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73

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tribute

10

B. V. DOSHI
A EULOGY
ANIKET BHAGWAT

designing urban

16

DESIGNING
A DISCIPLINE
RAJAT RAY

designing urban inside

32

34 SALT LAKE CITY CENTRE
KOLKATA

36 TATA CONSULTANCY
SERVICES CAMPUS
INDORE

38 BANGALORE
INTERNATIONAL CENTER
BENGALURU

40 CRESCENT SCHOOL
OF ARCHITECTURE
CHENNAI

42 IMAGINE STUDIO
AT THE TREES
MUMBAI

designing urban insertion

44

46 REDEVELOPMENT OF KASHI
VISHWANATH DHAM
VARANASI

48 PATNA RIVERFRONT INITIATIVE
PATNA

50 BOMBAY VISIONS
BOMBAY IMAGINED:
AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY
OF THE UNBUILT CITY
Review by PARTHO DATTA

designing urban outside

54

56 REDEVELOPMENT OF
CHANDNI CHOWK
DELHI

58 PCMC URBAN
STREETSCAPE
PIMPLE NILAKH & AKURDI,
PUNE

59 PIMPRI CHINCHWAD
SMART CITY STREETSCAPE
PIMPLE GURAV, PIMPRI
SAUDAGAR, PUNE

60 STREETSCAPE -
WORLI CONNECT
MUMBAI

62 STREETSCAPE -
SENAPATI BAPAT MARG
MUMBAI

64 STREETSCAPE - RING ROAD
TO OLD IRON BRIDGE
WAZIRABAD, DELHI

66 ROMANCING THE STREET
STREETS FOR ALL:
50 IDEAS FOR SHAPING
RESILIENT CITIES
Review by
SHAHANA G. DASTIDAR

designing urban yarns

72

74 URBAN DESIGN
NEW CHALLENGES OF THE
DEVELOPING WORLD
BILEY MENON

76 CRAFTS VILLAGE
KOVALAM

78 FREEDOM SQUARE
CALICUT

80 A MODEL ECO CORRIDOR
ATHIRAPALLY, KERALA

84 REJUVENATION OF
SCHOOL ZONE
GURUGRAM

88 "FURSAT KI FIZAYEN"
DELHI

90 STREET ART

92 DURGA PUJA
KOLKATA

designing urban discipline

94

95 VISION, IMPLEMENTATION
STRATEGY AND INTEGRATED
INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN
AGRA

96 RESILIENT URBAN DESIGN
FRAMEWORK

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Sehreeti Developmental Practices Foundation, Gurugram

REJUVENATION OF SCHOOL ZONE

GURUGRAM | 2021

TOTAL AREA: 525 SQM

The Streets4People Challenge is an initiative of the Smart Cities Mission, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs [MoHUA], Government of India, to support cities to create walking-friendly. The challenge is structured as a two-stage program including co-creating solutions with the community and through tactical urbanism, testing them out and converting these temporary interventions into permanent infrastructure and finally scale-up the methodology across the city.

For Gurugram, Sadar Bazaar Precinct was identified by the city authorities under Streets4People Challenge. At the neighbourhood level, the site of Government Girls Senior Secondary School, which has two buildings across a public street was proposed to be pedestrianised. The street in between, was used extensively by two-wheelers and rickshaws, with permanent parking areas, leaving no space for school children to access school compound with ease. It was an unsafe street as well.

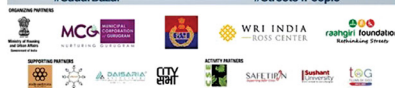
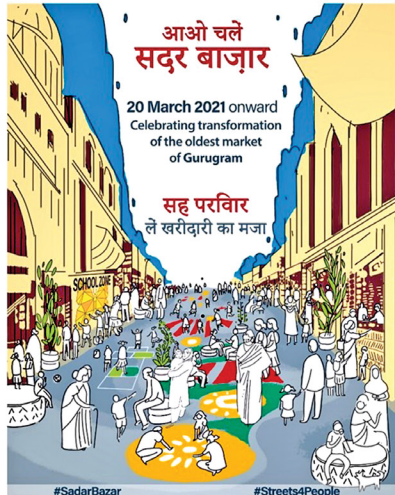
Public participatory approach with school children, teachers, and the existing informal vendors has led to development of a design towards creating a space for a "pause." Interventions are planned based on different aspects community participation, circulation and movement network, infrastructure requirements, traffic management techniques, place-making and programming, and governance and management of public realm. Through the tools of community-led place-making and tactical urbanism, the school zone was pedestrianised for a week, as a trial, and requisite urban furniture was placed, with the help of municipality. The traffic was re-routed and new parking spaces were created. For children, a play zone and an open library with re-purposed elements was also created. The students painted their school wall on the theme of 'metamorphosis'. Various activities were held on themes like *Raahigiri*, *Swachh Bharat*, urban wilderness and storytelling. A 'co-creation installation' where students and residents could share their vision for self and the area was also installed. The design was acknowledged by MoHUA as top 11 entries under Streets4People Challenge. Now the city authorities are developing a master plan for the area based on the learnings from tactical place-making.

Public participatory approach with school children, teachers, and the existing informal vendors has led to development of a design towards creating a space for a "pause."

OPPOSITE PAGE |

[1] *Winning Entry of Idea Design Competition*

[2] *Proposed design interventions in the school precinct*

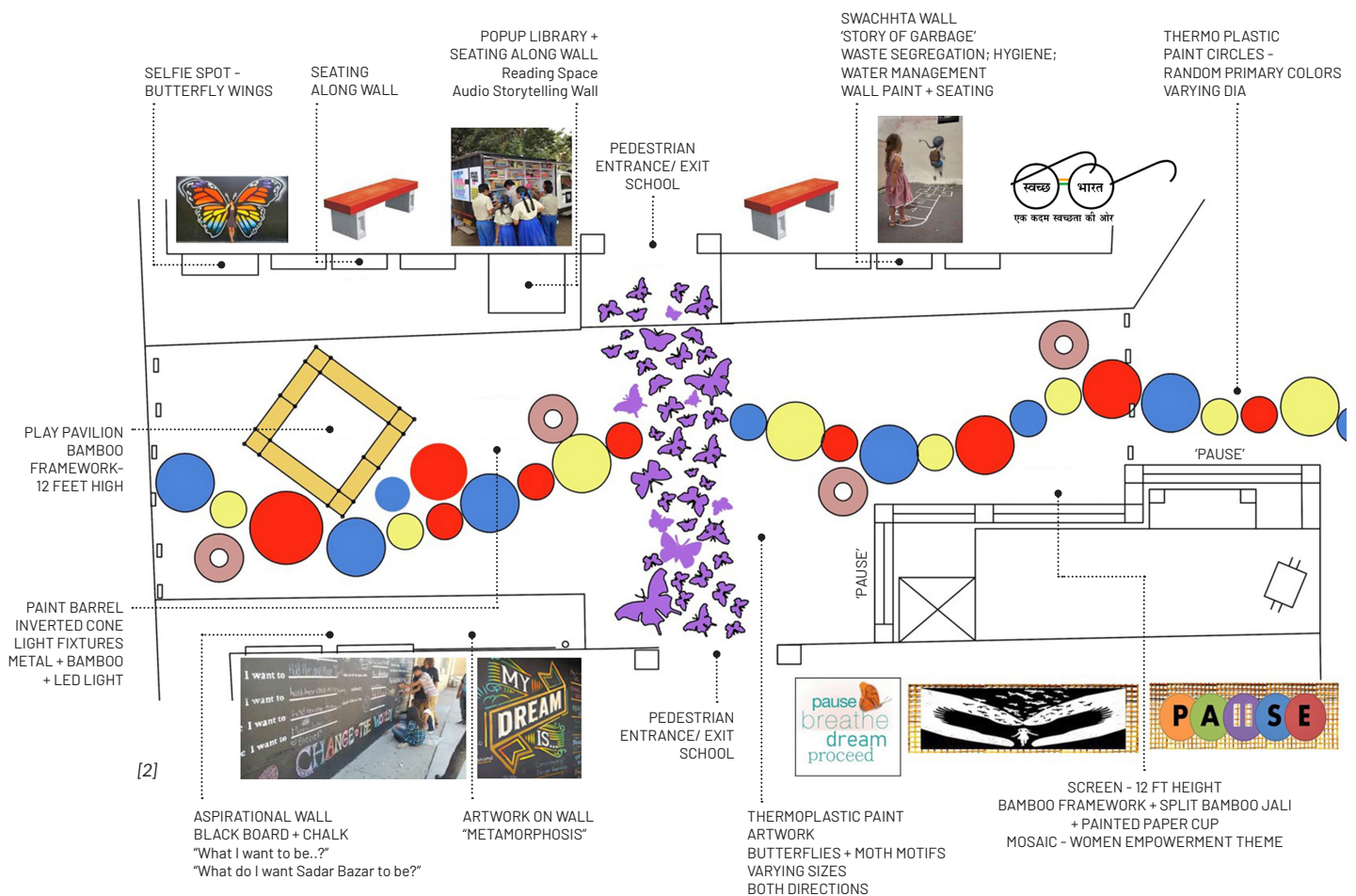


The small space of a **pause**



Between 'stimulus' and 'response' there is a 'space'
a space to **PAUSE**... a space to slow down... a space to be...

[1]



[2]

THIS PAGE |

[3] Proposed design interventions in the school precinct

[4] Entire zone was pedestrianised

OPPOSITE PAGE |

[5, 6] Students painting school wall with their art teacher

[7] Dance in school zone

[8,9] Open library created with re-purposed cigarette stall and wooden cable reel drum



[3]



[4]

[5] [6]



[7]



[9] [8]