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Vaastu Shastra is an ancient science that was written at a time when there was no electricity. Therefore, the sun being the only source of light and energy, the house had to be built keeping in mind its movement. This science was very useful then. But in our era of major developments and high rises, it is not possible to build houses in compliance with the vastu rules. Here steps in astroarchitecture, says its proponent, Mumbai-based Neeta Sinha.

A high-rise building has so many flats that are similar in layout and are built one over the other. Then why is it that the vastu being the same, a person staying above or below is more successful or troubled than the rest? Here is where her quest began as to what are the other factors that influence a house. She began her research and studied around 30000 homes. In the end, it became apparent to her that 'every house has a horoscope'. Once the horoscope is made, you can balance the positive and the negatives energy to bring peace, harmony and prosperity.

Excerpts from an interview:

What has your experience been of the houses in Chandigarh that you've dealt with, if any?

In Chandigarh, I have visited a few places, namely Emaar MGF's Mohali project and a resort Vaseela in Zirakpur etc. Vaseela is a very relaxing place and great resort destination. Although it is just 15 minutes away from the airport and has such a wonderful ambience there was almost no activity happening there. I changed the name to Auravaseela and now anyone can go and have a look for themselves. Its business has improved a lot.

As a city, what do you make of it from the point of view of astro-architecture? Chandigarh, as a city, I have not studied astrologically. Although it is considered to be a well planned city, what I have observed is that its directions are slightly diagonal. It does not have a perfect east, west, north and south. Hence, it



Neeta Sinha in her sprawling home

Har ghar kuchh kehta hai

Changing the horoscope of a house can alter the destiny of its inmates, says astroarchitect Neeta Sinha

won't give 100 per cent results. Like for Mumabi, long back I had mentioned in an interview that if it were named Mumbai, the suburbs would become a lot more important economically vibrant, which is exactly the case right now.

What are the techniques you employ to improve the horoscope of a house? There are a lot many ways to do that. The easiest way is to change the name. If it is not possible then one can always balance the energy by using mirrors, plants colours, windchimes, water energy etc. but definitely no structural changes.

Having done up the houses of Bollywood's big names, do you feel these

people are more superstitious in such matters?

It is not a question of superstition. What I am practising is a science and is based on calculation. Conviction is the result which they get after balancing. Like any other person some stars are more convinced and active in these remedies.

Tell us more about your experience of working for some Bollywood personalities.

All stars have their own demeanour and personality. It was a very different and a good experience working with Amitabh Bachchan as he was showing a lot of interest in trying to understand the science and as well as the remedies and its

effectiveness. I had not expected him to take out time and note my suggestions personally. His humility really awed me. Shahrukhji showed great enthusiasm. He was thrilled to name his bungalow Mannat on my suggestion. Again, it was a great experience as he was so excited to show me every nook and corner of his house personally. I still remember his enthusiasm fondly. Akshay Kumar is also very particular and soft-spoken. You cannot imagine that that man does all those daredevil stunts if you speak to him in real life.

Whose case was the most challenging case?

My most challenging case was in the

beginning of my career and my first introduction in the film industry. Almost 12 years ago, Kirron Kherji was anchoring a show called "Jaagte Raho". When she first called me up, she had challenged me to see her house and prove myself by giving her results. I did. And the result is that till today, she consults me both in personal and professional matters. I remember that when she was nominated for the National Awards, I had put in extra efforts to increase the positive energy in her house. That year, she won the National Awards.

And the most memorable case?

My most memorable case would be that of the birth of Aarav

(Akshay and Twinkle's son). I had given her a date of delivery that was two weeks before what the doctors had predicted for her. Twinkle was not at all ready to believe me. But then on that particular date, she gave birth to her son. **Broadly, how can the horoscopes of offices be improved for having a better work culture?**

The science that I am practising is not a generalised but a customised science. It varies from individual to individual. What changes may work for a particular premise can prove disastrous for another one. I can only suggest improvements if I have seen the premise or have studied it on a floor plan. Therefore, it is difficult for me to broadly give suggestions.

What are the things in an office building that can bring in positive energy and which draw negative vibes?

Yet again, mine is a personalised science. Once I have studied a particular premise, I diagnose the positive and negative areas and balance it. Once the positive areas is identified, I generally suggest mirrors, plants or red colour. Whereas for negative areas, I generally recommend to paint it orange or yellow and place a drooping plant over there. Mirrors are the most dangerous. If they are placed in the wrong area, they can give disastrous results. One has to be careful with them. — TNS