

2 REDISCOVERING THE VIRTUES OF COB CONSTRUCTION

3 CHENNAI'S HOUSING SECTOR IS GAINING NEW MOMENTUM

Focus on five factors for a successful project

Consider this: A 90-km canal was constructed over 700 years ago between the Bhavani and the Noyyal. It was not a period when there were survey equipment or hydraulics. The Kalingarayan canal is a construction marvel that has the right slope so that water flow is not affected, the bunds are not eroded, or there are no sediments, points out L.S. Jayagopal, Managing Director of Mithran Structures.

Quoting from Thirukural, Mr. Jayagopal says what matters to make a project successful is focus on resources, equipment, time, place and the job on hand. The Kalingarayan canal was designed and constructed leveraging the knowledge and experience of those involved in it. Same is the case of Harvey Mills at Thoothukudi. It was built in 1877 when cement concrete/reinforced con-



The Kalingarayan Canal was built nearly 700 years ago

crete were not introduced to India. A three-storeyed textile mill was constructed and is operational even now. In the recent years, with the CODISSIA Trade Fair Complex, when the first phase was to be taken up, the work on hand was to develop a 1.64 lakh structure within six months and

with limited financial resources. The structure had to be unique too.

The client defines his requirement, decides the resource that can be spent, and fixes a time limit. The place is also identified by the client. The architect and structural engineer design the building accordingly

and the builder decides how to go about with the project. Of late, clients are clear about the functional needs of a building. And structures are designed to meet that requirement. There is scope for innovation in every project and it happens in many instances too. Builders and contractors

should compile and highlight these.

Mr. Jayagopal took part in a meeting organised by the Coimbatore Builders and Contractors Association and highlighted the importance of the five factors to make their building projects unique and better.

M. SOUNDARIYA PREETHA

Elected chairman of BAI

K. Chinnaswamy of KRK Blue Metals has been elected chairman of Builders' Association of India - Coimbatore centre for 2018-2020. V. Sivarajan of Shree Shree Builders, Soloman, K. Pappeter Selvam of Selvam

New office-bearers of CEBACA

P. Gopalakrishnan has been elected president of Coimbatore Builders and Contractors Association for 2018-2019. V. Palaniwaamy is the secretary. S.G. Sureshnan is the