

The last month of the year



is often a time for introspection. This holds true for the last edition of IFJ, too.

Some things are imprinted on ones memory. I suppose it's common knowledge that IFJ is deeply connected to our big event for interiors in India, Index Fairs, an event we support and where we look after the big design initiatives. This year, we were struck by greatness, not just of design capacity but also of spirit and generosity of heart. Two of the giants of Indian architecture, Ar. Prem Nath and Ar. Sanjay Puri invested their time and their creative genius in creating two focal design spaces at the fair: the Central Design Atrium and the Central Design Courtyard (Sanjay's 'Urban Chaos'): spaces that inspired interaction and thought, simply by their awesome presence. Other members of the architectural pantheon like Padmabhushan Ar. Hafeez Contractor shared their thoughts and gladly met and interacted with visitors.

The IFJ Seminars at Index were truly inspirational, as were the speakers and their generosity of spirit, committing both time and thought to presenting their work and thinking at the seminars on Social Housing and Design with Bamboo. Ar. Kirtee Shah, Aman Nath, Ar. Nitin Kilawalla all re-scheduled their diaries to be at the IFJ Seminars, and impressed us with their completely un-divaesque behavior, rejecting VIP treatment and being so much a part of the general community that we were all truly humbled and awed. The chart of speakers and panelists were all leading architects, builders and thought leaders who kindly took time out to share their thoughts and their creativity with the audience.

So, some end-of-the-year reminiscing :

so many awards, so little time !

so much great architecture, so much uninspired me-too work

so much design initiative, so little institutional support

so much brilliance at seminars and conferences,

so little governmental regard for the thought and ideation

of professionals

so much greatness of thought, so much small-minded idiocy

But at the end of the year, we end with hope for the future and wish all our readers a joyous holiday season and continued brilliance and inspiration in all you do, in the year ahead.

Keep reading, keep thinking, keep doing great things !

Happy new year !

I look forward to hearing from you.
Please send your thoughts to me at sylvia@ifj.co.in