

# BUILDCON ARCHITECTURE

Builders | Architects | Interior Designers | Materials | People | Art | Projects

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16 CITIES | 16 Architects and Interior Designers



## Save Tree, Save Life

The Amazon Rainforest is Referred to as "The Lungs of the Earth".

Buidcon Architecture Magazine #16

# Save Tree | Save Earth | Save Life

Save trees is a slogan used to motivate people to save trees and plant more trees in the surrounding areas by spreading the importance of trees among people as well as reduce deforestation and cut down of trees. Trees are as much important to our life as food and water. Life becomes very arduous without trees or we can verbalize that life would be finished because the trees are most consequential aspect of giving us a salubrious and opulent life. Save trees is the paramount social awareness now-a-days

For the past month, we are being giving an ear to the news of Amazon rainforest.

The Amazon rainforest has never before has been so much on fire. The fires are largely set by humans clearing areas for development and the blazes may be the first step in an irreversible climate spiral.

There's a reason the Amazon rainforest is referred to as "the lungs of the Earth": It accounts for 17% of the carbon dioxide absorbed by the world's trees and engenders 20% of the oxygen we breathe. At the moment, though, the Amazon is on fire.

The Amazon fires could be a harbinger, or even a trigger, of a "dieback" scenario. If so, the Amazon would no longer help offset climate change by absorbing greenhouse gas, but instead, commence engendering massive amounts of Co2 as it burns, making climate change worse, causing the forest itself to become even drier and more readily flammable. It is feared, we may be entering such a vicious cycle and that it could expedite into a doomsday scenario for humankind.

The prime driver for the historical deforestation of the Amazon has been the clearing of forests by loggers and the subsequent allocation of the unclad land for cattle grazing in service of the global meat. Such clearing of trees opens up the forest canopy, drying out the understory and the edges of growth areas.

The deliberate blazes set by Amazon developers, loggers, and farmers are incontrovertibly being aggravated by global climate change: The rainforest is drier now. There have been three "droughts of the century" lately, in 2005, 2010, and from 2015 to 2016. This feels alarmingly like the first phase of the dieback scenario.

Even without dieback, a proliferation of fires may be the Incipient Mundane as the Earth heats up at an expediting rate. We require to advocate the planting of new trees as a way of slowing down the worsening of the situation. , it's obvious that we may eventually find ourselves providing more dry kindling.

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Life is possible on the earth because of water, oxygen and trees and we cannot ignore that the trees are a source of oxygen and water on the earth. If we are eradicating trees or forests, we are eradicating our lives and the environment from the green earth.

Human beings are considered as the most perspicacious creature on the earth, so we should understand our responsibility towards nature and start preserving trees, The Green Gold of Earth.

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Save Tree  
Save Earth, Save Life

# Suraksha Rajarhat

Principal Architect Bipratip Dhar



## Fact File

**Project Name** - Suraksha Rajarhat

**Principal Architect** - Bipratip Dhar

**Location** - New Town, Kolkata,

**Area** - 33,900 sqft

**Design team** - Bipratip Dhar, Biprajit Poddar,  
Jilmil Rajkhowa Bose, Niharika Tekriwal,  
Sourav Biswas

**Associations** - Council Of Architecture (COA)

## Product Details

**Tiling** - Qutone Tiles

**Marble** - Thar Marbles, Atlantis Marbles, Balaji Marbles

**Veneer** - Provo Veneer

**Laminate** - Merino

**Wall Coverings** - Home Fashions

**Paints** - Asian Paints

**Lighting** - Pooja Electrical, Havells

**Furniture** - J R Suthar Interior Decorators, Featherlite, Imported

**Bath** - Kohler

**Basin** - American Standard

**Shower** - Kohler

**Flooring** - Qutone Tiles, Thar Marbles, Atlantis Marbles, Balaji Marbles

**False Ceiling** - Indian Gypsum

**Mirrors** - Saint Gobain

**Accessories** - Imported



**E**stablished in 1992 as Suraksha Diagnostics & Eye Centre (P) Ltd. In Kolkata, Suraksha remains as one of the finest diagnostic centres in Kolkata to provide all pathology and radiology services under one roof. With centers spread all across the region, the main aim was to set up a state-of-the-art centralized laboratory along with the corporate headquarters. After much deliberation, the state-of-the-art laboratory was proposed on the second, third and fifth floors; the first floor kept for storage and ancillary activities, accession room for delivery/dispatch. Provision for a dumbwaiter lift was also advised from the entrance floor to the lab for quick transportation of the pathological specimens. Open work stations, training rooms, break out areas for the general office were envisaged on the fourth floor level. The uppermost floor of the building would house the corporate floor meant only for the top ranking executives of the organization. The brief for this space included a physically attractive office for the organization without being extravagant; open, well-orchestrated spaces, furnished with break out areas, formal and informal meeting rooms, lounges, workstation areas and private chambers to encourage collaboration and functionality. Spanning over multiple floors, zoning, separating and amalgamating various departments of the office posed a formidable challenge during space planning process.

#### **THE SITE, BUILDING & FAÇADE**

A longitudinal, rectangular strip stretching 50m east to west and 20m north to south worked as an advantage. Even though the plot was deprived of a decent depth, the longitudinal façade running parallel to the adjoining road enhanced the look, with large glazed openings, making full use of the soft north and eastern light all throughout the day. Large, thick walls adorn the rear part of the building facing south and west with few or no openings, minimizing heat intake. The elevators, stair cases and other non-occupied service areas are also lined alongside the rear surface of the building. This facilitates two things, firstly, the northern part of the premise is clutter free for open office usage and secondly, these areas also act as a buffer zone between the hot southern sun and the interior.

Conforming to strict regulations and local byelaws, the ground + 6 storied structure makes full use of the available floor area ratios. Thus, the massive rectangular mass is broken down to one large volume of blue glass framed in white, standing on double heighted stilts and a slightly staggered linear mass on the first floor clad in yellow ochre stone. The blue glass is again subdivided into two colour shades spread randomly across the entire surface creating a subtle "splattered" look from a distance. This "splatter" is accentuated further with the formation of dark and light patches after dusk, depending on the varied illumination of the interior spaces. The yellow ochre mass in the lower part of the façade is also punctuated by slender and tall slit windows evenly illuminated at night adding to the drama. A colourful band cutting midway across the glass skin, acts as a highlight to the façade and also adds colour to the interior spaces. An origami inspired artwork adorns the double height wall of the parking area on the ground floor. The sides and rear façade of the building wears a plain look in contrast to the colourful front elevation. Deliberately done, as if, to look away from the larger neighboring buildings, and also, turning one's back to the hot sun.

#### **INTERIORS**

Diffused natural light takes centre stage in the design along with a glare free view of the surrounding. Natural light bathes the entire space all throughout the day changing hue at different times. The various activities of reception, board room, lounges, break out areas and enclosed chambers unfold and separate themselves with the help of transparent glass partitions. Glass plays a unifying role in connecting the various areas visually in the design, incorporating concealed motorized blinds that silently segregate areas whenever privacy is required.

Thus, the waiting area and a meeting room is stylishly tucked away behind the reception that is centrally located, whereas, the board room, lounge and the semi open break out area with lavish chambers occupying both sides. The board room can be further lengthened with the help of sliding doors that connect it to the executive lounge. The executive lounge looks into a semi open space, that performs as an internal breakout area with a large executive chamber looking into it from the other side. A broad central hallway with vases and colour embellishments on the periphery, unifies and connects all activities. The pantry, restrooms and support functions take refuge on the southern side of the structure alongside the stair and lift well.

Tones of beige on the floor compliment and contrast the dark wood finished walls accentuated with grey travertine and concrete texture paint. The rather plain ceiling painted white highlights the illumination fixtures; the large vases add glamour to the otherwise very straight lined and crisp interior. To generate a lively contrast, light coloured fabric and a warm colour palette on furniture & paneling is used against a backdrop of sleek glazing. The interior blends seamlessly with the exterior helping each other in creating open, airy and brightly lit spaces.

The new environment exudes richness and warmth owing to the dark wood paneling and the polished floor embellished with vases carefully picked from various places in India and abroad. The spectacular views of the surrounding seen through abundant glass and contemporary furniture.









**Architect Bipratip Dhar**

#### **About Us**

As architects, we excel in design consultancy and execution for a variety of projects, which range from large complexes to interior designs. Principal ongoing projects of the architectural practice include commercial complexes, hospital, auditoriums, schools and residences. Interior design projects executed so far include hospitality spaces, corporate offices, retail outlets, residences & commercial spaces.

#### **Philosophy**

We believe in incorporating various styles of ideology & philosophy from different eras of architectural history, so as to fulfill the functional & economic requirements the owner intends to serve. At the same time, evokes a positive emotional response from both its users & the public at large. Each project is carefully and individually planned with strong emphasis on design solutions to be harmonious with local, cultural and environmental settings.

Highly resolved & detailed drawings, such as we produce, enables the construction team to achieve the highest aesthetic result, in terms of stability & finish, using the latest technology, specification of materials & structural systems

#### **Present**

By mixing creativity, innovation & flair coupled with a group of client- friendly consultants, we are well placed to deliver design solutions & installations. With almost a 100% client retention ratio, we have at present different architecture and interior design projects in various stages of development.

The exemplified projects are only a small window to our capability, but we believe they illustrate the strength in our versatility & multifariousness of skills.

#### **Epsilon Architecture**

119/1, Prince Golam Hossain Shah Road, Ground floor, "CITY GREENS" Apartment, Jadavpur, Kolkata, 700032