Stone carvers have been involved in the decision making process and used traditional tools and craft techniques to carve all stone elements used in the conservation effort.
**Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative** demonstrates a model for urban renewal with 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
This year’s annual report includes video interviews with various professionals and members of the project team. To view these, visit: www.nizamuddinrenewal.org/annualreports or Scan the Code

For more information on the project, please visit: www.nizamuddinrenewal.org
or Like Us on www.facebook.com/NizamuddinRenewal
The Aga Khan Trust for Culture is grateful for partnership and co-funding received from the following agencies for key projects:

- Ministry of Tourism, Government of India
- Tata Trusts
- Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- InterGlobe Foundation
- US Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation
- Delhi Urban Heritage Foundation of Delhi Development Authority
- State Department of Archaeology, Government of NCT Delhi
- Titan Company
- US Embassy, India
- Housing & Urban Development Corporation
- GSRD Foundation
- Australian High Commission, India
- SDV International Logistics Limited

The project is also grateful for receiving co-funding from following agencies in previous years:

- Ford Foundation
- Ministry of Culture, Government of India
- Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany
- World Monuments Fund
- JM Kaplan Fund
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(Above) His Highness the Aga Khan, Chairman, Aga Khan Development Network was honoured with a Padma Vibhushan in 2015. On the occasion, he also had an in-depth meeting on Development issues with Shri Narendra Modi, Hon’ble Prime Minister of India.
Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative: A non-profit People Public – Private Partnership

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BACKGROUND
2015 marked eight years since the 11 July 2007 signature of the MoU marking the commencement of the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative. In keeping with AKTC projects worldwide, here too, the aim was to demonstrate that cultural heritage assets can be leveraged for socio-economic benefit of local communities and residents of historic cities.

The MoU was preceded by two years of discussion with the senior officials of the Archaeological Survey of India on conservation philosophy; discussions with the leadership of the Central Public Works Department on the vision for Government Sundar Nursery; and discussions with former Mayor of Delhi and the Municipal Councillor for the area – Mr Farhad Suri, community leaders from Nizamuddin Basti and officers of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (now South Delhi Municipal Corporation) on measures required to enhance the Quality of Life for residents of Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti through interventions to upgrade health, education, sanitation infrastructure. These initial discussions and agreements were incorporated in the MoU and have served as the basis for undertaking the project since its inception.

The Humayun’s Tomb – Sundar Nursery – Nizamuddin Basti project area is one of the densest ensembles of medieval monuments in the country and over the past eight years conservation works have been completed on Humayun’s Tomb and over 45 individual structures. At each of these monuments, master craftsmen – stone carvers, plasterers, masons, carpenters – have clocked over 500,000 man-days of work, using traditional tools, materials and age-old building craft techniques to ensure long term preservation. The project has thus demonstrated the potential for conservation to create dignified employment for those who need it most.

Almost at every protected monument in the Nizamuddin area where AKTC has undertaken conservation works, earlier 20th century repairs using inappropriate materials such as cement needed to be removed and conservation measures based on detailed condition assessment and archival research undertaken. This rectification and traditional craft approach was formally appreciated by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre while recognizing a larger World Heritage Site than the 1993 designation of Humayun’s Tomb by including Isa Khan’s Tomb tomb-garden, Bu Halima’s Garden-Tomb, Afsarwala tomb-garden complex, Portions of Arab Serai and Nila Gumbad in 2015.

PROJECT AREA

- 250 acres of built and living heritage in the heart of Delhi
- 45 monuments conserved
- 9 Mughal Gardens revitalized
- 175 acres of green space created/restored
- 30 Acres of biodiversity zone spread in Sundar Nursery & Batashewala Complex
- 3,345 Trees mapped on GIS

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Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative:
PROJECT AREA

Annual visitors to Dargah:
11,000/day; 18,000/day on Thursdays; 2,50,000 during Urs

Annual visitors
2007-08: 4,63,308
2015-16: 11,47,195

290 Native Tree Species
77 Bird Species
28 Butterfly Species
AKDN: 
The Quality of Life Indicators

Working across several sectors that impact the quality of life for resident communities—conservation, health, education, sanitation, urban improvements, cultural revival, vocational training, early childhood care, waste collection, housing improvement, landscaping open spaces and more lately madrasa improvement—has meant that the multi-disciplinary project team has had to work closely in partnership with residents. Over the eight year project period many of the project responsibilities at Nizamuddin have been taken over by residents who have been participated in requisite training to fulfill greater responsibility.

Thus, during these eight years most of the original objectives have been achieved while in some cases, such as at Government Sundar Nursery, where lack of timely approvals have meant prolonged delays. Here, the land-use as District Park—certified in 2008 was questioned by the CPWD in 2014 leading to many proposed works here being on hold for two years awaiting resolution of the land-use.

Expansion of the project scope has been possible by forging additional partnerships since the 2007 MoU was signed. These have included partnership with government agencies such as the Delhi Development Authority and the Delhi Government’s Department of Women and Child to undertake urban conservation measures and much needed work at the Aanganwadi’s or Early Child Centres in the Basti respectively. Of the single largest additional effort is the ongoing construction of the Humayun’s Tomb Interpretation Centre being built in partnership with the Ministry of Tourism of the Government of India.

Partnership with the Tata Trusts for the conservation of Humayun’s Tomb, Nila Gumbad have now been extended to the AKTC effort at the Qutb Shahi Heritage Park in Hyderabad and the five year Khusrau programme funded by the Ford Foundation has served as the foundation for a similar effort focussed on documenting Rahim’s cultural heritage with the support of InterGlobe Foundation. Corporate Social Responsibility funding has also been received as part of the partnership with Titan Company to restore the 18 feet tall finial on the dome of Humayun’s Tomb. The project has benefitted from the significant support to AKTC projects worldwide from the Norwegian government towards landscaping of the Barapullah Nallah and Sundar Nursery.
Eight Years of a successful PPP model

The formal acceptance by UNESCO of the ‘Retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value’ of the Humayun’s Tomb World Heritage Site in 2015 included the recognition of Humayun’s Tomb standing within an ensemble of 16th century tomb-gardens has paved the way towards further expansion of the World Heritage Site boundaries by including the abutting tomb-gardens of Lakkarwala Burj, Sundar Burj & Sundarwala Mahal, Chota and Bara Batashewala Mahal and the ‘Unknown’ Mughal tomb. Also in 2015 conservation works on the three latter structures were completed with the support of the US Ambassador’s Fund for Cultural Preservation. Thus a ‘minor boundary modification’ proposal to include these sites was prepared by AKTC and submitted to the ASI for onward submission to UNESCO. Following review of ICOMOS, this will be reviewed at the July 2016 meeting of the World Heritage Committee and if accepted will be the culmination of nine years of conservation and landscape restoration effort at these six Mughal era monuments.

The past year saw conservation works being undertaken on three major monuments – at the tomb of Abdur Rahim Khan-i-Khanan in partnership with InterGlobe Foundation, Azimganj Serai in partnership with the Delhi Government’s Department of Archaeology and at the 13th century Jamaat Khana Masjid within the Dargah complex in partnership with the Dargah Committee – who had approached AKTC to undertake urgently needed conservation works at the mosque in 2014 and have handed over the mosque for a three year period. In addition, conservation works continued on several other monuments such as the Chini Ka Burj at the Nizamuddin Baoli, Nila Gumbad, Isa Khan’s Tomb, Humayun’s Tomb, Sundarwala Mahal.

The formal notification by the ASI of the National Policy for Conservation on the completion of the Humayun’s Tomb conservation, in 2014, has also included lessons from the conservation approach adopted by the project. It was realised from the onset of the project that conservation objectives of long term preservation, authenticity of material and integrity of the site could only be achieved by returning to a pre-colonial Indian approach to conservation led by craftsmen who have inherited centuries and generations of knowledge in building crafts employed for the construction of these monuments.
The 2014 National Policy formally articulates for every conservation effort to include action as required at a wide spectrum—from preservation of all original material to restoration of missing patterns and reconstruction of significant portions of the building that have collapsed. Baseline surveys have revealed that through intense interventions across several sectors almost 90% of residents of the Nizamuddin Basti benefit from one or the other of the project programmes. Some of the programmes such as the health, urban improvements, building of community toilets, has benefitted not only the millions of annual pilgrims visiting the Basti but also residents from across Delhi—over 50,000 of whom annually consult doctors at the Basti Polyclinic. Urban transformation of the Basti has however been limited to certain areas such as the Baoli; the western edge comprising the parks, primary school, community toilet complex, polyclinic as in the absence of building regulations being enforced many 6-7 floor buildings have been built here.

At Sundar Nursery, the effort in 2015—while awaiting notification of District Park land-use—has been to upgrade the 12 acre western nursery beds and the riverine landscape as part of the micro-habitat zone created to the east of the park.

**SUSTAINABILITY**

The 2007 MoU include an agreement to put in place mechanism to ensure perpetual financial sustainability for the created facilities. Towards this objective various measures have been considered ranging from the establishing and empowerment of community groups to seek funds from government schemes in the post 2017 phase on the completion of the ten year project.

Also, to manage Humayun’s Tomb Interpretation Centre and the Sundar Nursery there is ongoing discussion to establish a trust which will plough back revenues generated from the facilities for the maintenance and management. AKTC has offered to serve as management trustees and provide any shortfall in required funds for a ten year period—expected time to ensure financial sustainability.

Such an arrangement will also demonstrate the value of effective heritage management and provide a model for other urban parks in the Indian context.

In order to share learning from the past eight years, the project website is being developed to include all the technical studies and reports that have formed the basis of interventions across sectors. It is hoped that these would serve as case studies and be of help to officials, civil society leadership, development specialists, and conservation groups, amongst others.
Impact

The Humayun’s Tomb Conservation undertaken by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture, with co-funding from the TATA Trusts was the first ever conservation initiative undertaken by any private agency in partnership with the Archaeological Survey of India at any of India’s World Heritage Sites.

- Integrated conservation of the Humayun’s Garden - Tomb and associated structures leading to greater visitor numbers and a more meaningful visitor experience.
- Demonstrating potential for Conservation led Socio-Economic development for communities inhabiting historic city centres leading to greater community interest in the preservation effort.
- Establishing a model conservation process and philosophy for India thus ensuring a revival of craft skills and creating employment opportunities for master-craftsmen.
- Setting standards for archival research and documentation which would be available to a global audience.
- Reviving lost craft techniques such as making glazed Mughal tiles and in turn establishing an internationally acceptable conservation policy.
- Providing on-site training opportunities for craftsmen and conservation professionals leading to many from countrywide locations attending training workshops held at Humayun’s Garden - Tomb.
- Preservation of the setting by undertaking conservation works on over 30 other monuments and sensitive landscaping.
- Effective management of the World Heritage Site and its urban setting.
- Developing a model for civil society engagement in the preservation of our National heritage.
Since the 13th century the Hazrat Nizamuddin Area has boasted of a superior living culture that not only led to the construction of grand mausoleums, mosques, step-wells, enclosed garden’s here but also the creation of cultural traditions of music, poetry, food, rituals that have defined both Hindustani culture and Sufi traditions.

The project has coupled conservation with socio-economic initiatives aimed at improving the quality of life for resident communities through simultaneous action towards providing education, health, sanitation, vocational training facilities, upgrading public infrastructure, building community toilets, amongst others.
Humayun’s Tomb Interpretation Centre

(Above) Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Hon’ble Minister of Culture and Tourism, and His Highness the Aga Khan during the foundation stone laying ceremony on 7-April 2015. They launched the construction of a site museum at the Humayun’s Tomb Complex, which was declared as one of the 25 Adarsh or “model” monuments designated by the Government of India’s Ministry of Culture.

List of Consultants:
Architect: Vir Mueller Architects
Landscape Architect: Shaheer Associates
Structural Consultant: Himanshu Parikh Consulting Engineers
HVAC and Firefighting Consultants: Jhaveri Associates
Contract: Globe Civil Projects Pvt. Ltd.
Project Management: Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC)
Construction of the Interpretation Centre commenced in May 2015, after the foundation stone was laid on 7 April 2015.

Humayun’s Tomb was declared an Adarsh Monument by the Hon’ble Minister of Culture & Tourism, Dr. Mahesh Sharma along-with 24 other sites in India wherein enhanced visitor facilities are to be provided.

The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has given a grant to AKTC towards the building of a 10,000 square meter facility at the Humayun’s Tomb World Heritage Site. Not only does it help bridge the adjoining areas of Nizamuddin Basti, Sundar Nursery and Humayun’s Tomb but it also creates a facility which will enhance visitor experience for the 2 million annual visitors. The Interpretation Centre will include a permanent exhibition, temporary exhibition areas, multipurpose halls for film screenings and lectures, souvenir shop, facilities and cafe amongst other facilities.
ACTION TAKEN:
- In addition to the approvals from Land and Development Office (L&DO) of the Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD), which is the land owning agency, Delhi Development Authority (DDA) and National Monument Authority (NMA) received in 2014, AKTC also sought and received formal approvals from the Delhi Fire Service (DFS), the Delhi Urban Arts Commission (DUAC), the South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC).
- On 7th April 2015, the foundation stone laying ceremony for the proposed Humayun’s Tomb Interpretation Centre (HTIC) was conducted by Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Minister of Tourism and Culture (Government of India), in the gracious presence of His Highness the Aga Khan. The ceremony was followed by speeches by His Highness, the Minister, Secretary Culture and Secretary Tourism of the Government of India.
- The final approval from the Forest Department to cut some standing Ashoka trees was received in July 2016.
- Following the approvals, detailed tender documents and drawings were prepared, following which contractors were invited via advertisements in leading national newspapers. Of the 11 contractors selected during the first stage, only eight of them were allowed to give their financial bids based on a thorough selection criteria based on CPWD guidelines.
- The lowest bidding contractor was awarded the work in September 2015. Prior to the selection of the contractor, the firm’s completed projects were reviewed and the quality of construction work was found to be satisfactory.
- Construction works commenced in October 2015 and by end 2015, the Finial Gallery, showcasing the original finial of Humayun’s Tomb, which got damaged during the storm of 2014, and half of the Permanent Gallery were excavated to a depth of six meters. More than 15,000 cubic meters of earth was excavated, and 1600 sq. mtrs. of the excavated area was levelled and water-proofed. The contractor also completed tying of reinforcement for the 450mm thick raft in 500 sq. mtr. area.
- ASI has been requested to seek permission for diversion of a portion of the road leading to the Humayun’s Tomb so that the entrance underground connection can be constructed.
- ASI has requested AKTC to construct a temporary parking and visitor access before more area is developed in the eastern side of the HTIC site.
- ASI has requested the New Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC) to shift its 500 mm diameter water supply line and the electricity department -BSES to also remove all overhead cables and lay underground cables passing through the ASI land and under or over the building as per the design of the HTIC site.

(NEXT STAGE:
- Only a portion of the area on which the Site Interpretation Centre is to be built is presently available to the contractor. Additional areas need to be gradually made available after discussions with SDMC, Traffic Police, CPWD, amongst other agencies
- Design finalisation, tendering and commencement of interior works in the HTIC project.
- Continuous fund flow, dependent on grant from Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, need to be made available in order to complete construction within the stipulated time period.

(Below) Committee members reviewing tender documents received during the tendering procedure, for final selection of the contractor for Interpretation Centre
Humayun’s Tomb Site Interpretation Centre

**FUNCTION**
Service facility. Layers of Information.

HTIC work to inform, educate and raise awareness of their rich settings.

A specialized institution for communicating the significance and meaning of the heritage around them.

**ARCHITECTURE**

- Restrained
- Context sensitive
- Sophisticated
- Shall integrate into broader context
- Not make a style statement
- A service facility
- Simple
- High quality product

**EXHIBITION DISPLAY & DESIGN**
Immersive. Graphic. Interactive.

Using 2D, 3D and interactive media, HTIC will become a hub for learning.

The holistic experience will change the way people interact and look at the history, artwork, and architecture and interpret heritage sites.

(Left) Visual linkages between monuments retained by creating a baoli like sunken building. (Top Right) Wide entry and exit ramps allow for easy access to visitors, making the entire building wheelchair friendly. (Bottom Right) Displaying significant artefacts and objects from the ASI’s collections
HTIC aspires to promote an understanding of the cultural and aesthetic practices that flourished during the Mughal era, and create a contemporary experience worthy of a 21st century addition to this extraordinary World Heritage Site.

The illuminated plastered ceilings in the galleries reflect the geometric sophistication of the Mughal age. Live demonstration of building crafts such as stonework, tilework, incised plaster work, as well as prominent Mughal crafts will be a permanent activity.

The circulation axis - wheelchair accessible with wide ramps - spans the length of HTIC. Natural light, filtered through skylights and courtyards, illuminates the galleries, enabling displays of Mughal architecture, façade treatments, landscape elements and ornamental traditions.
Progress of Work:

9650
\text{sq. m. area of the building}  
April 2015

22,276
\text{cu.m of earth excavated}  
November 2015

700 Years
of Nizamuddin’s heritage to be showcased  
December 2015
Extension of the World Heritage Site

Humayun’s Tomb was designated as a World Heritage Site in 1993 (3) when as per the ICOMOS recommendation the World Heritage property was limited to the 26 acre Humayun’s tomb-Garden. Towards expansion of the World Heritage Property, since the onset of the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal project in 2007, conservation efforts have been undertaken on several monuments within the larger Humayun’s Tomb complex and efforts have also been made to get the land in the immediate setting of the monuments transferred to the ownership of the Archaeological Survey of India.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- During 2011-12 the Periodic Reporting exercise was utilised as an opportunity to prepare a Retrospective Statement of Outstanding Value (RSOUV) and a map with suggested property boundaries including Isa Khan’s tomb garden, Bu Halima tomb garden, Nila Gumbad, Afsarwala tomb and mosque enclosure, Arab Serai Bazaar.
- Significantly, the RSOUV recognised that Humayun’s Tomb was part of an ensemble of 16th century tomb-gardens built in close proximity to the Dargah of Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya.
- This RSOUV and Property boundary was approved when finally submitted – with required changes as per consultations held - by the Archaeological Survey of India to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre in February 2015.
- Thus the decision at the 2015 World Heritage Committee approved the revised Property boundaries extending the World Heritage Site from 26 acres to 53.62 acres. Similarly, the buffer zone increased from 67.48 acres to 82.53 acres and included the Batashewala Complex in its entirety.
- With the formal declaration of the enlarged property boundaries allowed an opportunity for the ASI to submit a proposal for Minor Boundary Modification that could include an increase of up to 20% of the area.
- AKTC has thus prepared the Minor Boundary Modification proposal on behalf of the ASI for onward submission to UNESCO. It is proposed to include the garden setting of Nila Gumbad as well as the tomb-gardens known as Lakkarwala Burj, Sundar Burj, Sundarwala Mahal, Mirza Muzzafar Hussain’s Tomb or Bara Batashewala Mahal, Chotta Batashewala Mahal, Unknown Mughal tomb and their garden settings.
- The 3.56 acre enclosed garden tomb complex and the 1.68 acre Unknown tomb-garden was transferred to the ASI by the L&DO, Ministry of Urban Development in 2013. The garden setting of the Lakkarwala Burj, Sundar Burj, Sundarwala Mahal, was included in the notified protected area for these monuments as part of the AKTC study for the National Monument Authority.

**NEXT STEPS:**

The submission to UNESCO needs to be made by 1 February 2016 and the decision is expected in the World Heritage Committee session to be held in July 2017.

**In 2015**

| Area of the world heritage property | 21.60 HA |
| Area of the buffer zone of the heritage property | 34.86 HA |

**Proposed in 2016**

| Area of the extended world heritage property | 27.04 HA |
| Area of the extended buffer zone of the world heritage property | 53.21 HA |
World Heritage Site:
- Humayun’s Garden-Tomb
- Barber’s Tomb

Buffer Zone:
- Afsarwala Tomb and Mosque
- Nila Gumbad
- Mirza Muzaffar Hussain’s Tomb

1993

World Heritage Site:
- Humayun’s Garden-Tomb
- Barber’s Tomb
- Isa Khan’s Garden-Tomb
- Arab Serai Bazaar
- Bu-Halima’s Garden-Tomb
- Nila Gumbad

Buffer Zone:
- Mirza Muzaffar Hussain’s Tomb
- Chota Batashewala
- Mughal Tomb
- Sabz Burj
- Arab Serai

2015

World Heritage Site:
- Humayun’s Garden-Tomb
- Barber’s Tomb
- Isa Khan’s Garden-Tomb
- Arab Serai Bazaar
- Bu-Halima’s Garden-Tomb
- Nila Gumbad Garden-Tomb
- Mirza Muzaffar Hussain’s Tomb
- Chota Batashewala
- Mughal Tomb
- Lakkarwala Burj
- Sundar Burj
- Sundarwala Mahal

Buffer Zone:
- Sabz Burj
- Khan I Khanan’s Tomb
- Arab Serai

2016 - Proposed
Humayun’s Tomb Conservation

Working on a World Heritage Site where integrity and authenticity had been compromised by past repairs posed a significant challenge as did the need to reconstruct collapsed portions of structures that had partially collapsed a century ago.

Supported by:

Tata Trusts

Enclosure Wall
40 arches in the enclosure wall that had collapsed were reconstructed

Upper Plinth
Sandstone paving area lifted and re-laid to provide appropriate slopes and original layout

Lower Plinth
12,000 sqm. of plinth restored to the original architectural details
With the Mughal details uncovered, conserved, restored where these had been obliterated by 20th-century repairs, the Mughal grandeur has been once again revealed in parts. Similarly, major works have been undertaken to halt the accelerated deterioration that had set in as a result of past repairs with modern materials. Million kilos of concrete was removed from the roof, 200,000 square feet of lime plaster restored, 40,000 square feet of stone paving lifted and reset on the plinth and similarly on the sandstone platform, wooden doors used as firewood in 1947 restored to the mausoleum and damaged stone on the facade repaired or replaced with stone blocks prepared in the manner of the Mughal builders.
On 30th May 2014, during a thunderstorm of unprecedented velocity the wooden core of the 18 feet tall finial at Humayun’s Tomb snapped and the entire finial collapsed on to the roof – 75 feet below. A thorough evaluation of the situation resulted in submission of a detailed report on the conservation strategy on 16th July 2014. The report was approved on 31st December 2014 by the Director General, ASI following which repair works could commence in 2015.

Humayun’s Tomb Finial

Various stages of finial vessels being crafted, and gilded.
ACTION TAKEN:

- The laboratory analysis of the finial revealed that it was built of almost pure copper and gilded with pure gold leaf.
- Following the decision to house the original finial in the Humayun’s Tomb Interpretation Centre, a replica finial—matching the original in profile, size, weight, and shape was prepared.
- For the restoration of the finial to the dome of Humayun’s Tomb, authenticity was ensured as the finial matches the original exactly in weight and profile for each of the 11 vessels; it is built of material of exactly matching composition (Copper, brass, wood, and gold) used by the Mughals in the 16th century; continues to crown the white marble dome—representing the pluralistic architectural traditions employed by the Mughals by their adopting architectural elements from monuments pre-dating their arrival in India; is a product of living craft traditions that have passed-on for generations and centuries in craftsmen families.
- The weakest link in the finial was its wooden core on account of it being susceptible to deterioration caused by rainwater. A 22 feet long log of sal wood was required to be procured and carved into an octagonal tapering profile as per the original. In order to provide extra protection against the deterioration of the wooden log, the portion buried in the dome masonry has been encased in copper sheets and the cavity at the top of the dome was filled in with marble blocks, thus not providing any space for water collection.
NEXT STAGE:

On the completion of the gilding process, the copper-gold vessels will be transported back to Delhi and the existing finial will be replaced with an authentic replica. The project is expected to be completed by 18 April 2016. The damaged pieces of the original finial will require to be repaired to be installed in the Interpretation Centre.

THE GILDING PROCESS:

The gilding of copper vessels required the following steps to be undertaken:
1. The copper vessels were cleaned till pink in colour, i.e., without any oxidization. The cleaning was done with lemon, acid water, abrasive powder a hard sponge and mercury.
2. The vessels were then dried with a clean cotton cloth and a layer of Mercury applied on the vessel until completely silver in appearance.
3. The first layer of thin gold foil was applied on the vessel, which dissolved into the mercury. Immediately thereafter, another layer of gold foil was applied.
4. The vessel was then heated with gas burners to evaporate all the mercury on the vessel - this process leaves behind only the pure gold on the vessel.
5. Further layers of gold are applied as required. After the final, sixth layer, the vessel is polished with glass beads.
Several layers of gold foil - manually beaten down from thick gold strips - were then applied by craftsmen under the close supervision of Titan Company scientists.

Traditional gilding process required mercury to be first applied to the clean copper vessels.

The top inscription, made in brass, was laser cut from a single brass sheet.

After the application of gold foils, each vessel was polished using glass beads and given the final finish.
Rethinking Conservation: Outreach

The Outreach Plan’s objective is to use the experience and learning of the Humayun’s Tomb conservation, and to promote and increase the general awareness of the benefits of heritage conservation amongst the general public, decision and policy makers. They also aim to inform the general public and the discipline of conservation of the rationale behind the successful conservation initiative and make an argument for change in conservation approach in India: from preservation to craft-based restoration; from isolated monuments to an urban approach that includes concern for the setting; from a ‘government-only’ to a participatory approach concerned at improving quality of life for local communities; from a ‘tender-based’ approach to a quality concerned method; moving towards high documentation standards; amongst other factors. These will be accessible to all future visitors at the HTIC.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- AKTC collaborated with MAPIN Publishing House to produce a series of four technical publications on the subjects of: Humayun's Tomb's Conservation; Stone Craftsmanship; Use of Lime; and Restoration of Mughal Tilework. These four publications are accompanied with technical documentaries on the same subject.
- The Nizamuddin Urban Renewal Initiative has adopted an “urban development” approach to conservation that involves local communities and does not focus only on the individual monument but also the setting.
- The principal target audience for the publication and documentaries in this series will be:
  - Officers of the Archaeological Survey of India, National Monument Authority
  - Conservation professionals/architects/urban planners nationwide and of SAARC nations
  - Officers of the State Departments of Archaeology, Local Authorities
  - Interested public: Donor agencies/city managers
- It is expected to generate a renewed interest amongst general public and students to know about the conservation of historical monuments. This database will inform conservation professional of technical knowledge and specification, conservation philosophies, methodology and approaches used in the project.
- The books will provide technical advice on the production, application, practices and post application care of lime mortar, Mughal tiles, and working with sandstone and traditional craftsmen. These publications are well illustrated and the documentaries temper the technical knowledge being shared in a manner that it appeals not only to the interested amongst the general public, but will also serve as a practitioner’s guide to students and professionals.
- The documentaries will relay this accumulated knowledge to engineers, conservation professionals, architects in an illustrated manner, and will be screened at the Humayun's Tomb Interpretation Center in the future.

**NEXT STEP:**
The films will be available for viewing at Humayun's Tomb from 2016 onwards. Copies of the film will also be available for sale at the Humayun’s Tomb publication counter.
Documentaries on Conservation Practices & Techniques

**Humayun's Tomb Conservation:**
The project has adopted an “urban development” approach to conservation that involves local communities, and does not focus only on the individual monument, but also the setting. The documentary and publication showcases the process and significance of conservation works undertaken at Humayun's Tomb during 2007-13. The film was also broadcast on Doordarshan - India's national television, and has been hosted on YouTube, taking its outreach further through social media platforms too.

**Use of Lime:**
The documentary and accompanying publication provides technical advice on the production, application, practices and post application care of lime mortar. Use of lime mortar in conservation works is essential as it is the original building material, and if well prepared, will survive for centuries. The documentary and book relays this accumulated knowledge to engineers, conservation professionals, architects in an illustrated manner. It both convey the need to use lime mortar for conservation, establish best practice, list specifications for different circumstances.

**Restoration of Tilework on Historic Buildings:**
The restoration of the tilework on the monuments in the Humayun's Tomb Complex was a landmark decision based on exhaustive research and following detailed documentation, consultation and debate a conservation process was agreed with the ASI and UNESCO. The publication-documentary presents the results of the three year research and the new approach to conservation that has been agreed to here and never before been implemented anywhere.

**Stone Craftsmanship:**
Though sandstone craft skills survive in India, the building craft sector has not received the attention. Since craftsmen continue to be largely illiterate, and as such still work on the basis of scale models and not with architectural drawings, the documentary-publication set aims at allowing architects, sculptors, artists and engineers the systems, tools, techniques, process and benefits hand crafting stone elements brings.
Revealed: Humayun’s Tomb - Documentary

As part of a grant from the Tata Trusts, AKTC collaborated with Discovery Channel to produce a first-ever documentary film on Humayun’s Tomb, which captured the significance and outstanding universal value of Humayun’s Tomb as well as the conservation effort undertaken here. It was also here, that much of conservation works’ video footage was used, along with following a narrative ranging from the life and times of Emperor Humayun and Akbar, and the construction of Tomb. The film, which was screened in July 2015, and broadcasted in five Indian languages, will now also be available for screening at the Humayun’s Tomb Interpretation Centre for visitors in the future.

ACTION TAKEN:
- AKTC collaborated with Discovery Channel to produce a one-hour long documentary film on Humayun’s Tomb, which was directed by Robin Roy Films.
- The documentary serves THREE essential purposes:
  **Inform:** The documentary is an information encapsulation of the history and architecture of Humayun’s Tomb, and will be one of the critical take-away for the visitors to Humayun’s Tomb from the souvenir shop at the Interpretation Centre. This will include school students, researchers, tourists. Also, the documentary will be shared with institutions and organizations related the field of culture and socio-economic development.
  **Engage:** The documentary showcases the glory and grandeur of Humayun's Tomb and the Mughal architecture. The film was thoroughly researched and aesthetically designed using the state-of-art techniques of both documentation and film-making. 
  **Contextualize:** The film maps a trajectory of the times which Humayun's Tomb as a monument has undergone. This includes its conception, design of the building and garden, the influence which it has cast on the subsequent architecture in the Indian sub-continent, the long phase of ‘neglect’ and the later ‘restoration works’, and finally, the present ‘conservation works’.

NEXT STEP:
It is estimated that the film had 500,000 viewers. The film will be available for viewing at Humayun's Tomb from 2016 onwards. Copies of the film will also be available for sale at the Humayun’s Tomb publication counter.
Humayun’s Tomb: Activity Book

Keeping in mind the National Curriculum framework 2005 which draws attention besides many other things including art, crafts and heritage, it was considered to introduce different concepts of cultural heritage to the school children between the age group of 10-12 years through an activity book. These activities are catered to enhance the educational experience and are proposed to be used by the heritage volunteers during or after the heritage walk with the school children.

ACTION TAKEN:

- With the objective to encourage and involve of students and youth in enhancing their perception of the historical environments, the activity book will also encourage young people to take ownership of their heritage.

- The Humayun’s Tomb activity book includes natural, built and living traditions and crafts of the Nizamuddin area. In total there are 27 activities under 13 topics. Produced in both Hindi and English the book is expected to be useful for keen educators to use it as an apparatus to teach heritage in classes and other educational settings.

NEXT STEP:

- The activity book is being given as complimentary to schools participating in the heritage activities on site.

- The activities listed in the book will be implemented by the community volunteers during the heritage walk for school children.
Since the 1997 commencement of the garden restoration effort by AKTC, several parcels of land adjoining Humayun’s Tomb and totaling over 30 acres have come into the care and maintenance of the ASI. This land has assured greater protection to the World Heritage Site and served as a buffer. No other monument in ASI’s protection has benefitted from similar increase in land holding by the ASI over the same period.

However, on at least for significant parcels of land within the Buffer Zone of the World Heritage Site, the ASI or CPWD are yet to effectively establish control. Included here is the Arab Serai forum within which the Industrial Training Institute of the Delhi Government functions.

### 34.38 Acres of additional land secured for ASI abutting the World Heritage Site

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07

Humayun’s Tomb: Bus Parking

Visitor access to the World Heritage Site of Humayun’s Tomb is through a narrow Mughal-era road that led from the Dargah of Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya to the riverside Chillghah of the saint. In recent years, a major Gurudwara has been built here as has the inappropriate functions of a Border Security Force Mess and New Horizon School. In addition, the road is also used by residents of the Nizamuddin East neighbourhood and for access to the Railways Station. As such tourist buses parked at the Humayun’s Tomb entrance have created significant traffic snarls making access to the site unpleasant for visitors. A dedicated bus parking for 33 buses is being built on ASI land used for several years now as parking by the BSF Mess. Once operational, this will be used to drop visitors and park at the distant only to return to pick up visitors at the end of the visit.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- The Phase 1 of construction of bus parking area commenced in the fourth quarter of 2015.
- Under-structure works of the retaining wall of the parking bays and the random rubble stone boundary wall have commenced.
- Since a large portion of this area was low lying, earth has been filled and compacted to ensure adequate slopes for rain water.

**NEXT STAGE:**
Complete all civil and landscape works on the first phase of the bus parking.
Nila Gumbad: Conservation & Landscaping

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. The levelled land became a road and so Nila Gumbad was surrounded by over a hundred squatter dwellings.

In the late 1990’s during the Humayun’s Tomb garden restoration, AKTC commenced efforts towards eventual conservation of Nila Gumbad and its integration with Humayun’s Tomb. As a first major step, the community residing at Nila Gumbad were relocated by the ASI but thereafter the vacated land was claimed by Northern Railways!

Since 2007, efforts were first made to stop an effort to build a garden designed ostensibly on Mughal patterns on the Railways stretch of land and thereafter to seek permission to built an alternate road along the eastern edge of the ASI plot, passing to the east of Nila Gumbad. Conservation efforts on Nila Gumbad commenced in 2013 following the surrounding land having been secured.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Conservation works undertaken at Nila Gumbad in 2014 saw the removal of all modern cement plaster and restoration of a traditional lime plaster layers as per original Mughal designs. The plinth and the tomb were paved with red sandstone.
- At the onset, in 2015, eight feet high fencing was installed all around the immediate periphery of Nila Gumbad.
- In 2015, the eastern plinth wall of Nila Gumbad partially collapsed and was found to have been repaired with mud mortar. A wheelchair access ramp was built on this facade which also helped in providing extra support especially in view of the vibrations caused by train movement.
- Landscape development of Nila Gumbad was commenced by levelling of land requiring significant increase in earth levels in the immediate setting of the mausoleum.

View of Nila Gumbad and its surroundings in 2011
• Pathways are being constructed, levelling and dressing of soft areas is ongoing as per landscape plans of Prof. M Shaheer.
• Excavations along the northern edge of the enclosure walls have been done to finalise the base level of the arches in the northern arcade that were demolished in the 1980’s and are to be reconstructed.
• The tiles for the intricate tile work on the North facade of the monument are currently being prepared in AKTC’s tile making facility at site. Residents of the Basti have been trained to manufacture these specialised tiles.
• Various government agencies like the NDMC water department, the BSES, the Delhi Jal Board and the Telephone department have been requested to remove their service lines for the Nila Gumbad surroundings. Earlier all these services were running through the ASI land.

NEXT STAGE:
• Complete landscapes works at the Nila Gumbad monument, and restore connections with Humayun's Tomb by reopening the presently blocked opening.
• Conservation of intricately tiled facade on North side of the tomb.
• Complete conservation works on the historic arcade on the North side of Nila Gumbad.
• Levelling and landscaping of area south of Humayun's Tomb's eastern enclosure wall by lowering to the extent possible. Planting and horticulture works to be completed.
Impact

- Conservation works will ensure long term preservation of three monuments of national importance. The garden setting of these monuments has also been recovered.
- Recovery of architectural integrity as a result of conservation of attached structures such as the enclosure walls.
- Conservation works have paved the way to eventual expansion of the World Heritage Site boundaries to include the Batashewala complex.
- Conservation works carried out here using traditional tools and building techniques have generated 100,000 man-days of work for traditional craftsmen.
- The conservation effort provided on-site training opportunities for conservation professionals, students and craftsmen.
- With linkages to Sundar Nursery restored, the conservation effort will help towards restoring linkages with contemporary 16th century garden-tombs.
- An 11 acre space, rooted in history, yet up till now inaccessible to the public, will be returned to the people of Delhi.
- Establishing a model conservation process and philosophy for India thus ensuring a revival of craft skills and creating employment opportunities for master-craftsmen.
- Reviving lost craft techniques such as making Mughal tiles and in turn, establishing an internationally acceptable conservation policy.
- Setting standards for archival research and documentation which would be available to a global audience.
In the 1950s, the ownership of this complex was given to the Bharat Scouts & Guides to serve as a camping ground. This led, in 1989, to the construction of 150 structures. Enclosure walls were demolished, disfiguring the landscape and the historic character. The levelling of land required to build the buildings also led to collapse of the Chota Batashewala – a protected monument – when its foundations were exposed. Following twelve years of effort by the ASI and the Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC), the ownership was restored to the ASI in 2010, allowing systematic conservation and landscape restoration to be undertaken by the AKTC.

A grant from the US Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation allowed an intensive three year conservation programme on the three monuments and their garden enclosures. On 18-April 2015, a completion ceremony of the project was presided by Mr. Ravindra Singh, Secretary, Ministry of Culture (Government of India) and held in the presence of Dr. Michael Pelletier, Deputy Chief of Mission, US Embassy. With the completion of conservation works on this significant ensemble of sites, a proposal for inclusion of the Batashewala Complex in the expanded Humayun’s Tomb World Heritage Sites will be submitted.

Batashewala - Mughal Garden Tomb Complex

Prior to Conservation

Post Conservation in 2015:

Supported by:

US Ambassador’s Fund for Cultural Preservation
Reviving traditional building craft of Lime Plaster

Introducing traditional materials and techniques in masonry

Stone Craftsmen
CRAFTSMANSHIP

India is fortunate in its building craft traditions, which have been passed down through many generations and over a number of centuries. Craftsmen here still take great pride in replicating the work of their forefathers, using tools and building techniques seen depicted in Mughal miniatures. Craftsmen clocked over 100,000 man-days of work to complete the conservation work here. The use of traditional materials, especially lime plaster – even when prepared in a traditional manner – will appear “new” at the onset, but over time the patina comprising organic growth will return on account of the jaggery, lentils, egg whites, pulp of the bael fruit that has been used as additives in the lime mortar. At the same time, the traditional methods will ensure the long-term preservation of these sites.
Mirza Muzaffar Hussain's Tomb Interiors in 2015 and 2011 (below)
Mirza Muzaffar Hussain's Garden - Tomb

ACTION TAKEN:
Popularly known as the Bara Batashewala Mahal and built in AD 1603, Mirza Muzaffar Hussain's square tomb stands on a raised platform with five half-domed arched entrance bays on each side. Parts of the striking plaster ornamentation have survived on some of the internal wall surfaces, providing the evidence required to restore missing portions. Ornamental plaster medallions and the intricate muqarna patterns on the half-domed arched entrance bays symbolise the highest craft traditions of the period. The central grave chamber, several feet below the ground, is surrounded by eight rooms, making this an interesting example of the "hasht-bihist" plan – which represents the eight spaces of paradise as described in the Holy Quran.

The collapsed eastern facade was restored while the southern facade – inappropriately reconstructed only a decade ago – required dismantling and reconstruction as per the original design. Similarly, the roof, which had deteriorated, was required to be re-laid with lime concrete to create an adequate slope.

Long stretches of the garden enclosure walls, visible in archival photographs, were demolished in 1989. The foundations of missing portions were excavated in order to guide the reconstruction of these sections. The building techniques, tools and materials employed by the original builders were also used. The bends in the wall indicate other garden enclosure walls – such as those of the adjacent domed Mughal tomb – which clearly pre-date this enclosure.
Chota Batashewala

ACTION TAKEN:
Within the enclosed garden and standing just east of the Mirza’s tomb, the remnants of an octagonal tomb once stood. It is said to have been profusely ornamented and known as Chota Batashewala. Described in the 20th century texts as “…standing on a platform some 3’ high. It consisted of a central octagonal chamber, with a surrounding arcade containing an arched opening on each of the eight sides. The central apartment was provided with four doorways, three of which were closed by stone jalli screens. The domed ceiling of the central chamber, as well as the walls inside, is ornamented by floral and geometrical patterns intermingled with Quranic inscriptions in incised plaster”.

Using archival images, the effort here has been to raise standing portions of the structure to complete just one portion of the facade in order to indicate to visitors the original scale and profile. A rubble masonry wall has been built all along the periphery to provide support to standing portions in lieu of the shallow foundations of the structure. A vaulted tomb chamber was also discovered and the earth in-fill that had been placed inside was removed.

Using archival images, the effort here has been to raise standing portions of the structure to complete just one portion of the facade in order to indicate to visitors the original scale and profile.

Architectural models created to understand the structure in detail

Restoration works on the structure as per the evidences, archival images found
(Right) Mr. Michael Pelletier, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of the United States of America and Mr. Ravindra Singh, Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India at the completion of conservation works ceremony on 18 April 2015.
Mughal Garden - Tomb

This early Mughal-era tomb stands immediately north of Humayun’s Garden-Tomb, within its own garden enclosure. In 2003-5 the random rubble masonry plinth of the tomb was reconstructed by the Archaeological Survey of India. Also at this time, cement plaster was profusely used on the structure obliterating significant ornamentation. Thus conservation works undertaken here since 2011 have aimed at removal of the inappropriate cement plaster and its eventual replacement with traditional lime mortar.

ACTION TAKEN:
• Conservation works were preceded by an exhaustive documentation and archival research on the structure. This allowed the team to determine all original elements.
  • The principal works carried out in 2015 were on the facade and the plinth.
  • On the construction rubble used as in-fill was removed and replaced by a stone in-fill. The concrete flooring of the plinth was similarly replaced with traditional sandstone flooring.
  • On the facade all the cement-surkhi plaster applied here during 2002-5 was carefully removed and replaced with a traditional layer of lime plaster.
  • All original lime plaster found on the structure was carefully consolidated and retained on the structure.
  • Ornamental patterns such as found on the neck of the dome, the parapet were carefully restored.
  • A final coat of 1 mm lime: Marble dust plaster used by the Mughals to mimic marble was restored to the entire facade. Since the penultimate layers of lime plaster include organic additives such as jaggery, fruit pulp, egg white and lentil, the patina of organic growth is expected to return within a few years.

(Right) In 2005-06, the ASI reconstructed the arcaded plinth wall of this tomb. Conservation works during 2011-15 have focussed on removing the cement plaster applied during 2005-06 on ornamental surfaces, and has employed master craftsmen using traditional materials such as lime mortar to carefully restore the Mughal-era details.
Khan I Khanan’s Tomb: Conservation & Cultural Revival

Built as a tomb by Rahim for his wife, the mausoleum is also a precursor to the Taj Mahal for its architectural style, with some innovations developed ever since the building of Humayun’s Tomb.

The marble and sandstone cladding on the dome, facade, flooring of the terrace and the tomb, the parapets, lattice screens have largely been stripped of the building over the years including significant loss of fabric in the 20th century. Conservation works commenced with the financial support of InterGlobe Foundation in late 2014 following approval of the Conservation Plan by the Director General, ASI as well as approvals of the ASI Core Committee meeting held on site.
Ground Level Arcade

The ground level arcade comprises of 17 arches on each of the four facades of the mausoleum. The depth of the rubble masonry chambers are plastered with decorative, incised plasterwork found only on the chambers with a depth, of which there are four on each facade. The missing plasterwork on all chambers will be restored and the concrete flooring of these chambers – exposed to the weather – will be replaced with sandstone paving which will never have permanence. The facade of the arcade comprises sandstone edging of each arch with spandrels of buff coloured sandstone with a decorative medallion on each stone. The medallions vary in design from arch to arch with at least six different patterns noted.

ACTION TAKEN:

- On the external facade, the four corners of the lower arcade, where the dressed stone blocks had been missing were restored as per the original details. Missing sandstone blocks were also replaced with new stones prepared using traditional tools.
- Modern cement-surkhi pink plaster applied to the arches in the ground level arcade, during 2002-5, has been carefully removed as it was disfiguring the historic character and damaging original lime plaster. Wherever removed, this has been replaced with traditional lime plaster applied in layers and carefully matching the original.
- In the spandrels of the arches of the ground floor arcade are Dholpur stone slabs with decorative medallions. Significantly, each of the arches has a different motif and unusually for an Islamic tomb, the designs are not limited to geometric patterns and plant motifs but also include motifs such as peacocks. Severely damaged medallions, where original patterns could be discerned, were replaced with matching stones which were hand carved on site. Where stones were missing, replacement stones only have a plain medallion. The newly carved stones will require several years of exposure to the elements to oxidize and become darker as with the original stones.

(Above) Ground level arcade of Rahim’s Tomb before conservation.
- On each of the four facades the corner chambers and three arches contain ornamental incised plasterwork in varying patterns; the other arches have plain plasterwork. On most arches large portions of this significant architectural element have been lost – replaced by the 2002-5 inappropriate cement-surkhi plaster – in turn causing further deterioration. In the southeast corner chamber, the entire wall surface is now covered with this 2002-5 layer and no conservation works are possible to be undertaken here except to chisel away plasterwork from areas immediately adjoining the sandstone elements. In all other arches with ornamental plasterwork, the missing portions, inappropriately plastered over with plain cement-surkhi plaster are being restored in traditional lime plaster.
- Careful cleaning of the decorative incised plasterwork is also being carried out using only soft sandpaper and thus revealing original patterns.

(Below Clockwise) Corner alcove of the lower arcade before conservation; 3D Laser scanning showing loss of plaster and decorative details; Conservation architect documenting the existing patterns in the arch which is given to master craftsmen to restore the patterns where missing; and view of the corner alcove after conservation.
Grave Chamber/Crypt

In the centre of the southern facade the central portion, where the arch has now collapsed, leads to steps to the upper terrace on either end – in a manner similar to the later Taj Mahal. Also an arched opening on the platform leading to the steps leads to the grave chamber. Unlike at Humayun’s Tomb the domed chamber is supported on columns and has a circumambulatory passage all around it. Major structural cracks can be seen in the roof of the chamber and heavy settlement of the flooring of the passage – both of which needed emergency repairs to be undertaken on them to ensure structural stability. The lime plaster layer on the walls and ceiling has been restored, and the flooring of the vaulted chamber and the grave chamber has been repaired with lime concrete.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- The cracks in the crypt were monitored using investigative tell-tales for a period of 6 months prior to the commencement of conservation works. There was no or negligible movement noted, even after two tremors in April 2015.
- Following the stitching of wide and deep cracks found in the crypt, as per the structural engineers advice, the base of the circumambulatory passage in the crypt was stabilized with random rubble Delhi quartzite stone masonry to a depth of 5 feet below ground levels. This was required to ‘bridge’ the foundations of the walls of the crypt chamber with the foundations of the arcade.
- The cracks to the vaults in the crypt were repaired using traditional stitching with stone and lime mortar and collapsed portions of the vaults were rebuilt. The structure continues to be closely monitored for any further movement.

(Left) Following structural engineer’s recommendations, craftsmen consolidating the foundation of the Tomb; (Right) Masons stitching deep structural cracks in the crypt chamber using traditional lime mortar with pieces of Delhi Quartzite added to enhance strength and tying of old and new material; (Bottom) Crypt chamber after conservation
Upper Platform

On account of the mausoleum being used as a quarry in the 18th century and marble and sandstone blocks stripped from here, the structure presents a ruinous appearance. With the protective stone cladding removed from large parts of the structure, the building is today in a poor state of preservation. Conservation efforts on the facade aims to retard any further deterioration and thus restore stone blocks where considered necessary to justify this objective and where the evidence of stone patterns – through study of all facade’s and archival images - leaves no doubt or original patterns.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- As with all stone blocks that were easy to remove, the parapet on the principal level had all been lost from the mausoleum. In order to ensure safety of visitors it was necessary to install a parapet to this level and it was considered best to use traditional material such as sandstone in a style similar to that of Humayun’s Tomb. However, it was considered unnecessary to create lattice screens to this parapet – over 150 m in lengthy.
- Careful scientific clearance of modern late 20th century cement concrete layers from the tomb platform has been carried out to investigate the original layers and the extent of the water distribution system visible with four tanks and connecting channel.
- As with Humayun’s Tomb, on each facade of Rahim’s Tomb, over the central archway stood two small canopies or *chhatris*. Off the eight central canopies only one remains standing while architectural elements – columns and brackets – of several canopies were found on the roof. After extensive documentation it seems four additional canopies can be erected on the roof using stone elements in a conservation process known as anastylosis.

(Left) 200 m of sandstone parapet was installed on the upper platform; (Right) Investigative clearance of the modern concrete flooring laid in 1980’s on the upper platform were carried out to understand the water mechanism of the tanks ; (Middle) Stone blocks were manually lifted and transported since use of heavy machinery on site could damage the underlying archaeology; (Below) Facade restoration work in progress
East Elevation

North Elevation
Main Hall Ceiling: 2014

The domed ceiling of the principal tomb chamber before conservation.
Main Hall Ceiling: 2015

The domed ceiling of the principal tomb chamber after conservation that required careful cleaning using soft brushes.
(Above) View of the main tomb chamber before conservation, when it was covered in soot, paint, and limewash; (Below) Main Tomb Chamber during conservation, where the walls and alcoves were cleaned using soft brushes and water.
Principal Tomb Chamber

The cenotaph sits in a double height domed chamber exactly over the actual burial chamber. Today, the cenotaph have been replaced with a masonry block, plastered over. It can be said with surety that the cenotaph would have been highly ornamental marble block as is Emperor Humayun’s and there would have been one each for Rahim and his wife – for whom the tomb was really built. In view of the stature of Rahim the cenotaph will be given a more dignified cenotaph.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- Architectural studies of all four facades based on in-situ evidence have been carried out to determine the patterns where stone blocks are missing. This has been followed by a study of archival images to determine additions and removal of stone blocks in the 20th century. These have led to the preparation of detailed proposals for conservation of the facades by restoration of the stone blocks where evidence of their original patterns is available.
- Conservation works in 2015 have been undertaken on the south-west corner, the north-west corner and have commenced on the north-east corner of the mausoleum.
- On careful cleaning of lime wash and soot layers from the internal wall surfaces with only soft sand paper, highly ornamental incised plaster patterns were revealed. These were surprisingly largely intact though at places had been replaced by the 2002-5 layers of plain pink cement-surkhi plaster. Decorative incised plasterwork has been restored after removal of the cement-surkhi plaster.
- In several of the openings within the principal tomb chamber, evidence of lattice screens was visible in the form of a groove. Here, sandstone jaalis have been restored in patterns used in all monuments under the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal project.
- The late 20th century concrete flooring in the main tomb chamber has been replaced with traditional sandstone flooring.

**NEXT STAGE:**
Conservation works to continue through 2016-17 as per the approved Conservation Plan and any further directions from the ASI Core Committee or recommendations of the planned external peer review.
Lime cycle

return to traditional building crafts

Limestone is burnt in kilns to produce building lime or ‘quicklime’. Quicklime is then slaked in water for several weeks before mixing with various additives in a mortar mill to produce lime mortar.

Additives Used

Jute
Belgiri
Gum
Jaggery water

Lime putty is mixed with sand and organic additives such as jaggery (gur) and Belgiri in a mortar mill to create lime mortar. The compaction of all these additives allows bonding required for lime mortar in conservation works.

A wide variety of organic additive are added to historic lime mortar, in pairs or in combination of others to improve the quality of the mortar. These organic additives are selected as per local climatic condition. Bel fruit, Jaggery, pulses, milk and milk products, egg whites, flowers, oil and fats and jute fibers are the most common organic additives used in the historic lime mortar.

Quiklime is slaked in water – absorbing water – creating Ca(OH). This process is exothermic generates heat and lime is kept slaked for at least three weeks allowing lime particles to break down.

When used in conservation works, H2O (water) from lime mortar evaporates and CO2 from the atmosphere is absorbed, allowing lime to go back into natural state of Lime stone (CaCO3).
Conservation works on Sundar Burj were completed in 2012. As with several other structures in the Humayun’s Tomb – Nizamuddin area of Delhi, here too conservation works included removal of 20th/21st century cement layers to reveal and restore original Mughal architectural elements and materials.

Though the cement used in earlier repairs had accelerated the deterioration of the softer 16th century lime plaster, it provided an appearance of ‘ruin’ which was confused by many to represent ‘age’ or ‘historicity’ and thus be of value. By contrast, the conservation works were carried out using traditional materials authentic to the building such as lime mortar used by the 16th century builders. All conservation works, including removal of 20th century cement were carried out by master craftsmen familiar with traditional building crafts handed down since centuries in India.

Though the first few layers of lime plaster are prepared with a mix of lime with sand and brick dust, the final protective layer of lime plaster – only 1 mm thick – is composed of only lime and marble dust – both white in colour - and used by the 16th century builders to mimic the more desirable and expensive marble appearance. This application of the final plaster layer as part of the conservation effort was essential both to ensure long term preservation and respect (and thus restore) the architectural intention of the original builders.

Though intricate ornamental details of the monument were mostly lost and required to be carefully and painstakingly restored – the resulting ‘new’ appearance of the historic building caused concern for some regular visitors accustomed to the ruinous look of 21st century cement.

From the onset of the project there was agreement that artificial means such as chemicals would not be applied to give a fake antique appearance to the monuments and instead the natural processes would be allowed to restore a layer of patina – organic growth - that during monsoons would naturally grow on the traditional lime plaster mixed with traditional organic additives such as egg white and fruit pulp, jaggery in the layer below. The organic growth also enhances the protective nature of the final plaster layer as it fills up any cracks that would have developed in the lime plaster.

Within two years from the completion of conservation works the patina of organic growth has returned to the dome of Sundar Burj.
SUNDRWALA MAHAL
Conservation | Landscape Development

Garden
Sundarwala Mahal: Conservation & Landscape

The Outstanding Universal Value of the Humayun’s Tomb World Heritage Site is also due to this area being an ensemble of 16th century garden tombs abutting one another. Similar in plan to the tomb of Mirza Muzaffar Husain, this structure, also a 16th century tomb originally stood within a 700 m square garden enclosure together with Sundar Burj and the Lotus Pond.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- First phase of conservation works on Sundarwala Mahal were taken up in 2010 when collapsed portions were reconstructed.
- Also in the first phase, portions of building inappropriately reconstructed by the ASI ib 2002-6, were demolished and reconstructed as per original Mughal era details.
- In 2014, HUDCO provided funds to carry out the final conservation programme that included installation of red sandstone flooring, re-plastering the structure including restoration of the muqarnas.
- The roof required major repairs including removal of existing cement concrete and restoring a traditional lime based flooring.
- Conservation works on the structure were completed in 2015 and landscape works around the tomb have also been completed.

(Below) Sundarwala Mahal interiors - before and after conservation. Following major structural repairs, the brick-surkhi cement plaster applied here in 2003-06 was removed and replaced with traditional lime plaster layers.
Atgah Khan's Tomb: Conservation & Area Development

Built in the year 1566-67 by Atgah Khan’s son, Mirza Aziz Kokaltash, this is the finest example of early Mughal architecture. Square in plan the tomb is a combination of red sandstone and white marble with geometric pattern red sandstone inlay panels on all the four facades and marble panels with handmade tile inlay work in the spandrels. The interiors, once highly decorative with red sand stone jaalis and incised plaster work motifs and inscriptions from the holy Quran as calligraphy – have mostly been stripped of this original work and 2002-5 layers of cement-surkhi plaster have replaced much of the red-blue ceiling with ornamental incised plaster work. The crypt of the tomb as well as the courtyard is today occupied.

ACTION TAKEN:
- 3D Laser Scanning of the monument was done and measured drawings were prepared, as a precursor to any repair/replacement as part of this conservation project.
- Stone by stone damage assessment of facade stones with relief work has been carried out.
- The external red sandstone panels with marble inlay work have been extensively damaged in past repairs with the insertion of cement and marble inlay of inappropriate size; replacement panels are presently being prepared.

NEXT STAGE:
- Architectural documentation of the existing plaster patterns on the ceiling is being carried out to determine the extent to which original patterns can be determined.
- Conservation works on the structure will include removal of inappropriate additions made during 2002-05 and will only employ principles established for the Humayun’s Tomb conservation.
- Simultaneous effort needs to be made to relocate those residing within Atgah Khan’s Tomb and for which the Delhi Urban Heritage Foundation has agreed to provide alternate dwelling units.

(Left) View of Atgah Khan’s Tomb before conservation; (Centre) 3D Laser scanning of the tomb helped in creating accurate architectural drawings; (Right) Craftsmen preparing the marble inlay panel
Jamaat Khana Mosque

The principal mosque of the Dargah Hazrat Nizamuddin, this 14th century structure is the earliest mosque in Delhi that continues to be in use. In 2014, the Dargah Committee led by Janaab Najmi Nizami approached AKTC with a request to undertake an urgently required conservation programme on the structure. Conservation works have to be intermittently halted for festivals such as Eid, during the Urs and for the month of Ramzan.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- Architectural documentation and condition assessment of the Jamaat Khana mosque was carried out in 2014 prior to commencing conservation works.
- It was agreed that the first phase of works would be on the principal central domed chamber while the two side chambers would be taken up successively.
- At the onset the key task was the scrapping of multiple layers of lead paint from the internal surface including over geometric motifs and Quranic inscriptions.
- Removal of paint revealed damaged sandstone blocks. Several decayed pilasters, damaged red sandstone blocks in arches with Quranic inscription required to be replaced as these had deteriorated beyond repair.
- Scrupping of multiple layers of cement plaster and paint from the domed ceiling was a painstaking work that required 1500 man-days of work.
- Following the scrapping of paint from the red sandstone dome, team of 15 skilled stone carvers repaired the partially decayed or damaged red sandstone decorative pieces to carefully match the original pieces and ensuring original joinery details were followed.
- Conservation of damaged and decayed red sandstone facade is on-going.

**NEXT STAGE:**
Conservation of the central chamber will be completed by the second quarter of 2016 following which conservation works will be undertaken on the north wing and facade and finally on the south wing and facade. Roof repairs will be carried out in 2017.
Restoring damaged/missing elements

Restoring Mosque Interiors

Cleaning up of Interior Chamber

Restoring damaged/missing elements

Restoring Quranic Inscriptions

Removal of multiple layers of lead paint

Meetings with Dargah Committee

3D Laser Scanning of the monument

Restoring Mosque Interiors

Removal of multiple layers of lead paint

Revealing 14th century grandeur

Removing paint layers from sandstone facade

Restoring damaged/missing elements

Restoring damaged/missing elements
On the eastern end of Lodhi Road, at the edge of Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti stands a 16th century Lodhi era domed tomb building, known as Barah Khamba on account of the twelve pillars that stand on its four sides. The tomb is considered to be of national importance and is a monument protected by the ASI, and the park in which it stands is owned by the DDA. Barah Khamba stands within the Delhi Master Plan designated heritage Zone of Nizamuddin and within the buffer zone of the Humayun’s Tomb World Heritage Site.

In 2014, the Delhi Urban Heritage Foundation of the DDA awarded a grant to AKTC to undertake the conservation of Barah Khamba, located prominently on Lodhi Road as well as sensitively landscape the park within which this 16th century monument stands. Conservation works were undertaken by master craftsmen using traditional materials such as lime mortar to conserve the building to how the original builders, five centuries ago had meant it to be seen, and were supervised by a multi-disciplinary AKTC team comprising conservation architects, engineers, historians, landscape architects, designers and horticulturists, amongst others.

The layers of cement applied to the monument during past repairs and causing extensive damage to the structure were carefully removed and replaced with lime mortar, structural cracks in the dome and other parts of the building repaired and sandstone flooring provided. The final layer of lime mortar was used by the 16th century builders to mimic the appearance of more expensive marble and is prepared with marble dust and egg white and serves as a protective layer that will quickly get the patina of organic growth during the monsoon.
ACTION TAKEN:

- Conservation and landscape works undertaken through 2014 typically included removal of modern cement-surkhi layers, restoration of lime plaster and traditional sandstone flooring.
- Landscape works at the park designed by landscape architect M Shaheer included creation of sunken planting beds, incorporating several earlier features in a new formal layout.
- Mr. Balwinder Singh, Vice Chairman, Delhi Development Authority inaugurated the restored Barah Khamba and landscaped DDA Park on the completion of conservation and landscaping works on 28th March 2015.
- The setting of the monument has been enhanced with formal landscaping as well as an additional access from the Basti – thus allowing residents to use the park and create greater visibility from the Lodhi road.
The Hazrat Nizamuddin Baoli built in the early 14th century, and miraculously still containing water, is today hemmed in by modern constructions. In 2008 portions of the Baoli collapsed marking the commencement of conservation efforts that have since included desilting the Baoli of centuries of accumulated waste, providing alternate residences for 18 families and reconstruction of the collapsed portions. The ongoing effort has also led to conservation works being undertaken on two domed structures standing on the north-east and north-west corner of the Baoli respectively.

Conservation effort is now focussed on the western facade where in addition to planned conservation works of Gogabai Tomb, Chini ka Burj, alterations to a residential structure are being carried out to restore the arcade seen in archival images. Pir Khwaja Ahmed Nizami Syed Bukhari, Sajjadahnashin and Muttawalli, Dargah Hazrat Nizamuddin kindly agreed to push back his residential building standing atop the Baoli by 3 feet – the required space to reconstruct the arcade. The oppportunity is also being taken to sensitively design the facade, so it does not disfigure the historic character.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- Approvals for the major renovations were sought and received from the National Monument Authority, Archaeological Survey of India and the South Delhi Municipal Corporation.
- In order to achieve the objectives of seeking three feet depth on the Baoli side, the structure required to be completely dismantled. This was required to be done carefully as several abutting structures were resting on this structure.

**NEXT STAGE:**
- Rebuilding of the structure with a facade that does not disfigure the historic character.
- Reconstruction of the Baoli arcade and conservation of the Chini ka Burj
- Conservation of Gogabai’s Tomb
Work underway to reconstruct the Baoli arcade. This required the modern structure to be demolished and rebuilt 3 feet inside.
Chambers

Bastions
AZIMGANJ SERAI
Conservation | Landscape Development

Arcade Restoration
Azimganj Serai: Conservation & Landscape

Azimganj Serai is the earliest Mughal period Serai in Delhi and stands in the National Zoological Park, just north of Government Sundar Nursery. Years of neglect had led to major collapse and loss. Conservation works on the Azimganj Serai are being undertaken on behalf of the Department of Archaeology of the Delhi Government and include the reconstruction of the partially collapsed chambers.

ACTION TAKEN:
- Conservation works in 2015 were carried out on 27 chambers in the South-eastern corner and 28 chambers in the North-western corner of the monument.
- Stone rubble masonry works for reconstruction of 52 of these partially collapsed rooms have been completed. This work required great precision and care as in some cells nearly 40 percent of the structure had collapsed and thus standing portions were unstable and was in urgent need of conservation.
- Conservation works on two gateways, one on the Western side and other on the Eastern side have commenced. Even though these gateways are located opposite to each other, their designs are very different.
- Deep filling and careful stitching with stone of large cracks in the structure has been done all across the structure.
- Specialised shuttering is being used for conservation of arches, vaults and domes, thereby ensuring consistency of profile and reducing time spent in scaffolding works.
- The structure is badly damaged due to dense growth of trees (invasive species like kikar and subabool) on the structure. The Forest Department on request of the State Department of Archaeology, permitted cutting of trees on the monument for the South-eastern and North-western parts of the monument.

NEXT STAGE:
- Completion of conservation works on the South eastern and North-western parts of the monument.
- Conservation of remaining portions of the monument will commence as soon as Forest Department gives permission to cut invasive species trees growing on the structure itself and rendering it dangerous.
- A landscape plan to restore the large central courtyard will be developed and implemented.
- Connection with Sundar Nursery for visitor access is being sought.
(Above) Collapsed portion of the Serai were carefully stabilized by master craftsmen building with techniques and materials used by the original builders.
Providing Platform for Arts & Culture

The Mela provides an opportunity to the craft and food based SHG’s from Basti, created as a part of the livelihood component of the project, to exhibit and sell products directly to customers and get first-hand feedback. Through efforts such as the ‘Apni Basti Mela’, the project has attempted to restore the cultural identity of the Basti and instill a sense of pride in the residents.

The event also provides an opportunity for many first-time visitors to the Basti.
Apni Basti Mela

The annual Apni Basti Mela celebrates more than 700 years of history and continuous living culture based of the Nizamuddin area with its focus to promote the living heritage of Nizamuddin through showcasing craft skills, built heritage, music traditions, food, and oral history of the local communities. Held in especially created venues such as landscaped forecourt of the 16th century Chausath Khamba and neighbourhood parks, managed to attract many first time visitors to the Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti thus generating integration between the community and the visitors.

ACTION TAKEN:
- In 2015, the three day event had more than 15,000 footfalls. The Mela is an opportunity for all project components to come together to achieve objectives.
- With significant community participation, the Mela helps to instil a sense of pride in the community and generate beneficial cultural and economic opportunities. It also allows many first time visitors to the Basti to recognise the significant heritage value here.
- In 2015, the Apni Basti Mela was co-sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway and was organized in facilities of the Delhi Developmental Authority, Archaeological Survey of India, and South Delhi Municipal Corporation.
- An array of stalls showcased the initiatives taken by the AKTC included traditional craft skills like incised lime plaster activity, Sanjhi paper-cutting, and the art of aari embroidery. Other stalls that dealt with education, health and sanitation were highly appreciated by many visitors as they were created to impart knowledge about educational programs and healthy living.
- Insha E Noor, Sair E Nizamuddin, Zaika E Nizamuddin - the women and youth SHGs' facilitated under the project actively participated in organizing various activities for the Mela.
- Educational workshops on calligraphy, jewellery making, incised lime plaster making, paper toy and bag making, and bamboo craft workshops were organized, which was well attended by visitors as well as local community.
- Major attraction for the visitors remained the local delicacies prepared by the women groups, Zaika E Nizamuddin.
- The heritage walks have received great appreciation from visitors coming to experience the hidden histories of the Basti. This year’s heritage walk not only covered historical monuments of the Basti, but also covered several famous food places along with a live demonstration of kabutarbazi (traditional activity of pigeon-flying), which has thrived in the Basti for years.
- An art project was also initiated under the guidance of artist Tushar Joag. The activity required the Basti people to mark their favourite routes in a 12/12 map of the Basti. The options for making their routes were endless and this facilitated the mapping personal journeys of the Basti community and their connection to the place they live in.
- Other activities such as puppet show, magic shows, storytelling and Bal Sabhas' which teach the various components of personal and public environmental awareness in a playful manner, were organized to attract Basti children and school students.
- The cultural evenings included qawwals by Niazi Nizami, brothers who performed kalaams of Hazrat Amir Khusrau, and play on the life of Abdur Rahim Khan I Khanan, which was performed by youth from the Nizamuddin Basti.

NEXT STEPS:
Secure funding from the Ministry of Culture/ Delhi Government to make the Basti Mela a sustainable annual event.
Poets of Nizamuddin

Within Nizamuddin are the tombs of India’s most famous poets – Amir Khusrau, Abdur Rahim, Mirza Ghalib – amongst others. The project focussed on mapping the legacy of Amir Khusrau for a five year term with emphasis on researching, documenting and reviving the living traditions associated with him – which included Qawaali. It is now intended to carry out similar works on the life and works of other famous literary figures buried in Nizamuddin - Abdur Rahim and Mirza Ghalib.

HAZRAT AMIR KHUSRAU

Nizamuddin has a rich legacy of Sufi traditions, including music and poetry associated with the 13th century legendary poet-composer Hazrat Amir Khusrau. The Aalam E Khusrau programme (2009-2013) focused on documenting, interpreting and disseminating his legacy in the field of music, literature, astronomy and Sufism. Through 2015, the Khusrau archive was added with the repertoire of three qawwal groups. Nazeer Ahmad Warsi and Naseer Ahmad Warsi, popularly known as Warsi brothers from Hyderabad, performed in their traditional style, Persian and Hindawi kalaams of Khusrau on the occasion of the World Heritage Day. The performance focused on the distinct style of rendition of their father late Ustad Zaheer Ahmad Khan. Farid Ayaz Qawwal from Pakistan was studio recorded where he explained the origin of qawwali, qawwal bachhe, the musical forms associated with Khusrau with annotations. Qadar Niazi from Delhi, along with his sons, Haider, Hasan and Imran, popularly known as Niazi Nizami brothers performed kalaams of Khusrau with qalbana and rang on the occasion of Apni Basti Mela.

For more information, please visit: [www.aalamekhusrau.org](http://www.aalamekhusrau.org)

MIRZA GHALIB

Over 550 art objects from the collection of the Museum at Ghalib Academy including coins, seals, and stamps have been documented. The inventory of the Museum objects along with the condition assessment report on the collection of paintings have been prepared and submitted to the Ghalib Academy.

A detailed design proposal for the upgradation of the Ghalib Museum was prepared and submitted to the Ghalib Academy.
ABDUR RAHIM KHAN I KHANAN

Abdur Rahim Khan I Khanan, popularly known as ‘Rahim’, has been attributed as an important figure in development of India’s composite culture, a culture of shared values. The legends of his munificent patronage to the men of learning, irrespective of sectarian consideration or creed provided cultural reference points afterwards. The project is presently engaged in documenting his literary accomplishments and its contemporary relevance.

A team consisting of research scholars are undertaking the challenging work of documenting the poems that could be attributed to Rahim. A first set of 25 dohas with their transliteration has been compiled and the work is continuing.

Field trips were organized to Varanasi, Allahabad, Bhopal and Burhanpur to identify musicians singing the dohas of Rahim. The major organizations and libraries in the cities were also explored to understand the manuscripts and rare books pertaining to Rahim and his works existing in their collection. During the field trips 17 organizations were visited, 6 musicians and 5 resource persons were interviewed.

The primary sources on Rahim are limited. The initial attempt under the project was to develop a brief biography of Abdur Rahim based on the Persian manuscript Masir I Rahimi by Persian scholars to help develop further research references.

Research is being conducted to find out the poets who have written on Rahim. Urfi Shirazi’s poetry has been studied and a compilation has been done on the poetry and their translation that Shirazi wrote in praise of Rahim.

22 children from Nizamuddin in the age group of 12-20 were trained over a period of 30 days through a theatre workshop to produce the play “Rahiman Paani Rakhiye” based on life and works of Abdur Rahim Khan I Khanan. The play was performed at Chausath Khamba courtyard at Nizamuddin Basti on the occasion of Apni Basti Mela and was received well by the audience.

Research to develop a dastan on Rahim is also being undertaken. This will be followed up by connecting the story (dastan) with the music of Rahim in a musical narrative.

NEXT STEPS:
The focus on research and documentation of the works by Rahim will continue through 2017, coupled with the effort towards conservation of his tomb.
Awareness of the rich cultural heritage of the Humayun’s Tomb – Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti area amongst both residents of the area and school children and residents of Delhi have been consistently implemented from the onset of the project. Sair E Nizamuddin, the Self Help Group (SHG) of community heritage volunteers started in 2010 initially conducted the heritage walk at Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti and gradually the group members included the larger project area including the Humayun’s Tomb and Rahim’s Tomb complex to conduct heritage walk for school children as well as visitors. Over the years the heritage awareness programme has been established with many government and private schools in Delhi and NCR. The heritage walk programme at the project area led by the trained community members has proved successful in imparting the relevance of cultural heritage to the visitors in the present context and establishes a continued relationship with the past. The main characteristics of the walks by the volunteers is to put emphasis on anecdotes, description of social life, tradition and customs while giving equal importance to written history. The community volunteers with a sense of great pride represent the cultural identity of the area which allows the visitor a different experiential learning. Besides helping tourism, education and cultural sector such walks have also emerged as an alternate career option for youth volunteers from the community to earn a livelihood.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- In 2015, the SHG members have conducted heritage walks for 2197 students and 552 visitors.
- It required three months of research and training for the existing group of volunteers to be equipped with a script to include Rahim’s Tomb in their list of walks for children and visitors. On World Heritage Day, heritage walks were conducted for over 500 school children from 10 different schools from Delhi at Khan I Khanan’s Tomb.
- Besides the guided heritage walk interactive learning sessions were organized which included onsite demonstration of the ongoing conservation works, calligraphy workshop, Painting and quiz workshop, all relating to Rahim’s life, works and history and architecture of the tomb structure. This year total number of students attending the heritage walk at Rahim’s tomb conducted by community volunteers includes 859 students and 50 visitors.
- History and architecture students from colleges and Universities from India and abroad such as educational Institutions including Indraprastha College, Ashoka University, Kyoto University, Japan, amongst others have benefited from the interactive heritage walk done by the community volunteers.
• Prominent tour agencies have incorporated the Nizamuddin walk in their travel itinerary e.g., Kolam tours and travels, Chennai, Sita travels, Cox and kings, Explore India Journey etc. have experienced the heritage walk at Humayun's Tomb and Nizamuddin Basti conducted by heritage volunteers.

• Two representatives from Rajpura Community initiative in Dehradun had come for an exposure visit to experience the heritage walk. Sair e Nizamuddin group members facilitated their visit with heritage walk followed up with an interactive session on how to replicate the heritage walk by community in Rajpura as a part of Dehradun heritage project.

• The new members joining the Self Help Group of community heritage volunteers have been given further training on life skill development and taken to site visits for training to strengthen their skills and expand their knowledge base.

• An educational trip was organized to Agra to experience the Tajganj Heritage walk, facilitated by the Centre for Urban and Regional excellence (CURE). The group members were also taken for guided walk to various heritage and archaeological sites in Delhi by experts from the Archaeological Survey of India and Delhi Institute of Heritage Research and Management at Tughlaqabad and Adilabad Fort in Delhi. These visits helped the group members to understand how other communities and professionals are conducting heritage walks and the elements that could be incorporated in the Nizamuddin walk to enhance the overall audience experience.

• Sair e Nizamuddin, the Self Help group (SHG) of community volunteers has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with India City Walks (ICW), an organisation dealing with experiential walks and excursions for visitors in India. The ICW is promoting the Nizamuddin walk conducted by the volunteers through joint programmes with the SHG. A group of Hotel Concierge from reputed hotels in Delhi attended the heritage walk at Basti Hazrat Nizamuddin led by Sair-e-Nizamuddin group, under this collaboration which has helped link to walk in the itinerary of many hotels.

• The youth members have also been performing Dastangoi, traditional art form of Urdu Storytelling at various platforms including World Book Fair, Urdu Festival, Jamia Millia Islamia, India Habitat Centre, Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies.

• Three issues of Anmol Basti, newsletter compiled by the community volunteers in Hindi and Urdu were distributed to each household in Nizamuddin Basti. These periodic newsletters with briefs on issues and activities carried out under the project were put together by the community members along with other issues of common concern that the community felt should be shared with one and all. The newsletters also helped to reach out to larger community and get their inputs for the works being undertaken.

NEXT STEPS:
Ensure a larger number of school students participate in the heritage walks in 2016.
Trainings & Workshops

Delegates from the ‘International Conference on Inclusive Museum’ participated in a day-long workshop with the Aga Khan Trust for Culture in the historic Nizamuddin Area. The group walked through the 700 years old dense settlement of Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti and saw the various socio economic and urban initiatives; visited the Sunder Nursery where the project is creating Delhi’s microcosm of Biodiversity interspersed with heritage; and then through the World Heritage Site of Humayun’s Tomb Complex.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- In collaboration with National Science Centre, AKTC organized a day-long interactive session with the theme of World Heritage, Urban renewal and Sustainable Development for the eighth International Conference on the Inclusive Museum on 8th August, 2015. The conference is a cross-disciplinary forum which brings together museum practitioners, researchers to discuss the nature, objectives and future shape of the museum.
- The session commenced with a walk through the Project Area in the morning session. Over 50 national and international participants from the Conference convened at the SDMC School in Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti, were AKTC officials explained the various socio-economic and urban improvement initiatives to the group. These included the Education Programme at the Primary School, Health and Sanitation programme through the community toilet complex, open spaces development in the Basti and the exhaustive conservation programme undertaken at the Chausath Khamba Complex.
- At Sundar Nursery, the delegation saw the conservation works and landscape developed around the Central Axis, Mughal Pavilion, and Amphitheatre amongst others and were explained the design and significance of the area. The walk culminated at the Humayun’s Tomb Complex where the team members explained the various conservation works and explained the design of Humayun’s Tomb Site Museum.
- The second session was initiated by screening of project film “Reviving Histories and Rebuilding lives” and was followed up with an interactive discussion with participants regarding on various issues pertaining to the larger project. The convener of the session was Ratish Nanda, CEO, AKTC and Charles Landry was the Repertoire, who briefed about the session at AKTC in the final plenary meeting held in the National Science centre the same evening.

**NEXT STEPS:**
- Establish linkages with other international museums.
Over a 100 VIP visits to the project area occurred in 2015, which comprised of political leaders, diplomats, officials, opinion leaders.
Over 30 species of butterflies have been identified at the Sundar Nursery so far and their number is steadily increasing with careful planting and restoration of native species of flora.

In the planting season of 2011, AKTC carried out relocation of the canna gardens facilitating an easy access through the peripheral road. Currently it holds 8 varieties of cannas.

The fantastic Bonsai collection of Sundar Nursery has now a permanent Bonsai House – showcasing the collection in a manner befitting its significance and allowing appropriate display in a pleasant yet secure environment.

Over 30 species of butterflies have been identified at the Sundar Nursery so far and their number is steadily increasing with careful planting and restoration of native species of flora.

SUNDAR NURSERY LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN
Western Nursery Beds

The 2009 master plan envisaged creation of several small individual garden spaces within the western stretch of Sundar Nursery. However, the CPWD Core Committee in 2013 insisted on additional space for nursery operations in this area and as such an alternate scheme was prepared and approved by the CPWD in 2014. Thus, Sundar Nursery would continue to have at least 20 acres of active nursery areas where CPWD Horticulture department would carry out active plant sale. This would remain the largest nursery within Delhi’s urban limits.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- As per the layout plan approved by the CPWD core committee in last quarter of 2014, AKTC has commenced development works in the Western Nursery Beds.
- A Delhi Quartzite toe wall has been constructed between the Central Axis (North) and the Western Nursery Beds.
- In order to construct the pathways, AKTC is taking up works in three parts as thousands of plant in large pots are presently stored here and need to be temporarily relocated within other portions of the nursery during construction works on pathways.
- Though all plant relocation works are carried out by AKTC commissioned staff, these are done under the supervision of CPWD Horticulture department officials.
- During this year, under-structure civil works of pathways has been completed. These also include those of a central plaza within the western nursery beds.
- Surface finishing of stone grit-wash and sandstone on paths has now commenced.
- Once paths are complete, AKTC under the supervision of CPWD officials has relocated the plants on levelled Nursery beds wherein the visitors are able to view the plants in a more organized manner.
- The area has emerged as continuous beds with connecting pathways and benches.

**NEXT STAGE:**
All civil works will be completed in the Western Nursery beds. Trees will also be planted at locations specified in the landscape plan.
(Above) As per the layout plan approved by the CPWD core committee in last quarter of 2014, AKTC has carried out development of the Western Nursery Beds through 2015.
Rivulets

Within the north-eastern region of Sundar Nursery is a planned ‘micro-habitat zone’ to display flora historically found in the diverse geological Delhi region such as the ridge, river banks and swamps. Earlier, large stone boulders were used to create several ridge like mounds to plant species usually found in the ridge. In 2015, the riverine habitat was created by creating water channels or rivulets, along the banks of which water loving plants and trees are planned to be grown. The micro-habitat zone is meant to give an enriching ecological educational experience to the 300,000+ school children who visit the adjoining Humayun’s Tomb.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- All civil works in the rivulets have been completed. Concrete lining along both the edges and the base of the rivulet has been completed. In selected areas, the sides of the rivulet have not been concreted to allow deep rooted trees.
- Earth banks along the rivulets are also expected to attract birds such as kingfishers that nest in earth burrows.
- Weirs have been constructed at regular intervals to maintain a continuous proposed depth of running water throughout the streams. Some of these weirs will also function as pathways connected with the wider network of trails and paths.
- Basin of the rivulets have at least five feet of earth over the concrete bedding to allow aquatic plants and grasses to grow within.
- A small amphitheatre, with a seating capacity of 50 students has been created within the rivulet network, finished in Delhi quartzite. It is planned to use the amphitheatre for lectures-demonstrations to school children and nature enthusiasts.

**NEXT STAGE:**
- Placement of natural boulders along the edges of the rivulets.
- Lay a water circulation system that ensures water is re-circulated and recycled with a series of outlets which are planned along the stream to feed the rivulets near various weirs.
- Planting of appropriate plant species

(Left) This small amphitheatre built along the Arc of Discovery, is intended to act as an orientation space for school children during the nature trails, and inform them of the Microhabitat and Biodiversity zones. (Right) The rivulets leading to the Biodiversity Zone, and bird habitats.
Creating an Ecological Asset

In addition to the conservation of existing vegetation forest groves and mature trees, an arboretum has been established, exhibiting the flora of the Delhi region and the different habitats (ridge/river/flood plain and a lake for water borne plants) of the city respectively. The proposed plan for the nursery includes nature and heritage trails for people to wander and discover, a world-class interpretation for the plant species as well as a space for flower shows.

30 Acres Of Biodiversity Zone Spread In Nursery

Butterfly Species
28

Native Tree Species
290

Bird Species
76

Trees Mapped On A GIS
3,345

The microhabitat zone attempts to recreate a microcosm of Delhi’s original landscape and is restoring Sundar Nursery’s significance in Delhi’s natural history.
**Sundar Nursery Lake**

A lake meant to serve as a water reservoir and a rainwater catchment basin is a significant landscape element for Sundar Nursery. The lake was excavated by 2013 and masonry edging completed in 2014.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- The 6500 square meters lake bed has been lined with nominally reinforced concrete to ensure no water loss occurs.
- The surface of the concrete has been made very smooth using a rotary power trowel so that cleaning and maintenance will be easy when water is filled permanently.
- Cavities in the lake bed will allow future installation of fountains to enable aeration of the water.
- Planting along the edge has also been carried out.
- An underground pump-house also been constructed to allow filtration of the lake water.

**NEXT STAGE:**
Two lakeside pavilions are to be constructed.

*(Below) A Lake has been created in the low-lying area, which will also serve as a holding tank for water required for irrigation*
With almost 200 acres being landscaped, the project has aimed to enhance the biodiversity by planting of over 20,000 saplings since its inception. Besides planting within the Humayun’s Tomb complex, Sundar Nursery, Batashewala complex, peripheral areas of Humayun’s Tomb and Nizamuddin Basti have also been planted with native tree saplings. A small portion of Sundar Nursery is retained as a maidan with grass.

In 2015 itself, 6000 plants were planted, and saplings propagated from seeds at the site itself. All landscaped portions in Sundar Nursery are presently maintained by AKTC. Each tree within the project area is included on a Geographic Information System (GIS) to ensure monitoring and aid in future interpretation.
Sundar Nursery Pathways

Sundar Nursery has a distinct hierarchy of pathways – built of wide range of materials and a similarly wide range of width. Wide red sandstone pathways mark the 560 m central axis, while narrow stone block paved pathways are built on the ridge mounds.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- Construction of paths around the Sundar Mahal has been completed in 2015.
- Under structure works on the 450 meter long North-South path from the Bonsai Sheds till the sunken court are completed. Application of stone grit-wash finish has begun and will be completed in 2016.
- All works on paths in the sunken court, south of Sundar Nursery have been completed.
- Pathways are also being laid as part of the development of the western beds

**NEXT STAGE:**
- Construction of path from the Arched Pavilion till the Central Axis will commence in 2016.
Sundar Nursery Entrance Zone

The southern section of the Sundar Nursery comprises a lotus pod, a series of sunken gardens and spaces for annual flower beds at various levels.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- In order to match the levels of the Lotus Pond as well as provide some additional seating to the sunken amphitheatre, a large section of the entrance zone was raised and planted with tree saplings that could be planted in New Delhi.
- The Mughal era Lotus Pond after extensive repairs was planted with Lotus and south of it is the sunken court with large neem trees that will in future years provide visitors shaded seating and congregation areas.
- All stone finished pathways and earth slopes have been completed in 2015.
- Tiered seating in Delhi quartzite stone has also been constructed along the south-eastern side of the sunken court.

**NEXT STAGE:**

- Removal of a pump room, deep compost pit from this area.
- The motorable road running east-west south of Sundar Nursery to be shut down and an alternate road from outside the periphery will be created.
Sundar Nursery Bird Habitat

Sundar Nursery, together with Humayun’s Tomb, Delhi Zoo, DDA Millennium Park and the Purana Qila, forms a significant green belt along Mathura Road in Delhi. This region is a rich repository of avifauna and presents an opportunity to conserve and exhibit Delhi’s biodiversity.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- Over 10 acres of area have been planted as exclusive zones for ground nesting birds and with vegetation or fencing will be made inaccessible to dogs in the future.
- A contiguous region of thick plantation with fruit bearing trees has been created which runs along the width of site.
- Careful planting of native shrubs and trees has been carried out to enhance its carrying capacity.
- An area locked between Sundar Nursery and Batashewala Complex, measuring nearly 6 acres is being cleared of rubble and plantation of over 500 trees has been carried out in 2014.
- Continuous bird mapping has now resulted in the identifying of 77 bird species in Sundar Nursery. In 2014, several rare birds including the Ultramarine Flycatcher – never before recorded in Delhi, were sighted in Sundar Nursery.

**NEXT STAGE:**
A large portion of 6 acre bird habitat will receive dense tree plantation following clearing of rubble. New plantations will be duly marked and updated in GIS database.
Sunder Nursery enjoys an important place in the urban ecological fabric of New Delhi—constituting 370 acres of green area stretching from Purana Qila to Humayun’s tomb—while remaining a major flora and avifauna habitat in the National Capital Region. Numerous species of plants have been sourced from forests, hilly and riverine tracts on the outskirts of Delhi where these species still survive—away from the city’s urban sprawl.

To enhance the ecological significance, a 30-acre microhabitat zone has been created within Sunder Nursery to simulate Delhi’s once rich and now quickly disappearing biodiversity, including kohi (hilly), khadar (riverine), bangar (alluvial) and dabar (marshy) zones featuring over 100 regional tree species unique to the region. The preservation of all existing trees during landscape development ensured the sustenance of a substantial bird-habitat on site.

With the Garden House, Sunder Nursery will serve as the ecological hub for the city of Delhi, which though has 13000 parks, it has not a single arboretum, where Children can be made aware of the city’s rich natural heritage. The Garden House will feature several flora from other regions that would otherwise not survive in the varied harsh climate of Delhi, adding diversity to the existing variety of trees within Sunder Nursery.

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

The 2007 MOU included agreements to ensure post-project sustainability of all project components. To fulfil this commitment, AKTC proposed to CPWD in 2009, various options to ensure post-project sustainability. The creation of a Trust was considered most appropriate and CPWD requested the drafting of a Trust Deed in 2011.

The creation of the Trust requires no land transfer and will allow AKTC to manage the facilities utilising the revenues generated at the site with a commitment that AKTC will provide for any shortfall in funds.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- Through 2015, intense discussion on the modalities of the Trust Deed took place with all public partners – the Ministry of Urban Development, Central Public Works Department, the Archaeological Survey of India and the South Delhi Municipal Corporation.
- Inputs received from each agency/ministry have been incorporated in the revised draft.
- Two inter-ministerial meetings to discuss the Trust Deed were also held and it was agreed that the Trust Deed will be forward to the Cabinet for approval.

**NEXT STAGE:**
Only on the signature of the Trust deed will revenue generating facilities in Sundar Nursery be built by AKTC.

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**Special Purpose Vehicle: Trust Organization**

**Public Partners**
- Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD)
- Central Public Works Department (CPWD)
- South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC)
- Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)

**Private Partners**
- Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC)
- Aga Khan Foundation (AKF)

**MANAGEMENT TRUST**
Sundar Nursery Landuse

In 2008, the Delhi Development Authority certified that land use of the parcel of land on which Sundar Nursery stands as ‘District Park’. This was repeated in assurances given to ASI and CPWD in 2011 and 2013. However, the same DDA Officer who had certified land as ‘District Park’ in 2013 CPWD stated that land use to be ‘Agriculture’ in 2014. Though AKTC petitioned the DDA repeatedly giving evidence of the 2008, 2011 and 2013 letters this was not heeded. Since 2014, efforts have been made to notify the land use of Sundar Nursery as ‘District Park. During this period several meetings have been held and letter supporting this effort from L&DO has also been written to DDA.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- The arbitrary designation of the land as Agriculture by DDA in 2014 has made it impossible to get required statutory building approvals for the Garden House and other nursery structures required.
- In 2014, this was initiated by the CPWD Chief Architect and as such there has been no CPWD support in ensuring the land use is notified as ‘District Park’ as certified in 2008.
- DDA requested that the land owning agency – L&DO – provide a request for change of land use. This was given in June 2014.
- Follow up meetings were held with the Vice Chairman DDA but despite written instructions since October 2014 to ensure land use notification as ‘District Park’ this is yet to be done.
- Follow up meetings have been held with the Hon’ble Lt Governor of Delhi and the process to ensure land use notification as ‘District Park’ is underway.

**NEXT STAGE:**
Once the land use is designated as ‘District Park’ required facilities such as the Garden House can be planned to be built here.
20 acres within Sundar Nursery are dedicated to plant propagation and display of plants by the CPWD, making this the largest nursery in Central Delhi. Additionally, over 266 number of native trees and plants have been planted – mostly in the 30 acre micro-habitat zone - to create a Biodiversity greater than any other park in Delhi. This will in future years, provide a greater varieties of plants available here – eventually making Sundar Nursery a hub and destination for ecological awareness programmes in Delhi schools.
Flower Shows
Specially designed open spaces, set amidst Mughal era monuments have been created for flower shows and special exhibitions of plants with the objective of making it a hub for plant lovers of Delhi.

Garden House
A state-of-art Glass house to display and provide an environment for tropical and desert flora will be built.

Bonsai House
Specially designed Bonsai houses, displaying 373 bonsai of 34 varieties have been built.
Rehabilitation of Civic Spaces

Rehabilitation of civic open spaces seeks to enhance the area’s value and significance in terms of history, places of spiritual importance and recreation. In 2009, physical surveys were carried out to document and analyze the urban setting, prepare urban design guidelines and identify possibilities for street improvements and potential model projects. As a result, carefully designed street improvements have been implemented by the SDMC with technical assistance and supervision by AKTC on all Basti streets.
Archeological Park

The Delhi Development Authority Master Plan for Delhi designates three areas in Delhi as ‘Archeological Park’ – these of Tughlaqabad, Mehrauli and Sultan Garhi. An Archeological Park is defined by the Master Plan as an area distinguishable by heritage resource, which has the potential to become an interpretive and educational resource for the public in addition to the value as a tourist destination. To secure the area extending from the Purana Qila in the North to Humayun’s Tomb in the south, AKTC assisted the National Monument Authority and the Delhi Development Authority, with relevant studies, to secure a designation of an Archeological Park for this area.

- Purana Qila or Old Fort and Humayun’s Tomb comprise a Mughal cultural landscape – along the river that has fortunately remained ‘green’. The Sundar Nursery – Humayun’s Tomb – Batashtewala Complex – Nila Gumbad comprising almost 200 acres of land are presently being landscaped by AKTC.

- It is possible to further link the Millennium Park – Delhi Zoo – Purana Qila with these areas to develop an urban park of unmatched scale and magnitude.

- Connections of Sundar Nursery – Humayun’s Tomb – Delhi Zoo – Millennium Park – Purana Qila will make the largest urban park in the world.
ACTION TAKEN:  
**Landscaping and Desilting:**
- Work in the Barapullah Nallah near the Basti has four components – engineering, landscaping, sanitation and engagement with the community. This is where the project’s multidisciplinary team comes into action.
- A survey for the 3.5 kilometre long remaining stretch of the nallah from Nizamuddin till the river Yamuna was carried out to determine ground levels and rate of water flow.
- As a first step, over 1000 trucks of waste accumulated was removed and the concrete water channel was found below six feet of accumulated waste – mostly from the construction of the elevated road.
- The existing earth levels were graded in terraces and lined with a retaining wall of dry stone masonry supported by compacted earth.
- De-silting and development works on both sides of the first 250 meters of the nallah have been completed this year.
- On AKTC’s request, the Delhi Jal Board has laid a 300 meter long sewage line to collect toilet waste from the nallah facing houses and transport the same to the existing sewerage system.

The section of the Barapullah Nallah along the Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti was taken up for landscaping the green space with the support of the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affair. Until the 19th century, the Barapullah Nallah together with other Delhi nallahs (drains) was considered a river or at least a tributary to the River Yamuna, and was also known by the same name. Over time the historic Nallah that carried rain water has become a dirty drain with waste water, solid waste and sewage. In the last few years, an elevated road has been constructed over the Nallah causing the main culet to break in many places thereby hindering proper flow in the Nallah. Construction waste from Nizamuddin Basti has also been dumped illegally over the years which also one of the reasons for the irregular flow of the Nallah. The redevelopment of the Nallah aims at improving the landscape around the Nallah and to use eco-friendly ways to improve the environs of this stretch of the Nallah while providing the community a much needed additional green open space.
**Community Engagement**

- With the basic construction work nearing completion, consultations with the 140 households near the area commenced with the aim of preventing waste dumping in the area and to allow linking their bathrooms/kitchen waste water pipes to the city sewerage network.
- Over the year, several community meetings were organized with the residents of these houses during 2015 to engage with them on the issues of cleaning and landscaping the area besides the *nallah*.
- A subsidized system of door to door waste collection has been initiated for all 140 households on the banks of the *nallah* wherein each household has been provided with a dustbin and further linked to a waste collector. Deposited waste and dumped dead animals were removed from the *nallah* as a part of the activity. Besides this, the work to provide permanent sewer connections to each household has started with a minimal contribution in terms of required material for connections from the residents.
- There is the issue of illegal dumping of *malba* (construction waste) that needs to be addressed.

**NEXT STAGE:**

- To ensure that disposal of household waste and *malba near nallah* is stopped completely.
- Completion of the work of connecting every house to sewer line.

**IMPACT**

The landscape and sanitation works on the Barapullah Nallah are still underway, while the community is not only being made aware of what is being planned, but their inputs are also being included that is in alignment with the philosophy of the project. It is planned that during monsoons, the levelled portions are to be planted with water loving trees.
Improving Sanitation - Community Toilets

In 2008, the baseline survey revealed that 25% of households in the Basti did not have an in-home toilet facilities leading the project to renovate the available facilities. The renovated toilets are also used by the pilgrims to the Dargah. The toilet is now managed by a community group- Rehmat Nigrani Samooh with supervision of the project team.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

**Memorandum of Understanding for management of community toilet complexes:**

- A draft MoU has been submitted to the SDMC for a tripartite agreement between AKTC, Rehmat Nighrani Samooh (RNS) and SDMC. The MoU aims to hand over the management of community toilet complex to RNS with assistance in terms of supervision from AKTC. Further that the operating costs apart from those being met from the income of the community toilet complex (CTC) will be borne by SDMC as per the proposed MoU.
- The CTC has a filtration plant installed to filter the bathing water and use it for flushing the toilets needs regular servicing. In 2015, a team of 2 volunteers and 2 cleaning staff, 2 RNS group members have been trained to operate the filtration plant for greater efficiency.

**CTC usage during high use times**

- The CTCs were kept open throughout the week long occasions each of Urs and Moharram with the help of self help group members who helped manage the facility during early morning till late in the night. Every day, over 7000 people used the community toilet daily during the Urs and Moharram. The total collection of community toilet complexes reached a new high with Rupees 1,10,000 during the month of Moharram.
- To ensure usage of these facilities (as opposed to open defecation) awareness campaigns were undertaken by members of the RNS the neighbourhood group during the time to guide people in the Dargah to use the community toilet complexes. Various media of awareness used were of audio announcements, word of mouth, signage and voluntary assistance to people visiting the Dargah by showing them the way to the CTC.

**Maintenance of Community Toilets**

- Cleanliness audits of both the CTCs are being continued on a regular basis by RNS members and AKTC staff to ensure that the facilities remain clean and well maintained.
- Constant supervision, counselling of users, cleaning staff and managers to maintain cleanliness in the CTC to eradicate wastage of water is being continued.
- Complaint registers have been placed in both toilet complexes to enable users to make complaint should they find the facility unclean. Visitors to the toilet complexes can fill in their remarks with date and timings, if they find the toilet complexes to be unclean.
- The timely payment of the family card fee has been streamlined and discount provided to users on timely payment. 140 people from the Basti are availing the user card option to pay for using the community toilets.
**Strengthening Community Management of the CTCs**
- Audit of accounts for Rehmat Nighrani Samooh was undertaken and completed during this past year.
- Regular monthly meetings of RNS continued to regularize savings, streamline intra-lending and discussing issues of toilet management. A separate bank account has been opened for Rehmat Nighrani Samooh to deposit their monthly savings and undertake the activities of intra-lending.

**Awareness programmes**
- World Toilet Day was celebrated on November 19. On this occasion, a 3 day camp to issue family cards at discounted rates was organized. The celebration also included an exhibition, awareness campaign by the sanitation team to promote family cards and an awareness program by Eco Club children.

**NEXT STEPS:**
- The project is in the process of negotiation with the SDMC to manage these community toilets on a tripartite basis.
- RNS members to undertake activities such as door to door visits to promote use of family cards for community toilets.
- To provide trainings to CTC cleaners, managers and RNS members on basic plumbic and carpentry works for smooth and economical functioning of CTCs.

**WORLD TOILET DAY**
To promote the use of family cards (user card) for community toilet, a special awareness camp was organized in toilet vicinity. Members of Rehmat Nigrani Samooh, marked their enthusiastic presence by mobilizing the community. Through this residents took stock of cost of damage and repair borne by the toilet. In the special drive for family cards, the outreach was ensured by the Sanitation Team who reached to neediest areas of Nizamuddin Basti. The day culminated in the Eco Club’s performance signifying each one’s role, as well as responsibilty in maintaining the community toilet.

**IMPACT:**
- The community, floating population and pilgrims to the Dargah have a clean toilet with facilities for bathing and washing clothes.
- There is practically no open defecation in the Basti.

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**Strengthening Community Management of the CTCs**

**Awareness programmes**

**NEXT STEPS:**

**WORLD TOILET DAY**

**IMPACT:**
Constructing Community Toilets

In addition to the millions of annual pilgrims who visit the Dargah, the initial surveys revealed that 25% of resident families did not have in the home toilets. Two community toilets have now been built providing a clean and safe facility, especially for women, separate bathing and washing areas and child-friendly seats. A management group comprising of users has been established.

- 57% of the community expressed need for better sanitation
- Group discussions revealed that out of the two community toilets only one was operational and was poorly maintained limiting access to safe sanitation for a quarter of the resident population and the 3.5 lakh pilgrims to the Dargah
- Women felt unsafe and the toilets lacked adequate privacy especially at night; No provisions for children
- For families with no access to toilets, women were forced to bathe in the open or make temporary arrangements within the home

SDMC Community Toilet in 2009
- before development works initiated by AKTC Team

SDMC Community Toilet in 2013
- after development works completed by the AKTC Team.

The larger Toilet complex has been designed to address bathing and washing needs of both residents and pilgrims. It has 30 toilet seats, with courtyards on either sides allowing for adequate light and cross ventilation. Special provisions were made for children, and two disabled friendly toilets have been located at the entrance. A community based management group- Rehmat Nigrani Samooh is responsible for the daily maintenance and upkeep of the toilets, which is managed through a pay and use system and family cards for residents.
01 Creating improved toilet facilities in the SDMC School

The SDMC School in the Basti was in a state of disrepair, with its poor physical infrastructure making it most uninviting compounded by the infrequent and inadequate cleaning. Drinking water and toilet facilities were unhygienic and very inadequate. In addition to poor maintenance and upkeep, there were no separate toilets for boys and girls, leading to poor enrolment of children. To ensure access, improved efficiency, and a better quality of school education, major physical improvements were carried out in the school continuing from 2009-10, in which separate and better toilets were constructed and made usable.

02 Creating improved toilet facilities in the Basti for residents, tourists, and pilgrims to the Dargah

Improving access to sanitation facilities has been one of the key focus areas of the project in the basti, following which two large community toilet complexes have been constructed.

A non-functional community toilet (Right), was upgraded under the program in Sept. 2009, and it has improved access to hygienic sanitation facilities for residents and visitors to the basti. Adjacent to the Baoli gate of the Dargah, it provides improved access to hygienic sanitation services to the residents of the Basti, a significant proportion of whom rely on public toilets. Since its becoming operational, many expenditure items have now been taken over by the Community Management Group including electricity, maintenance, one staff salary and overtime or substitute costs and payments.

03 Improving in-house toilets in the Basti

To improve the quality of life of local residents and the urban environment, the project has undertaken several housing improvement initiatives in partnership with the residents. The scheme focuses on improving light and ventilation, improving structural stability, improving kitchen and toilets, waterproofing and facade improvements. In 2009 all toilets along the nallah were connected with the sewerage line system.
Open Space Development- Landscaping Neighbourhood Parks

Four of the five Delhi Development Authority neighbourhood parks have been landscaped as part of the project and are now maintained by community groups supported by the project.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

**Park users survey**
- A survey was conducted to understand park usage. It showed that the average footfall per day at the outer park was 585, at the Central Park were 770, and at the Children Park was 143 and 312 at the women's park.
- Park users: Monthly meetings at the Mother-and-Child Park were held with the average participation of 15 women users discussing issues of maintenance, user base and safety.
- Park timings were changed upon discussion with the women users.
- Park timings have been increased to foster enhanced user base. Presently the park timings are 7 to 12 in the morning and 2:30 to 5:30 in the evening.
- Repair of park machines and children swings has been completed.

**Facilities and maintenance audit for parks:**
- System of facilities and maintenance audits for two parks (Mother-and-Child Park and Central Park) initiated in 2014 is continuing.
- Monthly Meetings with the participation of community women users is being continued at Women and Children Park highlighting issues of user base and maintenance.
- Regular meetings were held with the visitors to the women's park to understand the problem of security and improving entrance to various parks.
- Tree Plantation was held at triangular park and approximately 50 trees and shrubs planted

**NEXT STEPS:**
- Regular meetings were held with the visitors to the women's park to understand the problem of security and improving user base to various parks.
- Beginning of some fitness/exercise related activities for the women in the park.
The Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti remains one of the most densely populated settlements in Delhi. Although five acres of parks have existed for some time, the spaces were occupied by rag-pickers and drug dealers. Only two percent of the resident population were accessing park spaces. Following sustained community consultation, a landscape scheme for these parks was prepared and implemented. Parks have been developed for specific uses, such as a children’s play area, a screened park for the exclusive use of women, a park for community events and a play field for youth-related activities. The parks, becoming ‘lungs’ providing fresh air to the residents, are now managed by the community with AKTC support.
Solid Waste Management System

Solid waste management programme was established in 2009, and by 2015, the programme covers almost all parts of the Basti with greater community involvement, participation of officials from SDMC in street waste audits, inclusion of houses near the Barapullah Nallah under the door-to-door waste collection services which is one of the most critical areas of the Basti, and the initiation of mohalla meetings on issue of waste management.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

*a. Involvement of officials from SDMC in Street Waste Audits undertaken by community group:*

The neighbourhood watch group monitoring the quality of the services of waste and sanitation in the Basti involved officials from the SDMC in this process. This was done through regular meetings, dialogue and inviting them for audits and audit submissions. The process of inclusion of officials from the SDMC has helped to ensure better cleaning with greater regularity of the residential area streets by the SDMC Safai Karamcharis (cleaning staff).

*b. Towards better waste management and cleanliness on commercial streets*

A count of visitor load in the commercial areas indicated that there are 11000 visitors a day to the Dargah with numbers going up to 18000 a day on Thursday. This number increases manifold during special events. This large number of visitors implies a large quantity of waste. The project raised this issue with the SDMC and to increase the frequency of sweeping of the commercial streets — this has not occurred, leading to the project appointing 3 cleaners who clean the streets thrice a day. They are partly paid by the project and partly by the shop owners. Further, the system of “street audits and report cards” being carried out by the neighbourhood group in residential areas of the Basti has been extended for the 3 commercial streets leading to the Dargah. A part from this two street-side dustbins have been installed on two streets following requests from the shop owners.

*c. Interventions during festivals*

The quantity of waste being generated in the Basti increases significantly during the times of festivals and special occasions such as Urs and Moharam as was the festival of Id-ul-Zuha (which involves the sacrificing of animals). In 2015, common waste disposal points during these occasions were mapped and facilities of collecting waste through installing dustbins were undertaken. The strategies used included advocacy with the SDMC through letters and meetings, facilitating letters to SDMC from the Dargah Committee and residents. Further awareness messages were played over a public address system for visitors to the Dargah, urging them to dispose waste in installed dustbins.

For the best possible disposal of meat waste during Id-ul-Zuha, several strategies were used that included a special assembly with the SDMC school children, distributing pamphlets in the Basti featuring a request from Mohammad Azharuddin (former cricket captain of the Indian Cricket Team and now a Member of Parliament), announcements and requests in the mosques. In addition, people offering mass sacrifices in the Basti during the festival were identified and given disposable bags for meat and bone waste and linked to the cleaning staff of the SDMC. Additional cleaning of streets of residential areas was undertaken on the request from the neighbourhood group.

*d. Mohalla meetings on waste collection and street sweepings*

Regular monthly mohalla meetings were organized between with the neighbourhood group and residents of different mohallas (localities) in the Basti. These meetings were organized in open spaces and aimed to address issues of waste disposal, street sweeping by the SDMC cleaning staff, participation of the residents in street waste audits and linking households to waste collectors in each locality. These meetings also served an important role for getting a feedback on services of waste collection.
e. Door to door waste collection

The number of households linked to the regular door to door waste collection in the Basti stands at 1161 including 60 small commercial units. This is almost 72% of the households in the Basti and 23% of the commercial units. The payment to waste collectors is subsidized by the project though money is also collected from households. The subsidy is gradually reducing year-on-year.

f. Sewer Line Audit

The sewer line audits continue with monthly reports being shared with government agencies. Further quarterly community meeting with Delhi Jal Board officials are being organized by the neighbourhood group, between community and Delhi Jal Board officials and issues like sewer over flow, water supply etc are taken up.

NEXT STEPS:

- To further expand waste management services in commercial areas and streets leading to the Dargah.
- Work with the representatives of the Dargah and government agencies to implement better waste management and cleaning systems during the time of Urs and Moharrams.
- To implement paid system of sweeping of streets leading to the Dargah
- Residential area door to door waste collection to be provided to at least 70% households in the Basti
- Train waste collectors on healthy methods of waste sorting at secondary level
- To facilitate secondary level of waste sorting by informal sector.
- Set up a food waste composting unit in the SDMC school in the Basti
- Waste and sewer audits to continue in association with community and concerned government agencies.
Environmental Awareness

The awareness programme has been working with Basti children to raise awareness on environment issues in the Nizamuddin.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

**Activities with children of SDMC School: Environment Sessions**
- Introductory sessions on the themes of “What is environment for children”, “Rain as a natural experience” and “water cycle” were conducted with school children. Each theme was divided into one hour sessions and conducted for all children of grades 1-5.

**Environment Awareness through Bal Sabha**
- The monthly special assemblies or Bal Sabha held at the school has emerged as a useful platform for environment awareness. This activity was initiated in the third quarter of 2015. Environmental themes were addressed in 4 of the 6 Bal Sabhas. The concept of waste was gently introduced in each activity through Chaka Chak Dibba (a friend-cum-dustbin) where children identified whether each item was actually waste or not.

- Special session on wildlife was conducted the SDMC school children by Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) during the Wildlife Week in October 2015.
- Making the festival of Id-ul-Zuha more meaningful, 5th standard children of the SDMC School got together on stage with a small yet powerful play urging their fellow mates for a clean Id-ul-Zuha.

**Training session on tree mapping and natural habitat for youth of the Basti**
- A programme for developing nature trails in Sundar Nursery and training 5 youth from the Basti for nature walks was undertaken. Youth from the Basti were trained to record the various development stages of 35 types of trees found at Sundar Nursery.

**Urban kitchen gardening workshop:**
- 50 Children of school and Eco Club visited Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary for an Urban Kitchen Gardening Workshop organized by Bombay Natural History Society in collaboration with Hem Chand Mahindra Wildlife Foundation & Delhi Forest Department.

**Awareness activities during Apni Basti Mela**
- Awareness games on sanitation, waste management and environment were conducted during the Apni Basti Mela. Children from eco club performed a song and a stage play on the issue of sanitation.
- A cleanliness campaign highlighting various issues of sanitation led by Eco Club children was conducted from Nizam Nagar to Chausath Khamba on the second day of Apni Basti Mela.

**NEXT STEPS:**
- Addition of themes like water security, plastic and paper in continuation with the environment sessions at school.
- Continue with the monthly Bal Sabhas/children meetings adding subsequent themes on environment.
- Awareness activities to be undertaken to prevent waste disposal on streets leading to the Dargah and area near Nallah.
- Involve school staff in the process of food waste composting.
Over the years the streets of basti where service of door-to-door waste collection is provided have become visibly clean, with a healthier environment, though much remains to be done. Constant communication of team with SDMC and private company responsible for upkeep of municipal bins has led to timely clearance and clean surroundings near them.

To help in monitoring the quality of the services, a system of street waste audits has been put in place. The neighborhood group women along with people from the basti visit SDMC officials every week to submit a report card on cleanliness of streets. As a result of street audits, street sweeping by safai karamcharis in residential areas of basti has become more regularized.
Establishing Rehnumai – A Resource Centre

Many people in the Basti are unaware of their rights and not familiar with the several government schemes from which they can seek benefits, and are entitled too. A resource centre - Rehnumai, was established, which links the community members to the various government entitlements and facilitates in the creation of important documents, and in turn, empower the community. Rehnumai also functions as a node for information on jobs and higher education.

ACTION TAKEN:

- Rehnumai was set up as resource centre in 2014 to provide information on government entitlements as well as information on the process that needs to be followed to obtain specific government documents, the supporting documents needed and assistance in filling the forms if required.
- In case online application is possible, the staff at the centre facilitates that as well. In case, there are a large number of people needing assistance in a particular scheme then one of the Rehnumai staff also accompany the group to that particular office.
- In 2015, 18 people were directly assisted to link with 21 different kinds entitlements.
- This programme has helped to increase awareness among the community of the various government entitlements that are available to them and the process to link to that entitlement – this empowers them and equips them to deal with the government as a development agency which is a step towards sustainability.
- In addition, Rehnumai functions as a market intelligence agency and provides information on vacancies. It also works with the NIIT Foundation to set up job fairs.
- In 2015, 4 job fairs were organized in which 575 candidates participated and 460 were offered jobs. Some of these included people who had been trained in previous batches or other members of the community. Further it provided information to 75 people on jobs to walk in cases.
- Rehnumai also offers information on higher education opportunities to youth of the Basti. In 2015, 20 young people’s queries on higher education were addressed. This included information on admission and scholarships.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Old Age Pension</td>
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<td>20</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>School Form File</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Others</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total** 2198
The Rehnumai Centre offers assistance in the following schemes:

- **Laadli Scheme**
  A Delhi Govt. scheme providing financial incentives to girl child in the family.

- **Birth & Death Certificate; Surviving Member Certificate**
  These are needed at the time for school admissions, completing formalities, and access to monthly of pensions

- **Income Certificate; EWS Certificate**
  Needed for school admissions or minority scholarship or procuring ration card

- **Widow Pension; Old age Pension**
  A Delhi Govt. scheme which entitles widows and senior citizens for a monthly pension.

- **Disability Certificate & Pension**
  Issued by doctors to enable a disabled person access a government pension, and apply for government jobs in the disabled quota

- **Ration/ Aadhar/ Voter/ PAN/ID Cards**
  To establish identity and used to open bank accounts as they are accepted under the KYC norms

- **Driving Licence; Passport**
  To establish identity for various govt. schemes and at the time of employment

- **Gas Connection; Bank Account; Online FIR**
  To facilitate online applications

- **Income Certificate; EWS Certificate**
  Needed for school admissions or minority scholarship or procuring ration card

- **Widow Pension; Old age Pension**
  A Delhi Govt. scheme which entitles widows and senior citizens for a monthly pension.

- **Disability Certificate & Pension**
  Issued by doctors to enable a disabled person access a government pension, and apply for government jobs in the disabled quota
The project from its earliest days has invested in working towards building a strong interface with the community. This has now taken the form of several different kinds of community based groups. We are planning that these will form the node for a community based organization that will take responsibility of the development needs of Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti.

The groups are as follows:

1. School Management Committee
Under ‘The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act’, 2010, the School Management Committee (SMC) is a mandated body. The SMC for the SDMC School in Nizamuddin was formed in 2013. The Principal of the school is the Secretary of this body and 75% of the members of this committee are the parents of children studying in the school. Since its inception in 2013, the SMC has been supported by the project to develop their capacities to increase their engagement with the school. The SMC has undergone several trainings and exposure to understand their role in the functioning of the school. An advantage of the changing membership is that the number of parents who have participated in the SMC steadily increases thereby raising awareness about their role.

2. Mohalla Health and Sanitation Committees (MHSC) – There are 5 MHSCs formed as part of the community health initiative. These MHSCs cover all the 8 mohallas/clusters of the Basti – 3 are too small to have separate MHSCs. These groups take up issues that impact the health and sanitation of the areas and follow up with the concerned government department. They have been trained on accessing and using relevant government schemes. They now conduct meetings on their own and inform the project team.

3. Rehmat Nigrani Samooh (RNS) – This group manages the two community toilets in Nizamuddin Basti with the support of the project team. They employ half the cleaners of the toilet complexes and supervise the work. The project is in dialogue with the SDMC to sign a tripartite agreement so that RNS will officially manage the toilets with our support. Contact : 011 65545700.

4. Rehnumai Resource Centre – The Rehnumai Resource Centre links the community with 18 kinds of government entitlements. With an internet connection, it helps the community to apply for various papers that establish their identity to help them access the government schemes. It is an important link with the community as apart from linking them, it also provides information on how to access government entitlements.
5. **Self Help Groups (SHG)** – There are 10 women's SHGs in Nizamuddin. These are unregistered savings and credit groups. They meet on a monthly basis for monthly saving and inter loaning. Most of the members are linked to one of our programmes in the Basti.

6. **Insha-e-Noor** – Insha-e-Noor is the brand of the crafts groups of Nizamuddin Basti. They produce hand crafted products using *sanjhī* (paper cutting), crochet and *aari* embroidery. There are about 100 women who are members of Insha-e-Noor.

   For more information please, visit: [www.facebook.com/Insha.e.Noor/](http://www.facebook.com/Insha.e.Noor/)

   Contact : 011 65994467.

7. **Eco Club** – The Eco Club is a group of children who are all residents of the Basti but drawn from different schools. They are a key participant when it comes to raising awareness about environmental issues in the Basti.

8. **Sair-e-Nizamuddin** – This group of young men from Nizamuddin who aim to help people explore the culture of Basti Hazrat Nizamuddin and the surrounding areas. They are trained in local history, heritage conservation and have specialized walks as their products.

   For more information please, visit: [www.facebook.com/sairenizamuddin/](http://www.facebook.com/sairenizamuddin/)

9. **Zaika-e-Nizamuddin** – Zaika-e-Nizamuddin is a women's group that began as a response to address malnourishment in children resulting from the consumption of nutritionally poor snacks between meals. The group has now expanded its repertoire to offer authentic cuisine from Nizamuddin. For more information, please visit: [www.facebook.com/Zaika.e.Nizamuddin](http://www.facebook.com/Zaika.e.Nizamuddin)

**NEXT STEPS:**

- Regular meetings were held with the visitors to the women's park to understand the problem of security and improving user base to various parks.
- Beginning of some fitness/exercise related activities for the women in the park.
Early Childhood

The ECCD initiatives aim to facilitate holistic development of children and their transition to school and reaches out to at least 80 percent of the children in the Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti. With regular monitoring, awareness and care it is hoped that child’s development is not compromised.
The Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) programme commenced in 2010 following an MoU with the Department of Women and Child Development, Government of NCT Delhi (DWCD). The programmes have aimed at increased awareness of the role preschool education, nutrition, immunisation in general and aanganwadis in particular. 65% of children below 6 years in the Basti are now accessing either a government run aanganwadi or a private pre-school.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
Regular support through community teachers is being provided at 5 of the 7 government aanganwadis in Nizamuddin Basti as well as at the nursery section of the SDMC School. In addition, demonstration through the maternal and child health centre has continued as well. The project was able to improve the surroundings and ambience in 3 aanganwadis. 1100 classes were held over the year and the regular classes have encouraged parents to send their children regularly.

- The new curriculum developed as part of the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal project was implemented and finalised. It has been shared with the Governments of Delhi and the Ministry of Women and Child, Government of India. Capacity building of the community teachers continues.
- The school readiness assessment for the aanganwadi children was carried out with the assistance of the Centre for Early Childhood Education and Development, Ambedkar University, Delhi. The assessment was done through standardised tools with focus group discussions with the parent community. The findings of the study indicate that the children in AKF supported centres are performing well in most domains of school readiness, which would entail smoother transition into primary school. Also, parents and community members reported that the quality of the aanganwadi centres in Nizamuddin Basti had greatly improved over the past few years.
- Physical spaces in all the aanganwadis were poor to start with, being severely constrained by the below market rate rents offered by the Department of Women and Child Physical development. Upgrading and improvement of four aanganwadi’s has involved significant changes to improve the learning environment. Two aanganwadi’s have been shifted into improved rented

(Above) An improved government aanganwadi with project supported community teacher
accommodations and the principal ‘Mother and Child Health centre which serves as the demonstration site has also undergone major renovation. The improved physical spaces at these seven centres have positively impacted the quality of education.

- Review meetings are regularly held, jointly, with community teachers and parents to develop strategy and to monitor the programme.
- Mothers’ meetings are becoming a regular feature in the aanganwadis to discuss the child development in general and their child’s progress in particular. It is proposed to develop this into a structured module to make it easier for the aanganwadi teachers.
- The summer camp is the regular activity that is held during the summer vacation of the school children. This activity is for children between the ages of 3-5 years and approximately 70 children participated in the 15 day summer camp. The summer camp also caters to children who are just about to begin education, thus forming an easy entry into preschool education. In 2015, the focus was on arts based activities and language development. The 3-5 year olds also participated in the closing ceremony which was attended by the DWCD staff and parent community.
- In 2015, the project team has organized 33 days of workshops for the aanganwadi teachers on enhancement of skills like reading and language comprehension, as well as detailed lesson planning for the entire curriculum.
- In addition to provide enhanced exposure, the community teachers visited Gramin Shiksha Kendra in Rajasthan to understand the role of the community in monitoring the processes in government facilities.

**NEXT STAGE:**

- Work is underway for improving the remaining aanganwadi through negotiation with the community.
- Creating a structured programme to engage with the mothers.
- Greater stability to the programme through stronger community based monitoring.

A total of 1100 classes were held for 229 children in 2015 in 7 centres (5 AWCs + 1 MCH centre + Nursery section). 35% of the children attended more than 50 days of pre-school classes. The average attendance for the year 2015 was 55%. The MCH centre which is the hub for other ECCD related activities, conducted maximum number of pre-primary classes (229), through which 38 children benefited.

(Below) A Preschool activity Demonstration Centre set up at the MCH Centre in the Basti to raise awareness within the community on the role and significance of an aanganwadi and preschool education of children.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>0-6 yr old</th>
<th>7-14 yr old</th>
<th>14-18 yrs</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Childhood Care &amp; Development</td>
<td>Elementary Education</td>
<td>Adolescnt Education</td>
<td>Livelihood Programmes</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The first 6-8 years of life of a child are very crucial to development of a child. Most of the brain cells are formed by the age of two and synaptic connections form at a very fast pace at this age, however after the age of 3, the learning acquired if not put in use, the synaptic connections fade away, resulting in loss of learning. The ECCD initiatives aim to facilitate holistic development of children and their transition to school.

**2007**
- Low awareness of ECCD
- Almost 50% children malnourished
- 79% of Basti children in 3-5 age are in preschools
- School Readiness amongst 5 year olds is very poor
- 49% children underweight: (Wasting: 44%; Stunting: 64%)  
- 76% of children were anaemic
- 15% children not vaccinated at all
- Limited space in the Aanganwadi Centres: only 25% of those enrolled are able to use the services
- Pre-school education activities are absent
- Most parents are engaged in daily wage activities
- No follow up with children leaving the centre

**2015**
- 6 of 7 aanganwadiis improved
- 1000 children covered in pre-school programmes
- 750 children’s growth monitored
- 70 given supplementary nutrition
- Community crèche benefitting 40 children
- 300 mothers completed in the parenting programme
- 30 girls underwent diploma in ECCE at Jamia Milia University
- Nascent community-based monitoring system placed
- Pre-school curriculum created

Since 2010, elementary education has become a right of all Indian children between the ages of 6-14 years. The education initiatives of aim to ensure that the quality of education in the SDMC primary school is closer to the National Curriculum Framework and works through improving infrastructure, curriculum, classroom processes and better engagement with the community through the School Management Committee.

**2007**
- More than 50% of the children come from the family of first generation learners
- School wore a ‘ghost look’ with an enrolment of ~150; attendance ~ 50
- Poor school organization & little classroom activity
- No engagement between the community and teachers
- Poor infrastructure
- Poor mindset of teachers and community

**2015**
- Physical improvement of the SDMC school along with creation of a park and amphitheatre
- Improving classroom processes through community teachers
- A centre for community activities
- Enrolment of almost 500
- Average earnings per month from the CDC is Rs.11500; ZeN is Rs. 1500; ;
- Insha-e-Noor is Rs. 10000 (annual)
- 100%  the youth have access to vocational education
- 17% of women over 18 years have their own income
- Over 40 children participate every year in theatre workshops organized in the Basti
- There is a visible change in the confidence levels of children, with children and young adults who have been invited to perform in several forums

Adolescence is a transitional stage of physical and psychological human development, and is also a time when young people take decisions that may impact their future life. The interventions in Nizamuddin Area understand this crucial life stage, and provides support through initiatives that are targeted to help them continue their education and prepare them for better professional roles later in life.

**2007**
- Key problem areas which emerged from the 2010 Baseline Survey
- Average earnings per month from the CDC is Rs.11500; ZeN is Rs. 1500; ;
- Insha-e-Noor is Rs. 10000 (annual)
- Sair E Nizamuddin SHG

**2015**
- In response to the community’s aspirations of teaching their children English, there is the Access English Microscholarship programme that works towards teaching English for employability to youth between the ages of 16 to 18 years.
- Over 40 children participate every year in theatre workshops organized in the Basti
- There is a visible change in the confidence levels of children, with children and young adults who have been invited to perform in several forums
- The creation of the parks and gym have also contributed significantly to increased awareness on health

**2015**
- 100%  the youth have access to vocational education
- 17% of women over 18 years have their own income
- Youth from the basti are working in a range of companies
- Computer courses are accessible to all
- Average earnings per month from the CDC is Rs.11500; ZeN is Rs. 1500; ;
- Insha-e-Noor is Rs. 10000 (annual)
- Sair E Nizamuddin SHG
Providing Child Care Support

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- A Parenting programme was established when the community health initiative led to the realization that indicated the need to work on raising awareness on child care. This structured programme of setting up demonstration centres and increasing awareness on child care issues amongst parents was initiated in 2013, and has become a regular activity with the Sehat Aapaas i.e. community health workers implementing it with minimal support. The training module has been finalised and is ready for sharing with the larger development community. In 2015, 6 batches of the programme were organized wherein 140 women participated.
- A Community crèche was established to provide affordable and reliable child care – a need in the Basti. The crèche is operated by a community member running in her home for a small fee as costs are presently subsidised by the project in the hope that it does get residents into the habit of paying for childcare. The community crèche has worked well in 2015 with 35 children enrolled on average and it is planned to initiate another crèche in 2016.
- Events to help the community understand the functioning of the *anganwadi* and help children learn to participate in large group activities helps prepare them for school. A special theatre performance – bends and flows - for children of all the *anganwadis* was organized. Similarly, events are held at each *anganwadi* to showcase children’s activities including drawings, art and crafts. Sports events for *anganwadi* children are held together with sports events held at the primary school.
- At the annual *Apni Basti Mela*, in 2015, the event was used to inform parents on the importance of various activities conducted in the *anganwadis* for development of the children. The ECCD stall had parents and children playing with clay, beads, crayons, flash cards etc. In addition, parents participated in a quiz on human development milestones.
- Enrolment in Diploma in ECCE: To build capacity within the Basti, for the 5th year running, 12 girls from the community were enrolled for a diploma in ECCE from Jamia Milia Islamia University. This also equipped them with a professional diploma.

**NEXT STAGE:**
The programme will continue with greater community responsibility and engagement.

**IMPACT:**
- There is greater awareness and this is seen in the higher rates of enrolment in the preschools – government and private as well as the improvement in the school readiness.
- There is recognition and acceptance of the need of special care and education before the child goes to school.
- It also has a bearing in the higher rates of immunisation, addressed in the health programme.
Growth Monitoring: Addressing Malnutrition

Malnutrition remains a serious concern in Nizamuddin and much effort has been made to improve understanding on nutrition within the community. Three major components towards addressing malnourishment are thus being undertaken—monitoring the growth of all children below 6 years of age in the Basti, addressing children who are severely malnourished through direct intervention and making low cost nutritious snacks available in the Basti.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- The growth of all the children less than 6 years is monitored at the household level on a monthly basis by the health team. Efforts to shift this growth monitoring to the *aanganwadi’s* are ongoing.
- In 2015, growth monitoring was done for 750 children of whom 13% of the children were found to be moderately malnourished and 4% were severely malnourished. Parents of all malnourished children were counselled by the community health workers and the severely malnourished children were linked with the supplementary nutrition programme from April 2015 onwards. Revised monitoring at the end of 2015 found malnourishment had reduced to 10% of the children.
- Significant effort was made to train the entire community health team, comprising of 50 women, in accurately recording weight and other data on the relevant growth chart.
- With reliable growth monitoring data being available on a regular basis, the need to intervene quickly and directly with the severely malnourished children became a possibility. In 2015, 58 children falling in the red and yellow categories benefited from the programme and as a result of which 29 (50%) children moved into the green category.

**NEXT STAGE:**

- Advocacy and community based monitoring to ensure that growth monitoring happens at the *aanganwadi*.
- Continue the supplementary nutrition programme; ensure linkages of malnourished children with *aanganwadis*.
Zaika E Nizamuddin: A Women’s Nutrition SHG

Initiated in late 2012, the Zaika E Nizamuddin women’s group was initiated as a response to address malnourishment of young children in Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti. The group has since then been very active, and received a grant from the Australian High Commission in 2015. In 2016-17, the group is poised to become an independent group.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- The group members have been trained in the principles and working of self help groups leading to the group now holding regular meetings, regular saving and inter-loaning among members. The group had an annual turnover of INR 1,35,000 total savings of the group is presently INR 18,500.
- The raison-d’etre for setting up a nutrition group was providing low cost nutritious snacks to children in the Basti. Group members underwent a 5 day training to understand the food pyramid, the different food groups and the benefits of each as well the need for a balanced diet.
- With a growing group, it is essential to be able to work as a team towards a common goal. The group went through a life skills training to appreciate each other’s strengths, build a vision and be able to work with each other.
- Group members visited the Swami Shivananda Memorial Institute who have a catering service and run decentralised kitchens for the Integrated Child Development Services of the Department of Women and Child Development.
- The Zaika-e-Nizamuddin kitchen is now fully equipped with burners, counters and other equipment to make it a safe, hygenic, and functional kitchen.
- The ZeN services added providing food for the supplementary nutrition programme, catering services and took orders for snacks and orders for training programmes organized by the project. The highlight was that they participated in the project’s annual Apni Basti Mela where their food was much appreciated.

(Right) The Baseline Survey conducted in 2010 indicated that 50% of Basti children under the age of 6 years were severely malnourished. The Zaika E Nizamuddin Group was founded, which has since diversified into producing low-cost nutritious dry snacks and catering to independent buyers, as well.
The education programme for children aims to address the educational needs of all segments of children in the basti – the primary school children, during and after school; after school support to children who have passed out of the SDMC school in ‘difficult’ subjects i.e. English, Mathematics and Science and children who study in madarsas. Further the education component aims to enhance the quality of education by addition of art components like music, visual art, theatre and computers. A key area is the in-situ demonstration of school management practices to improve practices of school functioning and increasing community involvement in school management through strengthening of the School Management Committee.
The SDMC school in the Basti today serves as a hub for education. The school needed a major renovation that were designed by specialised architects working with child psychologists, teachers, craftsmen and engineers. Addition of toilets on each floor, installing unbreakable glass in windows, incorporating Building as a Learning Aid (BaLA) elements, considerably improved the learning environment as did the creation of a Children's park on the adjoining DDA land. Physical improvement works coupled with improving infrastructure, activity-oriented classrooms, and enhanced student friendly and safe environment not only led to a vibrant environment in the school, but also encourages school going amongst students.

Amphitheater created in the SDMC School has provided a platform for various school plays and art events.

SDMC School building was upgraded in 2010, in a way that the building as a whole becomes an educational space - in a playful and engaging manner.
Academic Support to Children

As part of the education programme, learning support is provided to school children from Nursery to Grade 5 during school hours, and through Bridge Classes for out-of-school children to enable their being enrolled in the mainstream school, and after school hours for academic support for children till Grade 10. All these are aimed at improving the academic achievements of children from the Basti.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- 400 school children (from grades Nursery to 5) received onsite classroom support in Math and Hindi from community teachers during school hours.
- A 15 days summer camp was organized in the month of May 2015. A total number of 291 children attended the summer camp from nursery to class 6. The main emphasis of the summer camp was language, math, visual arts, and theatre. This ended with a closing ceremony where both children and their parents participated.
- Annual learning assessment was carried out in the month of February for all children from grades 1 to 5. There was a marked improvement in competencies in both Hindi and Math.
- Academic support was provided to 30 children after school. For the primary school children, this was especially focused on first generation learners in key learning areas of Hindi and Mathematics; 60 children who had completed primary school in the Basti were provided academic support in Mathematics, Science, and English.

**NEXT STAGE:**
- Continue support to the learning activities for all primary classes during school hours by the community teachers.
- Review the out of school programme for efficiency and continue with modifications

(Below) The classroom teaching encourages teamwork and art education.
Faculty Development

Capacity building of the Municipal and community teachers of the SDMC School aimed at improving classroom processes and strengthening child centred teaching.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- 33 days of training for 18 community teachers and 8 SDMC teachers covering all topics of grades 1 to 5.
- Training methodologies included video recording of teachers conducting classes according to lesson plans and replayed and analysed by the entire group.
- Monthly review meetings with all the SDMC and community teachers to plan the school calendar and curriculum transaction. In 2015, eight such meetings were held that led to better coordination between Municipal and community teachers.

**NEXT STAGE:**
- Continue capacity building process and academic support according to the needs of the teachers
- Continue with joint monthly review and planning meetings

**IMPACT:**
- Learning levels of children in Hindi and Maths show a steady increase. The 2015 results indicated that the children were getting better at number operations and better at reading.
- Greater stability in school attendance (as marked by community teachers not official records). In 2015, the average attendance was almost 60% per year.
- Better organized school timetable, in which sports has been introduced as one of the subjects.
Improved School Management

A School Management Committee (SMC) has been formed, and is being strengthened to play a greater role the school’s management.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- Strengthening of school management committee through a four day training focussing on Right to Education (RtE) and teacher roles and responsibilities as well as providing exposure to an organization that works towards strengthening School Management Committees.
- Ensuring that the meeting happens regularly with the participation of the school principal, teachers and SMC members. In 2015, 12 meetings were held.
- Involving the SMC members in school management issues like follow up on school enrolment, observation of mid day meal, opening of bank accounts for children and assistance in preparation of identity documents like Aadhar Card.
- In 2014, the SMC also took the responsibility of procuring and distributing school uniforms to all the children; in 2015 they continued the process so that all children have 2 school uniforms.

**NEXT STAGE:**
- This has provided the community a greater stake in the functioning of the school though it is still far away from managing the school without support.
- Strengthening of newly reconstituted SMC, and enable a greater role of SMC in school management.

Composition of School Management Committee:
- School Principal
- Parents/Guardians of children
- Elected representative of the Local Authority
- Teachers of the School
- Social workers involved in the field of Education

(Right) The SMC at work, and monitoring the school operations.
Six computer kiosks (NIIT: Hole in the Wall) were installed for free access in 2012. Computer lab had been initiated in the school in 2008. A computer period integrated into the school time table so that each child has one computer period a week. There is a full time computer teacher who works with children from Nursery to Grade 5. The computers have software loaded that focuses on developing competencies for primary school children.

ACTION TAKEN:
The Kiosks are regularly upgraded with additional learning material and promptly maintained as and when required.
- Computer teacher has been appointed in the SDMC School, and non-professional courses for the young have been initiated in the Career Development Centre (CDC).

NEXT STAGE:
- Strengthening of newly reconstituted SMC
- Greater role of SMC in school management

(Right) The first Hole-in-the-Wall kiosk was installed in 2011 to provide computer access to street-children installed, which has since grown into six kiosks at key locations in the Basti where they can be accessed by a large section of out-of-school children.
Co-Scholastic Activities

In addition to the academic improvements, art education in school and after school activities has been consistently carried out to ensure overall development.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- Included music lessons and art lessons in the school timetable to ensure that the children of all sections in the school receive 8 sessions per month in art and music.
- The project had begun a theatre initiative in 2010; participating children have formed their theatre group called Agaaz. They functioned with minimal support from the project and performed in several schools and public forums.
- The project initiated an ‘idea competition’ and winners were selected to go for the national level event held at Rashtrapati Bhavan. The idea to organise disposal of plastic glasses was selected to be made into a prototype.
- The children also went to Ahmedabad for a national level event.
- Environment education was introduced in the SDMC School. Concept of environment and its components were introduced and discussed in grades 3-5.
- Special assemblies formed a critical component in the school calendar; 25 such special assemblies on the topics of health and hygiene, school cleaning, waste management, regularity of the child were held.
- Monthly Bal Sabhas or children’s meetings also became a regular feature. These were on special themes and included waste, water and paper.
- Reading activities became a regular feature and took a special turn at the Apni Basti Mela through storytelling, story writing, story illustration and story dramatisation. 500 children participated in the same
- Special events – Republic Day, Summer Camp Closing ceremony and Independence Day were celebrated in the school.
- Exposure visit to Asola wildlife sanctuary and historic monuments.

**NEXT STAGE:**
- Maintain art education in the school
- Add sports to the curriculum
- Provide hand holding support to Agaaz

**IMPACT:**
The curriculum is richer with the addition of the art component and improves the quality of education offered in the SDMC School.

(Right) Art, craft, and music introduced in SDMC School
Madarsa Education

The Madarsa education programme was initiated with the objective of improving the quality of education in the several madarsas functioning within the Basti.

ACTION TAKEN:

• In 2015, a total number of 20 meetings organized with madarsas of Kaali Masjid, Dargah Hazrat Nizamuddin, Panchpeeran, Chakkar Waali Masjid, Lal Masjid and DPS Madarsa. The main focus of these meetings was to work towards introducing formal education in madarsa system.
• Appointment of two teachers now teaching at four madarsas to add to the religious education offered in the madarsa. To improve the quality of education, the madarsa children participated in the Apni Basti Mela and enthusiastically participated in the book fair and specially organized competition of nath, qurait and calligraphy.
• They also participated in the cricket tournament organized by Australia and New Zealand High Commission in New Delhi and at the sports meet.
• Madrasa students also participated in an ‘idea competition’ and two won placements to participate in the finals at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
• A heritage awareness programme for madarsa children was also undertaken and they visited several Delhi monuments.

NEXT STAGE:

Strengthen the Madarsa Education Programme, and initiate work in the girls madarsa.

Our madarsas offered religious education(deeni taleem) but not formal education (duniyavi taleem). The AKF teachers have enriched the curriculum, and now our children also know Hindi and Mathematics. We want them to learn English and Computers now, so that they can make projects, like the ones we saw in the Kolkata madarsas during our exposure visit.

- Maulana Sajid, Madarsa Mahad-al-Sheikh and Maulana Tufail, Madarsa Jamia Arvia Nizamia
English Access Microscholarship Programme

One of the earliest expressed needs from the community in Nizamuddin Basti was to learn English, especially by the young adult during the baseline survey, to enhance employability. Taking cognizance of the expressed need to learn English, the project initiated the English Access Micro-Scholarship Programme, supported by the American Centre of the US Embassy in 2010. This programme continues to be very successful.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
The initial baseline survey conducted in Nizamuddin Basti in 2008 indicated a high unmet need for learning English, especially among youth. Parents were also keen that their children learn English as it was seen to be a step towards increasing employability as well as becoming upwardly mobile.
The project responded to this expressed need by linking with the English Access Microscholarship Program (Access). Access programmes are supported by the American Centre of the US Embassy and are conducted in more than 85 countries. We have been conducting this programme in Nizamuddin since 2009. This is a two year programme where each student is expected to go through 360 hours of English Language instruction. A key feature of the Access programme is its curriculum. The focus is on using English for communication with a view to increase confidence and employability of the young people of Nizamuddin Basti. Typically, Access participants go through a range of contextualised curriculum and events that focus on using English. These could be speaking opportunities in class and celebrating days/events where the participants are responsible for planning and anchoring.
Access provides a foundation of English language skills to talented 13-20 year-olds from economically disadvantaged sectors through after-school classes and intensive sessions. Access gives participants English skills that may lead to better jobs and educational prospects. Participants also gain the ability to compete for and participate in future exchanges and study in the United States.

- 100 young women and men between the ages of 13 to 18 years enrolled in the fourth batch of the English Access Microscholarship Programme 20 young women and men applied for scholarships to study abroad after completing the access programme. Out of these, four students were selected to study in the USA.

**NEXT STAGE:**
The project has applied for the continuation of this programme.

**IMPACT:**
- 400 young women and men have participated in this programme so far.
- 12 students and 4 Access teachers have studied in foreign universities.
- An increase in confidence and self-esteem in the youth who graduate from this programme.
Art & Craft Activity

Sports Events

Skills Enhancement Activities

Exposure Visits

Celebration of Important days

Teachers Day

Art & Craft Activity

Theatre & Plays

Reading Sessions

Classroom Activities

Education Games

Job Fairs
Community Voices

As part of assessing the impact of the socio-economic initiatives on the quality of life of the basti residents, a series of documentaries with the Basti residents has been initiated.

"Chuttiyon ka intezaar baccho ko hi nahi hamein bhi hota, lekin yeh meri zindagi ka pehla experience hai ki meri is summer camp to chod kar khoon aur jaane ko dil hi nahi kar raha." - Shagufta (SDMC School Teacher)

"Jab se mera beta job karne laga hai, mere ghar ke haalat kafi sudhar gaye hain." - Kaiksha (Shezad's Mother)

"Shuruat mein yahan parchote baccho ki education par dhayan main dya yata tha." - Saba Parveen (Aanganwadi Teacher)

"Maine mein kuch nahi kiya, par ek bacche ko to chalne layake bana diya." - Occupational Therapist in SDMC Clinic

"There is a big change in me as this has improved my public speaking and English-speaking skills" - Aqib Gulzari (English Access Micro Scholarship Student)
The basti houses approximately 1500 households. The densities have tremendously grown with the rise in population. The open spaces were sliced off in parcels and divided between various city authorities in seemingly very ad hoc manner - as there has never been any local area plan or vision that has a comprehensive overview of the basti's urbanity.

The park adjoining the Municipal school has been developed for the exclusive use of women with a children's play area.
In order to address high unemployment rates in the Basti, a vocational education programme with several components that cover training, linking with jobs, teaching a craft skill, amongst others was established. As a result, the programme has led to a direct increase in family incomes. This component of the project offers information, linkage with government entitlements, skill training and placement to women and men with varying educational backgrounds and employment needs.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- Vocational education continued to be provided for youth who have completed school through the NIIT Foundation operated Career Development Centre (CDC). The centre offers both professional and non-professional courses.
- In 2015, the CDC offered professional courses in Customer Service Associate Training in retail (CSAT), Certificate in Data Entry (CCDE), General Duty Assistant, Diploma in Early Child Care and Education (ECCD);
- Non-professional courses included : IT for beginners and Fun with computer.
- In all 242 students were trained in professional courses. Similarly 200 students participated in Non-professional courses
- 190 students were eventually placed in jobs at companies like Eureka Forbes, India Info Line, Pantaloons, Sayrex BPO, Nature Basket, Bharat Matrimony, Big Bazar, Taco-Bell, Marks & Spencer, Snapdeal.com. The salaries offered to these young people ranges from Rs 72,000 to Rs 120,000 per annum (CTC).
- The training method apart from classroom sessions includes a soft skill component, orientation for interviews as well as industry visits to equip them for the employment market.

**NEXT STAGE:**
- Strengthen the education and market intelligence component of Rehnumai resource centre
- Deepen the reach of the programme for linking government entitlements
- Based on market intelligence, introduce new vocational training programmes that have a demand from the industry
- Strengthen the placement services of the Career Development Centre (CDC)

(Below) The Career Development Center in Nizamuddin Basti was established in 2010, in response to the Baseline Survey findings that only 10% of Basti youth had access to Vocational Education

- Data Entry 105
- Customer Service Associate Training 105
- Programme in IT for Beginners 11
- Course in IT for Professionals 33
- Certificate Course in Social Networking 159
- Fun with Computers 03

Total Registration 416
Vocational Programmes

Existing livelihood groups, NOOR and INSHA have benefitted through advanced trainings while other groups have been trained in new trades. Such livelihood groups have not only helped increase family incomes of the women but have also helped instill a sense of confidence and self-reliance.
The 2008 baseline survey carried out at the onset of the project revealed that only 9% of the women had any source of income leading to the project to focus on creating livelihood opportunities for women within the Basti.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- About 200 women have been trained in the crafts of embroidery, garment construction and crochet. Training is now a regular feature with about 4-5 new members being trained on the job.
- Currently about 65 women are working regularly in the Insha Crafts Centre and 10 of them in Noor.
- 90% are also organized into 4 SHGs and save every month as well providing loans to the members. In addition, there are 3 SHGs of women who work as Sehat Aapaas and Sehat Sahelis as part of the health component. All these groups have a bank account.
- In 2015, these 9 SHG’s had a total saving of INR 4,93,600; of this INR 4,39,200 was circulated as loans. The loans have been used by the members on education, health, to repay existing debts, to procure new gas connections, etc.
- The Insha Crafts Centre participated in 8 fairs (Total revenue - INR 1,32,547); Insha products are also retailed through the craft shop of the National Crafts Museum and the Oberoi hotel chain. In addition Insha also works on orders for a range of clients that include Fabindia, Rangsutra and an export house.
- A key feature of the women’s livelihoods programme is the branding of the products as Insha-e-Noor and the setting up of a permanent kiosk in the premises of Humayun’s Tomb for the sale of products. The turnover of the kiosk for the year 2015 was INR 1,263,575.
- Each Insha member earns according to the amount she produces for the centre. This is a function of market linkages. In 2015 the centre had 63 women working. The amount earned was from INR 1000 to 37,857 per year.
- In 2015, Insha Crafts also competed the funding of the Australian High Commission grant to strengthen it with training of members and equipment.

**NEXT STAGE:**
- Strengthen the market linkages and community outreach for the women’s livelihood programmes
IMPACT:
- There is greater awareness of government entitlements in the community.
- Family incomes have gone up for 250 families by at least INR 8000 to INR 24,000 per month through the training and placement services – resulting in an average increase of INR 11,500 per month.
- 65 women of Insha Crafts have raised their income ranging from INR 1000 to Rs.38,000 per annum in addition to improving their self esteem.
Women's SHG: Noor

NOOR, the self Help Group of women from Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti trained by master craftsman in sanjhi paper craft, was set up in November 2009 to create income generation opportunities for women at Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti. Traditionally, sanjhi motifs were derived from stories of Lord Krishna, but the patterns used by Noor are linked to the culture and heritage of their area through the use of design elements and motifs from local monuments.

ACTION TAKEN:
- In 2015, the total sale of Noor group was Rs. 6,31,746 and an amount of Rs.2,54,031 was distributed among the members of the group for their craft skill.
- Further to the existing range, new products i.e. luggage card, small rectangular lamp, fridge magnets, greeting cards, gift pouches, and wall hangings have been added to the product range. The sanjhi products prepared by the members of women SHG are being displayed and sold at a specially designed kiosk at the Humayun's Tomb and are received well by visitors.
- In association with the Sanskriti Foundation, on the occasion of International Museum Day, Noor group members conducted workshop of sanjhi cutting at Sanskriti Kendra with 40 Students from different schools.
- For the fourth consecutive year Noor members have successfully delivered products for the World Partnership Gold organized by AKF Canada, which included 1120 notebooks.
- The group members have worked with a design house “Sensations India” and prepared 130 cuttings as customized by the design house.
- The group members customised products for International School of Business, Hyderabad with a design house.
- The group members took turns each day as resource person to impart the sanjhi craft skill to groups of students at Sardar Patel School. Over the three day workshop, students got hands on experience in the Sanjhi craft skill and the process included drawing the pattern, cutting and pasting and finally making products.
- The members also conducted a craft workshop for the students of Global Encounters camp which consisted students from different countries on a student exchange programme.

NEXT STEPS:
- Integrating the Noor group with the livelihood effort and providing support towards making them independent.
Though densely populated and built up, the Nizamuddin Basti still retained segregated open spaces along the periphery. These were however, poorly kept and neglected becoming unusable. Coupled with conservation and landscaping works these spaces serve as performance venue for cultural events like Jashn E Khusrau, qawwali performances, Dastangoi, exhibitions, theatre performances, workshops, book fairs etc. These cultural events and melas attract many first time visitors to the Basti.

Mirza Ghalib’s Tomb serves as a cultural hub after its restoration

Basti Mela provides a platform to showcase the art, crafts, theatre, music and food of the Nizamuddin Area

Sair E Nizamuddin youth group conducting heritage walks for tourists

Qawwali performance in the forecourt of Chausath Khamba during Apni Basti Mela 2015

Reclaiming Community Places

Enabling Recreation & Reviving Arts
Health Programme

Mother-and-Child Health
In 2015, a total of 3838 adolescents and women have received treatment and counselling services in 101 OPDs.

Patient Inflow to Polyclinic
2008-11: 110 patients per day
2015: 206 patients per day

Immunizations
2011: 152
2015: 872
In 2011, only 11 children were being immunized each week; Post-community health intervention, it has increased to 17 children/week.

Community Health Outreach
Started in 2012, this network of 50 Basti women cover over 1450 households, comprising of 90% of the total Basti.

Pathology Laboratory
Since 2007, a total of 152000 tests conducted at the path lab benefiting to more than 32,500 patients.

Eye/ENT OPD
8152 patients visited
By end of 2015, there has been 5 times increase in flow of patients when compared to 2008.
Improving Clinical Health

The health programme commenced with strengthening available health infrastructure at the municipal polyclinic by establishing a pathology laboratory and providing specialists and equipments. With the support of the TATA Trusts, this component has further evolved into one of India’s only community health programmes in urban areas. In addition to 85% of the Basti households using the services at the polyclinic or those provided by the community health volunteers, the large floating population as well as people from across Delhi access these free services.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- In 2015, 60,280 patients visited the SDMC polyclinic with an average patient load of 200 patients a day for receiving treatment related to ophthalmology, ENT, gynaecology, pediatrics, and general medicine.
- In 2015, on an average 206 patients accessed the polyclinic daily – an increase of over 100% from 2008.
- 26,000 Household visits by the community health team resulting in increased usage of the polyclinic.
- The project has continued to place a gynecologist, pediatrician and pathologist at the municipal polyclinic.
- In 2015, the project supported laboratory conducted 37,473 tests for 6889 patients. Since inception in 2008, 152000 tests have been conducted. The path lab is accessed by people living across Delhi.
- During the last 7 years a total of 152000 tests conducted at the path lab benefiting to more than 32,500 patients.
- By end of 2015, there has been a 5 times increase in inflow of eye patients when compared to 2008. The patient inflow to ENT OPD doubled during the last 6 years.

**Maternal and Child Health Services:** These include ante natal checkups, immunisation services for children are provided through the SDMC satellite Maternal and Child health (MCH) centre since 2011. The project strengthens the services through the addition of bi-weekly gynecology and pediatric services. Gynecology OPD also caters to the needs of pregnant women.

a. **Gynae OPD**
   During 2015, a total of 3838 adolescents and women have received treatment and counselling services in 101 OPDs. The average number of patients treated per OPD was 38.

b. **Ante Natal Checkups (ANC)**
   A total of 868 ANC consultations conducted at the Polyclinic during 2015 benefiting 150 pregnant women from the Basti.

c. **Pediatric OPD**
   During 2015, a total of 5011 children were provided with treatment showing an increase by two times when compared to 2012. In 2015, the pediatric OPD also monitored the children who were identified as severely/moderately malnourished. The average inflow per day was 52.
   - During 2015, 872 immunizations were provided to children in the age group of 0 – 5 years under the government immunization schedule.
   - Further, the community health team worked with the government during their immunisation drives to ensure complete immunisation. A total of 76 children were linked through this initiative.

**NEXT STEPS:**
Advocacy with MCD to begin taking over some of the initiatives currently borne by the project.

**IMPACT:**
- A stable curative public health facility is available in the Basti.
- Significant increase in patient load in the polyclinic due to improved services and outreach programme.
- Pathology lab continues to be the most reliable laboratory in the surroundings.
The community health initiative was initiated in 2012 recognizing the need to link the community with the public health facilities created and to improve health practices and health seeking behaviour in the community with a special emphasis on maternal and child health.

On the completion of the first phase of the Tata Trusts supported community health work in August 2015, the Tata Trusts agreed to continue support for a second phase. This second phase also includes components on health of adolescent girls and addressing substance abuse in the Basti, apart from the ongoing components of maternal and child health, communicable and non communicable diseases.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

**Community health work – Interventions**

**a. Disability**

During 2015, working on disability related issues was considered a priority with focus on early screening through household visits and referrals, occupational therapy by engaging a specialist organization and linking with government entitlements. Thus in 2015, 28 Children benefitted through the programme; of these, 26 children received regular occupational therapy and 17 were linked to scholarships and 3 children were enrolled in special schools. Regular counselling for children and parents was done.

**b. Non Communicable Diseases**

In response to an increasing number of people suffering from lifestyle disorders in the Basti, training of health workers to address the problems was commenced in 2014.

In 2015, household visits were arranged to provide much needed counselling for diabetes and hypertension patients. An assessment tool for patients suffering from diabetes, hypertension and obesity was designed to understand the profile of patients and accordingly design appropriate interventions.

Over 800 people in the Basti were identified to have one or more of these disorders. Of these, the health workers collected information on family background, eating habits, disease history etc from almost 60 percent people. Community health workers maintain a record of the patients in their area and conduct regular follow up and counselling with these patients.

The Apni Basti Mela was used to spread awareness on the theme “Healthy Lifestyle” with over 100 people getting their BMI measurements done and learning about risks they faced.
c. Women’s Health:
157 pregnant women were counselled on maternal health issues during and post pregnancy. Of these, 37 women who were found to be anaemic were monitored and provided follow up medical treatment was done to improve their health condition. Awareness on issues related to personal health, menstruation was done through platforms such as parenting meet and nutrition meetings.

d. Children’s Health:
58 children identified as severely and moderately undernourished were enrolled in Supplementary Nutrition Program out of which 29 achieved normal nutrition status and 46 showed grade progression from severe to moderate category. A supplementary nutrition program for undernourished children was initiated in the second quarter of 2015. Nutritious meals were provided to severely and moderately undernourished children twice a day ensuring that half the calorie requirements were met. Mothers of these children are also engaged and counselled on various areas of child health for 12 days. Follow up by community health workers at the child’s home is also done if the child does not show grade progression. A performa is designed and filled which captures all information of the child right from the child birth to current feeding practices.

d. Adolescent Girls:
Program planning for adolescent girls program was done and a training module and plan has been prepared. A meeting was also held with almost 40 adolescent girls to understand the needs and issues which should be addressed through this intervention.
Capacity building of Community Health Team:
Since 2011, the community health team has been intensively trained to develop the basic skill set needed for the health programme with periodic refresher training and capacity enhancement as additional programmes are added. As a result, they have emerged as a strong cohesive unit capable of bringing about steady change in the community. In 2015, the community health team of 54 received training, in smaller batches, for a total of 6 days. Themes included changing roles in a mature programme and handholding support to Mohalla Health and Sanitation Committee's. In addition to these, refresher trainings were organized for the team on reproductive and sexual health issues and life skills. In addition review meetings, to provide continuous support and guidance to the community outreach team are held by the health coordinator. These meetings are also helpful in receiving feedback from the health workers and resolving queries that emerge during the field work.

a. Community Meetings:
In 2015, six batches of the parenting programme were conducted with 150 participants. Linking with public health facilities: As part of an ongoing key activity of the community health team, in 2015, about 800 individuals who were suffering from serious diseases tuberculosis, cancer and HIV were linked by the community health team to the relevant medical facility. This household level intervention is possible with the use of the family health card—developed by the project and covering the entire populace - as the tool for engagement with the family. Ante Natal Care: 120 pregnant women were tracked linked with ante natal care. In 2015, 120 deliveries took place; of these 88% in a health facility and 12% at home; 300 children were provided required immunization.

b. Family Cards:
The family cards developed have helped deepen reach within the community. The card folder has 5 cards including general health card, eligible couple card, maternal card, child health card and a follow up card. Each card is updated at the required frequency at the household level. In 2015, 1325 households of the 1600 households in the Basti were covered and 80% of the families are visited every month by a community health worker to cover eligible couples, pregnant women and families having children in the age group of 0-6 years. Thus more than 22,000 household visits were done by the health workers during 2015.

c. Strengthen Community Health Team:
To enable the community health team to run a programme for adolescent girls
Increase capacity of the community health team so that more of their members are able to conduct field level meetings Refine the disability programme to set up a system of early identification for disability for referrals.

NEXT STEPS:
Prepare a disability manual
Disseminate the parenting module
Mohalla Health and Sanitation Committee

There are five community groups established under the community health initiative known as the Mohalla Health and Sanitation Committees (MHSC). The groups meet every month to identify areas that need attention.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

- At least monthly meetings are held with each of the groups and with convenors of all groups.
- The groups are being supported through training and hand holding support.
- In 2015, 38 meetings of each of the 5 MHSCs took place followed by 32 follow up meetings. The attendance in each of these meetings met the quorum requirements and was 84% for the year 2015.
- At each of these meetings discussion centred on an issue emerging from the community and planning effort to resolve the issue within the framework of government services and their entitlements. Amongst the issues that are taken up in 2015 by the MHSCs were:
  - Poor supply of water
  - Poor quality of water
  - Irregular cleaning of streets
  - Insufficient supply of medicines in the SDMC Polyclinic
  - Fogging during the monsoon
  - Cleaning of sewer lines
  - Non-availability of garbage collecting van
  - Opening of a ration shop in the Basti

All these initiatives helped the MHSCs develop the confidence to address the problem directly with the concerned agency.

- **Number of MHSCs – 5**
- **71 Meetings held in 2015**
- **70% Average attendance of the MHSC**

The residents of Nizam Nagar neighbourhood of the Basti were facing acute shortage of drinking water in their area. Not only was the supply less, the water pressure in the supply pipes was very low. The members of the MHSC met where this issue was raised, and the members decided to raise the issue with the Delhi Jal Board (DJB) officials. They wrote the letter and visited the DJB office, following which the problem has been partially resolved.

The MHSCs of Dildar Nagar and Cali Gadariyan wanted fogging in their areas to address the problem of mosquitoes. They wrote to the SDMC and followed it up. This resulted in fogging of the entire basti.
The Family Health Monitoring System is the database of the health status of the community established by the AKF project team. Data collected at the household level is entered into specially designed software and reports generated for follow up action by the health team.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- In 2015, reports on antenatal care, growth monitoring of children, child immunization and reproductive health problems from eligible couple cards were generated on a monthly basis which helped the health team to follow up on the cases identified.
- Similarly, the reports on chronic health problems and non-communicable diseases are generated and shared in a quarterly basis with the health field team.

**NEXT STEPS:**
- Refine the FHMS and make it more friendly for community groups like the MHSCs
Community Gymnasium

On the request of the women community groups, the project upgraded the gymnasium adjacent to the health clinic with separate timings for use by men and women groups.

**ACTION TAKEN:**
- Since August 2014, AKTC has begun an audit of the maintenance of the gym in which a sanitation team member visits the gym daily to record the status of machines and equipments and cleanliness of the gym.
- 45 women and 70 men use the gym on a regular basis.
- Regular meetings were held with the users of the gym to assess requirements and to finalize list of repairs to existing equipment. New equipments like the treadmill, spin bike, and cross-trainers were procured for the gymnasium.
- The ladies gym instructor has started conducting house visits in order to promote better fitness and health along with increasing the number women who use the gym.

**NEXT STEPS:**
- Conduct meetings with gym users to make facilities better & increase their involvement to handle small issues by them.
- To increase the usage of gymnasium by community members.
- To integrate the gym use within the community health programme.
Public Agencies - 2015

Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)

Dr Rakesh Tewari, Director General
Mr Shharat Sharma, Additional Director-General
Dr B R Mani, Former Additional Director-General
Dr R S Fonia, Joint Director General
Mr Janhwij Sharma, Director (Conservation)
Dr M Nambirajan, Director Monuments
Mr T R Sharma, Regional Director (North)
Mr Daljeet Singh, SA, Delhi Circle
Dr Atul Bhargava, Former SA, Delhi Circle
Mr R.S. Jamwal, Superintending Archaeological Engineer
Mr Ravinder Kumar, Dy. S.A (Horticulture), Delhi Circle
Mr Jagdeep Singh, Sr. Conservation Asst., Humayun’s Tomb
Mr R.K. Jhingan, Former Senior Conservation Asst.
Mr Deependra, Horticulture Asst., Humayun’s Tomb

Central Public Works Department (CPWD)

Mr V K Gupta, Director General
Mr Vijay Motwani, Former Special Director General (NDR)
Mr Upender Mallik, Special Director General (NDR)
Mr Prabhatkar Singh, Additional Director General (NDR)
Dr B C Katiyar, Deputy Director General (Horticulture)
Mr Ashwani Kumar, Director (Works)
Dr B N Srivastava, Director Horticulture (NDR)
Mr Dinesh Nigam, Deputy Director (H), HQ
Mr Satyavir Singh, Assistant Director, Horticulture
Mr V. Kumar, SO, Horticulture

(Above) Dr Rakesh Tiwari (DG, ASI) and Mr. Janhwij Sharma (Director, Conservation, ASI) on a site visit to Azimganj Serai with the AKTC team members
South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC)

Mr. Farhad Suri, Councillor and Leader of the opposition
Dr Puneet Kumar Goel, Commissioner
Mr. G.S. Meena, Additional Commissioner, Health
Ms. Kiran Dabral, Additional Commissioner, Education
Mr. Deepak Hastir, Former Additional Commissioner (Education)
Ms Mona A Sreenivas, Deputy Commissioner, Central Zone
Mr. Rupesh Kumar Thakur, Former Deputy Commissioner, Central Zone
Mr. Feroz Ahmed, Chief Engineer
Dr P K Dash, Additional Director Hospital Administration (Med), Health Department
Mr. N. K. Ghai, Additional Director (Education)
Mr. Rajesh Pathak, Director (Education)
Dr. Rita Sharma, Assistant Director (Education)
Mr. Kanwaljeet, Assistant Deputy Director (Education)- Central Zone
Mr. Babu Lal Meena, School Inspector, Central Zone
Mr. Hans Raj Bharadwaj, School Inspector, Central Zone

(Left) Mr. Farhad Suri, Councillor and Leader of the opposition inaugurating the Apni Basti Mela in the Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti.
AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

Core Team
Mr Ratish Nanda, CEO
Mr Rajpal Singh, Chief Engineer
Ms Jyotsna Lall, Senior Programme Officer, Socio-Economic Initiatives
Mr Gunajit Bhushan, Project Manager
Ms Deepti R Ray, Senior Programme Officer, Cultural Revival
Mr Somak Ghosh, Finance Manager
Ms Archana S Akhtar, Senior Programme Officer, Design & Outreach

Conservation
Mr N.C Thapliyal, Engineer-in-charge
Mr Neetipal Brar, Project Architect
Ms Divya Nandini, Project Architect
Ms Ujwala Menon, Architect
Ms Nikita Sharma, Architect
Mr Anubhav Basak, Architect
Mr Nikul Kumar, Engineer
Mr M C Gautam, Senior Archeological Assistant
Mr Saroj Pandey, Conservation Assistant (Art)
Mr Om Veer, Engineer
Mr Chuttan Lal Meena, Art Conservator
Mr Salauddin Saifi, Co-ordinator, Tile Centre
Mr Om Parkash Gupta, Field Supervisor
Mr Om Parkash Gupta, Field Supervisor

Principal Consultants
Late Prof. M Shaheer, Shaheer Associates, Landscape
Mr Shakeel Hossain
Vir Mueller Architects, Humayun’s Tomb Site Museum
Mr Ashok B Lall, Garden House Design
Mr Ram Rahman, Photography
Mr Mayank Mehta, Video Documentation
Mr Vijendra Nagar, Aerial Photography
Mr Shubham Mishra, GIS Consultant
NIIT Foundation Training Agency conducting courses

(Above) The Project is governed by a Committee comprising all Public - Private Partners: ASI, CPWD, MCD, AKF and AKTC, which meets regularly; (Below) The Project has over 2000 individual craftsmen employed and clocked over 500,000 man-days of work

(Left) Prof. Shaheer with the AKTC Team reviewing the landscape works at the Nila Gumbad.
Socio-Economic Initiatives
Mr Deepak Padhi, Programme Officer, Monitoring & Evaluation
Mr Kishwar Khan, Programme Officer, Vocational Programme & Field Implementation
Mr Hyder Rizvi, Programme Coordinator, Education & School Improvement
Dr Gursimran Kaur, Programme Coordinator, Health
Ms Vardana Puri, Programme Coordinator, Early Childhood Care and Development
Ms Ratna Sahni, Programme Coordinator, Vocational Education
Ms Swati Batra - Co-ordinator – Livelihood
Ms Richa Bisht- Health Co-ordinator
Ms Harshika Saini Dewan - Prog Co-ordinator -ECCD
Mr Syed Faisal Mahmood, Programme Coordinator, Vocational Programme
Ms Rukhsana Khan, Coordinator, Health Outreach
Ms Musarrat, Coordinator, Health Outreach
Ms Seema Bohat, Auxiliary Nurse Midwife
Mr Tilak Raj Chauhan, Pathology Lab Technician
Mr Mohd. Ayaz Khan, Assistant Monitoring & Evaluation

Sundar Nursery Environment Development
Mr N. K. Agarwal, Engineer-In-Charge
Mr Kiran Pal Singh, Horticulture-in-Charge
Mr Vishal Kakkar, Project Engineer
Mr Kapil Mangla, Engineer
Devender Rawat – Junior Engineer
Mr Mukesh Kumar, Junior Engineer
Mr Bijender MaIlk, Site Supervisor
Mr Sandeep Kumar, Horticulture Assistant
Mr Ashish Panwar, Horticulture Assistant
Mr Chhote Lal, Horticulture Supervisor
Mr Kewal Ram, Field Supervisor
Mr Ganeshi Lal, Field Supervisor
Mr Ramesh Singh, Field Supervisor
Mr Suhel Akhtar, Field Supervisor
Mr Ishwar Singh, Field Supervisor
Mr Ahmed Aziz, Field Supervisor

Urban Improvements
Mr M.P.Mishra, Engineer-in-Charge
Mohd. Nayeem, Senior Engineer
Mr Arshad Rizvi, Programme Coordinator-Waste Management
Mr Shani Srivastava, Coordinator – Community Development
Mr Ranjit Kumar, Coordinator – Water & Sanitation
Mr Hugo Ribadeau Dumas, Volunteer, Urban Improvements
Cultural Revival
Prof Yunus Jaffery, External Consultant
Prof Iqtidar Husain Siddiqui, External Consultant
Ms Kanika Kishore Saxena – Research Associate
Mr Amir Ahmed, Coordinator, Sair E Nizamuddin Group
Ms Shivani Gandhi - Programme Co-ordinator- Culture
Mr Pradeep Khusro, Research Associate, Aalam E Khusrau
Mr Sharid Jamal, Research Assistant, Aalam E Khusrau

Administrative
Mr Rupendra Chahar, HR officer
Mr Hardeep Thakur, Admin Manager
Ms Kavita Kanojia, E.A to Project Director
Md. Amil Saifi, IT Officer
Mr Pravin Kumar, IT Assistant
Mr Bharat Sharma, HR Assistant
Mr Nishant Bajpai, Finance Officer
Mr Neeraj Gupta, Finance Officer
Mr Ankit Agarwal, Accounts officer
Mr Prashant Kumar – Account Assistant
Mr Rakesh Kumar, Admin Assistant - Site work
Ms Rabilia, Office Clerk
Mr Balveer Singh, Office Clerk
Mohd Bilal, Electrician
Mr Pappu Arwar, Plumber

Design & Outreach
Mr Narendra Swain, Photo Officer
Mr Shaz Syed, Video Consultant
Mr Rinkesh Rana, Graphic Assistant
Mr Sagar Suri, Graphic Assistant
Mr Dinesh Patial, Project Archivist
Mr Faisal Fahim, Project Assistant Archivist
Md. Kabeer, Video Consultant
Mr Himanshu Dhanda, Video Consultant

Master-Craftsmen
Dhani Ram, Field Supervisor
Attar Singh, Stone craftsmen Supervisor
Babu Lal Supervisor cum Storekeeper
Amirak, Master Craftsmen

Tile Centre
Rahimuddin; Asif Ahmad Ansari; Abdul Hafiz; Rajendra Kumar Sorampil; Md. Asif; Shoib Abbas; Md. Wakil; Md. Imran; Md. Amir; Khustar Ali; Md. Kamal Hussain; Abdul Rehman; Asif Ali
Community Health Outreach – Sehat Saheli

Community, Access, Subject Enrichment and ECCD Teachers

Career Development Centre
Nazia Khan, Abdul Rahim, Nasreen, Sayra Begum, Sehnaz

Insha E Noor Crafts Centre
Reshma, Instructor-Embroidery
Alka Thakur, Instructor- Stitching
Mohd. Islam, Consultant- Stitching Master
Ms Fehmina Baki, Coordinator, NOOR

Community-based waste management
Sayyad Sajid Ali, Anisa, Mohd. Rafiq
Mobin, Munisha Begum, Saida, Rahima Khatoon, Shahida

Community based toilet management
Mohd. Shariquddin, Surinder, Anil Jha, Sameena, Sajrul Nisa

Community Capacity building on Urban services and environment
Nighat Parveen, Mohd. Salman, Mohd. Shawan
'India is privileged to benefit from the continuing existence of traditional masons, crafts persons, carvers, etc., who pursue their traditional practices in different parts of the country and ‘... (Craftsperson) can play a great role in the conservation process as they are living repositories of building and artistic traditions which have been sustained through generations. Their role in conserving a monument is thus paramount.'

ASI NATIONAL POLICY FOR CONSERVATION, 2014, Article, 6.01.