He was shown through slides and drawings in what ways the work was being carried out without the involvement of relevant experts and professionals. The workshop participants in fact went to the length of extending their support for free in order to save the historic Panamnagar, which the DG promised to include.

Two days after the workshop a team of enthusiastic young architecture students and academics went to Panamnagar along with officials, technical personnel and fieldworkers of the Archaeology department and showed them how things should have been done. The overwhelming feeling was that all work in Panam should be immediately stopped, further studies and documentation should be undertaken, and work should be carried out only after having a clear road map, that too slowly and technically even if that takes longer. The NSU architecture students have been working on the documentation of heritage buildings for more than a year. So far they have worked on 52 religious, institutional and residential buildings. They started with a dozen buildings around Bahadur Shah Park. They not only want to learn about these buildings, traditional architecture, and documentation techniques, but also want to celebrate the fourth centenary of the city being made the capital in a befitting way.

The aim of the workshop was to raise awareness among all concerned quarters about the issues regarding urban regeneration through heritage conservation, adaptive reuse of architectural resources, exchange of idea and searching for ways to overcome the obstacles. It wanted to identify problems of architectural conservation in the context of Bangladesh; discuss and resolve cross-discipline issues; form a forum of concerned individuals or groups currently making isolated efforts; become aware of the existing and future policy and legislative needs; and sensitise the different stakeholders and important players. The 1989 workshop had a profound impact on the architects, resulting into the best referable material on architectural conservation in Bangladesh, several study-documentation projects and a bunch of enthusiastic professionals. This brought an informed awareness among the architects and architecture students, but did not raise similar understanding among others. In reality there are greater obstacles to heritage conservation beyond the realm of an architect. The multi-disciplinary issues not only involve building professionals, but also government officials and policy makers, local representatives and people, and the media, and require the knowledge of sociologists, anthropologists, historians, lawyers and economists etc.

The workshop brought in experts from all different sectors, and important players in heritage conservation, to exchange ideas and learn about related problems, taking place in a more interactive way in small groups who collated their thinking with the help of local and foreign experts.

