

Mumbai Mirror

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Sonali Ashar

Cast in a new light

CELEBRATED interior designer

Sonali Ashar, creative director of her Fort-based namesake firm, has recently performed architectural CPR on a slice of Mumbai's history, this diarist has learnt. Tasked with reviving a luxury destination for haute horlogerie within the iconic 1903 Amarchand Mansion, Ashar delivered a masterclass in reclamation. We hear she stripped away decades of neglect, and truly uncovered the space's soul,

so ornamental cast-iron columns originally shipped from England, now shimmer in champagne gold leaf. From painstakingly recreated stained-glass panels to restored double-height jack-arched ceilings, every inch now reflects a cathedral-like grandeur. It's a seamless bridge between Indo-Saracenic roots and contemporary luxury. Through Ashar's meticulous lens, these interiors have been respectfully reawakened.

JUSTICE

New seat of justice to rise taller; costs zoom



Mirror's Nov 3 report that prompted then CJI Gopal to talk about toning down the building's opulence; (below) an artist's impression of the proposed HC building at BKC

After then CJI Gopal's Nov reprimand, new HC plan to shed extravagance; tender process further delayed

have been issued extending the bid submission deadline from the original date of December 19. The latest extension now pushes the deadline to May 6.

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Ex-CJI Bhushan Gavai



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SS (UBT) corporator Kishori Pednekar

Opposition leader and Shiv Sena (UBT) corporator Kishori Pednekar has tabled a notice of motion in the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), seeking the inclusion of Samarth Ramdas Swami's Manache Shlok in the daily curriculum of schools across Mumbai. The proposal, to be discussed in the civic general body later this month, has triggered political reactions, with parties divided over its intent and implications.

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