



LOTUS GREENS



## GRIHA-NASA Trophy to groom students to develop sustainable habitats

*This is the first time that a live project in Noida was provided to students with the challenge to understand the ground realities and present sustainable and implementable solutions.*

**New Delhi, March 12:** Lotus Greens and The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) have joined hands once again renewed their commitment to the development of sustainable habitats by **organizing the GRIHA-NASA Trophy** at the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual NASA Convention 2014-15. This is a joint initiative by GRIHA (Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment), which is India's national rating system for sustainable habitats, and the US Green Building Council (USGBC). The GRIHA-NASA Trophy is awarded by The GRIHA Council under the aegis of TERI and the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India, in partnership with the National Association of Students of Architecture (NASA).

The three award winning entries were presented by the students at the prestigious GRIHA Summit held from March 12<sup>to</sup> 14 in New Delhi. The GRIHA Summit is the largest conclave to deliberate issues pertaining to sustainable habitats. The winners were felicitated by Mr P Sahel, Vice Chairman, Lotus Greens at the Summit. The awards were given to: **Faculty of Architecture and Ekistics, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi**, which won the 1<sup>st</sup> prize, followed by **Gateway College of Architecture, Sonapat**, (1<sup>st</sup> runners up), and **Aalim Muhammed Salegh Academy of Architecture, Chennai**, (2<sup>nd</sup> runners up), while a special jury recommendation went to **NIT, Calicut**.

The participating students studied the climate of Noida with the objective of maximizing natural ventilation for individual dwelling units. The entries received were overwhelming and included interesting recommendations like extensive terrace gardens to maximize the total landscaped area of the project, with native plants to reduce landscape water demand.

**Mr P Sahel, Vice Chairman, Lotus Greens**, said, "The students of architecture will be the ambassadors and catalysts for guiding sustainable development in the future. The GRIHA-NASA Trophy is a great opportunity to help budding architects appreciate the

power of eco-friendly practices. As part of Lotus Greens' commitment to promote sustainability across India, we have been sponsoring the GRIHA-NASA Trophy. We are elated to see the response; some exemplary work have been showcased by the students."

**Ms Mili Majumdar, Director, Sustainable Habitat Division, TERI, and Secretary cum Treasurer, The GRIHA Council, said:** "We are proud to partner with Lotus Greens for supporting the GRIHA Trophy at NASA, which is an important initiative towards mainstreaming resource efficiency through future architects of our country. The students have shown a keen interest, especially for the live residential project that was identified as the problem statement. I look forward to the initiative gaining greater momentum. "

Lotus Greens, in its effort to bridge the gap between theory and practice of architecture for sustainable buildings, had shared a brief for developing 50,000 sq mt. of group housing on its land parcel in Sector 150 in NOIDA. This is the first time that a live project was given to students with the challenge to understand the ground realities and present sustainable and implementable solutions. The contest saw representation of over 35 colleges of design and architecture in India, out of which 12 entries were shortlisted from the presentations, before the three award winning entries were announced.

The shortlisted entries were judged by an eminent jury comprising renowned names from the fields of architecture and green building. They **include architect Jaisim, Founder Jaisim-Fountainhead; Dr Ranee Vedamuthu, HOD, Architecture, Anna University; Mr Gopal Krishnan, Director and Head, USGBC- Asia Pacific and Middle East; Ms Mili Majumdar, Director, TERI, and Secretary cum Treasurer, The GRIHA Council; Mr Ashwani Singh, Senior General Manager, Strategy, Lotus Greens; Ms Priyanka Kochhar, Sr Programme Manager, The GRIHA Council and Ms Chitrangada Bisht, Programme Officer, The GRIHA Council.**

The Summit brought together over 700 professionals from the building and construction industry, policy-makers, thought leaders, academicians, researchers among others, to develop and drive the new initiatives as well as showcase the best practices.

### **About Lotus Greens Developers:**

Lotus Greens endeavours to touch lives and create a brighter tomorrow. To realize this ideal, the brand aims to awaken the potential in everyone, at work, at leisure and at home. The belief that beauty and purity, such as of the Lotus flower, can change lives for the better, helps to inspire the difference. Through relentless dedication to

impeccable quality standards and raising the bar even higher, the brand strives to create and maintain the difference. In effect, building a legacy that will stand the test of time.

Started in February 2013, Lotus Greens is a diversified real estate group led by eminent luminaries in the business. Today, it has significant business interests across residential, commercial, hospitality, educational and healthcare domains. The leadership team is driven by the ideals, experience and expertise of Founder Mr Nirmal Singh, and prides itself on having already delivered 14 million sq. ft. of real estate spaces, with a current land bank of 925 acres.

Abundant green landscapes and adherence to green building norms are sacrosanct for all projects. The focus is on developing a sustainable future that is committed to the environment. Lotus Greens is actively working on developing sustainable communities by enabling homes for about 12,000 families in the next three years.

Harbouring a dream to nurture the future of India, Lotus Greens has established the acclaimed Lotus Valley International Schools in Noida and Gurgaon, in partnership with the international Ivy League Brown University, with the intent to establish two more schools during the next three years.

Lotus Greens is also developing over 1 million sq. ft. of hospitality space through strategic tie-ups with renowned hotel chains like Four Seasons, FairField and Marriott, as well as a Medical Foundation that encompasses training, teaching, treating, research and clinical practices in an environment of excellence.

With clarity of thought that inspires communities and individuals, the brand is a trusted partner for life, helping everyone embrace the difference. Lotus Greens dares to imagine a world where all can LIVE THE DIFFERENCE.

### **ABOUT GRIHA :**

GRIHA is a tool to facilitate design, construction and operation of green buildings that measures “greenness” of a building in India. It has been recognized as an innovative tool for sustainable development by the United Nations. It evaluates the environmental performance of a building holistically over its entire life cycle, thereby providing a definitive standard for what constitutes a ‘green building’. The rating system, based on accepted energy and environmental principles, will seek to strike a balance between the established practices and emerging concepts, both national and international.

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