

3rd CIDC Vishwakarma Award 2011

A Recognition of Notable achievements and Standards of Excellence

The CIDC Vishwakarma Awards are considered among the most prestigious recognition for those in the construction industry. The awards have been inspired by Lord Vishwakarma, the presiding deity of construction practices in India are presented to those who have contributed their might towards the betterment of the construction industry in various capacities.

What makes the CIDC Vishwakarma Awards different from similar events is the fact that it is one award where artisans, the unsung heroes of the construction industry are recognized for their thankless work. The 2011 award glittering award ceremony saw 45 such artisans being awarded and honoured with a commemorative trophy, medal, and certificate.

The event is celebrated on the 7th of March each year, a date which is also the foundation day of Construction Industry Development Council (CIDC), which is the apex body established by the Planning Commission of India and the Construction industry. CIDC has been working towards promoting best practices in the construction industry and help it achieve global stature.

A new category of awards for "Best Projects" covering construction sub-sectors such as roads & highways, dams, power, railways, bridges, oil & gas, transmission, urban infrastructure, health infrastructure buildings (both



residential and commercial) and social infrastructure was introduced from this year onwards.

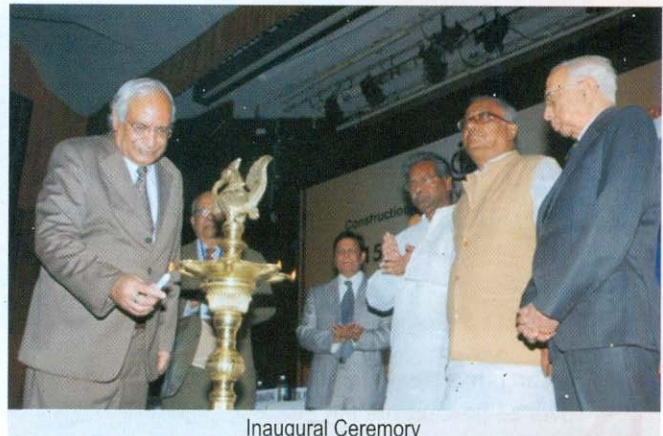
Several prestigious projects were awarded for their design and application. One such project which received the award including the "Construction of Elevated Road along Barapulla Nallah, Saraj Kale Khan to Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium" by the Public Works Department, Govt. of NCT, Delhi. The project's design received praise from all quarters and the dedicated signal-free access from Games Village to the main venue of the recently concluded Commonwealth Games 2010, the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, was recognized for its outstanding design.

Yet another project connected to the Commonwealth Games Delhi 2010, which was awarded was the "Thyagaraj Sports Complex." PWD, Govt of Delhi

received the award for this truly world-class stadium.

The award's ceremony this year saw a total of 168 awardees being chosen from eight prime categories. The awardees included 4 women. The award winners were honoured with trophies, medals, and certificates.

The Hon'ble Minister of State for Urban Development Prof.Saugata Ray was the Chief Guest during the ceremony. Other distinguished dignitaries who graced the occasion included Dr.Kavuri Samba Siva Rao, Member of Parliament, Padmabhushan Dr.G.V.Ramakrishna, former Chairman Disinvestment Commission & Member Planning Commission, Dr.Uddesh Kohli, Chairman Emiretus, CIDC, Dr. Pronab Sen, Principal Advisor, Planning Commission, Dr.D.G.Kadkade, Member of the Jury, Principal Advisor, Jaiprakash



Inaugural Ceremony

Associates Ltd, Dr.J.L.Narayan, Member of the Jury, Retd. Joint Advisor, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Govt of India, and Mr.K.K.Sharma, Principal Secretary PWD, Delhi, among others.

In yet another highlight of the award ceremony, the late Shri B.G.Shirke, Founder Chairman, B.G.Shirke Construction Technology Pvt Ltd was posthumously awarded the Special Jury Award for Life Time Achievement.

Chief Guest Prof.Saugata Ray lauded the efforts that CIDC was taking in order to promote the betterment of the construction industry. The Minister had a word of praise especially for the Green Rating system and the efforts that CIDC was putting for the adaption of several good practices. He went on to add that excellence in every field should be recognized and rewarded.

The Minister during his address pointed out to the two problems of rising population and rapid industrializa-

tion and how large-scale urbanization was creating the problem of housing in urban cities in countries like India.

The CIDC Vishwakarma Awards are being given to a wide number of representative categories that covers the entire spectrum of the construction industry, right from the artisans to the industry experts and construction firms.

It was a privilege for the Masterbuilder to be awarded under the 'Best Magazine' category. Editor-in-Chief, Mr.K.P.Pradeep was awarded under the 'Best Journalist' category. The awards were yet another testimonial to the team of the Masterbuilder, which has been setting the benchmark in all round reportage of the construction industry in India.

The Minister also released the official brochure for the forthcoming CIDC event 17th Asia Construct Event, International Exhibition & Conference in New Delhi. As part of the event an International Conference & Exhibition will be held from 13th-15th December 2011 under the theme, "Asian Economic Overview 2011 & Outlook 2012. The event would be showcasing some of the latest technologies, best practices, equipment, materials, products, and services. □



Nigel Narayan, Deputy Editor, The Masterbuilder receiving the Visvakarma award 2011 for Best News Magazine