COVID-19 has scarred the world. Despite the euphoria that has accompanied the arrival of the vaccines, there is a realisation that the world cannot function in a 'business-as-usual' manner any longer. There is a clear need now for rethinking how we live and let live, including the way we approach our built environment. Thermal comfort in buildings is a crucial parameter that needs to be considered -- temperature, humidity and natural ventilation are key characteristics that define thermal comfort and have a direct relationship with the spread of infection and ill-health inside dwellings.

The School of Habitat under Anil Agarwal Environment Training Institute, a Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) initiative, is announcing a new online training programme on the principles and practices of what it refers to as the 'New Vaastu' – a concept that is designed to reduce resource footprint (energy, water and waste) in the built environment, and to enhance thermal comfort.

The training programme will enable participants to understand the functioning of all natural elements as they come together to create a sustainable habitat. It will emphasise on the need to keep in mind site layouts, building design and choice of materials for mainstreaming thermal comfort not only as an enabler of liveability, but also as a catalyst to reduce disease burden in our buildings.

WHAT WILL THE TRAINING PROGRAMME COVER:

- Sustainability Development Goals
- Planning and design amidst the new normal of COVID-19
- Environmental governance for built sector with focus on codes and impact assessment.
- Energy Conservation Building Codes
- Urban Heat Island Effect
- Occupant thermal comfort
- Understanding building envelope, fenestration design and material properties.
- Green building materials and their market penetration
- Resource prudent designing for circularity (water, waste, energy)
- Daylighting and its components
- Introduction to building simulation
- Low-energy mechanical cooling techniques