

M P STATE CENTRE

Monthly Lecture

June 30, 2012, Indore

The 32nd uninterrupted monthly meeting and lecture of ISLE MPSC was titled "Conservation of Green Buildings and Lighting". The monthly meeting and lecture was organised on Saturday June 30, 2012 at Hotel Fortune Landmark, Indore. This event was jointly organised by Institute of Indian Interior Designers (IIID), Indore Chapter, and Indian Society of Lighting Engineers (ISLE), Madhya Pradesh State Centre (MPSC). It was a hat-trick of jointly organising programmes during April, May and June!

The programme started with the keynote address of Mr. Vinay Babar, Chairman, IIID, Indore Chapter and Fellow Life Member ISLE. He gave a brief introduction about the importance of green buildings and conservation of the natural environment. He emphasised the advantages of recycling of materials as it helps in reduction of pollution and promotes ecological balance. He mentioned that there should be development based on need rather than greed of man which is the main cause of the fast depletion of natural resources and polluting the environment. The lecture on Conservation of Heritage Buildings was delivered by the prominent conservation architect from Mumbai, Mr. Vikas Dilawari. Ar. Vikas Dilawari is a practicing conservation architect who completed his G.D. Arch from L.S. Raheja School of Architecture, Mumbai and M. Arch (Architectural Conservation) from School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi. He also holds a M.A. in Building Conservation from the Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies, University of York, UK. He has worked on several national and international projects as conservation architect. Ar. Vikas Dilawari said that Mumbai is made up of Traditional Housing Typologies, Colonial Apartments, Planned Residential Areas, Planned Community Housings, Urban Villages and Chawls. He observed that Mumbai's housing fabric stock has approx 16142 properties out of which more than 5000 are more than 100 years old. These houses were well planned with mixed use which made them vibrant and safe places till the 1940's. After that due to frozen rents there is very little or no maintenance. Marine Drive has rents of Rs 2/sq ft whereas ownership buildings of same area command Rs 20000/sq ft. No government incentives are given to conserve traditional heritage or housing stock. MHADA or Housing board repairs was supposed to be an alternative solution but with passage of time it started doing more harm than good by selling the salvage and replacing it with inferior materials. Interestingly the government incentives are for demolition and reconstruction by increasing the FSI. He highlighted the importance of conserving Heritage vis-a-vis new development and said that heritage buildings bear a

testimony of our rich Indian culture and tradition and also promote the Green Building movement. He discussed case studies on conservation of Bombay Municipal Corporation Building Assembly Hall, YMCA Building, North Goa Church, etc. to name a few. He also explained how to make adequate lighting arrangements in Heritage buildings and monuments without tampering with their sanctity and keeping their original form intact. After Ar. Dilawari's presentation, Dr Alok Mittal, Executive Committee Member ISLE MPSC made a special presentation on the Directory of Lighting Industry in India, highlighted its contents and the benefits of listing and advertising in this directory and solicited participation through advertisements. The list of classifications and listings in the Directory along with advertising rates and other important information to the advertisers were also given to the audience. The programme was attended by members of IIID, and ISLE, MPSC. Mr. Bharat Kumar Rawlani, Executive Committee Member of ISLE, MPSC and Mr. Vinay Babar of IIID coordinated the event. The programme ended with dinner and distribution of plant saplings to promote the Green Movement and create awareness about conservation issues.

Dr. Alok Mittal,
Committee Member
ISLE, MPSC