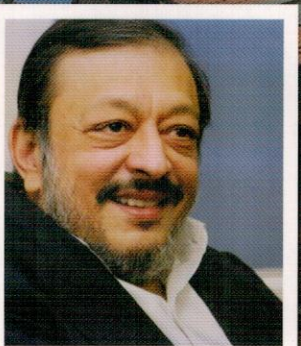
Design For The Living | May-June 2014 | Rs. 150/-

In Conversation with
Dr. Ken Yeang

ARCHI DESIGN

PERSPECTIVE

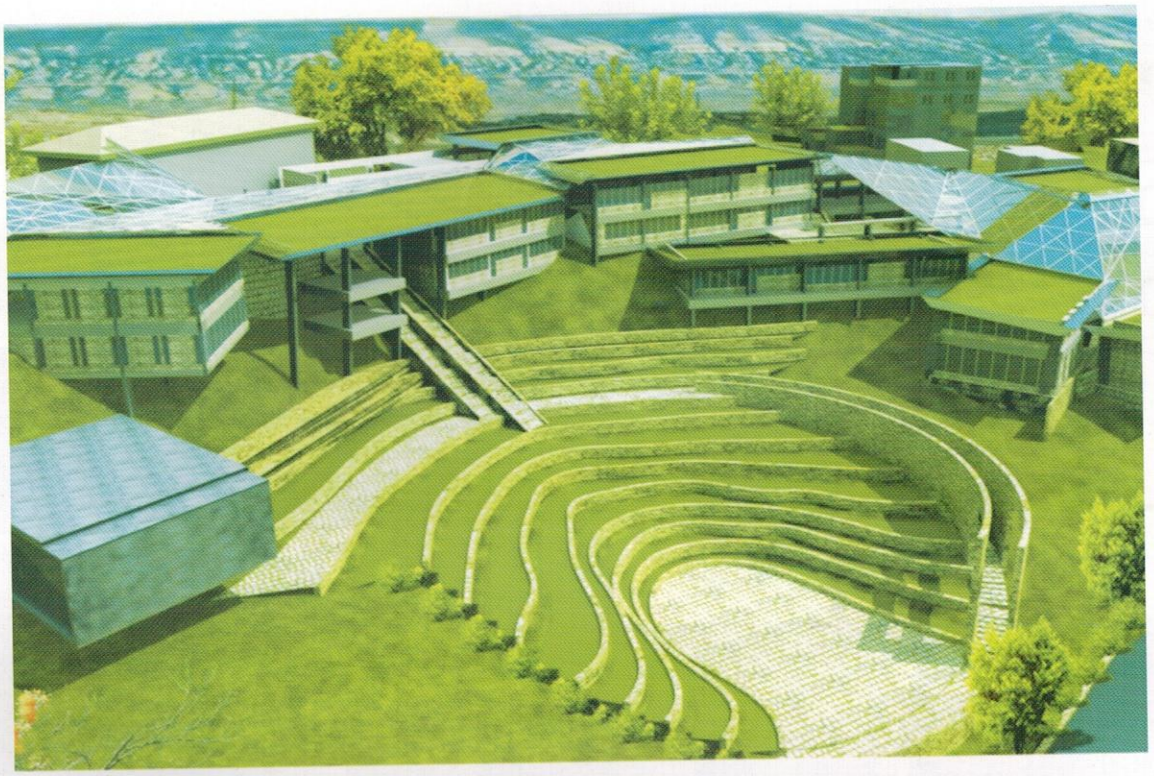
ARCHI DESIGN
Best of **Green & Sustainable** Designs
SPECIAL ISSUE



Yadupati Singhania
Speaks on
Green & Sustainability as a Corporate Responsibility

Architect:
Bharti Prem
Project:
Cafeteria Pyramid Valley

Architect:
Neelam Manjunath
Project:
Bamboo Symphony



Understanding Fashion Design as an Art form

NIFT Campus

The concept for the NIFT Kangra, brings with understanding fashion design as an art form, expressed through a combination of visual graphic with textural quality. Green campus is to be constructed on a steep hilly terrain within the existing old banyan, mango and silver oak trees.

National Institute of Fashion Design was located at Kangra, Himachal Pradesh. The campus building with the surrounding context; a visual graphic of agricultural fields rich in textual depth and variations growth, where the paths in the forests grow into the streets of a future urban fabric and the fields translate into urban footprints. The knitting threads drawn from the existing agricultural terraces, were woven together to make a uniformly flowing pattern of many intersecting functional cuboids. the pattern closely follows the site contours and the design then develops vertically; as an abstraction of the way the great Himalayas developed, layers of matter folding onto each other, twisting with sudden forces, leaving in between gaps or cracks in the process, that became the passage and places of various kinds of interactions.

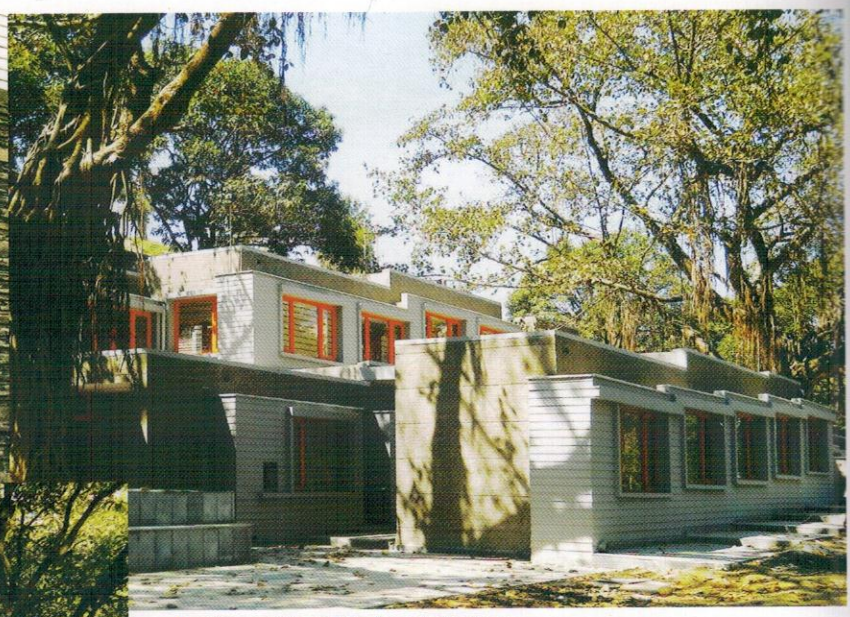
A challenge of designing 150 rooms for the Girls hostel was designed as a play of rooms conceived as positive spaces interstices with light courts, conceived as negative spaces. Extreme care was taken during the construction by the executing agency DSIIDC and engineers and architects to not only protect the trees through a series of retaining walls but at times, the design of the rooms altered and adapted in order to accommodate the spread of the banyan and the mango tree branches. These courts were distributed organically around the trees not only in plan but also in sections connected with circulation corridors also within the same module, reminiscent of the organic streets of the village of Kangra. These streets with their changing levels, winding around trees continuing like a labyrinth create a mysterious story that has multiple beginnings and endings, ever inspiring the students to design to never have constant rigid ideas but a fluid flow of thoughts during their entire stay here. Extreme care was taken during the construction to not only protect the trees through a series of retaining walls but at times, the design of the rooms altered and adapted in order to accommodate the spread of the banyan and the mango tree branches. It is a sheer joy to experience this wonderful play of nature and architecture, within multiple verandas and terraces where, the design students would be able to work with nature surrounding them and the sweet

Top to Bottom: *» Master site plan. » Elevation academic block. » Court in girls hostel.* **Middle Right:** *» Section A.*

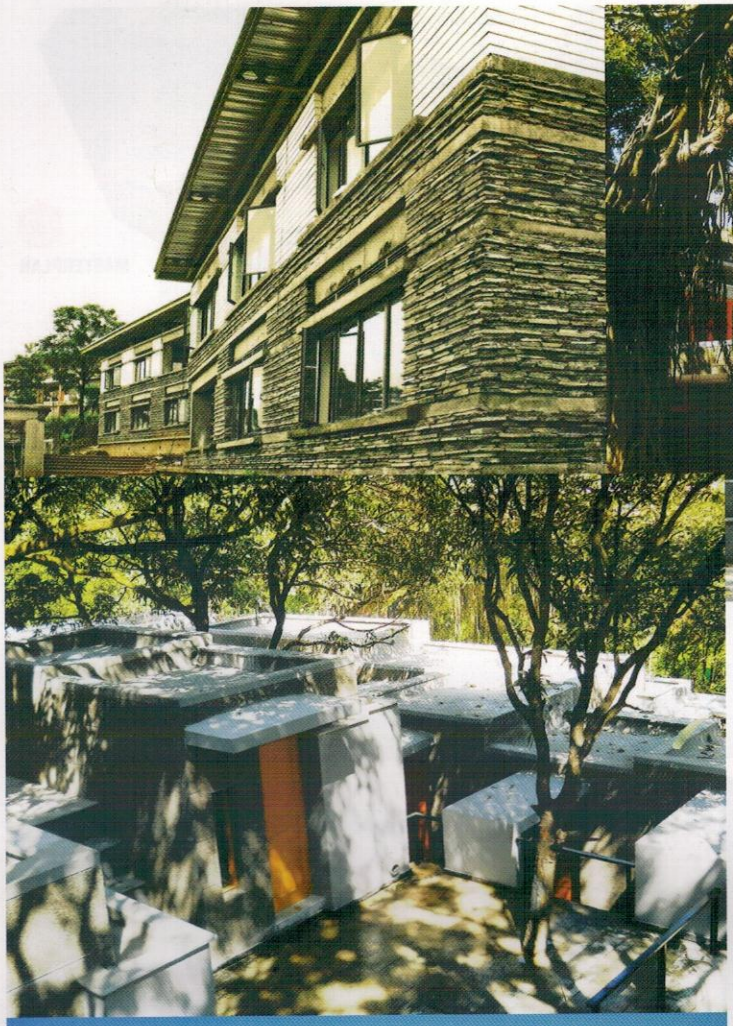
tasting mangoes literally falling in their lap from the trees that surround them.

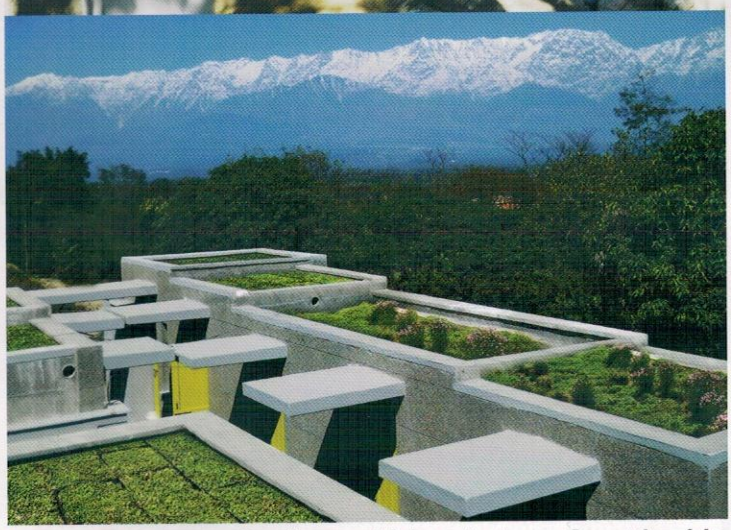
Architectural Design Firm is and have been as committed to making Sustainable Green Building Solutions, making NIFT Delhi towards a zero Discharge campus. Various parameters to make the campus self sustainable like Ground Water recharge, Sewage Treatment plants, water transplant plants, Water Treatment plants for use in irrigation, flushing and no portable uses on campus, Solar Geysers and Solar landscape fixtures have been fitted in the smallest to largest aspects of the Design. The guidelines of GRIHA Rating was woven for New Construction and Major Renovation into the campus Master Plan and design after studying the site/ land topography, Climate, connectivity and local materials techniques.

Material Procurement of some crucial materials like stone etc is checked by the PMC itself and third party quality check which goes through tedious selection processes to ensure quality of materials. Material is also independently tested by the Materials laboratories available in Kangra



» *Court in girls hostel area.*





Top to Bottom: *» Studios and laboratories. » Court in girls hostel. » View of the Great Himalayas from the campus.*

and Delhi, strength of materials, its physical and chemical characteristics to avoid effervesce, strength, bonding, torsion, grade etc. Structural Drawings and calculation are vetted by an independent structural consultant. During the completion of the structure, the structure is inspected by the structural engineer to ensure following of drawings. After the completion of the structure, the structure is tested by independent consultants from Delhi/ Gwalior/ or labs to ensure quality.

Building has been designing as a low maintenance and high durability including materials. Materials used are locally available encase of repair and renovation when required, energy efficient and long use equipment on site. Clients have a maintenance staff which has been skill trained to take care of similar issues and workshop with a local maintenance team to take care of small issues. A service manual for operation and maintenance on site with numbers and contacts of all vendors, the maintenance of the project/ individual part with vendors on 5 percent retention of money to ensure one year maintenance, blacklisting of vendors who show poor performance and when the work is continuous and in volume it ensures good quality for future prospects of contractors. Site managed by PMC DSIIDC. ■

Project Profile

Project Name: NIFT Campus **Architects:** M:OFA Studios Pvt Ltd
Date of Commencement: 2010 **Date of Completion:** 2011
Cost of Project: Rs. 30 Crores **Stuctural Engineer:** ROARK Consulting Engineers
Client: Ministry of Textiles with H.P. State Govt. **Location:** Kangra