

COMMERCIAL DESIGN

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Minds behind the best
workspaces in India



GAURAV SANGHAVI & HARSH POTE

Co-Founders & Principal Architects, Pentaspace Design Studio

At Pentaspace Design Studio, Gaurav and Harsh are reshaping how commercial architecture is understood in India. For them, design is not only about aesthetics or efficiency, but about purpose, identity, and the long-term impact spaces create for people, communities, and the planet.

In today's context of climate change, urban density, and workplace well-being, sustainability is at the center of their vision. Their projects are built on a philosophy that commercial spaces must move beyond utility to become ecosystems — nurturing users, respecting the environment, and enriching the social fabric. Net-zero ambition is a recurring goal, achieved through solar energy integration, smart building management systems, motion-sensitive lighting, and energy-efficient HVAC solutions. Every element is designed to



maximise intelligent energy use while minimising environmental footprint.

Their approach to sustainability extends to materials and water. Recycled resources, rainwater harvesting, and grey water recycling embody their belief in circular design. At the same time, human well-being remains a priority, with biophilia, natural light, and ergonomic layouts shaping healthier workplaces. Projects like the Shaan Theatre rooftop illustrate their vision of community-integrated design, blending function with culture and collaboration.

Together, Gaurav and Harsh are setting a regenerative, human-centric benchmark for India's commercial architecture.

"Most commercial buildings today are overdesigned for vanity, and underdesigned for life."

For Hiren Patel, the boundaries between architecture, art, and nature are threads to be woven, not lines to be drawn. Over three decades of practice, he has built a philosophy where design is as much about emotion as engineering — creating spaces that endure both physically and in the hearts of those who inhabit them.

His approach draws from early influences — education at CEPT University, an exchange in Zurich, and a deep connection to India's ethos of resourcefulness. While his style evolves with context, his principle remains steady: crafting timeless spaces that balance purity, function, and warmth.



HIREN PATEL

Principal Architect & Founder, Hiren Patel Architects

Projects like the Amoeba Office in Surat reflect this vision. Instead of closed cubicles, verandas and semi-open spaces invite air, light, and interaction, transforming corridors into curated art journeys through collaboration with sculptor Parva Desai.

Nature is central to Hiren's work, woven into courtyards, verandas, and vertical gardens, while sustainability comes from cultural frugality — questioning waste, using local materials, and embedding responsibility beyond certifications.

From community centres to hospitals, his architecture demonstrates a belief that design can heal, inspire, and empower — a responsibility he carries with humility and intent to create beauty that lasts.