







tion of accented and flat roofs. The front portion of the house, which was designed according to the initial plan has two extreme sloping roofs that stretch out to cover the porch.

Riyaz adds, "The main task was to give a good elevation to this house. To make it more spacious and functional, we decided to give an extreme slope that would also influence the interiors while adding

overall volume to the project. Also, this slope acts as the most striking feature of the house and gives it a strong identity." As the roof slopes from East to West, it protects the house from direct sunlight and also lends a triple and double height inside."

The owners' initially wanted a small house. But once they purchased the adjoining plot, the project was extended and

a new block was added in the rear. Now, there are two separate entries - one at front, and the other at the rear.

"So the rear side now has the master bedroom along with three more bedrooms, which form the first floor of the house," adds Riyaz.

To highlight this area, local Indian sandstone has been used on the exteriors as opposed to brick that is used for

the rest of the house. The architects did not want to disturb the already existing structure and were not keen to add another sloping roof as that would be, design wise, not suitable. So they gave a new treatment to the block and highlighted it by using local stone.

"The master bedroom on the first floor actually sits on the swimming pool. The vertical pillars that support the



This page: To provide a solution for the oppressive summers, the architects have created a basement along with an indoor pool. The insulated glass walls protect the house from extreme temperatures.

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Photography by architect
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room are placed inside the pool which is surrounded by a lounge and bar," adds Riyaz.

The floors and the corresponding landscapes ensure a nice play of greens. Every part inside the house allows a view of a different portion of the gardens. No two areas have the same view. The swimming pool and the pond form strong landscape features. The pond, at the entrance comes across

a narrow stream of water that branches out as a water-fall when one goes further into the property.

"The pool also has a shallow water body along with. The shallow pool allows one to step inside to sit and enjoy the views. A step down leads to the actual pool," says Riyaz.

Having designed projects in different parts of India, constructing a house of this scale

in Bahrain was a memorable experience for the designers. According to them, the amalgamation of modern designs with the surroundings was the biggest challenge to overcome with this house.

"For us, only the distance was a matter of concern, but we were supported with very efficient local workers that helped us give shape to our designs," says Riyaz.