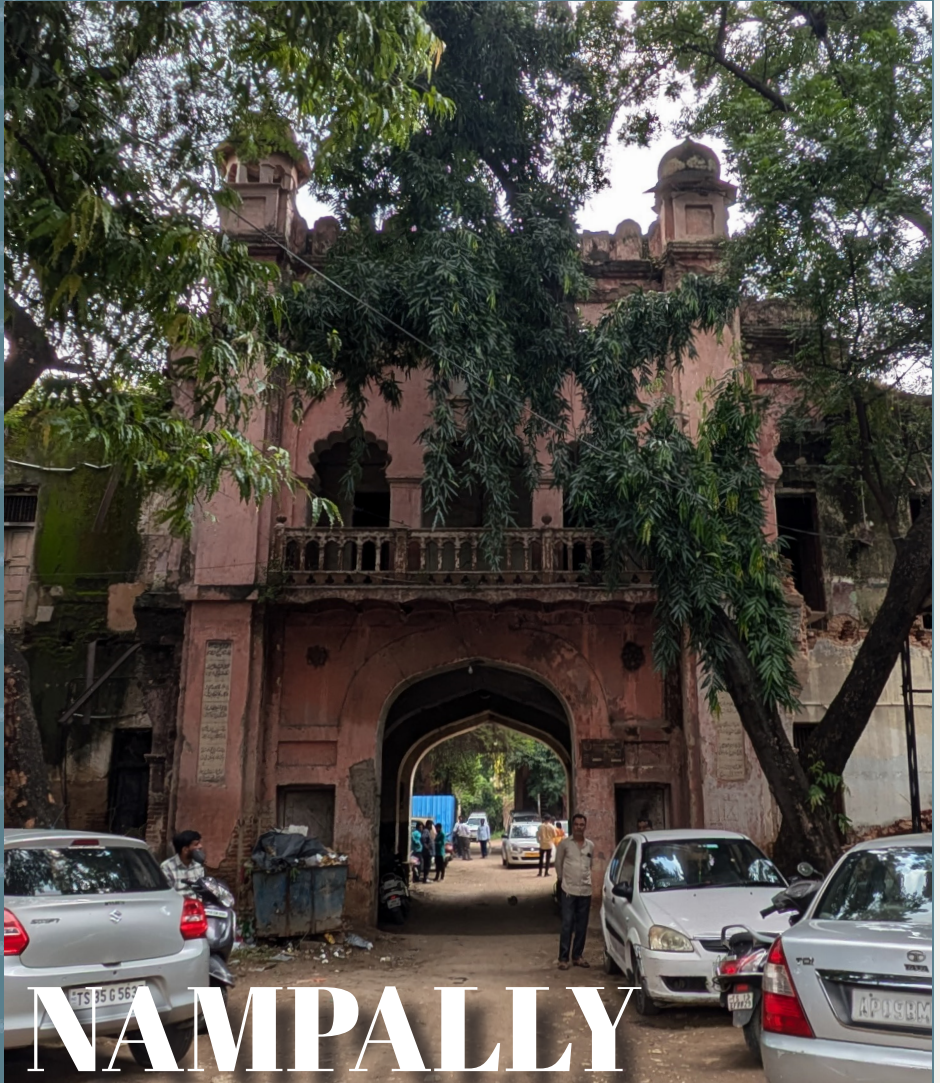




# NAMPALLY SARAI

HERITAGE PARTNER SCHEME

The Sarai or rest house, in close vicinity of the Nampally Station was originally known as Sulah Sarai (a peaceful resting place).

The Sarai was built by Nawab Tipu Khan Bahadur who was High Ranking Official in the court of Nizam VI, Mir Mahboob Ali Khan. He was known for being an extensive traveller and equestrian legend.



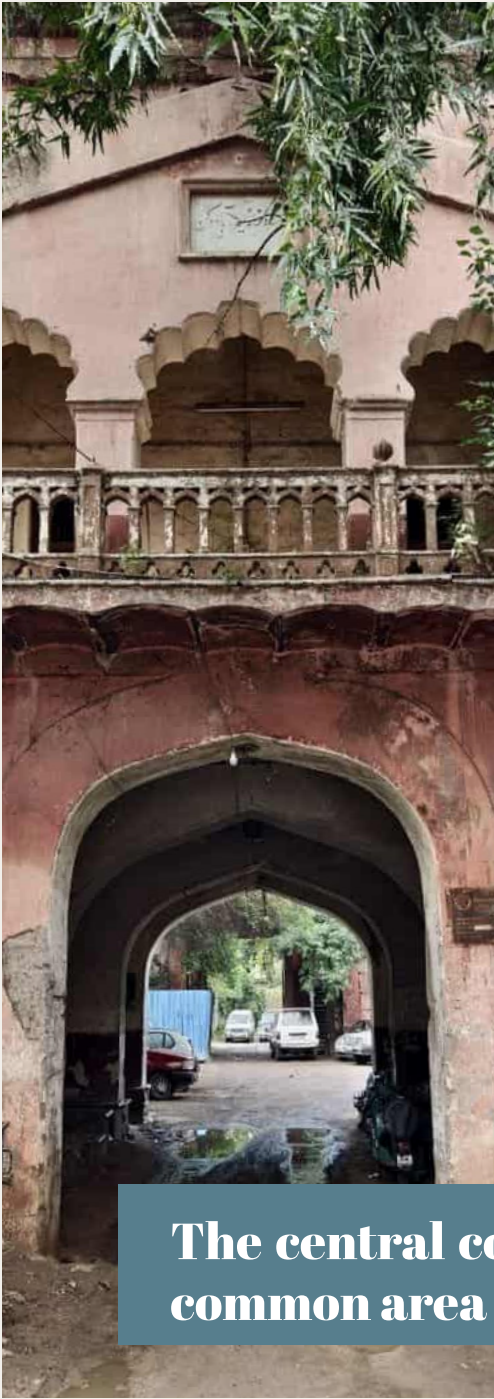


# About the Sarai

Nawab Tipu Khan built the Sarai, originally spread on area of 5,828 square yards (4,873 sqm), from his own resources for the city, close to the railway station and the then Customs House.

It is said that he provided free stay and ration to all guests at the Sarai for three days, with no distinction of caste or creed. The Sarai was used as a state guest house after 1948 by Government of Andhra Pradesh, until 2002.

Architecturally, it follows a courtyard-based typology, with rooms arranged around a central open space, reflecting climate-responsive and functional design.



**The central courtyard space is a common area for all the rooms**

# The NAMPALLY SARAI



The overall design is utilitarian and austere, with minimal ornamentation. Emphasis is placed on function over aesthetics, yet the repetitive arches, symmetry, and courtyard proportions give the space a quiet architectural dignity. The sarai reflects Hyderabad's historic trade culture and the importance of mobility, exchange, and communal resting spaces in pre-modern urban networks.

Nampally Sarai follows a traditional courtyard typology, designed primarily for functionality, security, and climatic comfort. The architecture is simple and inward-looking, reflecting its role as a resting and trading space rather than a palace.



A continuous arcaded corridor or verandah runs along the inner edge of the courtyard, creating shaded circulation and protecting rooms from direct sun and rain. Movement within the sarai is clear and entry leads directly into the courtyard.



The architecture features semi-circular or pointed arches, supported by stone or masonry piers, giving rhythm and structural stability. Openings are limited and inward-facing, emphasizing safety and enclosure.





# Reimagining a Historic Site: Future possibilities



A vibrant cultural and community hub, celebrating its legacy of hospitality and exchange. By transforming the courtyard and halls into cafés and communal dining spaces, adapting rooms for arts, crafts, and cultural workshops, and reusing larger spaces for events and conferences, the Sarai becomes a place of social interaction and cultural expression. The approach emphasizes minimal and sensitive interventions, retaining the original courtyard-based architecture while reintroducing public life, making the Sarai once again a welcoming space for people to gather, share, and engage with heritage.

## A Modern Sarai



**Cafés and Community Dining Spaces:** Use central halls or courtyards as cafés or communal dining areas, reflecting the Sarai's historical hospitality. Organize cultural food events showcasing traditional Hyderabadi cuisine



**Event and Conference Facilities:** Adapt rooms into meeting or event spaces for cultural, corporate, or community functions, maintaining historic architectural character.



**Cultural and Arts Hub:** Adapt rooms and open spaces for exhibitions, displays and workshops. Use courtyards for performances, storytelling sessions, or small music and theater events.



**Event spaces:** New development may be allowed in open space behind the historic structure.

*\* Ideas and AI-generated images are for conceptual reference only, Partners are encouraged to share alternate proposals and their vision for the site.*



Scan for  
details

The **Heritage Partner Scheme** seeks to form long-term partnerships to transform historic structures into active cultural spaces, and inspire a statewide culture of preservation, ensuring that our heritage sites are safeguarded for the next generations.