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From government departments, banks and single storey institutes of mid-twentieth century to contemporary Information Technology Parks, the idea of an office work place has undergone a sea change. Brand name, availability of budgets and space, awareness of the importance of a functional and aesthetically pleasing outdoor environment are some of the reasons for newer work places in India being designed in several imaginative ways. A typical project brief includes the creation of a unique identity for the company or organization, a sense of place and at the same time providing a stress free environment for the employees, employers, clients and visitors. The current issue of the Journal features a few of the many such examples of works across the country.

Over the couple of decades, various research organizations, planning departments and institutes across India have been involved in working on various types

and scales of sustainable solutions for our future developments. Areas of focus include construction technologies, city planning, infrastructure, and design. However, in comparison to the scale and pace of development that we see around us today, we would argue that very little has been achieved in real terms. Tamnay Tathagat, one of the leading names in the area of providing consultancy for sustainable design and building solutions in the country discusses various aspects of the subject.

Do we always have to look *ahead* to find solutions and ways to address challenges of the present day? Cannot our past guide us for our future? The idea of exploring history with that perspective is the theme of a brief essay by this Editor. Along the same lines, this issue introduces a new three part series – Landscape in Indian Literature. It explores examples of relationships that humans shared with nature during ancient times

as recorded and documented in our literary sources. The writing implies that a study of the various reasons for the endurance and timelessness of such knowledge is the key to creating more meaningful and abiding landscapes in the present times.

Moving ahead with the idea of covering national design competitions with a strong landscape basis and context, we present here the three prize winning entries of the recently concluded proposed Police Memorial Competition at New Delhi. As in case of every competition, we do hope to see soon the final scheme constructed one day as conceived by the winning team.

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