

SOMANY CERAMICS PRESENTS



INDIA IS DESIGNING ITS FUTURE

We're looking for those leading it.



**SOMANY DESIGN
EXCELLENCE AWARDS
2026-27**

NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

Submission closes on 10th November 2026

somanyceramics.com/awards

NOMINATIONS

Inviting nominations from Architects



India's built environment is evolving rapidly, with some of its most meaningful design emerging beyond the metros. The Somany Design Excellence Awards celebrate architects who are leading this transformation through original thinking, contextual sensitivity and purposeful innovation, creating spaces that enrich lives and shape the future of India's cities and communities.

ELIGIBILITY

- Practicing Architects with a valid Council of Architecture (COA) registration certificate.
- Nominations from architects are accepted only from the listed 18 cities and their adjoining townships.
- Projects completed within the last 10 years (between year 2016- 2026) from these 18 cities and adjoining townships.
- For Emerging Architect award maximum age should be 35 years as on 1st January 2026. For Women in Architectural Leadership award, minimum age as on 1st January 2026 should be 45 years. For Lifetime Achievement award the minimum age as on 1st January 2026 should be 60 years.
- Conceptual, unbuilt, incomplete or litigated projects will not be eligible for the awards.

NOMINATIONS INVITED FROM

NORTH

- Lucknow • Jaipur • Dehradun
- Chandigarh • Rohtak • Varanasi

WEST

- Nashik • Kolhapur • Indore
- Vadodara • Pune

SOUTH

- Hyderabad • Thiruvananthapuram
- Coimbatore • Mysuru • Visakhapatnam

EAST

- Bhubaneswar • Patna

HOW TO NOMINATE

1. Log on to <www.somanyceramics.com/awards>
2. Select category, Submit details.
3. Nominations accepted in multiple categories.

THE PROCESS

The Somany Design Excellence Awards follow a transparent and rigorous evaluation process. Each entry is reviewed against clearly defined criteria, including design originality, contextual relevance, innovation, sustainability and overall impact. A distinguished jury independently evaluates and scores the submissions, followed by panel deliberations to arrive at the final winners.

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SCAN TO NOMINATE

*Eighteen cities. One jury.
A single, uncompromising
standard.*

Award Categories

The Somany Design Excellence Awards will recognise outstanding work across eight categories. Together, these categories celebrate creativity, contextual relevance, innovation and meaningful contributions to India's evolving built environment.

1. EMERGING ARCHITECT OF THE YEAR AWARD

The award aims to identify and celebrate promising young architects whose work demonstrates fresh ideas and bold design thinking. The Jury looks at originality of design, contextual sensitivity, material innovation, sustainability and impact within local communities and replicability. The maximum age limit to apply for this category is 35 years.

2. WOMEN IN ARCHITECTURAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

This category recognises a woman architect who has demonstrated exceptional leadership, professional excellence and meaningful influence on architecture and the built environment. The nominee must be at least 45 years of age as of 1st January 2026. The Jury will consider her leadership, professional achievements, institution-building, mentorship, industry influence, social and environmental impact, and commitment to inclusive practices.

3. COMMERCIAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

This category recognises outstanding commercial architecture across offices, retail, hospitality and mixed-use developments. The Jury will evaluate functionality, spatial planning, circulation, user experience, adaptability, integration of brand identity, material use innovation and sustainability and commercial relevance and contribution to the surrounding urban and economic context.

4. INSTITUTIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

This category recognises exemplary architecture across educational, healthcare, civic, cultural and other institutional and public spaces. The Jury will evaluate functionality, circulation, accessibility, user comfort, responsiveness to institutional purpose, adaptability, inclusivity, material use, sustainability and contribution to the community and its broader social context.

5. RESIDENTIAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

This category recognises excellence in residential design across both Single Dwelling Units and Multiple Dwelling Units/Group Housing. Entries must clearly identify the applicable typology and will be evaluated on their own merits, with due consideration to the distinct scale, context, complexity and design challenges of each. The Jury will assess spatial innovation, functionality, user comfort, circulation, natural light and ventilation, material efficiency, sustainability, and the balance between privacy and community, wherever relevant. While both typologies are eligible and will be assessed appropriately.

6. ADAPTIVE REUSE & HERITAGE REINTERPRETATION AWARD

This category recognises projects that sensitively preserve, reimagine or adapt heritage and traditional buildings for contemporary use. The Jury will consider cultural continuity, contextual relevance, material innovation, sustainability and the potential for replication with appropriate local adaptation.

7. COMMUNITY & CULTURAL IMPACT AWARD

The category recognises projects that strengthen communities, celebrate cultural identity and advance inclusivity through thoughtful design. Entries may include public and community spaces, cultural institutions, urban interventions, water bodies, urban forests and pedestrianisation initiatives. The Jury will consider social impact, accessibility, community participation, cultural relevance, sense of belonging, long-term influence and replicability, innovation in material use and sustainability. Project scale will not be a determining factor; smaller interventions with meaningful impact will be equally valued.

8. LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Not open for direct applications - jury nominated only. The award aims to honour an architect whose lifelong contribution has significantly shaped India's architectural and design discourse. Eligible nominees should be senior professionals with 60 years of age or above as on 1st January 2026. The Jury looks at depth and breadth of impact, body of work, contribution to mentorship, thought leadership, and legacy within the architectural fraternity.

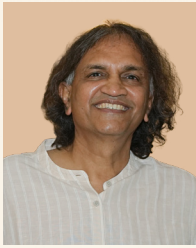
For clarifications email at: awards@somanyceramics.com

REQUISITE INFORMATION FOR NOMINATIONS

* Valid Council of Architecture (COA) registration certificate. | *Project description (maximum 300 words) | *Architect Profile (maximum 100 words) | *Sustainability declaration/ statement (maximum 100 words) | *Client Testimonial or Self Declaration Certification (maximum 100 words) | *Project data Sheet (PDF File in A4/A3, size not more than 10 MB) | *Architectural drawings (PDF File in A4/A3, size not more than 10 MB) | *Site Plans (PDF File in A4/A3, size not more than 10 MB) | Additional Plans if any (PDF File in A4/A3, size not more than 10 MB) | Sections (File size not more than 10 MB) | 3D views (File size not more than 10 MB) | *Professional still photography (10 photos maximum upto 20 MB) OR Professional videography (File size 50MB not more than 2 minute film).

**Mandatory information*

The Jury



Mr. Manish Kumat
Principal Designer
Manish Kumat Design
Cell, Indore



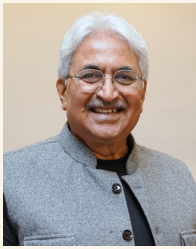
Ar. Shubhra Mittal
ARINEM Consultancy,
Lucknow



Ar. Tushar Sogani
TSDPL, Jaipur



**Ar. Dhamotharan
Sethuraman**
FHD, Hyderabad



**Ar. Sanjay
Madhavrao Patil**
Environ Planners, Nashik



**Ar. Siddarth
Gopala Sankar**
Sankar & Associates,
Coimbatore



Ar. Shibu Aboosali
Shibu Aboosali Architects,
Trivandrum



**Ar. Somayajula Lakshmi
Narayana Sastry**
Trios, Vizag



Ar. Brij Panjwani
Panjwani Architects,
Dehradun



Ar. Aajit
Design Plus Studio,
Patna



Ar. Nitin Bhardwaj
Nitin Bhardwaj &
Associates, Vadodara



**Ar. Imran Mohammad
Abbas Shaikh**
Cubix Architects, Pune



**Ar. Ujjwala Vishvajeet
Mirajkar**
VC Mirajkar Associates,
Kolhapur



Ar. Kalpataru Behera
Modern Architect &
Associates,
Bhubaneswar



Ar. Vinod Menon
SPACE, Mysuru



**Ar. Chandra
Prakash Chawla**
SRISHTI Architects,
Varanasi



Ar. Shelja Gupta
Designing Earth by
Studio Bhoomi,
Chandigarh



Mr. Aman Arora
Concept Associates,
Rohtak



Mr. Abhishek Somany
MD & CEO
Somany Ceramics Ltd.



Mr. Shrivatsa Somany
Head – Bathware Division
Somany Ceramics Ltd.