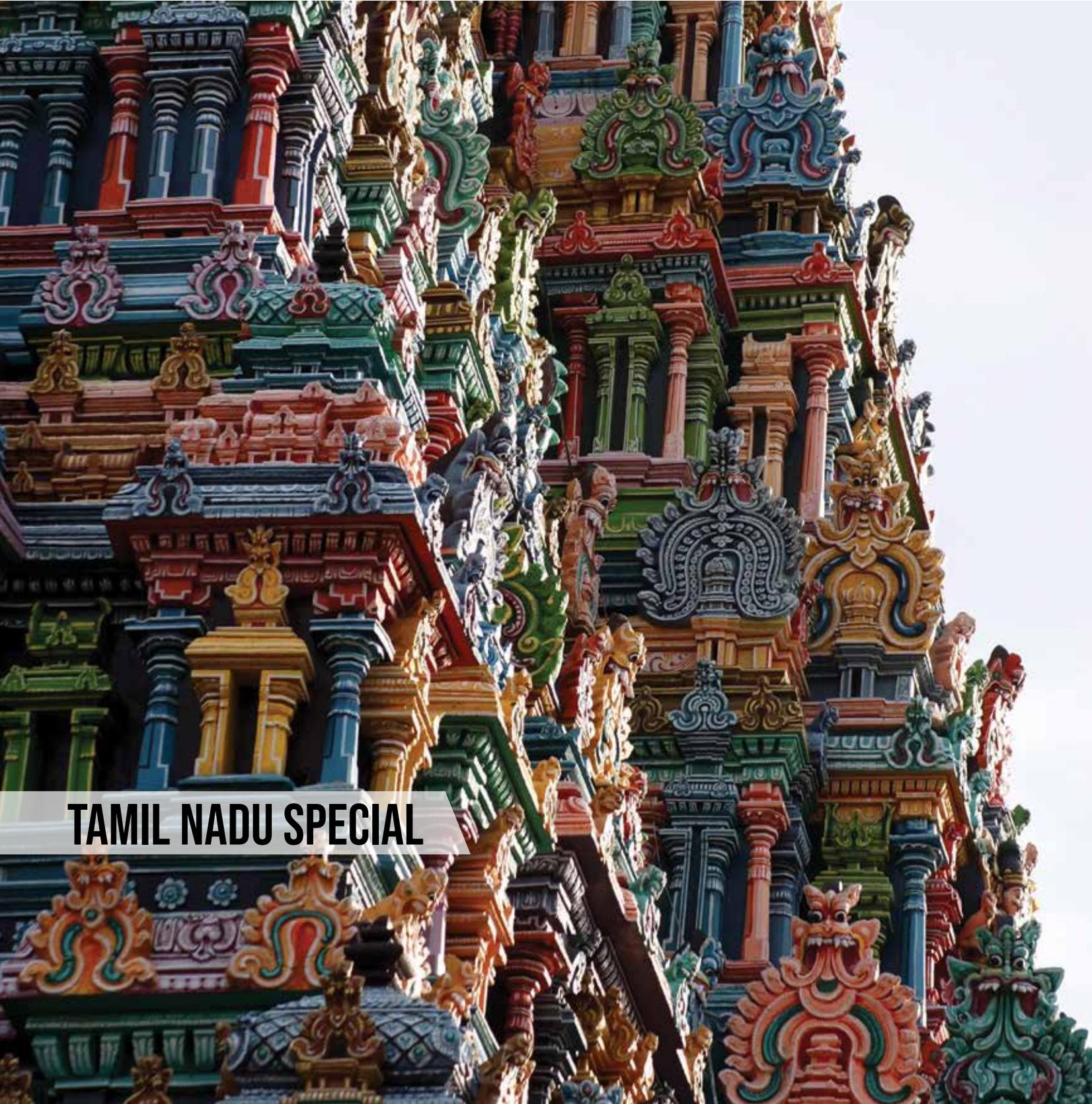


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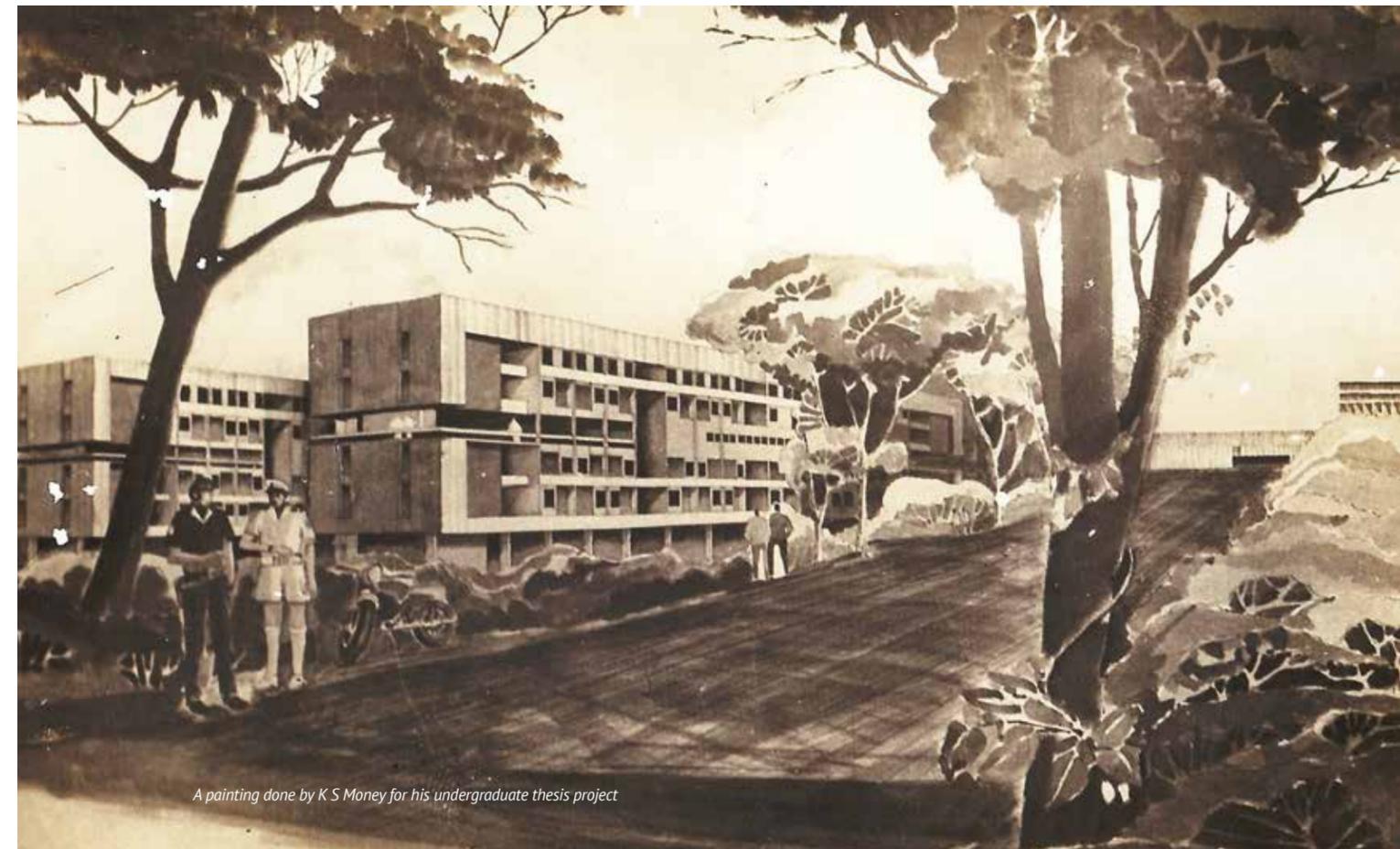
TAMIL NADU SPECIAL



LINGERING LEGACY

Text: Ar. Sriram Ganapathi / Photos: KSM

An array of thoughtful design solutions ranging from the tiniest detail to intricate built forms, the plethora of projects in the portfolio of KSM Architecture, stand testament to the invaluable contributions the team has made in shaping the architecture of the state. Founded in 1990 by the legendary architect late K S Money, the studio is now recognized as one of the leading design firms that is a harbinger in promoting a sustainable and eco friendly built environment. The ever positive personality of K S Money is the quintessence of the energy and zeal at KSM. The seeds sowed by this true visionary bears fruit with every passing project of the studio - the remnants of a celebrated legacy.



A painting done by K S Money for his undergraduate thesis project



Czechoslovakian Embassy New Delhi



A physical model of Chola Sheraton hotel



PSBB auditorium portrays a brutalist form



Hotel Yak & Yeti in Kathmandu



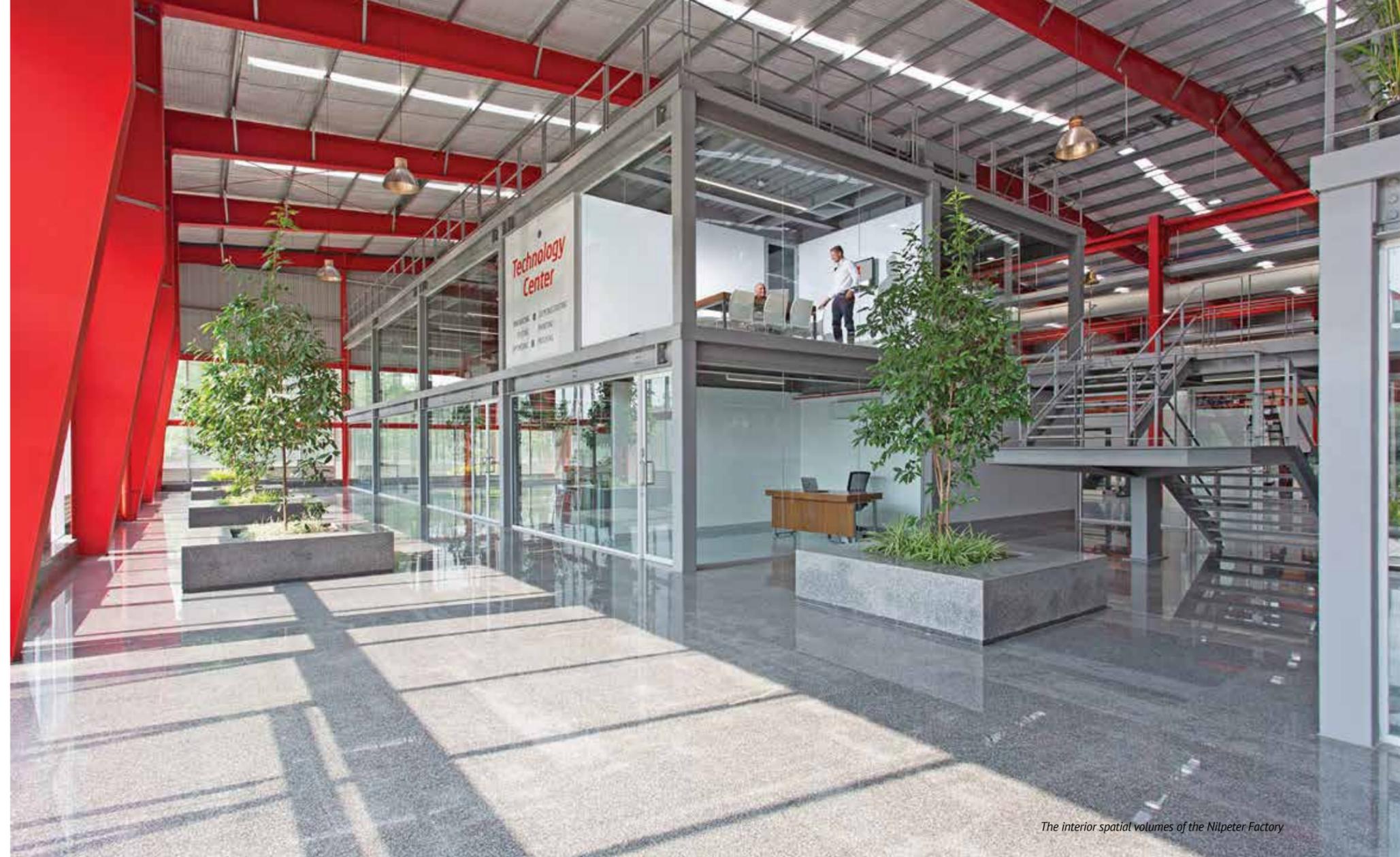
View of the Coimbatore Club from the driveway

KSMoney did his Bachelor in Architecture in AC Tech college, Madras from 1962-66 and was awarded the LM Chitale Gold medal in 1966. He was greatly influenced by modern architecture like many of his contemporaries. He began his career with Prynne Abbott and Davis in Madras which was later renamed Pithvadian and Partners. Subsequently, he moved to the Swiss firm Gherzi Eastern Ltd and his first project with them was the Czechoslovakian Embassy in New Delhi. This building built entirely of exposed concrete made a lasting impression on his mind - so much so that 45 years later his

KSM Studio mirrored a similar treatment of concrete. He worked with Gherzi for 20 years during which time he rose to be the Chief Architect of the organisation. He absorbed the inter-disciplinary and collaborative work culture of Gherzi and gained a phenomenal understanding of engineering processes in buildings. He handled projects in Oman, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia, apart from many in India. His notable projects include Hotel Yak & Yeti, Kathmandu, Oman Textile Mills, Muscat, Hotel Hyatt Regency, New Delhi, to name a few.



The split levels inside the KSM Studio

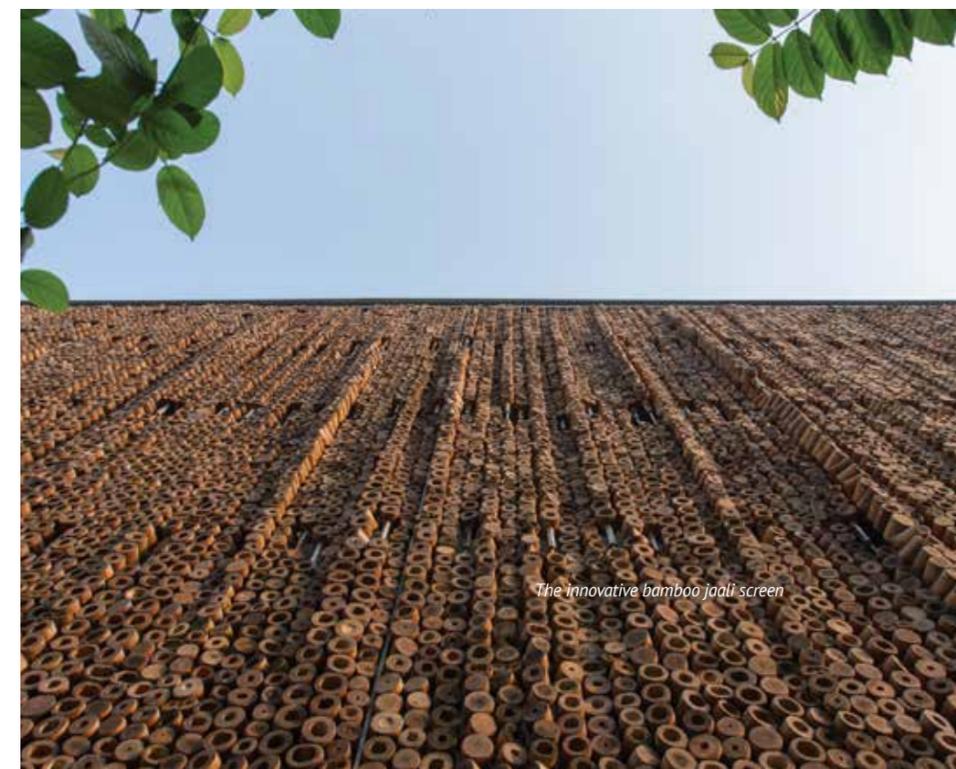


The interior spatial volumes of the Nilpeter Factory



View of the studio from the road

A deep understanding of engineering in buildings was his forte. This comprehensive technical know-how along with his considerable knowledge about construction, constructional detailing and building services, served as the back-bone of the design practice he founded in 1990 along with myself - KSM Consultants. He firmly believed that one must know how to build what one designs. According to Money, architecture that is built and realized is really the architecture that counts. He instilled this belief in the practice of KSM. It was imperative that any design conceptualised at KSM needed



The innovative bamboo jaali screen

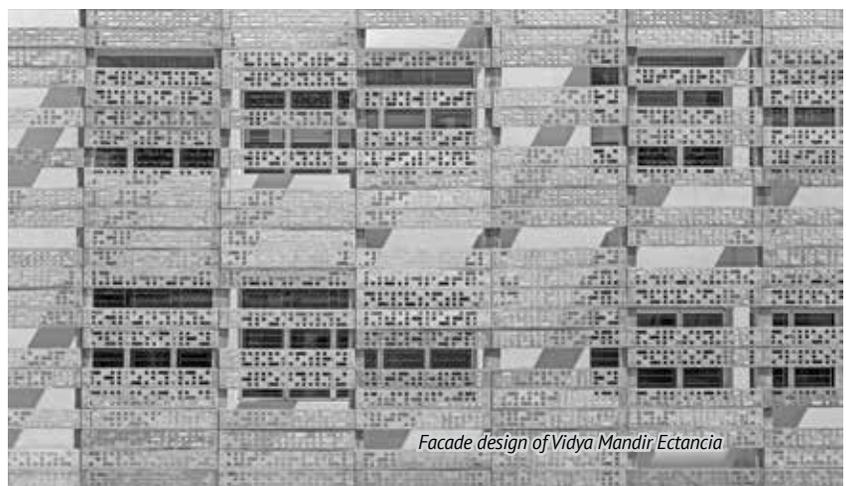


Sketch of the Studio in its neighbourhood

to be thought through deep enough to resolve its architecture, engineering and material at the initial design stage itself.

KSM Architecture is committed to providing contemporary and sustainable design solutions that are all the time relevant to the environment they are a part of.

Inspired by K S Money, the ethos of KSM continues through myself and Siddarth Money at the fore. KSM Architecture Studio embodies the design beliefs and principles of the practice, that has been about environmentally friendly, climate sensitive-relevant architecture. 



Facade design of Vidya Mandir Ectancia



SRIRAM GANAPATHI & SIDDARTH MONEY

An integral part of KSM since its inception, Sriram Ganapathi is a graduate in Bachelor of Architecture from IIT Roorkee (1984-1989) and further pursued his Masters in Architecture from School of Architecture, McGill University, Montreal (1993 - 1995). Having become one of the 'Young Designers' cited by IA&B (Indian Architect and Builder) in 2002, he has been working towards energy efficient and climatically relevant architecture as embodied in the rooted philosophies of KSM. Synchronous with the thoughts of his mentor, the late Ar. K S money, he firmly believes that the design process is as important as the designed artifact itself. He is also one of the Founder Trustee's of Chennai Architecture Foundation (CAF).

Siddarth is a talented designer with a refreshing approach to design. He is able to innovate effortlessly in design and loves to experiment with different materials. A graduate of CEPT Ahmedabad (1998-2003), he too traveled abroad for his higher studies in Master of architecture from School of Architecture, Glasgow School of Art, Glasgow (2005-2006). Having done extensive architectural travel, he has developed a keen eye for detail. His approach to design is simple and thematic and has added an immense value to the architectural practice of KSM.