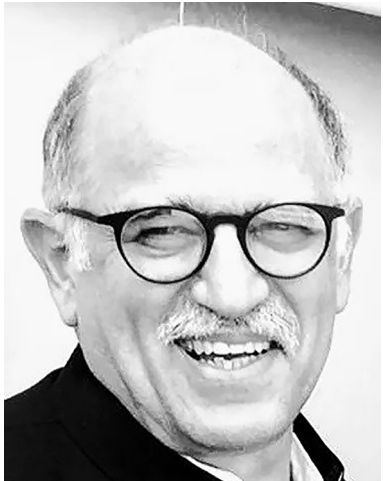


Ar(s) Meena Mani and Anuraag Chowfla
of Mani Chowfla Architects and
Consultants’ “green” campus of
The Sagar School at Tijara

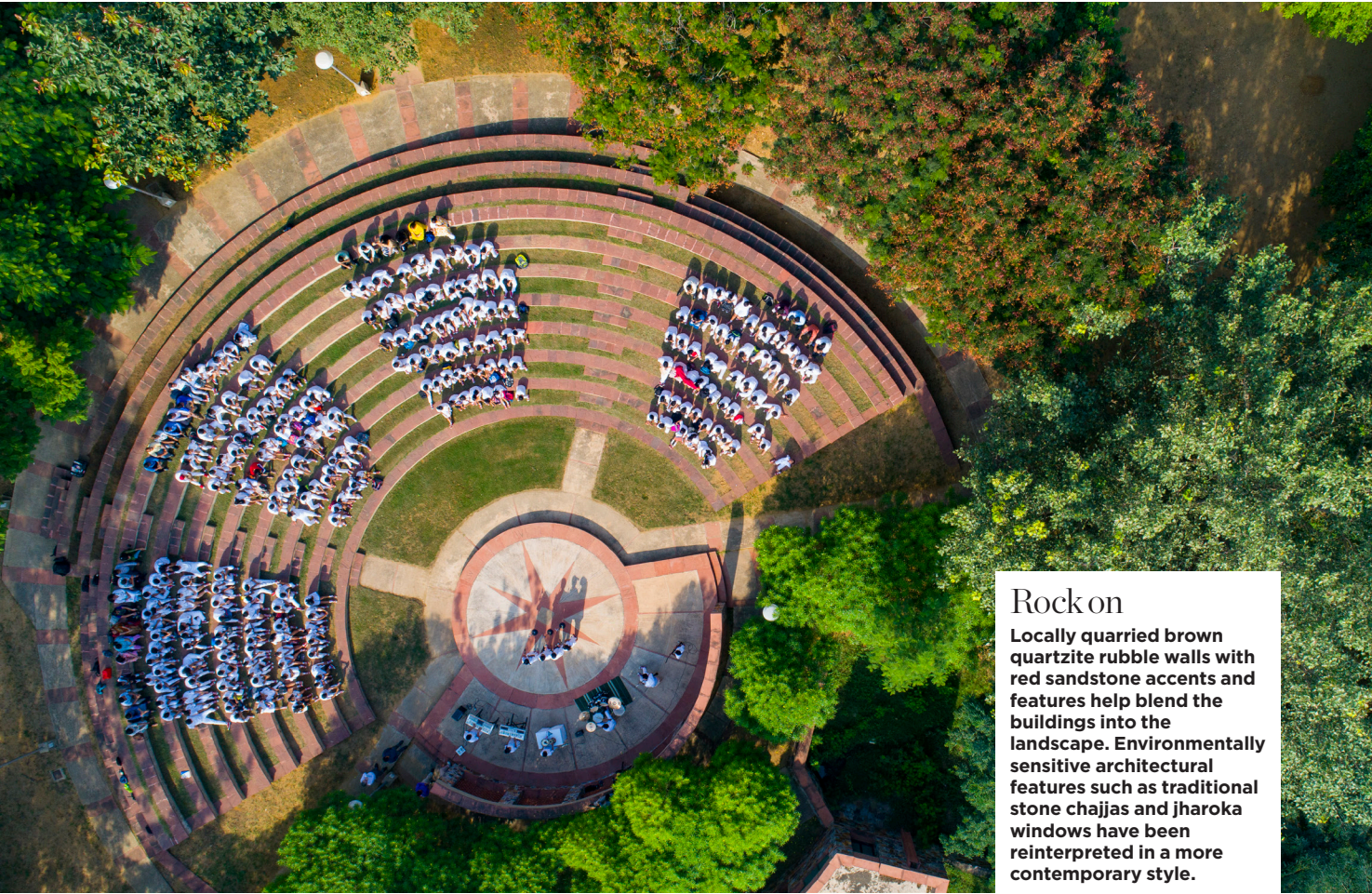
Photography / Andre Fanthome



Spread over an area of nine acres the India Habitat Centre campus has been created like an island of architectural excellence in Delhi. The campus weaves in a unique interplay of institutions, supporting infrastructure and facilities such as conference venues, auditorium, hospitality areas, the library and resource centre, and art galleries.



Ar. Meena Mani and Ar. Anuraag Chowfla, Mani Chowfla Architects



Rock on

Locally quarried brown quartzite rubble walls with red sandstone accents and features help blend the buildings into the landscape. Environmentally sensitive architectural features such as traditional stone chajjas and jharoka windows have been reinterpreted in a more contemporary style.



Looking for architectural solutions while being mindful of local climate, material and context, at the same time incorporating humanist values in the built environment, has been the design philosophy of Mani Chowfla Architects and Consultants. Spearheaded by Ar. Meena Mani and Ar. Anuraag Chowfla, they represent over 70 years of experience in design and execution of many landmark structures, such as India Habitat Centre, New Delhi (as part of Ar. Joseph Allen Stein’ team); The Shri Ram School, Gurugram; India International Centre Annexe, New Delhi; Polyplex Corporate Park, Noida; Seelampur metro station, Delhi; and Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode.

Another such project is the fully residential co-educational The Sagar School at Tijara, NCR that is a two-hour drive from the Delhi airport. Set in the rural setting with the historic Tijara Fort and a Jain temple as its neighbours, the campus is a self-sufficient community with academic buildings, student, faculty and staff housing, dining block, auditorium, laundry and other common facilities, including a wide range of indoor and outdoor sports. It is also one of the few schools that can boast of a well-equipped modern astronomy observatory.

The 164-acre campus has a couple of natural storm water channels that run across the site — there were the guiding factor in the Master Plan design. Buildings are located on ridges with swales guiding rainwater into these channels. Check dams and a network of harvesting pits help recharge the aquifer. Other green measures adopted are treatment of wastewater, which is recycled for horticultural use, a solar power plant, solar hot water systems for both swimming pool and domestic use. It is a “green” campus, child friendly, landscaped to encourage adventure and enquiry,

Screened!

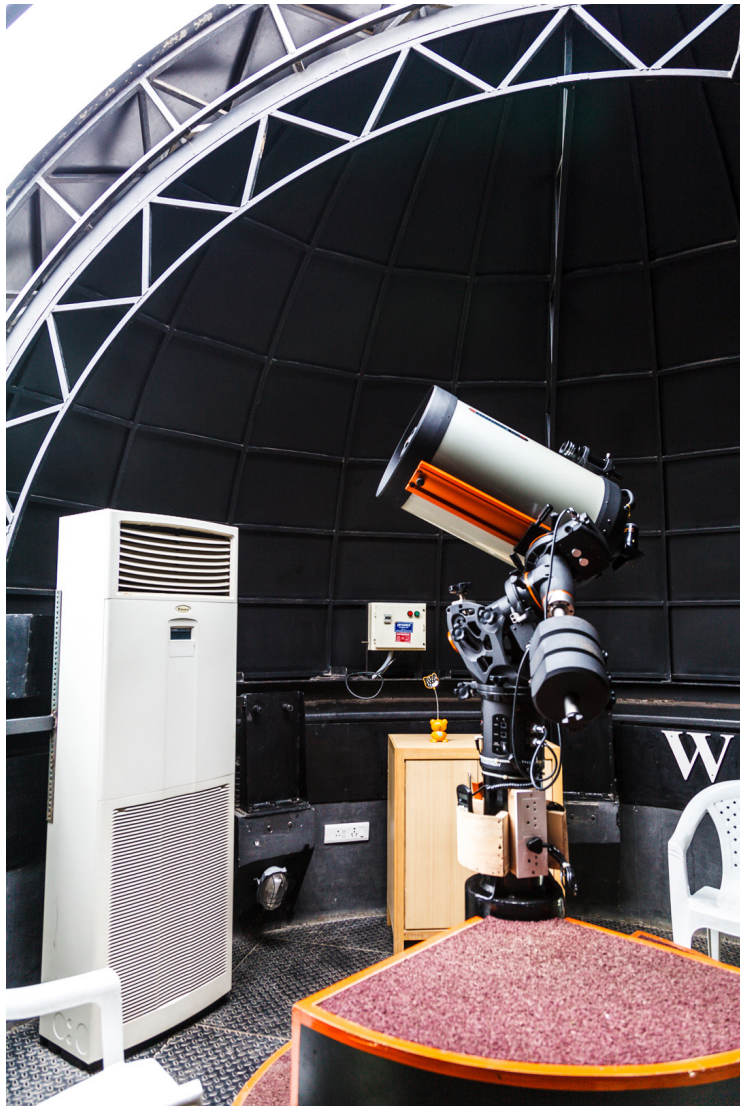
The main school buildings are set back from the road with the football and other sports fields, as well as utility buildings, forming a buffer, protecting the main campus from noise and dust, making The Sagar School pollution free.



A carefully chosen palette of native trees has created a wooded environment attracting many bird species.



The Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode campus is set amidst 100 acres of the Malabar hills. It is an excellent example of how state-of-the-art environment-friendly engineering design can be combined with distinct regional architectural styles, to produce aesthetically pleasing and functionally perfect structures.



Star academy

One of the few schools in India that boast of a well-equipped modern astronomy observatory.

Linked-in

Academic buildings are laid out in a series of interconnected courtyards, keeping the scale rural and friendly.

Eco-friendly

Green measures adopted are the treatment of wastewater, which is recycled for horticultural use; a solar power plant; and solar hot water systems for both swimming pool and domestic use.

Student and faculty housing are grouped around courtyards that both control the micro climate and provide intimacy.

