

25<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2011.

To  
The Editor  
The Times Of India  
Mumbai - 400 001.

**SUB.: Article titled as “Liaising Architects Shape Builders Dream”, In The Times Of India, Dated. October 24, 2011 by Shri. Nauzer K. Bharucha.**

Dear Sir,

- (1) It may be mentioned that PEATA (I) is a recognized known professional body formed in 1965 Consisting of Engineers, Architect & Town Planner. Since then for last forty five years working in the interest of Development of Mumbai City and professional fraternity.

We have been closely associated in the formation of DCR, framing the policies, with direct communication and interaction with concerned Authorities. Our association is known for its mature and rational approach which can be relied upon to give correct assessment of the policies and its effects at grass root levels.

- (2) Now we refer to an Article appeared in the Times Of India, on 24<sup>th</sup> October’ 2011, on “Liaising Architects Shape Builders Dream”, The issue is related to Malpractices happening in the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai. Time and again PEATA (I) as

professional body strongly condemn misbehavior and unethical practice at some core in Building Industry. We have proudly and publically appreciated Hon'ble Municipal Commissioner Shri. Subodhkumarji for his mission against unhealthy practices in Building Industry and keenness for curbing the misuses of Elevation Treatment etc.

- (3) This topic have been vividly covered and greatly exposed by your news paper recently, but this time we are shocked on reading this article as you are projecting an image of Architect as the main mastermind behind the Manipulation, Corruption and Frauds. We certainly don't appreciate your misconception. We are further shocked when you have relied on the statement given by some of the so called Designer Architects. (One of them himself promote as an activist also). Architects whom you have quoted, certainly not representing entire fraternity. Besides Builders are not toddlers whose dreams are being shaped by liaison Architects as titled for the article. Builders are quite clever to understand what is objectionable and what is approvable? They are born clever and know how and from where to make profit.
- (4) The Actual fact is the builders with malafide intentions approached these Designers Architect and these Designer Architect provide them so called

Architectural Elevations, Sale Plans which are full contradictions with D. C. Rule. These Sale Plan show the Washing Machine, Dish Washer, Bedroom Wardrobe and so many other house hold gadgets and furniture outside the building line on chajjahs and flower beds and provoke builders to violate the D.C. Regulations.

There after the developers appoint another Architect or Licence Surveyor with a smaller stature to submit the Plan to corporation to obtain approval. The Designer Architect actually should sign in the supervision memo and take legal responsibility of his plan. But to avoid the legal responsibility advise builders to appoint other smaller Architects to take the responsibility of building with M.C.G.M., and in a way legally trying to circumvents the responsibility and risk of facing action from M.C.G.M. Actual handling of M.C.G.M. file and pursuance with officers is done by small time tout of builder or by the builder himself.

- (5) We believe the fact that there is possibility of some black sheep in each profession. That doesn't mean all are to be considered in the same cader. Difference between "Architect" and "Liason" needs to be understand properly. Architects are governed by

“Council of Architecture, New Delhi”. Who provides varied technical and professional services.

While summing up we would like to request you on behalf of our 2800 members as a PEATA (I), we are always available for our expert opinion with proper perspective. We know “Times” is being read by few lakhs and we feel they should get correct version of the situation.

Thanking you,

Yours Faithfully,

(Ar. Shirish Sukhatme)  
Vice President, PEATA (I).

( Ar. Pravin Kanekar  
President, PEATA (I).

C.C.: Shri. Nauzer K. Bharucha.