

# building material reporter



## COVER STORY

Building Sustainable  
Architecture -  
The Way Forward



## INTERVIEWS

**Prof. Meenakshi Dhote**  
HDD-Environment & Planning, SPA, Delhi

**Pranesh Chhibber**  
Country Director, Canadian Wood India

**Satish Shah, Chaitrak Shah & Taral Shah**  
Group Directors, Shivalik Group, Ahmedabad

**Shekhar Chandra Sati**  
President-Sales & Marketing, Greenpanel Inds. Ltd.

**Ashish Bhasin**  
MD, Marmo Solutions Pvt. Ltd.

## ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

**Home of Retreat** - Principal Designer Amit Porwal  
**Timber Rhyme** - Ar. Prerna & Badrinath Kaleru

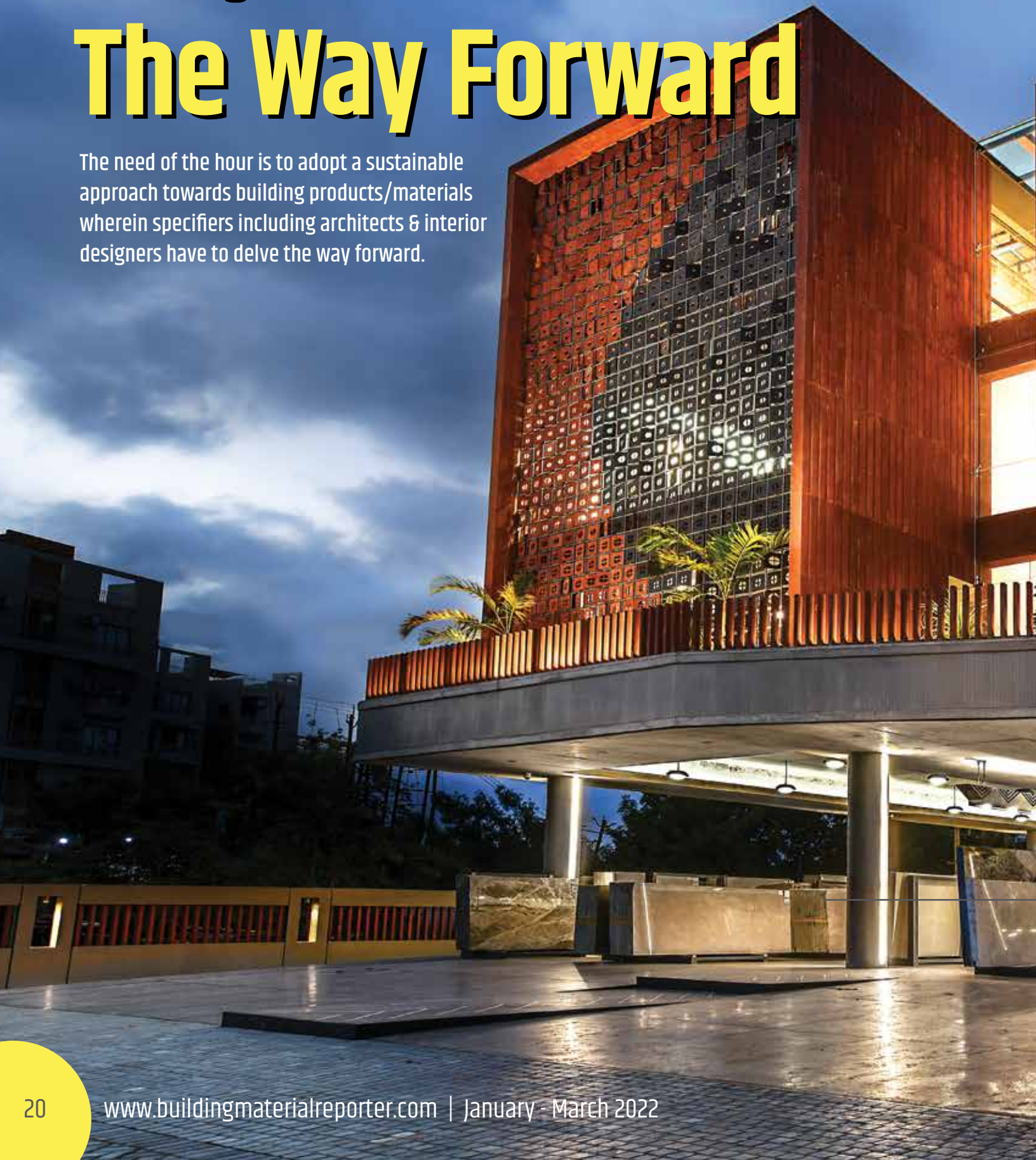
**The Shaded House** - Ar. Prashant Parmar

**Petcart Nest** - Ar. Faisal Vohra & Shamila Meeran



# Building Sustainable Architecture The Way Forward

The need of the hour is to adopt a sustainable approach towards building products/materials wherein specifiers including architects & interior designers have to delve the way forward.







Sustainability was never a more imperative aspect of our growing built environment. As climate change becomes an increasingly pressing concern, sustainability has been becoming an integral part of the contemporary as well as futuristic architectural design. No wonder the need to address the climate crisis is well established enforcing the need to create buildings that offer minimal environmental impact and maximum human comfort.

Sustainability is meant to address issues attached to the environmental and social impacts of the building/ architecture by utilising design methods, materials, energy and development spaces that aren't detrimental to the surrounding ecosystem or communities. The aim is to ensure that the actions taken today don't have negative consequences for future generations and comply with the principles of social, economic and ecological sustainability.

With all this in mind, BMR Team marches out, interacts with specifiers as well as building material manufacturers to know their concerns towards facilitating lower energy consumption, lesser material utilisation and reduced carbon emissions, ultimately resulting in improved quality of life for the occupants.





**Ar. Dipen Gada**  
Principal Architect, Dipen Gada & Associates

“Sustainable design is the ideology in our overall design journey,” claims **Ar. Dipen Gada, Principal Architect, Dipen Gada & Associates.** “I always believe that design should be a passion. We design in a way that it should save lots of energy. And right from the inception of the project, the material, the overall space planning, and the climatology should work really well. Here, the money is not very

important but the design which eventually saves lot of money throughout its lifecycle. Considering all that, we adopted such kind of things in our projects and work consciously.”

“We have recently completed a marble showroom where due to space constraints, accommodating number of varieties and stocks of stones was the real challenge. After leaving the needful margin on all sides, the available area was only 4,000 Sq. Ft. which led us with no option but to go vertical up to third floor,” he explains.

Exposed concrete is the core material used majorly in the construction of this store. The main façade, facing North, enables the architect to play with glass opening being covered with the stone screen which is kinetic in nature and fulfils multiple technical aspects. Numerous textures are created automatically by the wind, in turn, offering an interesting sciography and control the light as required on each floor.

Side façade of the building, clad with plain and textured red Agra stone strips give a volumetric stone block and looks like floating



on the terrace garden from first floor onwards. Two offsets and the building blocks are the result of cross front adding to the dynamic look of the building.

“In all, we have tried using all the locally available basic materials as much as possible in their original forms - right from concrete to kota to red Agra stone. We have tried respecting the purest form of architecture where we get the maximum natural light from each floor with adequate cut outs being given in the floor plates. Based on the concept of green architecture, the building has been made using locally sourced materials while solar panels fulfil the energy needs of the building,” elaborates Gada.

Italian marble stock occupies the ground and first floor. Second floor used to display the variety of tiles which is a new vertical for the owner. One half the third floor showcases marble articles while the other is terrace area used for laying solar panels, fulfilling energy need of entire building. The basement, actually a parking space is also wisely used for display of various Indian Stones with various finishes on the wall.



**Baba Marbles**  
Bill, Gujarat  
Design by **Ar. Dipen Gada**