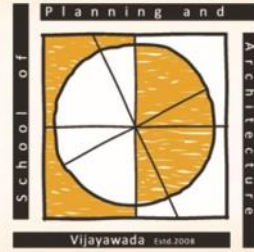




COWIN
Winning Over COVID

[HTTPS://WWW.COWIN.GOV.IN/HOME](https://www.cowin.gov.in/home)



[WWW.SPAV.AC.IN](http://www.spa.ac.in)



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SPAV CORRIDOR NEWSLETTER

DATE : July, 2021

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS : 33° / 20°C

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Director's Message

Prof. Dr. Minakshi Jain: Director of SPAV

We are towards the tail end of another COVID-struck year. To maintain a thread and help the readers discern and appreciate the various accolades won by our students and faculty, it is imperative to mention that there was no looking back by our stakeholders, in terms of exhibiting their potential and talent, despite the second wave showing its wrath on the health, life and mental wellbeing of our staff, students and faculty members. With great regret, I inform the miserable loss of our employee, Sh. Leela Vara Prasad Pyripi, an accountant, a very dedicated and hardworking employee at SPAV due to COVID-19, and a student, Mr. Prashant Kumar, PG-student in Planning due to COVID-19. I extend my condolences to the family members on behalf of the SPAV family and pray to the Almighty to endure the great loss. Many students, faculty and staff got impacted physically and psychologically. The second wave of COVID 19 was very powerful, but that could not deter the zeal of our enthusiastic students and faculty members. Despite the hardships, we achieved many targets and milestones. The Institute obtained overall 6th Rank out of all Architecture Institutes in 2021 and top positions on various parameters in a survey carried out by India Today Group. Outlook Magazine placed us on 5th rank. The excellent conduction of the online 5th convocation, International Conference RLCF, Annual fest Inyan, execution of statutory meetings, guest lectures, studios, Academic curriculum, and examinations continue to take place. The role of the SPA Vijayawada is exemplary and highly acknowledged in taking the institute forward. I congratulate the achievers for their remarkable performances.

HOD's Message

Dr. Janmajoy Gupta: Head of Dept. of Architecture

Happy to announce that the Department of Architecture, SPA Vijayawada, is presenting the August 2021 issue of SPA V Department of Architecture newsletter. Congrats to all Newsletter team members, all faculty and especially to our students for keeping our flag flying high under the guidance of our Esteemed Director in the difficult time of Covid Pandemic. In the intervening period our students have brought laurels to the institute and themselves by performing exceedingly well in National NASA and getting overall Special Mention. Many students have won individual competitions as well. Our Faculty Members as well have brought out many high-quality researches, been involved in consultancies, conducted FDPs and given special talks. We now look forward to the time when we can gradually start offline mode of education again following due government guidelines.

SPAV 5TH CONVOCATION HELD ONLINE

The annual convocation ceremony of a varsity was held online this year, keeping Covid-19 restrictions in mind. The fifth convocation was held online on 30th January through Virtual Mode. Ms. Alpa Sheth, senior partner of VAKIL MEHTA SHETH and Managing Director of VMS Consultant Pvt. Ltd., was the esteemed Chief Guest for the occasion. She congratulated the graduating students and encouraged them to have an attitude of positivity that can win everyone's heart. The online convocation was attended by several dignitaries of varsity along with Ar. Brinda Somaya, Chairperson, Board of Governors, and Director Dr. Minakshi Jain, among others. Students received their degree certificates from the institutes this year through Virtual Mode. A small ceremony for the students receiving gold medals was also telecast as part of the convocation ceremony.



SPA VIJAYAWADA SECURED 6TH POSITION IN THE TOP 10 ARCHITECTURE COLLEGES IN INDIA

India Today released the Architectural Ranking 2021 listing the top institutes and universities in India this year. The School of Planning and Architecture, Vijayawada secured the 6th position among architectural colleges. Also, SPAV secured the 4th position in the Highest Campus Placement.



TWO SPAV TEAMS SHORTLISTED FOR YUKTI 2.0

AVASKARA : SUSTAINABLE WATER SANITATION SYSTEM FOR PUBLIC TOILETS

Avaskara – water Sanitation System was sent by SPAV team to YUKTI scheme for innovation design was shortlisted for the two rounds of screening. A total of 180 entries were shortlisted out of 20,000 registered. A team of Suvidhi Khera and Vartika Khare worked under the constant guidance of their Faculty, Assistant professor Mr. Pushendra Kumar. Their design was a unique Water sanitation system developed for the people of the slums. The design not only tackles the problem of water shortage but also introduces methods in such a way that a bare minimum cost is taken as rent, which in turn promotes the residents of the slum to use the

system. It also creates a self-sustaining eco system where the tree bag concept of a dry toilet can produce manure which in turn generates revenue for the maintenance of the system.



SAHAJ JAN SUVIDHA : MANAGES WATER REQUIREMENTS USING WAKRA TECHNOLOGY

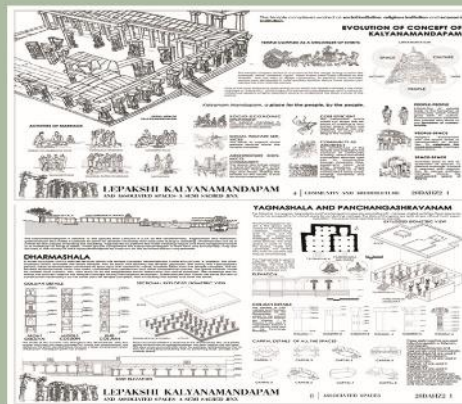
Sahaj jan suvidha – Managing water requirements for maintenance of public health and Hygiene through WAKRA technology was sent by SPAV team to YUKTI scheme for innovation design was shortlisted for the two rounds of screening. A total of 180 entries were shortlisted out of 20,000 registered. A team comprised of a student, Vikram (Batch 2015-2020), and two faculty members, Assistant Professor Dr. Prashanti Rao and Assistant Professor Mr. Kapil Natarawadkar, worked diligently on this proposal. According to their design, in India Open defecation is still a major problem and their Concept of earthen pot is taken for the form of Public toilet.



LEPAKSHI- A SEMI SACRED JINX SELECTED IN COA AWARDS

A team from SPA Vijayawada, Jessica Priya Sagar, Kopal Kumar, Rahul Raj C, Pranay N, Rishitha U from B.Arch 3rd year, took part in the "Students Awards for excellence in Documentation of Architectural Heritage" competition conducted by the Council of Architecture. It was a national level competition where 300 student teams took part. In the final national level jury the team was selected in the top 3 and acquired the position of runners up. They also received a prize money of Rs.10,000 from the Council of Architecture. The main theme of the competition was to present a documentation of a heritage space in India. The entry submitted was a detailed documentation of the semi-sacred spaces of the Lepakshi

Veerabhadra Swamy Temple Complex, Lepakshi, A.P. According to a popular legend, Virupanna, held a high post of the regional governor stationed at Penugonda during the reign of Achyutaraya and he is accredited to have built the temple complex. The inscriptions available at the monument also belong to the reign of Achyutaraya Maharaya (A.D. 1530-1542) of Vijayanagara. The various complexes attached to the Virabhadra temple of Lepakshi were chosen in order to highlight the significance of these semi sacred-spaces. The physical documentation was done over a period of one week by the students' team in Jan-2020. The team thank their mentor Prof. Kailash Rao for the constant support throughout the competition.



SPAV STUDENTS RECEIVE AWARDS IN SEVERAL ARCHITECTURE COMPETITIONS

The School of Planning and Architecture, Vijayawada students participated in various competitions and they have made the college proud by bagging various mentions and shortlisted for prestigious competitions from 2020 to 2021. SPA Vijayawada director Dr Minakshi Jain had congratulated the students on the achievement.



1. SPAV received honourable mentions in the Annual NASA Design Competition.
2. The SPAV team was named to the National Top 5 in the Hudco Trophy.
3. SPAV received noteworthy mentions in the Laurie Baker Trophy.
4. Suraj YS from the second year and Namrata Dhobekar from the fourth year were both shortlisted in the top four at ETHOS Competition.
5. SPAV Team received particular recognition at DESTECH challenge.

SPAV CONDUCTS FIVE-DAY AICTE FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The School of Planning and Architecture organized a Five-Day Faculty Development programme (FDP) of the All-India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) on "Energy and Water Efficient on Built Environment" from 28th June to 2nd July. The five-day online training programme was open to all faculty members of AICTE-approved institutions in the country, said programme coordinators Dr. Shanmuga Priya G & Dr. Lilly Rose A. The main aim of the programme was to provide the knowledge related to energy and water systems in built environment and an understanding of demand and supply of energy and water in the urban built environment is essential for sustainable development. Online session was attended by teachers and students of several institutions and also test was conducted by coordinators at the end of

those participants who were registered on ATAL portal www.aicte-india.org/atal and attended the program with minimum 80% attendance and score minimum 60% marks in the test. In addition, The Dean of TERI School of Advanced Studies, Prof. Shaleen Singhal, shared their views on the subject and SPAV Director, Dr. Minakshi Jain shed light on the FDP topics and expressed the vote of thanks.



"BE WITH YOGA, BE AT HOME"

Fit India – Yoga and Health Club of SPA Vijayawada organized a Webinar on "Art of Mind Control through Yoga and Meditation" on 19.06.2021 at 04.00 pm on the occasion of International Yoga Day (IYD) scheduled on 21 June 2021. This webinar was one of the virtual platforms to encourage students, faculty and staff to practice Yoga and Meditation in order to control mind and maintain both physical and mental well-being by doing the Common Yoga Protocol (CYP) at home with families on the occasion of IYD on 21.06.2021. For this, a message is "BE WITH YOGA, BE AT HOME". Therefore, all were invited to join from their home and made this event a grand success. However, as guidelines

guidelines of Ministry of AYUSH and keeping in mind the current pandemic situation-lending focused predominantly on mobilization activities in the online/virtual mode.



"A JOURNEY TO THE TOP 10 CANDIDATES FOR THE COA ARCHITECTURAL THESIS AWARDS"

A year full for questions like "What's next in store for me?" A year full of negative vibrations, polarized opinions, questions on credibility, talent, and surprisingly hard work as well. Yes, it has been a year, I have completed my thesis and it still feels like yesterday. Sunk into the so-called 'new normal' transition, the entire batch of 2020 of various architecture departments pan India, were preparing for their only undergraduate architecture thesis. An undergraduate thesis project is always dear to any budding architect. My thesis theme, (Reconsolidating the community practices of the Glass Bangle artisans of Firozabad. I was very lucky with I guidance I received from my guide, faculties my dearest of comrades and family in such a scenario. The loveliest of comments a student can think of, from a panel of esteemed judges. To my surprise, the slurry of overwhelming comments did not stop at my college jury. My thesis was recognized among the top two thesis of the zone (Zone 2) and I had finally made it to the top 10 candidates for the National Jury which was held on 04th March 2021. This has motivated me to work even harder in the most adverse as well as best effect of time.

Nilanjan Roy

HELP SPREAD AWARENESS OF COVID-19 VACCINE

As that number continues to rise across the nation and globe, researchers are hoping to develop a vaccine that would help treat the disease and limit its spread – a vital practice with a disease as contagious as COVID-19.

ONLINE JURIES CONDUCTED IN PANDEMIC

Despite the difficulties of online learning, the faculty changed their teaching methodologies and course outline to impart knowledge effectively. Following on from the current epidemic that has affected education, SPAV has responded quickly to the problem of further education and learning. Although online lessons were a one-of-a-kind experience, traditional classes were sadly missed.

72 ND REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS GO VIRTUAL AMID COVID-19

The College celebrated India's 72nd Republic Day in SPAV and Dr. Minakshi Jain hoisted the National flag, the staff and Security Guards saluted the National flag and pledged to uphold the honour and integrity. The programme concluded with a thanking note by Dr. Minakshi Jain which was followed by the distribution of sweets to staff and other members.



BOOKS & CHAPTERS

Rao, P. and Gupta, J., Energy-Efficient Landscape Design in Architectural design – Design of Cities and Buildings, Sustainability and Resilience in the built environment, Ed-Samad Sepasgozar, Print-ISBN 978-1-78985-150-2, eBook (PDF) ISBN: 978-1-78985-669-9, Intech Open Publishers.

Gupta, J and Varghese, J., Elements Related to Sustainability of Urban Form: Study of an Indian City, Thane (Maharashtra, India), in, book, Advanced Studies in Efficient Environmental Design and City Planning, Springer-Nature, eBook ISBN: 978-3-030-65181-7, Hard Cover ISBN: 978-3-030-65180-0, Series ISSN: 2522-8714,

'Smart Global Megacity: Chennai Sustainable Development Framework', Kusum Lata, Shovan Saha K, Adinarayanane Ramamurthy, Faiz Ahmed Chundeli, chapter in book Smart Global Megacities, Year 2021, Pages 193--246, DOI:10.1007/978-981-16-2023-2_4.

'Informal Settlements and Workplace Spatial Dynamics--A Case Study of Vijayawada', Ekta, Faiz Ahmed Chundeli, chapter in book Urban Science and Engineering. Lecture Notes in Civil Engineering, Year 2021, Pages 203--214, DOI:https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-33-4114-2_16.

'Analytical Hierarchy Appreciation of Architectural Interventions for mitigation of COVID-19 – A case of Vijayawada', Prof. Dr. Vijayalaxmi J and Prof. Dr. Ramesh Srikonda, Chapter in book COVID-19 – Containment, Life, Work and Urban Restart, Year 2021.

JOURNALS & CONFERENCES

'Selection of Native Evergreen Trees for Enhancement of Outdoor Human Thermal Comfort in Urban Parks: A Case of Panagal Park, Chennai, India', Parisutha Rajan, Minakshi Jain, Abdul Razak Mohamed, Andreas Matzarakis, IP Singh, International Conference Proceedings on Resilient & Liveable City Planning (RLCP 2020). ISBN: 978-93-90211-61-6, Year 2021, Pages 170-177.

'Developing Cognitive Skills and Sensitizing Children to Environmental Issues, Through Nature Travel', I P Singh, Banu Chitra and Minakshi Jain, International Conference Proceedings on Resilient & Liveable City Planning (RLCP 2020). ISBN: 978-93-90211-61-6, Year 2021, Pages 237-243.

'International Conference Proceedings on Resilient & Liveable City Planning (RLCP 2020)', Minakshi Jain, Adinarayanane Ramamurthy, Ayon Kumar Tarafdar, Abdul Razak Mohamed, Faiz Ahmed Chundeli & Prasanth Vardhan, Book Proceedings of RLCP-2020, Year 2021, Pages 465 pages.

'Appreciation of Soundscape Design of Traffic Streams at Road Junctions – A Case Study of Ring road Junction, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, India', Dr.Srikonda Ramesh and Ch.Karthik, Engineering And Technology, Volume VOLUME 06 ISSUE 04, Year 2021, Pages 846-854.

"APPRECIATION OF STREET NETWORK PATTERN AROUND GANDHI HILL RECREATION HUB IN VIJAYAWADA THROUGH SYNTACTIC APPROACH FOR SPATIAL COGNITION", Srikonda Ramesh, International Journal of Creative Research Thoughts, Volume Volume.9, Issue 3, Year 2021, Pages pp.1328-1338.

'Application Of Value Engineering In Affordable Housing In India', Srikonda Ramesh and Prashant Sharma, International Journal of Engineering Technologies and Management Research, Volume Vol 8(2), Year 2021, Pages 29 – 40.

'Optimization of Material Recovery Strategies in the Demolition Phase of Buildings – A Case Study', Dr.S.Ramesh, Dr. Kranthi Kumat and Rajan D, International Journal of Engineering and Management Research, Volume Volume-11, Issue-2, Year 2021, Pages 103 – 108.

'Framework for revitalizing the riverfront in Urban areas', Karteek Guturu, AEGAEUM JOURNAL, Year 2020.

'A critical Review of considerations of Housing Design in Rural housing polices and Programmes in India', Srikonda Ramesh, D.Srinivas, International Journal of Advance Research, Ideas and Innovations in Technology, Volume Volume 7, Issue 2 - V7I2-1415, Year 2021, Pages



International Conference on

Resilient & Livable City Planning (RLCP 2020)

An international Conference was conducted during 10-13 February, 2021 by SPA Vijayawada under the guidance of Ar.Brinda Somaya, Chief Patron; Prof.Dr.Minakshi Jain, Patron and Chairperson; and Dr.Adinarayanane R, Convenor RLCP2020. RLCP's objectives is to serve as a platform for sharing knowledge and new insights to the academicians all around the world in the field of urban planning and urban design. The conference offered an opportunity for engagement among international organizations, research institutions, representatives from the government and private sector. This conference opened the door to all the industry practitioners and academic researchers to share their viewpoints. The themes included in the conference are *Planning studies, City planning and design, Sustainable urban systems, Ecology and society, Liveable city, and Urban energy and resilience.*



AICTE TRAINING AND LEARNING (ATAL) ACADEMY, FDP on 'Energy & Water Efficiency in Built Environment'



A FDP Programme was conducted during 28 June to 2 July 2021 by SPA Vijaywada under the guidance of Prof. Dr. Minakshi Jain, Patron, and Dr. Shanmuga Priya G and Dr Lilly Rose A as Coordinators. The programme guided the participants on the role of energy and water systems in promoting sustainable energy systems in buildings. The programme focussed on water sensitive design, water accessibility, consumption and recycling. A wide variety of experts were shared their knowledge.

Solar Decathlon India

COMPETITION

Solar Decathlon India is a national students competition looking at addressing Climate Change through the buildings sector. The competitions was organized by the Indo-US Science and Technology Forum and conducted by the Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS) and the Alliance for an Energy Efficiency Economy (AEEE) for a duration of 9 months from August 2020 to May 2021. The class of second year students of M. Arch Sustainable Architecture along with students in the M.BEM Building Engineering and /management and M. Arch Landscape Architecture participated as two teams in the competition. Mentored and guided by Prof. Dr. Vijayalaxmi and Mr. Krishna Kumar. Team eCache, made it to the top 5 teams in finals in the Multi-family Housing category.

555- 559.

Urban heat island intensity and evaluation of outdoor thermal comfort in Chennai, India, Environment', Ebin Horison Salal Rajan and Lilly Rose Amirtham, Development and Sustainability, Year 2021.

'Impact of Building regulations on the perceived outdoor thermal comfort in the mixed use neighbourhood of Chennai', Ebin Horison Salal Rajan and Lilly Rose Amirtham, Frontiers of Architectural Research, Year 2021, 10(1), ISSN No: 2095-2635, pp. 148-163.

'The role of built geometry on the Outdoor thermal comfort conditions of a market space in Tambaram, Chennai', Ebin Horison S, Lilly Rose A and Guruji V, International Conference Proceedings on Resilient & Liveable City Planning (RLCP 2020). ISBN: 978-93-90211-61-6, Year 2021, Pages 237-243.

'People's acceptance of Vernacular Houses - The case of Ghantasala, Andhra Pradesh, India', Venkata Krishna Kumar Sadhu and Ramesh Srikonda, International Society for the Study of Vernacular Settlements, Volume 7, Year 2020, Pages 32-46.

'Transformation of vernacular houses – Causes and scenario', Venkata Krishna Kumar Sadhu, Dr. Ramesh Srikonda, International Journal of Engineering Trends and Technology, Volume 68, Year 2020, Pages 38-45.

'Role of Green Spaces for Maintaining Well-Being in Residential Community Development', Dr. Prashanti Rao, "Standard of Living, Wellbeing, and Community Development", Year 2021.

'Infected Urbanism: Rethinking Spatial Dimensions of our Cities', Karteek, Guturu, Conference proceedings International Conference on Urban Planning and Architectural Design for Sustainable Development 2020, Year 2020.

'CAUSES AND IMPACT OF DELAY IN CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY OF INDIA', M Kranti Kumar and Vishal, International Journal of Engineering Technologies and Management Research, Volume Vol 8(1), Year 2021, Pages 35 – 44.

'Implementation of Circular Business Models in Construction and Demolition Waste Management of India', Jaya surya R and Dr. Kranti Kumar M, International Journal of Engineering and Management Research, Volume 11, Year 2021, Pages 87-93.

IMPACT OF CIRCULAR CONSTRUCTION ON DEMOLITION WASTE MANAGEMENT IN THE INDIAN CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY', M Kranti Kumar and Rajan D, International Journal of Engineering Technologies and Management Research, Volume 8(1), Year 2021, Pages 12-24.

'A Critical Review of Consideration of Housing Design in Rural Housing Policies and Programmes in India', Srinivas Daketi, Ramesh Srikonda, International Journal of Advance Research, Ideas, Innovation and Technology, Volume 7, Year 2021, Pages 555-559, DOI:20/04/2021.

Impact of Covid-19 on Architecture and Built Form', Srinivas Daketi, International Journal of Research and Analytical Reviews (IJRAR), Volume 7, Year 2020, Pages 684-688.

'Impact of Occupation on Rural Built Form through Correlation Statistical Test in the state of Andhra Pradesh, India', Srinivas Daketi, International Journal of Innovative Management and Humanities (IJMH), Volume 4, Year 2020, Pages 84-93.

'Occupational Influence on Spatial Configurations of Rural Agricultural Residences in Andhra Pradesh, India through Space Syntax Analysis', Srinivas Daketi, Conference paper International Conference on Urban Planning and Architectural Design for Sustainable Development 2020, Year 2020.

'Image Processing Applications for Sustainable Site Planning in Urban Built Environment', Rana Mahanta, Niva and Samuel, Abraham K, Faiz Ahmed Chundeli, Conference paper 2021 International Conference on Computational Intelligence and Knowledge Economy (ICCIKE), Year 2021, Pages 334-339, DOI:10.1109/ICCIKE51210.2021.9410802.

'Scientific Assessment of Blue and Green in Improving Micro-Climate for Sustainable Built Environment in Capital City of Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh, India', Faiz Ahmed Chundeli, Adinarayanane Ramamurthy, Minakshi Jain, Conference paper International Conference Proceedings on Resilient & Liveable City Planning (RLCP 2020), Year 2021, Pages 212-216, DOI:ISBN: 978-93-90211-61-6.

'An Assessment of Turahalli Mountain Biking Trail Using Sustainable Trailing Design Guidelines of IMBA', Hemanth KV, Minakshi Jain, Inderpal Singh, Faiz Ahmed Chundeli, Journal of The Institution of Engineers (India): Series A, Year 2021, DOI:https://doi.org/10.1007/s40030-021-00537-w.

'Vernacular Practices: An Appraisal for Sustainability for Housing in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh, India', Karthik Chadalavada, Dr. Ramesh Srikonda, International Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences (IJHSS), Volume 10(03), Year 2021, Pages 1-14.

'Earthen Architecture: Sustainable and Eco-Efficient Construction', Karthik Chadalavada., Shaik Sameer, International Journal of Sustainable Building Technology, Volume 3(2), Year 2020, Pages 29-36, DOI:10.37628/IJSBT.

HONOURS & AWARDS

Prof. Dr Vijayalaxmi J, Ph.D external examiner at University of South Australia in January 2021.

Prof. Dr Ramesh Srikonda, PLENARY SPEAKER - INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ADVANCES IN URBAN PLANNING MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION 2021 SCHEDULED MAY 14 - 15, 2021.

Dr Karteek G, ASIA PACIFIC- CHARLES CORREA DISTINGUISHED ARCHITECT AWARD, International Multidisciplinary Research Foundation.

Akshaya Murugessan, MLAR; THE BEST PAPER in SPARK'21 for the paper "Landscape Approach towards Restoration and Revival of Water Bodies-A case of Chennai City and its Suburbs". Guided by - Dr. Shanmuga Priya G.

WORKSHOP

A workshop was conducted during 23-26 March 2021 on Integrated Environmental Solutions - Virtual Environment (IES-VE) software for selected 30 students from MSA, MLA and MBEM. The programme was conducted by Vijesh Kumar V and Rajeev R, FIC (CC), with an expert from IGBC, Mr. R.Sivasankaran, IGBC AP I ECBC & Edge Expert.

Call for Papers: International Journal of Planning and Architectural Science

Issue Theme : Critical learning from sustainable practices: Opportunities for planning and design studio pedagogy.

Last date of Paper submission: 31-08-2021
Visit: <https://www.spav.ac.in/callforpapers.html>

'Review on performance of zero energy building', Pushpendra Kumar, Nandini Sharma, International Research Journal of Engineering and Technology (IRJET), Volume Volume: 08 Issue: 03, Year 2021, Pages 469, DOI:3 March,2021.

'Application of Six Sigma in Construction Industry', Nandini Sharma, Pushpendra Kumar, International Journal of Engineering, Management and Humanities, Volume Volume 2, Year 2021, Pages 51-59.

'Gap theory based performance analysis: A case study of an Indian hostel building with passive architectural character', Vijesh Kumar Valiyappurakkal, Journal of Building Engineering, Volume 41, Year 2021.

WEBINARS AND LECTURES

Prof. Dr Vijayalaxmi J, Invited lecture on 'Architectural Planning considerations for Covid management', TCE Madhurai on 9 December 2020.

Dr Janmejy Gupta, 'Lecture on Constructing Architectural hypothesis', COA-TRC, Architectural Research-Practices & Perspectives, 15-18 June 2021.

'To see our future through our past', By Ar. Nandini Sampat,SNK, SPAV Knowledge series, 6th February 2021.

'Heritage Conservation & Urbanism: Notes from Two Decades of Practice, By Ar. Vinayak Bharme, SPAV Knowledge series, 25th February 2021.

'Economics and Heritage Conservation', by Ar. Kiran Kalamdani & Ar. Anjali Kalamdani, 3rd April 2021.

'Reading the Landscape', by Ms. Nupur Prothi Khanna, SPAV Knowledge series, 24th April 2021.

Architecture Students Psychology by Dr. Nagesh, Streamed live on Mar 26, 2021.

'Lecture on Governance practice of local government in India: The Reality and challenges', by Prof. Dr. Tathagatag Chatterji.

'Environment; Effective Landscape and Environment', By Dr. Prof. Minakshi Jain, World Environment Day, Webinar, 5th June 2021.

'House: Sustainable Neighbourhoods', By Mr. Shankar Arumugham, World Environment Day, Webinar, 5th June 2021.

'Transport: Sustainable Urban Mobility', By Mr. Murali L.S., World Environment Day, Webinar, 5th June 2021.

'Art of Mind Control through Yoga and Meditation', International Yoga Day 2021, 19th June 2021.

Student's Articles

COVID 19 PANDEMIC AND DISTANCE EDUCATION

Am I audible? Can you see my screen?

Shivani Singh, B.Arch.

The mind of an artist that roams and rambles along diverse paths, finding answers to thoughts that are still up in the air, has now been quarantined. Wait, is this ingenious mind quarantined or is it still on the path of a divergent journey? This vivid distance was anticipated to be causing desolation and the very thought of detachment from the world outside brought chills down the spine to even the best of us.

The fear of missing out be it from work or the mood boosters with our loved ones, each and every moment spent outside seemed more like a memory of the times that I would want to go back and cherish realizing it to be 'one last time' before a very long time until the next time! Spending such prodigious time indoors after having a routine where the lion's share of my day was spent outdoors was out-and-out a turnaround. Waking up in a hurry with a terror of getting late for class had become a perennial part of my daily drill which continued for days even after the quarantine began, you know, old habits die hard they say! Initially, it felt like a blessing in disguise to be spending time with your family and well, what more do we architecture students crave for than a good night's sleep. What began as a merrymaking very soon became a curtailment for this 'always on the go' mind of an artist. Just when we seemed to be adapting to this new course of action, there was yet another challenge waiting at the end of the road.

Education was at a halt, college and classes didn't really sound as things that could go hand in hand with distance. It left us feeling clueless about ways in which all of this would impact our life ahead, whether we would ever finish our degree or if this were how it was supposed to end, the utter discomfort this thought brought cannot be matched. They don't lie when they say modern problems require modern solutions and hence it is due to this forged ahead technology that even while being distant, the distance didn't manipulate our schedules. Sooner, things started to get back on track with online classes and submissions. It took a maximum of two minutes to connect to people miles and miles apart, somewhere in a different continent, in a different time zone, yet together at once, virtually. All being said and done, there was one thing missing amidst all of this hustle bustle, the contentment of completion of work after pulling off an all nighter in the studio together with the entire team.

In fields like design which require constant discussion and debates, having to be together, working in studios cannot be served justice through these video connections. The vast thoughts and ideas cannot fit into these tiny screens of our computers, and it becomes unjust to not express these design ideas the way they are meant to be. The longing for that warmth and comfort of working in the studios has reached to a point where every announcement regarding reopening of colleges makes our hearts skip a beat.. One definitely gets a driving force seeing others work, imagine being in a situation where you are almost on the verge of giving up, tired of working and your eyes hurt because of the continuous sleepless nights, what more would you want at that point more than a friend you could sit with and work while sipping coffee together?

The real deal is that are we truly ready to not just say but deep within us, accept this to be our new normal? The one where our run from hostel to the college is now from our bed to the laptop, 'May I come in ma'am' has turned to 'Wait till someone let's you in', taking down notes in pen and paper to screenshots of your computer screens, but if woken up in the middle of the night, don't be surprised if I say 'Am I audible? Can you see my screen?'

Nagarjunakonda: The Submerged Legacy of Buddhist Ikshwaku Architecture

Arepalli Padma Praveena, B.Arch

INTRODUCTION

Telangana is a blessed land that has been once home to ancient Buddhist settlements. The region of Nagarjuna Sagar dam, located in Nalgonda district of Telangana is home to one of the oldest Buddhist civilizations in India, where a vast number of historic artefacts were discovered during the construction of the Nagarjunakonda dam more than sixty years ago.

Nagarjunakonda (meaning Nagarjuna Hill) is a historical town, now an island located near Nagarjuna Sagar in Guntur district of the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh, near the state border with Telangana.

one of India's richest Buddhist sites, it is home to the ruins of several Mahayana Buddhist and Hindu shrines. The site was once the location of many Buddhist universities and monasteries, attracting students from as far as China, Gandhara, Bengal and Sri Lanka. Nagarjunakonda now lies almost entirely under the Nagarjuna Sagar Dam.

HISTORY & HERITAGE

The 3rd-4th-century inscriptions discovered at the site indicate that it was known as "Vijayapuri" in the ancient period: the name "Nagarjunakonda" most probably originated during the medieval period. The Ikshvaku inscriptions have consistently associated their capital Vijayapuri with the Sriparvata hill.

7th and 12th centuries saw the construction of brick shrines in the Krishna River valley by the Chalukyas of Vengi. Later, the site became a part of the Kakatiya kingdom and the Delhi Sultanate. Archaeological inscriptions found at the site show Buddhism being patronised by the Andhra Ikshvaku kings Virapurudatta, Ehuva and their family members. The inscriptions also show evidences of state-sponsorship of construction of temples and monasteries, most likely through the funding of the Ikshvaku queens. At its peak, Nagarjunakonda saw more than thirty monasteries being established and it was the largest Buddhist centre in South India. Engravings showed that there were monasteries belonging to the Bahurufiya and Aparamahavinasiya sub-schools of the Mahāsāṅghika, the Mahisaka, and the Mahaviharavasi, from Sri Lanka. The architecture of the area reflects on those traditions. Buddhist scholars also saw monasteries coming up in Tamil kingdoms, Orissa, Kalinga, Gandhara, Bengal, Ceylon and China. There is also a footprint at the site of the Mahaviharavasi monastery, which is believed to be a brainchild of Gautama Buddha. Various remains found at the site suggest the possibility of Greco-Roman influence at Nagarjunakonda. Roman coins were found, in particular Roman Aurei, one of Tiberius (16-37 CE). These finds point to the fact that the area had trade relations with the Roman world. A relief representing Dionysus was also found in the Nagarjunakonda Palace site.

TRAGEDY

In 1926, following a discovery of an ancient pillar by a local schoolteacher the Epigraphy of Madras, under the Madras presidency government recognized Nagarjunakonda as a potential archaeological site. Subsequently, many excavations were done which led to unearthing of many artefacts. But, in 1954, when the construction of the proposed Nagarjuna Sagar Dam (the biggest masonry dam in the world and independent India's first major project) threatened the site with submergence, a large-scale excavation led by R Subrahmanyam was done to salvage the archaeological material, as many artefacts as possible before the reservoir was built. The excavation, conducted between 1954-1960, resulted in the discovery of a number of relics, dating from the Early Stone Age to the 16th century. Later, around 14 large replicas of the excavated ruins which were not retrievable were rebuilt and a museum was established on the Nagarjunakonda hill.

Unfolding the Unique Craft of West Bengal – Sholapith

Rishika Menon, B.Arch.

I remember waking up as a child to the melodious Bengali songs, and peeking out of the windows to see the beautiful Durga ma idol adorned in pure white ornaments and the smell of agarbatti warming up my heart, during the Durga puja. Curiosity opened up my eyes to the process involved in making these ornaments and the famous Sholapith crafts.. Sholapith, also known as Herbal Ivory is made from the milky white spongy part of the plant *Aeschynomene aspera* (Indian cork). The shola stem is taken and its outer brown skin is removed using a knife very carefully, then layer by layer the white interior is extracted and then cut out in different shapes as needed. Both the brown and white part are used in making this craft.

In villages, this craft is produced in mass by women as it is said to require careful and soft hand movements to create the intricate shapes, thus creating job opportunities for women. The craftsmen who make the sholapith crafts, known as Malakars ("Garland Makers"), are said to spend months in detailing and precision of one ornament or showpiece. There are many myths stating the origin of this craft, all of which prove that sholapith crafts have been a part of the Bengali culture for a very long time. One of these myths states that, Malakars were brought to Earth by the Hindu God Shiva, to prepare his ornaments for his marriage with Goddess Sati (Parvati). This brings the malakars respect and appreciation in the villages they live in. The Sholapith craft is used to produce flowery designs to the headgear of Goddesses and Gods, garlands, figurines such as the faces of Gods and Goddesses, elephant howdahs, peacock boats and palanquins. A major role of Sholapith in the Bengali culture is seen in their weddings where, the bride and groom wear conical headgears known as Topor and Mukut which are pure white in colour and indicate the purity in the marriage and are said to bring good luck. These head gears can also be seen, to be worn by the infant boys at the time of their annaprashan just like the grooms..

One of the most awaited festivals of Bengal is Durga Puja, which is celebrated for five days, in which Durga ma along with her children Saraswati, Lakshmi, Kathik and Ganesha are prayed. This puja celebrates the end of the demon, Mahishasur who was disguised as a buffalo, by Durga ma. Mainly after the Naxal period, Durga ma idols were adorned with Sholapith ornaments, known as Daak er Saaj, as it is considered the most purest and indigenous forms of ornamentation. It represents simplicity, sophistication and respect that Durga ma holds in the heart of every Bengali. The main production of Sholapith craft can be found majorly in Bardhaman.. It is also used in Odisha for making the headgear of the Odissi dancers.

The Sholapith crafts are now being experimented with, in different industries to make different products and thus more of the ecofriendly material is used over the artificial materials. I find it prestigious to be able to share with the world the beautiful culture I have grown up seeing, and it is nice to see the respect these craftsmen get in the Bengali culture. It is our responsibility, as citizens to know more about our cultures and pass it on to the next generations so that we never lose the touch with our roots and always respect our origin.



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We are delighted to present you with the first volume of the Newsletter from Department of Architecture. We have compiled all the activities that happened in the last few months in the department. We thank and acknowledge everyone who has contributed to this newsletter.

As we say this newsletter belongs to all. You can share your views, art works, articles, etc. with us. You may present your works in any format that you wanted.

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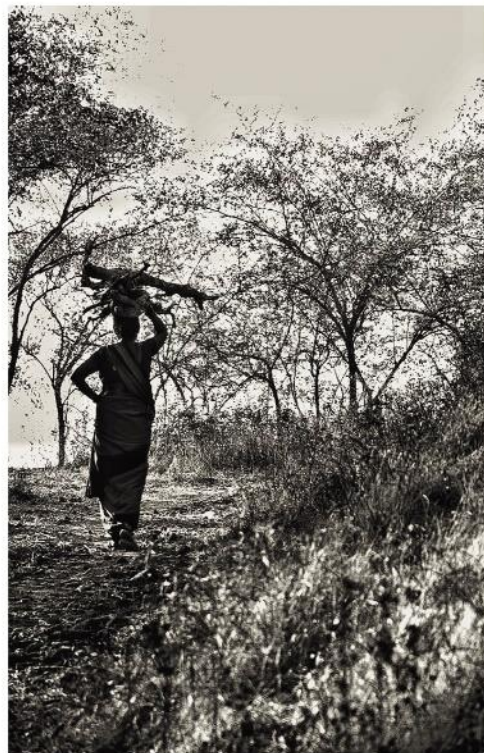
FIBRE GLASS SCULPTURE



Who Observes me? Fibreglass and paint 46X32X32 inc

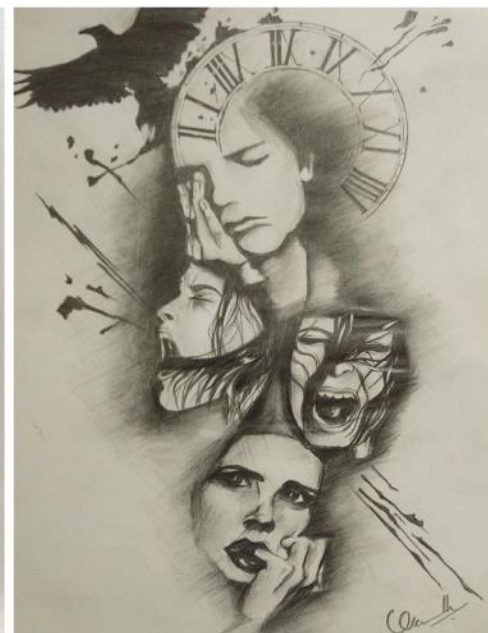
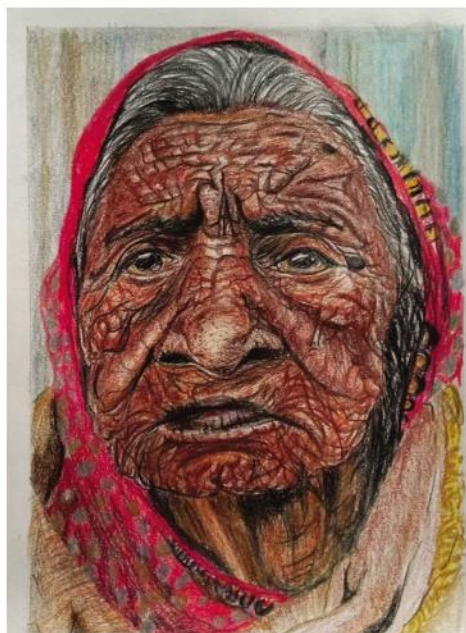
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Janhavi Shirsekar M.arch (A.C) 1 st year

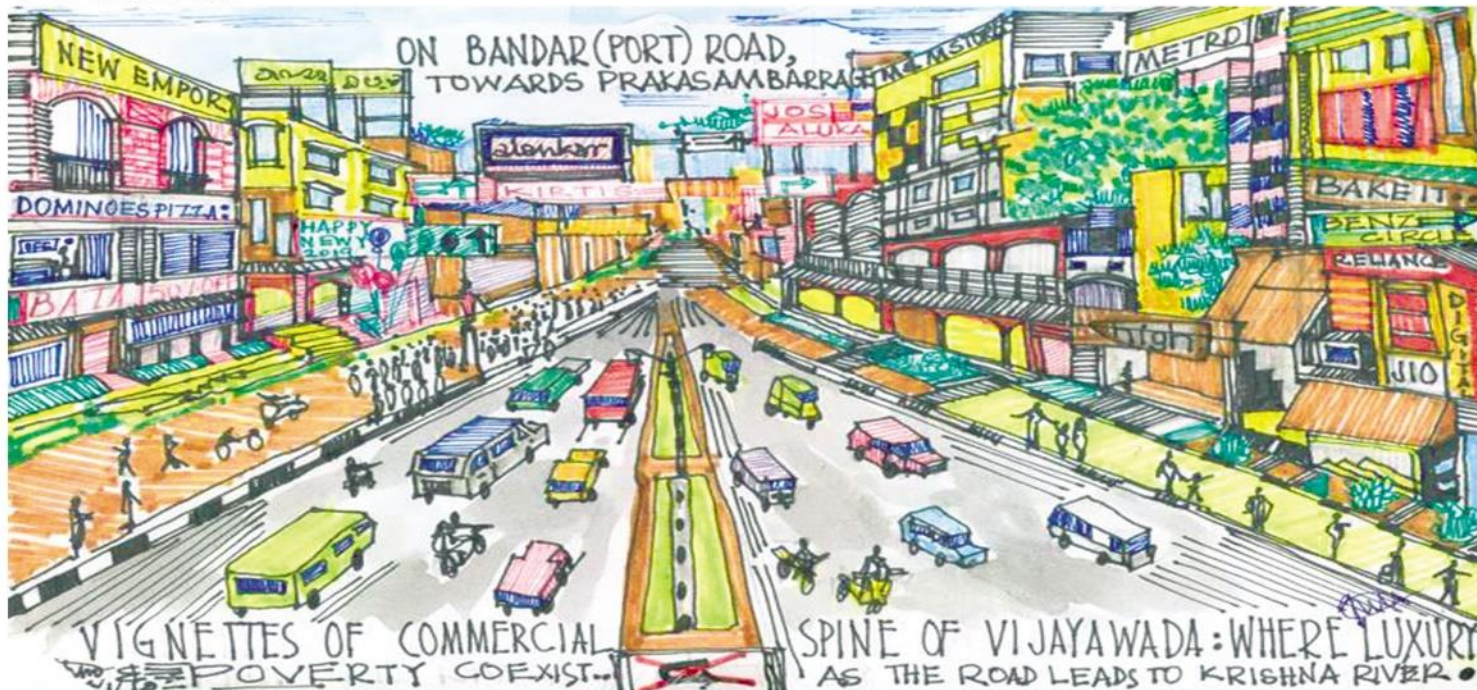
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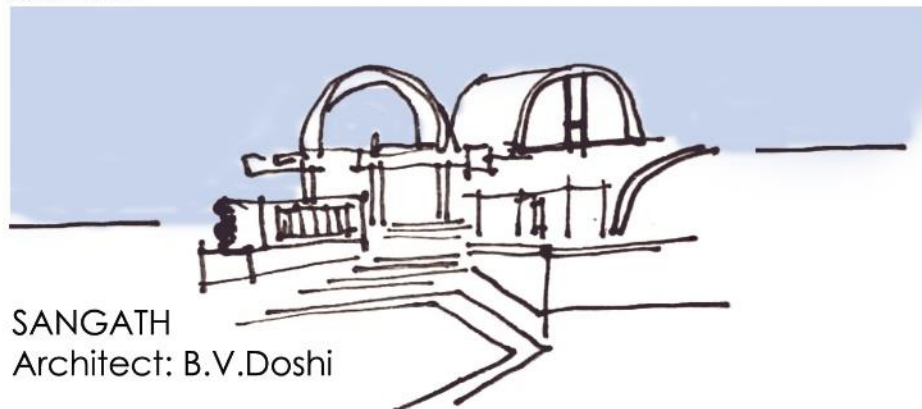
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SANGATH
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As an architect, you design for the present, with an awareness of the past, for a future which is essentially unknown.

- Norman Foster

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