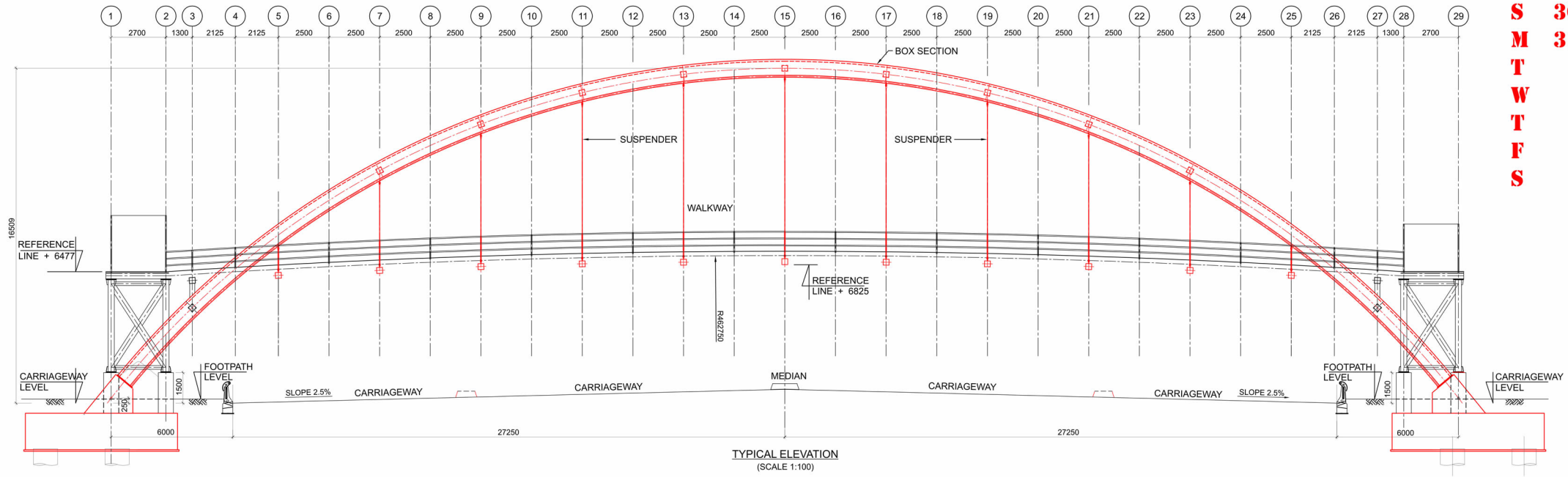


S	30	2	9	16	23
M	31	3	10	17	24
T		4	11	18	25
W		5	12	19	26
T		6	13	20	27
F		7	14	21	28
S	1	8	15	22	29



# archohm works



Archohm has completed or has in progress several urban design projects in Delhi for **PWD, Delhi Tourism, DDA** etc. The Ghazipur intersection is one of these projects. Located on the National Highway No. 24, it is not only an entry point for vehicles coming from Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand to Delhi, an exit point for tourists travelling to these states, but also the access point for hundreds of thousands of local inhabitants who live in the near by areas and cross Ghazipur intersection daily.

End result? Perpetual and huge traffic jams.

A special project as any person travelling from Noida and going to the CWG Village has to perform cross Ghazipur. It was therefore very important for us that the aesthetics be well designed. Archohm got this project in association with Tandon Consultants Pvt. Ltd. (TCPL) in 2008.

As per the design, a flyover with dual carriage ways (4 lanes each) was proposed on NH-24. The underpass, also with a dual carriage way (2 lanes each) with a cycle track is on Road No. 56, perpendicular to NH-24. Two walkways were introduced across the underpass to allow pedestrians to cross, with 3 Foot Over Bridges for to cross the road. The big challenge for us was to design it such that the contractor would build it within an **extremely short time frame** in time for the Games! Keeping this in mind AO kept the design strong, but simple and aesthetically good.

The RS wall and crash barrier texture was designed in a manner that dust never really rests on it. The flyover columns were also texture-finished. By placing lights between two columns, and covering the gap with a polycarbonate sheet we have achieved a wonderful 'glow effect' at night. The underpass wall is clad with granite, Delhi Quartzite and cement tiles. We have added the CWG logo on both side of the underpass wall - using LED lights! A big **80m diameter landscaped roundabout** has been placed at the center of the intersection on the road surface to completely remove the need of any traffic lights.



Sourabh has designed a new type of FOB for this project and hopefully in future we will see a lot more of this type of foot over bridges across Delhi. This foot over bridge is supported on two big arches with the help of cables - far more elegant than Delhi's typical foot over bridges.

The construction work on this intersection is almost done and is scheduled to open this summer-one source of relief for the hundreds of thousands of users who were earlier used to huge traffic jams here at the drop of a hat!



- Kunal Savarkar

**archohm proudly pays delhi tax.**

**Girdhar Rautela** is probably – no make it definitely- the 'Ten on ten' amongst Archohm staffers. He has the rare combination of education, experience, dedication, patience, resolve and responsibility that make him an asset to the organization.



TCPL has been working in close association with Archohm for various urban interchange projects over the past 5 years. Our association with Archohm has enabled our structures to be more **aesthetic and environmental friendly.**

The Wazirabad Bridge project was driven by the concept of having a monumental structure for the city so as to have a tourist destination for Delhi in the future. Apart from the signature bridge, a careful study has been made for the approach structure leading to it. It is conceptualized to not only incorporate pleasing aesthetics but adopts advanced construction techniques which have enabled the construction of this durable structure in a short time.

The Mukerba Chowk Interchange has been a special project for the PWD, one in which TCPL and Archohm have tried to bring in some pioneering concepts. This is the first project (recently opened to traffic), in which special attention was given to cycle traffic through dedicated cycle tracks and junctions, to avoid conflict with vehicular traffic. Archohm has contributed immensely to the beauty to the project by proposing **specialty shaped voided slab ramps and loops with aesthetically matching piers and well designed subways.**

An extradosed bridge is likely to be called a Signature Bridge. Both TCPL (along with BSEC) and Archohm are actively working to design this landmark bridge.

Archohm has been an enthusiastic source of creativity in our urban projects and the journey with them has been an enjoyable one. I wish them luck and success.



**Mahesh Tandon** - Professor Mahesh Tandon is an institution in himself as far as structural engineering is concerned in India. His renowned firm, TCPL has been a close associate of Archohm and has enjoyed a great working relationship exploring and designing various parts of the city with them.

# in focus



Vitrahaus. A befitting summation of the signature furniture campus at one Charles Eames street, Wheli Am Rhein, Germany by the world famous Basel based architects **Herzog and De Meuron.**

A concept read and model seen in archoutour one, the visit to the real product last week was an interestingly different experience. The scale for the project was somewhat smaller than what I had anticipated. It was set within a large landscape as an object in continuation with the theme of the campus. And conference centre in front, Gehry museum on the side, Stua factory and Zahra Hadid fire station to respond to, one could not have asked for a more challenging context. The **buildings themselves being an exhibit at the scale of the campus** bring the entire Vitra philosophy together.

The external massing left lots to be desired but the space making and routing was far more enriching than expected. A basic stacking of a typical Swiss house form in a modern statement housing the world's premier design pieces. The structure was broken into smaller spaces to give each room a setting and each design piece a room. Each stacked form terminated with glass. A skillful detail of stepping down the end to enable an infinite view of the Swiss landscapes. The route intertwined between blocks to enable a rich, lit and scaled spatial experience of the building. Internal finishes were rather basic as paints and raw wood floors. Lighting was basic and focussed as and on exhibits and the merchandise enhanced the design theories. Creative **digital info-boxes** gave insight to each exhibit. Externally, the buildings were painted brown with a singular face wood clad that merged with the landscape as a seating and decking.

Commissioned in 2006 and opened to the public in 2010, the building has **12,349 sq metres of space.** Structure in concrete gives large spans and cantilevers to bring a structural excitement and modernity into construction. Vitra campus now stands complete with this visiting card right upfront.

Personally, the architects H&D seem to be a destined force this year with a string of project visits from Tate modern, London, to railways signal house and Schaulager art foundation in Basel and finally to this German visitor center.

'Been there, done that, seen it all'.

Volcano in Iceland. Europe isolated. This was a surprise visit courtesy rescheduled Swiss flights. The Vitra visit was an enriching experience and an apt end to the world of furniture design from a week of Milan furniture fair!



**Sourabh Gupta** - Is there anyone on the mailing list of this journal who needs an introduction to Sourabh? He would be a wonderful brand ambassador for any tonic that claims to make human beings untriable and unstoppable, with boundless energy and drive! Needless to say he is a walking talking encyclopaedia on all things to do with design.

## News:

The Frankfurt light and building fair was a fantastic platform that brought together the entire International lighting industry. Pleasantly surprising was the number of people that knew Archohm courtesy the 'Ohm' of lighting in Archohm. Though Regent, Schredder, Artemide and Trilux were big, Philips took the cake with incredible quantitative and qualitative innovations.

A trip to **BnB Italia store in London** took the quality of furniture stores to the next level. The store was an easy corridor 10m wide and 100m long that kept unfolding a phenomenal collection of designer living accessories and furniture.

An apt preparation to the Scandinavian Archoutour, the **Skandium store** in London gave an insight to designers, buildings, history and theory of Northern Europe that makes it so attractive and special for Archohm's forthcoming summer expedition.

Archohm's **Shoolini University** project phase one was opened officially by the Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh in Solan. Aggressive design work is on for the phase two of the residential campus to this state of the art biotechnological university.

Archohm aspires to its next landmark of expanding into its own new building. With a **timeline of 225 days**, opening on Diwali 2010, team members are destined to have a happy 2010. The efforts for this impossible project started with remembering all possible goods including the 'Vastudevta'. The pooja was marked by every Archohmite and close well wishers by planting trees at site. For the next 6 months, Archohm office updates will be a regular feature to keep the countdown pressure on!

Senior Interior Designer Amit Sinha decided he needed a month long break from work. Is that why he tied the knot with London based architect Elizabeth Shaw (who was once a trainee at Archohm) on April 4, 2010 at his hometown, Kolkata? There was a mini-archoutour of sorts, as quite a few Archohmites made it for the wedding.

### BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH:

S.P.Gupta	Second
Vikram	Second
Ashwini Bhatt	Ninth
Shubh Rana	Nineteenth
S.S.Muralidharan	TwentyFifth
Mini	TwentyThird

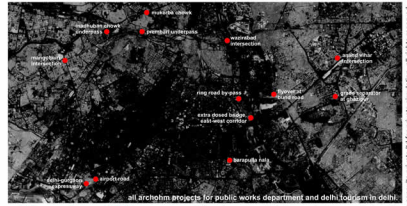
### NEW JOINEES:

Anjan Patra	-	Architect
Avdesh Sharma	-	Draughtsman
Mitesh Sidhpura	-	Architect



Chandhoo to Archohm's next landmark, Gupta with the pooja attended by Archohm team members in full attire.

# sourabh's desk

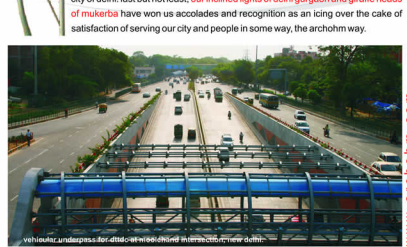


**archohm proudly pays delhi tax.** we are a privileged group of designers that are assisting the government and others in shaping delhi. this does not give us due returns financially but improves our city and brings in recognition. we wish to be taxed.

infrastructure in our country is getting upgraded rapidly. from roads to rails, ports to airports all are getting a functional and a face lift. to me, streets and roads of a city are its image, delhi's critical to upgrade facilities with a spirit of pride and ownership. to bring in an extra touch to mark the time and space it is built in. to not merely serve the purpose as a functional obligation but to bring in the much needed flavour. character of a city is thus a collage of various interventions that gradually brought the city to its present state.

at a point, when asked to comment on the footbridges of delhi being stamped all over ugly ensemble of steel girders, we had proposed a sketch of light tensile design could bring in a sense of modernity and technology that indian industry is in today. this **foot over bridge in ghazipur** will not only transfer people safely across the road but it also becomes a landmark in its location as a pleasant visual memoir in the neighbourhood.

similarly at **moolchand underpass**, the ring of pedestrian movement and the shaded walkways elevated the pedestrian position in the otherwise vehicle heavy city of delhi. last but not least, **our inclined lights of delhi gurgaon and graffe heads of mukerba** have won us accolades and recognition as an icing over the cake of satisfaction of serving our city and people in some way, the archohm way.



ve hiekar landscapes for dtdc-@vehichid@intra.ctm.rme.delhi

April for me - except for an occasional slip – turned out to be the month of least travel. Not so for Sourabh, who must have taken a flight a day - traveling across Europe.

I got a whole lot of comments on my article in the April issue - thanks to my featuring an image of Marilyn Monroe, including one that asked me whether I was aware that Brad Pitt is a sort of 'architect'. Well, this was something worth doing some research on, so here goes:

Star of films like 'The Fight Club', Brad Pitt has been promoting sustainable and green architecture through out the world. He is a close friend of the renowned architect Frank Gehry, and in fact has been known to spend time working in his studio. We, at Archohm, have had the pleasure of seeing a few of Gehry's projects – on Archoutour 2 - in Spain. See here is the Guggenheim Museum at Bilbao.

It's now time for **Archoutour 3 - a journey in Scandinavia** as a child – Scandinavia to me was the land where the sun never set (in summer of course); the land of the Vikings, of Norse mythology, remote and beautiful, where one could see the 'Northern lights' or the 'Aurora Borealis'. For those who read the Sunday papers, it was the home of Hagar the Horrible. In college - it was the land of Alvar Aalto and Ikea! Of course I never imagined I might actually visit this magical land one day. Now? Well it seems like a couple of mad months away!



As we prepare to move into May, by far the hottest month in India, with the temperature touching almost 50 Centigrade, it is worth mentioning that the highest shade temperature ever recorded – anywhere in the world - is at AlAziziyah in Libya – almost 58° on 13 September 1922.

This month we have for you - two articles by Sourabh - one on infrastructure projects; and the other on Vitra haus, Germany, an excellent article on the Ghazipur Urban Design project by Girdhar Singh Rautela, a concise piece by Mahesh Tandon, doyen among India's structural designers, and of course all our usual features like Archohm news etc

Something to think about - all who are interested in joining us on Archoutour - we are planning to start our trip at **Bilund - home to LEGO** - the building blocks that we all played with as kids! Can't wait to get there!

As a last word, you can blame Eyjafjallajökull (the most famous volcano in the world after Vesuvius) for the delay in this month's newsletter; as our star contributor this month was engrossed in how to get to India by the first flight available - and therein the delay!

FEEDBACK: Please address all feedback to Atisi at [archohmeter@archohm.com](mailto:archohmeter@archohm.com)

# editorial

# guest thoughts

# design news