

# Multipurpose Luxury - Indoor



*The indoor auditorium created on the premises of Taramati Baradari is more of a multipurpose facility. Treated with exquisite design and originally meant for very special events, the speciality facility contributes to the overall experience of 'cultural luxury' at Taramati. AS presents a snapshot.*

The indoor auditorium at the Taramati Baradari Cultural Complex forms an important component of the whole proposition. Kelika Auditorium - as the space was named - has originally been designed to host cultural programmes like dance and music, movies and live shows. However, it is now a multipurpose facility hosting promotional shows and corporate presentations meant for special audiences.

Having been created as part of the Taramati complex, the auditorium doesn't boast any astonishing exteriors like other similar facilities in the country. However, it does create its own impact. Designed by locally renowned architects Narendra Associates, the auditorium features some distinct characteristics that contribute to a differently unique impact.

While the oval shape of the hall looks a little longish, the interiors entirely wrapped in what appears to be a pristine wood work, and typical fabric work impart a

special look. The inside walls are fully covered with wood - till upto half the height - with intermediate pillars protruding out like rectangular columns. The rest of the walled space is covered in a typical fabric that, together with the wooden surfaces below appear to be aimed at delivering both aesthetic as well as acoustic functions.

The stage features a fine carpet-covered-wooden surface facing a large screen area. The ceiling of the stage features the lighting and motorised curtain grids while the auditorium ceiling has been covered with acoustic tiles done in artistic fashion.

The important feature of the architectural as well as the audio design here is the creation of discreet speakers: all the speakers of the 5.1 configuration are concealed - two within the wraps of wooden column with transparent fabric enclosures on either side of the stage, two concealed in the walls at the rear end, and one behind the screen.



A view of the auditorium from the stage (left), a view from the control room (right). Observe the Apple Mac-powered A/V control system

## • INSTALLS •

"The shape of the hall itself being oval, we had frequency response problems and reverberation at certain frequencies," explains Jaleel Sabir, The Sound Room chief. "We tried to address this problem with carefully locationing of the speakers rather than electronic corrections."

According to him, 'working closely with the interior designer who is highly experienced in auditorium movie hall design made it easy for them to understand the problems posed by the space, and work out a feasible solution, without any high cost implications.'

The audio solution comprised three OHM speakers at front and four OHM surround speakers, supported by two OHM subwoofers. These are controlled by three OHM digital loudspeaker controllers, and powered by Crest Audio amps.

An NEC projector is fixed in a customised wooden cage in the ceiling in front of the screen for catering to the video requirements. The control room at the rear end is powered by, besides a Venice Midas mixer, an Apple Mac meant for video playback and corporate presentations.

That the auditorium is not limited to just cultural programmes like dance and music, but has been made capable of hosting movie, live shows and corporate presentations makes it all the more purposeful, and contributes to a whole big experience at the complex, says Prasad, joint manager.

That the facility is also supported by luxury provisions such as multi-cuisine restaurant and bar, it is positioned to churn more commercial assignments, he adds.

### The A/V Equipment at Taramati Indoor Auditorium:

Description of Item	Qty
OHM - BR 15 Front Speakers	3
OHM BR 12 Surround Speakers 4OHM BR 218 Subwoofers	2
OHM CRED Digital Loud Speaker Controller	3
Venice 240, 24 Channel Audio Mixer	1
Apple Computer M9250SA/A, iMac G5 With DVD Writer	1
NEC GT 5000 LCD Projector	1
Shure SM 58 Corded Microphones	6
Shure SM 57 Corded Microphones	4
Shure DFR 22 Equalizer	1
Shure EUT 124/85 Cordless Microphone	1
Crest Audio Model: CA 12 Amplifier	1
Crest Audio Model: CA 18 Amplifier	1
Crest Audio Model: CA 6 Amplifier	1
Crest Audio Model: Pro 9001	1
Stage Box	1
TC Electronics M1 Dual Effects Processor	1
Vesocom Microphone Stands	14

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## An 'Orchid' in the Oxford of East!

stage, in a manner that they throw the sound evenly across the circular ambience.

A 3500-lumen Sony LCD projector was also suspended from the ceiling at the centre of the stage, positioned to project the image right in front on to a 16-feet screen.

The stage lighting comprised Satan and Fal lights, supported by Reytech dimmers with five adjustable light bars. In addition, one catwalk was incorporated in false ceiling providing for stage lights. The control room has been positioned directly behind the audience at the rear end giving a frontal view of the stage.

With a view to facilitating better intercommunication among the stage and the facility personnel, a mobile communication system has been incorporated. The system peripherals are placed in critical positions such as behind the wings, in the foyers and the control room.

### Multipurpose Facility, Commercially Too

The Rang Manch is intended to be a multipurpose facility- to host stage performances and theatrical arts as well as conferences, seminars, product

launches and showing educational films, with a provision for showing some select, critically-acclaimed movies occasionally.

"The idea was to contribute to the cause of cultural awareness by encouraging upcoming talents from various fields of art," says Purandhare.

According to Prof. Shinde, besides the passion for promoting arts and academic talents, it was the rapid development all around and the need for such a facility that made them venture into making it.

"With the kind of MNC influx happening in Pune, such an auditorium was very much necessary," vouches Prof. Shinde. "There are many companies which don't have auditorium facilities, mainly due to space constraints," he explains, adding, "keeping this in view, we have designed the auditorium in such a way that it can be used for different purposes like seminars, product launches, conferences, movie screenings, etc."

The Vidya Vardhini trust is exploring various avenues of generating revenues by renting out the facility.