

Green Speak

ELT India - Inspired By Nature

With concrete encroaching into our lives by the minute, there's a rising need to be more in touch with nature. Spearheaded by Pradeep and Anuradha Barpande, Ecogreen Landscape Technologies India Pvt. Ltd. was started in 2008 to provide sustainable and eco-friendly products and technologies. It is one of the first Indian enterprise to study, produce, install, improve and export ELT Green Wall and ELT Green Roof Systems like vertical gardens, green roofs, green curtains,

In the age of diminishing living spaces and resplendent greens going into oblivion; it was about time for an innovative idea such as ELT to sprout. BY REHANA PENWALA



Vertical gardens are a great way of covering vertical ground or wall

green strings, underwater gardens and urban farming.

The inspiration for setting up ELT India came to the Barpandes' by means of a newspaper article on vertical gardens across the world. Subsequently, they were determined to bring these new 'green' heights to the Indian architectural scenario. After a few exchanges between ELT

Easy Green - a green company in Canada specialising in green wall and green roof systems, ELT was ready to arrive in India.

However, the climb to success was obstacle-strewn. Managing Director Pradeep Barpande elaborates, "The most important challenge to us was plants - their selection, procurement, planting

medium, growing, transportation, installation and maintenance at every stage. Thus, we decided to build our own data bank with information of plant performance in varying parameters like light, water, humidity, temperature, pollution, etc. Yet we found it difficult to procure thousands of plants of one variety and health. We therefore had to start a baby plant nursery and develop few vendors to grow for us. Similarly, we designed and developed each component and process of every system very scientifically to make sure that it will perform in every condition. Training and educating stakeholders was done simultaneously. All these efforts have delivered the expected results across the country."

A novel concept brought into

focus by ELT India is urban farming, whereby crops can be grown on existing or new buildings. "The product for vertical farming will be introduced this October. This will help in optimising use of spaces, add greenery, produce food and reduce the temperature of the building envelop. Some vegetables grown in lightweight green roof weigh just 4 kg per sq.ft.," says Mr. Barpande.

Speaking about ELT India's future projects, he details, "ELT is now a partner of Huntsman for their new miraculous product Vydro, a substrate for growing almost all kinds of plants. With this substrate we were able to cover an extremely sloped roof (up to 78 degrees) for one project in Dehradun. We are also working



Green curtain is a series of horizontal planters that can facilitate privacy and protect from sunlight



Anuradha and Pradeep Barpande,
Founders, ELT India

on a centralised maintenance system for controlling irrigation, artificial lighting and humidity, using latest technologies." Green false ceilings and green strings with LED lights are their soon-to-be launched products.

ELT India aims to make these sustainable green technologies a safe, easy and reliable way for the benefit of future generations and the environment. Mr. Barpande adds, "Our approach to a project is to provide sustainable solutions. We believe with the use of new

vegetation techniques we can introduce urban farming to grow more food and greenery to enhance micro climate in building envelop for human beings, birds, animals, insects, etc. This will also create many employment opportunities if unused terraces are engaged in growing food using modern lightweight, long lasting and sustainable technologies."

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