



Devang Shah and Pranav Shah at Kalhaar Blues and Greens Golf Club on Friday —Nikhilesh Pathak.DNA

## ‘Within 5 minutes deal was signed’

Devang Shah recalls his meeting with legend Jack Nicklaus to design a golf course

**DNA Correspondent**

● AHMEDABAD

September 10, 2008 was very special day for the Shah brothers — Devang and Pranav — Managing Directors of Navratna Group. It was the day when they met golf legend Jack Nicklaus and convinced him to design a golf course in Ahmedabad.

“I couldn’t believe my eyes when we met this 18 times major champion. We got the appointment at the very first attempt. He inquired about Ahmedabad and its location in India. Within five minutes everything was finalised,” said Devang while recalling

his first meeting with Nicklaus in Florida, USA.

Four years down the line, the 18-hole golf course, Kalhaar Blues and Greens Golf Club near Sanand and designed by The Golden Bear, is getting ready. Spread over 175 acres of land, the course comprises 14 water bodies.

“We have selected two varieties of grass, miniverdi for tees and greens and bermuda 419 for fairways. This makes our course unique as no golf course in India is using it,” claims Devang.

According to Pranav Shah, the entire golf course has been sand-capped to enable one of the finest water harvesting and drainage systems to drain rain water and excess irrigation water to lake, thereby making it possible to re-use 35% of water.