapoor/ Shaheer Associates and with approval of the Archaeological Survey of India.

Inadequate and incorrect Fire Safety Measures

The inspection of the Fire Officer in 2023 noticed several shortcomings requiring the relaying of the already placed fire sprinklers in some areas of the building.

Despite written commitments by the architects, the Fire Officer realised he external façade doors installed at the facilities block were 25% less than required width. Similarly, a critical fire safety requirement mandates the segregation of circulation paths at the ground level to prevent any fumes from the basement from proceeding further up into the building from a stairwell, this essential provision was overlooked in Vir Mueller Architects design.

To rectify these issues, three portions of the facilities block had to be demolished and reconstructed with doors of adequate width and barriers introduced in the stairwell as required by fire norms.

Vir Mueller Architects' involvement with the Humayun's Tomb World Heritage Site Museum project was not continued beyond 2018 and rectification of several design defects continue to be undertaken.

Museography & Exhibition Design:

GALLERY BLOCK

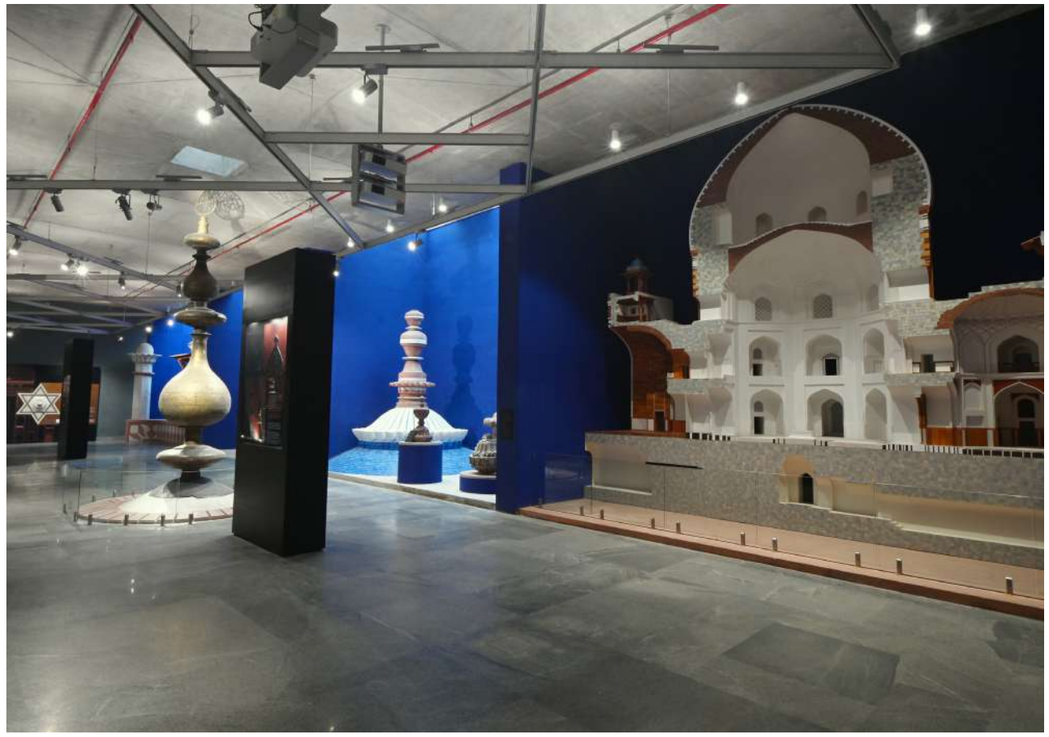
Exhibition Design supported by:

* Havells India Limited
* Tata Trusts
* US Ambassadors' Fund for Cultural Preservation
* Embassy of Federal Republic of Germany
* HILTI India Pvt. Ltd.
* Avanee Foundation
* The Saluja Trust
* Lady Bamford Foundation

The Humayun's Tomb World Heritage Site Museum set out as an interpretation centre to narrate the tangible and intangible heritage of Nizamuddin Area. Since 2015, works on the construction of the museum was undertaken by **Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC)** in partnership with the **Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).** The museum relays the curatorial design carried out by the AKTC under which several years of archival and museum research was conducted at the National Museum and Archaeological Survey of India Museums to shortlist the objects and antiquities which can represent the historical information about the site and its iconic personalities.

The galleries showcased an array of objects, antiquities from the site, architectural and object replicas, models, animations and films through which the team has presented the seven centuries of Nizamuddin area, its evolution, transformation, key personalities, and its monumental heritage.

Regular meeting with Exhibition fabricators, Graphic designers, AV makers, lighting team



- **Over 500 objects of antiquity displayed here by the ASI & National Museum and Aga Khan Trust for Culture** including several Mughal miniatures, decorative objects, armory, architectural drawings, Chinese ceramics, after their conservation undertaken by ASI's Science Branch, have been shifted in the strong room at the Museum. Many of these objects have never been on display.
- The exhibition concept design was created by Spanish-design firm Espai Visual in 2018. The exhibition panels made of black metal sheets stuck magnetically to the internal metal framework was produced by Delhi based fabricators – Shark Enterprises and Kingsmen India Limited. It presents a sleek and modern exhbition design system and the display cases adhere to strict climate control including temperature, humidity, and light. Each display case has been designed in consultation with curators. conservators and exhibition designers, to address unique preservation needs of each object.
- Delhi-based design studio- December Designs further detailed the curatorial content and did the final graphic design for the Museum. Series of discussions between AKTC team and graphic designers led to creation of both aesthetic and easy to understand content for visitors to the Museum.
- The multidisciplinary team working on the museum comprises of conservation architects, engineers, architects, designers, photographers, researchers, scholars of Persian and Hindi, mastercraftsmen, modellors, film makers, visualizers, projectionists, material conservationists, amongst others.
- The printing was carried out by HG Printes, an Okhla-based printing company. For the first time ever, a 4-colour printing was done on metal sheets, which required several rounds of trials and turbulations to get the accurate colours and sharpness in the images.
- The vitrines/display cases with objects were designed by a Delhi-based studio called The New Black Design. It has been ensured that the cases pass the scrutiny test of maintaining acceptable norms of humidity and temperature controls, secure the objects safely, and at the same time also match with the visual design of the gallery. The cases too are made in the same metal sheet thickness and painted black. These are lockable cases which also can be accessed easily for the ease of maintenance.
- The exhibition conveys the unique 700 years of rich heritage legacy of the Nizamuddin area – with stories of the monuments, people and their associated intangible heritage of music, poetry, Sufi practices, pluralist culture of the scared landscape – including the architectural style, cuisine, craft traditions.

Objects & Antiquities

The Museum has over 500 artefacts from the collections of the National Museum, Archaeological Survey of India, and the Aga Khan Trust for Culture. The Museum houses a varied collection of Mughal miniatures, illustrated manuscripts, significant architectural elements from Humayun's Mausoleum and other monuments in the complex, gold and silver coins, finest contemporary art and craft pieces, 15th century astrolabes and celestial globes favoured by the Mughals, exquisite glazed tiles and metalware from 17th century, valuable stone inscriptions dating from the 14th century onwards, Mughal glass and textiles, which form an integral part of the Nizamuddin area's historical narrative.

Conservation of Antiquities

Following a close inspection, and approval from the authorities, a selection list of objects was drafted which require conservation. The Science Department of Archaeological Survey of India was set up temporarily in the musuem's building where the objects from ASI were conserved by a technical team. The objects from the National Museum were conserved by their in-house technical team before sending to the Humayun's Museum. The objects from Aga Khan Trust for Culture were conserved by the National Museum Institute in NOIDA.

Conservation of selected objects undertaken by expert teams from ASI, NMI, and National Museum.

High-resolution Documentation

High-resolution photographic documentation of the museum's objects was undertaken as part of ongoing efforts to preserve and digitally archive the collection. These high-quality images serve multiple purposes — they are essential for internal cataloguing, conservation reference, and research, and will form the foundation of a comprehensive digital archive. In addition, selected images have been featured on the museum's website, enhancing public access and allowing online visitors to engage more deeply with the collection through detailed visual references and accompanying information. This initiative not only supports transparency and outreach but also aligns with the museum's long-term vision of digital accessibility and knowledge sharing.

Digitally archiving the collection to enhance public access, conservation, and research initiatives.

Object Documentation

All objects received from various sources—including the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), the National Museum, and other institutions—were meticulously documented in detail. This comprehensive documentation process included recording each object's physical attributes, historical context, condition, and provenance. The information gathered played a crucial role in the curatorial planning of the museum, serving as a foundational reference for designing showcases and developing display systems.

Detailed documentation of all objects formed the foundation for curatorial planning and display design.

Installation of Objects

The installation of all objects in the museum was carried out with meticulous care and attention to detail. Each display case was thoughtfully designed, custom-fitted, and rigorously tested to ensure it met the specific conservation and security requirements of the objects it would house. The cases and windows with objects are provided with ArtSorb casettes, and films to control humidity and moisture. The pages of the manuscripts are held in place for viewing using the non-intrusive Mylar tapes.

Extensive planning went into the layout, lighting, and mounting systems, all tailored to highlight the unique characteristics of each artifact while preserving their integrity. A significant amount of on-site work was undertaken by a dedicated team of curators, designers, and technicians to coordinate and execute the installation process smoothly

Meticulous installation ensured conservation, security, and optimal display of each object in the museum.

Framing of Artworks

The framing of artworks for the museum—particularly original paintings and miniature artworks—was carried out with utmost precision and care. Each object was carefully measured and assessed to determine the most suitable framing approach, using high-quality archival materials to ensure long-term preservation and protection. Special attention was given to the unique requirements of each piece, especially considering their historical and artistic significance.

The process involved close and continuous coordination between experienced framers—each with over a decade of expertise in handling and framing original artworks—and representatives from the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and the National Museum. This collaborative effort ensured that the framing adhered to museum-grade standards, both aesthetically and in terms of conservation.

Archival framing of artworks ensured long-term preservation through expert handling and museum-grade standards. Ahuja Framers were commissioned to do this work.

Architectural Models

The Museum has architectural models for the following monuments: Nizamuddin Dargah complex, Humayun's Tomb, buildings within in Humayun's Tomb garden enclosure - East pavilion, North Pavilion, Chillgah, gateways, Isa Khan's Tomb, Sunder Burj, Lakkarwala Burj, Mughal Mausoleum, Nila Gumbad, Sabz Burj, Chaunsath Khambha, and Rahim's Tomb, Sher Mandal, and Old Fort/Purana Qila.These models which are in a combination of cut-aways or showing the original setting/intent of the monuments are an important part of narrating the site's history and heritage.

Architectural models illustrate monument histories, revealing original intent and spatial context within the heritage site.

Specialized Reproductions

Object-based reproductions which includes the royal turban/ Taj E Izzat of Emperor Humayun, seven bronze statues showing Humayun in seven days of the week, letter by Shah Tahmasp to the governor of Herat, calligraphy of poem by Abu Talib on Humayun's Tomb, and Sirr E Akbari manuscript.

(Above) Emperor Humayun's keen interest in astrology shown through seven bronze sculptures wearing royal attire corresponding to the colours of the day's lords.

Sculptor: Jill Watson, Edinburgh

(Below) Emperor Humayun invented his royal headgear and named it Taj-I-Izzat/ Crown of Glory.

Replica by Asif Shaikh, Rahul Jain, Deepshikha Kalsi, Vinay Singh

Architectural Replicas

Alongside are true-scale reproductions of architectural elements – some monumental in themselves -showcasing India's contemporary rich building craft traditions like stone carving, Pietra Dura, Mother-of-pearl inlay in lacquer, unique patterns from the domed ceilings made with the incised plaster technique in lime mortar, all carefully matching the original.

These are the architectural reproductions in the Museum: Drum, Canopy, and Six-pointed star of Humayun's Tomb, Nila Gumbad's Finial, wooden canopy from Nizamuddin Auliya's Dargah, Ceilings of Lakkarwala, Atgah Khan and Nila Gumbad, Jahanara mausoleum's headstone, stone inscription of a tablet in Sarnath, Shahjahan's inscription of Khsurau's couplet in pietra durra, a bay of Chaunsath Khambha, sandstone lattice screen of Amir Khusrau's Tomb's verandah, and six-pointed star of Rahim's Tomb.

True-scale reproductions celebrate India's living craft traditions and revive historic architectural details.

Craftsmanship

The reproductions displayed in the museum serve as a tribute to the enduring richness of India's craft traditions, many of which continue to thrive in various regions across the country. These full-scale replicas have been meticulously created using age-old techniques, tools, and materials that are authentic to the original craft practices. What makes these reproductions particularly meaningful is that they were crafted by skilled artisans from the project area itself, ensuring not only historical accuracy but also a continuation of local craft knowledge.

These meticulously crafted reproductions celebrate India's enduring craftsmanship. Made by local artisans using traditional tools and methods, they honour the past while sustaining living craft traditions.

Installing Ticketing System

The planned implementation of a digital ticketing system is designed to significantly improve both visitor experience and operational management at the museum. One of the key benefits of this system is enhanced efficiency—by automating the entry and exit processes, the system will help minimize queues and waiting times, allowing for a smoother and more organized visitor flow. This, in turn, reduces the workload on staff, enabling them to focus more on visitor engagement and support rather than manual ticketing tasks.
Additionally, the system will offer greater accuracy and transparency in tracking visitor data, helping the museum monitor attendance patterns and plan resources accordingly.

A new digital ticketing system is set to streamline entry, reduce queues, and enhance the overall visitor experience. By automating processes, it allows staff to focus more on engagement while enabling accurate tracking of visitor data for better planning.

AV Projections

A diverse range of media has been employed to actively engage audiences throughout the museum, with projection-based displays playing a key role. These dynamic visual presentations enhance storytelling by bringing historical narratives, cultural contexts, and artistic processes to life in an immersive and accessible format.
Projections are used not only to display archival footage, photographs, and animations but also to simulate historical environments or illustrate complex restoration techniques, making the content more relatable and visually compelling.

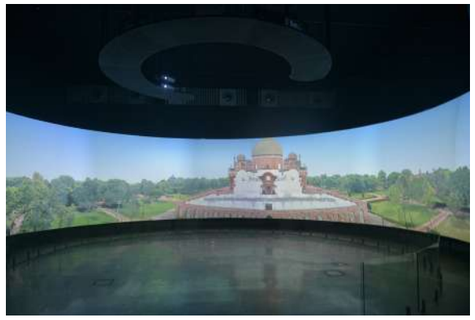
Projection-based displays throughout the museum enrich storytelling by bringing history, culture, and craft to life. Through archival footage, animations, and immersive simulations, they offer visitors a deeper, more engaging experience.

Graphic Design

- The graphic design of the museum has been carried out by December Design studio, who meticulously planned the object displays and information design on the panels. The bilingual information is sensitively and aesthetically interspersed with both contemporary graphics and Mughal minaiture paintings.
- Regular meetings and discussions were held between the AKTC team and designers to understand the intent and key messages for each panel and cluster, and thereafter motifs, drawings, patterns, and graphics were shortlisted.
- Following the design of panels, several stages of print samples were created as this kind of four-colour printing on black metal sheet has been undertaken for the first time.
- The high resolution graphics were created which relay the intent and information very well.

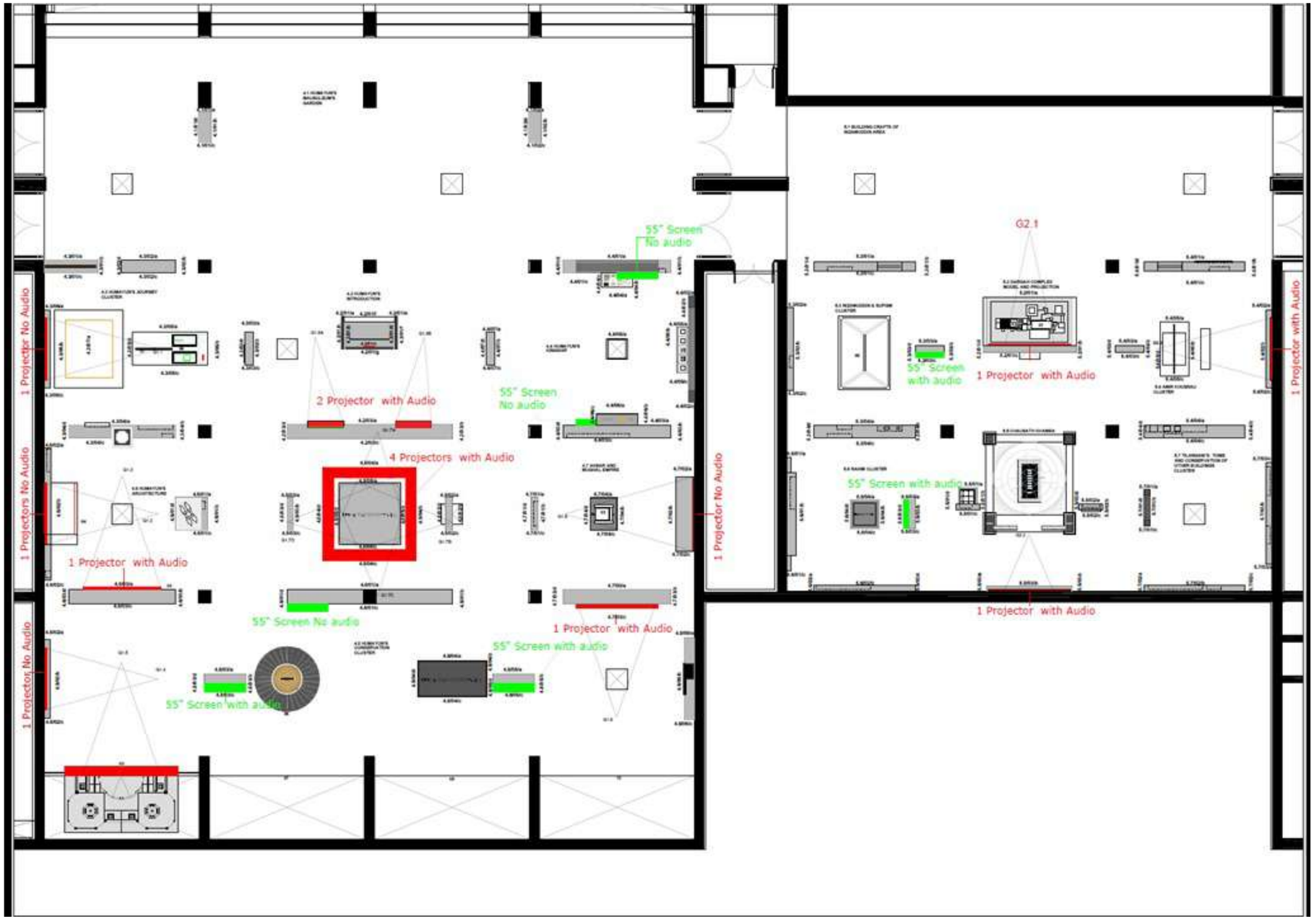
Exhibition Panels

- The exhibition panels have been fabricated by NOIDA-based companies - Shark Shopfits Private Limited, and Kingsmen Fairtech Interiors Pvt. Limited.
- The exhbition panel system as proposed by Espai Visuals is based on an internal framework of metal with black powdered coated metal sheets secured by industrial grade strength magents. This provides for a clean and clear plane for the graphics to come.
- Over a period of two years, the teams worked on creating metal totems which incorporates not only artworks and objects, but also heavy site antiquities like jaalis, medallions, and stone fragments. At some places, the heavier stone objects like inscriptions and architectural reproductions are supported on masonry and the metal sheets cut to perfection along the profile provides for the final covering.
- The exhibition panels with text printed on its surface provides a contemporary design aesthetics to the museum.



Films & Animations

The museum hosts a series of films which will shed new lights on the key events and episodes from the life of Emperor Humayun; key personalities from Nizamuddin Area like Rahim and Khusrau; and the conservation of several key monuments of Nizamuddin Area like Humayun's Tomb, Chaunsath Khambha, Rahim's Tomb.



LANDSCAPE

The landscape – both at ground level around the complex as well as at its lower level – is designed to function as a series of generously proportioned walkways, gardens and plazas that offer a pleasant experience for families, small groups and school parties. Each space benefits from the shade, shelter and visual interest offered by the many fine mature trees found on the site. The intent of landscape design is to illustrate and interpret the rich traditions of design and planting associated with gardens of the Mughal period. The extensive roof of the sunken block of the Museum – just a few steps above the surrounding garden – is imagined as the contemporary interpretation of a garden carpet design, mostly in sandstone. The conventional features of such a garden in the Persian style – a central water channel, planting beds, and narrow tunnels for irrigation – are represented as very simple patterns in the paving, and as thin shallow channels incised into the surface and suitably sloped for rainwater run-off.

The landscape design by Shaheer Associates, is carefully crafted to enhance the architectural experience. The gardens, designed as a modern interpretation of the traditional Mughal garden carpet, include symmetrical pathways, decorative water features, and an abundance of native plants.

1. **Principal Entry Court**: Visitors are welcomed into the museum courtyard garden in the facilities block, shaded by an existing, centuries-old tree.
2. **Exit to Sundar Nursery**: A symbolic water cascade connects the museum's exit to Sundar Nursery, one of the major heritage sites within the area.
3. **Main Approach to Humayun's Tomb:** The pathway that leads visitors to Humayun's Tomb is a wide, gently sloped area of grass and stone.

The thoughtful inclusion of fire tender paths, service zones, and soft landscape buffers ensures that the museum is operationally efficient while retaining its serene public character.

BUILDING SERVICES

All Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing services (MEP Services) have been completed to the highest standards, ensuring that the museum is future-ready and technologically integrated.

Given the delicate nature of the artifacts on display, the HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning) systems were designed with a focus on maintaining a constant temperature and humidity level within the museum galleries. Humidity control is particularly important for preserving delicate historical materials, such as textiles, manuscripts, and other ancient artifacts, which are sensitive to fluctuations in climate. The building is equipped with advanced HVAC systems that not only maintain a steady internal climate but also optimize energy consumption. This is a crucial aspect of the project, aligning with sustainability goals and reducing the museum's carbon footprint.

The gallery spaces are now fully equipped with high-performance acoustic insulation with five layers and lighting tracks to support immersive exhibitions. The stormwater drainage system, upgraded based on detailed rain assessments, not only safeguards the site but also recharges the underlying aquifer through linkage to the historic wells in the area. Plumbing works are complete across all levels, and landscape irrigation and water body systems have been integrated with sustainable water management infrastructure.

The electrical systems were designed to accommodate the demands of modern museum displays, including sophisticated lighting and audiovisual equipment, while ensuring minimal disruption to the historic site's aesthetic.

Fire Safety and Security

Given the museum's function as a public space and its collection of priceless artifacts, fire safety and security were critical components of the MEP design. The museum was equipped with the latest fire detection and suppression systems, integrated discreetly within the building's design to avoid visual interference. Security measures, including surveillance cameras and access control systems, ensure the safety of both the visitors and the valuable artifacts on display.

Building Construction:

The facilites block and its large open courtyard serve as a gathering space for visitors to the museum with spaces for restaurants, cafes and an auditorium.

FACILITIES BLOCK

The site museum also has an above-ground facilities block being built on the footprint of an earlier building. This block has a souvenir shop, conference facilities, an auditorium, exhibition gallery, multipurpose room, cafes, and restaurants. Every effort has been made to save the trees on site by designing the building along an open courtyard, which aims to serve as a meeting and discussion space for the visitors.

Taking advantage of large existing trees in the site, the building has an open courtyard in the center, which serves as a gathering space for people by providing them with an ample amount of seating space as well as an area for holding exhibitions under the foliage of large existing trees. This open plaza also functions as a threshold from which visitors can orient themselves and familiarize themselves with the area.

The Facilities Block has a souvenir shop, conference facilities, an auditorium, a multipurpose room, cafes, and restaurants.The building has an open courtyard in the center, which will serve as a gathering space for people by providing them with an ample amount of seating space as well as an area for holding exhibitions under the foliage of large existing trees.

MAIN DOORS

During construction, the external façade doors installed at the facilities block were found to be inadequately designed by the architect and did not comply with fire safety standards. Specifically, the original fire-rated doors were of insufficient width and failed to meet the mandated minimum clear opening of 2.0 meters, thereby posing a serious compliance and safety issue.

To rectify this, the non-compliant doors at key entrance points were carefully removed, along with the surrounding stone cladding. The affected areas were reconfigured to accommodate new, code-compliant door systems. Custom-designed metal doors were fabricated and installed, featuring CNC-cut jaali panels on the exterior for aesthetic integration with the façade, and clear glass on the interior side to allow visibility and light. These doors were fitted within large portal frames that wrap around the existing marble niches, designed to fully open outward and ensure the necessary clear width is achieved for safe exit and regulatory approval.

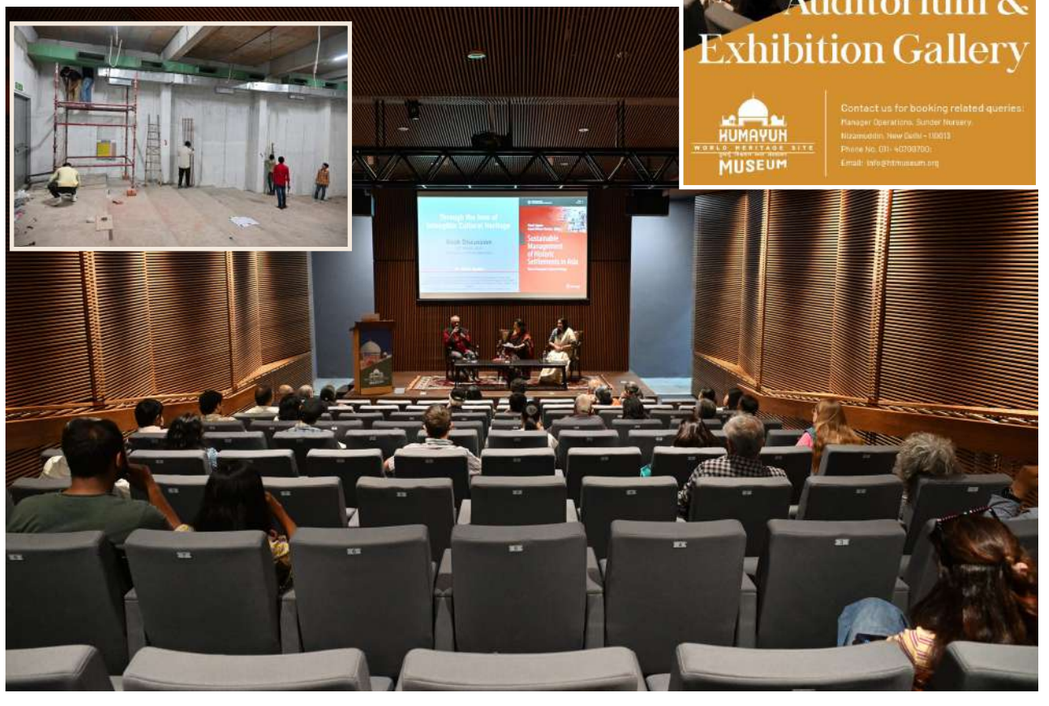
This intervention not only brought the building into compliance with fire safety regulations but also preserved the architectural integrity of the façade through thoughtful material selection and detailing.

AUDITORIUM

Supported by: The Saluja Family Trust

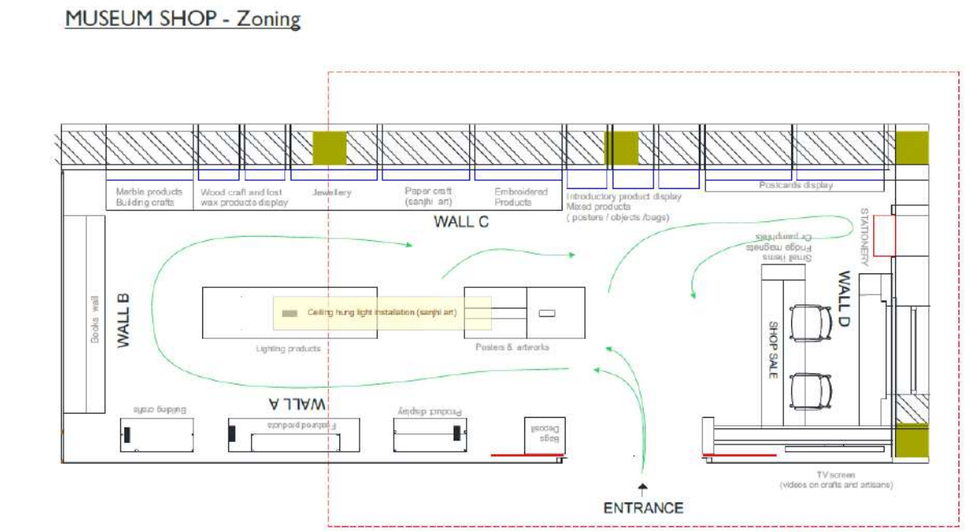
The underground auditorium, seating 100 individuals, is developed as an intimate space for musical recitals, storytelling shows, dastangois, public talks, illustrated lectures, seminars and discussions. It will provide a platform for the exchange of ideas and the arts, where people have the opportunity to learn and share knowledge. The auditorium is being built to create a state-of-the arts venue for intellectual and cultural activities and will host events organized by AKTC as well as other organizations to engage and inform varied audiences.

Centrally-located in New Delhi, this auditorium is well connected to public transport and has been provided adequate car-parking. Additionally, it is located at the entrance to the Humayun's Tomb World Heritage Site which attracts nearly two million visitors annually, assuring high visibility and public interaction.



MUSEUM SHOP

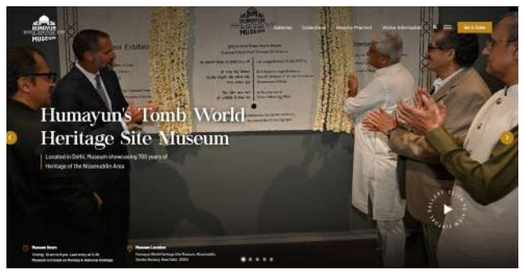
The Museum shop is situated at the exit of the Permanent Galleries, and near the ramps leading to Humayun's Tomb. The shop with an area of 350 sq. ft. will display and sell products inspired from the building crafts seen in the Nizamuddin Area's monuments. The AKTC team has collaborated with several crafts people and created contemporary products using crafts like pietra dura, stone carving, mother-of-pearl, lost wax craft, wood engraving, tilework, sanjhi paper craft, aari embroidery, crochet amongst others.

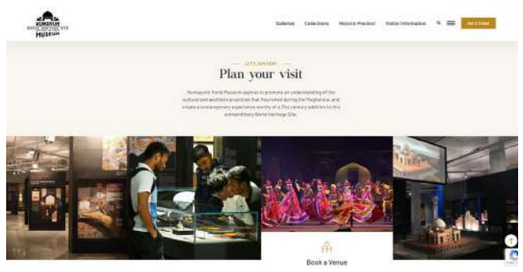


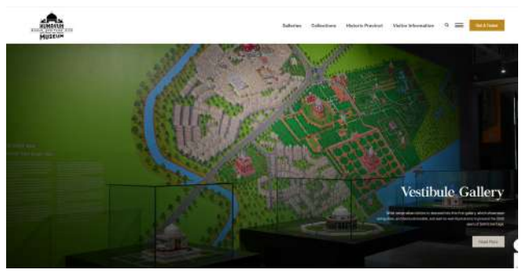
CUSTOMER - Impulsive and enthusiasts.

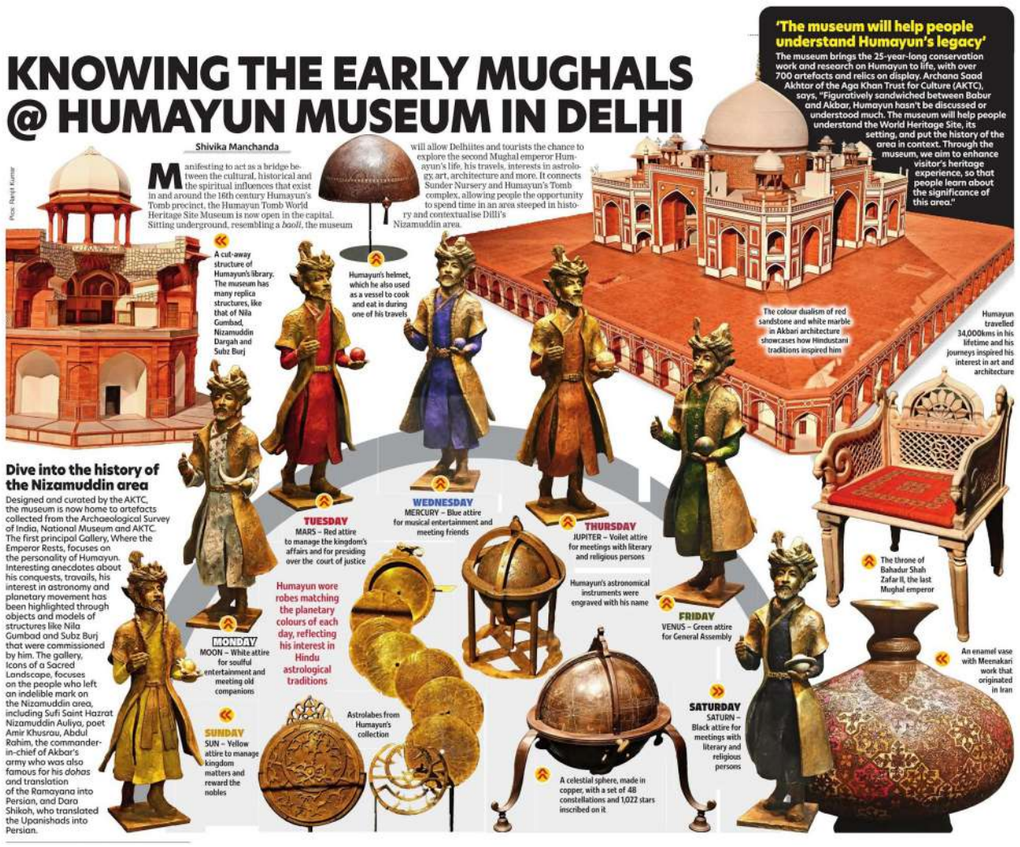
DIGITAL MUSEUM

- To extend the interpretation of both the site and museum beyond their physical spaces, **a museum website and augmented reality application was created with support from the Federal Republic of Germany.**
- Under this initiative a digital version of the museum has been created in the form of a website. The website houses the entire collection of museum with additional information, videos, expert interviews, and the conservation stories.
- As a next step, all the major objects from the museum will be connected to the website through QR codes which will enable visitors to access the additional information for them in detail.
- The AR App will also allow users to not only access the monuments of Nizamuddin area with a renewed information, but also connect them to the museum's collection, wherever possible. The QR codes for these monuments will be installed on the site's cultural notice boards.

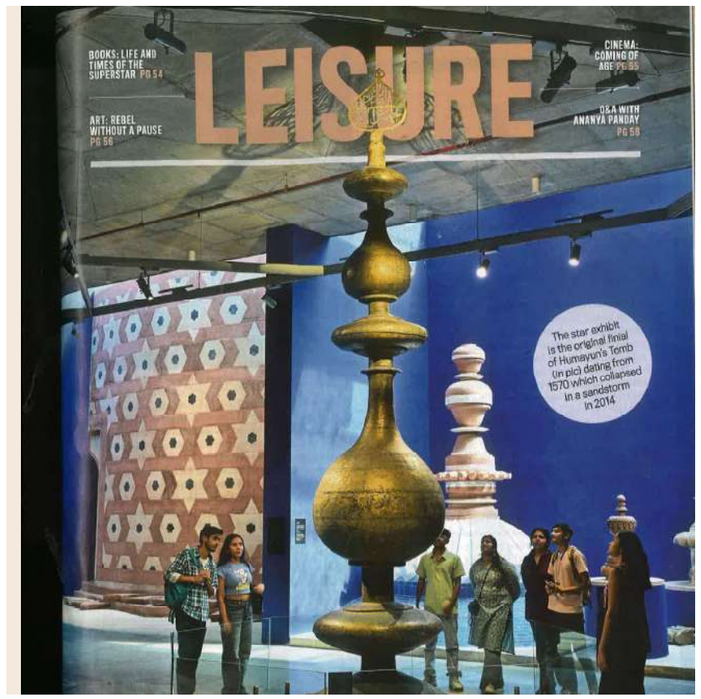


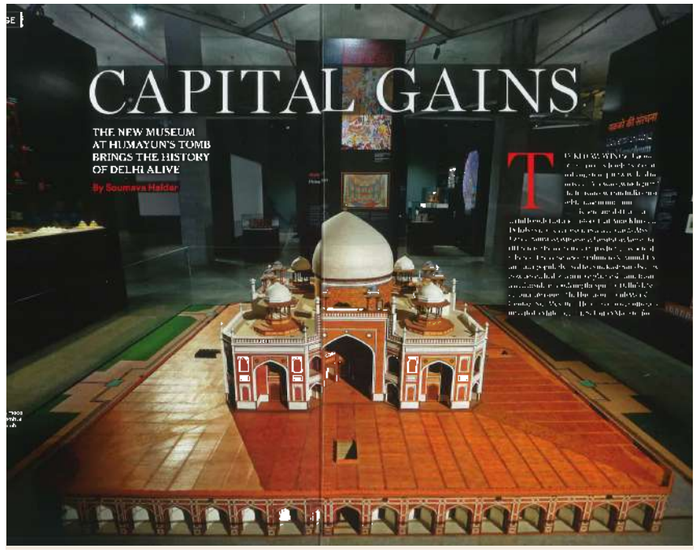


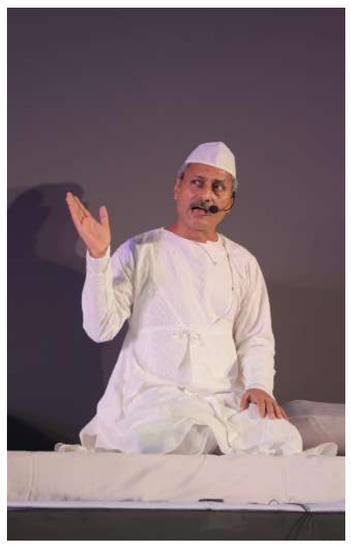




The museum opening received extensive media coverage, with 19 articles published prior to the inauguration, 6 on the day itself, and 26 after the event. It was also prominently featured on video platforms and generated significant engagement on social media.







Early Childhood and Care Programme at Nizamuddin Basti

Education Programme at SDMC school, Nizamuddin Basti

Sunder Nursery, New Delhi

Polyclinic as part of Health initiative at Nizamussin Basti

6th World Heritage Site Managers' Forum

3. Heritage & Communities

Inclusive & effective approaches for the sustainable management of World Heritage properties

Located in the heart of New Delhi, the Nizamuddin Area comprises the World Heritage Site of Humayun's Tomb, the vibrant seven centuries old settlement of Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti and its surrounding areas of 70 acre Sunder Nursery, in addition to the 16th century Batashewala Tomb-Garden Complex, tomb of 16th century courtier poet Khan I Khanan 'Rahim', and the Mughal-period caravanserai of Azimganj Serai. The Urban Renewal project has successfully unified these segregated zones of the conservation area into an urban historic district of considerable cultural significance. The project has successfully integrated Conservation, socio-economic development and environmental development objectives, and unified the three segregated sites of Humayun's Tomb – Sundar Nursery – Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti into a cultural district for the city of New Delhi.The impact of AKHCP's projects goes far beyond preservation. They have fostered good governance, empowered civil society, created economic opportunities, improved environmental stewardship, and promoted human rights, even in some of the world's most under-resourced regions.

His Highness Aga Khan has consistently emphasized the transformational potential of cultural heritage. As he noted at the UNESCO Conference on Culture and Development in Hangzhou, China (15 May 2023):

"Cultural heritage can itself be a 'trampoline' for social and economic development, in the same way that agriculture, water resources, power supply or transportation systems have traditionally been perceived.

Even in settings of abject poverty, cultural legacies, once dormant, can become a powerful catalyst for change. For all these journeys, the development process has been long and complex but filled with stimulating lessons.

Whether it be in Asia, Africa or the Middle East, in high mountain or coastal areas, in urban or rural environments, in peaceful or post-conflict situations, the case is proven in my mind that cultural development can contribute, in unique and distinctive ways, to the human aspirations for a better quality of life."

6th World Heritage Site Managers' Forum

Held from 18 to 20 July 2024 at the Humayun's Tomb World Heritage Site Museum, the 6th World Heritage Site Managers' Forum was organized under the framework of the World Heritage Committee. Co-hosted by the Archaeological Survey of India and the Aga Khan Trust for Culture, in collaboration with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and ICCROM, the forum brought together 82 heritage professionals representing 82 World Heritage properties from 34 countries.

Themed "Heritage and Communities: Inclusive and Effective Approaches for the Sustainable Management of World Heritage Sites," the forum emphasized the central role communities play in safeguarding heritage. It also explored how heritage sites can actively enhance the well-being of local and indigenous communities.

The Forum served as a platform to engage with communities and draw insights from successful frameworks where they contribute to managing World Heritage properties.

The forum opened with a formal ceremony attended by representatives from UNESCO, ASI,

82 site managers and heritage professionals representing **82 World Heritage properties** across **34 countries.**

ICCROM, ICOMOS, and AKTC, followed by interactive sessions designed to foster exchange and collaboration. Presentations covered the World Heritage system, conservation practices in India, and specific initiatives undertaken at Humayun's Tomb and its surrounding areas

Participants were given the opportunity to explore key World Heritage properties in India, with a focus on the Humayun's Tomb complex in Delhi. Immersive site visits included the adjoining Sunder Nursery and the historic Nizamuddin Basti. These visits highlighted the integrated urban renewal efforts in the area, which strongly emphasize community engagement and traditional craftsmanship.

Visitors experienced heritage conservation work carried out in the monuments as well as the work to improve the quality of lives of the community through interventions in education and health. livelihoods, sanitation and culture. They understood the linkage between heritage conservation and community development through the various interventions carried out under the project.

A curated preview of the Humayun's Tomb Museum introduced delegates to the site's rich, layered history through its interpretive exhibits.

Following the activities at Humayun's Tomb, the group was also walked through the World Heritage Site, where they got insights on the conservation approach and works undertaken on the monuments.

Additionally, curated heritage walks were organized throughout the week, allowing participants to further explore the conservation initiatives across the Humayun's Tomb–Nizamuddin Basti–Sunder Nursery area. Craft Display were also set up by Insha-e-Noor a women's enterprise set up by the women of Nizamuddin Basti.

Several exhibitions were planned around the site for the delegates of the 46th World Heritage Meeting. These were as follows:

- Humayun's Tomb Conservation
- Monuments of the Humayun's Tomb World Heritage Site
- Conservation of Batashewala Monuments
- Art in Architecture in the Humayun's Tomb ensemble
- Ecology in Sunder Nursery
- AKTC: Historic Cities Program
- Delhi and Hyderabad: A Viridescent Renaissance

The forum concluded with a cultural evening at Humayun's Tomb, featuring a live qawwali performance that celebrated the region's rich intangible heritage.

Exhibition 1 : Humayun's Tomb Conservation

Young Professionals' Forum

One of the highlights of the Site Managers' Forum was a joint session with participants of the 2024 World Heritage Young Professionals' Forum, promoting an intergenerational dialogue on heritage conservation.

Out of more than 3,500 applicants, 50 young professionals from 31 countries were selected for their exceptional work at World Heritage sites. The cohort included 20 Indian and 30 international participants, with equal representation across genders and regions—including Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Their diverse perspectives and youth-led initiatives contributed richly to the discussions.

The young professionals had also visited Humayun's Tomb, Sunder Nursery, and Nizamuddin Basti, enabling shared conversations around community engagement in heritage management. They discussed the role of communities in conservation and the potential of World Heritage to become a participatory platform for inclusive development.

Lectures, heritage walks, craftsmen demonstrations, and exhibitions were organized for the participants. Students were also given practical exposure through demonstrations of lime plaster and incised plaster techniques during the work. To help them better understand the ecological initiatives undertaken by AKTC at Sunder Nursery, a special demonstration was conducted showcasing efforts in bee conservation at the site.

Their collective commitment was captured in the Declaration of the 2024 Young Professionals' Forum:

"Our World Heritage is all of ours, and with that comes a shared responsibility.

We have laid before you a blueprint of the future and will spend our lives working to make this vision a reality. This future, however, relies on all of us building a strong foundation.

We are the future, and now is our time to act."

Exhibition 2 : Monuments of the Humayun's Tomb World Heritage Site

Exhibition 3 : Conservation of Batashewala Monuments

Exhibition 4 : Art in Architecture in the Humayun's Tomb ensemble

Exhibition 5 : Ecology in Sunder Nursery

Exhibition6 : AKTC: Historic Cities Program

Exhibition 7 : Delhi and Hyderabad: A Viridescent Renaissance

CONSERVATION

4. Jamaat Khana Mosque

This Akbar's era mausoleum is one of the most intricately ornamented and striking16th century structures in Delhi.

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

ACTION TAKEN:

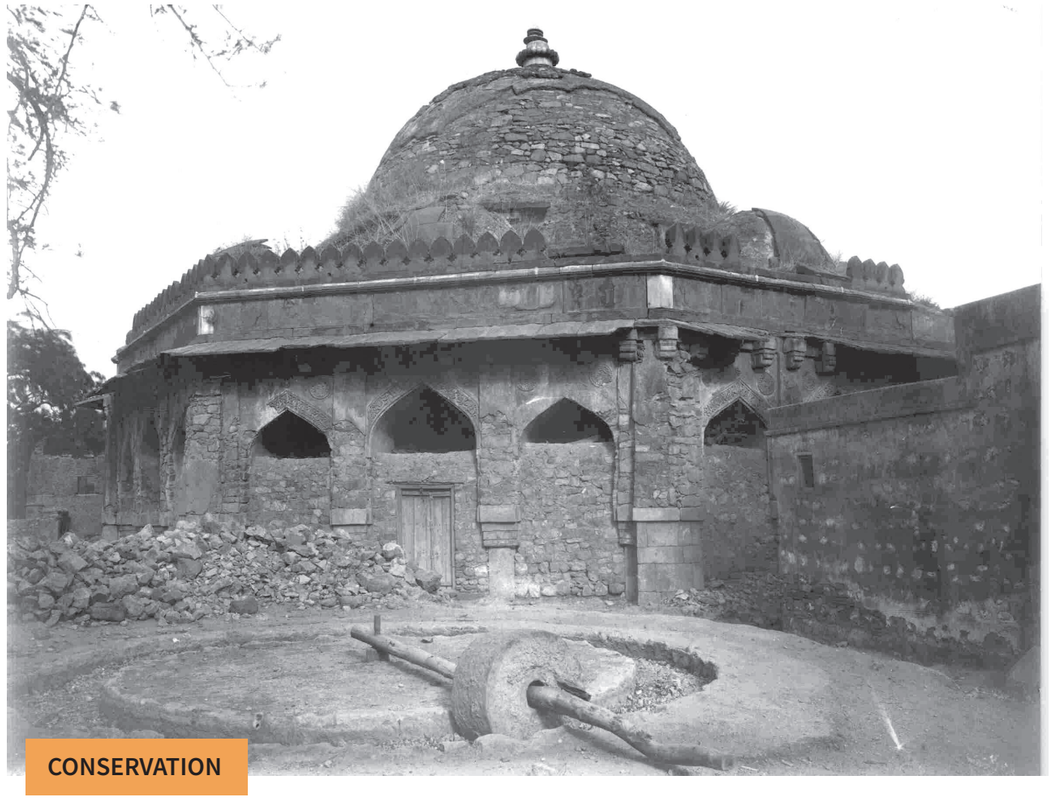
- Following the careful documentation of the calligraphy work of the eastern façade, damaged stone pieces from the archway were carefully restored using new stones carved by master stone craftsmen. These were carved based on careful documentation and tracing of the inscriptions by calligraphers, who carefully matched the original script in style and content.

Before Conservation

Tracing of calligraphy

After Conservation

Master craftsmen, such as these stone carvers, used traditional materials, tools and building crafts while repairing or replacing damaged stones to match the craftsmanship of their ancestors.



CONSERVATION

5. Tilangani's Mausoleum

(Above) Archival photograph of Tilangani's mausoleum from CE 1923
Source: Archaeological Survey of India

Supported by :

Delhi Urban Heritage Foundation of Delhi Development Authority

Built in CE 1388 by Junan Shah, it is the first octagonal mausoleum built 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 a larger octagonal veranda around the central chamber crowned. The central dome was clad with red sandstone. Over the years, the monument has been encroached upon damaged by 35 families. Following AKTC efforts, the central chamber is now accessible from the south archway.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Years of neglect and surrounding encroachment had resulted in the accumulation of rubbish on the roof. Dense vegetation growth on the dome and terrace was carefully removed without causing any damage to the structure, and the debris was cleared.
- The base of the dome is clad in red sandstone and where missing, blocks of red sandstone have been carved and restored to base.
- The domes of the structure would have originally been clad with red sandstone. Preparatory works for restoring the stone have commenced and stones are being carved to the shape and profile of the dome.

Conservation works at the terrace and dome of Tilangani's Mausoleum

CONSERVATION

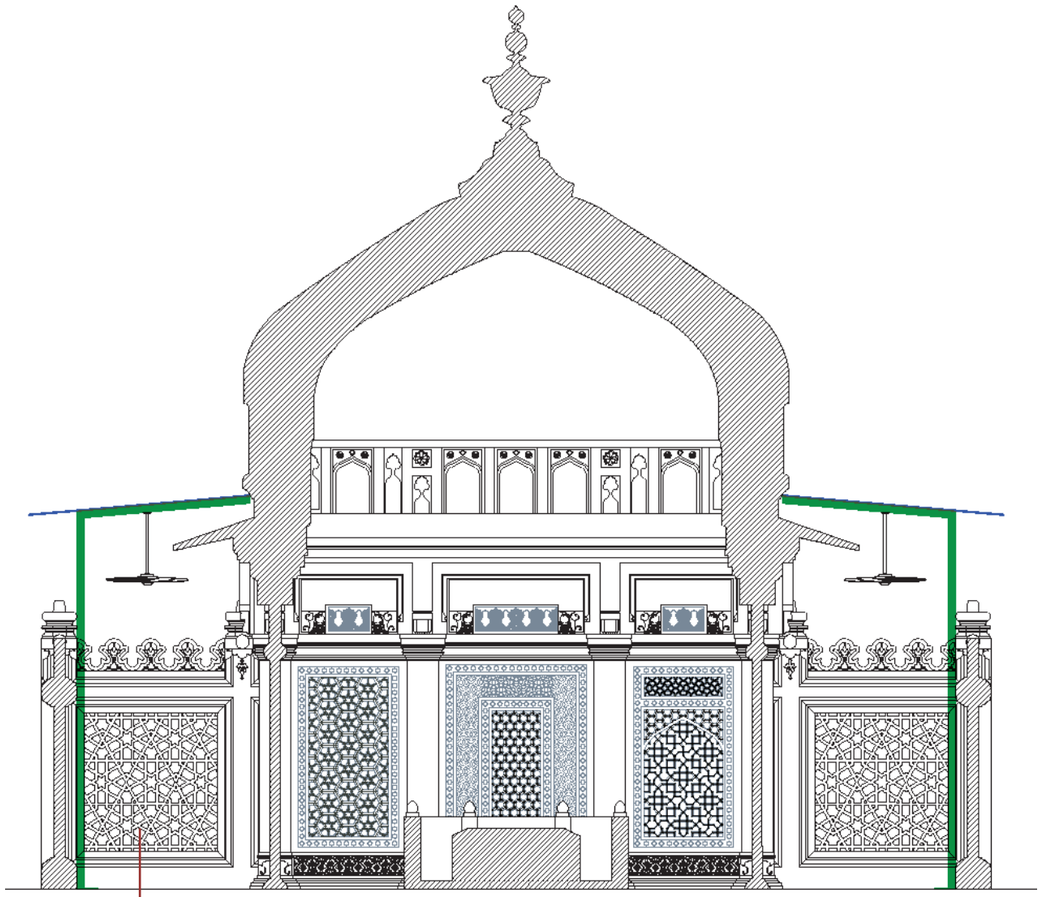
6. Amir Khusrau's Tomb

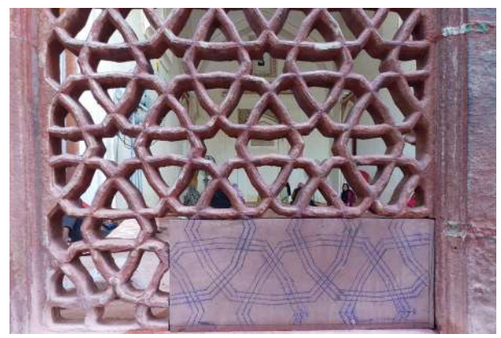
Existing site images shows the present condition of the Amir Khusrau Tomb. The support for temporary shed over the courtyard is taken on the external Jali wall.

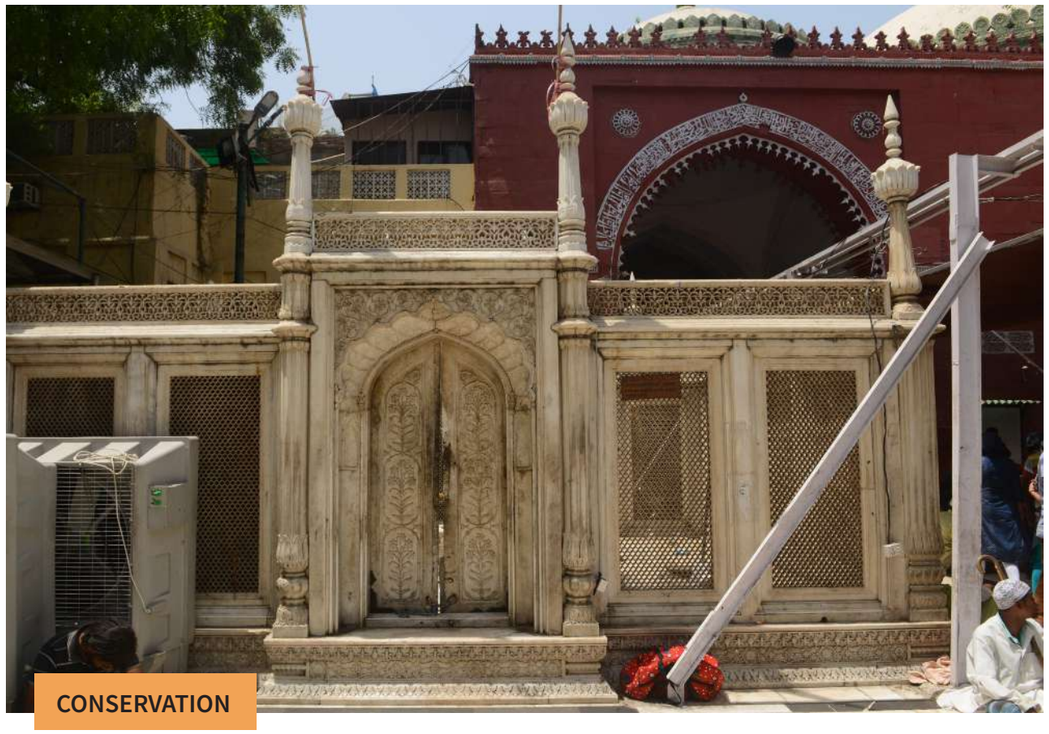
Amir Khusrau's burial is placed in the south compound of the main shrine of Nizamuddin Auliya which is presently known as the Dalan of Amir Khusrau. The tomb of Amir Khusrau was added at different times, as was that of Nizamuddin Auliya's. The tomb lies in an enclosure of 28'x20' surrounded by red sandstone lattice walls made during the reign of the emperor Humayun. The enclosure, paved with marble, is entered through a doorway on the south, where it is partly roofed with stone slabs (an addition during the late 18th century). The tomb chamber, which is oblong in plan, measures 16'x12' externally and is constructed of marble. It is covered by a vaulted roof, supported by 12 pillars, and the dome has two marble finials (Guldastas).

ACTION TAKEN:

- Damaged stone elements such as the kanguras over the enclosure wall were carefully restored by stone pieces carved by master stone craftsmen to match the existing.
- Damaged stone jaalis of the enclosure wall were repaired in-situ to prevent further damage to the lattice screens.
- A comprehensive condition assessment report for the entire tomb structure was prepared and thoroughly reviewed with the Dargah committee.
- A proposal for heritage-friendly lighting, designed to preserve the historic character of the tomb, has been prepared for implementation in the coming year. The plan includes the removal of all unplanned electrical wiring and lighting fixtures from the dome.
- The existing temporary fabric roof will be replaced with a more permanent structure, sensitive to the heritage character of the building.







CONSERVATION

7. Muhammad Shah's Mausoleum

(Above) The 18th century marble mausoleum of Mughal emepror Muhammad Shah is one of the three intricate Mughal mausoleums in the Dargah complex. The intricate carvings on both sides of the door and the jaalis are a testament of high craftsmanship of the period.

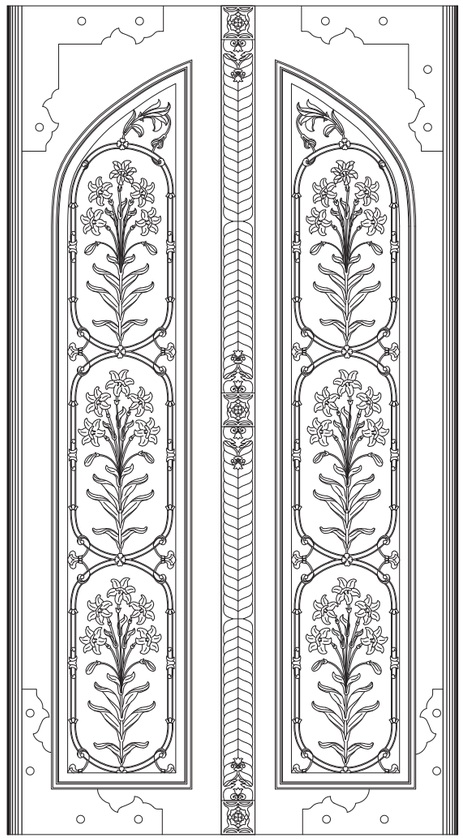
The tomb of Muhammad Shah is situated within the Dargah Complex, enclosed by a marble structure. The entire enclosure is crafted from marble, with intricately designed lattice screens, highlighted by pinnacles at each corner. The parapet is adorned with finely carved marble latticework. The doors to this enclosure are exquisitely carved, though they have fallen into disrepair due to extensive use and damage over time.

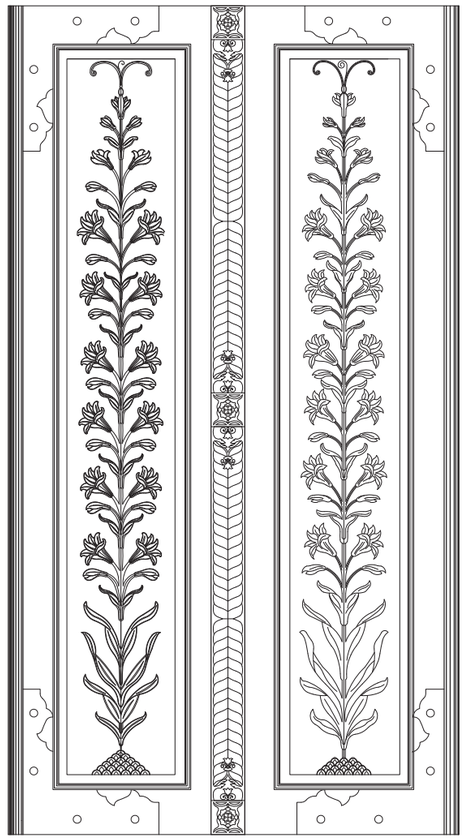
ACTION TAKEN:

- After a thorough condition assessment and detailed documentation, the original doors of the tomb have been carefully secured for display at the museum. In order to maintain the historical integrity of the site, a replica has been meticulously crafted by skilled master craftsmen, who have painstakingly recreated the intricate details of the original doors. Every element, from the delicate carvings to the overall design, has been carefully matched to ensure the replica mirrors the grandeur of the original.

NEXT STEPS:

- Install the newly crafted doors at the tomb, restoring the monument's appearance.





(Above and below Left) Architectural documentation of the door and its intricate carvings on both sides enabled the craftsmen (below Right) to produce an exact replica of the marble door which will be installed on the monument.

CONSERVATION

8. Atgah Khan's Mausoleum

This Akbar's era mausoleum is one of the most intricately ornamented and striking16th century structures in Delhi.

Supported by :

Delhi Urban Heritage Foundation of Delhi Development Authority

Built in CE 1566-67 by Atgah Khan's son, Mirza Aziz Kokaltash (who held an important position in Akbar's court), it 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 four facades and decorative inscribed marble panels with handmade tile inlay work in the spandrels.

The interiors, once highly decorative with red sandstone jaalis and incised plasterwork motifs and inscriptions from the holy Quran in calligraphy, have mostly been stripped of this original work. In 2002, five layers of cement-surkhi plaster were laid that replaced much of the red-blue ceiling with ornamental incised plaster work. The crypt of the tomb is presently occupied.

Traditional craftsmen restore patterns in lime, tile and stone.

ACTION TAKEN:

- The intricately carved red sandstone panels with relief work on the external façade had suffered significant decay due to age and water seepage. These damaged panels were carefully removed and replaced with new ones, matching the original patterns and designs.
- The marble panels on the exterior facades, inlaid with green and blue tiles, were meticulously restored using handmade glazed tiles matching the original. The old, decayed mortar in the grooves was carefully removed and replaced with inlaid tiles, preserving the original patterns.
- The red sandstone and marble apron stones on the interior walls have been restored according to the original designs.
- The Quranic inscriptions above the Jaali openings on all four interior walls were carefully traced and restored. Experts conducted a detailed analysis to identify the missing Quranic verses, which were then redrawn by an expert calligrapher in the same style as the original text.
- The incised plasterwork in the interior chamber was carefully restored using traditional tools and techniques, finished with polychrome to reflect the original colours and patterns.

NEXT STEPS:

- Conservation of monuments within the Nizamuddin Basti to continue as per approved conservation plans and discussion with the Dargah committee.

CONSERVATION

9 Sunder Nursery Monuments

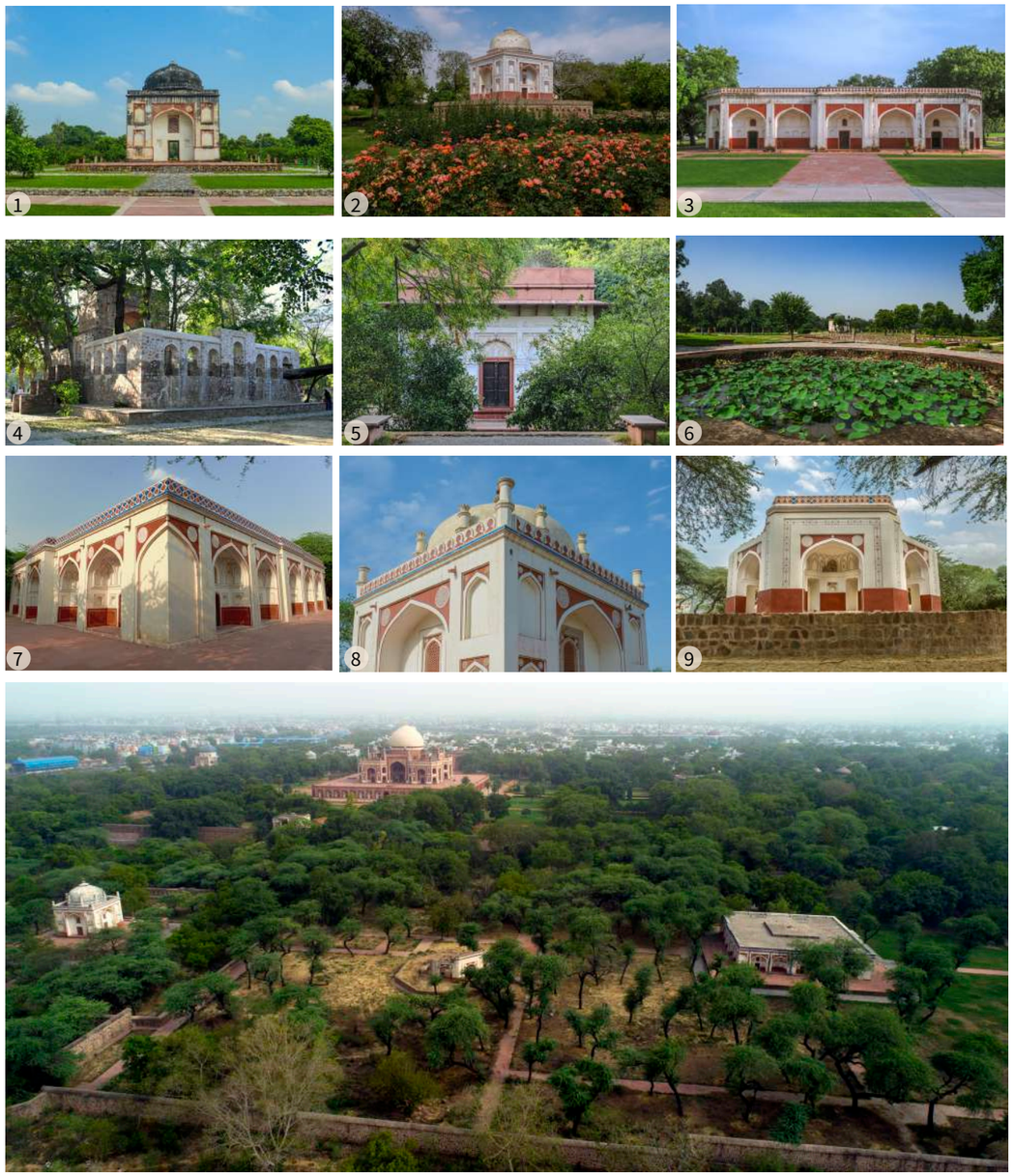
(Above) Craftsmen undertaking maintenance works on Sunder Burj. As part of the Management Trust, at Sunder Nursery significant effort is made to provide visitors a secure environment as well as protect the monuments, landscape, and vegetation.

As part of the ongoing operations and maintenance at Sunder Nursery, regular maintenance activities are carried out to ensure the long-term protection and integrity of the historic buildings within the site. Six of these sites fall within the World Heritage Boundaries and deemed to be of national importance. The remaining structures form an important part of the ensemble of sites in the area and together, they are regularly monitored for any defects or conservation interventions that may be required.

A key aspect of this maintenance is the thorough clearing of roofs and drainage systems prior to the monsoon season. This involves removing accumulated debris, fallen leaves, and any blockages that could obstruct water flow, thereby preventing potential water damage to the buildings and ensuring the proper functioning of the drainage systems throughout the monsoon.

In addition to the seasonal cleaning, repairs are made to any damaged or deteriorating plaster surfaces. Where necessary, traditional lime plaster is used to restore the original finish of the walls and surfaces. This approach not only preserves the aesthetic and historical value of the buildings but also ensures that the repairs are in keeping with the original builders' intention.

These regular maintenance activities play a crucial role in safeguarding the architectural heritage of Sunder Nursery, ensuring that the historic buildings remain in good condition and continue to reflect their cultural significance.



(Right) Sunder Burj; Lakkarwala Burj; Sunderwala Mahal; Arched Platform; Garden Pavilion; Lotus Pond; Mirza Muzaffar Hussain's Mausoleum; Mughal Mausoleum; Chota Batasha; (Bottom right) View of Sunder Nursery from the Humayun's Tomb

CONSERVATION

10 Restoration of Humayun's Tomb's Gardens

Neglect during the COVID-19 pandemic led to deterioration of Humayun's Tomb gardens; a site assessment with ASI initiated plans for restoration. Restoration of fountain at Humayun's Mausoleum under progress.

In 1993, Humayun's Tomb was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site, accompanied by an ICOMOS recommendation to restore its historic gardens. His Highness the Aga Khan gifted India its first-ever garden restoration project in 1997, marking the 50th anniversary of the country's independence. The project revitalized the garden by reinstating flowing water, restoring the original garden levels, repairing 200,000 square feet of pathways, and reintroducing traditional Mughal flora, including citrus, pomegranate, neem, and hibiscus.

Since 2020, the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic led to significant neglect and deterioration of the restored gardens at Humayun's Tomb. With reduced maintenance and limited visitor activity, the carefully revived landscape and water systems fell into disrepair. Recognizing the urgent need for restoration, a comprehensive site assessment was conducted in collaboration with the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).

ACTION TAKEN:

In response, since July 2024, the Government Sunder Nursery Management Trust took the responsibility of revitalizing the gardens, undertaking extensive efforts to restore them to their former splendour. This included reviving the previously non-functional water systems, ensuring the smooth flow of water through the historic channels, and reinstating the lush greenery that defines this Mughal charbagh. This has not only led to the preservation of the integrity of the site but also reinforces its role as a cultural landmark within Delhi.

The gardens of Humayun's Tomb, served as backdrop for courtly life. Contemporary miniature paintings from the Mughal period vividly illustrate these spaces as dynamic settings for royal courtly scenes. The harmonious integration of built form and nature within these gardens reflects the sophisticated vision of Mughal architectural and landscape traditions, where geometry, spirituality, and functionality converge seamlessly. Their preservation is essential not only for maintaining the authenticity of this UNESCO World Heritage site but also for ensuring that future generations continue to experience the serenity, grandeur, and cultural depth that these historic gardens offer.

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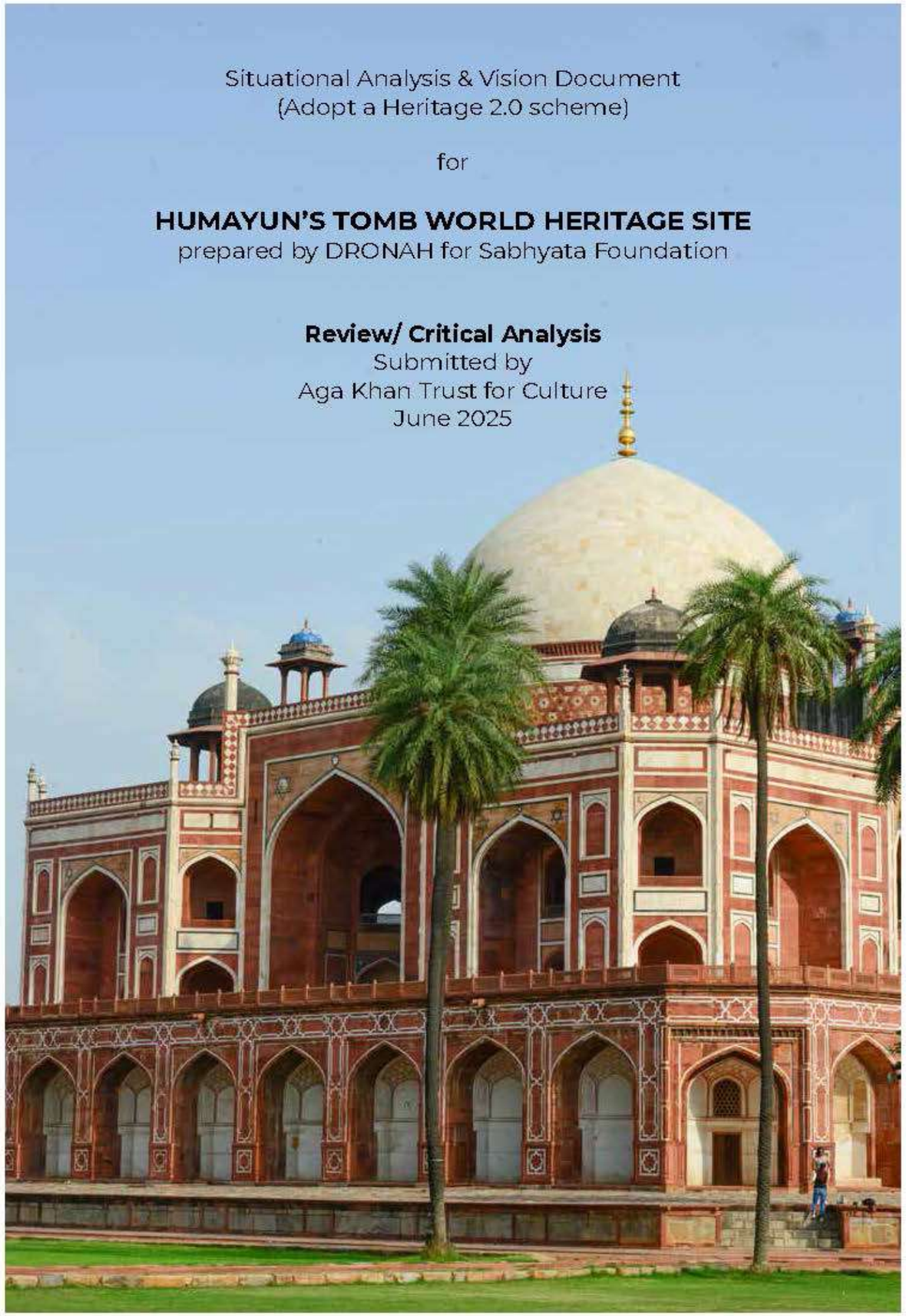
These gardens hold immense significance in shaping the architectural and cultural landscape of this remarkable ensemble of garden tombs. Characterized by flowing water channels, lush greenery, and a meticulously planned symmetrical layout, they embody the quintessential elements of Mughal landscape design. Preserving these gardens in their original form is not merely a conservation effort but a commitment to safeguarding their historical, aesthetic, and ecological integrity.

May 2024

March 2025

May 2024

March 2025



ADOPT A HERITAGE 2.0

Humayun's Tomb sought for events

The March 2024 MoU signed between the ASI and Sabhyata Foundation to '**adopt**' Humayun's Tomb is based on the situational analysis carried out by Dr Shikha Jain of Dronah.

The said situational analysis disregards over 25 years of work at this UNESCO World Heritage Site by the ASI-AKTC team. It furthermore disregards basic UNESCO guidelines for World Heirtage Sites in general and fails to understand that the OUV for the Humayun's Tomb World Heritage Site- where the gardens represent the earliest surving Char Bagh anywhere in the world.

1. The adopt a Heritage proposal by Dronah for Sabhyata Foundation states, '*Existing one toilet block is not adequate for visitor footfall'*. However, there have never been any queue at the toilet blocks. Also, in addition to the existing block comprising 3 WC's and 8 Urinals for men and 8 WC's for women, two additional toilet blocks exist at the Humayun's Tomb Museum comprising 20 WC's for women and 9 WC's and 21 Urinals for men.
2. It has been claimed by Dronah/ Sabhyata Foundation that there is '*Lack of universal accessibility … and provision of only one ramp..*'. The truth is that the one ramp – built by AKTC in the year 2000- is adequate for wheelchair users. Also, the entire gardens were made wheelchair accessible in 2000-2002 with stone bridges over water channels and ramps at all locations where these are required.
3. For parking, the said report states, '*No proper parking facility is available to visitors*'. Though it has been repeatedly highlighted that the World Heritage Site lacks adequate parking, a car park for 100 cars has been built by AKTC at the Sabz Burj entrance. Similarly a parking for 60 buses has also been built on ASI land adjoining BSF mess. Sunder Nursery also boasts of 320 car parking spots. It is alarming that the said proposal includes a car park atop an archaeological mound within the World Heritage Property – at its south-east corner.
4. With regard to Lighting, the Dronah report states that there is '*Inadequate Existing lighting*' and includes multiple pictures of light fixtures themselves! The illumination of Humayun's Tomb and some of the other monuments of the complex that have recieved international acclaim. These have all been illuminated with the technical support and supply of fixtures by Havells.

It has been further clarified that, the Govt. Sunder Nursery Management Trust was formed with objectives similar to the Ádopt a Heritage scheme and therein we continue to manage the maintenance at Humayun's Tomb gardens, the site museum and will be happy to provide any additional support in the management of the 200 acre World Heritage Site – akin to a Samarak Saarthi under the Adopt a Heritage scheme.

CONSERVATION

11 Rahim's Mausoleum

(Above) Rahim's Mausoleum and its garden setting restored. The site exhibition not only informs the visitors of the architectural significance of the site and works undertaken here since 2016, but also showcases the literary and cultural significance of Rahim in Indian sub-continent.

Supported by :

Indigo Reach

Conservation works undertaken by AKTC in partnership with the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), InterGlobe Foundation, and IndiGo at Rahim's Tomb were completed in 2020. Following this. significant efforts have been made to maintain and enhance the visitor experience at the site. These efforts ensure that the site remains both accessible and informative, while also preserving its historical charm.

Regular maintenance of the visitor facilities is carried out to ensure a comfortable and welcoming experience. This includes the upkeep of rest areas, seating, and sanitation facilities, ensuring cleanliness and convenience for all visitors. The parking area is regularly inspected and maintained to provide ample and well-organized space for visitors, making access to the site smooth and efficient.

(Above) Horticulture team carryiing out regular maintenance of the garden; AKTC team undertaking heritage walks for the team of InterGlobe Foundation to explain the monument and works undertaken here.

The pathways leading to Rahim's Tomb have been carefully maintained to provide safe and easy access for all visitors. Regular cleaning and repairs are conducted to. Additionally, signage throughout the site has been updated and maintained to ensure clear and informative signage for visitors. The on-site permanent exhibition provides visitors with deeper insights into the historical and cultural significance of Rahim's Tomb. These efforts ensure that visitors can engage with the site in a meaningful way, learning about the monument's rich history, architecture, and the legacy of Rahim. Interpretation also extends to the presentation of conservation efforts, highlighting the restoration work completed in partnership with ASI, InterGlobe, and IndiGo.

The gardens surrounding Rahim's Tomb have been carefully restored and are regularly maintained. Seasonal pruning, weeding, and replanting are carried out to ensure that the gardens continue to thrive. These gardens not only add to the monument's visual appeal but also provide a tranquil environment for visitors to enjoy.

These ongoing maintenance efforts, in collaboration with ASI and IndiGo, ensure that Rahim's Tomb remains a well-preserved historical site. The aim is to create a sustainable and enriching experience for visitors.

CONSERVATION

12 Nila Gumbad

The Nila Gumbad is the earliest Mughal era structure to have been built in Delhi. The western enclosure wall of Nila Gumbad's garden was later incorporated within the eastern enclosure wall of Humayun's Tomb. In the 1980's the two monuments were segregated when a trunk sewerage line was laid between them piercing the Nila Gumbad's northern enclosure wall. Conservation efforts at Nila Gumbad commenced in 2013 following the surrounding land having been secured, and works have been completed to reintegrate the monument with the Humayun's Tomb Complex.

The monument has since been experiencing noticeable widening of the joints in its tilework, primarily due to vibrations and movements caused by the nearby train operations. While the dome's core structure remains largely intact, the widening joints has led to dense vegetation growth on the dome and the tilework is susceptible to these external factors, requiring immediate attention to prevent further deterioration.

CONSERVATION STRATEGY:

- **Vegetation Removal**: Over the years, invasive plants and moss have begun to take root in widening mortar joints, which have accelerated the weathering of the surface but also contribute to moisture retention, leading to further decay.
- All vegetation will have to be carefully removed from the dome using manual and non-invasive techniques to avoid further damage. Roots will need to be extracted with precision to prevent regrowth, and all biological material treated with environmentally safe biocides to inhibit future growth. This will be followed by surface cleaning to ensure no organic residue remains that might compromise future conservation work.
- **Reinforcement of Joints**: The joints in the tilework will have to be carefully cleaned and reinforced using lime mortar to ensure the tilework remains intact. Lime mortars while historically appropriate are also capable of withstanding vibrations without cracking or shifting, and will be best suited to address this.
- **Structural Monitoring**: A system will need to be implemented to continuously monitor the movement and vibrations caused by the trains. This data will inform any future repair needs.
- **Tilework Restoration**: The tilework will be assessed and where necessary, restored with tiles crafted to match the original.

NEXT STEPS:

- Present the conservation strategy to the Archaeological Survey of India, and undertake repairs on the dome. Present the conservation strategy to the Archaeological Survey of India, and undertake repairs on the dome.

18th century Monuments in the Delhi Golf Club

Delhi Golf Club :

Monuments for Conservation

Gateway

Mir Taqis Tomb (7th Hole)

Late Mosque (6th Hole)

Mughal Vaulted Tomb

Barahkhamba (Tee 17)

About the Project

North of the Hazrat Nizamuddin Dargah is the sprawling Delhi Golf Club. Here stand almost a dozen monuments mostly dating from the late 17th/ 18th centuries with the exception of the so-called Barakhamba which is a 14th century/ Tughlaq era mausoleum of a unique architectural style. These 17th/ 18th century structures form part of the sacred landscape that was established with the early 14th century burial of the Saint Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya and which led to over 500 years of mausoleum building all around the saints Dargah.

Since 2007, under the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative, AKTC has conserved over 60 monuments in the Humayun's Tomb – Sunder Nursery – Nizamuddin Basti area. In 2023, approval of the Delhi Golf Club to undertake similar conservation works on the monuments standing within the Golf Club led to AKTC seeking approval of the ASI, Heritage Conservation Committee, and the NDMC.

Four monuments were planned to be conserved in the first phase 2023 – 25 with another four planned top be conserved during a second phase during 2025 – 27. As with other conservation effort undertaken in the greater Nizamuddin area since 2007, here as well master craftsmen will use traditional materials, craft techniques and tools to restore the monuments. A major challenge in undertaking conservation works on this group of monuments is inappropriate past repairs with the use of cement and even reinforced cement concrete and mindless altering of original building elements and design. Water rise from the ground on account of lack of a plinth protection has also caused significant structural damage and loss.

The conservation of these eight monuments will result in an important group of structures getting a new lease of life as well as restore their original grandeur.

CONSERVATION

13 Bagichi Tomb

Past conservation in cement-lime plaster has led to the deterioration of the traditional lime plaster layers and the ruinous appearance of the tomb.

This lofty late Mughal tomb would have originally stood within a garden enclosure accessed through a low arched doorway over which was a triple arched compartment. Today, the tomb stands surrounded by the vast greens of the golf course. Square in plan, the tomb is accessed through a flat doorway set in an arched niche. Built in lakhori masonry, the exterior is decorated in stucco lime plaster and is in advanced state of deterioration.

The interior is similarly decorated in lime stucco and incised plasterwork finished with red-white polychrome. Within stand two unidentified graves. The dome rises from an octagonal drum and is surrounded by sandstone chattris on the four corners. The parapet is decorated in floral incised plasterwork in lime.

The architectural character of the building is lost due to decaying plasterwork and past conservation attempts in cement-lime plaster. Conservation works will include restoring traditional lime plaster to the external surfaces and restoration of decorative elements based on existing evidence.

Supported by:

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Concor India

ACTION TAKEN:

1. Dismantling of decayed plaster

Following a comprehensive assessment and documentation of the existing conditions of the building, dismantling of the deteriorated plaster on both exterior and interior surfaces was executed. Similarly, modern cement-surkhi repairs were also dismantled. The underlying masonry was carefully cleaned, raked and pointed to prepare the surfaces for lime plaster.

2. Restoration of Ceiling Stucco

The ceiling of this tomb is decorated with stucco plaster finished with red-white polychrome. As with the wall surfaces, deteriorated plaster and modern cement-surkhi repairs were carefully dismantled. This was undertaken by craftsmen careful not to damage the existing original patterns.

Following this master craftsmen painstakingly restored the ceiling as per original patterns documented at site. This was carried out using traditional tools, techniques and materials. The restored plaster was carefully finished with red-white polychrome to match the original.

3. Restoration of stucco panels interior facades

Similar to the ceiling stucco, the interior facades were extensively documented to understand the original patterns and intricated decorative work. Master craftsmen have restored these patterns based on original evidence found in-situ using traditional tools and techniques. Modern cement layers have been dismantled and restored with traditional lime plaster.

4. Restoration of original profiles of arches and niches

Past conservation attempts had distorted the original profiles of arches and niches in the building. Following thorough documentation of existing evidence, drawings were prepared to match the original and craftsmen have skilfully applied lime plaster to reshape these architectural elements to their original curvature and profiles.

5. Restoration of Red-White Polychrome

As with other structures in this historic precinct, these buildings were finished with a fine layer of lime punning with a red-white contrast. Past conservation attempts in a modern cement-lime-surkhi plaster had led to the deterioration of the original punning and an inappropriate appearance of a colour not matching the original. A detailed documentation and analysis into the surviving red-white polychrome decoration, led to the restoration of these original layers.

During the monsoon, organic growth will naturally develop on these traditional lime layers and allow a layer of patina to develop on these surfaces .

6. Restoration of Exterior Stucco

As with the interior stucco plaster, here too inappropriate modern repairs had led to the deterioration of original lime plaster. These have been dismantled and restored using traditional lime plaster to match original details and decorative work.

(Above) Master craftspersons restore traditional lime plaster and polychrome to the building

7. Revealing original levels of the plinth

Careful scientific investigations were conducted around the tomb's base to identify the original ground level. Documentation of discovered features was meticulously recorded and have informed the restoration of the original plinth levels and platform around the tomb. These works were carried out in coordination with the course managers of the Delhi Golf Club in a manner that would not disrupt the course.

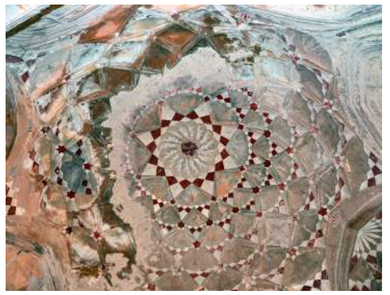
8. Restoring deteriorated stone elements

A detailed assessment of all sandstone elements, such as the plinth stones and elements of the chattris, was undertaken to evaluate the extent of deterioration. Deteriorated elements have been carefully documented and restored using blocks of stone carefully carved by master craftsmen.

Plans for the fabrication and installation of simple sandstone jaali to replace missing lattice screens are in progress.

(Above) Modern cement-lime layers were carefully dismantled from the structure

(Above) The decorated ceiling with its red-white polychrome being restored by master craftspersons



Before

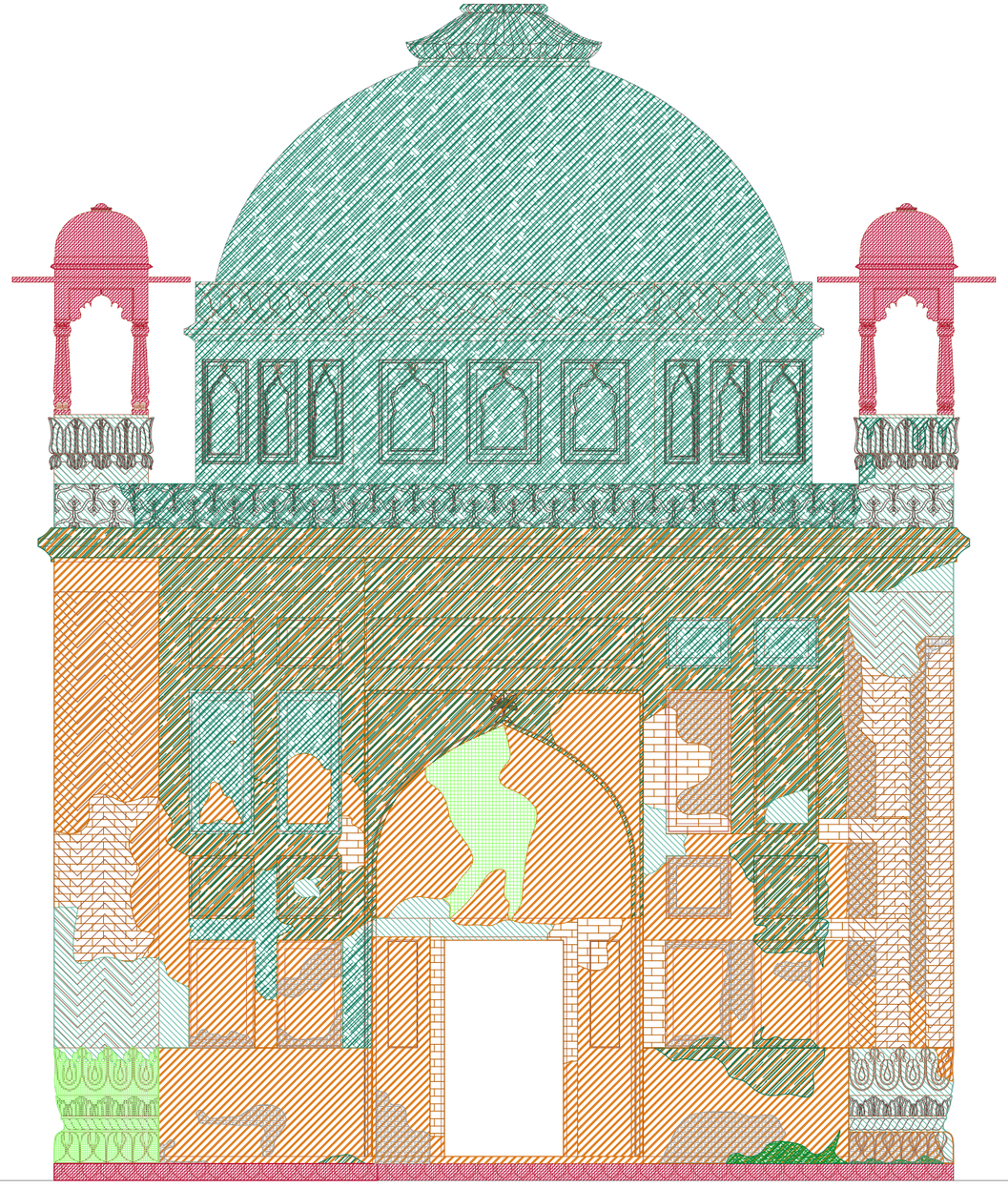
After

Before

After

NEXT STEPS:

- The conservation efforts undertaken during this period represent significant steps towards the long-term preservation of this important late Mughal tomb. Future works will focus on the implementation of appropriate plinth protection measures, illumination of the tomb and restoration of lattice screens and door to safeguard the structure. .



DEFECTS IN STONE

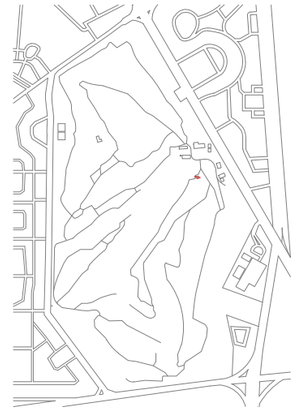
- Dissolution of sandstone
- Exfoliated sandstone
- Crust formation
- Algae
- Missing/ broken parts
- Efflorosence

DEFECTS IN PLASTER

- Flaked calcareous renders
- Exposed plaster
- Crust formation
- New plastered surface
- Algae
- Remains of decorative plaster
- Efflorosence
- Decayed Plaster
- New Plaster Incompatible Material

OTHER DEFECTS

- Exposed masonary (brick)
- Exposed stone
- Exposed stone masonary
- Soot deposit
- Vandalism
- Debris
- Vegetation
- New Addition
- Traces of Water



KEY PLAN

AGA KHAN TRUST FOR CULTURE

HUMAYUN'S TOMB - SUNDER NURSERY - NIZAMUDDIN BASTI URBAN RENEWAL INITIATIVE
DELHI, INDIA

Baghichi Tomb, Delhi Golf Club

Condition Assessment
East Elevation

Scale : 1:50

Date December 2024 | **Documented by: AKTC**

Drg No.:

CONSERVATION

14 Early Mughal Tomb

A stunning example of early Mughal architecture, this octagonal tomb—square within and richly adorned—stands on the western edge of the course.

This exquisitely decorated octagonal tomb is located on the western boundary of the course, and early descriptions indicate that it stood atop a raised platform. The exquisite details and construction indicate it to be of the early Mughal period.

Octagonal outside and square within, the tomb is accessed through decorative arched entrances on each of the cardinal directions. The ceilings and wall are adorned with incised plasterwork finished with polychrome and within are three unidentified graves.

The tomb is crowned with a dome, which springs from an eight-sided drum, decorated with arched panels.

Supported by:

Concor India

(Above) Following the careful cleaning of the ceiling plasterwork, master craftspersons restore patterns where missing
(Below) The interior of this building is exquisitely decorated with incised plasterwork and incised punning/sgraffito

ACTION TAKEN:

1. Dismantling decayed plaster

The initial phase involved the systematic removal of deteriorated modern plaster layers from both the interior and exterior surfaces of the tomb. This process was preceded by a thorough assessment and photographic documentation of the existing plaster patterns. Careful techniques were employed to ensure the preservation of any underlying original plaster and decorative elements.

2. Cleaning of polychrome layers

Meticulous cleaning of existing polychrome layers was undertaken. This delicate process aimed to remove accumulated dirt, soot, and any superficial layers that obscured the original polychrome decoration. This was carried out by art conservators using non-abrasive methods to ensure the integrity of the paint surfaces.

Following this master craftsmen painstakingly restored the ceiling as per original patterns documented at site. This was carried out using traditional tools, techniques and materials. The restored plaster was carefully finished with red-white polychrome to match the original.

3. Restoration of incised plaster

The ceiling and wall surfaces of this tomb are exquisitely decorated with incised plasterwork, finished with polychrome. Skilled master craftsmen are employing traditional tools and techniques to restore these delicate patterns to the wall and ceiling surfaces. This was preceded by carefully tracing and recreating the original patterns and motifs based on surviving evidence.

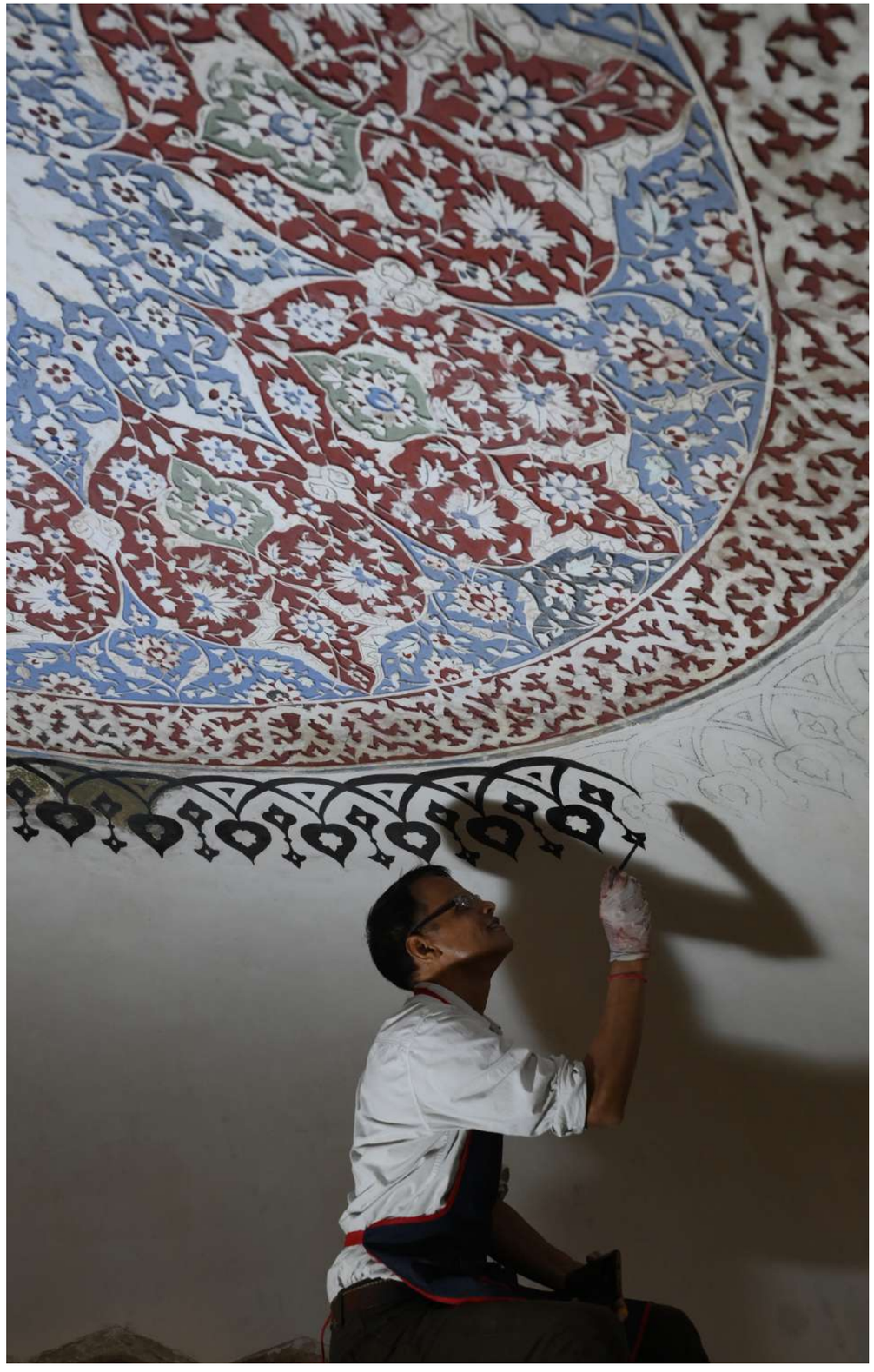
4. Restoration of incised punning layers/sgraffito

Unique to this monument in this ensemble, is the employment of incised punning or sgraffito. Here, the surface punning layers are carefully scratched away to reveal the contrasting plaster layer beneath. This specialized technique requires meticulous attention to detail and a thorough understanding of historical craftsmanship. The restoration process involves careful cleaning, consolidation, and the precise restoration of the original designs.

NEXT STEPS:

- The conservation work undertaken during this period marks a crucial step towards the authentic restoration and long-term preservation of this significant early Mughal tomb. Future efforts will include the continued restoration of traditional incised lime plaster, the comprehensive restoration of the polychrome decoration, the installation of sandstone lattice screens, plinth protection & sandstone flooring, and the implementation of a sensitive illumination scheme.

- Conservation works were preceded by detailed documentation and assessment of the building and its exquisite ornamentation
- The plaster layers were carefully cleaned to reveal the patterns
- Master craftsmen and trained art conservators have painstakingly restored patterns and paint layers where missing



CONSERVATION

15 Tomb of Sayyid Abid

This tomb restored in recent times with modern materials has led to its ruinous appearance and conservation will be aimed at restoring traditional materials and the architectural character of the tomb.

Supported by:

DCM SHRIRAM
Growing with trust

Situated centrally within the games course, to the south of the Lal Bangla enclosure, this octagonal tomb is accessed through arched openings along the cardinal directions, each flanked by arched niches. The square interior features arched niches decorated in lime plaster, which, regrettably, were restored in the recent past using modern cement surkhi plaster. A key focus of the current project is the removal of these incompatible modern materials and their replacement with traditional lime plaster and mortar.

ACTION TAKEN:

1. Dismantling decayed plaster

Following a comprehensive assessment and documentation of the existing conditions of the building, dismantling of the deteriorated plaster on both exterior and interior surfaces was executed. Similarly, modern cement-surkhi repairs were also dismantled. The underlying masonry was carefully cleaned, raked and pointed to prepare the surfaces for lime plaster.

2. Dismantling masonry and Reconstruction of arches

The ceiling of this tomb is decorated with stucco plaster finished with red-white polychrome. As with the wall surfaces, deteriorated plaster and modern cement-surkhi repairs were carefully dismantled. This was undertaken by craftsmen careful not to damage the existing original patterns.

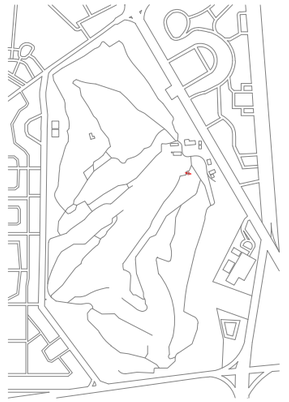
Following this master craftsmen painstakingly restored the ceiling as per original patterns documented at site. This was carried out using traditional tools, techniques and materials. The restored plaster was carefully finished with red-white polychrome to match the original.

3. Documentation of past layers

Throughout the dismantling process, a comprehensive effort was made to document the various layers encountered. This documentation provides valuable insights into past conservation interventions and the original construction techniques, informing the current restoration approach.

NEXT STEPS:

- Future work will focus on the continued reconstruction of masonry elements, the application of traditional lime plaster to the interior and exterior surfaces, the installation of the red sandstone flooring and plinth protection, and any necessary consolidation of original fabric.



KEY PLAN

AGA KHAN TRUST FOR CULTURE

HUMAYUN'S TOMB - SUNDER NURSERY - NIZAMUDDIN BASTI URBAN RENEWAL INITIATIVE
DELHI, INDIA

Sayyid Abid Tomb, Delhi Golf Club

Condition Assessment
North Elevation

Scale : 1:50

Date	Documented by:
November 2024	AKTC

Drg No.:

DEFECTS IN STONE

- Dissolution of sandstone
- Exfoliated sandstone
- Crust formation
- Algae
- Missing/ broken parts
- Efflorescence

DEFECTS IN PLASTER

- Flaked calcareous renders
- Exposed plaster
- Crust formation
- New plastered surface
- Algae
- Remains of decorative plaster
- Efflorescence
- Decayed Plaster
- New Plaster Incompatible Material

OTHER DEFECTS

- Exposed masonary (brick)
- Exposed stone
- Exposed stone masonary
- Soot deposit
- Vandalism
- Debris
- Vegetation
- New Addition
- Traces of Water

III.

Government Sunder Nursery Management Trust

City assets such as the Sunder Nursery Heritage Park need protection and management if they are to remain community assets and enrich the quality of life the city's residents. In order to ensure that the Sunder Nursery Park remains a well-managed asset for the city, it needs to have a management plan that will specify the management systems that specify how the Park is to be managed so that the ecosystems, heritage monuments and visitor facilities are maintained.

A management plan was developed for Sunder Nursery that documented current practices on heritage management, ecology, existing facilities and plans for future facilities, management structure, operations, visitor management, outreach, social media policy, managing revenue, managing statutory compliances and maintaining indemnity of Sunder Nursery.

Partners :

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)

Environmental Development

16 Sunder Nursery Management

The sustainability of all components of the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative has been a vision since the project's inception. With AKTC experience in creation and of urban parks across several historic cities worldwide, it had been known that the creation of the park was only half the work done and it would be essential to invest equally in ensuring management of the park to both provide the desired visitor experience but also have a required impact in fulfilling multiple government objectives for historic Delhi. Consequently, the Government Sunder Nursery Management Trust was established in 2018, with AKTC and AKF taking on the role of Management Trustees for ten years.

The Management Trust has ensured visitors enjoy Sunder Nursery as intended while adding new amenities to enhance their experience.

Over the last six years, visitors have increased from 189,632 in 2019 to 11,19,739 in 2024.

Events in Sunder Nursery

Components	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Grand Total
Amphitheatre SN	20	8	1	22	26	20	**97**
Batashewala Plaza	1		1		1	1	**4**
Children Birth day Party zone		2	10	15	20	15	**62**
Commercial Shooting	3	4	6	7	17	13	**50**
Exhibition Lawn	1	1		3	9	9	**23**
Lawn - North of Amphitl	1	1		3	4	4	**13**
Lawn - Picnic Garden	5			7	9	7	**28**
Lawn -Lake Side				1	1	2	**4**
Mughal Pavillion			3	6	8	9	**26**
Photoshoot	15	52	95	97	98	162	**519**
Sunken Garden	2	1	1	14	14	5	**37**
Grand Total	**48**	**69**	**117**	**175**	**207**	**247**	**863**

SECURITY

Sunder Nursery has a reputation for being a safe and inclusive space, particularly for women, children, and elderly, while being attentive to the needs of those with disabilities. The staff diligently adheres to and implements the latest safety policies, protocols, and procedures to ensure the security of visitors.

Visitor safety is ensured, and the park is protected from vandalism by trained security guards who are equipped to handle emergencies and follow safety protocols.

In 2023 and 2024, there were 24 Fire Training sessions and 48 Physical Training sessions conducted for Sunder Nursery's

VISITOR AMENITIES

To enhance the visitor experience in the Park, the Government Sunder Nursery Management Trust commissions regular and periodic studies to understand visitor experience and perception. This exercise is conducted every year, and the findings are used in further planning to enhance the visitor experience. In 2023-24, following amenities were created in the park:

PICNIC SPOTS

Two beautifully designed picnic areas have been established at the lake's edge, providing a perfect spot for visitors to enjoy the serene winter landscape. The sandstone squares with white marble inlay pattern provides for a picturesque lake-side setting.

COMPOSTING UNITS

Sunder Nursery has established a leaf composting unit alongside its existing vermicomposting facilities. As a result, approximately 50,000 kg of leaf compost is now available for the Sunder Nursery gardens. This initiative will benefit the environment and provide ample compost for gardening needs .

SAFEGUARDING FLOWER BEDS

Permanent MS Grills were installed in all flower beds to safeguard them and prevent the use of plastic nets annually.

CAFE

Renovation of the café area included raising the floor and roof level, installation of new electrical, plumbing services lines and fixtures, relaying of new flooring for the seating area and the pathways.

WATER SUPPLY TO NDMC

AN efficient rainwater harvesting system at Sunder Nursery has raised the groundwater table to 4 meters. Excess groundwater is being supplied to NDMC in tankers.

SELFIE SPOTS

To make the park and its attractions an every-evolving pattern, in 2023 Two ‘selfie’ spots were created, which provides an idyllic backdrop within a historic framework. These antique pieces which comprise of sandstone jaali arcade are reminiscent of haveli architecture of Rajasthan. These are situated on the lake island and the visitor path near the Arc of Discovery.

BIRD HABITAT

With over 170 bird species seen in Sunder Nursery, the park is now a bird haven. Additionally, aA walled area of 2.88 acres within Sunder Nursery has been planted with 6,250 trees from 56 different species, creating a secure habitat for ground-nesting birds. This area will be open for bird- watchers daily from 7 am to 9 am, except during the breeding season.

ADDITIONAL RESTROOMS -

To improve the sanitation facilities and ease congestion onthe current restrooms, a new toilet block has been constructed towards the northern edge of the Park, which is in close proximity to the area which has a high visitor concentration like the lake and flower beds. This strategic location provides convenient access for visitors enjoying the lakeside and helps maintain cleanliness and hygiene in the area by reducing traffic to the existing toilets.

CHILDREN PARK

The children’s park serves as a major attraction for young children visiting Sunder nursery with their families. Over the time, various components required repair and fitting work due to wear n tear resulting from constant usage. Hence renovation of the entire children’s park was done which included the installation of new swings, jungle gym, repair and painting work for existing wooden and metal swings.

Environmental Development

17

Programmes & Outreach

Diverse range of event, workshops, walks, exhibitions and activities at Sunder Nursery through the year

Sunder Nursery, a vibrant cultural and ecological hub in Delhi, offers a diverse range of events, workshops, walks, exhibitions, and activities throughout the year. These initiatives are designed to provide visitors of all age groups with an engaging and educational experience, fostering a deeper connection with culture, heritage, and the environment. These activities not only celebrate the site's rich history and biodiversity but also encourage community engagement and learning.

9. 1.1 MILLION FOOTSTEPS MILESTONE

Sunder Nursery achieved a remarkable milestone in 2023, welcoming 1.1 million footsteps, symbolizing 1.1 million smiles and countless cherished memories created amidst the park's serene beauty. This growing engagement continued into 2024, further solidifying Sunder Nursery's status as a beloved urban green space.

The increasing footfall reflects the park's success in providing a vibrant, inclusive, and ecologically rich environment for visitors of all ages, reinforcing its role as a cultural, recreational, and environmental hub in the heart of Delhi.

COLLABORATIVE EVENTS

1.1 KATHAKAR- INTERNATIONAL STORYTELLING FESTIVAL

The International Storytellers Festival which is India's first and only oral storytelling festival was back in Sunder Nursery with AKTC being the venue partner organised by Storytelling event on December 1st to 3rd 2023 at Sunder Nursery. The festival saw a footfall of over 19,000 people for an engaging session of storytelling by artists from all over the world. Surrounded by heritage, greenery and calmness, the Park provided an ideal setting for storytelling.

In 2024 the festival hosted storytellers from UK, Australia, Sierra Leone, Mongolia, Switzerland, Estonia, Poland and India. The special guests included ace actor Sanjay Mishra, noted film maker Saajid Ali and patron Mohit Chauhan. The folk music segment hosted Rajasthani storytelling by Kutle Khan and Sufi Qawwali by AR Rahman Music Conservatory. We had famous musician Lucky Ali and 'Arjan Valli' fame Bhupinder Babbal.

Every year, the festival hosts evening sessions for open audience ranging from children to the elderly. Morning sessions are hosted for school students from both private and state schools. Panel discussions and workshops are also organised for aspiring and professional storytellers.

1.2 SUITABLE CONVERSATIONS AT SUNDER NURSERY

A Series of Literary Dialogues in Collaboration with A Suitable Agency

Since 2022, Sunder Nursery has been the official venue partner for A Suitable Agency, hosting Suitable Conversations—a distinguished series of literary talks and discussions. These engaging sessions bring together an exceptional lineup of authors and intellectuals, offering audiences thought-provoking insights into literature and contemporary discourse.

Held on weekends, the sessions are open to all and have garnered significant interest, with an average attendance of approximately 300 visitors per session. In 2023, four sessions were successfully organized, followed by five sessions in 2024, reflecting the growing enthusiasm for literary engagement in this serene and historic setting.

Sunder Nursery's collaboration with A Suitable Agency continues to enrich the cultural landscape, fostering meaningful conversations in a unique and inspiring environment.

1.3 BOOKAROO CHILDREN'S LITERATURE FESTIVAL

Bookaroo, a children's literature festival organized by Bookaroo Trust—a public charitable trust—aims to bring books to life through engaging interactions between children, authors, illustrators, and storytellers. Over the past 16 years, the festival has traveled to 17 cities, including two international destinations, and has completed 49 successful editions.

For the past two years, Sunder Nursery has been a proud venue partner for the festival. In 2023, for the first time the festival held at a UNESCO World Heritage site, welcoming international speakers from 12 countries, including Switzerland, Japan, Singapore, and Australia. The two-day event featured 78 interactive sessions, creating a vibrant literary experience for young readers.

In 2024, festival had a record 82 speakers from 14 countries – all of them set to rock you with 90 rollicking sessions, workshops, walks and activities. And their books were also available at the festival bookstore. Sessions inside Bookaroo are free but on a first-come-first-seated basis and by age of child. This also included 8 sessions for librarians and parents on mental health, climate change, the art of comics, and reading in your mother tongue

Attracting an average of 12,100 visitors each year, the festival also dedicates a special day exclusively for schools, ensuring a meaningful and immersive experience for students. The sessions for children included art and craft, illustration workshops, storytelling, book readings with authors, illustrators and storytellers from 14 countries. Children and parents accompanying them also took part in Tree Walks around the Nursery.

1.4 SILENT BOOK CLUB

Set-up in 2019, Silent Book Club Delhi is part of a global community with over 1500 chapters in 54 countries all over the world The idea behind the book club is to read together in quiet camaraderie. People bring whatever they're reading or want to begin reading—it could be a book, magazine, newspaper, e-book, audiobook, even a textbook. There's no restriction on genre or format.

The first meetup at Sunder Nursery was in December 2021. Since then, every winter Silent book club host a book every month in Sunder nursery in winters. Beginning with a small of10 readers now every meet up has 50-55 people on an average with lot of regulars. In both 2023 & 2024 they held five meet ups at the park.

1.5 DASTAN-E-ASTANA-E-NIZAMUDDIN

Dastan-e-Astana-e-Nizamuddin was an enchanting evening of Dastangoi, featuring the renowned storyteller Mahmood Farooqui. Supported by Interglobe Foundation and hosted at Sunder Nursery, the event celebrated the rich tradition of oral storytelling in a serene and historic setting.

The captivating performance transported the audience into the world of storytelling, reviving the essence of this centuries-old art form. The event was well received by the public, leaving a lasting impression on attendees and reinforcing the cultural significance of Dastangoi.

SPECIAL DAYS/ MONTH CELEBRATION

2.1 BIG BUTTERFLY MONTH

In 2024, Big Butterfly Month was celebrated with a diverse range of activities aimed at raising awareness about butterfly species found at Sunder Nursery. Throughout the month, our social media platforms featured engaging content, including insights into various butterfly species, poetry by different writers, and reels exploring how butterflies are perceived in different cultures around the world. Additionally, fascinating facts such as butterfly look-alikes were shared, reaching a wide online audience.

As part of the celebrations, we organized interactive workshops and activities catering to both children and adults. These included an Aari embroidery workshop, an origami workshop, and a guided butterfly walk, all of which were well received by the public. The initiative successfully fostered a deeper appreciation for butterflies and their ecological significance.

2.2 DRAGONFLY MONTH

Sunder Nursery is proud to be a biodiversity hotspot, home to 26 stunning species of dragonflies. These vibrant and agile insects are not only a visual delight but also play a crucial role in maintaining ecological balance.

In 2024, Dragonfly Month was celebrated through a digital awareness campaign, where we shared engaging content about the diverse dragonfly species found at Sunder Nursery. The campaign focused on their life cycle, conservation efforts, lesser-known facts, and ways to protect their habitat.

As part of the celebrations, a Dragonfly Walk was organized in collaboration with Give Me Trees Trust Foundation. Led by Mr. Ishtiyak Ahamad, the walk welcomed 18 enthusiastic participants who explored the park and successfully identified 25 species of dragonflies and damselflies. The event provided a wonderful opportunity for participants of all ages to deepen their understanding of these fascinating insects and their vital role in the ecosystem.

2.3 WORLD BEE DAY

In 2023, World Bee Day was celebrated at Sunder Nursery with a series of engaging activities aimed at raising awareness about the vital role of bees and pollinators in our ecosystem. The event attracted participants from diverse age groups and received an enthusiastic response.

The World Heritage Walk covered several important sites within the Garden Tombs area, including the Isa Khan Niyazi garden-tomb, Afsarwala tomb and mosque, Nila Gumbad garden tomb, Bu Halima's garden-tomb, Mirza Muzaffar Hussain's garden-tomb, Sundar Burj and Sundarwala Mahal, Chota Batashewala Tomb, Lakkarwala Tomb, and Unknown Mughals Tomb.

KEY ACTIVITIES:

- Beehive Exhibition – An interactive display showcasing the structure and function of beehives, offering insights into bee behavior and colony dynamics.

  Honey Tasting – A unique opportunity for visitors to sample different varieties of honey and learn about their distinct flavors and benefits.

  Bee Products Showcase – Exhibition of natural bee-derived products, highlighting their uses and significance.

FOR ADULTS:

- Bee Awareness Workshop – An informative session on the importance of bees in pollination, biodiversity, and sustainable agriculture.

  Hands-on Bee Experience – Participants visited active beehives at Sunder Nursery, witnessing bee activity up close and understanding hive dynamics under expert supervision.

  Pollinators Walk – A guided walk exploring the role of bees and other pollinators in maintaining ecological balance.

FOR KIDS:

- Nature Scavenger Hunt – An interactive activity encouraging children to explore their surroundings while learning about nature.

  Origami Workshop – A creative session where children crafted bee-inspired origami, combining art with environmental awareness.

The event successfully fostered a deeper understanding and appreciation for bees, making it an engaging and educational experience for all participants.

2.4 WORLD HERITAGE DAY 2023

World Heritage Day is a significant occasion to celebrate and raise awareness about the cultural and natural heritage of our planet. In 2023, Sunder Nursery marked this day with a series of engaging activities, exhibitions, and interactive workshops, fostering a deeper understanding of heritage among students and visitors.

Programme Highlights:

Exhibition: 'Monuments of the Humayun's Tomb World Heritage Site'

To commemorate the occasion, an exhibition titled 'Monuments of the Humayun's Tomb World Heritage Site' was installed at Sunder Nursery. The exhibition highlighted the 12 monuments that were restored by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC) and awarded World Heritage Status by UNESCO in 2016, including six historic monuments located within Sunder Nursery.

The exhibition was put up for next one month and well received by the public & school students.

School Programme: The 250 students from various schools across Delhi NCR participated in a series of engaging activities designed to foster a deeper appreciation for cultural heritage.

Heritage Walks: Guided walks by Sair-e-Nizamuddin introduced students to the historical significance of the monuments within Sunder Nursery, providing valuable insights into the site's architectural and cultural heritage.

Interactive Workshops

Sanjhi Paper Cutting Workshop – Inspired by the intricate patterns found in Sunder Nursery's monuments, students explored this traditional art form.

Paper Bag Making Workshop – A hands-on activity promoting sustainable practices and environmental awareness.

Ladoo Making Workshop – Conducted in collaboration with Zaika-e-Nizamuddin, this workshop introduced students to the culinary heritage of the area.

All participating students were provided with snack boxes from Zaika-e-Nizamuddin.

The event successfully combined heritage education, traditional arts, and sustainability, offering a meaningful experience for the students while celebrating the rich cultural legacy of the region.

3. WORKSHOPS & WALKS AT SUNDER NURSERY PARK (2023–24)

Sunder Nursery Park hosted a diverse range of workshops and walks in 2023 and 2024, offering engaging experiences in art, nature, and heritage. These initiatives aimed to foster learning, creativity, and environmental awareness among visitors of all ages.

WORKSHOPS

- **Painting Workshops** – Traditional Indian art forms such as Warli, Phad, and Madhubani painting were introduced through interactive sessions.
- **Craft Workshops** – Included Sanjhi art, Aari embroidery, pottery, block printing and origami, allowing participants to explore different artistic traditions.
- **Nature Workshops** – Focused on environmental conservation, featuring activities like sparrow nest making and a bee conservation workshop.
- **Specialty Workshops** – Unique sessions such as miniature garden making, collage card making, Demystifying Decoupage, and puppet making provided hands-on creative learning.
- **Astronomy Workshop** – Offered participants a guided exploration of the night sky, enhancing their understanding of astronomy.

WALKS

- **LIFE Walks for Kid**s – Designed to promote Learning in a Free Environment, these walks began with a scavenger hunt and covered themes such as design in nature, navigation skills, and map-making. A total of eight walks were conducted, engaging 126 children and parents.
- **Photo Walks for Kids –** Encouraged young participants to observe and capture nature through photography.
- **Guided Walks with Give Trust Foundation** – Included bird walks and pollinator walks, providing insights into biodiversity and ecological balance.
- **Tree Walks with Kavita Prakash** – Focused on native tree species, their ecological significance, and cultural relevance.
- **Heritage Walks by Sair-e-Nizamuddin** – Explored the rich history and cultural heritage of the area, offering visitors a deeper understanding of Delhi's historical landscape.

All workshops and walks were well received, with an average participation of 15–20 attendees per session. These activities successfully enhanced public engagement with art, nature, and heritage at Sunder Nursery.

4. COMMUNITY FARM BY BEEJOM

The Community Farm, developed in collaboration with Beejom, is one of the key attractions at Sunder Nursery. Located within the park's wilderness zone, this model farm cultivates Kharif, Rabi, and Zaid crops, along with a variety of lesser-known and traditional vegetables. The initiative aims to raise awareness and generate interest—particularly among children—about India's rich agricultural heritage and traditional farming practices.

To enhance the learning experience, informational signage has been installed in the farm, detailing the three crop seasons—Kharif, Rabi, and Zaid—and the variety of crops grown during each period. Additionally, all plants are tagged, enabling visitors to easily identify and learn about various species on their own. Each year, new crops are introduced to expand the diversity of the farm.

In 2023, Beejom organized interactive workshops for visitors, including Cooking with Millets, Urban Gardening, and Vegan Cooking, all of which were well received by the public. These sessions further reinforced the importance of sustainable agriculture and mindful consumption.

5. BEE'S AT SUNDER NURSERY

Sunder Nursery, in collaboration with the Golden Hive Foundation, has been dedicated to fostering a bee-friendly ecosystem through silent and sustained efforts over the years. This ongoing initiative has resulted in a remarkable transformation, where visitors can now observe social bees such as Apis dorsata (rock bee), Apis cerana (eastern honeybee), and Apis florea (dwarf bee) thriving and buzzing around the vibrant flowers of Sunder Nursery. Through conscious habitat creation, resources have been developed to ensure the peaceful coexistence of all bee species.

Key Initiatives Under the Bee Awareness Programme

WORKSHOPS & AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

- In 2023 and 2024, a total of 19 and 21 workshops were successfully conducted in collaboration with environmental societies and colleges of Delhi University, helping to build much-needed awareness and empathy for these vital yet stressed pollinators.
- Regular public workshops and sessions for school children continued to be organized at Sunder Nursery as part of an Aga Khan Trust for Culture initiative.

PERMANENT BEE AWARENESS EXHIBITION

- A dedicated bee exhibition has been installed in the wilderness zone of Sunder Nursery, providing visitors with information about the importance of bees in biodiversity.
- Active beehives have also been placed within the exhibition area, allowing visitors to observe bee activity and gain a deeper understanding of these essential pollinators.

Media: In 2023, Sunder Nursery was invited by Doordarshan Delhi for a live studio discussion on its efforts in bee conservation and awareness. Mr. Rakesh Gupta, representing the Golden Hive Foundation, spoke on behalf of Sunder Nursery, highlighting its impactful initiatives.

6. BOOK LAUNCH – ICONIC TREES OF INDIA

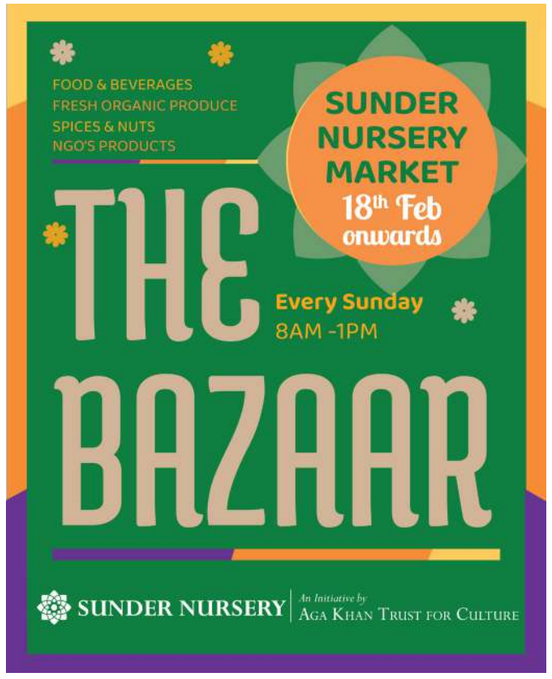
Sunder Nursery partnered as the venue for the launch of Iconic Trees of India by Dr. S. Natesh on September 1, 2024. The event, held at the Mughal Pavilion, featured a book signing session

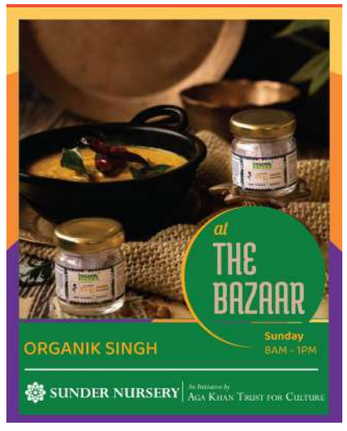
During the book launch, Dr. Natesh shared fascinating insights from his book, which celebrates 75 of India's most remarkable trees—recognized for their ecological, cultural, and historical significance. The book beautifully captures these natural wonders with original watercolor illustrations by acclaimed visual artist Sagar Bhowmick. The event successfully brought together nature enthusiasts, conservationists, and literature lovers, fostering a deeper appreciation for India's rich arboreal heritage.

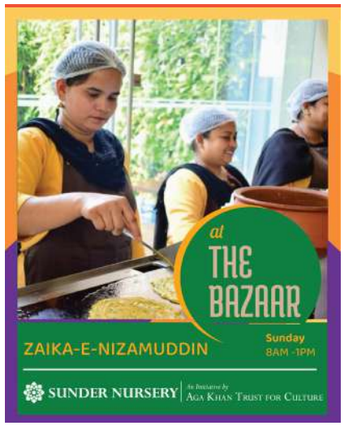
An engaging tree-spotting nature walk was organized a few weeks after the launch, led by the author himself, offering tree lovers a unique opportunity to explore and appreciate the diverse flora of the park.

7. THE BAZAAR BY SUNDER NURSERY

The Bazaar at Sunder Nursery officially opened its doors to the public in February 2024. It has since become a valuable addition to the Delhi NCR region, offering a unique marketplace that promotes community health and well-being by providing visitors with access to natural lifestyle options. The Bazaar focuses on promoting sustainable, organic choices, featuring locally grown fresh produce, value-added food and beverage items such as chutneys, jams, preserves, and more, alongside live food and beverage offerings. The Bazaar caters to a diverse range of individuals, offering something for everyone—from young children to senior citizens. Delhi resident Pia Sukanya regularly brings her five-year-old son, Eddy, who actively engages with the various vendors. The Bazaar also fosters the growth of young entrepreneurs by offering them a platform to connect with like-minded individuals, thereby cultivating a community rooted in shared values of Conscious Living and a deep connection to the land







8. PROMOTING STREET ARTISTS AT SUNDER NURSERY

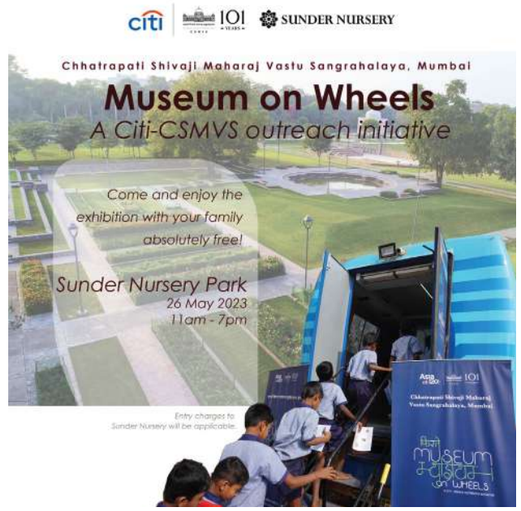
With aim of giving artist a platform from past two years year we have been collaborating with street artists of Delhi NCR. Magic, juggling and puppet shows & workshop were conducted for the visitors on weekend These shows became quite popular among the visitors and visitors look forward to these shows both were quite popular with among kids and adults. A total of 15 magic juggling and puppet show were organised at the park.

09. MUSEUM ON WHEELS AT SUNDER NURSERY

In 2023, Sunder Nursery hosted the Citi-CSMVS Museum on Wheels, an innovative outreach initiative by Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya (CSMVS).

This unique mobile museum features two specially designed buses that bring travelling exhibitions to diverse audiences, showcasing themes inspired by the remarkable collections of CSMVS.

Visitors had the opportunity to explore these interactive and educational exhibits, which received an enthusiastic response, making heritage and culture more accessible to the public.



11. SCHOOL VISITS AT SUNDER NURSERY

Sunder Nursery serves as a perfect outdoor learning space for schoolchildren, with its rich biodiversity, historic monuments, and beautifully landscaped gardens, students can explore ecology, history, and art all in one place. It's an inspiring setting for school trips, where children can engage in nature walks, heritage lessons, and hands-on activities that make learning fun and memorable.

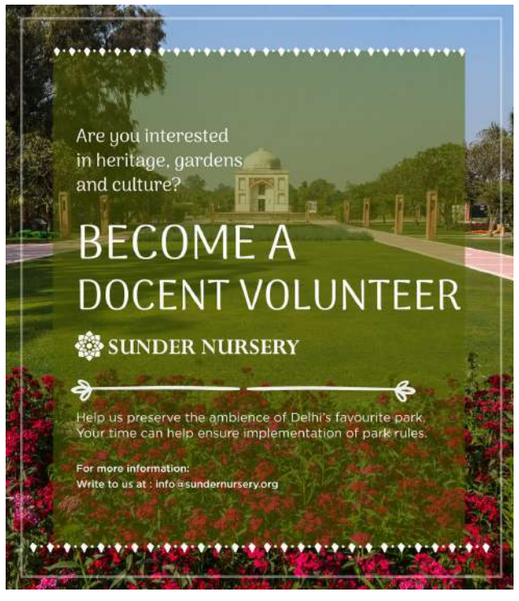
In 2023, Sunder Nursery welcomed 25,881 students from 250 schools across Delhi NCR. The number grew in 2024, with 27,307 students from 288 schools visiting the nursery, reflecting its increasing popularity as a premier educational destination.

In 2023, Sunder Nursery welcomed **25,881 students** from **250 schools** across Delhi NCR. The number grew in 2024,with **27,307 students** from **288 schools** visiting the nursery, reflecting its increasing popularity as a premier educational destination

12. VOLUNTEERING PROGRAM:

In 2023-24, we launched our volunteering program at Sunder Nursery, receiving an overwhelming response from enthusiastic candidates. However, due to specific requirements, we carefully selected five volunteers based on their prior experience, skill sets, and age groups.

The selected volunteers played a crucial role in various activities, including assisting with the Bazaar at Sunder Nursery, photography documentation, organizing workshops and events, and ensuring visitors adhered to the nursery's guidelines. Their contributions significantly enhanced the overall visitor experience and helped in the smooth execution of various initiatives at Sunder Nursery.



13. ECOSYSTEM MEASUREMENT PROJECT: SUNDER NURSERY & GIVE ME TREES TRUST COLLABORATION

This year, Sunder Nursery partnered with the Give Me Trees Trust Foundation to undertake the Ecosystem Measurement Project to measure key ecosystem services like carbon sequestration, air pollution mitigation, and temperature regulation of each tree in the park

Give Me Trees Trust (GMTT) is non-profit organization actively working towards afforestation, biodiversity conservation, ecological restorations, environmental education and providing livelihood to local community. Registered as a trust in the year 2011 under the Indian Trusts Act 1982, Give Me Trees Trust is now the largest tree planter in India.

GMTT has partnered with the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service for technical support on the project. The initiative also involves trained volunteers from Hindu College and other colleges in Delhi collaborating with GMTT. The i-Tree Eco pilot project commenced at Sunder Nursery on October 26, 2024.

Sunder Nursery was divided into 212 plots, with students assigned to collect detailed data on each tree from each plot, including Species identification, Canopy size and Location. This data was then uploaded into the i-Tree software for analysis, under the guidance of experts from the USDA Forest Service. Each plot was scientifically assessed to evaluate the environmental impact of the plantations.

Progress and Biodiversity Insights

By December 2024, the i-Tree Eco study at Sunder Nursery achieved significant milestones:

- **Surveys completed for 186 plots**
- **Recorded 2,157 trees representing 202 different species**

This data highlights the rich biodiversity within Sunder Nursery and provides valuable insights to improve maintenance strategies and demonstrate measurable environmental benefits.

14: REVAMPING SUNDER NURSERY SIGNAGES FOR A UNIFIED AND CONSISTENT DESIGN LANGUAGE.

The signage system at Sunder Nursery underwent a comprehensive redesign in collaboration with the Motherland team. Recognizing the need for a cohesive and intuitive visual communication system, our teams worked closely together to streamline the existing signages and introduce a more unified design approach. This included standardizing elements such as colour palette, typography, material, and sizing across all signage types to establish a strong and consistent visual identity throughout the site.

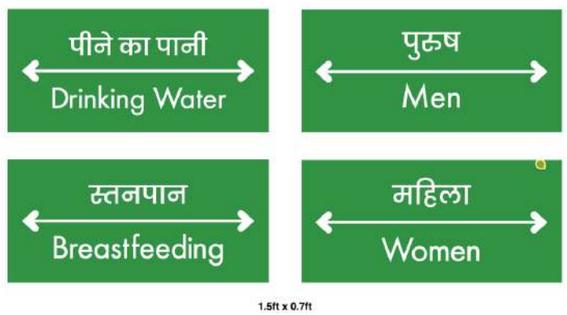
To bring clarity and order to the diverse signage types, a clear categorization framework was developed—distinguishing between directional, interpretive, regulatory, and identity signage. Alongside this, detailed design and placement guidelines were formulated to ensure consistency in application and long-term maintainability.

A major part of the exercise involved an on-ground audit and subsequent removal of outdated, redundant, or conflicting signages that had accumulated over time. This cleanup significantly reduced visual clutter and improved the overall legibility of information within the landscape.

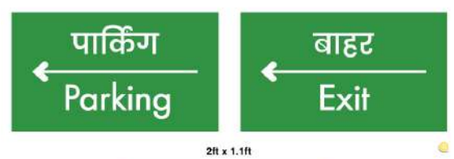
In response to the need for more intuitive wayfinding, new directional signages were introduced, crafted in red sandstone to harmonize with the site's architectural character and material palette. Their placements were strategically redefined based on key visitor movement patterns, ensuring better orientation and accessibility across the 90-acre heritage park.

30.3"x 24"

20"x 14"



1.5ft x 0.7ft



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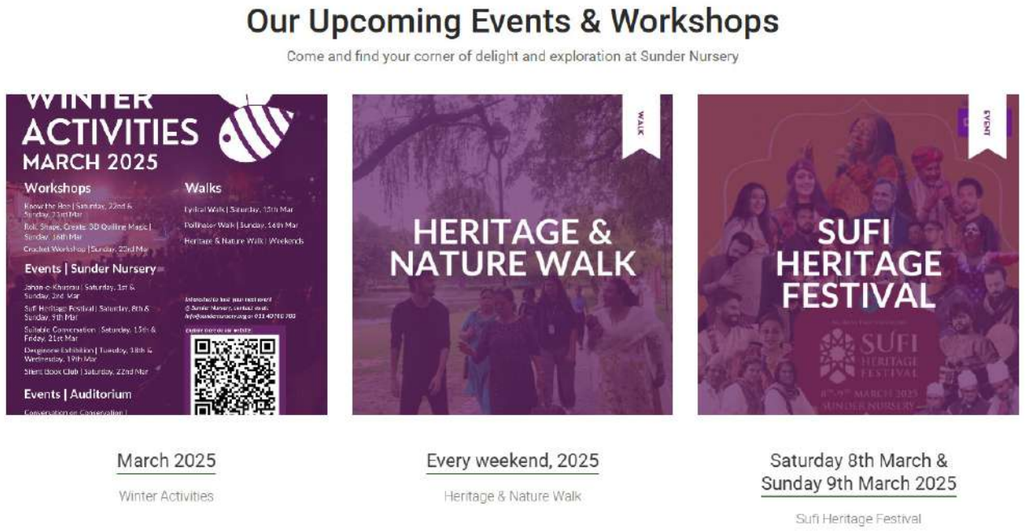
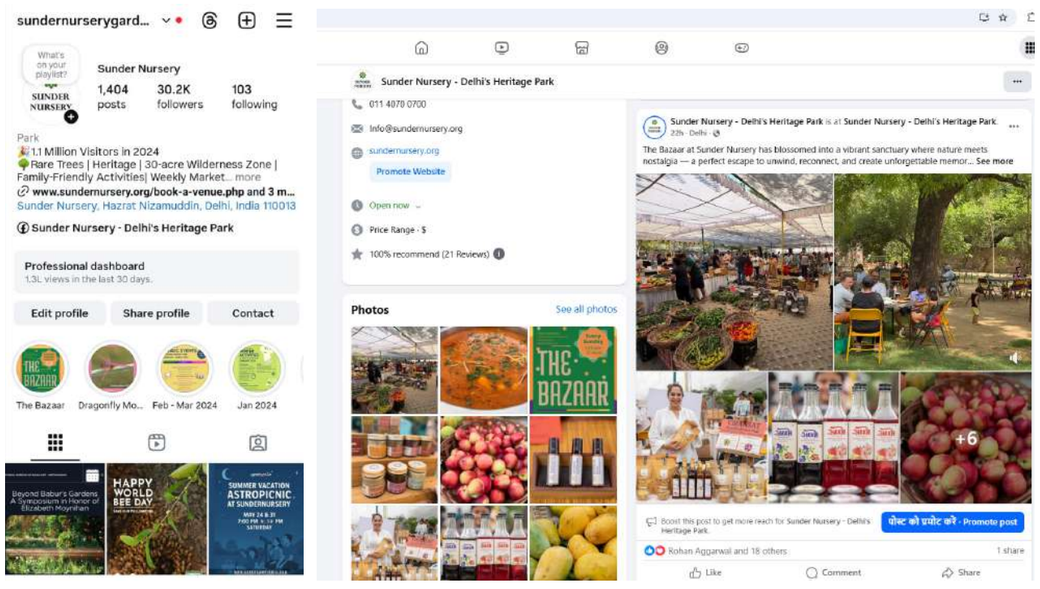
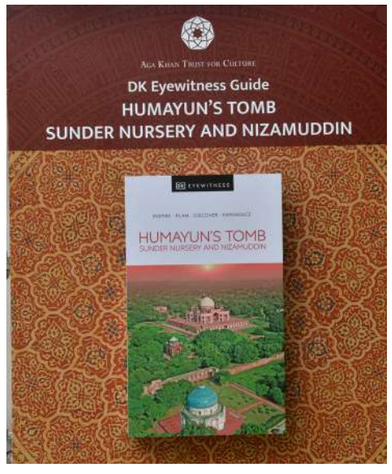




14. DIGITAL OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT:

Visitors stay informed about upcoming events through websites, Facebook, Instagram, mailing lists, WhatsApp broadcast lists and notice boards making it easy to participate and immerse themselves in the unique offerings of Sunder Nursery. The park has built a strong digital presence, reaching 29K followers with profile views of 886,53 on Instagram, 10K followers on Facebook, and receiving 106264 K customer reviews on Google by December 2024, reflecting its growing popularity and impact.

18 Guidebook on Nizamuddin



In April 2023, Sunder Nursery hosted the book launch of the DK Eyewitness Guide to Humayun's Tomb, Sunder Nursery, and Nizamuddin, accompanied by a cultural evening featuring a soulful Qawwali performance by the Niyazi Nizami Brothers.

The book serves as the perfect companion for visitors, offering insights into the area's history, key attractions, and must-see highlights. It provides a comprehensive guide on what to explore, discover, and experience in this culturally rich heritage zone.

To engage the audience before the launch, a Book Treasure Hunt was organized, where participants followed clues to locate hidden copies of the book. The event received an enthusiastic response, with visitors eagerly searching and running through the park in search of their reward—a copy of the book.

Additionally, an exhibition was set up as part of the launch, showcasing the book's content. This exhibition remained open for several weeks, allowing visitors to delve deeper into the stories and heritage of the region

Environmental Development

19 Environment Conservation

Sunder Nursery, a vibrant cultural and ecological hub in Delhi, offers a diverse range of events, workshops, walks, exhibitions, and activities throughout the year. These initiatives are designed to provide visitors of all age groups with an engaging and educational experience, fostering a deeper connection with culture, heritage, and the environment. These activities not only celebrate the site's rich history and biodiversity but also encourage community engagement and learning.

PLANTATION INITIATIVES

Extensive plantation activities were undertaken across various heritage sites, including the Humayun's Tomb Interpretation Centre (HTIC), Rahim Khan-i-Khana Tomb, and Sunder Nursery. A diverse range of indigenous and ornamental species were planted, including 250 trees, 400 hedge plants, 2,000 ground covers, and 300 shrubs. Notable native species planted include Gulmohar, Bamboo, Kat Goolar, and various Ficus species. Citrus and flowering trees were also introduced to enrich biodiversity.

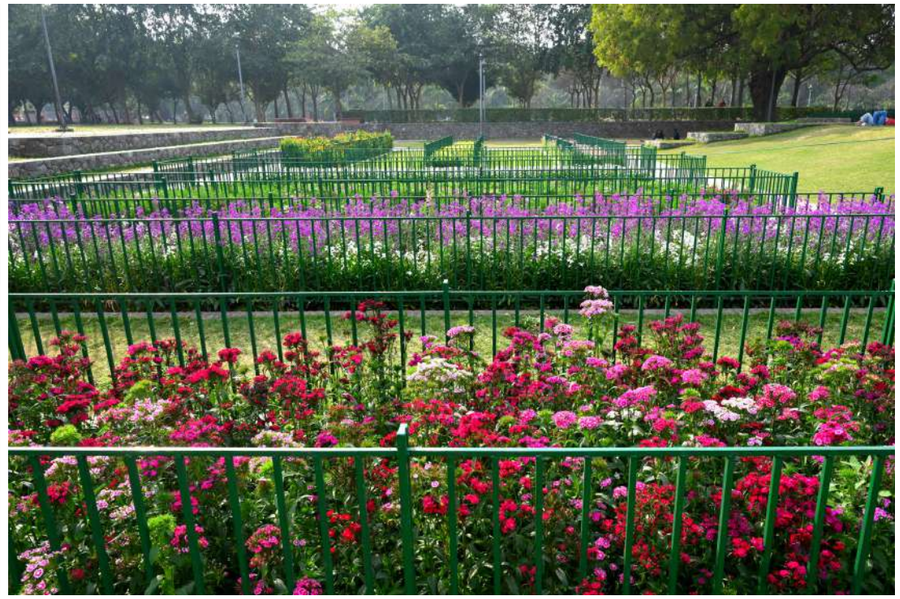
Approximately 6,000 sq. meters of grass cover was established, including grassing of the HTIC ticket counter and terrace over a span of two years.

250 trees,
400 hedge plants,
2,000 ground covers,
and 300 shrubs

were planted

PLANT PROPOGATION

Over a two-year period, approximately 8,000 new plants were propagated through seeds and cuttings. The propagated species included Citrus fruits, Bougainvillea, Hibiscus, Hemelia, Doodhi, Necardia, and Jatropha, contributing to the sustained greening of the heritage landscapes.



FLORAL LANDSCAPING

Approximately 70 flower beds were maintained and enhanced with seasonal plantings throughout the year. These beds are located in prominent garden spaces such as the Sunken Garden, Central Axis, and Azimganj Garden. A total of 10,000 flower saplings were planted, adding vibrant seasonal color and supporting pollinator species.

COMPOSTING & VERMICOMPOSTING

Efforts to enhance soil fertility through organic practices included the production of approximately 20,000 kg of thick compost and 60,000 kg of fine compost through leaf composting. Additionally, 1,800 kg of vermicompost was produced using 15–18 vermicompost beds and 20 leaf compost beds. These composting sites were established in strategic areas such as behind Lakkarwala Burj, the Batashewala Complex, and near the Sunder Nursery parking area.

GARDEN MAINTENANCE

Routine and event-based maintenance was carried out across key sites: Sunder Nursery, Humayun's Tomb, Rahim Khan-i-Khana Tomb, and HTIC. Key activities included:

- Daily upkeep of garden features
- Dressing, levelling, and manuring of the citrus garden
- Preparatory landscaping for public events at Sunder Nursery
- Maintenance of the HTIC admin block, terrace, and surrounding areas during major openings and events
- Regular application of insecticides and pesticides to ensure plant health
- Ground levelling and preparation at HTIC for grassing initiatives

TIMES CITY

* THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI
TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2023

Plea dismissed! Aga Khan Trust gets HC's praise for conservation of Sunder Nursery

Abhinav.Garg@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The Aga Khan Trust has done a "commendable job" to protect heritage, the Delhi High Court has said, expressing satisfaction on the steps taken to protect monuments and create parking in and around the Sunder Nursery.

"The affidavits filed in the matter reveal that the trust has, in fact, done a commendable job in order to protect the heritage of this country. Illegal construction and encroachments have been removed. The (Sunder Nursery) park is being maintained, as already stated earlier, and an Award of Excellence has been conferred by UNESCO on the trust for Cultural Heritage Conservation and Special Recognition for Sustainable Development," the bench of chief justice S C Sharma and Justice Subramonium Prasad said in a recent order, while disposing of a PIL that alleged private vehicles were damaging the flora, fauna and monuments of the nursery. The plea wanted entry of private vehicles to be banned.

The PIL said that large-scale commercial activities were going on in the nursery. "Sunder Nursery is a heritage park and an extension of Humayun's Tomb in Nizamuddin, a UNESCO world heritage site, and deserves equal importance as its parent site..." the petition said.

The high court said the PIL's concerns about parking has been addressed in the trust's affidavit before it.

The court took note of the detailed affidavit the trust had filed. The affidavit revealed that there were two parking slots for vehicles inside the nursery "with 320 specifically earmarked slots, carefully designed with grass paver tiles to ensure groundwater recharge".

File photo

Delhi High Court expressed satisfaction with the steps taken to protect monuments and create parking in and around the Sunder Nursery

The trust submitted that out of 320 slots, 80 were created on land recovered from encroachments in 2013. these additional slots were made over an illegally constructed swimming pool. The pool is now covered and is used as storage for rainwater harvested in Sunder Nursery.

Outside the nursery, parking slot C provides for parking of 110 cars and parking slot D provides for 42 buses, it informed the court.

The court closed proceedings noting that "sufficient parking is available in and around Sunder Nursery." The trust also informed the bench that more than 10,000 trees of different species have been planted as part of its effort to improve the flora and fauna. Similarly, a butterfly zone has been created and a ground water recharging facility has been established. The trust said it has also taken steps to remove illegal encroachments and five Mughal era wells have been found and restored to working condition.

The court has asked the MCD and the Delhi Police to "take appropriate steps in respect of parking on roads, if any, on holidays to avoid congestion on public roads" in the area.

INTRODUCTION FOR PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION (PIL)

On 08th March 2021, a resident of Nizamuddin East filled a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) against Sunder Nursery Park seeking to stop vehicular access to Sunder Nursery what would result in only people from the neighbourhood able to access the park.

The petition included false accusations to justify the PIL that was motivated by vested interest

In response, over 2 years + 17 hearings AKTC informed the court that:

- Under Masterplan of Delhi, Sunder Nursery is legally designated Recreational District Park
- Here, 16,800 trees have been planted by AKTC by 2020 including indigenous and local species, plus none of the trees were cut.
- Contrary to claims made in the PIL, a 22,000 sqm road network was dismantled.

To Summarise

	2008	PRESENT-2021
Road network	22000 sqm	8000 sqm
Waterbody area	Zero	4 acres
Number of Trees	1666	16800, with approximately 1000 trees being planted in 2021
Butterfly habitat	Did not exist	Butterfly Zone created on one acre.
Bees habitat	Did not exist	10 apiaries constructed with associated plants planted across 50 acres.
Protected habitat for peacocks	Did not exist	Two walled off areas of 2.88 acres and 1.64 acres respectively for ground nesting birds.
Children's zone	Did not exist	Butterfly garden, model organic farm, secret garden, wilderness area, playhouse for Children created over several acres. Also, signage for children across the park
Parking for vehicles	All over, without any regulation	320 specifically earmarked slots, carefully designed with grass paver tiles to ensure groundwater recharge.
Rainwater Harvesting	Zero	Major effort including storage of rainwater in lakes and swimming pool size tank. Desilting of historic wells leading to use of ..... table level to only 2km depth from ground level.
Functional traditional wells	Zero	Five Mughal era wells discovered and restored to working condition

JUDGMENT BY THE HON'BLE COURT

In conclusion, in 2023, the Delhi High Court Commended Aga Khan Trust for Culture for the conservation of Sunder Nursery.

Stating that "the Aga Khan Trust, by way of maintaining sixteenth century park complex Sunder Nursery, had done a "commendable job" for heritage protection in the country.

Thus, dismissing the PLI on 09th May, 2023

20 Talks & Seminar

S.No.	Talk details	Date
1	G20 Tourism Working Group meeting, a theme-based side event is being organized on “Promotion of Archaeological Tourism: Discovering Shared Cultural Heritage; organised by Ministry of Tourism, Government of India at Kutch, Gujarat	7-9 Feb 2023
2	Presentation at the Conference “Reconnecting Local Community with their World Heritage: linking the community of Nizamuddin Chishti Auliya Shrine with Humayun Tomb World Heritage through rediscovering their Intangible Cultural Heritage” organised by UNESCO and Government of Madhya Pradesh	17-Apr-23
3	Speaker at the Archaeological Site Museums Panelduring the International Museum Expo, organized by the Museums Division of the Ministry of Culture, Government of India	19-May-23
4	National Seminar cum Conservation Workshop on “ Integrated Conservation and Comprehensive Management of the Royal Ahom Moidams at Charaideo, Assam: Insight from the National and International Heritage Sites organised by Directorate of Archaeology, Government of Assam	2-4 June, 2023
5	Talk: Qutub Shahi Necropolis : Conservatiopn & Landscape restoration organised by Sarmaya talks, Mumbai	28-Jul-23
6	A Culture of Shared Responsibility: UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards at Sydney Australia	01-Sep-23
7	Presentation on Sustainable Shelter to group of 75 students from Shiv Nadar School	19-Oct-23
8	Rethinking Conservation, Talk: at the Heritage Conservation in India Roundtable organised by Penn Museum at the University of Pennsylvania	25-Oct-23
9	Rethinking Conservation, Aga Khan Trust for Culture in India; Public Lecture at the University of Pennsylvania Stuart Weitzman School of Design	26-Oct-23
10	Session on AKTC India work at Manhattan Jamatkhana, New York City	27-Oct-23
11	Panelists for the session ‘Theme 4: Strategic management of tourist destinations with focus on Heritage and Religious’ and topic ‘Promoting and development of destination based on local culture and pilgrimage’organised by Niti Aayog, Government of India as a significant follow-up to the G20 New Delhi Leaders’ Declaration	04-Nov-23
12	Talk: Conserving Indian Heritage: the Work of Aga Khan Trust for Culture at School of the Arts Library, University of Liverpool	17-Nov-23
13	Talk: Delhi & Hyderabad: A Green Renaissance’ brings historic Indian cities to life in UK at the Ismaili Centre, South Kensington	21-Nov-23
14	Nizamuddin Urban Renewal: Creating an Urban Oasis online series of talk organised Neighbourhood diaries	03-Jan-24
15	Design as catalyst for India’s growth: Innovation and Identity: India Art Fair talks	03-Feb-24
16	Symposium titled ‘Restoring What is Lost: Heritage, Architecture and Culture’, at the University at Rajgir, Bihar in Collaboration with Nalanda University	09-Feb-24
17	India International Centre Talk Series: Ghiyaspur, Nizamuddin, Humayun’s Tomb And Lal Qila A Modern Architecture	16-Feb-24
18	Keynote Session - Heritage Conservation- Indian Responsible Tourism State Summit and Awards at Rajasthan	26-Feb-24
19	Public Lecture ‘Conserving the Qutb Shahi Necropolis’ Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya , Mumbai	27-Feb-24
20	Talk: Archival Led Conservation at Humayun’s Mausoleum and Qutb Shahi Tombs at the Aga Khan Library, United Kingdom	11-Mar-24
21	Talk: Crafts and Conservation: Humayun’s Tomb & Qutb Shah Tombs; King’s College, London	12-Mar-24
22	Talk Conserving Mughal monuments of Nizamuddin’ at Institute of Iranian Studies, Austrian Academy of Sciences	15-Mar-24
23	Presentation : Supporting community-driven heritage conservation projects at the International Conference on Participatory Approaches to World Heritage 2024, Korea	19-Mar-24
24	Preserving India’s Monuments - A 25-year journey talk organised by Institute for South Asia Studies, Berkley University	24-Oct-24

बादशाह
की ख़्वाबगाह
Where the
Emperor
Rests

स्मारकीय परिसर
The Ensemble

Programmes in Nizamuddin Basti

The formal term of the MoU of the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative was completed in July 2022. AKTC and AKF were actively engaged as Managing Trustees of the Government Sunder Nursery Management Trust and had a strong presence and continued interest in the sustained development of Nizamuddin Basti. There was also an understanding that there was a need to continue some of the key interventions and modify others to suit the changed environment and there was a need to create institutional mechanisms for the continuity of the interventions that had been implemented under the project. A community-based organisation called the Association for Development of Nizamuddin (ADN) was registered as a post project management strategy.

AKTC decided to continue to implement some of the key interventions directly and modify others so that the work continued while strengthening the newly formed ADN to take on greater roles in the continued social, economic and cultural development of Nizamuddin Basti.

The work in Nizamuddin Basti is being reported under two main headings – interventions carried out directly by AKTC and work that is being carried out by ADN which is an initiative of AKTC.

Improvement in the Quality of Life

Programmes directly implemented by AKTC

The education component of the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative has been a core intervention of the project. In the period after the completion of the MoU, it has retained its focus to the core work of basic education and continued its efforts of supporting and strengthening the MCD school and Govt of NCT of Delhi aanganwadis to ensure the quality of education.

The education programme has been one of the earliest interventions of the project in the community that aimed to improve the quality of life of the community. The programme has worked towards improving the quality of education offered in the school through improvement of the physical infrastructure in the primary school and aanganwadis, the classroom processes, enriched curriculum and engagement with the community.

The project is also working towards strengthening the role of the community and increasing their stake in the school and aanganwadis through regular monitoring of the activities by providing handholding support to the School Management Committee and Aanganwadi Sameeksha and Sahayata Samuh to understand their roles and responsibilities as mandated by the Right to Education Act.

1. Education Programme

The education component of the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative has been a core intervention of the project. In the period after the completion of the MoU, it has retained its focus to the core work of basic education and continued its efforts of supporting and strengthening the MCD school and Govt of NCT of Delhi aanganwadis to ensure the quality of education.

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The Learning Support Programme at the MCD school supported
535 students in 2023 and
524 students in 2024.

21

Support to children in MCD School

Supported by:

JCB Literature Foundation

The Learning Support Programme at the MCD school supported 535 students in 2023 and 524 students in 2024. This has been provided through remedial classes to children in Hindi and Maths, support to children at the pre-primary level and curriculum enrichment.

In 2023 and 2024

160 Nursery and KG students

were provided learning support by the community teachers.

Academic learning support to Nursery/KG Students:

- **In 2023 and 2024 a total of 160 Nursery and KG students were provided learning support by the community teachers.** The learning support activities were based on a pre-primary curriculum developed by AKF as well the principles of child development and to improve school readiness. These included activities that support physical development, language development, social development and emotional development.

In 2023 and 2024

25 monthly meetings

were organized for the school and community teachers to develop lesson plans and teaching learning materials for direct learning support.

Review and planning with community teachers

- Community teachers are women from the community who are not trained teachers but support MCD teachers and act as a link as between the community and the school management. Over the years, they have played a critical role in encouraging children to be in school. As they are not formally trained, they need regular academic support to help them plan lessons and work with greater independence with the children. In addition, a common planning exercise between the community teachers and MCD teachers helps in the smooth functioning of the school.
- In 2023, twenty-five weekly review and planning meetings were organized for the school and community teachers to develop lesson plans and teaching learning materials for direct learning support. In 2024 ten monthly review and planning meetings were organized with the same group.

Academic learning support to the students:

- This is at two levels – grades 1 and 2 were clubbed together and the second cohort comprised children from grades 3,4 and 5.
- In 2023 a total of 208 students of level 1-2 were supported by community teachers during the MCD's Mission Buniyad programme organized by MCD in the school. This was organised to help children get back into the rhythm of schooling after COVID and the children were divided into learning levels based on their academic status.
- **A total of 280 students - 152 in 2023 and 128 in 2024 were supported by community teachers in Hindi language and Mathematics during the last two years.**
- Remedial classes were organised for those children who were struggling with academics and, whose competency levels were assessed to be below what was expected as per their age i.e. age-inappropriate. **Remedial classes in Hindi language and Mathematics were provided by the community teachers to 220 students - 80 in 2023 and 140 in 2024 of grades 3-5.**
- All students of the school, 535 students in 2023 and 524 students in 2024, benefitted from **regular reading activities by the community teachers.** Teachers used library books and adopted different strategies like storytelling, story listening, reading aloud, story illustration and creative writing to engage the children.
- In 2024, **visual arts classes conducted by the community teacher** on a regular basis for all the 524 students.

In 2023 and 2024

A total of 280 students

were supported by community teachers in Hindi language and Mathematics during the last two years

1060 students, benefitted from regular reading activities by the community teachers

NEXT STEPS :

- Learning support for pre-primary students and remedial support for students in classes 3-5 will continue.
- Visual arts and reading activity workshops will continue to create a positive learning environment and enrich the curriculum.
- Computer classes will be re-initiated next year to further enrich the curriculum.

During the last two years a total of

37 Balsabhas (children's assembly) organized in the school

mainly focused on creating opportunities for showcasing talent and performance among the children.

22 Community based monitoring of School

ACTION TAKEN:

Engagement with the community

- In 2023, eight School Management Committee (SMC) meetings and in 2024 ten SMC meetings were organized with 16 SMC members and a representative from the Association for Development of Nizamuddin, a community-based organisation initiated by AKTC, at the school. The agenda included capacity building for the SMC members, distribution of roles and responsibilities, organizing special events in the school, summer camp, and the sports meet, as well as completing school observation and monitoring tools and preparing report cards.
- A total of three report cards were submitted by SMC and ADN members to the MCD officials and the councillor.
- During the last two years a total of 37 Balsabhas (children's assembly) organized in the school mainly focused on creating opportunities for showcasing talent and performance among the children.
- Four national days were organized at the school with the support of the school SMC and ADN. More than 100 parents participated in both special events.

NEXT STEPS :

- Monthly meetings with SMC and ADN members will continue to ensure the effective functioning of the school.
- School monitoring will continue by SMC members with the support of ADN.
- The organization of Balsabhas and special events will continue.

II

Health Programme

The health component, both the clinical and community health components were very central to the Nizamuddin project. The community health team played a critical role in supporting the community's health needs since 2012 with a special focus on maternal and child health. The covid years of 2021 and 2022 saw the community health team rise to the challenge of allaying fears, clearing myths in the community and helping provide tangible support in terms of assisting pregnant women access health care and distribution of dry ration kits to needy families.

The community health initiative had led to better engagement with the community and issues of mental health became more pronounced during covid. The shrine of Nizamuddin and associated faith healers attract persons with mental health conditions.

The changes in health practices and health seeking behaviour regarding maternal and child health and the increasing need to work on mental health issues suggested that we begin work in the mental health space.

With the support of the Indira Foundation, we began the community mental health initiative in February 2023.

The Mohalla Health and Sanitation Committee (MHSC) that were formed under the project along with the support from Association for Development of Nizamuddin continued to work for the community in identifying issues and advocacy for their redressal with the concerned government agency.

23 Community Mental Health

Demonstration of a relaxing body technique

Supported by:

Indira Foundation

The Community Mental Health program was launched in Nizamuddin Basti in February 2023 to address six key mental and neurological disorders namely anxiety, depression, psychosis, epilepsy, dementia, and intellectual disability. The community mental health initiative aims to reduce the treatment gap by at least 50%.

The program aims to train frontline Community Health Workers, enhance mental health literacy within the community, foster an environment that encourages care-seeking behaviour, and provide mental health care services at the community level.

The focus of the programme is to create awareness on mental health issues, address the stigma around it, screen individuals for distress, support them with referral linkages when needed, and support the family of the person with a mental health condition

ACTION TAKEN:

The National Mental Health Survey (NMHS) conducted the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences the prevalence of mental disorders including common mental disorders, severe mental disorders, and alcohol and substance use disorders (excluding tobacco use disorder) in adults over the age of 18 years is about 10.6%. Given the risk factors in Nizamuddin Basti, a similar if not greater prevalence is expected.

- The NMHS survey found that:
- The prevalence of mental morbidity is high in urban metropolitan areas.
- Mental disorders are closely linked to both causation and consequences of several non-communicable disorders (NCD).
- Nearly 1 in 40 have suffered depression and 1 in 20 persons are suffering current depression.
- Neurosis and stress related disorders affect 3.5% of the population and was reported to be higher among females (nearly twice as much in males).
- Data indicate that 0.9 % of the survey population were at high risk of suicide.
- Nearly 50% of persons with major depressive disorders reported difficulties in carrying out their daily activities.

It was the findings of the survey, the treatment gap of almost 80% and our own experiences of working with the community that informed the community mental health programme.

The Community Mental Health program was launched in Nizamuddin Basti in February 2023 to address six key mental and neurological disorders namely, anxiety, depression, psychosis, epilepsy, dementia, and intellectual disability. The community mental health initiative aims to reduce the treatment gap by at least 50%.

A community mental health programme emphasizes the delivery of mental health services within the community rather than in institutional settings. It aims to integrate mental health into primary health care, reduce stigma, promote early intervention, and ensure accessibility, affordability, and continuity of care.

The community mental health programme in Nizamuddin aims to train frontline Community Health Workers, enhance mental health literacy within the community, foster an environment that encourages care-seeking behaviour, and provide mental health care services at the community level.

The focus of the programme is to create awareness on mental health issues, address the stigma around it, screen individuals for distress, support them with referral linkages when needed, and support the family of the person with a mental health condition.

NEXT STEPS :

- Continue door-to-door screening for mental health distress.
- Finalize the resource book called “Mansik Swasthya ka Sehatnama”
- Plan advanced training sessions to further build the capacity of Community Health Workers.
- Provide ongoing support to clients and their families affected by severe mental disorders and common mental disorders.
- Finalize Mental Health Literacy sessions covering anxiety, depression, intellectual disability, epilepsy, and dementia.
- Link individuals with intellectual disabilities to relevant government departments for eligibility verification and access to entitlements such as disability certificates and pensions. Additionally, they will also be linked with educational facilities for both formal as well as vocational education.
- Schedule regular clinical reviews with the psychiatrist to foster peer learning.
- Plan exposure and learning opportunities for team development.
- Initiate work with faith healers.

Table 1: Number of MHL Sessions conducted

#	MHL Topic	No. of Groups	No. of Participants
1	**SMD**	39	580
2	**CMD**	29	509
	Total	68	1089

Sex wise coverage through K-10 Screening forms

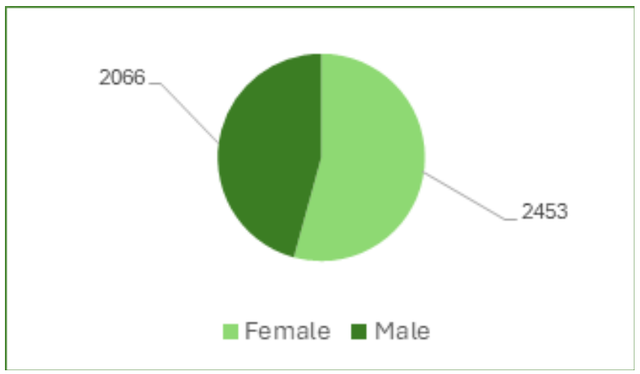
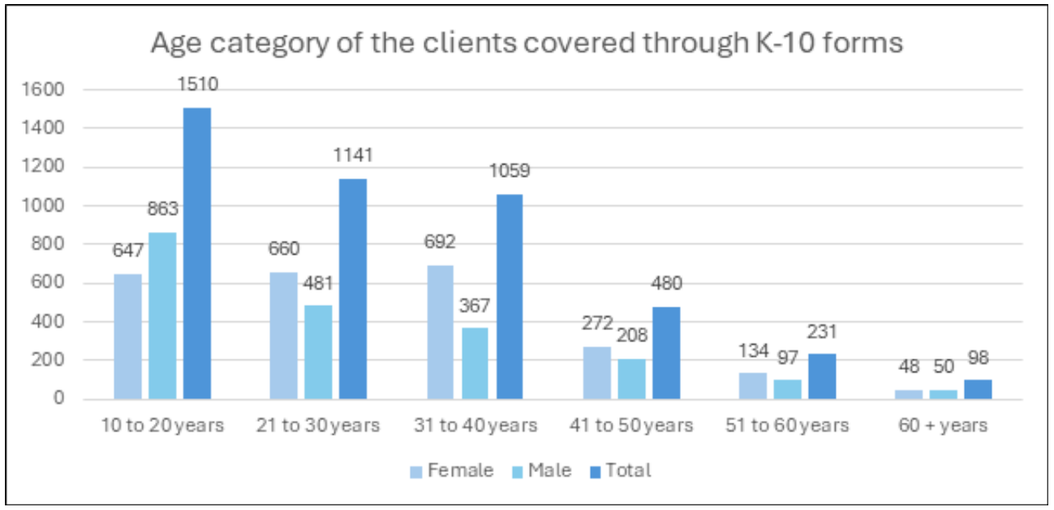


Table 4: Total number of cases and their status

#	Types of cases	Identified	Discharge	Drop Out
1	**CMD**	494	416	22
2	**SMD**	15	2	2
3	**Dementia**	2	1	0
4	**Epilepsy**	4	0	2
5	**AUD**	2	0	2
6	**ID**	5	0	0
	Total	**522**	**419 (80.2%)**	**28 (5.4%)**



Case Study 1

“H” is a 25-year-old woman with two daughters, aged 2 years and 1 year, and a son who is 1 month old. Her symptoms began 10 years ago, shortly after she was married at the age of 15. She initially exhibited behaviors such as talking to herself and developing suspicions that her husband was having an affair with her sister. As her condition worsened, she began walking around naked in the community. Her family believed she was possessed and sought treatment from faith healers for several years. Eventually, a family member attended a Mental Health Literacy session on Psychosis and reached out to a Community Health Worker (CHW). “H” was referred to the RML government healthcare facility, where she was given medication disguised in juice due to her paranoia, which made her suspicious of everyone, including family members. After three months of treatment, her condition improved significantly. She regained the ability to care for herself, her children, and manage household tasks, but discontinued the medication after becoming pregnant. Following the birth of her son, her husband left her, and she now lives with her parents while caring for her son. The next step is to resume her treatment and discuss family planning methods with both her doctor and her mother.

SA is a 65-year-old widower who scored 30 on the K10 scale, indicating severe distress. He previously worked as a tailor but stopped six months ago due to increasing anxiety. SA has eight children, three sons and five daughters. His eldest child is a 38-year-old daughter, and his youngest is a 20-year-old daughter. Only two of his children are employed, and none are married. SA is deeply concerned about their future, particularly their marriages. He also feels increasingly lonely, as many of his close friends either live in the village or have passed away. He has been out of his routine for some time and no longer feels motivated to engage in daily activities or socialize. SA was referred to RML, where he received treatment for his anxiety and is now feeling much more relaxed. As per his request, a community health worker (CHW) calls him weekly to maintain regular contact and provide support.

Case Study 3

A 28-year-old woman, “S,” is divorced and has two daughters, aged 11 and 6. She scored 32 on the K10 distress scale. During the First Responder Care Session, she reported experiencing unusual symptoms, such as the sensation of flies filling her mouth, perceiving public transport seats as filthy, having sexual dreams about known men, and displaying aggressive behaviour, including throwing objects and physically harming both her children and herself. She mentioned that she had been receiving treatment for Ram Manohar Lohia hospital for the past two years but had discontinued it midway. The Community Health Worker (CHW) referred her to the AIIMS government healthcare facility, where she has since been consistent with her treatment. As a result, she is now feeling better. She no longer experiences sexual dreams, and her aggression has significantly reduced.

III

Livelihood

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

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

This programme promotes two women's enterprises that showcase the craft and cuisine of Nizamuddin i.e., Insha-e-Noor and Zaika-e-Nizamuddin.

24 Insha-e-Noor

IeN is a now a registered producer company with 34 shareholders and 10 directors. It is growing in strength and manages almost all its expenses, barring professional support independently.

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

Insha-e-Noor began as a training centre to engage with women and is now a registered producer company initiated by the AKTC. The IeN brand comprises paper and textile products using the skills of sanjhi (hand cut patterns on paper), crochet, aari embroidery. Garment construction and the binding and packaging units support the finishing of products as well as take on orders from design houses. All products for the brand are hand crafted by women of Nizamuddin Basti.

IeN is a now a registered producer company with 34 shareholders and 10 directors. It is growing in strength and manages almost all its expenses, barring professional support independently.

Covid had impacted IeN too and the total revenue in 2023 was reduced to Rs. 25,87,858; after several efforts at reaching out to new customers, IeN was able to increase its turnover by 79%, reaching Rs. 46,36,742.

ACTION TAKEN:

- IeN has almost 100 members and they work depending upon the orders received, their need and the time that they are able to give to the work. In 2023, a total of Rs. 10,10,787, accounting for 39% of the total sales, was disbursed directly among 64 members as their making charges. The average annual wages being Rs. 15,795 and one third of the members have received at least Rs.20,000 as annual wages. Similarly, in 2024, a total of Rs. 16,39,570, accounting for 35 % of the total sales, was disbursed directly among 65 members as their making charges. The average annual wages increased by 60 % and became Rs. 25,224 and more than half the members have received at least Rs.20,000 as annual wages. The wage earned by members have a wide range from Rs 1000 per month Rs 15,000 per month.
- IeN also supported its members by distributing a bonus amount of Rs. 1,04,500 in 2023 and Rs. 76,000 in 2024.
- The number of long-term clients grew to 24 in 2023 and 2024, ensuring a steady flow of business. This was in addition to its existing regular clients of Indigene, Rangsutra and Fab India.
- Several festive ranges were prepared and launched in 2023 and 2024 on the occasions of Rakhi, Diwali, Christmas and New year. They were marketed via various social media channels and helped create a periodic buzz in the market. A total revenue of Rs.7,86,000 in 2023 and Rs. 8,24,000 in 2024 was generated from these ranges.
- IeN continued to participate in the Organic and Lifestyle market hosted by Sunder Nursery as well as other regular exhibitions and fairs making its presence felt in these spaces. In 2024 IeN participated in four exhibitions and in 6 workshops mainly on Aari and Sanjhi.
- The Insha-e-Noor kiosk which has been positioned in Sunder Nursery, did a business of Rs. 6,02,544/- in 2023 and Rs. 6,35,720/- in 2024.
- Insha-e-Noor's own e-commerce website was launched on the occasion of the International Women's Day, 8th March 2024. The objective of the same was to strengthen Insha-e-Noor's brand image, enhance its online presence and allow the customers to access our entire range at a single platform. The website was designed by an external marketing agency.

NEXT STEPS :

- Focus on creating and supplying products for the Museum Shop in the newly opened Humayun's Tomb Museum
- Explore corporate orders and establish marketing linkages through the IeN website.
- Plan to involve directors in production.
- Training of crafts women to upgrade their tailoring skills.
- Better financial management to achieve business targets.

25 Zaika E Nizamuddin

Zaika-e-Nizamuddin Foods LLP has been able to generate enough business to be in profit for the past two years and be able to share the profit among its 11 partners.

Zaika-e-Nizamuddin (ZeN) is a women's enterprise comprising the local chefs promoting the micro-cuisine of Nizamuddin. It began as a response to malnourishment in children in Nizamuddin and a finding that junk snacks contributed significantly to the poor nutritional status of children.

A group of young mothers were organised in 2012, under the health and early childhood care and development component, to produce low-cost nutritious snacks to address malnourishment in young children in Nizamuddin.

ZeN has been active as a functioning group since 2015 and now has a wide product repertoire including nutritious snacks and the cuisine of Nizamuddin. It offers home delivery, catering services and live counters for gatherings. It has a regular presence in Sunder Nursery on through the weekend market and a food truck.

ZeN is an evolving enterprise learning and growing with the wide experience that they now have. IIts strategic location gives them the opportunity to interact with a wide range of clientele helping them develop strategies to cater to their growing popularity. They have been successful in creating a loyal customer base.

They have been able to generate enough business to be in profit for the past two years and be able to share the profit among the shareholders. Their turnover in 2023 was Rs 57,27,619 and Rs 55,50,330 in 2024.

Supported by:

Australian Government

Australian High Commission

ACTION TAKEN:

- Zaika-e-Nizamuddin Foods LLP has been able to generate enough business to be in profit for the past two years and be able to share the profit among its 11 partners. The enterprise's turnover and profit percentage was 57,27,619 and 10.9% in 2023 and Rs 55,50,330/- and appx.10% in 2024. 50% of the stated profit was given to the partners as dividends in proportion to their work contribution and the other 50% was added to their share capital equally.
- ZeN forged a collaboration with multiple Five-star hotels through food promotional events designed to showcase the authentic and Indigenous cuisine of Nizamuddin to their esteemed guests. The women were invited as guest chefs to the following hotels:

- Neo Restaurant, Hilton Hotel, Bengaluru - June 2024

- Hyatt Regency, Gurugram, March 2024

- Courtyard Marriott, Mumbai, November 2023

- The women chefs were honoured on the occasion of Women's Day, 2024, by the team of Hyatt Hotel, Gurgaon. The Hyatt team commemorated the chefs and their journey through their gracious hospitality and felicitation.
- The group also showcased their food through various exhibitions throughout 2023 and 2024 including Jashn-e-Rekhta, Kathakar festival, Amarrass Nights, The Bazaar – the weekly market at Sunder Nursery and more.
- The group continued to market and sell their cuisine through regular avenues including the Sunder Nursery Food Kiosk, catering events, and home delivery.
- One of the partners of ZeN sold 37.04% of her share capital when she left the group to go back to her native village. The shares were purchased by other members of the groups.

NEXT STEPS :

- The ZeN chefs are going to represent their indigenous cuisine in the RagBag Performance Festival at the Kerala Arts and Crafts Village - a dynamic six-day celebration that brings together a diverse array of performance art, craft, food, and ideas in Kovalam, Kerala, in January 2025. Zaika-e-Nizamuddin is going to be one of the chefs in the RagBag Feast- a food assemblage merging rich heritage and contemporary thinking.
- ZeN is planning to revamp its catering menu with new dishes and revised prices in the year 2025.

AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK
(AKDN)

↓

AGA KHAN TRUST FOR CULTURE
(AKTC)

↓

HISTORIC CITIES PROGRAMME
(HCP / AHCP)

↓

NIZAMUDDIN URBAN RENEWAL INITIATIVE
(NURI)

↓

ASSOCIATION FOR DEVELOPMENT FOR NIZAMUDDIN
(ADN)

Post-Project Management: Association for Development of Nizamuddin

26 Creation of Association for Development of Nizamuddin

Supported by:

Azim Premji Foundation

Azim Premji FAoundation

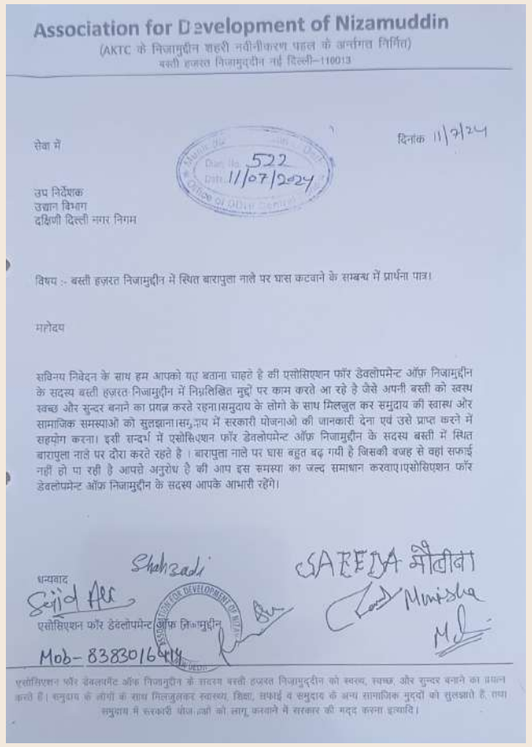
There has been a change in the nature of the interventions in Nizamuddin Basti. This was a conscious decision taken by the AKTC as a responsible way of transitioning from the direct implementation approach that it had been following since 2007.

The approach from 2007 to 2022 was to directly implement interventions in Nizamuddin Basti to improve the quality of life of the community. **These were done in partnership with the Municipal Corporation of Delhi and the community under the larger Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative. These included interventions to improve and strengthen the services (where needed) of the Government of Delhi aanganwadis, MCD school, MCD clinic, MCD toilet complexes, MCD parks and streets.** Interventions included improvement of the physical infrastructure, services, equipment, management of the facility and engagement with the community.

AKTC began its transition process, well before the end of the period of the MoU as we felt it was necessary to put systems in place to ensure the continuity of the interventions undertaken during the project. The project had aimed not just to improve the quality of life of the community but also to enhance the capacities of community representatives and those engaged with us to address challenges/problems faced by the community. This was done by initiating the process of setting up a community-based organisation and finally initiating a community-based organisation called the Association for Development for Nizamuddin (ADN).

ADN has been initiated drawing from the members from groups created under the project. Most of these individuals have been engaged with the project and have the advantage of being part of the development process and have strong links with the larger community. They have also gone through significant capacity enhancement processes and are experienced in the implementation of structured development interventions.

In addition, the ADN members have undergone a series of workshops with a senior organisation development professional to understand how organisations work and to help them grow as an organisation who can help with the continued social, economic and cultural development of Nizamuddin Basti.



Association for Development of Nizamuddin
(AKTC के निजामुद्दीन शहरी नवीनीकरण पहल के अन्तर्गत निर्गित)
बस्ती हज़रत निजामुद्दीन नई दिल्ली–110013

दिनांक 11/7/24

सेवा में

Dy. No. 522
Date 11/07/2024

उप निर्देशक
उद्यान विभाग
दक्षिणी दिल्ली नगर निगम

विषय :- बस्ती हज़रत निजामुद्दीन में स्थित बारापुला नाले पर घास कटवाने के सम्बन्ध में प्रार्थना पत्र।

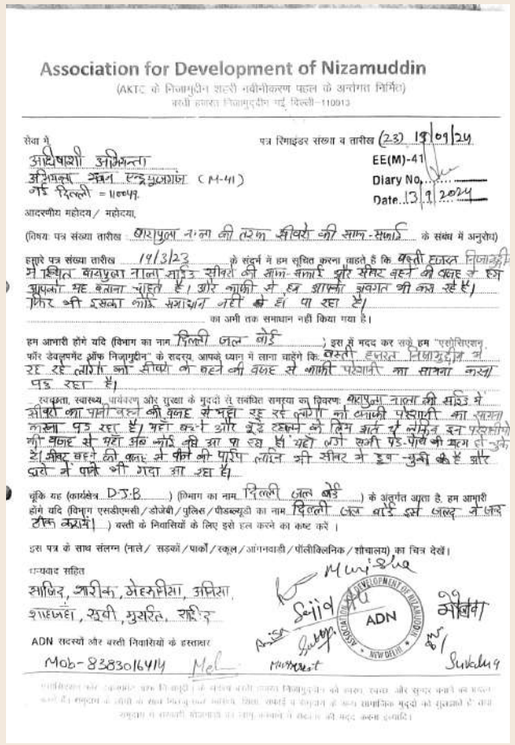
महोदय

सविनय निवेदन के साथ हम आपको यह बताना चाहते है की एसोसिएशन फॉर डेवलोपमेन्ट ऑफ़ निजामुद्दीन के सदस्य बस्ती हज़रत निजामुद्दीन में निम्नलिखित मुद्दों पर काम करते आ रहे है जैसे अपनी बस्ती को स्वस्थ स्वच्छ और सुन्दर बनाने का प्रयास करते रहना।समुदाय के लोगो के साथ मिलजुल कर समुदाय की स्वास्थ और सामाजिक समस्याओ को सुलझाना।सरकारी योजनाओ की जानकारी देना एवं उसे प्राप्त करने में सहयोग करना। इसी सन्दर्भ में एसोसिएशन फॉर डेवलोपमेन्ट ऑफ़ निजामुद्दीन के सदस्य बस्ती में स्थित बारापुला नाले पर दौरा करते रहते है । बारापुला नाले पर घास बहुत बढ़ गयी है जिसकी वजह से वहां सफाई नहीं हो पा रही है आपसे अनुरोध है की आप इस समस्या का जल्द समाधान करवाए।एसोसिएशन फॉर डेवलोपमेन्ट ऑफ़ निजामुद्दीन के सदस्य आपके आभारी रहेंगे।

धन्यवाद
Shahzadi
Sajid Ali
एसोसिएशन फॉर डेवलोपमेन्ट ऑफ़ निजामुद्दीन
Mob- 8383016414

SAHEDA सौहीदा
Monisha

एसोसिएशन फॉर डेवलपमेंट ऑफ निजामुद्दीन के सदस्य बस्ती हज़रत निजामुद्दीन को स्वस्थ, स्वच्छ, और सुन्दर बनाने का प्रयास करते हैं। समुदाय के लोगों के साथ मिलजुलकर स्वास्थ्य, शिक्षा, सफाई व समुदाय के अन्य सामाजिक मुद्दों को सुलझाते है, तथा समुदाय में सरकारी योजनाओं को लागू कराने में सरकार की मदद करना इत्यादि।



Association for Development of Nizamuddin
(AKTC के निजामुद्दीन शहरी नवीनीकरण पहल के अन्तर्गत निर्गित)
बस्ती हज़रत निजामुद्दीन नई दिल्ली–110013

सेवा में,
अधिषाशी अभियन्ता
अतिरिक्त सेक्शन एन्ड सुपरवाइज़र (M-41)
नई दिल्ली – 110044

पत्र रिसाइवर संख्या व तारीख (23) 18/09/24
EE(M)-41
Diary No.
Date 13/9/2024

आदरणीय महोदय/ महोदया,

(विषय पत्र संख्या तारीख बारापुला नाला की तरफ जीवरो की साफ-सफाई के संबंध में अनुरोध)

हमारे पत्र संख्या तारीख 19/3/23 के संदर्भ में हम सूचित करना चाहते हैं कि बस्ती हज़रत निजामुद्दीन में स्थित बारापुला नाला साईड सीमेंट की जाली बनाई और सीवर बहने की वजह से हम आपको यह बताना चाहते हैं। और जाली से हम शाफाई चुकात भी कर रहे हैं। फिर भी इसका कोई समाधान नहीं हो पा रहा है।

का अभी तक समाधान नही किया गया है।

हम आभारी होंगे यदि (विभाग का नाम दिल्ली जल बोर्ड) इस में मदद कर सके। हम "एसोसिएशन फॉर डेवलपमेंट ऑफ निजामुद्दीन" के सदस्य, आपके ध्यान में लाना चाहेंगे कि बस्ती हज़रत निजामुद्दीन में रह रहे लोगों को सीवर के बहने की वजह से भारी परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ रहा है।

स्वच्छता, स्वास्थ्य, पर्यावरण और सुरक्षा के मुद्दों से संबंधित समुदाय का विवरण बारापुला नाला की साईड में सीवर का पानी जाम की वजह से भद्दा सड़ रहा होगा तो बीमारी फैलाती का खतरा रहता पड़ रहा है। मच्छर कीड़े और बुरे तरीके से दिन भर में मुख्य इन परेशानियों की वजह से यहां अब कोई नहीं आ पा रहा है। यहां जो रुकी पेड़-पौधे की मरम्मत की जाए सीवर बहने की वजह से पानी की पाईप लाईन भी सीवर में डूब चुकी है और पानी में गंदा आ रहा है।

धन्यवाद सहित

साजिद, जरीना, अहसनीसा, अलिसा, शाहजहां, सुची, मुशरिफ, राशिद

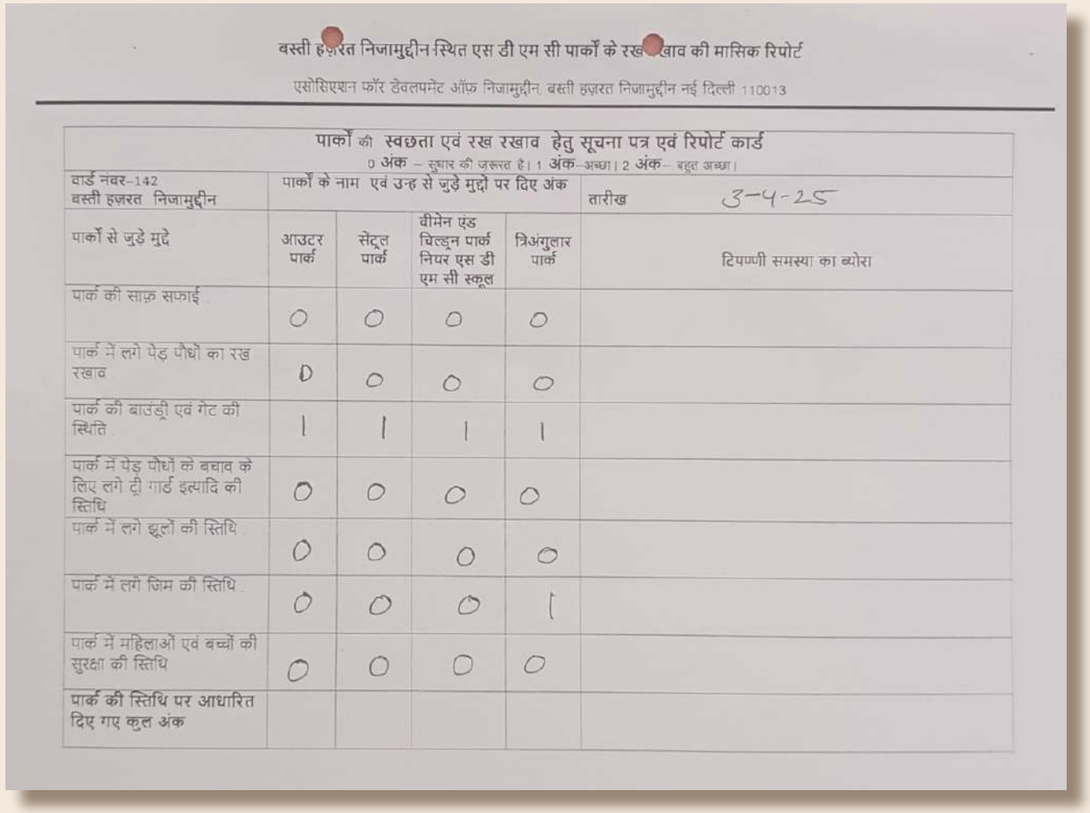
ADN सदस्यों और बस्ती निवासियों के हस्ताक्षर

Mob- 8383016414

चूंकि यह (कार्यक्षेत्र D.S.B.) (विभाग का नाम दिल्ली जल बोर्ड) के अंतर्गत आता है, हम आशा करते हैं कि (विभाग एसडीएमसी/डीजेबी/पुलिस/पीडब्ल्यूडी का नाम दिल्ली जल बोर्ड इस संबंध में जल टीम भेजेगा।) बस्ती के निवासियों के लिए इसे हल करने का कष्ट करें।

इस पत्र के साथ संलग्न (नाले/ सड़कों/पार्क/स्कूल/आंगनवाड़ी/पॉलीक्लिनिक/शौचालय) का चित्र देखें।

Monisha
Sajid Ali
ADN
सौहीदा
Shahzadi



बस्ती हज़रत निजामुद्दीन स्थित एस डी एम सी पार्कों के रख रखाव की मासिक रिपोर्ट

एसोसिएशन फॉर डेवलपमेंट ऑफ़ निजामुद्दीन, बस्ती हज़रत निजामुद्दीन नई दिल्ली 110013

पार्कों की स्वछता एवं रख रखाव हेतु सूचना पत्र एवं रिपोर्ट कार्ड

0 अंक – सुधार की ज़रूरत है। 1 अंक–अच्छा। 2 अंक– बहुत अच्छा।

वार्ड नंबर–142 बस्ती हज़रत निजामुद्दीन	पार्कों के नाम एवं उन्ह से जुड़े मुद्दों पर दिए अंक				तारीख 3-4-25
पार्कों से जुड़े मुद्दे	आउटर पार्क	सेंट्रल पार्क	वीमेन एंड चिल्ड्रन पार्क नियर एस डी एम सी स्कूल	त्रिअंगुलार पार्क	टिपण्णी समस्या का ब्योरा
पार्क की साफ़ सफाई	0	0	0	0	
पार्क में लगे पेड़ पौधों का रख रखाव	0	0	0	0	
पार्क की बाउंड्री एवं गेट की स्थिति	1	1	1	1	
पार्क में पेड़ पौधों के बचाव के लिए लगे ट्री गार्ड इत्यादि की स्तिथि	0	0	0	0	
पार्क में लगे झूलों की स्तिथि	0	0	0	0	
पार्क में लगे जिम की स्तिथि	0	0	0	1	
पार्क में महिलाओं एवं बच्चों की सुरक्षा की स्तिथि	0	0	0	0	
पार्क की स्तिथि पर आधारित दिए गए कुल अंक					

Reports to access proper implementation of various programs by ADN.

27 Community Based Monitoring

The Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative worked with the community and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi and Department of Women and Child Development to strengthen the urban services in education, health, sanitation and open spaces that included parks and streets. The project also initiated a waste management system in the community on a pay and use basis.

The project has followed a strategy of strengthening the government services and forging/improving a link between the community and the concerned government department – so that there is relationship between the delivery system (government) and the demand system (community) with an understanding of their roles and responsibilities.

Since the project had worked with the government agencies and the community to create and strengthen the infrastructure, our understanding was that one key strategy to maintain the urban services would be if the community could monitor the functioning of the government services and work simultaneously with the community members and the government departments to ensure the continuity of the services and their quality.

It is to ensure the continued development of Nizamuddin Basti that the ADN was initiated as a post project management strategy. One of the major strategies that they follow is community-based monitoring of urban services.

Education

Independance Day celebration at the MCD school in Nizamuddin

ADN primarily focuses on strengthening the interface between the school and the community by ensuring the smooth functioning of the School Management Committee (SMC), with the goal of enhancing the quality of education at the MCD school in Nizamuddin.

The work of supporting the educational processes continues to be anchored by the AKTC team who works in close collaboration with the ADN team.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Work with AKTC team to establish a functional SMC for the school. This included identification and mobilization of potential members who can be a part of the SMC and linked them with school functionaries to be inducted as SMC members.
- Sustained advocacy with the MCD councillor to be included in the SMC as a community representative. This was secured in the first quarter of 2023.
- Work with SMC to help parents of enrolled children apply for new documents like Aadhar and birth certificate and helped in revision of their existing documents.
- In 2024, ADN worked closely with the school to celebrate Independence helping to establish a better working relationship with the school. This was followed by working with the school to celebrate Children's Day and sports day were celebrated with the support of the teachers, community and SMC members. Almost the entire school participated in these events.

NEXT STEPS :

- Work closely with the MCD co-ed primary school to strengthen the existing SMC through regular community-based monitoring of the functioning of the school.
- ADN to actively take up and support the members and teachers in issues raised during the SMC meetings
- Actively engage in the events and programs of the school with the SMC and school management with the support AKTC.

Early Childhood Care

Closing session of parenting program

The focus here too is to strengthen the interface between the community, focussing on the parents of the enrolled children and the Department of Women and Child (DWCD) functionaries. With the completion of the MoU in July 2022, there was a gap when monitoring of the aanganwadis by the community group had become challenging and the ADN team had to devise alternate strategies to ensure the quality of the functioning of the aanganwadis.

AKTC and ADN also worked together to facilitate a new MoU with the DWCD to strengthen the preschool education component that is implemented by ADN.

This is also supported by direct work with the community and demonstration with the aanganwadis to strengthen pre-school education. We feel that this very important as the aanganwadis now essentially cater to children of the most vulnerable families.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Regular meetings with DWCD towards an MoU to work with all the seven aanganwadis.
- Conduct awareness meeting with the parents encouraging them to visit the aanganwadis to monitor their functioning. This was supported by working with the parents to demonstrate how children learn and what is possible in aanganwadis and to help parents work on the school readiness of their children.
- Eighteen meetings were held with parents of children aged 3-5 years, focusing on government schemes, child immunization, nutrition programs, and citizen entitlements. ADN members educated parents on monitoring of AWCs, enrolling children in them, and activities for physical and mental development. Parents also learned how to use worksheets developed by ADN to support their children's school readiness.
- Developed 40 worksheets and worked with parents of 70 children between the ages of 3-6 years to help them prepare for school and to demand better services from the aanganwadis.

NEXT STEPS :

- Community based monitoring through the Aanganwadi Avlokan evam Sahayata Samooh(AASS) - a group comprising parents of children enrolled in the aanganwadis with the aanganwadi workers and supervisor
- Identification and training of new AASS members.
- Support to all seven aanganwadis through preschool education support, celebration of monthly ECCD days
- Capacity enhancement of Aanganwadi teachers.(ADN team).
- Engage parents whose children are not attending pre-school through worksheets developed for the children by ADN.

Organizational Development workshop conducted for the members.

Health

The ADN's work on health is a combination of monitoring the quality of functioning of the health services in the community, working with the government departments and independently to raise awareness on health issues, conduct structured awareness programmes on parenting with parents and adolescent citizenship programme with adolescents .ADN actively engages with five Mohalla Health and Sanitation Committees established under the project to address community concerns such as health, urban sanitation, waste management, education, and other related issues.. In addition, ADN facilitates the regular immunisation of children by linking the community with the public health services and helping individuals/ families who need to be referred to the hospital for higher care.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Monthly visits to the MCD polyclinic and the Government of NCT of Delhi Mohalla Clinic to understand the issues related to its services and raise concerns with authorities for resolving issues.
- Six awareness drives were conducted during the last two years, five in collaboration with the MCD's Public Health Department to raise awareness about Dengue and Malaria and one regarding cleanliness in the Basti. Furthermore, a comprehensive session was held to educate residents about preventive measures and the actions individuals could take within their homes.
- 90 Mohalla Health Sanitation Committee meetings were held in the Basti at 5 different clusters. The issues related to water, cleanliness, health services, electricity, etc. are discussed in these meetings. Each meeting was attended by approximately 20 community members in each of the Mohallas.
- Referral pathways were identified by ADN members and links established with government, non -government and private institutions for healthcare services. A total of 122 people were identified and linked with different government and non-government institutions for healthcare services at free or discounted rates.
- A total of 1374 children were mobilized by ADN and immunized at aanganwadi centres.
- Twenty-four meetings conducted by Sehat Sahayta Samooh (SSS). A total of 15 people were given loans amounting to Rs. 185,600/- from SSS.
- A total of 200 sessions were conducted by the ADN trained members for the adolescent programme, benefiting 320 adolescents.
- A total of 160 parenting sessions were conducted by the ADN members benefiting 425 women.
- A total of 17 sessions on child nutrition conducted with 160 young mothers and women in the Basti.

Sehat Sahayta Samooh Annual Meeting

NEXT STEPS :

- ADN to continue monitoring the MCD polyclinic and the Mohalla clinic in the Basti
- ADN will continue conducting the structured awareness programmes with new groups.
- More members will be mobilized to become members of Sehat Sahayta Samooh.
- The support to the referral services for the patients will continue.
- Continue supporting the work of the MHSCs

Sanitation

Mohalla Health and Sanitation Commiittee meeting

ADN is working directly in the sanitation programme by managing the community toilets with the Rehmat Nigrani Samooh which is a member of the ADN. The intervention comprises managing the two community-public toilets and engagement with the MCD and the community to ensure that the toilets continue to run smoothly as about 15% of the households do not have in-house toilets or inadequate sanitation facilities for the family and to meet the sanitation needs of the visiting pilgrims.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Two community toilets are maintained and managed by ADN along with the Rehmat Nigrani Samooh members. Every day the community toilets are accessed by approximately 350 users. During the Urs and Moharam additionally 10000 pilgrims used the toilets. Managing the toilets includes maintaining CTC accounts, stocks, expenditure data on regular basis by themselves with the support from ADN staff. During the last two years the user fee collection was Rs 8,94,000.
- Daily monitoring visits by the ADN team of the CTC.
- Regular advocacy for the renewal of the tripartite agreement between MCD, AKF and RNS (representing ADN) was renewed from 28th October 24 for four years until December 2028.
- During the last two years a total of 39 meetings (21 monthly and 18 emergency meetings), were conducted with RNS members, MCD's sanitation department on the maintenance of CTC, duty allocation to cleaners, user fee collection and dispute/crisis management.

NEXT STEPS :

- Regular monitoring visits will be done by the ADN team
- Awareness drives will be conducted along with the CTC cleaners and Waste collectors on cleanliness of the Nizamuddin Basti and proper maintenance of the community toilet complexes.

Open Spaces – Parks & Streets

Monthly street audit report submitted to MCD Supervisor

The project has developed the landscaping of the parks in Nizamuddin based on their specific usage: the outer park is designed for community events and sports activities; a smaller park, known as the Women and Children's Park, provides a safe space for women and children to engage and spend time; and the Central Park, located in the heart of the basti, serves as a tranquil space for residents to relax and features plantation areas.

The streets were mapped and repaired by the MCD after a mapping exercise by AKTC; AKTC provided the design and supervision of the reconstruction of the streets that were designed to be long lasting and tiles that could be removed for underground repairs and replaced.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Twenty-four Park and street monitoring audit reports were submitted to the MCD Horticulture department monthly during the last two years.
- Eight meetings conducted with park users and MCD officials to address concerns about cleanliness and maintenance of the parks. A park users committee has been formed to monitor the same.
- Continuous advocacy is undertaken with DJB, MCD staff and MCD councillor to keep the Basti clean.
- Two plantation drives were conducted with the support of MCD horticulture department, school, polyclinic, Delhi police.

NEXT STEPS :

- All mentioned activities will be continued

Waste Management

ADN coordinating with MCD for sewer cleaning

Organised waste management as a pay and use service became operational over 10 years ago in Nizamuddin. This was also a key expressed need by the community in the initial Quality of Life survey of 2008. With the MCD not playing a role in domestic solid waste management in Nizamuddin, ADN decided to take on the role of executing this function that had been executed by AKTC with the support of the community.

ADN has been managing this function for over two years now and has been able to manage this transition with a high degree of success.

The waste management programme has evolved, with waste collectors now being trained to collect user fee- whereas earlier, they were paid a salary by AKTC.

The waste management programme has also become one of catalysts encouraging the community members to become members of ADN.

ACTION TAKEN:

- 1600 Households covered under the organized waste collection program. The community contribution for this initiative is Rs. 17,20,832 during the last two years.
- A total of 39 monthly meetings were conducted with the waste collectors by RNS and ADN members. These meetings are mainly aimed at resolving the challenges and issues that the waste collectors face at the field level.
- During the last two years, 24 audit reports compiled by ADN members related to the cleanliness of streets and open spaces were submitted to the MCD sanitation department.
- Five Nala side meetings were organized to raise awareness regarding the maintenance of the Nala side. These meetings were done with 120 households residing along the Nala side.

Waste segregation and waste collection by waste collector

NEXT STEPS :

- Collectivization of waste collectors and planning workshops for them.
- Engage community members in the Rehmat Nigrani Samooh meetings, where waste collectors address the challenges, they encounter during waste collection. This could also serve as a platform for fostering connection between the community and waste collectors.
- Restart the Nala side meetings through door-to-door visits by the team and the neighborhood group.
- Organize drives in collaboration with MCD to address waste generated in households and the health issues arising from improper waste management.

28 Community Engagement

The Association for Development of Nizamuddin is a community-based organisation with the community members of Nizamuddin being members. As the objective of the ADN is the continued social, economic and cultural development of the community, engagement with the community is of critical importance.

ADN uses several strategies and forums to engage with the community.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Two large community meeting conducted by ADN where approximately 100 members participated and were oriented on the objectives of ADN, its work and process of membership.
- In November 2023, ADN celebrated children's day with 300 children at the Parda Park in the Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti. The activities were focused on children between the age group of 6- 15 years.
- In November 2024, ADN celebrated children's day at the Parda park with the children from the MCD co-ed primary school, Nizamuddin.
- Sports day was celebrated in December 2023, with 200 children at the Outer Park in the Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti. It was an eagerly anticipated event that brought together children of all age groups though the major focus was on children between the age of 14-20. Various games were organized.
- A cricket tournament was organized in December 2024, with the men in the basti above the age of 40 years. This was also planned to engage more men into the initiatives of ADN. ADN was introduced and a mental health screening camp was also set up during this event.
- Women's day was celebrated in March 2024. It aimed to celebrate the women of the Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti and was a success as it brought together women from within the Basti to celebrate their achievements, address challenges and empower each other. Almost 300 women and children participated enthusiastically in the event. The MCD school teachers had organized activities for the children throughout the day; ADN worked with Aagaaz to facilitate a theatre performance in the mela.
- Independence Day was celebrated in August 2023 and 2024 in the MCD Co-ed primary school. About 100 parents and 300 children Participated in this event.

NEXT STEPS :

- Encourage greater male participation in community events that are typically attended primarily by women and children. Organize community events that are inclusive and enjoyable for people of all genders.
- Revaluate and plan community events, incorporating suggestions from the community as well.

Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD)

Horticulture department of MCD

Delhi Jal Board

Directorate of Health Service

India Post Payment Bank (IPPB)

Public Health Department (MCD)

29 Partnerships with other organizations

A key premise on the initiation of the Association for Development of Nizamuddin was the need to partner with government departments and other civil society organizations to fulfill the objectives of the continued social, economic and cultural development of Nizamuddin; the ADN does not, apart from the waste management programme does not implement any programme directly but rather focusses its efforts on leveraging government resources and entering into partnership with other relevant agencies. ADN helps to form a bridge between the community and other government and non-government agencies.

ACTION TAKEN:

- **Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD)** - operation and management of household waste collection, conduct awareness drive, nallah side monitoring, street audit monitoring and the monitoring of the community toilets located in Nizamuddin Basti. Sports day celebration at the outer park Children's day celebration at the women's park
- **Horticulture department of MCD** - monitoring the open spaces and parks and conduct plantation drive.
- **Delhi Jal Board** – Nallah side issues, fixing the sewage problems and issues related drinking water.
- **Directorate of Health Service** - supported the doctors and paramedical staff in mobilizing the parents having children in the age group of 9 months to 5 years for MMR immunization.
- **India Post Payment Bank (IPPB)** -ADN collaborated with IPPB to host an awareness session aimed at educating individuals about the schemes and services offered by the post bank.
- **Public Health Department (MCD)** -Six awareness drives were conducted this year in collaboration with the MCD's Public Health Department to raise awareness about Dengue and Malaria, in the basti.

NEXT STEPS :

- Other potential collaborations with both government and non-government organizations will be explored.

30 Capacity Enhancement of ADN team

The Association for Development of Nizamuddin (ADN) comprises members from the community who have been part of the groups initiated under the project or team members of the implementing team of the project. While they possess rich and diverse experience in implementing a multi-input area development programme, they need further support in envisioning the long-term development of the Basti Hazrat Nizamuddin. Therefore, ADN was initiated with the understanding that while it would function with an increasing degree of independence, it would be handheld as it grew by the AKTC team and benefit from their experience.

ACTION TAKEN:

- A total of 19 trainings were done in the year 2023-24
- 18 full day trainings done on organizational development
- One-day training done on communication & documentation

NEXT STEPS :

- Training on proposal writing will be organized for the upcoming year
- Organizational development training will continue
- Trainings on communication and documentation will be organized
- Trainings on latest government schemes will be planned so that the team can support the community in filling applications and direct them to the respective government agencies.

Public Agencies - 2022

Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)

Mr Yadubir Singh Rawat, Director General

Shri Anand Madhukar, Additional Director General

Dr. Alok Tripathi, Additional Director General (Monuments)

Mr. Janhwij Sharma, Additional Director General (Conservation)

Mr. T. J. Alone, Joint Director General (Monument-I)

Dr S K Manjul, Former Joint Director General

Mr. Anil Tiwari , Regional Director (North)

Mr. Arvin Manjul, Director (World Heritage)

Dr. Vasant Kr. Swarnkar, Director (Museums)

Dr Niraj Kumar Sinha, Former Director (Museums)

Mr. Zulfeqar Ali, Director (Monument-II)

Mr. Amarnath Ramakrishna, Director Antiquity

Dr. Praveen Singh, Superintending Archaeologist, Delhi Circle

Dr. T Arun Raj, Superintending Archaeologist (Museum)

Mr. Nadeem, Sr. Conservation Assistant, Humayun's Mausoleum

Central Public Works Department (CPWD)

Mr. Satinder Pal Singh, Director General

Mr. Rajesh Banga, Additional Director General (W)

Mr Sanjeet Singh Dagar, Deputy Director General (Horticulture)

Mr. P K Tripathi, Former Deputy Director General (Horticulture)

Mr. Ashok Kumar Sharma, Chief Architect (RD)

Mr. Umesh Bansal, Chief Engineer (NDZ-1)

Mr. Manish Kumar, Superintending Engineer (Vigyan Bhawan)

Department of Women and Child Development (DCCW)

Ms. Mitali Namchoom, IAS, Director, Department of Women and Child Development (DWCD)

Dr. Navlendra Kumar Singh, DANICS, Additional Director, DWCD

Ms. Manjula Sharma, Deputy Director, Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)

Mr. Syamander Singh, Child Development Prog. Officer, ICDS

Ms. Madhu, Aanganwadi Supervisor

South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC)

Mr. Ashwani Kumar, Commissioner, MCD, Civic Center

Ms. Sarika Chaudhri, Municipal Councillor, Delhi

Angel Bhati Chauhan, Additional Commissioner & Director Education, MCD Civic Center

Sanjay Singh Director of Education, MCD, Civic Center

Mr. Gurpal Singh, Deputy Commissioner Central Zone

Mr. Ambuj Sharma, Additional Director Revenue & Education MCD Civic Center

Ms. Manju Khatri, Deputy Director of Education, Physical Education, Civic Center

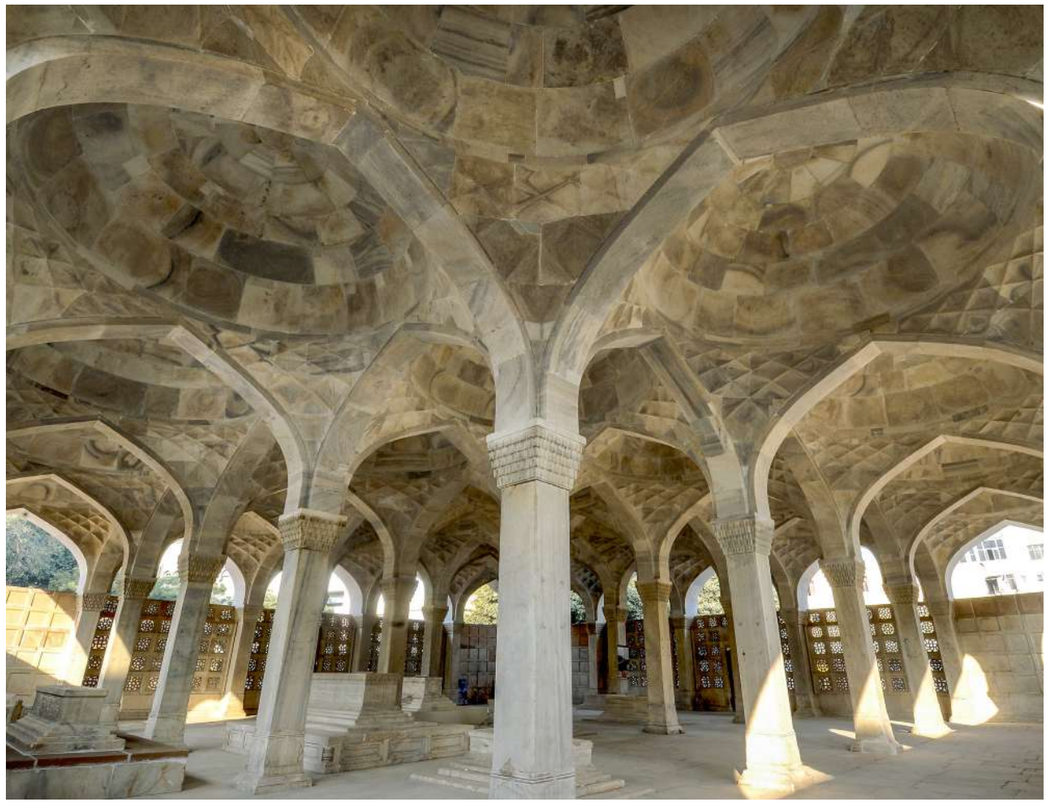
Mr. Anil Kumar, Deputy Director of Education, MCD Central Zone

Ms. Kamna Prasad, School Inspector, MCD, Civic Center

Ms. Angoori Devi, School Inspector, MCD Central Zone

Ms. Azra Imtiaz, Former Principal MCD School, Nizamuddin

Ms. Rajbala, Principal MCD School, Nizamuddin



German Ambassador, Walter J. Lindner visit at Nizamuddin Basti

Aga Khan Development Network

Core Team

Mr. Ratish Nanda, CEO

Mr. Rajpal Singh, Chief Engineer

Ms. Archana S Akhtar, Project Director, Design & Outreach

Ms. Jyotsna Lall, Director Programmes

Mr. Somak Ghosh, Finance & Office Director

Ms. Ujwala Menon, Senior Project Manager, Conservation

Conservation

Mr. Nouman Ahmad Siddiqui, Conservation Architect

Mr. Om Veer, Engineer

Ms. Prateek Jain, Architect

Ms. Ashi Gupta, Architect

Principal Consultants

Prof. Ebba Koch, Principal Advisor (Content), Humayun's Tomb Site Museum

Shaheer Associates, Landscape Consultants

Ms. Bhawna Dandona, Conservation Specifications

Ms. Aparna Rajagopal, Beejom

Mr Rakesh Gupta, Golden Hive Foundation

Akshay Chaddha, Fiftth Dimension, Lighting Consultant

Dastkaar, Museum Product Developmeny

Government Sunder Nursery Management Trust

Mr. Hardeep Thakur, Operations Manager

Mr. Prashant Kumar, Finance Officer*

Mr. Ankit Agarwal, Accounts Officer Finance & Operation

Mr. Kashiram Bhandaria, Engineer-in-charge

Mr. Kiran Pal Singh, Horticulture-in-charge

Mr. Ashish Panwar, Horticulturist

Mr. Sundeep Kumar, Horticulturist

Ms. Nidhi Purohit, Programme Coordinator

Mr. Dinesh Patial, Archivist

Mr. Rinkesh Rana, Graphic Designer

Mr. Rahul Kumar, Finance Officer

Mr. Chandra Prakash Maurya, MEP - Engineer

Mr. Bijender Mailk, Site Supervisor

Mr. Chhote Lal, Horticulture Supervisor

Mr. Bilal, Electrician

Mr. Kapil Mangla, Engineer Civil

Mr Balveer Singh, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Vinay Rajput, Security Officer

Mr Javed Khan, IT Officer

Mr. Anil Kumar, Kiosk Operator

Mr. Vinod Kumar, Kiosk Operator

Cultural Revival

Mr. Mohd. Rashid, Programme Assistant

Design & Outreach

Ms. Vallery, Programme Officer - Design

Mr. Narendra Swain, Programme Officer - Documentation

Urban Improvements

Mr. Shani Srivastava, Coordinator – Community Development*

Operations

Ms. Kavita Kanojia, Executive Assistant to CEO

Mr. Amil Saifi, IT Manager

Mr. Neeraj Gupta, Assistant Finance Manager

Mr. Vikas Sharma, Admin Assistant

Ms. Rabia Siddiqui, Office Clerk

Mr. Himanshu Joshi, IT Engineer

Master-Craftsmen

Mr. Dhani Ram, Field Supervisor

Mr. Attar Singh, Stone craftsmen Supervisor *

Mr. Babu Lal, Supervisor cum Storekeeper

Mr. Amrik, Master Craftsman

Socio-Economic Programmes

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

Mr. Hyder M Rizvi, Programme Officer, Education

Ms. Ratna Sahni, Programme Coordinator, Vocational Education

Ms. Swati Batra, Programme Officer - Livelihood

Ms. Sakshi Sharma, Health Coordinator

Ms. Elizabeth K. Antony, Programme Coordinator, Community Development

Community Interface Groups

Insha-e-Noor Team

Employees - Fehmina Baki, Rabiya, Krishan Mohan Shah, Sandeep Singh, Imran

Directors - Meena, Amrita, Shaheen, Shabnam Shakir, Shabana, Humera, Azra, Zaida, Seema

Zaika-e- Nizamuddin

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

Health Team

Mehru Nisha, Shahjahan, Shabnam Roohi, Heena Nejam Zaidi, Suvaleha, Mohd. Ahsan, Mussarat

Urban improvements

Waste Management

Syed Sajid Ali, Anisa, Mobina, Munisha Begum, Shahida

Sanitation- Toilet Management

Mohd. Shariquddin, Anju

Urban Services and Environment

Mohd. Shawan

Sair-e-Nizamuddin

Aamir Ahmed, Mohd Hammad, Shumayila Ansari, Zareen, Shibli Zaman. Sameer