



# WINDOW & FACADE

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Kumar Ravindra, Design Director, Venkataramanan Associates & Principal Architect, PRAGRUP



## Balkrishna Doshi receives Pritzker Architecture Prize at the Aga Khan Museum in Toronto



**V**eteran Indian architect and professor Balkrishna Doshi

received Pritzker Architecture Prize at the Aga Khan Museum in Toronto, Canada on May 19, 2018. Doshi has become the first Indian to receive the Pritzker Architecture Prize, which is also considered as the 'Nobel Prize of Architecture'.

The 90-year-old architect was born in Pune and currently lives in Ahmedabad. Doshi has received many awards during his career. The veteran architect has designed many landmark buildings including Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore. The Indian government had also awarded Padma Shri to Doshi in 1976.

The Pritzker Architecture Prize is awarded annually to a living architect whose work has produced consistent and significant contributions to humanity. The Pritzker Prize is being awarded for the last forty years. Being the first Indian architect to receive Architecture's most prestigious award, Doshi has had an active career of more than 70 years with a poetic architectural style that is based on oriental cultural influences, creating a production that "covers all socio-economic classes, in a wide spectrum of typologies, since the 1950s," according to the jury's record.

## Design Forum International unveils the design of Guwahati International Airport



**D**esign Forum International recently unveiled the design of Guwahati International Airport. The firm believes that it is important to be contextually reverent, the design, therefore, is infused with the flavours of Assam, the land which is *asam* (undulating). The form of the structure takes its inspiration from Icarus - the mythological figure who dared to fly. The majestic centrepiece is symbolic and looms over the departure concourse, its arms outstretched as it

reaches out to the skies. The floating form doubles up as the canopy for the drop-off zone. Terminal roof, the flooring patterns, the column cladding, the theme walls, and even the signage design are inspired by Japanese paper folding art of Origami. Adding to several design elements are the indoor forests. The visitor is positioned within a 90-feet high indoor rainforest, which needs to be navigated before being reunited with the luggage.

The Namaskar atrium is a massive

double-heighted space that creates an experience for the inbound visitor, with its walls adorned with the art and craft of Assam. The baggage claim hall wall is an exercise in modularity with origami aluminum panels that derive inspiration from the hilly terrain of the north-eastern states. The tea-gardens are a mark of reverence to the context, and serve as an inspiration for landscape design. They are positioned at the front yard along with a water cascade. The car park structures are designed to be covered with photovoltaic panels that generate almost 500 KW of solar energy.

The project is the collective dream and effort of a team of fifteen consulting and design firms, including Aecom, Design Forum International, Integral Designs, Axis Facades, Gaurav Jindal, Alpana Khare Designs and CBRE. The construction is scheduled to finish by January, 2021.