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FOREWORD

- from the editor in chief

Material has been one of the most fundamental factors that has shaped the style of Architecture across the globe over the ages. Ease of availability, climatic factors and prevailing technologies have dictated the manner in which materials have been exploited by the builders of the era and the architects of the current age. Architects have capitalized highly on the inherent strength, durability, accessibility and aesthetic qualities of every material. As technology advanced there have been changes in the evaluation criteria for a material's applicability considering their usage in buildings, keeping functionality as the core criterion. Factors such as sustainability, climate change etc. emerged as overriding considerations for material choice. Energy intensive materials became a comparatively less preferred choice since their adverse impacts on climate and environment have been scientifically established. Off late, smart materials have also made their way in the construction sector. These materials are capable of showing quick response mechanisms to changes in the prevalent conditions and environment.

The works of Architects like P.L. Nervi, Le Corbusier, Zaha Hadid ,etc demonstrate how architects have used materials to manifest their creative ideas. Design studios in the campus of RVCA are inspired by the works of these legends and many a time the concepts are driven by the ideas of material in architecture. In line with these thoughts, I find it highly relevant and appreciable that the learned editorial team of "Kalpa" has dedicated this issue to the theme "Materia-verse" that provides a platform for Architects, researchers and academia to express their views on various facets of material.

I wholeheartedly compliment the contributors for providing their valuable papers and articles for consideration of publication. The constraint of pages & volume allows us to publish only a selected few.

I am sure that this special issue of "Kalpa" will be well received by the architecture community.

Prof. Dr. Om Prakash Bawane

Editor-in-Chief &
Principal, RVCA