



Site visit to Gaokos, a project by Landscape Architect Jayant Dharap

The Project is a private farmhouse development on a 65 acre site located approximately 35 km away from Pune station at Jambhali Sangam which is the confluence of the rivers Mutha and Ambi-Mose on the backwaters of Khadakwasla Dam. The site contained a diverse range of & landscape conditions like dense plantation, undulating topography, and formally designed landscape. The visit was intended to understand the role of landscape architects in the environmental upgradation of the site by means of using various techniques of slope stabilization, soil erosion

control, vermin-composting etc.

The students studied the plant material with respect to 'Appropriateness of species' for design. The study was done with respect to the purpose, function, form, colour, texture etc. with the context of the site.

The study will help the students in their individual design projects, with the knowledge of plant material. They would be able to use plant material as a basic tool for designing different spaces.

Jury for the Urban Landscape study

Shri. Vivek Sabnis, a known Senior Journalist of Maharashtra Times of The Times of India Group was invited for the jury in Landscape design studio where the students gave presentations on their study and analysis of the three important roads of Pune. They also talked about the policy decisions for the three roads. This work was done in groups of three while the design solutions were presented at individual level. The work was highly appreciated by Shri. Vivek Sabnis. He gave critical comments as well as valuable inputs for the design.



Field trip to Mulshi- Kalubai Devrai (Sacred Grove) :

The trip was intended to study various characteristics of native, countryside flora with respect to habitat, colour, texture etc. as well as the roadside flora and invasion by non-native species.

During the Field Trip, four readings were taken along the roadside to study the ecological succession at approximately every 20kms. Invasion by Cosmos, Cassia tora, Eupatorium etc was observed. Dominance of native Senecio (Sonaki) and Balsam was seen which indicated degradation of that area.

The Kalubai sacred grove is an important example of 'Cultural Landscape', representing original cover of vegetation in that area with particular rainfall, climate and topography. It is the only remnant of climax forest. Students studied the species by taking quadrants and understood the

dominance of particular species. They observed the flora under threat like Ranjayphal. The grove is a habitat for local wild life like giant squirrel, and Great Pied Hornbill. The students also understood the importance of community participation in conserving these sacred groves for our own benefit.



Other Events :

1. Orientation lecture on the induction day of M. Arch. (Landscape Architecture) Course by Prof Abhijit Natu : It was followed by a talk about one of the team's award winning project 'Astha Kunj'. Principal Anurag Kashyap gave an introductory speech during the induction programme which was conducted on 1st September, 2006. Prof Shruti Joshi gave information on scholarships to the students. The programme was coordinated by Prof Shubhada Kamalapurkar.
2. Presentation by Landscape Architect Jayant Dharap : "Experiments, Expression and Experience": The lecture was meant to introduce the student to the total scope of Landscape architecture. He talked about this through his various projects.
3. Presentation by Landscape Architect Nilambari : Audio-Visual presentation. She talked about how this medium can be a powerful and effective tool for communication especially for the field of Landscape Architecture.

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