Inauguration of the
AGARTALA AIRPORT

Ar. Gurpreet Singh Shah and Prof. Charanjit Singh Shah | Creative Group LLP

Creative Group LLP is proud to have designed the **Integrated Terminal building, Agartala**. The existing terminal building at the Bir Bikram Singh Airport was saturated, and there was no further scope for expansion, necessitating the Airports Authority of India (AAI) to construct a new integrated terminal building with an enhanced capacity and modern amenities.
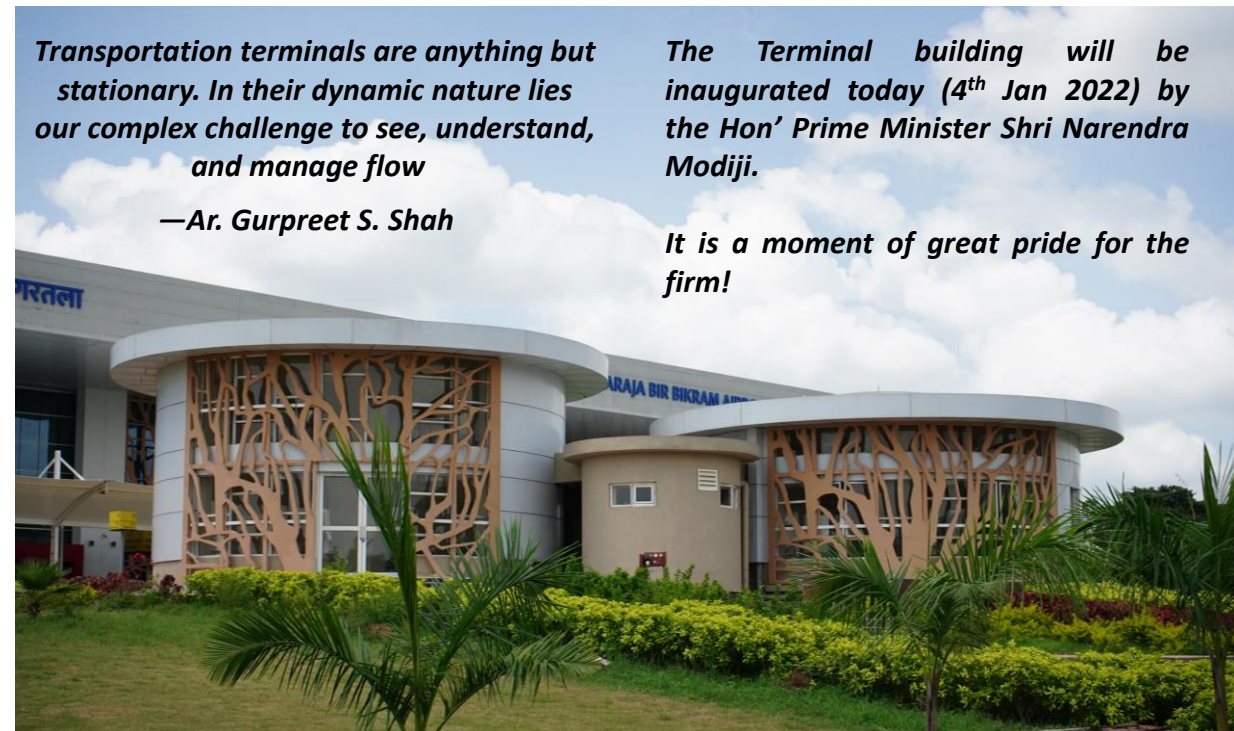
The Agartala Airport derives its vocabulary from the local environment and cultural context. It is a great example of simplicity in architecture. Bamboo is used as a widespread local material in the state for construction whereas tribal artwork and crafts promote cultural tourism.

Transportation terminals are anything but stationary. In their dynamic nature lies our complex challenge to see, understand, and manage flow

—Ar. Gurpreet S. Shah

The Terminal building will be inaugurated today (4th Jan 2022) by the Hon' Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modiji.

It is a moment of great pride for the firm!

Simplistic Dynamism in Sustainable Architecture

The new modern Integrated Terminal Building at Agartala Airport is designed keeping local architecture, art and heritage in mind. The design manifests the sweeping roof profile that envelops the entire terminal spanning across 30,000 Sqm and procures its form from the hilly terrain of the state of Tripura. The intent was on creating an overall free flowing terminal which is simple and easy to construct, while being a perfect mix of ecological infrastructure, art and building technology, and also using advanced Intelligent Building Management Systems so as to optimize the consumption of energy.

Bamboo is used as a widespread local material in the state for construction whereas tribal artwork and crafts promote cultural tourism. The usage of these art and craft work is displayed all over the terminal as sculptures, jaali work, furniture, and murals. Inspired from extensive green forest covers, the bamboo plantations are combined with local tribal stone sculptures of the Unakoti hills and the bamboo handicrafts made in Agartala. Bamboo stem sculptures are also erected in the waiting area inside the terminal building thus enhancing the interior landscape. The design of the airport reflects the philosophy that terminals as gateways play a major role in welcoming the passenger and should therefore be treated as a living organism and not a mass of brick and concrete.

Culture of Agartala

CREATIVE GROUP LLP
architects planners urban designers
Project Management Consultants

Terminal Building

Local Flavor

Jaalis are an eminent functional design feature, which can be seen in traditional households as well as in royal forts and palaces. It restricts excessive solar radiation and permits optimum daylight to increase internal efficiency. Along with their use, skylights have also been introduced in the design to maximise the natural daylight within the building.

Further, **bamboo architecture** is represented in the façade of the terminal building by way of a floral GRC Tree Jaali pattern depicting the forests and greens of the region, placed equidistant from each other. Depiction of local motifs in metal cladding helps in creating vibrancy, at the same time informing the users about the art of the state.

Keeping the fluidity of the façade, the plan has also been incorporated with **landscape areas** inside the building which provide relief space for the passengers. The free flowing form has been further accentuated at arrival and departure areas, with courtyards on either ends of the terminal, and green cover and open spaces allowing light to enter the terminal, lighting it from within with natural glare free light.

Airport infrastructure projects are the gateways to the country, state and city. They purposefully showcase the development of the nation, with an understanding of technology within the built environment and protecting the urban fabric within, while integrating the heritage and architecture of present times

—Prof. Charanjit S. Shah