5 Anniversary SPECIAL

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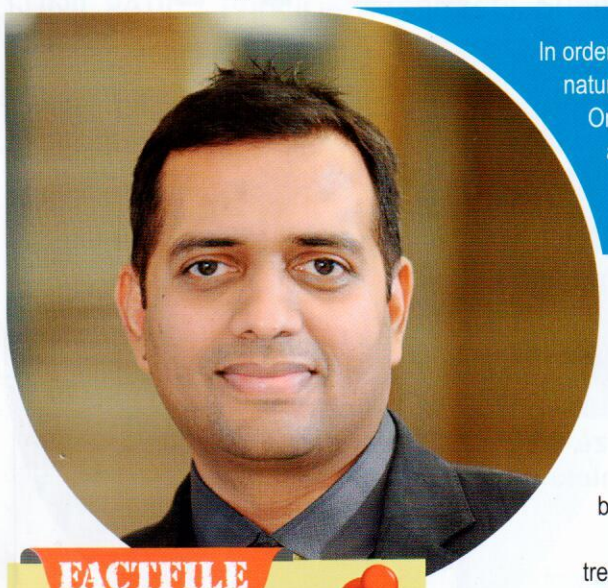
PARISH KAPSE | Founder, Team ONE Architects, Mumbai



In order to provide a multi-functional design we chose a semi-circular shape with a dome top. The glass façade was chosen so that the building gets natural day light and hence minimize energy consumption. Due to the above features our design is low maintenance and also cost efficient. At Team One Architect, our interpretation of architecture is that we design more than just a mere building. It is more than a fancy design and facades. Hence all our plans are made keeping in mind the usage of the structure to be created and ensuring that it is user-friendly. The keywords while designing are utility, durability and style. We also try to imbibe ecologically feasible solutions to ensure harmony with nature. We have applied this logic of ours while designing this commercial space as well and resonates our ethos of being a part of the changing landscape.

ONGC COPRPORATE OFFICE, URAN, NAVI MUMBAI

FACTFILE

Function: Corporate office
Location: Uran, Navi Mumbai
Client: ONGC Ltd.
Status: Conceptual
Photo credits: Team ONE Architects

The design brief for the corporate office of ONGC at Uran, Navi Mumbai was to provide a state-of-the-facility with contemporary and interactive design which was also environmentally feasible. The proposed building located in the vicinity of ONGC's production plant was to be not only self-sustainable campus but also be trendy and latest in appearance. One of the most important parameters which also made a huge impact was the fact that Uran Plant is the only production plant of ONGC in the entire country, hence lots of waste gases were available from the existing plant. This presented an exciting opportunity to our team of architects along with our service consultants to look at the prospects of how the waste gas could be used to convert into fuels to be then harnessed for running the air-conditioning (HVAC) systems at the proposed office location.

MANISH GULATI | Principal Architect, Mofa Studios Pvt Ltd, New Delhi

Acting as the building's high volume, on slender columns, the roof provides a sense of relief to the inhabitants and makes the ITM School of Business a truly green building. The open parasol roof allows the hot air to escape creating convection currents and a natural air-cooling system. The external façade is clad with the beautifully characterized and textured Dholpur sandstone. It sits thick and high excluding out the harsh sun of Gwalior, but, with the help of jaalis and steel roof still creates openings, expansiveness and gets in plenty of light. Light weight steel parasol roof was part pre-fabricated and the rest assembled on site and hoisted up. It clearly shows the steel trusses and offset it against the rustic finished Dholpur sandstone walls. It emphasises solid heavy walls clad with sandstone rising up to the new age light steel structure. The building uses this element as modern screens on the south western side, which also happens to be the double height entrance space. The screens act as a vertical extension of building's open courtyards. These white Dholpur sandstone screens are not just an aesthetic treat that cast interesting shadows and play with light, but also an architectural must for the high temperatures of Gwalior.

ITM SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, GWALIOR

FACTFILE

Function: Educational
Location: Gwalior
Client: ITM University, Gwalior
Status: Completed
Size: 40,000 Sqft
Photo credits: Mofa Studios Pvt Ltd

The design response being an institutional building of a business school in a hot city like Gwalior was to build a structure which is both economical and green. The outside walls of the main building of the business school's campus reflect tradition sprinkled generously with doses of modernity. The use of locally-sourced white Dholpur sandstone for these external walls not only promotes and demonstrates a feather-light environmental footprint, but also keeps alive Gwalior's architectural heritage. Being an institutional project, budget and hence the choice of materials was important. Also this led to ingenious detailing and adaptations. Since modern construction materials and techniques were not widely available hence, indigenous adaptations were worked out to integrate traditional building practises.

VIBHOR MUKUL SINGH | Principal, Designers' Alcove For Art & Architecture, Noida

The free flowing forms of the building, curved walls, indented entrances, and flamboyantly styled canopy, all are the unique features of the building that were fabricated to unmatched precision in steel and was developed using a system of Parametricism. The project which uses steel in addition to other metals and alloy, merges effortlessly with the associated landscape in a natural fashion. The design is based on dynamics of organic architecture and the building, because of a thoughtful use of steel and other metals, has a high degree of fluidity in all dimensions that blends perfectly with the surrounding features of landscape. The curved walls, indentations as entrances, metallic canopies, inclined wall junctions; all speak of high design intent and inviting character of the building.

ABU DHABI LADIES CLUB

FACTFILE

Function: Recreational
Location: Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.
Client: Musanada (U.A.E.)
Area: 30,000 sq. m
Status: Ongoing
Photo credits: Designers' Alcove For Art & Architecture

The project is a collection of various leisure activities for the ladies and offers a variety of facilities like the cafeteria, health club, gymnasium and spa, a restaurant and V.I.P. lounges, etc. Currently the first phase of the project is finished and the second phase is under construction and the design is once again a brain child of organic architecture. The project had to slip into a fast-changing, desert setting. Faced with the challenge of making a contemporary work in this desert settlement, we chose to focus on the massing of the new structure. The monumental faceted walls and deep-set windows evoke the local vernacular and creating a façade that shifts as light and shadow plays across the angular forms.