

Glimpses of pol at IITGn's new campus

DNA Correspondent

The new campus of Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar (IITGn) near Palaj village on the banks of Sabarmati river in Gandhinagar will give a feel of the old city's pols. The eco-friendly college grounds will be spread over 400 acres of land.

To bring a unique style of space management and a sense of community, different architecture firms worked to design the IITGn campus. The famous courtyard style, jaali ventilation system and pol streets, among other features, will be recreated for the campus.

The plan of the new academic block, students' hos-

tel, teaching staff residence and the master plan were unveiled on Thursday. Highlights of the plan were a combination of modern features as well as the usage of pol architecture.

Experts involved in the planning said, the students' hostel area and teachers' residential quarters would have elements like a courtyard where students can meet up, have the characteristic Gujarati 'cha' and chat up, along with an additional amphitheatre-like space. This will give them space to not only mingle with each other but also learn freely.

Rajeev Kathpalia of Vastu Shilpa Consultants said that the jaali used in old pol



houses was for adequate ventilation and sunlight, so they decided to use it for the college building as well. The permanent campus will also give access to

Sabarmati river by developing a ghat leading to a promenade on the bank.

Director of the institute, Prof SK Jain, said that the process also saw the in-

volvement of students and faculties apart from noted architects. The campus will be an eco-friendly one. It will have a rainwater harvesting system and a sewer treatment plant which will use the recycled water for toilet and horticultural purposes.

Several prominent architectural firms including Green Campus Development Consortium New Delhi, Mitimitra Consultants Pvt Ltd Pune, Vastu Shilpa Consultants Ahmedabad, HCP Design Planning and Management Pvt. Ltd. Ahmedabad and Design and Planning Counsel Pvt. Ltd. Ahmedabad were involved in designing different parts of the campus.

