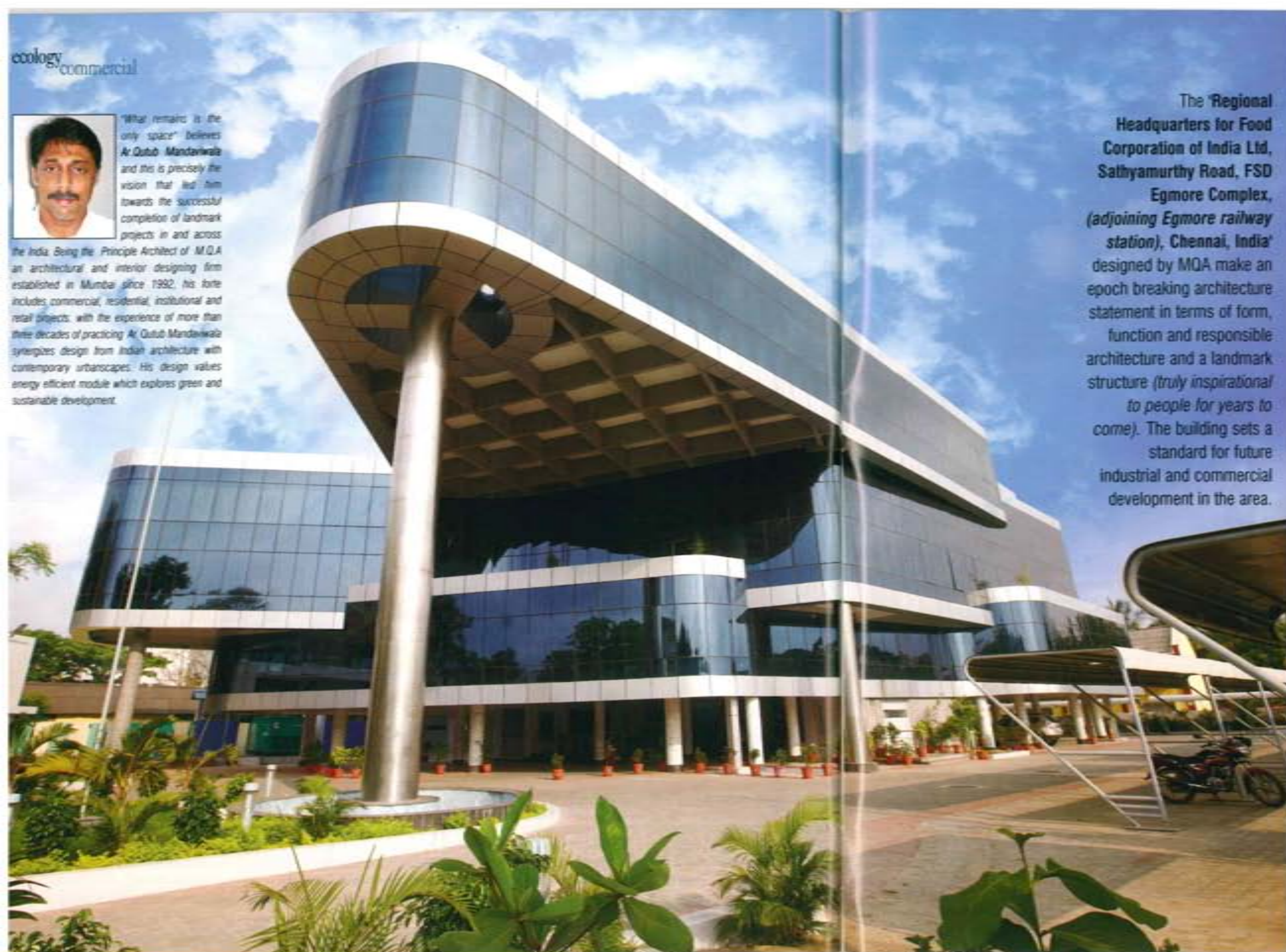




"What remains is the only space" believes Ar. Qutub Mandavikale and this is precisely the vision that led him towards the successful completion of landmark projects in and across the India. Being the Principle Architect of M.Q.A an architectural and interior designing firm established in Mumbai since 1992, his forte includes commercial, residential, institutional and retail projects, with the experience of more than three decades of practicing Ar. Qutub Mandavikale synergizes design from Indian architecture with contemporary urbanscapes. His design values energy efficient module which explores green and sustainable development.



The 'Regional Headquarters for Food Corporation of India Ltd, Sathyamurthy Road, FSD Egmore Complex, (adjoining Egmore railway station), Chennai, India' designed by MQA make an epoch breaking architecture statement in terms of form, function and responsible architecture and a landmark structure (truly inspirational to people for years to come). The building sets a standard for future industrial and commercial development in the area.



text & photographs : courtesy, the architect

Food

Corporation of India

Egmore, Chennai, India MQA



The 'Regional Headquarters for Food Corporation of India Ltd, Sathyamurthy Road, FSD Egmore Complex, (adjoining Egmore railway station), Chennai, India' designed by MQA is a 40,000-sq.ft parcel, cut out of 28-acres of food grain storage plot that lies in a predominately residential area. The site is accessed by peaceful 9.00-mt wide road via public transport. (pedestrians find easy access considering its quiet and low traffic residential neighbourhood). Free flowing floor plates - all four different were created and stacked one above the other. Different shape of floor plate created terrace garden an outdoor space for each offices. The huge canopy at the top most level brings unusual excitement while approaching the building. Simple façade detail is taken to keep the free flowing shape untouched.

The structure is designed green and sustainable. The interior spaces are well planned and placed creating right balance between shape and function with required connectivity. Complementing its use as a corporate office; handicap accessibility; isolated smoking zones, gymnasiums, café, green terrace gardens for recreational use are provided. Distinct floor plates, particularly the fourth floor plate that is supported on one large column and floats across the driveway create a triple height approach porch into the building. (this is the most noticeable feature along with its landscape green terraces, maximum utilization of natural day light and views due to the façade design and floor plate organization).

Being a commercial building, energy optimization was crucial. Design evolved façade with minimum opening towards solar sensitive





the embodied energy of the building is reduced by appropriate usage of building blocks.

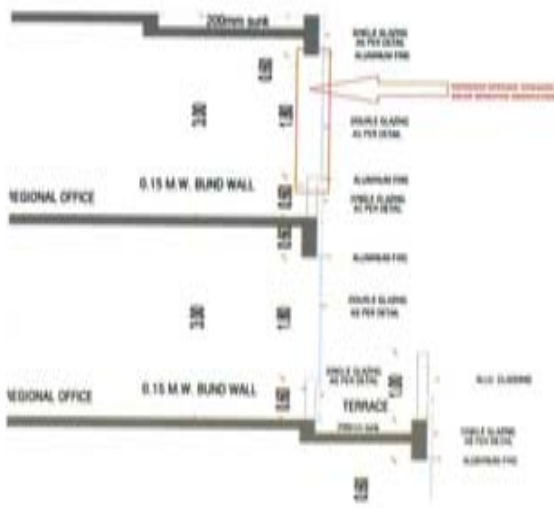


different shapes of floor plates create terraces as an outdoor spaces for each office, which act as isolated smoking zones.



The interior spaces are well planned and placed creating right balance between shape and function with required connectivity.

orientation. Projected surfaces create shadows for lower floor reducing direct sun light. In some locations, double glazed low emission glass was proposed. Flat slab construction for 90 per cent of the building gives ample clear workspace and service area. Indoor and outdoor noise level control is an added benefit for the occupants. The embodied energy of the building is reduced by appropriate usage of building blocks. Green zone, reduced hard paved areas, building blocks with low energy materials for the interiors and use of low VOC paints and adhesives - all jointly contribute as notable environmental features of Food Corporation of India. ▲



fact file:

- project : Regional Headquarters For Food Corporation of India Ltd
- location : Chennai
- client : Food Corporation of India Ltd
- architect : MQA
- principal architect : Qutub Mandviwala
- local architect : Yadav Architects
- site area : 3,208-sq.m
- lighting & electrical : Tech Designers, Chennai

