

CEBACA TIMES

Third Edition
2023-2024



President: Mr. J Sagayaraj

Secretary: Mr. R. Senthil

Treasurer: Mr. P. Ravichandran

Editorial Team: Mr. J. Sagayaraj | Mr. A. Sridhar | Mr. S. Balakrishnan

Coimbatore Builders And Contractors Association

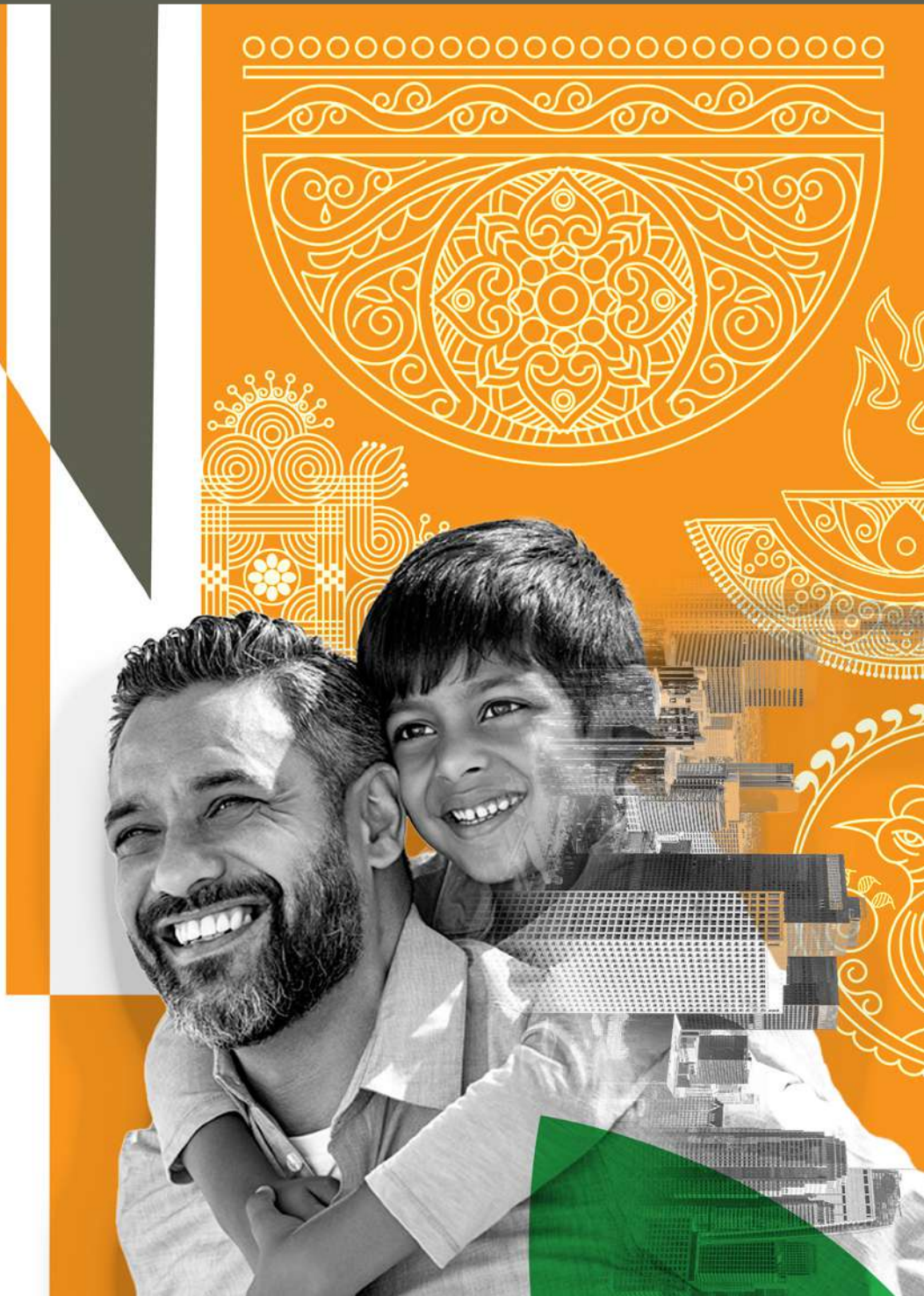
Issue No. 3 / November 2023

BUILDING FOR TOMORROW

SUSTAINABLE
FUTURES IN
CONSTRUCTION.

“We do not inherit the Earth
from our ancestors;
we borrow it from our children.”

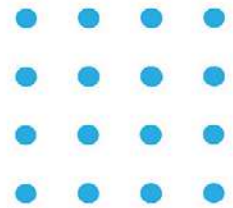
- Native American Proverb



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President's Message



Dear Friends,

Wishing you a Bright and Joyous Diwali,

We are at the crossroads of our industry's future; the rapid urbanization has created an unrelenting demand for buildings and infrastructure. On the other hand, global warming and the resultant natural disasters have become a serious cause of concern world over.

Sustainability is no longer a policy that we must adhere to, it's a rallying cry, a solemn promise to the generations yet to come. To sensitize the construction fraternity and explore means of addressing the situation we have dedicated our third edition of CEBACA's monthly magazine to the theme, Building for Tomorrow: Sustainable Futures in Construction.

The world is changing, and the construction industry must evolve with it. The demand for sustainable practices is not just a trend; it's a necessity. Our past successes were built with the materials and methods of our time, but the time has changed. Climate change, resource depletion, and environmental degradation demand a response from us. We are builders, yes, but now we must build sustainably.

Sustainability is not an option; it's our responsibility. It's not just about meeting regulations; it's about setting the standards. Sustainable construction is not a constraint; it's an opportunity. An opportunity to create structures that harmonize with nature, that generate their own energy, that endure for centuries.

Our clients and communities expect it, our planet requires it, and our integrity demands it. Sustainable construction is not a burden but a badge of honour, a mark of our commitment to a better world.

Let's remind ourselves that we are not just builders of structures; we are architects of change, champions of sustainability, and caretakers of our planet. Let's seize the challenge of building for tomorrow, not just for today. Together, we can create a sustainable future in the construction industry, where the buildings we create stand as a testament to our commitment to building a better future.

As always, I am deeply indebted to each of you for your unwavering support and dedication to our mission. Together, we will build a sustainable world, one brick at a time.

J Sagayaraj



The Legacy



THE VISION

CEBACA has a vision of seeing its nation as a super power flourishing with ethical values, wealth, and advanced science and technology and it recognizes the importance of education in achieving this vision.

It also envisions restoring the nation's ancient glory and promoting harmony among its people through Social and Environmental Well-being.



THE MISSION

CEBACA's mission is to create an atmosphere that motivates students to pursue their studies by providing training and the necessary infrastructure for schools that lack basic facilities such as classrooms, libraries, labs, sports materials, and toilets.

We are also committed to increasing awareness and education on social and environmental issues, including the quality of life of individuals and communities and the importance of conservation, and sustainable living.

To help achieve this goal, CEBACA will facilitate public participation and industry support.

THE VALUES

PROFESSIONAL ETHICS:

At CEBACA Professional ethics is at the core of our value system, it acts as the determining factor to guide the professional behaviour of our member organizations. Integrity, Confidentiality, Competence, Objectivity, Professional Responsibility, and Accountability.

EMPOWERMENT:

At CEBACA Empowerment is one of the foundational pillars of our strategy. We firmly believe in increasing the capacity of our members, staff, and students and helping them make informed decisions and take action to achieve their goals.

SAFETY:

At CEBACA safety is given priority and importance in all aspects of the organization's operations, culture, and decision-making processes.

COMMITMENT:

At CEBACA commitment underlines every action taken by each and every member and it has contributed immensely to our success over the past decade.

QUALITY:

At CEBACA quality is imperative, it determines every activity undertaken by us.

Drivers of Change

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The Theme

BUILDING FOR TOMORROW

SUSTAINABLE
FUTURES IN
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The theme transcends the mere choice of materials or energy-efficient designs; it's a shift in our collective mindset. It's about redefining the purpose of construction, viewing it as a means to create a more harmonious relationship between humanity and the planet.

Sustainability in construction is not a distant goal; it is very much a reality, from green roofs that breathe life into urban jungles to smart building systems that optimize energy usage, the innovations in sustainable construction are both inspiring and transformative. Most importantly sustainable construction includes the adoption of circular economies which involve recycling and reusing materials, which in turn, drastically reduce waste. The construction industry is envisioning greener cities, resilient landscapes, and infrastructure capable of adapting to changing climates.

Sustainable construction goes beyond the confines of individual structures. It involves creating sustainable communities and infrastructure that can withstand the challenges of the future. The construction industry is no longer just about bricks and mortar; it's about building for tomorrow, creating sustainable futures, and leaving an enduring mark on the world.

“SUSTAINABILITY IS
NOT A DESTINATION;
IT IS A JOURNEY.”

- MARGARET MEAD.



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Surging Ahead

September - October Report

The increased activity within the association is a testament to the dedication of our members. Over the past two months, September & October, we've witnessed the rolling out of multiple initiatives. CEBACA Day, in particular, was a standout celebration. The two editions of CEBACA Times have been met with resounding approval, becoming a prominent topic of discussion within the construction community.

Our monthly meetings have undergone a transformation, now characterized by heightened engagement and participation from our members. The Panels have also shown remarkable initiative, with members taking the lead in organizing various projects and campaigns. We find ourselves at an exciting juncture in our journey, with a palpable sense of enthusiasm in the air.

Monthly Meetings September / October



It's wonderful to see how the monthly meetings at CEBACA have evolved into a vital forum for our members. These gatherings have become a central hub with members exchanging valuable insights and fostering collaboration on a myriad of industry-related subjects.

A diverse array of topics ranging from project updates and technological advancements to sustainable practices, regulatory changes, and

the latest market trends have been discussed. Our guest speakers, experts, and thought leaders have been bringing their wealth of knowledge to these sessions, enriching our discussions with invaluable insights.

The 5th regular meeting held at the Residency Towers on the 11th of September, was quite eventful and among the other agendas was the unveiling of the 2nd edition of the CEBACA Times.

ECM, September & October



As the bedrock of CEBACA's governance structure the Executive Committee has been the command centre for deliberation on policy decisions, financial strategies, brainstorming innovative membership initiatives and charting out the roadmap for upcoming events. The Executive Committee is the architect of the association's future. By prioritizing key projects, strategically allocating resources, and

carefully defining the association's stance on a host of industry-related issues it has been forging the path ahead, ensuring that CEBACA remains at the forefront of industry excellence. The 5th EC meeting was held at CEBACA Towers on the 25th of August and the 6th EC meeting was held at the Iyarkai Garden Restaurant on the 25th of September.

Projects

The projects embarked upon this year are a testament to CEBACA's unwavering dedication to holistic progress. These diverse initiatives aren't just about contributing to the betterment of society and the advancement of education; they are building blocks that elevate the construction industry to new heights of excellence, innovation, and community impact.

In essence, these projects aren't just standalone endeavours; they are the threads weaving a tapestry of transformation, enriching not only our association but also the broader community. CEBACA is not just about constructing buildings; it's about constructing a better future for all.

Some of the projects undertaken during the past two months included,



Two joint meetings were held with Kousika Neer Karangal, to discuss the Vanarkuttai restoration project. The 1st meeting was held at CEBACA Towers on the 7th of August and the 2nd meeting was held at the IIA Chairman Mr Jayakumar's office on the 6th of September.



A meeting with Kousika Neer Karangal, to discuss the MOU for the Vanarkuttai restoration project was held at CEBACA Towers on the 15th of September.

The 5th Training Programme for site engineers was conducted on 20th of September.

The theory sessions were held at the KPR College of Engineering, Arasur and the practical sessions were held at KNRCL.



Events

As the ambassador of the construction industry in Coimbatore, CEBACA enjoys the privilege of being sought after as a distinguished guest at prestigious events hosted by other industry representatives.

CEBACA's presence is like a beacon of excellence that illuminates the path for collaborative endeavours within the construction community.

Some of these events included the following,



President Mr. J. Sagayaraj and members participated in the ribbon cutting function by Mr. S P. Raamanathan, President (Elect) at the inauguration ceremony of the CIVIL EXPO held at Codissia on the 8th of August.

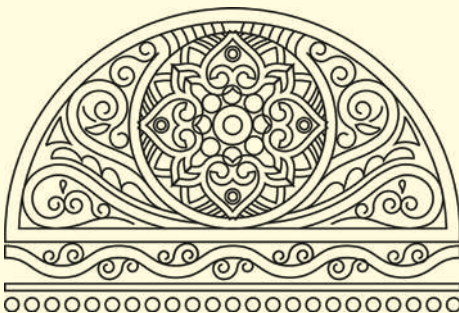


On September 20th, 2023, CEBACA organized the fifth session of the Civil Engineer's Technical Upgradation Program at the KPR Institute of Engineering and Technology in Arasur. The program's topic was "Fundamentals of Concrete Quality Control at Sites." Dr. A Sudhahar, Chairman of ACCE(I) Coimbatore Centre, was the principal faculty of the program. Chettinad Cement - Mobile Testing Lab co-hosted the program. After the program, the attendees went on an industrial visit to KNR Constructions Limited in Thennampalayam, Coimbatore.

The World Architecture Day Exhibition was held at the GD Museum on 30th September, President J. Sagayaraj, Secretary R. Senthil, Treasurer P. Ravichandran and Members attended the event.



The 6th International Conference on Best Industrial Flooring Practices organized by IFA was held in Delhi on the 6th of October. President Mr. J. Sagayaraj and members participated in the event and CEBACA's Coffee Table Book was presented to the organizer.



CEBACA DAY

CEBACA Day marks a significant occasion in our organization's history, commemorating the day of our founding. It serves as a moment for us to reflect on our achievements. It's an opportunity to celebrate our continued existence, growth, and the resilient community of builders and contractors that we have become.

CEBACA Day allows us to recognize the enduring spirit of collaboration and innovation that has driven our association's success. It is a day to come together, strengthen our bonds, and renew our commitment to our shared goals.

CEBACA Day signifies not just a historical milestone, but a symbol of our ongoing dedication to advancing the construction industry, fostering sustainable practices, and building a better tomorrow.



CEBACA Day was celebrated on the 11th of October at the SITRA Auditorium, with a lot of enthusiasm from the members and their families. The Chief Guest of the evening was Ar. T.S. Ramani Sankar, Chief Architect, Sankar & Associates, spoke on Architecture as a Social Science and its Impact on Society. The Guest Speaker of the evening was Mr. J. Jayaram, Program Head of "Hello FM" a prolific and entertaining speaker who enlightened the audience on "பண்பாட்டின் ஆதாரம்- குடும்பம்".

The "CEBACA Award of Excellence - வாழும் மணிமேகலை" was presented to Ms. Roopa Selvanayagi, Founder of "Amirtham Breastmilk Donation" a nonprofit organization that collects and preserves breast milk to help premature babies who are deprived of breast milk. The organization has over 6,000 members, including lactating and pregnant mothers.



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Know Your Member:



Mr. A. Ammasiappan

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SKMS Constructions Company

“Know Your Member” is more than just a section; it’s an exclusive tribute to the extraordinary journeys of our members. With every edition, we illuminate the path that our members have travelled, shedding light on their expertise, innovations, and invaluable contributions to the construction industry.

This platform isn’t just about celebration; it’s about sharing the nuggets of wisdom, the secrets of success, and the stories that make our association a powerhouse of inspiration and growth. So, join us as we cast a well-deserved spotlight on our members and uncovering the captivating narratives that make our organization truly exceptional.

Where did you begin your academic journey?

I was born in 1949 into a humble family in Madhukarai, Coimbatore, Tamilnadu. My life’s story, one of trials and triumphs, begins with a difficult chapter. My father left this world when I was a mere year and a half old, and it was then that my mother became my guiding light. Her firm strength and love provided the foundation upon which my life’s journey was built. I completed my SSLC in 1967, a significant milestone given the challenging circumstances I faced. But due to the familial circumstances, I couldn’t continue my formal education.

Why did you choose Civil Engineering?

Not having the resources to pursue my education further, I found myself standing at a crossroads. I was not just responsible for myself, but also for my family’s well-being. The path ahead was unclear, but the urgency of my situation demanded that I make a decision. I needed to find employment that not only accommodated a young person like me but also offered a long-term means of financial sustenance for my family. With limited options, I made the decision to join P. Mallaiyan and Company, a leading road and civil contracting firm.

When did you begin your entrepreneurial journey?

The early 1970s along with three partners, I ventured into the quarry business. For eight years, we toiled in the quarry industry, laying a solid foundation for my entrepreneurial journey. It was there that I learned the ropes of managing a business and the importance of perseverance. Leaving behind the quarry business, I embarked on a new adventure, initially taking on small road and civil contracts, typically valued at three to four lakhs. The journey wasn’t easy, but it was marked by an unyielding spirit and a commitment to hard work. In 1984, I acquired a lorry, a pivotal moment in my career. This vehicle became a key asset in my collaboration with the Coimbatore municipal corporation.

Slowly and steadily, I climbed the ladder of success in the contracting business. I took on larger road and bridge projects, some valued at several crores. In a bid to diversify my business, I set up Ready Mix Concrete manufacturing units, complementing my contracting operations. Today, my fleet comprises 20 lorries, and I operate a RMC plant.

When did you find yourself in this field?

The turning point arrived in 1968 when I joined Mallaiyan and Company. The circumstances may not have been what I had imagined, but it was a starting point. Those early years with the company were formative, and I was determined to seize every opportunity for growth and learning. The work was demanding, but I saw it as an investment in my future and, more importantly, in the well-being of my family.

Those four years of my life were instrumental in my growth. I learnt the nuances of civil works and road contracting and the skills I acquired during this period became the building blocks of my future success.

Who were the people who inspired & influenced you the most?

The owner, management, and the entire team at Mallaiyan and Company played an undeniably influential role in shaping the trajectory of my life. It was during my tenure with them that I weathered the most challenging phase of my journey. Their unwavering support, encouragement, and invaluable guidance are the cornerstones of my success. I am profoundly grateful to them for not only giving me a chance but also for steering me onto the right path in life.

What is your vision for CEBACA?

My commitment to the industry and my success in it was acknowledged when I became a longstanding member of the Builders Association of India (BAI). I am one of the founding members of CEBACA, where I have the privilege of serving on its Advisory Board. Witnessing CEBACA's phenomenal growth over the past decade, especially in its role in regulating the construction and building industry in Coimbatore, fills me with pride.

I wish for CEBACA to grow and become a beacon of light not only for the construction industry but also for the community at large.

What are some of your notable projects?

One of my proudest achievements was my involvement in the Poondi Bridge near Isha Yoga, a very important project in 2011. I also played a key role in ensuring the timely completion of the Hope's College approach road, Fun mall road which were critical requirements for the Ulaga Thamizh Semmozhi Manadu in 2010. My contributions extended to other significant infrastructure projects like the T V Swamy Road in R. S. Puram, the Pollachi Road National Highway, and select stretches on the Coimbatore - Avinashi highway.

What is your road-map for entrepreneurs?

When asked about the key to my success, my answer is simple: "Work Hard." I believe there's no magic formula for success; it's all about dedication, discipline, and commitment. These qualities are the bedrock of entrepreneurship, and they have been my guiding principles.

What about your family?

Beyond my professional journey, my family is my greatest treasure. My wife has been my unwavering support through life's challenges. I'm blessed with three daughters and a son, all of whom have now begun their own journeys. One of my daughters is in Canada, while the other two are in Coimbatore. My son holds a B.E. in Civil Engineering and is actively involved in the operations of my organization, "SKMS Constructions Company."

My life's story is not just one of overcoming adversity; it's a testament to what's possible with determination and hard work. From the streets of Madhukarai to the heights of the construction and contracting industry, my journey is a symbol of resilience and inspiration. My hope is that my story will inspire generations to come, proving that with determination and an unwavering work ethic, dreams can indeed become reality.



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TECH TALK

The Industry Corner



Mr. S. Muthuraman

Managing Director,
Lakshmi Ceramics, Coimbatore.

Mr. Muthuraman is a well-respected figure in the Indian tiles and sanitaryware industry. He is known for his business acumen, entrepreneurial spirit, and commitment to customer satisfaction. He is the recipient of the "Entrepreneur of the Year" award from the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), the "Best Retailer of the Year" award by the Times of India (TOI) and the "Lifetime Achievement Award" by Asian Granito Ltd.

Welcome to "The Industry Corner," a dedicated space where we embark on a deep dive into the latest trends, innovations, and advancements shaping the construction industry. Our mission in "The Industry Corner" is to empower our members with a comprehensive grasp of the constantly evolving construction landscape. From cutting-edge technologies to sustainable practices, and from regulatory updates to market insights, we've got it all covered.

Our team of industry experts and thought leaders will be your guides, offering thought-provoking articles and intriguing case studies. Whether you're a seasoned professional or a budding entrepreneur, "The Industry Corner" is your compass, keeping you well-informed and arming you with the knowledge to make savvy decisions in your projects and businesses.

The Remarkable Journey of Tiles in India: From Mud Floors to Global Prominence

Tiles have been an integral part of India's architectural and interior design landscape for centuries. In this

article, we'll embark on a journey through time, charting the remarkable evolution of tiles in India. Our source of inspiration is Lakshmi Ceraamics, one of the most successful retailers in the tile industry. Their insights provide a unique perspective on the historical and technological transformations that have shaped this industry.

A Glimpse into History

In the annals of Indian architecture, mud floors held a prominent place, offering a durable and affordable flooring solution. Mixed with clay and cow dung, these floors were comfortable and maintained a cool ambiance, but they had their drawbacks, including dustiness and ant infestations. The early 20th century witnessed the rise of cement floors, which, when coated with Red Oxide, became the latest trend then. During the 80s, natural stones like Indian marble and granite played a major role in providing flooring and wall solutions. However, over time, they gradually faded out due to their dull finish compared to tiles and the lengthy process of procurement, laying, and polishing compared to tiles.

The history of ceramic floor tiles found its roots in Italy, while wall tiles hailed from Spain, a tradition dating back to the Roman Empire. Interestingly, the technology behind these tiles was brought to India by the British, Italians, and the Spaniards. Today, India ranks third in tile manufacturing, even surpassing China in digital printing technology.

The 20th Century Transformation

The 20th century marked a significant turning point in India's tile industry. Multiple factors, including a surging demand for housing and advancements in tile-making technologies fuelled the rapid growth of the industry. In the 1980s, Indian marble and granite were popular choices for flooring and walls. However, as time passed, they became less popular due to their dull appearance compared to tiles and the longer process of getting them installed and polished. Based on the requirements of design and durability, tiles have been researched and developed into two additional variants.

If we consider ceramic floor and wall tiles, they are considered the first generation which have a dual body with water absorption between 3 to 12%. In ceramics, the print fades depending on traffic. Whereas natural stones like marble and granite maintain their colour and design even when the polish fades away. Inspired by this, the second generation of tiles has been developed and named Polish Vitrified Tiles, with a mono body and designs embedded in it with water absorption of 0.05%. This makes it more durable and long-lasting compared to

a ceramic tile. However, the constraint was the design and patterns. To overcome this hiccup, the third-generation tile has been developed named Glazed Vitrified Tiles. It is a fusion of ceramic and vitrified tile. It has a dual body like a ceramic tile and water absorption at 0.05% like a vitrified tile. After this remarkable development, tile sizes have increased from 1'x1' to a massive 10'x4'.

Today, India stands as one of the world's largest producers of tiles, using materials such as ceramic, porcelain, and natural stone. With a vast array of Colours, designs, and finishes, modern tiles have become an essential element of interior design worldwide. Also, we have updated manufacturing facilities such as Continua Plus and Dry Granola technologies. Continua Plus helps to achieve better surface flatness and greater productivity, while Dry Granola produces a mirror-like reflection on high-polished tiles.

THE MARCH OF INNOVATION

Spartek Tiles played a pioneering role in India, introducing innovative tile sizes such as 1'x1' and 16'x16' nearly three decades ago. Today, you can find 10'x4' tiles with various thickness options to suit different uses. For floor tiling, you can choose from glossy, matte, slate, rock surface, and more, echoing the dynamic nature of the tile industry. Tile design is fashion-oriented, with styles evolving every two years. Tiles have transcended their plain beginnings and now boast screen printing and digital technologies, offering intricate designs and patterns resembling natural marble, stone, and wood all across the globe.

THE RISE OF DIGITAL PRINTING

Gone are the days of slow roller printing; modern tiles utilize digital technology akin to an inkjet printer. This innovation eliminates the need for a smooth surface, as the digital process can adapt to rough textures. With the ability to use up to 12 colours, this technology ensures that a 100-pixel picture can be printed with precision. The time required for tile production has significantly reduced, from 48 hours in the past to a mere 45 minutes today.

FROM UTILITY TO LUXURY

Initially, tiles were used in government buildings, kitchens, and bathrooms. In the past, houses had just one toilet, but today, a typical home boasts three or more. What was once confined to balconies has now expanded to cover entire homes. Tiles have replaced traditional options like paint and mica, with prices remaining stable in spite of the advances in technology. There are now 66 crore tile industries globally, showcasing the industry's immense growth.

THE ROLE OF



Lakshmi Ceraamics has had a remarkable journey spanning 26 years and has witnessed this transformative journey firsthand. When the brand emerged in 1997, the tile market was vastly different. Basic 6"x6" or 8"x4" plain and cadmium tiles were not luxury products but essential commodities, known for their utility and user-friendliness. Lakshmi Ceraamics' vision in the ceramic industry and dedication to providing good service to their customers have made them invest hugely in showrooms, displays, and stocks. Today, they stand as a leader across India and a role model of a good retailer. They currently have a presence throughout the state and are expanding into nearby states such as Kerala and Karnataka.

A GLOBAL PLAYER: THE MORBI CONNECTION

Over the past 25 years, Morbi in Gujarat has become a thriving tile manufacturing hub with approximately 700 tile companies. Even China struggles to compete with Morbi's prowess. In the realm of vitrified tiles, China remains a leader. However, Morbi has managed to capture approximately 35% of the global market share, a testament to its competitive edge.

CHALLENGES AND TRIUMPHS

The tile industry, like any other, faces challenges. Freight charges account for 15% of the overall costs, while taxes contribute an additional 18%. Nevertheless, the southern market, led by a Morbi like hub being developed in Andhra Pradesh, is steadily gaining ground with five prominent companies, potentially increasing to 15. This growth promises quicker tile deliveries for customers especially in the south.

THE FUTURE OF TILES: A GLIMPSE AHEAD

As we look to the future, the tile industry continues to evolve. This transformation is in line with the ever-changing demands and preferences of consumers.

The evolution of tiles in India is a testament to innovation and adaptability. From humble terracotta beginnings to a global industry, tiles have come a long way. The journey of Lakshmi Ceraamics from a small retail shop to one of the leading retailers and distributors of tiles and sanitaryware in India, provides valuable insight into this transformation.

As India stands proudly among the world's top tile producers, the industry's future looks promising.



Ar. Arun Prasad Prakashan

Proprietor and
Principal Architect Planner

Arun & Associates, Trichy Road, Coimbatore.

Ar. Arun Prasad is a member of the City Technical Advisory Group (CTAG) in Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) for Coimbatore city in Tamil Nadu. He is the Past Chairman of Indian Institute of Architects, Coimbatore Center (IIA-CC). He is also a member of Board of Studies, Anna University, Coimbatore.

PROJECT AT A GLANCE

Sri Nachammal Vidya Vani School

Location: Thekkalur, Avinashi

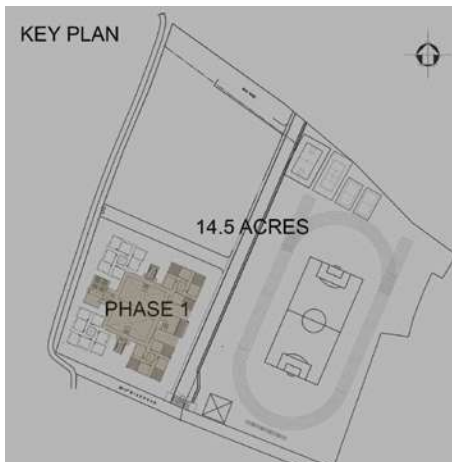
Site Area: 14.5 Acres

Total Built-up Area: 1,26,660 sq.ft

No. of Floors: 3 (Ground, 1st & 2nd)

Total Footage per Floor: 42,220 sq.ft

Height of Each Floor: 12'6"



Transforming Infrastructure: Precast Technology

Sri Nachammal Vidya Vani School in Thekkalur, Avinashi is spread across 14.5 sprawling acres. This project is a testament to modern construction innovation.



The Need for Precast Technology

The challenge was to construct an entire school complex within a mere three months. In the quest for a solution that blended speed with structural integrity, the choice was clear: Modern Precast Concrete Technology.

Precast technology involves the manufacturing of building elements such as beams, slabs, columns, and staircases at a factory.

These elements are then transported to the site and assembled with the precision of a well-orchestrated symphony, facilitated by cranes.



The Precast Construction Methodology

The heart of this innovation lies in the use of hollow core slabs and reinforced concrete (RCC) shear walls. Hollow core slabs are distinguished by tubular voids running the length of the slab, reducing weight without compromising strength. These slabs, spanning 120 cm in width and thicknesses ranging from 15 cm to 50 cm, eliminate the need for intermediate beams and expedite the construction process significantly.



Advantages

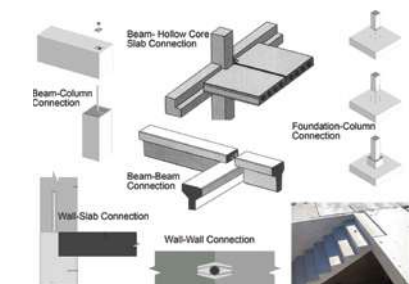
The adoption of precast technology offers a plethora of benefits, including:

- **Elevated Quality:** The method guarantees increased and consistent quality, with tolerances measured in millimetres.
- **Rapid Construction:** No plastering, no centering of formwork, and minimal coordination – precast technology is synonymous with speed.
- **Optimal Resource Utilization:** A reduction in labour requirements, streamlined land use, and efficient material consumption underscore the sustainability of the approach.
- **Reduced Disruption:** With just-in-time construction and minimal noise pollution, precast technology is harmonious with its surroundings.
- **Resource Efficiency:** The prefabrication process in a controlled factory environment results in precise material consumption, saving labour, time, & costs.

Quality Assured

The use of M50 grade concrete underscores the project's commitment to durability and longevity. The Sri Nachammal Vidya Vani School, powered by modern precast technology, is not just about bricks and mortar. It represents a visionary approach

to construction, redefining the very timeline and possibilities of large-scale projects. It's an example of what can be achieved when innovation meets education, creating a sustainable foundation for future generations.





வீடும் வாழ்வும்

நகர நாகரிக மேட்டிமையின் அடையாளங்களில் ஒன்றாக இன்று நாடு முழுவதும் கற்காறை (கான்கிரீட்) வீடுகள் உருவாகி வருகின்றன.

காலனிய ஆட்சியின் தொடக்கப் பகுதியில் தமிழ்நாட்டில் 90 விழுக்காட்டு மக்கள் பனை, தென்னை, புல் வகைகள் வேய்ந்த கூரை வீடுகளில்தான் வாழ்ந்தனர். இவ்வீடுகளின் சுவர்கள் குழிசைகளாக இருந்தால் செங்கல் இல்லாத மண்சுவர்களாகவும், சற்றே பெரிய இரண்டு அறை வீடுகள் சுடப்படாத செங்கல் சுவர்களாகவும்.

அதைவிடப் பெரிய வீடுகள் சுட்ட செங்கல்லால் கட்டப்பட்டவை யாகவும் அமைந்திருந்தன இந்தத் தொழில்நுட்பம் வெப்ப மண்டலப் பகுதியிலுள்ள எல்லா நாடுகளுக்கும் பொருந்தும்.

இந்த வீடுகளைப் பற்றி நாம் சொல்லக்கூடிய ஒரே குறைபாடு, அவை கழிவறை வசதி இல்லாதவை என்பதுதான், 'கழிவறை' என்ற கோட்பாடும் இடவசதியும் வெப்பமண்டலப் பகுதியான தமிழ்நாட்டில் இல்லை.

'வீடு' என்ற சொல் தொழிற்களத்தில் இருந்து 'விடுபட்டு நிற்கும் இடத்தையே முதலில் குறித்தது.

'விடுதி' என்னும் சொல்லும் அந்தப் பொருளில் வந்ததுதான்

பிற்காலத்தில் மேலோர் மரபில் 'வீடு என்பது மண் உலகத்திலிருந்து விடுபட்டுச் சேர்கிற 'துறக்க'த்தை (சொர்க்கம்) குறிக்க வந்ததாகும். எனக்கும் சொத்து இருக்கிறது என்ற உணர்வை வெளிப்படுத்த எனக்கும் காணி நிலமும் கலப்பை சார்ந்த இடமும் இருக்கிறது என்ற எளிய மக்களுக்கு வீடு என்பது தொழிற்கருவிகளைப் பாதுகாக்கும் இடமாகவே இருந்திருக்கிறது.

சங்க இலக்கியத்தில் 'வீடு' என்பதற்குப் பதிலாக 'மனை' என்ற சொல்லே காணப்படுகிறது.

உண்டு, உறங்கி, இனம் பெருக்கும் இந்த இடத்துக்குரியவள் 'மனைவி' எனப்பட்டாள்.

நிலத்தில் எல்லாப் பகுதிகளிலும் தெய்வங்கள் உறைகின்றன.

எனவே வீடு கட்டவிருக்கும் நிலத்தில் முனை அறைந்து, கயிறுகட்டி கயிறுநின் நிழல் வழியாகத் திசைகளைக் குறித்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டும். அந்தந்த திசையிலுள்ள தெய்வங்களைக் கண்டறிந்து அவற்றிற்கு வேண்டுவன செய்ய வேண்டும். பின்னரே அந்த நிலத்தில் வீடு கட்டத் தொடங்க வேண்டும் என்பது பழந்தமிழர் நம்பிக்கை.

நாலறி புலவர் நுண்ணிதிற் கயிறிட்டு
தேயம் கொண்டு, தெய்வம் நோக்கி
பெரும்பெயர் மன்னர்க்கு, ஒப்பமனை வகுத்து

- நெடுநெல்வாடை

மனைத் தெய்வங்களையும் திசைத் தெய்வங்களையும் வேண்டி அமைதிப்படுத்தும் (சாந்தி செய்யும்) இந்த சடங்குக்கு 'தச்சு செய்தல்' என்பது இன்றைய பெயராகும்.

நன்றி

பண்பாட்டு அசைவுகள்

- தொ.பரமசிவன்

Compiled by

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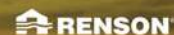
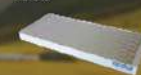
The Importance of Ventilation

As occupants, we are increasingly aware of the fact that energy efficient construction should be a qualitative and long-term investment in a healthy and comfortable future. After all, an airtight and well insulated construction can dramatically reduce our energy bills.

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Mr. Nithyananth is a specialist in Risk Management and Risk Transfer, with 23 years of experience in Marketing, Insurance, and Investment fields. Over the last four years, he has consistently achieved MDRT USA (Million Dollar Round Table) recognition. He also specializes in KEYMAN Insurance, Partnership Insurance, and Employer-Employee Insurance.

Workmen's Compensation Insurance – Do's and Don'ts

அனைத்து CEBACA உறுப்பினர்களுக்கும் வாழ்த்துக்கள்,

சமூகத்திற்கும் நாட்டிற்கும் சிறந்த சேவை செய்யும் CEBACA இன் அனைத்து உறுப்பினர்களுக்கும் முதலில் வாழ்த்துக்கள். ஏனெனில் கட்டுமானத் தொழில் இந்தியாவின் மொத்த ஜிடிபியில் கிட்டத்தட்ட 18% பங்களிக்கிறது மற்றும் ஆண்டுக்கு ஆண்டு அது வளர்ந்து வருகிறது. நீங்கள் இந்தியப் பொருளாதாரம் மற்றும் வேலைவாய்ப்புடன் கூடிய உள்ளூர் சமூகத்தின் தூண்கள்.

ஒரு எண்ணம் என் மனதில் தோன்றியது, உங்களில் பெரும்பாலோர் 20 ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முன்பு அல்லது அதற்கும் முன்பாக வணிகத்தைத் தொடங்கினார்கள், தற்போதைய நிலையை அடைய, நீங்கள் அனைவரும் பெரும் போராட்டங்கள், தொழில் ஏற்ற இறக்கங்கள் மற்றும் ஒழுங்குமுறை மாற்றங்கள் போன்றவற்றை கடந்து வந்திருக்க வேண்டும். ஆனால் நீங்கள் அனைவரும் அனைத்து போராட்டங்களையும் முறியடித்தீர்கள். பேரார்வம் மூலம் மட்டுமே இதை அடைந்திருக்க முடியும் என நான் நம்புகிறேன்,

நீங்கள் தொழிலைத் தொடங்கிய அதே நேரத்தில், உங்களோடு சேர்ந்து பலர் அதே கட்டுமானத் தொழிலைத் தொடங்கி இருப்பார்கள், அவர்கள் அனைவரும் வெற்றியடைந்து தங்கள் நிலையை

அடைந்து விட்டார்களா ?, அவர்கள் அனைவரும் வெற்றிபெறவில்லை என்று நான் உறுதியாக நம்புகிறேன்? நீங்கள் வெற்றியடைந்தீர்கள் என்றால், உங்கள் ஆர்வம், கடின உழைப்பு, நிலைத்தன்மை மற்றும் விடாமுயற்சி ஆகியவைதான் காரணமாக இருக்க முடியும், வேறு எதுவும் இருக்க வாய்ப்பு இல்லை.

உங்கள் வணிகத்தில் நீங்கள் மிக முக்கியமான நபர். நீங்கள்தான் உங்கள் வணிகத்தில் மிகவும் மதிப்புமிக்க சொத்து. உங்களுக்கு என் மனப்பூர்வமான பாராட்டுக்கள். நீங்கள் அனைவரும் இன்னும் மேன்மேலும் பல சாதனைக்கள் புரிய வாழ்த்துக்கள்

தொழிலாளர் இழப்பீடு சட்டம் 1923

தொழிலாளர் இழப்பீட்டுச் சட்டம், 1923 என்பது ஒரு வகையான சமூகப் பாதுகாப்புச் சட்டமாகும், இது செயலிழந்த அதன் ஊழியர்களுக்கு அல்லது இறப்பு ஏற்பட்டால் அவர்களைச் சார்ந்தவர்களுக்கு இழப்பீடு வழங்குவதற்கு முதலாளி பொறுப்பேற்க வேண்டும். வேலையின் போது அல்லது வேலையின் போது ஏற்படும் விபத்து அல்லது காயம் (சில தொழில் சார்ந்த நோய் உட்பட) ஏற்பட்டால் இழப்பீடு வழங்கப்படும், இதன் விளைவாக தொழிலாளியின் மொத்த அல்லது பகுதி ஊனம் அல்லது இறப்பு ஏற்படுகிறது.

ஒரு முதலாளி என்ற முறையில், எங்கள் திட்டத்தில் ஈடுபட்டுள்ள ஊழியர்களுக்கு இழப்பீடு வழங்குவதற்கான பொறுப்பு எங்களுக்கு உள்ளது.

கட்டுமானத் தொழிலில் வேலையின் போது விபத்து அல்லது காயம் ஏற்படும் அபாயம் அதிகமாக உள்ளது, அதன் வேலையின் தன்மை காரணமாக. மேலும் முக்கிய ஆபத்து பெரும்பாலான தொழிலாளர்கள் தினசரி அல்லது வாரக் கூலிக்கு வேலை செய்கிறார்கள். எங்களால் தனிப்பட்ட பெயர் காப்பீடு எடுக்க முடியாது, ஏனெனில் அவர்கள் அவ்வப்போது மாறிக்கொண்டே இருக்கும். அந்த நோக்கத்திற்காக மட்டுமே நாங்கள் பெயரிடப்படாத பணியாளர் இழப்பீட்டுக் கொள்கையை எடுக்குமாறு அறிவுறுத்தினோம். இது குறிப்பிட்ட தளத்தில் பணிபுரியும் அனைத்து நபர்களையும் உள்ளடக்கியது. இது பணியின் போது பணியாளருக்கு ஏதேனும் விபத்து அல்லது காயம் ஏற்பட்டால் இழப்பீட்டுக்கான எங்கள் பொறுப்பைப் பாதுகாக்கிறது.

மருத்துவச் செலவுகளுடன் அல்லது இல்லாமலும் நாம் காப்பீடு எடுத்துக் கொள்ளலாம்

செய்யவேண்டியவையும்,
செய்யக்கூடாதவையும்

என்னென்ன செய்ய வேண்டும்
என்பதை ஒவ்வொன்றாகப்
பார்ப்போம்.

1. முதலாவதாக, அந்தத் திட்டத்தில்
ஈடுபட்டுள்ள அனைத்துப்
பணியாளர்களையும்
உள்ளடக்கியதாக இருக்க வேண்டும்,
ஊழியர்களின் எண்ணிக்கை
மற்றும் அவர்களின் சராசரி
சம்பளம் குறித்து காப்பீட்டாளரிடம்
தெளிவாக அறிவிக்க வேண்டும்.
அறிவிக்கப்பட்ட தொழிலாளர்களின்
எண்ணிக்கை அல்லது குறைவான
ஊதியத்தை நாம் தவிர்க்க
வேண்டும்.

2. வருகைப் பதிவேடு முதல்
நாளிலிருந்தே முறையாகப்
பராமரிக்கப்பட வேண்டும். இது
மிக முக்கியமான ஆவணம்,
விபத்து நேரத்தில் அந்தத் தளத்தில்
காயமடைந்த பணியாளர் என்பதை
நிரூபிக்க முக்கியப் பங்கு வகிக்கிறது.

3. அனைத்து ஊழியர்களுக்கும்
வழங்கப்படும் ஊதியத்தின்
சரியான பதிவு. ஏனெனில் இது
ஊழியர்களுக்கான இழப்பீட்டைக்
கணக்கிடுவதற்கான முக்கியமான
ஆவணமாகும்.

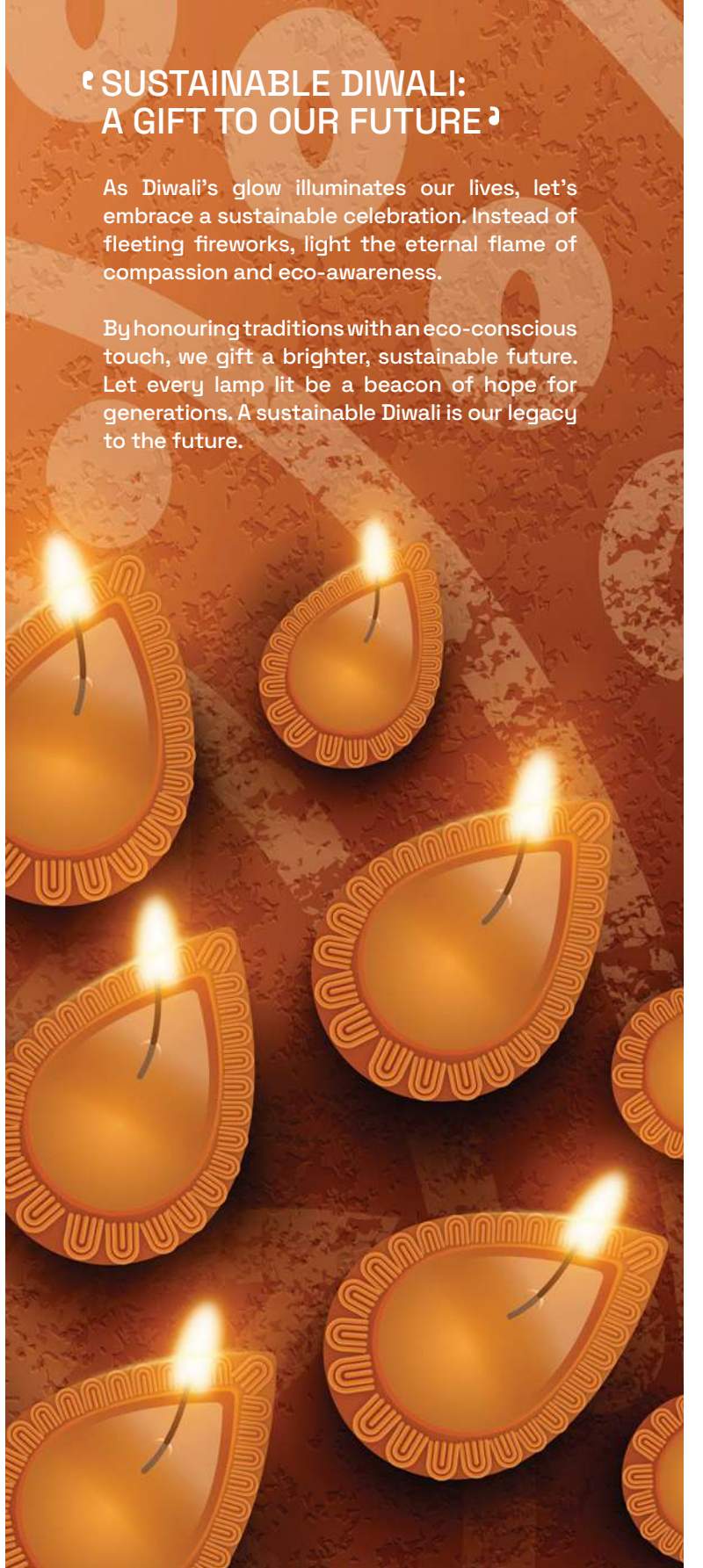
4. அனைத்து ஊழியர்களும்
முறையாகப் பயிற்சி
பெற்றிருப்பதையும், அவர்கள்
பணிபுரியும் போது அனைத்து
பாதுகாப்பு நடவடிக்கைகளையும்
மேற்கொள்கிறார்கள் என்பதையும்
உறுதிப்படுத்திக் கொள்ளுங்கள்.

5. பணியாளர் ஆல்கஹால் அல்லது
போதைப்பொருளின் தாக்கம்
இருக்கக்கூடாது .

‘SUSTAINABLE DIWALI: A GIFT TO OUR FUTURE’

As Diwali's glow illuminates our lives, let's embrace a sustainable celebration. Instead of fleeting fireworks, light the eternal flame of compassion and eco-awareness.

By honouring traditions with an eco-conscious touch, we gift a brighter, sustainable future. Let every lamp lit be a beacon of hope for generations. A sustainable Diwali is our legacy to the future.





S. Durairaj

Advocate

Tax Advocate for CEBACA

The Indian Tax Advisors, Coimbatore.

TITA is a law firm specializing in the field of GST, Income Tax, Benami Act, Prevention of Money Laundering Act, Foreign Exchange Management Act, Central Excise, Customs, Service Tax, Foreign Trade Policy, Commercial Taxes and MSME Act. TITA is headed by S. Durairaj, an Advocate, who has vast experience in the indirect taxation field.

GREEN CREDIT Lifestyle for Environment - LIFE

Green Credit programme is being launched at the national level to leverage a competitive market-based approach for green credit that incentivizes environmental actions of various stakeholders. The Green Credit Program (GCP) was notified on October 12th, 2023, by the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change [Green Credit Rules, 2023 - Section 3, Section 6, and Section 25 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986)]. It is an innovative market-based mechanism designed to incentivize voluntary environmental actions across diverse sectors, by various stakeholders like individuals, communities, private sector industries, and companies.

The GCP's governance framework is supported by an inter-ministerial Steering Committee, and The Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) serves as the GCP Administrator, responsible for program implementation, management, monitoring, and operation.

"Green Credit" means a singular unit of an incentive provided for a specified activity, delivering a positive impact on the environment. The green credit program shall incentivize environmental positive actions through a market-based mechanism and generate green credit, which shall be tradable and made

available for trading on a domestic market platform. The green credit program shall encourage industries, companies, and other entities to meet their existing obligations or other obligations under any law for the time being in force and encourage other persons and entities to undertake voluntary environmental measures by generating or buying green credit:

Provided that the green credit generated or procured to fulfil any obligation in compliance with any law for the time being in force shall not be tradable.

The green credit will arise from taking measures in the following environmental activities:

- **Tree plantation** - to promote activities for increasing the green cover across the country.
- **Water management** - to promote water conservation, water harvesting, and water use efficiency or water savings, including treatment and reuse of wastewater.
- **Sustainable agriculture** - to promote natural and regenerative agricultural practices and land restoration to improve productivity, soil health, and nutritional value of food produced.
- **Waste management** - to promote circularity, sustainable, and improved practices for waste management, including collection, segregation, and environmentally sound management.
- **Air pollution reduction** - to promote measures for reducing air pollution and other pollution abatement activities.
- **Mangrove conservation and restoration** - to promote measures for the conservation and restoration of mangroves.
- **Eco mark label development** - to encourage manufacturers to obtain the Eco mark label for their goods and services.
- **Sustainable building and infrastructure** - to encourage the construction of sustainable buildings and other infrastructure using environmentally friendly technologies & materials.

An individual or organization seeking green credit must register their activity with the Administrator in order to receive the credit. The application for registration should be submitted electronically through a website created by the Central Government for this purpose. Once the application is received, a designated agency will verify the activity. After conducting any necessary inquiries, the designated agency will submit a report to the Administrator verifying the applicant's activities, in accordance with the guidelines established for this purpose.



Upon receipt of the verification report, the Administrator will issue the applicant a green credit certificate. The methodology for calculating the green credit for any activity will be as specified by the Central Government upon the recommendation of the Administrator.

The calculation of green credit for any activity will be based on the equivalence of resource requirements, parity of scale, scope, size, and other relevant parameters necessary to achieve the desired environmental outcome. The methodology for evaluating and verifying the activities undertaken for the purpose of calculating green credit will be determined by the Administrator.

The Administrator will determine the manner and details required for registration of activities. The Administrator will electronically develop the website for registration of activities, evaluation and verification of activities undertaken, and award of green credit in respect of such verified activities.

The Administrator will establish and maintain a trading platform with the approval of the Central Government. This platform will perform functions related to the trading of green credit, in accordance with the guidelines established by the Administrator with the approval of the Central Government.



Mega Structures

Three Gorges Dam (China)

(மூன்று ஆழ்பள்ளத்தாக்கு அணை)

மனிதரால் உருவாக்கப்பட்ட ஒரு கட்டுமானம்

நமது பூமியின் சுழற்சி வேகத்தையே பாதிக்கிறது என்ற தகவல் நம்புவதற்கு மிகவும் கடினமானது, ஆம், அது அறிவியல் பூர்வமான உண்மை, சுமார் 4200 கோடி டன் எடை கொள்ளளவு கொண்ட தண்ணீரை 400 சதுர மைல் பரப்பளவில் ஒரே இடத்தில் சேமிக்க வைக்கப்பட்டிருப்பதால் பூமியுனுடைய Centre of Mass* ல் ஏற்படும் மாறுபாட்டால் அதன் சுழற்சி வேகத்தை ஒரு நாளின் 0.06 Micro Second* அளவு குறைக்கிறது என்பது அறிவியல் பூர்வமாக நிரூபிக்கப்பட்ட உண்மையாகும்.



அப்படிப்பட்ட ஒரு Mega Structure பற்றி இந்த கட்டுரையில் காண்போம்.

புதுமையான சீனாவின் தந்தை என்றழைக்கப்பட்ட சன்-யாட்-சன் என்பவர்தான் இந்த அணை கட்டுவதற்கான ஆலோசனையை வழங்கினார். இந்த அணையானது சீனாவின் ஹூபேய் மாகாணத்திலுள்ள யில்லிங் மாவட்டத்திலிருக்கும் சான்டோப்பிங் நகரத்தில் ஓடும் யாங்சி ஆற்றின் குறுக்கே கட்டப்பட்டதாகும்.

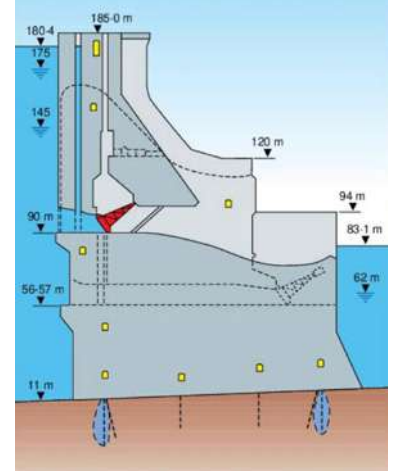
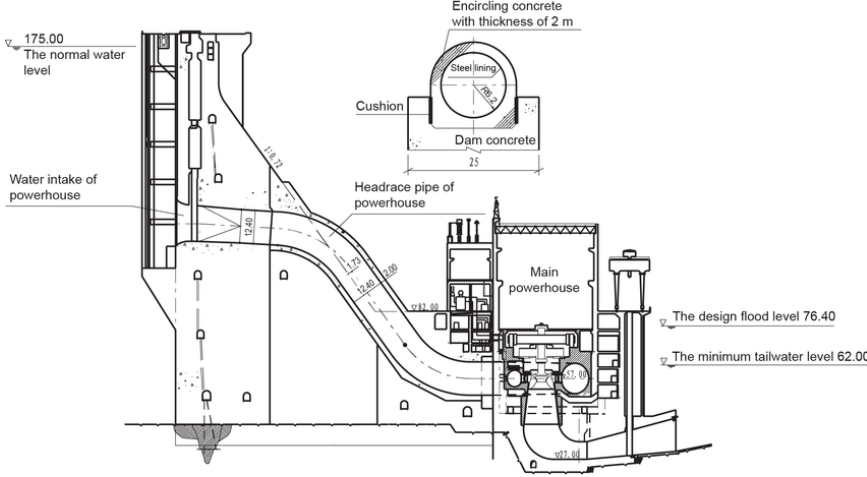
இந்த அணை கட்டப்படுவதற்கு முன் 1931 ல் யாங்சி ஆற்றில் ஏற்பட்ட வெள்ளப் பெருக்கின் காரணமாக ஏறக்குறைய 37 லட்சம் பேர் உயிரிழந்தனர், 4 கோடி மக்களுக்குமேல் தங்கள் வீடுகளையும் உடைமைகளையும் பரிகொடுத்தனர்.

1944 ஆம் ஆண்டில் அமெரிக்க மீட்பு பணியகத்தின் தலைமை பொறியாளர் John L. Savage என்பவர் அந்தப் பகுதியை ஆராய்ந்து அணை கட்டுமானப் பணிகளுக்கான வரைபடங்களை தயாரித்தார்.

54 சீன பொறியாளர்கள் அமெரிக்காவுக்கு சென்று பயிற்சி பெற்று வந்தனர். அணை கட்டுமானத்துக்கான ஆரம்ப பணிகள் தொடங்கப்பட்டது, ஆனால் சீன மற்றும் ஜப்பான் போர், பொருளாதார மற்றும் அரசியல் காரணங்களால் இந்த திட்டம் கைவிடப்பட்டது. 50 ஆண்டுகளுக்கு பிறகு 1992 ல், சீன தேசிய மக்கள் காங்கிரஸ் இந்த திட்டத்திற்கு ஒப்புதல் அளித்தது.

1994 ஆம் ஆண்டு தொடங்கப்பட்ட கட்டுமானப்பணி 15 ஆண்டுகள் தொடர்ந்து நடந்து 2008 ஆம் ஆண்டு

கட்டி முடிக்கப்பட்டது. இந்த அணையுடன் சேர்த்து, ஒவ்வொன்றும் 700 மெகாவாட் மின்சாரத்தை உற்பத்தி செய்யக்கூடிய 32 மெகாTurbine களும், 50 மெகாவாட் மின் உற்பத்தி செய்யக்கூடிய 2 சிறிய Turbine களும் இந்த அணையில் நிறுவப்பட்டது இதன் சிறப்பம்சமாகும். அணையின் ஒட்டுமொத்த மின் உற்பத்தி திறன் 22.5 Gigawatts களாகும். ஒரு Gigawatts என்பது 100 கோடி Watts களாகும்.



ஒரு ஆண்டுக்கு உற்பத்தி செய்யப்படும் சராசரி மின்சார அளவு 115 Terawatts களாகும். ஒரு Terawatts என்பது ஒரு Trillion (ஒரு லட்சம் கோடி) Watts களாகும். இன்றைய நிலவரப்படி இந்த அணைதான் உலகின் மிகப்பெரிய நீர்மின் உற்பத்தி நிலையமாகும்.

இது ஒட்டுமொத்த சீனாவின் 11% மின் தேவையை பூர்த்தி செய்கிறது.

இந்த அணைத் திட்டத்தால் மின்சார உற்பத்தி மற்றும் வெள்ளக்கட்டுப்பாடு தவிர ஆற்றில் பெரிய கப்பல்கள் செல்லும் வசதியும் கிடைக்கிறது. சீன அரசாங்கம் இத்திட்டத்தை வரலாற்றுச் சிறப்புமிக்க பொறியியல், சமூக, பொருளாதார வெற்றியாகக் கருதுகிறது. எனினும் அணையினால் பல தொல்பொருள், பண்பாட்டு இடங்கள் நீரில் மூழ்கிவிட்டன. 13 லட்சம்

மக்கள் இடம் பெயர்ந்தனர். மேலும் இதனால் குறிப்பிடத்தக்க வகையில் சூழ்நிலை மாற்றம் ஏற்பட்டது; நிலச்சரிவு ஏற்படுவதற்கான வாய்ப்புகளும் அதிகமாகின. இந்த அணையானது சர்ச்சைக்குரியதாகவே சீனாவிலும், வெளிநாடுகளிலும் பலரால் பார்க்கப்படுகிறது.

அணையின் கட்டுமான விபரம்:

நீளம்	2.33 km
உயரம்	600 அடி
அடித்தள அகலம்	377 அடி
மேல்புர அகலம்	131 அடி
வழிகால் அளவு	41,00,000 C.FEET
மொத்த கான்கிரிட்	2,14,30,000 M.CUB
மொத்த கம்பி	4,63,000 M.T
திட்ட செலவு	1,82,000 Crore

*Centre of mass: ஒரு பொருளின் பொருண்மை (எடை) மையம் என்பது அந்த பொருளின் எடையை சமனிலைப்படுத்தக்கூடிய ஒரு மையப்புள்ளி ஆகும்.

*Micro second: ஒரு வினாடியில் பத்துலட்சத்தில் ஒரு பங்கு: 1வினாடி/ 10 லட்சம்.

Compiled by

J Sagayaraj

DEE JAY ESS Constructions (I) Pvt. Ltd.

Sustainable Environment

THE ROOTS COFFEE BAY



S. Jeyakumar,
Principal Landscape Architect



Sushma Jeyakumar,
Director

Jeyakumar Associates is a landscape architectural design firm established in 2000 with over 23 years of experience handling various project types. They have won awards including the National Landscape Award by ISOLA in 2015 and the Young Architect Award by The Indian Institute of Architects in 2014.

Their projects have been published in international books, journals, magazines, and newspapers. Ar. S. Jeyakumar is currently the Chairman of The Indian Institute of Architects, Coimbatore Centre.



THE DESIGN

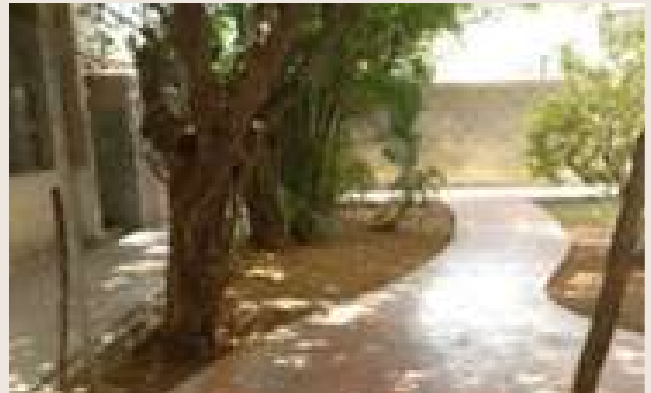
A previously underutilized setback space between two buildings within an industrial campus has been transformed into a vibrant and functional area for office staff to enjoy during their coffee breaks. The design aims to cultivate a cozy atmosphere, offering a much-needed respite in the midst of a busy workday.

THE SITE

Nestled between two contrasting buildings—one a noisy factory and the other a serene R&D department—the site measures 28 feet in width and 64 feet in length. It is adorned with four fully grown Ficus trees and includes pathways for easy movement across the area.

THE REQUIREMENTS

The client envisioned this space as a haven for the often-stressed R&D staff. The goal was to create a setting that could serve as both a mental diversion and an informal outdoor cafeteria. To block the view of the factory building, a screen wall was proposed to not only obscure the sight but also serve as a feature wall.



THE MATERIALS

The material palette emphasizes locally sourced, natural elements. Granite cobbles were chosen for flooring due to their low maintenance. Palm wood, which resists overheating in direct sunlight, was used for the benches. Bamboo screens accompany these benches, and an exposed brick wall adds a rustic touch to the overall design.

THE CONSTRUCTION PROCESS

Before construction began, all existing tiles and pathways were removed while preserving the mature Ficus trees. Foundation work was meticulously planned to avoid damaging tree roots. Planter boxes



were crafted from reinforced concrete and finished with treated palm wood and rough stone. The pergola, featuring CNC-patterned sheets replicating leaf designs, was constructed of steel. To stay true to its central theme of preserving and celebrating the Ficus trees, most of the design decisions were made on-site, emphasizing the importance of the project and promoting its positive impact. The site was regularly visited to monitor the progress, and it was interesting to note that most of the design decisions and planning were made on site. This approach allowed the essence of the project to revolve around the Ficus trees, and the majority of the arrangements were made to preserve them. The design of the pergola above the serving counter was also finalized on site to ensure that none of the tree branches were cut or harmed during the process.

LIGHT & SHADOW

The all-white grill pergola blends in harmoniously, providing shade and creating captivating light patterns on the seating and floor as the sun shifts throughout the day. A granite serving counter with a chessboard inlay offers an entertaining diversion. Yellow lights were chosen for evening events, such as team celebrations and announcements.

DESIGN ELEMENTS

The built-in benches made of palm wood planks have a raw texture and natural colours that add to

the overall sense of style. To buffer the noise level, an exposed brick screen wall with openings and grill patterns is created on one of the longer sides. Warm yellow lights are installed to highlight the prominent spaces of usage and enhance the aesthetics.

THE PLANTING DESIGN

The four existing Ficus trees lend significant character to the planting design. Plant selection includes semi-shade species like Philodendrons, Spathiphyllums, Scheffleras, and Areca palms, alongside flowering plants like Ixoras, Tabernaemontanas, Alamandas, and Heliconias. Fragrant creepers such as Quisqualis indica and jasmine are draped over pergolas, while foliage plants like Ficus panda and Dracaenas add visual depth.

THE FICUS TREE

The design of this space provides a refreshing environment for workers in the industry. The four existing fully grown Ficus trees are the main design element, giving the space a nature-themed atmosphere that highlights the greenery. The design blends the existing trees harmoniously with the theme. An array of low height shrubs are planted along rustic seaters, gradually rising from the ground to create more ground space for users in this compact dining area.

PATHWAY

The pathway features rough stone paving interspersed with grass patches, contrasting beautifully with existing tiles. Flowering and foliage plants along the walls contribute to the visual aesthetics.

PERGOLA

The pergola, covered in all-white, blends in seamlessly while providing shade from the sun. Below the pergola is a table with a granite counter and chess inlay.

Review Corner

**CEBACA
TIMES** Third Edition
2023-2024

How effectively do you believe our new publication, CEBACA Times, highlights the most current trends, innovations, and best practices in the construction industry? Are there particular areas you would like us to give more emphasis to? Do you have any additional suggestions, feedback, or specific improvement areas in mind for our forthcoming editions? Your input is greatly valued! Please feel free to reach out to us at cebacacbe@gmail.com

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Diamond



Coimbatore Builders & Contractors Association

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