THE NATIONAL MUSEUM
OF ARCHITECTURE
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1.1 Introduction

The proposal for instituting a Museum of Architecture has been under discussion for a few years. GREHA, a registered society, working in the field of architecture, environmental design, and development of human habitat, took on the responsibility of conceiving a Museum of Architecture, which will raise public awareness of this discipline, which affects our lives in significant ways on a daily basis.

GREHA

Since its inception in 1974, GREHA has concentrated on the growth of knowledge in the field of environmental development, habitat design and architecture. The thrust of GREHA’s efforts has been towards addressing issues of the majority of the population; the focus was the marginalized people in rural and urban settlements; the vehicle was developing knowledge and methodologies concerning settlement systems more suited to our history and cultural context.

Projects

GREHA has generated and been involved with various projects in the past, ranging from symposiums and comprehensive reports prepared for different governmental and non-governmental agencies, to instituting a school of architecture and an urban renewal initiative.

List of projects:

**Aya Nagar Development Project, January 2009**
An initiative of ‘urban renewal by citizens’ carried out by GREHA and funded by Delhi Kalyan Samiti.

**Can our Cities Survive, January 2006**
A Seminar organized by GREHA at the Faculty of Architecture and Ekistics, Jamia Millia Islamia New Delhi, in collaboration with International Association for Humane Habitat (IAHH), and Indian Institute of Architects (Northern Chapter)

**Aya Nagar Whole Village Development Plan, January 2000**
A research study for Delhi Government.

**Design and the Classical Indian Tradition, January 1999**
A workshop held by GREHA at the Indian National Trust for Art & Cultural Heritage (INTACH), New Delhi.
New Directions in Architectural Education, January 1999
An international symposium organized by GREHA, held at Human Settlement Management Institute (HSMI), New Delhi.

Development of Habitat Schools in India, January 1989
A report prepared for Human Settlements Management Institute of HUDCO Formal outcome of the HUDCO-GREHA Proposal for Restructuring Technical Education to meet the requirements of Human Settlements, designed to restructure Architectural Education in India.

Curriculum Development for Habitat Schools, January 1989
Part of a proposal by GREHA for HUDCO, in collaboration with the Slum Wing DDA, to establish a Habitat Polytechnic, which will provide a three year diploma course in Habitat Engineering, as an adjunct to the Building Centre, Nizamuddin, New Delhi; to be extended to a 5 year undergraduate course in Architecture and Habitat Design.

Guidelines for Conservation Works, January 1988
Prepared by GREHA for the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH), New Delhi.

TVB School of Habitat Studies, January 1988
Establishment of an AICTE and CoA recognized institute for architectural studies in New Delhi, to bridge the unhealthy gap that has developed between the expectations of well-being for society at large and the norms and values of professional practice and behaviour.

Innovative Approaches to Urban Development, January 1987
A report prepared by GREHA for the Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) and National Commission on Urbanization, Government of India.

Non-Conventional Approaches to Shelter the Urban Poor - Local and International Experiences, January 1981
A series of seminars organized across India - in Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Hyderabad and Ahmedabad by Ahmedabad Study Action Group (ASAG) and Selavip International; with GREHA responsible for the Delhi Seminar.

Middle Income Housing: A Study of 15 Projects in India, February 1975
Prepared for HUDCO

Issue of Seminar (08) - The Architect in India, August 1974
Problem Statement and curating of articles/content.
1.2 Partner Organizations

The need for this museum is recognized by the organizations and institutes that have agreed to partner GREHA in this venture:

Council of Architecture (COA)

About COA
The Council of Architecture (COA) has been constituted by the Government of India under the provisions of the Architect’s Act, 1972, enacted by the Parliament of India, which came into force on 1st September, 1972. The Act provides for registration of architects, standards of education, recognized qualifications and standards of practice to be complied with by the practicing architects. The Council of Architecture is charged with the responsibility to regulate the education and practice of profession throughout India besides maintaining the register of architects. For this purpose, the Government of India has framed Rules and Council of Architecture has framed Regulations as provided for in the Architects Act, with the approval of Government of India.

There are about 385 institutions, which impart architectural education in India leading to recognized qualifications. The standards of education being imparted in these institutions (constituent colleges/departments of universities, deemed universities, affiliated colleges/schools, IITs, NITs and autonomous institutions) is governed by Council of Architecture (Minimum Standards of Architectural Education) Regulations, 1983, which set forth the requirement of eligibility for admission, course duration, standards of staff and accommodation, course content, examination et cetera. These standards as provided in the said Regulations are required to be maintained by the institutions. The COA oversees the maintenance of the standards periodically by way of conducting inspections through Committees of Experts. The COA is required to keep the Central Government informed of the standards being maintained by the institutions and is empowered to make recommendations to the Government of India with regard to recognition and de-recognition of a qualification.

Indian Institute of Architects (IIA)

About IIA
The Indian Institute of Architects (IIA) is the national body of Architects in the country. Having started in the year 1917, the institute today has more than 15000 members.
The institute has a major role to play in promoting the profession of architecture by organizing and uniting in fellowship the Architects of India to promote aesthetic, scientific and practical efficiency of the profession both in Practice and in Education. IIA is represented on various national and international committees connected with architecture, art and the building industry and is also actively associated with International Union of Architects (UIA), Commonwealth Association of Architects (CAA) and South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation of Architects (SAARCH).

IIA Chapters
IIA has chapters all over the country:

NORTHERN REGION
Chandigarh Punjab Chapter Ludhiana Centre
Haryana Chapter Faridabad Centre
Gurgaon Centre
Panchkula Sub-Centre
Uttar Pradesh Chapter Jammu Centre
Noida Centre

WESTERN REGION
Goa Chapter
Maharashtra Chapter Akola Centre Nasik Centre
Aurangabad Centre Navi Mumbai Centre
Brihan Mumbai Centre Pune Centre
Dhule Centre Sangli Centre
Jalgaon Centre Satara Centre
Kalyan Centre Solapur Centre
Kolhapur Centre Thane Centre
Nagpur Centre Chandrapur Sub-Centre
Gondia Sub-Centre

CENTRAL REGION
Gujarat Chapter Ahmedabad Centre Surat Centre
Vadodara Centre Chaotar Sub-Centre
Saurashtra Centre
Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH)

About INTACH
The Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) is India’s largest non-profit membership organization dedicated to conservation and preservation of India’s natural, cultural, living, tangible and intangible heritage.

INTACH has been working in the field of cultural heritage documentation, listing, archiving, creating websites and making this information available, most of times at no cost or very little cost for the logistics, at their headquarters in New Delhi.

They have about one hundred and eighty-five state and regional chapters all over the country.

INTACH has both International and National Chapters.
International

01. INTACH Belgium Chapter

02. INTACH UK Chapter

National

03. JAMMU AND KASHMIR Kashmir, Ladakh, Chamba, Jammu

04. HIMACHAL PRADESH Chamba, Kangra, Shimla, Kinnaur Lahaul and Spiti (trans-Himalaya chapter), Mandi

05. PUNJAB Amritsar, Faridkot, Bhatinda, Kapurthala, Patiala, Malerkotla

06. HARYANA Ambala, Palwal, Gurgaon, Rewari, Kurukshetra, Mohindergarh, Rohtak, Sonipat, Yamuna Nagar, Chandigarh, Mewat, Panipat

07. UTTARAKHAND Nainital, Haridwar, Dehradun, PauriGarhwal

08. UTTAR PRADESH Mahoba, Rohilkhand, Varanasi, Agra, Allahabad, Brajbhoomi, Banda, Kanpur, LakhimpurKheri, Noida-Greater Noida, Lucknow, Orai, Lalitpur, Meerut, Gorakhpur-Poorvanchal

09. RAJASTHAN Baran, Jhalawar, Kota, Nagaur, Udaipur, Bikaner, Bundi, SawaiMadhopur, Sirohi, Ajmer, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Marwar/Jodhpur, Shekhawati, Dungapur, Barmer, Bhilwara, Rajsamand, Karauli

10. WEST BENGAL: Kolkata, Shantiniketan, Diamond Harbour, Darjeeling

11. SIKKIM

12. ASSAM

13. MEGHALAYA

14. NAGALAND

15. MANIPUR
16. MIZORAM

17. TRIPURA

18. ORISSA Balasore, Bhubneshwar, Cuttack, Mayurbhanj, Sambalpur, Bhadrakh, Ganjam, Koraput

19. BIHAR Patna

20. JHARKHAND Hazaribagh, Ranchi

21. CHHATTISGARH Raipur, Bilaspur, Kawardha, Sarguja, Sarangarh-Raigarh, Korea

22. MADHYA PRADESH Bhopal, Gwalior, Rewa, Morena, Jabalpur, Chanderi, Shivpuri, Orchha, Indore, Burhanpur, Datia, Mandia, Khajuraho, Khandwa

23. GUJARAT Ahmedabad, Jamnagar, Mehsana, Rajpipla, Vadodara, Jhalavad, Surat

24. MAHARASHTRA Greater Bombay, Pune, Aurangabad, Dahanu, Nashik, Chandrapur, Nanded, Nagpur, Solapur

25. GOA

26. TELANGANA Hyderabad, Mahabubnagar

27. ANDHRA PRADESH Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, Telangana, Greater Hyderabad, Anantapur, Warangal, Kadapa, Kurnool, Machlipatnam, Vizianagaram

28. KARNATAKA Mysore, Udipi, Bangalore, Coorg, Bijapur, Bagalkot, Dharwad, Belgaun, Anegundi, Gulbarga

29. TAMIL NADU Chennai, Nilgiris, Coimbatore, Thanjavur, Nagercoil, Madurai, Kodaikanal, Salem

30. KERALA: Kollam, Calicut, Cochin, Trivandrum, Kasargod, Thrissur
1.3 Policy Objectives

Architecture is an ancient discipline, and the results of its thinking and endeavor provide us with some of the most lasting examples of our culture. Our monuments, cities, and villages speak of our culture and civilization over the longest span of time. Yet, and possibly by an accident of history, the representation of architecture and its role in our society has not flowered.

It is to bridge this gap in understanding between the profession and society that the National Museum of Architecture is needed.

In 1972, the Government of India recognized the profession of architecture by enacting the Architects Act to constitute the Council of Architecture, in order to prescribe standards of professional conduct, and minimum standards of architectural education for professional recognition. It may be noted that architecture is one of only four professions in the country governed by a Central Act, the others being medicine, accountancy, and law.

- We have developed nearly 400 architecture colleges in the country, and today we are adding almost twenty five thousand qualified architects every year to our workforce.

- The creative potential of this expanding talent pool cannot be adequately realized if the public to be served is not aware of how the knowledge of architecture can benefit the lives of ordinary people in significant ways.

- Architecture provides guiding principles for building development and the design of cities we inhabit. We are told by scientists that the way we build our cities is responsible in a large part for adverse climate change on the planet in modern times. Traditional and vernacular building knowledge and practices followed a more ecologically viable path, and this needs to be showcased for contemporary society.

- The urbanization taking place in our country is a sign of progress. However the benefits of urbanization are not shared equally by all sections of our society. The design of our cities is an architectural challenge, which can show the way for a more humane paradigm for infrastructure development.
The Indian sub-continent has produced a civilization that is rich with cultural variation. This is evident in the geography, in terms of physical features, in the history, in terms of the great monuments built over a very long span of recorded history, and in the profound ethical teachings which inform our spiritual tradition. However, in recent times this great variety is producing a medley of styles and approaches which are confusing and disharmonious, leading to increasing social strife. Systematic research is needed to establish cultural coherence in this milieu and rediscover the unifying spirit which sustained this civilization over centuries. The museum can provide the matrix for such research and theoretical enquiry.

A museum is a place where everyone, with or without qualification, can enter and be inspired by the stories and representation of our past and present. The National Museum of Architecture will allow us to imagine our future in a way that benefits the majority, which is a great challenge facing us today in the development of our buildings and cities.
2 SCOPE

2.1 Nature Of The Institution

A museum is normally a building which houses objects and information packaged in different ways. Since architecture is the subject of the museum being proposed, and architecture deals primarily with building, it is necessary to re-imagine the form of a museum of architecture. What kind of building will house buildings and information about building?

The Indian sub-continent has produced an extraordinary range of examples of architecture over as long a period of time as recorded in history. This range is enriched by a cultural variety, possibly a by-product of the different environmental conditions within which the architecture evolved and flowered. The geography of the subcontinent offers environmental variations of habitat, from mountains, to deserts, to river basins, to coastal plains, to rain forests, to the Deccan highlands, to offshore islands, all within the span of a day’s journey by surface transport.

The culture is also informed by philosophical and ethical systems of great profundity like Vedanta, Yoga and Buddhism, as well as Sufism, Christianity and Sikhism. The architectural expression of this rich mix of physical and intellectual conditions is difficult to imagine as being housed in one building in a singular location. It would be more appropriate to think of a network of locations in different parts of the subcontinent, with a common agenda of providing inspiration about architecture to diverse publics, professionals and experts, trade and industry personnel, as well as lay persons.

It is difficult to define a consensus among architects today as to what constitutes architecture as a distinct discipline and expression. It is therefore not surprising that there is a lack of clarity in the public awareness of architecture. Our much celebrated cultural diversity does not help in defining the intrinsic qualities of architecture which distinguish it from building construction and craft, civil engineering and ‘beautification’ of the physical environment. The National Museum of Architecture can provide the inspiration for our understanding and appreciation of the built environment in terms of history as well as contemporary reality. The network of museums we imagine is not just a building for storage and display of objects and information about architecture. It will provide the matrix for an understanding of this ancient discipline as a living tradition.
Architecture Gallery, Victoria and Albert Museum; (Source: http://www.vam.ac.uk/page/a/architecture/)
2.2 Collection

As in any museum, there will be a permanent collection consisting of architectural drawings, photographs, models, samples of relevant architectural products and elements, video/films showing the processes of construction and the life of the building site, biographical data of architects, builders, artisans, and master craftsmen, from different time periods which constitute our history.

2.2.1 Collection of Museums Worldwide

A selection from the collections is on show in the Architecture gallery at the V&A. Opened in 2004, this is the first museum gallery in the country dedicated to architecture in the UK. It provides an accessible and engaging introduction to the art, use and practice of architecture.

On display are models, drawings and designs, and samples of materials, as well as photographs and fragments of buildings. Interpretation includes audio commentaries, interactive style guides, videos and touch objects.

The Architecture gallery is organized around five themes:

The Art of Architecture

The art of architecture explores the history and ideas behind architectural styles. A superb collection of artefacts and illustrations is on display, grouped by period and spanning world cultures. Find out about architectural styles including buildings that are Asian, Spanish Islamic, Classical, Gothic, and Modernist.

Discover the ideas that lie behind these great traditions. Highlights on show include a capital from the Pantheon, a model of the interior of the Alhambra and a model of the Tempietto in Rome.

The Function of Buildings

The Function of Buildings looks at the way in which the design of a building is informed by its function and the demands of climate.

Informed by function

See how homes around the world support daily routines, and how local traditions fashion their design.
The library, Victoria and Albert Museum of Architecture (Source: janolofbengtsson.com)
Discover how public buildings affect our movements and influence our emotions.

Find out how the design of airports and stations, churches and shopping malls compel us to move swiftly or encourage us to linger.

See how religious buildings reflect the symbolism of belief.

Find out how places of work are designed to increase efficiency and impress the business community.

Responding to climate

Find out how architects and builders respond to the demands of climate.

Learn about the materials and methods that have been used to make buildings weatherproof.

See how the problems of heating, cooling and ventilation have been resolved over the centuries and how they are tackled today.

The Function of Buildings

Two problems have to be solved by all building construction:

how to keep the walls up

how to span the spaces between them

See how the use of solid walls such as brick and stone has produced chunky low-rise buildings.

Learn how frame structures have been used to create tall buildings, clad with a range of materials from wattle and daub to glass.

Discover how architects and builders have developed arches, vaults and domes to span wide roof spaces.

Architects and Architecture

All buildings are designed by someone. For centuries people have designed and created their own buildings. Today designing and building is a complex team effort.

Find out about the roles played by clients, architects, builders and engineers over the centuries.

Follow the architectural process from first ideas through to the finished design.

See how the processes of creation, development, presentation and building have evolved.
The building for Canadian Centre for Architecture; (Source: Wikipedia)

The library, Canadian Centre for Architecture; (Source: Museum website)
Examine a huge range of sketches, models and drawings used by architects to show original concepts, develop original concepts, develop stable structures, present ideas to clients and communicate with contractors.

Compare traditional drawing instruments with the use of Computer Aided Design (CAD) today.

Buildings in Context

Discover the history of Trafalgar Square, the symbolic heart of London.

It is the backdrop to public demonstrations. It is the place from where all distances to London are measured.

Yet it was not designed at one point in time.

Follow the growth of Trafalgar Square through original maps and views, from 1730 to the present day.

See how the landscape has changed.

Collections and Archives in the Canadian Centre for Architecture, Canada

Unparalleled in scope, the 100,000 prints and drawings, more than 60,000 photographs, 150 archives, 215,000 volumes, and over 5,000 periodical titles comprise dynamically interrelated bodies of primary and secondary materials that advance thinking about the nature of the built domain and the ideas that underlie it.

The guiding purpose of the Collection is to make comprehensive and integrated bodies of material available for advanced, interdisciplinary research in order to reveal the changing character of thought and observation pertaining to the built world, provide evidence in depth of cultural and intellectual circles of the past, and point to the future of architectural thinking and practice.

The CCA holds one of the world’s foremost international research collections of publications, conceptual studies, drawings, plans, models, prints, photographs, related artefacts and ephemera, archives and oral histories of individual architects.

There are also a number of unique CCA collections, one of close to 800 architectural toys and games, one of over 5,000 architectural trade catalogues from the late 18th through the 20th century, and one of over 850 souvenir models representing architectural structures and monuments. A strong collection has been formed of literature on 20th century Modernism and avant-garde architecture which is supported by an outstanding collection of architectural periodicals, one of the Library’s principal assets as an active research library.
Temporary exhibitions and exterior, Deutsches Architektur Museum, Frankfurt (Source: Museum website)
Access to important collections of drawings (e.g. RIBA Architectural Library drawings collection; architectural drawings in the Victoria & Albert Museum; architectural and ornamental drawings in Sir John Soane’s Museum, etc.) and photographic materials and documentation (e.g. The Conway Library; History of Photography collection of periodicals, etc.) is available through microform surrogates.

A vertical file collection, begun in 1985, includes ephemeral material such as exhibition announcements and invitations, as well as photocopies of newspaper clippings relating to architecture, principally from the Montréal newspapers and the New York Times. Comprises over 2,550 files on individual architects, extensive files relating to Montréal and files on many architecture-related subjects covered in the popular press.

More than 148 archives of architects and artists document architecture, urbanism, and landscape design of the 20th and 21st centuries. Among the international archives are those of the architects Peter Eisenman, John Hejduk, Greg Lynn (the digital files for the Embryological House project), Cedric Price, Aldo Rossi, James Stirling/Michael Wilford, and the artist Gordon Matta-Clark. The bulk of the archives are of Canadian architects and firms, particularly those from Québec.


Collections and Archives in the Deutsches Architektur Museum, Germany

200,000 architectural plans, drawings and sketches, 1320 models as well as pictures and items of furniture, there is a small selection of drawings of the 18th and 19th century, but the main focus is on 20th century architecture that includes works by Giambattista Piranesi and Gottfried Semper, Louis I. Kahn, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Hans Scharoun, Hans Poelzig and Ernst May, or for example Aldo Rossi, Rem Koolhaas, Frank O. Gehry and Norman Foster.
The building of CITE, Paris (Source: Wikipedia)

Exhibition space at CITE (Canal Academie Blog)
Works of painters such as Ben Willikens, Martin Kippenberger and Christo are also part of the Collection.

The DAM currently holds more than 33 estates, including the archives of Hannes Meyer, Mart Stam and Heinz Bienefeld. Exhibits of the Collection are presented at some of the DAM venues. The Collection also lends to museums all around the world for exhibition purposes.

Collections and Archives in Cité de l’Architecture et du Patrimoine

The Centre acquires the archives collections of French architects, urban planners or decorators active from the end of the 19th century to the present day. It has about 360 archives collections (deposited in trust by the National Archives or the Academy of Architecture), representing the many periods and trends of 20th-century French architecture. The archives include hundreds of thousands of plans, drawings, photographs, models (about 600 pieces), written files on projects and many personal documents: the whole currently represents 7 km of shelves of documents. The presentation of the collection, the biographies as well as the illustrated inventories can be consulted via the application “ArchiWebture”, an Internet version of the Archives Centre data base.
Top left: Workshop conducted in Canadian Centre of architecture; (source museum website)
Top right: Workshop conducted at Shchusev Museum of Architecture, Moscow; (Source: Museum Instagram Page)
Bottom right: Workshop conducted in Canadian Centre of architecture; (source museum website)
Bottom left: The Swiss Museum has specialized in temporary exhibition; (source: museum website)
2.3 Other Activities Besides Display (Events)

The collection will be amplified by a series of events, like specially curated shows, exhibitions of the works of significant architects, thematic architectural fairs, guided tours of architectural works - both historic and contemporary exemplars, workshops for special groups, especially school children, and symposia for the professional community to include allied disciplines like engineering and social sciences.

The overarching principle in such collaborations and events will be to make the public at large more aware of the special qualities of the architectural enterprise, its physical manifestations and its guiding spirit, its potential to benefit society, and the intrinsic relationship of the man-made with natural systems.

Existing models worldwide:
Museums worldwide have been conducting, apart from guided architecture tours, educational programmes. For instance, V&A London, has dedicated V&A + RIBA Study & Teaching Rooms. The Victoria & Albert and the RIBA provide study facilities and teaching rooms at the V&A offering access to an outstanding resource of architectural material.

One can view items from the collections in the study rooms. The rooms are open to adults and children alike. Specialists are on hand to assist individual researchers. An appointment system will operate. A teaching room is available for use by groups. It can hold 12 seated visitors or 20-24 standing visitors for presentations without tables.

The collections available comprise:
The RIBA’s collection of drawings and archives
The V&A’s collection of drawings, photographs and prints
Top: Exhibition Space, Swiss Museum of Architecture (source: museum website)
Bottom: Cafe in Museum of Architecture in Vienna (source: museum website)
The École de Chaillot of Cité de l’Architecture et du Patrimoine
The École de Chaillot of Cité de l’Architecture et du Patrimoine today proposes specialized training on conservation, restoration or the re-use of the architectural, urban and landscape heritage. Attentive to the evolution of the heritage concept and its broadening, it has developed teaching that ranges from historic monuments and centres to “ordinary” heritage. About 200 architects are trained each year in France and abroad. Nearly 400 people have attended the public courses and training sessions for clients set up this year. The teaching team is composed of five associate professors and 60 or so teachers and lecturers.

The Swiss Museum of Architecture
S AM has specialized in temporary exhibitions. With an average of 4 exhibitions each year, oriented towards the key program elements “interdisciplinary” and “history and the present”, S AM appeals to professionals (architects, engineers and planners), but also, primarily, to a broad public with an interest in architecture. The exhibitions’ content is reflected on and supplemented by means of guided tours, podium discussions, talks, workshops, work presentations, accompanying publications from the S AM series etc.

The exhibitions are intended for both a professional as well as a broad public interested in architecture.
3 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

3.1 Context

The existing institutions which provide interface between the architectural profession and the public are the Indian Institute of Architects and the Council of Architecture. Both these are primarily engaged in professional activities, to facilitate or regulate architectural practice or to set standards for architectural education. The link between society and architecture is not being nurtured by any institution. This relationship, crucial for the healthy development of the profession requires interaction of several institutions as well as academia, and the proposed museum can provide the framework for such inter-institutional collaboration.

The diversity of vernacular building traditions has been mentioned in the earlier section 2.1 ‘nature of the institution’. These traditions have emerged on account of the diversity of environmental conditions present on the sub-continent, and they can be located in different regions of the country. It will be fitting if these building types are showcased in the region where they have emerged. It is therefore important to imagine the National Museum of Architecture as a network of regional museums located in cities across the land. The cultural richness and diversity, which is an inherent part of our civilization, will be celebrated in this manner.

Once we accept the idea of a network of museums, the need for a coordinating function becomes real. It is important to maintain intellectual coherence within the matrix of regional diversity. The purpose and scope of the initiating, coordinating institution located in Delhi, becomes more complex than just storage and display. The learning dimension assumes the guiding principle for designing the collection of the museum.

The outreach of the Museum will be extended via the worldwide web. This could be initiated at the earliest by starting a website specially designed for interaction with the public at large. More specialized outreach will be conducted by devising joint programmes with a network of collaborating institutions, such as the National Museum, National Crafts Museum, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, National Science Museum, Museum of Man, Tribal Arts Museum, Auroville Earth Institute, Kalakshetra, the Asiatic Society, Hunnarshala, Sulabh International, and so many others across the country, in both public and the private sector.
Already there are at least two initiatives that have been taken for establishing museums of architecture in India, one in Hyderabad and the other in Goa. Possibilities are being mentioned in Pune, Mumbai, and other cities. There are also architectural archives being created, one at CEPT University and another at the website ‘Architexturez’. All these initiatives and efforts need to communicate with each other and find a common platform for enhancing reach and accessibility.

The National Museum of Architecture can coordinate regional and other efforts, while encouraging the link with society in general.

The overarching principle in such collaborations and events will be to make the public at large more aware of the special qualities of the architectural enterprise, its physical manifestations and its guiding spirit, its potential to benefit society, and the intrinsic relationship of the man-made with natural systems.
3.2 Constitution

Given the complex set of requirements for the establishment of the National Museum of Architecture, it is important to carefully examine the legal framework for the constitution of the proposed institution. For this purpose the specialized opinion of a leading firm of Advocates and Barristers, noted for their expertise in corporate matters, was sought.

The salient issues were outlined as follows:

» The proposed Museum should become an institution of excellence, to compare with the best in the world.

» It should be autonomous in its functioning, with control and management in the hands of architectural experts, who will have veto power on policy issues.

» It should have flexibility to network and collaborate with other bodies having similar aims and objectives, both national and international.

» It should be able to receive funds, objects and artefacts from the Central and State governments, from non-government agencies, private Trusts and Foundations, as well as from private individuals, with the proviso that this will not control or influence management policy.

» It should be able to initiate and conduct study and research on architectural history, theory, and related subjects; such works should be published either by the Museum directly or by outsourcing to reputed publishers. It should also be able to publish newsletters, journals, and other documents informing the general public of its activities.
The opinion received from the legal experts examined the various possibilities of a legal framework and recommended as follows:

“Looking at the possible risk attending the other alternative organizational structures recommended and the perceived stability and continuity of a statutory regime and organization, it appears to us that it would be obviously preferable to create an organizational structure within the umbrella or frame work of Council of Architecture as set up under the Architects Acts, 1972.

It was observed in this connection that Regulation 22 of the Council of Architecture Regulations, 1982 provides for the appointment of a Special committee(s) by the Council in the following terms:

1. The Council may, at any time on the adoption of a motion to this effect constitute a committee or committees consisting of any number of its members or resolve itself into a committee for the consideration of any business.

2. The Council shall define the functions of the Committee and the number of members to be appointed or elected.

3. The said Committees shall have the powers to co-opt additional member or members not exceeding three in each case without prior approval of the President.

4. (a) If the number of members proposed as members of the Committee does not exceed the total numbers to form the Committee, the members so proposed shall be appointed as members of the Committee.
    (b) If the number of members so proposed exceeds the total number of members to form the Committee, ballot shall be held and the requisite number of members who obtain the largest number of votes shall be appointed.

5. The President and Vice-President shall be ex-officio members of the Committees constituted by the Council and shall act as Chairman and Vice-Chairman of these Committees.
6. The quorum for a Committee constituted by the Council shall not be less than one-third of the total number of the members of the Committee.

7. Proceedings of the said Committees shall be in accordance with the regulation, provided that it may at any time be relaxed at the discretion of the Chairman of the Committee.

8. The Committee shall submit its report to the Executive Committee.

From these provisions it will be observed that the Council can appoint a Committee of perpetual existence to be nominated partly by the President of the Council or the Executive Committee to apply and to obtain from the relevant authority land to set up the Museum of Architecture at New Delhi and/or elsewhere in India in the name of the Council, and to establish, manage and operate the Museum(s) with in power Committee to raise or arrange funds for the purpose, and regulate its own affairs, including the appointment of consultants, staff and professionals and the exercise of powers necessary to perform its functions and duties.”

The recommendations makes it clear that the Council of Architecture and GREHA need to enter into a legally binding agreement in order to set up the Museum(s). The detailed terms of such an agreement have to be negotiated and finalized. It would be advisable to start this process at the earliest with the help of the legal expert engaged for writing the opinion, as well as any other experts the CoA may think fit.
4.1 Land
A 1.3 hectare, vacant institutional site, belonging to the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has been identified. This is located in Lado Sarai, close to the Qutb Complex and the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi with good access from the Mehrauli Badarpur Road. The site will need to be allotted to the Council of Architecture for the express purpose of establishing the National Museum of Architecture (NMOA).

4.2 Buildings And Infrastructure
Once the land allotment process has been completed, a team of consultants headed by an architect, will need to be appointed through a selection process which is guided and monitored by the CoA to design an appropriate campus for the NMOA. Interior design and engineering consultants will also need to be appointed. The campus and buildings should be designed as an excellent example of the built environment suited to our time, place and culture.

4.3 Collections
Relevant architectural collections will need to be acquired nationally as well as globally to form the permanent collection of the Museum. This would form a part (say half) of the complete display space available. The remainder could be available for themed shows specially curated by invitation to leading thinkers and practitioners of architecture (including settlement planning, landscape design, urban design, architectural conservation, interior design), building engineering (including structural design, mechanical, electrical and plumbing design, construction management), building product designers, experts from the arts and humanities (including theatre and performing arts), scientists (including social and political scientists) and technology experts (including artificial intelligence and information technology), as well as eminent social activists and community workers. There will also be a calendar of events organized at the coordinating centre in New Delhi as well as the regional centers to provide interface with the general public to place the discipline of architecture in the mainstream of public life. This program could be started by launching an Architecture Mela in the historic precincts adjoining Mehrauli and adjacent archaeological sites.

4.4 Staff And Personnel
An appropriate management, administrative and operational structure will need to be created for efficiency and clarity of purpose. This will rely on the careful selection of a team of experts and administrators, as a mix of full-time and part-time contracted staff. The full-time staff may be kept to a minimum number to encourage the development of a close-knit core team resembling a familial community.
4.5 Expenditure
An initial estimate of costs of approx. Rs. 1200 Crores spread over 5 years is presented below.

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>YEAR 1</th>
<th>YEAR 2</th>
<th>YEAR 3</th>
<th>YEAR 4</th>
<th>YEAR 5</th>
<th>REMARKS</th>
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### INR Rs. Crores

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<th>YEAR 3</th>
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<th>REMARKS</th>
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**NOTE:** Inflation taken at 7% per annum with Year 1 as base
Recurring Property Taxes Extra
India has been urbanizing at a rapid rate. By the middle of this century, a majority of the country’s population will be living in urban areas.

The provision of shelter and building infrastructure in our cities will also create the conditions for upgradation of the built environment in rural settlements, with the differences in living conditions between urban and rural being gradually eliminated.

This calls for a new understanding of our architectural capabilities and their alignment with societal conditions and aspirations. The task requires unflinching motivation informed by authentic inspiration. We believe that the National Museum of Architecture can provide the matrix for such motivation and inspiration to emerge from a deep understanding of the history of our own architecture and its relevance and place in contemporary conditions.

It is important to reiterate that the proposed Museum will be much more than a repository of ancient objects and artefacts. It will be a network of inspirational sites, some housed in restored historical structures and others in contemporary created ones, which can become centres of learning for everyone, young and old, rich and poor, native and cosmopolitan, to enter a carefully curated world, which relies on ancient values to inspire the creation of a future based on our indigenous reality. A future in which the energies of our very large number of ordinary people are directed towards a harmonious and humane built environment, which can be an example for the whole world.
CREDITS

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