



Issue XXV December 2012

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY

Civil Engineering Construction Contractors

Relationships

...for the success of XPEDEON

Dear Colleagues,

As a Company grows, the need to have improved systems and processes of control also grows. It is an ever evolving task and can never be said to be fully completed. Systems and processes must be developed by the proper application of mind by those who are responsible for the management of the Company as they will only be effective if understood and applied by Senior Management.

A year ago we commenced the process of improvement of our systems and processes by holding a brain storming session for Senior Management. Thereafter, we commenced the task of reexamining and redefining our systems and processes.

Simultaneously, we embarked on migration from the SITE platform to XPEDEON which was an upgraded version of the ERP being offered by our ERP Vendor. That process is now coming to an end and we hope that by the end of this year we shall have migrated to XPEDEON and will be implementing the revised processes laid down for the operations of the Company.

We have already held training sessions for different levels of staff at different locations. The success of implementation will depend very much on how conscientiously Project Managers and Project Controllers take the trouble to understand and implement the systems.

The Quantity Surveyor at each site will play a crucial role in ensuring the success of our endeavour's. But just as he will be dependent on the Store Keepers and Time Keepers to accurately reflect the resources being utilised, the responsibility of the Project Manager to plan and schedule activities, ensure that all resources are requisitioned so that they are available at the right time and are used judiciously without wastage or pilferage cannot be underestimated as the Project Manager is the one finally responsible for the Project.

And as important as it is to understand the obligations of the Company to its clients, it is equally important for us to understand the obligations of the Client and the PMC to enable us to maintain records and documents to protect the interests of the Company.

It is my earnest appeal to all concerned that they take the task of implementing the systems and controls of the Company and in particular the task of using the XPEDEON system, very seriously. The very success of our Company depends on the successful implementation of XPEDEON and therefore indirectly the destiny of each of us who works for the Company.

With my earnest hopes for the success of XPEDEON to enable us to better manage our resources and so improve the performance of the Company.

Kaiyoze Billimoria
Director

"The very success of our Company and therefore indirectly the destiny of each of us who works for the Company depends on the successful implementation of XPEDEON."



In Fond Memory of our Founders

Sneha Natarajan, Sr. Manager - Communication

It was in the year 1957 that two disparate personalities and temperaments came together to work as contractors in Pune - one, a tall hefty man with a dynamic look and very hot tempered and the other, a short slim man with a witty look on his face and extremely calm. As they worked together on various projects, their friendship grew and by October, 1958 culminated in the partnership firm of B.E. Billimoria & Co. Back in 1957, no one could have imagined that these two gentlemen, the late Mr Beji Billimoria and the late Mr Laxmidas Kapadia, would be the future respected stalwarts of the construction industry and our Mentors. Both the Partners were motivated to mainly focus on delivering landmark projects and tried to shun all other unpleasant dealings.

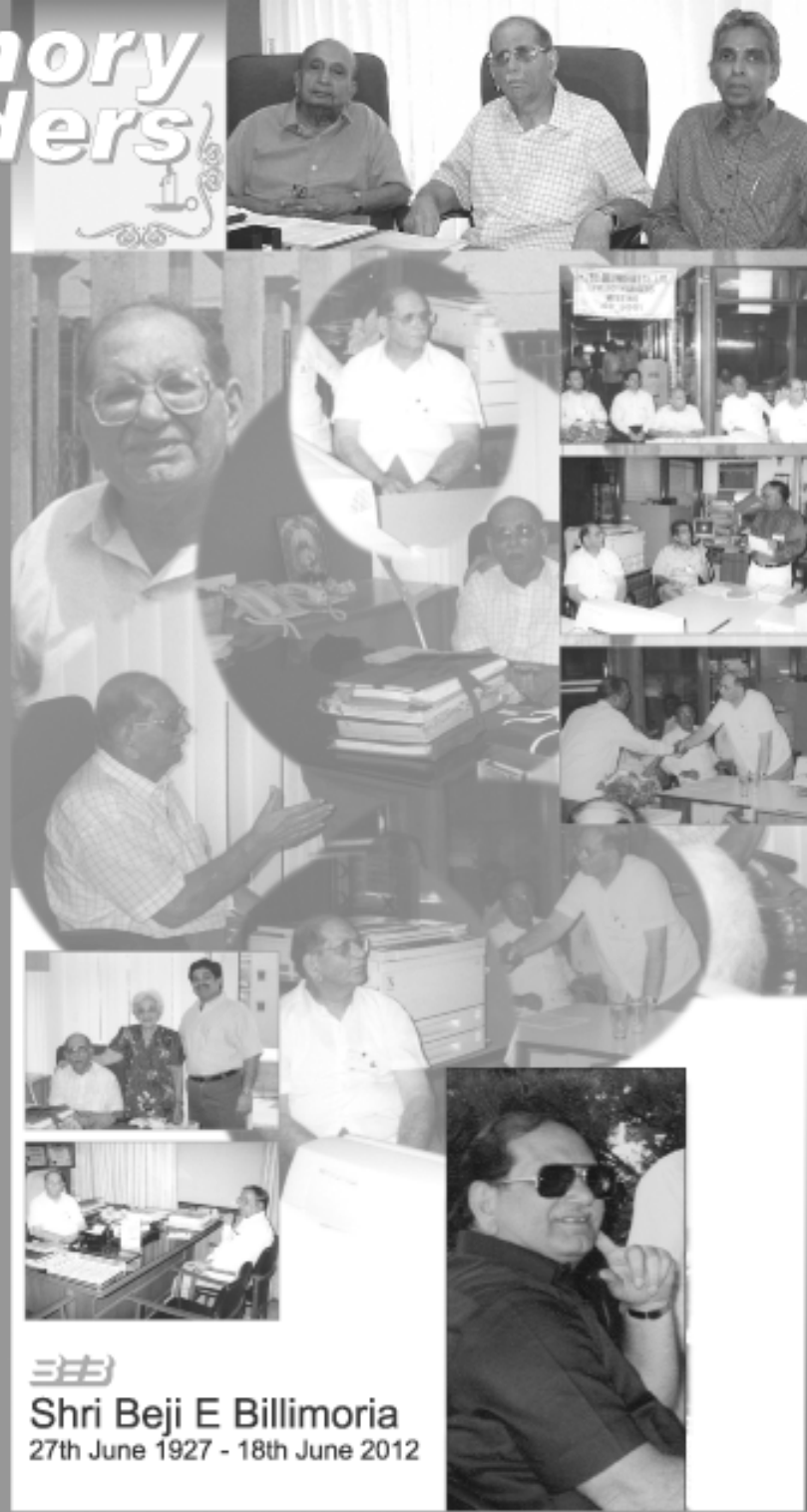
The newly formed partnership firm initially faced major hurdles in getting prequalified due to the lack of any earlier completed projects in the name of the new partnership firm, although they had some experience as contractors in the past. But they overcame these hurdles as they were soon awarded many projects including the Bombay University Clubhouse, the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research and a number of contracts for different types of buildings for the IIT at Powai during the period 1959 to 1962. Thereafter, they marched ahead achieving projects in diverse sectors.

Their philosophy of ensuring that their clients received utmost satisfaction at all levels, earned them the goodwill of reputed clients and patronage from renowned Architects & Consultants in the construction industry. With their superhuman capability to push their engineers to cross their limits to get things done and by their passion and dedication to work, they achieved a place of pride in the construction industry and also won several awards.

Mr Beji Billimoria and Mr Laxmidas Kapadia very religiously followed the practice of maintaining meticulous, complete and true records for all business related events, discussions, decisions, information, instructions and such other matters, however insignificant it may appear. For me it was always an immense joy to work for them both. Their admirable quality was that they agitated about everything where their projects were concerned but then everything was forgotten. Over some 15 years, I had the good fortune of witnessing many a tidbits between the two of them which always ended in good humour. I have so many wonderful memories of them.

I recall an incident sometime in early 1996 when I had handed over my resignation to Mr Beji Billimoria. He immediately tore it up and said "as long as I am here you will not leave this company". His Partner joined in saying "he is right". Their Company has grown at a steady pace and today the size of the Company is much larger and it has turned out to be a reputed entity, although Mr Beji Billimoria and Mr Laxmidas Kapadia had withdrawn their active participation from the company some years ago.

Their sad demise has created a big void not just for their families and the Company, but for me personally as well. Those who knew them, as well as those not knowing much about them, will still feel proud of them for the unique work culture left behind. May their spirit always be a guide for all of us.



Shri Beji E Billimoria
27th June 1927 - 18th June 2012



Shri Laxmidas K Kapadia
25th December 1926 - 1st October 2012

I Observed them from a distance

Dinesh Nayak, Dy. General Manager - Technical & Marketing

I did not have the good fortune to work directly under our Founders, the late Mr. B. E. Billimoria and the late Mr. L. K. Kapadia. When I joined the Company in January 2002, neither of them was deeply involved in the day-to-day affairs of the Company. However, they continued to attend the office every day and therefore, I had the opportunity of observing them from a distance. and so could notice the qualities which enabled them to command such deference in our profession.

The two were different in many ways, yet there were some qualities which were common. The first thing that struck me was their thirst for knowledge even though age was catching up with them. Both would carefully peruse the various technical journals that were received at the office. Having perused them, they would mark various articles and news items to various persons in office. What impressed me was not so much that they were sending these articles but their intuitive grasp of who was the appropriate recipient for a particular article. Such a fine judgment in people is a rarity.

They were also very meticulous in everything they did and were not satisfied till every minute detail was just right. They seemed to believe what Michelangelo had said, "Trifles make perfection but perfection is no trifle."

I also heard a great deal about them from many of our veterans. From all this, I learnt of their struggles and triumphs; their courage of conviction and ability to stand for what they believed to be just and right and above all their clarity of thought.

I could not find a better description for our Founders than the six qualities of great persons described by the 5th Century king-turned-ascetic - Raja Bhartrihari.

"Courage in the face of adversity, humility in triumph;

Eloquence in speech, heroism in struggle;

Pursuit of perfection and passion for knowledge;

These are intrinsic attributes of great souls."

Obituary

Mr. Laxmidas Kalyanji Kapadia expired on 1st October, 2012. Mr. L. K. Kapadia was the co-founder of M/s B. E. Billimoria & Co. Limited, along with Late Mr. Beji E. Billimoria in 1958. Since its inception, M/s B. E. Billimoria & Co., under the joint stewardship Late Mr. Beji E. Billimoria and Late Mr. Laxmidas Kalyanji Kapadia, has enjoyed solid, consistent growth and financial stability and is well known as one of India's leading, dynamic and diversified firms of Civil Engineering Construction Contractors.

'Indian Construction' prays to the almighty to rest the departed soul in peace and grant fortitude to the bereaved families.



“Their Company has grown at a steady pace and today the size of the Company is much larger and it has turned out to be a reputed entity...”



....courtesy:
'Indian Construction' magazine
dt. October 2012

This issue comes out in the shadow of grief at the passing away of our Company's Founders. Both the stalwarts have left a rich legacy for us in terms of values they inculcated in us and by way of a unique work culture. It is but natural that we will be paying tributes to their various qualities of head and heart. But the best way to do so is to recall the many landmark projects our Company has delivered – often under trying circumstances – under their leadership.

In our 54 glorious years of building relationships, we have always been in the forefront of adoption of innovations and new technologies. The credit for this undoubtedly goes to Mr. B. E. Billimoria and Mr. L. K. Kapadia and their adventurous spirit.

It is a matter of privilege for me to recall some of the outstanding projects where innovations and new technologies played a major part.

1. The Indian Airlines hangar at Mumbai Airport – The largest column free space in the world with cantilevered roof. Nothing like this had been attempted anywhere in the world at that time. The present day machinery and equipment was not available. Today also the hangar is in an excellent condition. For the first time in Mumbai, M – 60 grade concrete was used here. That too with 33 grade cement. There was no 43 grade or 53 grade cement then. (Cable length 299 feet; 900 MT of steel supports for the folded plate till entire concreting and stressing was over; Cables made of 9 cables of 12 high tensile wires each encased in concrete; main RCC columns 5' X 2'; The height of the folded plate is 12-1/2 feet; web thickness 3-1/2" and top and bottom slab is 6" thick.

The silhouette of the slim folded plate roof reminds one of a bird who has spread its wings and is about to soar in the sky. This project is symbolic of the spirit of our Company. It is an icon for generations to come.

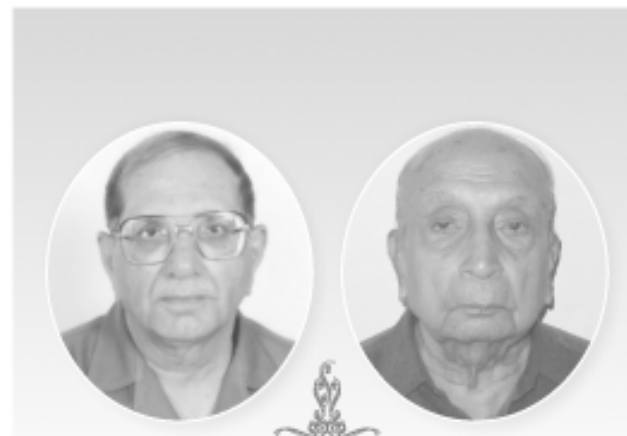
2. Wankhede Stadium – This was one of our finest innings. The work was completed in a record time of 11 months, which is also a world record. A stadium of this size has never been constructed in such a short time. It effectively demonstrated the capabilities of the Company. After so many years and so many matches with overcrowded stands, the stadium is intact. Though, situated close to the sea, the concrete is in an excellent condition.

3. Aurora Junction Fly-over - This was one of the earliest fly-overs in Mumbai. The work on this project is symbolic of the methodical and disciplined manner of working, the high quality of shuttering & the resultant finish and the total absence of disturbance to the traffic below. It was a testimony to the skills and work culture of the company. More than three decades after wards the fly-over is in an excellent condition.

4. Haj House - We won the ACCE Sarvamangala Award in 1992 for Haj House. Those were the days when a high rise building was an exception and not the rule. There were no tower cranes, passenger lifts, ready-mixed concrete, placer booms etc.

A tribute to our founders

Dinesh Nayak, Dy. General Manager - Technical & Marketing



Shri Beji E Billimoria Shri Laxmidas K Kapadia

27th June 1927 - 18th June 2012 25th December 1926 - 1st October 2012



5. 15 years later, we again won this award for our **Turbhe Railway Station structural roof**. The complex geometry and use of steel pipes only, presented unique problems. But our engineers and workers successfully met the challenge.

6. Our engineering prowess came to the fore in **Konkan Railway** where we built several land mark bridges. We received an award for quality construction from Konkan Railway.

7. **IDBI Tower at World Trade Centre, Mumbai** - Today, high-rises are coming up at every nook and corner. But this iconic tower was built when a high rise building was a rarity. It is a testimony to the abilities of our company. This tower is part of the World Trade Centre in Mumbai. This is India's first WTC.

8. **Nehru Planetarium and Discovery of India Hall & Tower** - These are two major landmarks in Mumbai which, Pandit Nehru would have called "Temples of Modern India".

9. We had the distinction of building the worlds largest and India's first **Imax Theatre**.

10. Anybody who passes this **UTI building** in Bandra-Kurla complex cannot help being amazed at the bold design. Above 3rd floor, each floor projects 10' beyond the floor below. It took remarkable ingenuity to transform the architect's vision into reality.

11. **The first intelligent building in India of CMC** - It has many firsts to its credit: External blinds which automatically adjust themselves to the ambient sunlight; card controlled access; a swimming pool and Gym on the top floor; a four quadrant design with each quadrant higher by one-fourth the floor height etc.

12. A leader has to lead and blaze new trails for others to follow. We pioneered the use of **Pre-engineered aluminium form work in India in the Nagari Nivara Parishad project** in Mumbai.

13. **North Star Tower in Bangalore** – One of the largest commercial realty development – a testimony to our capabilities. **This has just been named as the World Trade Centre. This will be India's 2nd WTC.**

14. The **SIRI FORT** and **YAMUNA Sports stadiums for the Commonwealth Games 2010 in New Delhi** will be enduring landmarks.

15. **Hinduja Hospital, Mumbai** – This project is bang on the sea shore and excavated foundations were collapsing frequently with the rise and fall of tides. Our engineers devised a caisson foundation to tackle this problem. This kind of foundation is generally done for bridge foundations in standing water.

It is now up to us to carry the torch forward and take the Company to greater glory. That will be a fitting tribute to the memory of our founders.

The Foundations & Founders of Civil Engineering

Achyut Joshi, Commercial Officer



The foundations

Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18



I want to dedicate this article to Leonard Euler. Euler was one of the founding fathers of all the branches of modern engineering. Born in Basel, a small town in Switzerland in the family of a pastor, Euler would become the greatest Mathematician in Europe. There is no way one can conceive Civil Engineering as it stands today without Euler. Most of the foundations of Civil Engineering discipline are laid down by this great man. But apart from that, he contributed to all the branches of science and engineering which include Number Theory, Graph Theory, Fluid Mechanics, Hydraulics and many others.

Euler apparently had the fortune of being tutored by another great engineer/scientist known as Daniel Bernoulli. There is no way one can ignore Bernoulli in the same way as Euler. Bernoulli contributed to various disciplines including acoustics, fluid mechanics, probability and insurance. In fact the modern insurance and actuarial mathematics is based absolutely on Bernoulli's principles.

Euler at a later point of time in his life moved from Basel to St. Petersburg in Russia on the invitation of Russian Queen Catherine-I. It was here that his creative abilities flourished

beyond limit. In a village called Königsberg, there were 7 bridges on a bifurcated river and the villagers were trying to figure out whether it is possible to cross all 7 of them without crossing one bridge more than twice. Euler not only solved this problem but this was also a beginning of a new branch of Mathematics called Graph Theory.

Modern day Civil Engineering which includes engineering mechanics, transportation, urban and town planning and traffic control relies heavily on this graph theory. But apart from that it found application in all other areas like computer science, electrical, electronics, fluid mechanics, aerospace and air traffic control as well as material science. Every civil engineer knows that Euler & Bernoulli's beam equation is the cornerstone of civil engineering.

Euler's published volume of work is enormous. He published nearly 400 papers and wrote many books in areas like engineering, mechanics, fluid dynamics, optics and autonomy. His eyesight deteriorated in his later years but that did not deter him from making contributions. He still kept doing work with the help of an assistant. With this article I salute this man as one of the greatest mathematicians ever and truly the founder of modern-day Civil Engineering.

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR QUALITY MANAGEMENT - EVENT



B.E. Billimoria & Co. Limited was recently felicitated at the NCQM Learning Centre at a special function held on 22nd September 2012 for being the sustaining corporate member of the NCQM since 2001 and for supporting the organization for more than 10 years. [Corporate Membership No. CM-0431].

Mr Amresh Jalali (Extreme Right), the Management Representative, received the bouquet of flowers and the plaque on behalf of the Company. The "Citation" was read out to the audience before handing over the memento.

FOR OUR ENGINEERS,
&
SHUTTERING FOREMEN

Technical Quiz

THIS CALLS FOR TECHNICAL ABILITY AND INNOVATIVE THINKING

BEAM BOTTOM

USAGE PATTERN

- CUSTOM MADE U HEAD
- BEAM BOTTOM--- MS/ PLYWOOD
- BOTTOM MEMBER TO BE PLACED
- SIDE TO BE ABUTTED TO THE BOTTOM
- WEDGES TO BE FIXED (NO NAILING)
- SHIKANJAS TO BE USED FOR GRIP BETWEEN THE SPACING OF U-HEADS

ADVANTAGES

- GOAL IS THE REDUCTION/TOTAL ELIMINATION OF WOOD - (GRADUALLY)
- RECOVERY OF ASSET VALUE (WOOD WOULD LEAD TO TOTAL WRITE OFF)
- WHEREAS THE "MS MEMBERS" CAN GIVE SALVAGE VALUE (SCRAPPED VALUE)

AIM

- " IS IT WORKABLE / ADOPTABLE / RECEIVABLE BY FIELD STAFF / LABOUR "

Please email your solutions / reactions to beb@bebanco.com and the correct solution will be published in the next Newsletter. Please do not hesitate to respond and let us know your reaction to this unique technical quiz.

R A Residency



We at RA Residency site, Dadar (East) feel proud for having successfully concreted the 4th floor slab of Tower 'B' with the newly acquired Placer boom. With the Placer boom we have been able to expedite the concreting process which eventually will also lead to improvement in Quality. The Placer boom enables us to use different types of concrete grade, while completing the slab at great speed. Concrete can be placed in any required area very quickly. The acquisition of the Placer boom is turning out to be a real time saver for all of us at RA Residency.

Project Update

RESIDENTIAL

NEW

'Aparna Sarovar Grande' at Gachibowli, Hyderabad - 5 residential towers with double basement, ground + 19 upper floors and podium

'ORB Tower' at Noida - 2 residential towers with double basement, ground + 43 upper floors and 1 residential tower with double basement, ground + 47 upper floors

'Ashford Palazzo' at Breach Candy, Mumbai - 1 residential tower with basement, stilt + 6 level podium and Service floor + 11 upper floors

'Mantri Serenity' at ISKCON, Bangalore - 1 residential tower with double basement, ground + 21 upper floors + Terrace and 2 residential tower with double basement, ground + 25 upper floors + Terrace

'North Eye' at Cape Town, Noida - residential tower with double basement, ground + 66 upper floors + Terrace

'RA Residency' at Dadar, Mumbai - 2 residential towers with ground + 5 level podium + 42 floors each and 1 commercial tower with ground + 5 floors having 5 level common podium

'Raheja Waterfront' at Mangalore, Karnataka - 2 towers with ground + 23 floors

'Lotus Complex' at Lower Parel, Mumbai - 2 residential towers with 34 Floors, 1 commercial building with 17 floors & 1 service apartment with double basement, ground + 7 level podium + 38 Floors

'Mahindra Splendour' at Bhandup, Mumbai - 5 towers with 2 level parking and stilt. 2 towers having 32 floors each and 3 towers having 21, 23 and 25 floors each



Mahindra Splendour, Lobby



B.E. Billimoria & Co. Limited

Civil Engineering Construction Contractors

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S. N. Bhat, V. P. - Operations

'Bougenvilla' at Sarjapur, Bangalore - 4 towers with ground + 11 floors

'IREO Victory Valley' at Gurgaon, Hararyana - 1 tower with double basement, ground + 25 floors and Row Houses G+1 - 1 nos, G+3 - 2 nos & G+7 - 2 nos

'New Haven Township' at Boisar, Thane - 33 buildings with ground + 2 floors & 49 buildings with ground + 3 Floors

'Salarpuria Greenage' at Hongasandra village, Bangalore - 3 towers with 21 floors and 1 tower with 25 floors

'Salarpuria Phase II' at Hongasandra village, Bangalore - 6 towers with double basement, ground + 21 floors

'Manjeera Residential' at Kukatpally, Hyderabad with three basements, ground + 23 floors

'Alliance Orchid Springss' at Korattur Lake, Chennai, with 5 Towers having ground + 18 floors

Residential Tower at Bhavini Township, Anupuram, Kalpakkam, Chennai, with ground + 17 floors

'Embassy Residency' at Perumbakkam, Chennai - 4 towers with ground + 8 floors

'Gulmohar Villas' at Perambur, Chennai - 110 villas with ground + 2 floors each

'Mayflower Caladium' near PSG Technology & Krishnamal College, Coimbatore - with basement, ground + 10 floors

'Crescent Court' at Greater Noida, U.P. - 3 towers with double basement, ground + 22 floors and 2 towers with double basement, ground + 6 floors

'Necklace Pride' at Secunderabad - 5 residential towers with double basement, ground + 14 upper floors and 1 commercial tower with double basement, ground + 9 upper floors and Amenity Block with double basement ground + 2 floors

COMMERCIAL

'Reliance Mall' at Surat, Gujarat -

with ground + 7 floors and 3 upper floors

'Amanora' Mall at Hadapsar, Pune - 2 blocks with basement, ground + 3 floors

'Rubix Mall' at HMT layout, Bangalore - with single basement, ground + 11 floors + terrace

UTILITY

'Chartered Hotel' at Lucknow with three basements, mezzanine, ground and transfer floors + 12 upper floors

'Namaste Hotel & Office Tower' at Mumbai with three basements + 67 floors

'P. D. Hinduja National Hospital and Medical Research Centre' at Mumbai, - additional 20 floors above existing

'ASB Mold Factory Building' at Ambemath, Thane with ground + 2 floors

'Amul Dairy Plant' at Virar, Thane with basement, ground + 1 floor

'Sri Sathya Sai Hospital and Medical College' at Chennai with ground + 3 floors and ground + 4 floors respectively

'Pondicherry Convention Centre' at Kalapet, Pondicherry - Auditorium with 2500 seating capacity and ancillary building

'Centre of Excellence for Training in Energy Efficiency' at Chennai, Block D with ground + 1 and Block E & F

'IGCAR' (Head End Cell Building) at Kalpakkam, Chennai - ground + 3 floors

'GSO Annexe' at DAE Township, Kalpakkam, Chennai - ground + 3 floors

'Garden Galleria Shopping Complex' at Bangalore with three basements, ground + 6 floors

'GBJ Radisson Hotel' at Peelamedu, Coimbatore - with double basement, ground + 9 floors

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