Lotus Greens sponsors the GRIHA-NASA Trophy to groom students in Sustainable Habitat

New Delhi, March 13, 2015: Lotus Greens, NCR-based real estate developer, once again underlined its commitment to the development of sustainable habitat, by sponsoring the GRIHA-NASA Trophy, at the 18th Annual NASA Convention 2014-15, a joint venture of GRIHA, India’s National Rating System for sustainable habitats and the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). It is awarded by GRIHA Council under the aegis of The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Govt. of India, in partnership with National Association of Students of Architecture (NASA).

Lotus Greens, in its effort to bridge the gap between the theory and practice of architecture, sustainable buildings had shared a brief for developing 20,000 sq m of green housing on its land parcel in Sector 150 Noida. This is the first time that a live project was given to students with the challenge to understand the ground realities and present sustainable and implementable solutions. The contest saw representations of over 10 colleges of design and architecture in India, out of which 12 entries were shortlisted from the presenters, before decide on the final 3 winning entries.

The shortlisted entries were adjudged by an eminent jury comprising celebrated names in the fields of architecture and green building. It included Architect Nitin, Founder, iJoin, American; Dr. Kamal Venkatesan, MDS Architect, Asian University; NR Joyal, Kalikiri, Director and Head – UNBDC, Asia Pacific and Middle East; MaMitra, Director-TEG, and Secretary of IATR; GHBA Council; Mr. Shailesh Sardar, President; Mr. Venkateshwar, Secretary; Dr. Harsh Prasad, MD, Lotus Greens; Dr. Praveen Kottalur, Sr. Project Manager, GHBA Council and Mr. Chaitanya Bhat, Programme Officer, GHBA Council.

The 3 winning entries were presented by the students at the prestigious GHBA Convention held between 7-16th March, 2015, at the Lodha Elita Centre, New Delhi. The GHBA Convention is the largest conclave on high performance sustainable habitats in India. The entries were submitted by Mr. P. Seshan of the Seshan – Faculty of Architecture and Eebrutku from Mithila Institute, Delhi won the 1st prize, followed by Gyanendra College of Architecture, BAL, at 2nd prize, and 3rd runner up Akbar Meenad Sajith Academy of Architecture, Chennai and NJC Emeritus, while a special jury recommendation went for NIT Calicut.

The designs were selected on the basis of their conformity to stringent norms and standards prescribed by GRIHA. The participating students studied the climate of Noida with the objective of maintaining natural vegetation and trees for substantial cooling effect. The entries ensured were overwhelming and included interesting reconstructions like concrete cancer paths to accommodate the total landscaped area of the project, with active plants to enhance landscape water demand.

For the occasion, Mr. P. Seshan, Vice Chancellor, Lotus Greens, said, “Only a sustainable development can meet the needs of today without compromising the future. The studies of architecture will let students understand the benefits of developing sustainable buildings. The GRIHA – NASA Trophy is a great opportunity to help building architects appreciate the power of eco-friendly practices. As part of Lotus Greens’ commitment to promoting sustainability across India, we have been sponsoring the GRIHA – NASA Trophy. We are thrilled to see the response, where exemplary works have been shortlisted by the students.”

The winners brought together representatives from the building and construction industry and policy makers, thought leaders, academia, researchers and others to develop and drive new avenues of sustainable housing practices.

Fax. 40565107 / 26930131