

GREEN BUILDINGS are the need of the hour



World Green Building Week 2012 is celebrated annually all over the world to draw attention to the importance of creating healthier, more sustainable buildings and communities. This year the theme for the event is 'Green Buildings for Great Communities.'

As part of this event, Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) of CII is also celebrating World Green Building Week 2012 from September 17 to 21, 2012 to underline the need and importance of green buildings for a sustainable tomorrow.

In this regard, IGBC- Mumbai Chapter organised a session on values of sustainability, where leading stakeholders of Indian construction industry participated in the session.

Mr Gurmit Singh Arora, Vice Chairman – IGBC Mumbai chapter said that IGBC, with the support of all the stakeholders is playing a catalytic role in spearheading the

green building movement in the country. As on date, over 1,745 green building projects amounting to over 1.21 Billion sq.ft of green building footprint are registered with IGBC, he informed.

Mr Arora added that, IGBC Green Building Rating Systems on Homes, Factory Buildings, SEZ, Townships and LEED India 2011, are all based on the five elements of the nature (Panchabhutas) and are a perfect blend of ancient architectural practices and modern technological innovations.

Mr V Suresh, Chairman, IGBC Advocacy Committee & Principal Executive Officer, HIRCO said that, the construction costs of a green building would be 5-8 % higher for a Platinum building than a conventional building and the incremental cost gets paid back within 3-4 years with substantial reduction in operational costs. This makes good business sense, he added. He also emphasized the need of more green buildings in the city.



Mr Suresh said that, IGBC is working closely with the Government of Maharashtra in developing Environmental Guidelines for Public Buildings and Area Development Projects.

Mr S Raghupathy, Executive Director, CII-Godrej GBC said that the vision of IGBC is to enable 'sustainable built environment for all and facilitate India to be one of the global leaders in sustainable built environment by 2025. Mr Raghupathy said that IGBC had been playing a pivotal role in promoting the Green Building Movement since 2001

Ms Mala Singh, Convenor – Green Governance, IGBC Mumbai Chapter & Director – PEC Green Designs Pvt Ltd shared the current environment policy and regulations applicable for construction projects. She also mentioned the current initiatives taken by MoEF, Govt. of India & CII – IGBC to promote Green Building moment. While addressing the Media she also highlighted that Pre Certified Green

projects are also getting priority for fast track clearance by the State Environmental Appraisal committee. Dismissing the rumours of that Green Buildings are expensive and can only be afforded by the rich but very much applicable for middle and low income groups as well

Mr Jahangir Yar Khan, Member - IGBC Mumbai Chapter Core Committee & Joint President – Sree Ram Urban Infrastructure Ltd shared about the best practice in terms of the energy efficient technology at their upcoming project PALAIS ROYALE.

Ar Sandeep Shikre, Member - IGBC Mumbai Chapter Core Committee & President and CEO, Sandeep Shikre Associates emphasized the need for a good building envelope & the role of energy efficient glass in a building.

Ms Priya Vakil, Member - IGBC Mumbai Chapter Core Committee & Director – EdEn also shared her thought & perspectives about the best practices & her experiences with IGBC Rating system at the special session.