

A Complete Construction & Engineering Magazine

# PROJECTS

R.N.I. No. DELENG/2015/66550

# MIRROR



## “TOUCHING THE SKY”

INTERVIEW



Mr. Pragun Jindal Khaitan, Managing Director - Jindal Aluminium Limited.



Mr. Gaurav Mathur, Business Development (Building Services), Grundfos India.



Ar. Khozema Chitalwala - Principal Architect and Designer at Designers Group

EXPERT SPEAK



Mr. Ashutosh Limaye, Director & Head - Consulting, ANAROCK Property Consultants

CASE STUDY



Dubai buildings unlock up to 80% energy savings with simple pump swaps



**In the past two decades, the design process has evolved to a great extent. The thought process of the Indian design fraternity has become more international but at the same time, the practices despite having international level believe in indigeneity, not losing their connect with the geographical, regional and cultural importance of our country**

*Ar. Khozema Chitalwala - Principal Architect and Designer at Designers Group*

### **What is your journey in the recent past and where do you see yourself in the near future?**

Since the past 30 years, I have been working on several independent and collaborative projects across the globe ranging from Commercial & Residential, Hospitality & Resort Development to Mixed-used Development & Second-Home Schemes. I established my firm Designers Group in 1988 with a dream and endeavour to institute

Designers Group as an international design firm. Working persistently on various interior design projects, all these years I have been trying to set up a strong base for craftsmanship. Starting my journey of the first architectural project in the suburbs of Mumbai advancing to projects across the globe, perseverance has always been a strength. Initially, a couple of hotel projects did not materialize but Designers Group eventually got to work on Taj Hotels and Resort, project. This was a

turning point in my career, giving me and the firm directional focal point on hospitality.

Presently, we are one of the only firms with core hospitality practice. Our long-term objective is to build an international reputation. Our agenda is to establish a niche for ourselves so as to inspire the new-gen architects.

Also, currently, a lot of hospitality brands consider Indian design firms lesser than the international practices, the notion is to break that perception and prove that Indian design fraternity is as superior as any other practice on a global level.

### **Tell us about your views as an inspiring artist and the way you specialized in your niche and gained recognizing success.**

I strive to create environments that not only encourage interaction but also meet the aesthetic and functional needs of the people who inhabit them. Nature has always been a great source of inspiration for designs and sustainability has always been a key focus while creating astounding hospitality designs. Professionally, a creative stimulus was postulated in me by



international design firm Hirsch Bender Associates, a global runner in the Hospitality Design sector, which encouraged me to create a focused Hospitality Practice, invoking an understanding of Indian Hospitality industry.

**How do you see the field of design evolving? What great aspects of development have you witnessed while pursuing your journey as a premium architect?**

In the past two decades, the design process has evolved to a great extent. The thought process of the Indian design fraternity has become more international but at the same time, the practices despite having international level believe in indigeneity, not losing their connect with the geographical, regional and cultural importance of our country. Technology has played a crucial role in the evolution of the designing process and I feel that this is just a beginning. As technology and artificial intelligence are currently at the peak, soon there would be a big association



of both the elements together and we will be able to see great designs in the recent future.

**Is there is something you would like to add to be shared with your audience at large-in terms of your visionary designing views and brand motto?**

I believe that contextual and sensitive design adds in-measurable value to any project. According to my design pedigree, I firmly conclude that “being simple is difficult” which is an evident feature in our designs. Overall, my designs cater to the clients’ needs holistically by designing the total experience.<sup>2020</sup>

