**11\_Modelling points**

In ETABS or any other finite element software everything is connected through nodes. Nodes in ETABS are called points. Be it beam, column or even slabs, everything has nodes at ends, mid points corners etc.

So it is very important to connect all elements at nodes or points.

To draw points you can select draw point objects from draw menu.

With left mouse click you can draw points anywhere in model window and in any view.

Usually everything is drawn with some reference for example at grid intersections or at secondary girds.

While drawing points a new window pops up in which you can enter offset values.

For example if we want to draw a point object 2m away from this intersection in x direction, we will enter 2m in plan offset x box.

If you want to draw a point 20cm away from this intersection in y direction you can either change units at bottom right corner to cms or directly put 20cm in Y offset box.

Node numbers can be turned on from building view options by click here.

You can view more information about any element by right clicking on it.

Here you will see label, reference story, coordinates and connectivity information.

Any properties or loads assigned can also be viewed element by element by right clicking on them.

To turn on visibility of point object click on view options shortcut and uncheck this button.