



**Bhakti Hegde (28)**  
Director, Chartered Housing

# Courting success with homes

Chasing her true calling, this youngster is now focusing on interior designing over law

**C**an a lawyer make a competent interior designer? If you ask Bhakti Hegde, who has a law degree from Bangalore University and practised under RV Prasad, advocate, that is now busy redecorating the homes of people, she'd say yes. After all, she uses the core principles of law in her interior designing business as well.

For Hegde, taking the plunge into interior design (2013) has been easier than it might have been for others, considering she already had the backing of her father, a real estate developer.

"Although the building industry has an influence on me, I found my passion driving me towards law. But a strong calling made me want to venture into interior design," Hegde says.

Although becoming an interi-

or designer was always at the back of her mind, many advised her to pursue an architecture course which did not interest her at that time. But discussions with her father and brother led her to think about a career in interior design, which would enhance and add dimension to their already existing business, giving clients a complete solution. "Besides, I saw the popularity of the design offering grow," she says.

Ten years ago, she says, not as many opted for the services of an interior designer. "Either they want to go along with a theme or don't want to do it themselves, which provides a lot of scope in the industry," she says.

From her experience in law, she has brought in learnings that she puts to use in a new terrain. For instance, she explains that law by definition is a system of rules which helps one weigh out possibilities in a clear manner to come to a fast and foolproof conclusion to ensure success. "This method helps in any profession that you may pick and I see myself following this very naturally when it comes to designing," she says.

Rating in a hard core legal term, 'Modus Operandi', Hegde feels that the thought behind it

can be applied to any other space in life. "It's a Latin phrase simply translated as method of operation though it could mean differently when interpreted in the legal world. I feel it is integral to understand a client's needs in an industry like this and then it becomes far simpler to decide on the method in which one needs to operate," she says.

## CAREER SWITCH

She brings up 'Pacta Sunt Servanda' which in English means 'agreements must be kept'. This is one of the core principles she follows while doing business. "This works as a goodwill gesture and has often brought clients back and made them refer other customers, helping increase our base. Primarily, these are my biggest takeaways from law," she says.

Talking about her day to day challenges, she says the biggest challenge is catering to people and their sudden changes of heart and mind. "This can sometimes become an issue when everything has been chalked out and materials bought," she says.

Like Hegde says, sometimes in life, we need to listen to our hearts and follow our dreams and which is what she sees herself doing.

—Vidya Iyengar