

Cover Story

High-Rise Construction

Special Feature

Modular Switch

'Switches' to different level

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Lighting scheme here, turned out to be one of the most important tools to draw attention and create a statement. We, not only cladded the inherent material but also used it as a light source. The material which CMC utilizes could be made thinner without losing its stability, which made it translucent enough to pass light through it, beautifully elaborating the richness and delicacy of veins of marble. This is a technical innovation for external facades as it was the first time in India that CNC machines were used to cut *KalingaStone Marble* to a thickness of 5mm.

Using this, we created a square cut pattern, with which the façade reveals various appearances in sunlight, and during night, the LED lights behind the reliefs lit the façade to render an expression reminiscent of twinkling stars in a Milky Way.

The façade design not only marks an identity, but also proposes the way for new facades to spring up. With these elements of modernism, innovation and endurance, it is an easy trend setter and proposes a wide usage in the corporates and luxury sector. This affords them to use it wherever creativity is prime against affordability.

Where the interiors of the showroom are concerned, we conceptualised the space as a modern day museum with an understated cover that is effective enough to display the



products like paintings in a museum. Their range of stones varied in colours, so we chose our walls as neutral shades of grey and brown. The circulation is planned to create dark tunnels with a bright streak of flexi light that marks the outline of these tunnels and adjustable art light that highlights only the marbles on both sides.

When you design a showroom for a product so widely used in construction industry, you have to maximise on its usage. The floors, table tops, counters etc., are made using the in-house material. Our feature walls also, are huge slabs of marble that reflect a character like that of a painting. It's an instant suggestion of its potential. The mural at the entrance and reception table are a highlight of the interiors. Carved out of single piece of raw block of quarry marble, they sit like two majestic pieces in the lobby, complemented with a modular light chandelier in a 3-Dimensional form hanging over the reception almost imitating a tree branch that hangs over the solid rock.

We have tried to keep the furniture minimal and the lighting scheme around is only to highlight the marble on walls and floor to the best. We have planned a cafe corner along a discussion area. It lends a space and time to the visitor to immerse themselves into the surrounding lifestyle. The punch of this area is the 'gold stone' cafe counter placed against a rough granite slab in an almost dark tunnel with tiny spot lights to highlight the bling of the gold.

Svelto Lounge is another highlight corner where the high pressure laminates have been used to create a 3-Dimensional feature. The play of light is an interesting detail where the surface undulations create dynamic patterns with slim linear profiles. ▲