

Smarter and healthier buildings need of the hour, says JDA Commissioner at CeraGlass India 2010

We should conserve and preserve our nature and make eco-friendly buildings, said Mr. Sudhanshu Pant, Commissioner, Jaipur Development Authority (JDA) at a conference '**Design & Construction: Developing Smarter & Healthier Buildings**' held as a part of **CeraGlass India 2010**, India's first ever comprehensive ceramics, glass and allied products show organized by Rajasthan State Industrial Development & Investment Corporation (RIICO), Government of Rajasthan, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Indian Ceramic Society (ICS) with the support of the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Mr Pant added that at JDA they are trying their level best to make the buildings eco friendly. As a part of this campaign we have made it mandatory for all hotels and high rise buildings to have solar heating system and rain water harvesting., he stated. Citing the example of Jaipur, he said that we must make the maximum use of natural resources that are available to us and help in energy and water conservation.

Mr B K Subbaiah, Chief Operating Officer, Mahindra World City, Jaipur said that India is witnessing tremendous growth in infrastructure development. The construction industry in India is one of the largest economic activities and is growing at an annual rate of 9.5% as compared to the global average of 5%. This undoubtedly calls for increased use of natural resources such as energy, water and materials, which in turn would aggravate the global concern of carbon emissions and its impact on the quality of life. The construction sector therefore needs to play a responsible role towards preservation of the environment. Built environment contributes up to 40% of global CO2 emissions, 30% of the global Solid waste generation and 20% of global waste water generation. Built environment consumes 40% of the energy resources, 30 % raw materials and 20% of water resources.

Jamini Uberoi, Managing Partner, J Mohanco said that there are many challenges ahead of us and we have to grow in a sustainable manner without unduly straining our natural resources. The construction sector needs to play a responsible role towards preservation of the environment. The increasing use of glass and ceramics in construction and introduction of green building is a step towards this direction.

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