

PICAGRAM

CULTURAL EVENTS 2020-21

TEACHERS DAY 2020



Mahatma Education Society observed Teachers Day on 5th September, 2020 on an on-line platform. Dr. Daphne Pillai, Co founder of MES group of institutes started the event by addressing all the faculties. Principal of PiCA Dr. Sudnya Mahimkar and faculties were present on this occasion. Achievements of faculties and students are mentioned below:

A. Faculty Achievements:

1. Prof. Smita Dalvi received PhD from IDC School of Design, IIT Bombay in August 2020
2. Book Publication: January 2020, 'Great City- Fading Heritage', Published by MES.
3. Prof. Tejashree Lakras received Saint Gobain Scholarship for 'Kalyan Smritigandh' Project
4. Prof. Kavita Pradhan of Mes Pillai Scored Highest in the NPTEL course this year

B. Student's Achievements:

1. Three teams Masters program of PiCA qualified to the final stage of Mumbai Metro- ORF competition, 2 teams bagged 2 out of eight awards
- Two teams from the final year of B.Arch. achieved first and third prize in 'Transperance' National Design competition.



VACHAN PRERNA DIVAS



Vachan Prerna Divas event was held to celebrate reading books in terms of visual or verbal interpretations of the participants favourite book. In the wake of the cynical pandemic, finding optimism has been a concern for everyone. With regard to the ultramodern adaptations made in the society, VOX Magazine centralized 'Re-imagining Architecture' where our main aim was to call for entries which enabled PICANs to express their notions about their favorite book with the help of a graphical illustration and a summary of the book.



CULTURAL EVENTS 2020-21

HALLOWEEN COMPETITIONS



Halloween Costume Contest event was held as a Competition for the best Halloween costumes and the best food dish for the festival. This year it was held as an online contest. Two contests were held for Halloween – Costume Contest and Food Contest. Students were asked to submit their photographs or selfies in their Halloween costumes as contest entries. We received with participants dressed up in their costumes and with spooky facepaints. Scary make-ups and pop-culture characters such as the Nun from the Conjuring series and other such characters were impersonated. The contest winners were Prashansa Ahale Vand Sanket Vibhandik.



For the Food Contest, students were asked to submit the food dishes that are prepared for Halloween. They prepared various Halloween themed dishes such as cakes, nachos, and drinks decorated with scary, spooky elements such as eyes, spiders, bats, scarecrows, etc. We reviewed many creative and innovative entries. The winners of the Food contest were Mudra Dhuri and Shravya Karaturi. The cultural event was arranged by the Senate, PiCA Student Council and judged by the PiCA faculties that were in charge. We received 17 entries from the participants of the contests. The winners were announced on the Instagram page of PiCA.

DIWALI - SHARING AND CARING

Inclusive Social Awareness:

Many institutions work towards improvement of the relatively unprivileged sections of the society. However, there is always a subtle line of separation between “them” and “us”. Diwali as an auspicious occasion was celebrated by killing the evil inside and being happier inside and making our surroundings also happier. The main motive was a cracker free diwali to save the environment and all the people and animals on the streets.

How is the day celebrated?

Since this was an online event due to the covid situation, the occasion of diwali was celebrated to the maximum with the minimum use of crackers. A competition was conducted to bring in a sportive spirit and also for them to enjoy. Everyone was asked to send diwali decorations and rangolis of their own house.

Highlights:

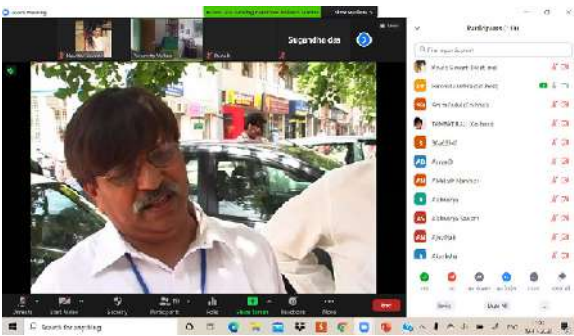
Activities conducted this year were both for fun as well as entertainment and skill building. Activities conducted were :

1. Cracker Free Diwali
2. Making rangolis and diwali decorations.
3. Sharing the pictures with everyone.



CULTURAL EVENTS 2020-21

WORLD TOILET DAY



Pillai College of Architecture, New Panvel observed World Toilet Day on 19th November, 2020. Senate – The Student Council of Pica in collaboration with Soroptimist Welfare Association (SIBC) organised ‘Nirmal’ – toilet design competition and Q2P movie screening to celebrate the event. In order to tackle the global sanitation crisis and achieve sustainable development for all by 2030 we celebrate this World Toilet day in awareness since 2001. The event was graced by the appearance of honourable chief guest Dr. Daphne Pillai, co-Founder of MES group of institutions, Principal of Pillai College of Architecture Dr. Sudnya Mahimkar, President of SIBC Yvette Lee, members of SIBC, faculties and students of PiCA and PHOC institutes.

Introduction to the Speaker:

Paromita Vohra is a filmmaker and a writer whose work explores feminism, love and desire, urban life and popular culture. She is also the founder and Creative Director of AGENTS OF ISHQ India's best-loved website about sex, love and desire. Her fiction and non-fiction have been widely published. She writes a weekly column, PARO-NORMAL ACTIVITY, in Sunday Mid-day. She has made a number of landmark documentary films that have been shown world wide. In 2012 Time Out listed her as one of 10 people to change how Indians watch films

WORLD SOIL DAY

Inclusive Social Awareness

World Soil Day (WSD) is held annually on 5 December as a means to focus attention on the importance of healthy soil and to advocate for the sustainable management of soil resources. This year, by addressing the increasing challenges of soil management, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) campaign “Keep soil alive, protect soil biodiversity” aims to raise awareness of the importance of sustaining healthy ecosystems

For celebrating World Soil Day we invited Mr.Sunil.G.Warang who is the gram panchayat secretary of Tulsuli village in Sindhudurg. Being a farmer himself he explained to us the importance of soil and how precious it is to the farmers.What crops can be grown from it. Also an awareness of using organic products was given as the fertilizers might increase the production for a shorter period of span but, for the longer run it is dangerous as it degrades the quality of soil.

Students also contributed in raising the awareness about world soil day by sketching on the theme of soil biodiversity. Educational speech by Mr. Sunil G. Warang with Childhood Photos and soil Sketches depicting soil importance were also shown in the presentation.Session ended with a vote of thanks.



PICA ALUMNI TALKS

30 MAY 2020



ERANNA YEBKOTE

Chief Architect, Era Architects | Batch 1992-97

In this 1st session Ar. Eranna Yekbote chief architect to Era architects was invite to showcase the national and international projects that he has done and many underconstruction . Era architect's mainly focus in the Entertainment (cinemas, auditorium, theme parks , bowling , set design) parts ; along with that he also carry overs the project of Hospitality and master planning . His 80 to 85 % of projects are international and rest are in India .He showcased few of his college time works . He did is job after getting degree at T.khareghat. One of his prime project was AMB cinemas . He presented the drawing ,drafts and views of the project . He Further presented the sketches of his other projects and Incorporated the sketches of public toilets . The Presentation ends with the q and a round by proff. Smita Dalvi

28 JUNE 2020



KRUPA ZUBIN

Co-Founder and Principal Architect, ZZ Architects | Batch 1994-99

The day 2 session was moderated by Ar. Ajay Nayak and speaker Krupa Zubin (batch 1994-99), Founder and Chief Architect at ZZ Architects was delightfully introduced by Prof. Smita Dalvi. Speaker Krupa Zubin shared her student life and journey through all ups and downs and odds faced in a generation without internet facilities. She mentioned importance of team work, consistency and hard work. he then shared a presentation to showcase designs & works done by ZZ Architects which included residences, hotels, high rises, health care centres to name a few. She then further explained in detail one project KEC BOM the Kohler experience centre in Mumbai. It is a source of inspiration for bath space décor. It was conceptualized to showcase the endless possibilities in luxury bathroom spaces. Session concluded with realese of digital copy of VOX magazine 2019 by our guest followed by vote of thanks by Prof. Smita Dalvi.

27 JUNE 2020



MAHESH KHANAPURKAR | ANNIE DIANA NINAN

Stup Design Forum | Batch 1993-1997 | Batch 1997-2001

For the 3rd session, our speakers were Mahesh Khanapurkar (batch 1993-98), Chief Architect & Manager and Annie Diana Ninan (batch 1997-2002), Senior Architect at Buildings Group, STUP Design Forum. The session was moderated by Prof. Jinu Kurien. Ar. Mahesh Khanapurkar took the lead by briefing about STUP design forum and it's founding members. Further proceeded by Ar. Annie Diana Ninan by showing presentation of marvelous architecture of history focusing on significance of concept and ones meanings. She also spoke about firm's aim to create a common platform for multidisciplinary and Holistic approach with cohesive work of both architects and engineers. They further showcased their projects, Air India Boeing 747 Hangar, Santacruz, Cooling Tower, Gandhinagar, to name a few. The session ended with vote of thanks by Prof. Smita Dalvi.

5 DEC 2020



MAHESH KHANAPURKAR | ANNIE DIANA NINAN

Stup Design Forum | Batch 1993-1997 | Batch 1997-2001

Speakers of this session were Amit Arya and Sachin Mulay. Both are senior associates at Perkins Eastwood, New York and Mumbai respectively. Session was moderated by Avnish Pendarkar. Later Sachin Mulay through his presentation shared his journey as an architect. Showing his works from bachelor's and masters degree he explained importance of building composition, green spaces and technology fir effective communication. Further session continued with Amit Arya sharing his work of Urban and Landscape designs. He worked for various typology of architecture including commercial, hospitality, residential etc. He also talked about his journey to New York and importance of exposor to new technology and methods. Session ended with vote of thanks by prof. Smita Dalvi.

Archilogics Guest Lecture series



As a part of AD Studio 5 for Third academic year – Sem 5, we invited Architect Sourabh Gupta – Founder & Principal Architect at ARCHOHM, Noida – UP as our third guest under ArchiLogics Lecture series – an initiative by PiCA 2020-21.

Having won and executed a series of design competitions and commissions, archohm has grown in leaps and bounds in the last decade and a half. Its portfolio has a stimulating mix of typologies, scales and sectors of architectural works, infrastructure, furniture and product design, design research and system design. Having transcribed a full circle with its own design education and publication extension, it strives to be a one-stop-shop for almost everything in the world of design.

The studio's inter-disciplinary nature attracts an eclectic mix of people from backgrounds in architecture, urban design, product design, graphic and academia to induce a novel and unconventional character and a perspective to design. An avid reader and a discerning 'wanderer', he is on a perpetual design expedition.

The Q&A session followed a set of comments and queries from students as well as faculties. The session was really helpful and interactive with the extreme enthusiasm from the guest speaker as well as student.

PRAMOD SANOOR
Senior Project Architect, BAR Architects
San Francisco, USA

SUNIL S LADHA
Principal Architect/ Director Workspace
Design Studio Pvt. Ltd.
Udaipur, India

VIKI THAKKAR
Owner and Founder at Viki Thakkar
Design Studio
Mumbai, India

This was the first session of Xchange series, it commenced with Prof. Jinu kurien welcoming everyone and introducing the moderator Ar. Avinash Pendharkar, and the guests Ar. Pramod Sanoor, senior architect at BAR Architects, Ar. Sunil S Ladha, principal architect and director of Workspace Design Studio, and Viki Thakkar, owner and founder of Viki Thakkar Design Studio. The session proceeded with the moderator asking questions on the impact of Pandemic on everyone's life, all the guests shared their views and opinions with a small person

al experience explaining how this pandemic brought a change in various industries, the transition in everyone's life from their normal everyday lives to today's new normal work from home. After many of these insightful talks the session was concluded.



ANAGHA CHITALE
Founder and Managing Partner,
Studio A&D

KANCHANA V GOKHALE
Architect, ERNST® Architekten AG
Stuttgart, Germany

KALPESH SOLANKI
Co-Founder, Conzatti Solanki Architecture
Milan, Italy

The session proceeded with moderator Ar. Ajay Pillai, welcoming everyone and a small introduction of the guests, Ar. Anagha Chitale, Founder and managing partner of Studio A&D, Ar. Kanchana Gokhale, Senior Architect, ERNST Architekten AG and Ar. Kalpesh Solanki, Co-founder of Conzatti Solanki Architecture Studio. The moderator proceeded the session with a series of questions towards the guests regarding their work, and about the current situation in this pandemic. Guests answered the questions with few personal experiences. The main discussion was

about what challenges they are facing in this pandemic and what are the changes occurring in the designs. Further, questions were asked by the audience and faculties leading to end of the session.



X-CHANGE SERIES

PICA THESIS FORUM

16TH July 2020



The first episode of thesis forum was inaugurated by Dr. Sudnya Mahimkar. Prof. Tejalshree Lakras gave brief introductions about the two presenters, Anushka Shahdadpuri and Kunal Jain. Anushka talked about her thesis project titled 'Ephemeral Urbanism'. Her dissertation cogitates over the scale and emerging patterns of contemporary urbanisation that challenge the notion of permanence. Later Kunal presented his thesis project 'heritage interpretation centre and convention centre, in Hampi'. He talked about the need for interpretation centre, Hampi being a UNESCO world heritage site does not have a museum that people can visit which inspired him to take up this topic for his thesis project. The thesis forum ended with the students and faculty having a question and answer round with the two presenters.

23RD July 2020



The second episode of Pica thesis forum featured Srinivas Palivela and Athira Pillai. The thesis forum started with Prof. Kavita Pradhan giving brief introductions about Srinivas and Athira. Athira introduces her topic, kayapalat- a call for regenerative architecture in mahim, koliwada, she established the need for this topic and how there was a big disparity between the Koliwad. Further she gave us a sneak peak of her site selection process and how learning about the koliwad community in detail helped her in doing the same. Srinivas Palivelas thesis topic was- The centre for spiritual consciousness. He talked about the importance of spirituality in daily life and how architecture plays a role in spirituality. Srinivas also talked about his masters project 'Utopian Urbanism' in University of Queensland. The audience, which included students and faculty from architecture had a question and answer round with the two presenters

30TH July 2020



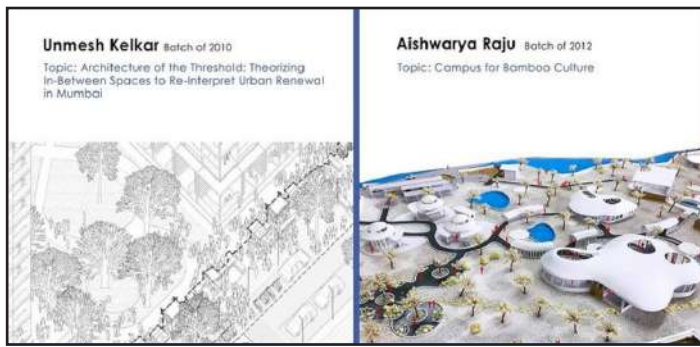
The third talk of Pica thesis forums featured Gagandeep Jadhav and Chaitali Chaudhari. The thesis forum started with Prof. Reshma Sathe giving brief Introductions about Gagandeep and Chaitali. Chaitali presented the process of research and design for her thesis project titled 'Centre for sustainable agriculture' at Nagpur. She talked about how her internship not only gave her exposure to different type of architecture but also exposed to other fields like farming, which helped her in selecting her thesis project. She gave a summary of her research which primarily addressed social issue of farming suicides. Her presentation entailed different design considerations that would help the users (farmers) relate to the spaces and encourage them to learn.

6TH August 2020



The session was moderated by Prof. Smita Dalvi who proceeded in with a succinct introduction of the two presenter Pica alumni Eesha Harmalkar and Riddhi Aiya. The presentation initiated by first presenter Eesha on the thesis project 'Working Women's Hostel' situated in Worli, Mumbai. Inspired to create stories of hostel life the idea escalated towards a thorough study and research of the same as was unfolded in the presentation. The session was further taken over by Riddhi, who presented her thesis design project 'Urban Intervention in the Dhobi Ghat Community' situated in Colaba, Mumbai. The design presentation involved a selection process for the thesis project in regard to societal issues. It exhibited conception of the relationship between the live and work typology. Later, at the culmination of the session acknowledgement was extended towards the two guest speakers followed with a few questions by the students and faculty members.

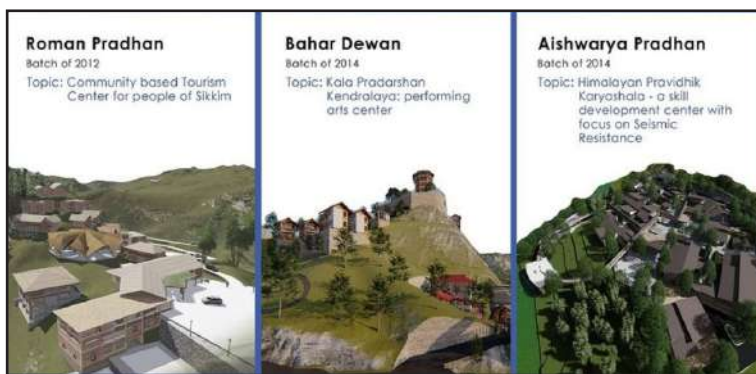
13TH August 2020



The session was moderated by Prof. Jinu Kurien who led forth with a brief introduction of the two guest alumni thesis presenters Aishwarya Raju and Unmesh Kelkar. The first presenter Aishwarya took us on a journey of her thesis project 'Campus for Bamboo Culture' situated in Auroville, diving through the varied context of case studies of bamboo construction; 'Green Village, Bali' and 'Bamboo Center, Auroville' to name a few. Proceeding

with a material based design, there was an extensive understanding of the site and factors affecting it. Next, the session advanced to the second presenter Unmesh with his undergraduate thesis design project 'Automobile Design Studio' situated in Chennai. Starting off with the initial study and research for the project, further led to a holistic approach of the design process evolving greater understanding of thesis study. Subsequently, leading to his master's thesis project 'Architecture of Threshold: Theorizing In-Between Spaces to Reinterpret Urban Renewal in Mumbai', exhibited a profound study of site and understanding of threshold profiles. To wrap up with the session a few queries from the faculty and students were regarded along with light thrown on the literature and typology of drawings in the presentations.

20TH August 2020



The session commenced with Prof. Kavita Sawant, introducing the three guest alumni speakers Aishwarya Dharma, Bahar Deewan and Roman Pradhan, PICA alumni architects based in Sikkim. The session paced towards the first presentation by Ar. Aishwarya Dharma, going into details of the site and the challenges of natural calamities. Her thesis

project 'Himalyan Pravidhik Krayshala' was an archetype of the vernacular architecture of Sikkim. Furthermore, the presentation was taken over by Ar. Bahar Deewan whose thesis project 'Kala Pradarshan Kendra', a performing arts centre, pivoted the cultures and traditions of Sikkim. The session further escalated towards Ar. Roman Pradhan, exhibiting the landscape and distinct terrain of Sikkim for his thesis design project 'Community Based Tourism Centre' comprehending the vernacular architecture of Sikkim. Although, all three design projects being premised in the similar context and culture of Sikkim, each evoked distinct approach and understanding of the particular project. The session concluded with acknowledgement for the presentation and an informative insight into the sustainable development being pursued in Sikkim. There were a few questions by the faculty and students taken up at the end.

27TH August 2020



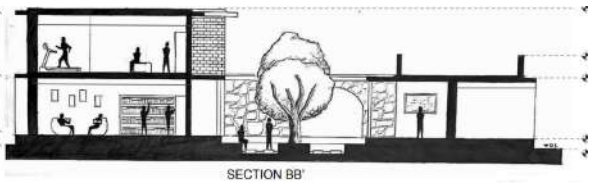
The webinar is started by Prof. Kavita Sawant introducing our fellow guests- Ar. Vaishali Singh, who is currently working for Boulder Associates, a leading health-care design firm in California, US, and Ar. Siddhesh Bhandari, who is currently working at Desaria Association. The series is then proceeded with Ar. Vaishali Singh presenting her thesis project which was designing a health-care centre for HIV and AIDS patients.

In which she also addressed on how to tackle the dilemma on "what to choose", followed by the importance of identifying the target user group. She then explained her project in detail while also highlighting some important steps to be considered while designing a Healthcare Centre for HIV patients. The session was later on carried by Ar. Siddhesh Bhandari presenting his thesis project which was designing an Outpatient Care Centre. He started by giving a brief insight on his topic and why he chose it. He then continued to explain his project in a very methodical way, explaining pre design and design process in detail. The session was then concluded after a healthy Questionnaire session between the guests and the students.

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN STUDIO

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN STUDIO 3

Community activity centre - Designing architectural forms with multi space character (meditation centre, mini library, Gym, takeaway centre) catering various user profiles addressing concept of physical, mental health, recreation and local gatherings, which was achieved by going through case studies like Maya Somaaya library.....Resulting in comparative analysis that lead to design considerations for the same. Climate responsive contextual structure with courtyard intrusion acting as epi-centre using vernacular materials & elements inspired from Wadas of Nashik.



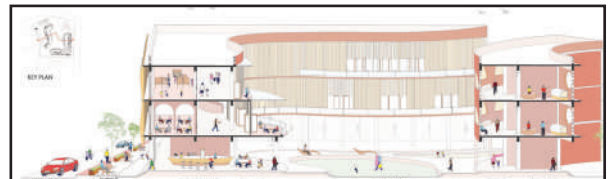
Tree in courtyard casts shadow on building at different positions at different pt. of time maintaining cool environment.

Binitha Bency, Sugandha Das, Vaishnavi K.

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN STUDIO 5



The project curving culture is an attempt to understand different cultures in and around Mumbai city specially in terms of the culinary diversity and design a space for different communities to gather daily as well as occasionally to experience the losing traditions, forgotten authentic dishes and their tastes, ways of preparation in a convenient atmosphere within the aura of an urban city.



The approach was taking the entry from longer side of the road, different blocks creating multiple social pockets. Curving the inner facade to break monotonous rigid cubical expression of the form, creating a free flowing seamless visual experience to the visitors. Blocks are arranged along site periphery, creating a large open central plaza facing North, with entrance considering the corner site and viewing towards the surrounding mountains.



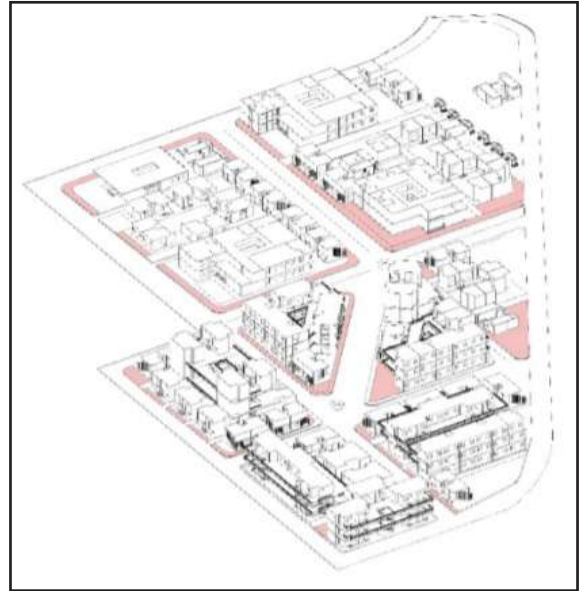
Anju Pillai

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN STUDIO 7



Initial stage of built space planning was designed according to the interlinked open spaces, built form variations, distributed amenities, roads networks hierarchies and climate friendly orientation. Vehicular access in the form a central diagonal spine which connects the nodes and breaks monotonous rectilinear roads in hierarchy of 6m to 3m wide road draw the people inwardly.

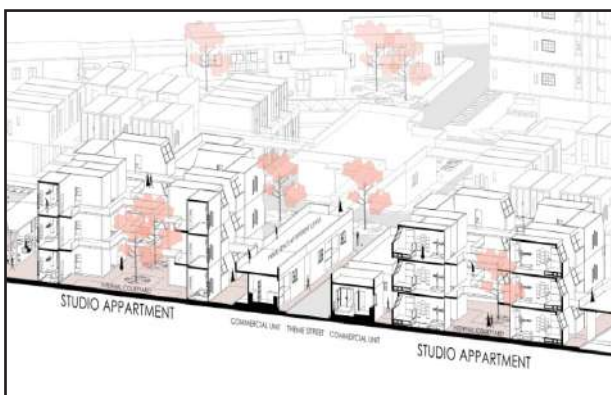
This project is modular housing that can be located anywhere, it is expected a good public transportation network close to the housing project that encourage people to use public transportation. The construction methods are applied in such a way that each unit or entire housing community buildings can be easily moved from one location to another location so that within days of time the resident shall be able to live in the same unit after relocation of the building.



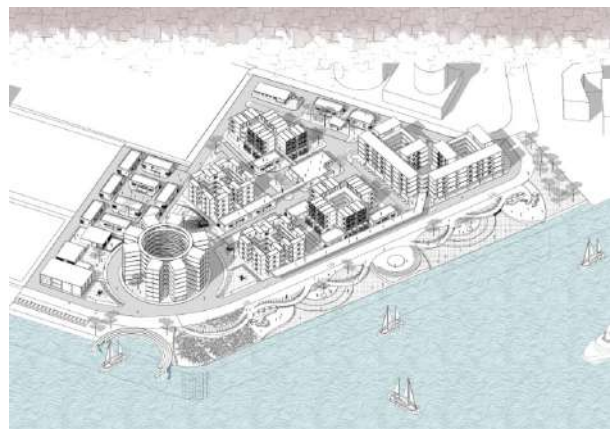
Nikita Barge, Sejal Chalke, Shreya N, Ajay Nair

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN STUDIO 9

The large-scale worker migration in the lockdown from big cities to their home towns has shown some light on the importance of housing from two aspects. One-affordable housing in urban areas that one can call their home, and two-a well-designed housing where a community can maintain social distance and can thrive without the fear of contagious diseases due to close proximity. Having enough open space between houses is an important aspect that is generally ignored in low-income housing. The current situation of lockdown for months is forcing people to stay inside their homes more than ever. This requires a better planning of interiors and designing them where limited space is used for multiple purposes by all household members.



Residents living on upper floors lose connection to the ground and hence decks were proposed which would provide the necessary open and interacting spaces throughout the site at different levels.



The design revolves around the idea of maximizing the space utilization. The walls were eliminated as they take up space, and thus levels were incorporated to distinguish spaces which are flexible in nature. The voids formed under the levels made way for modular furniture which can be stored inside and used throughout the day with respect to the changing activities in the space. The connection to ground was another important factor considered while designing.

Abhishek H, Saurav K, Ritwik R, Ojus P