



Mahatma Education Society's

**PILLAI COLLEGE OF
ARCHITECTURE** *Pillai*

**PERSPECTIVE
PLAN** 2023-2024



Perspective plan

Pillai College of Architecture (PiCA), New Panvel

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INTRODUCTION

History of the Institute

The **Mahatma Education Society**, founded in the year 1970 is one of the leading institutions for quality education. Our vision of imparting a comprehensive education aimed at contributing to the socio-cultural milieu of society is linked with aspirations of a progressive nation. Born in a time when education was deemed service, it set about bringing social and economic change through the proactive personal development of every child that came into its fold. The vision of **Dr. K. M. Vasudevan Pillai** (Founder, Chairman and CEO, MES) and **Dr. Daphne Pillai** (Secretary, MES) guided the trust which grew from a single school into a multi-institution, multi-location group, delivering quality education at all levels.

MES owns and manages over 48 institutions, from pre-primary to post-graduation. Well known as the Pillai Group of Institutions, we have our own teacher training institutes, which allow us to define our own standards and to achieve excellent results. This allows our faculty to remain highly motivated. They operate in a learning environment powered with the latest technologies harnessing a spirit of innovation. MES recognizes that the sharing of knowledge is essential in bringing rigour to the academic discourse for a professional programme. The Pillai Group of Institutions believes that a well informed India is a stronger India.

Pillai College of Architecture (PiCA) is one of the pioneering Architecture Schools established in 1992. It is located on the fringe of a metropolitan city of Mumbai and hence has utilised this opportunity to explore the volatile discourses related to local architecture. Our location has become our asset and we aspire to contribute to the evolving dynamics of a ever expanding city. In all the three programmes offered at our institute we aspire to connect to the context and collaborate with its stakeholders to derive new architectural paradigms. The programmes we offer are Bachelor of Architecture (B.Arch: five-year course), Master of Architecture in Urban Design (M.Arch: two-year course) and Ph.D. in Architecture since 2017. PiCA is the first institute to start a PhD programme under University of Mumbai.

Major Achievements since Inception

- In the last thirty one years PiCA has evolved as an institute that imparts quality education. We have acquired reputation not only in the state but across India.
- We have applied for NAAC accredited.
- We future aspire to get Autonomous status by UGC, affiliated to university of Mumbai.
- Our students have been regularly participating in various national and international competition.
- Our student who have won awards -
 - Faiz Kasu was shortlisted as one of the five entries from zone 3 category 2: project addressing concerns for the COA thesis awards.
 - 2nd Runner Up entry for the 8th Kamu Iyer Design Competition event is student Abhishek Pisat, Pillai's college of Architecture, Panvel.
 - Our students participated in Intra MES Sports and Games Championship and won **Silver** for our college in table tennis and **Bronze** in chess.
 - Our student got Honorary Mentions in the competition in "Bridge to Nature", organized by D.Y. Patil College of Architecture, Nerul.
 - Student Group from Pillai College of Architecture secured the first position in competition Envisage 2023 hosted by Vaishnavi College Of Architecture, Hyderabad.
- We have produced successful architects, who are excelling in the industry and are now known for their work.
- Our alumni have become well known researchers and are now pursuing post graduate studies in the most revered institutes across the globe.
- We are among a few institutes in India who publish its own research journal called and host two events focused on generating interdisciplinary interaction.
- Our master's programme has done successful collaborative interventions with the local administrative body. Additionally, our master alumni are employed at prestigious practice and government department.
- We are the only Architecture College in University of Mumbai offering a PhD in Architecture. Our PhD scholars are now exploring the new frontiers of architecture research and we hope that they contribute to our pursuit of becoming a esteemed research institute.

INTRODUCTION TO PERSPECTIVE PLAN

Vision

To have a transformative impact on society by ensuring comprehensive architectural and spatial education to all aspiring individuals and contribute meaningfully to the society in shaping socio-cultural aspirations

Mission

To establish institution of architectural excellence that advance education at both global and grass-root level needs, research, innovation, entrepreneurship, sports and impart a sense of social responsibility.

Objectives

- To train students in skills which they can use to excel in the competitive architectural profession.
- To develop a holistic personality of the students which can help them to become leaders in industry or academia. To inspire our students to become successful in independent research and higher education.
- To instill professional ethics and management acumen.
- To support the faculty in advancing and disseminating knowledge in their fields of study.
- To inculcate in its faculty, staff and students a sense of responsibility towards society, especially the underprivileged.
- To encourage research and consultancy in design which can contribute to the development of socio-culturally acceptable, economically feasible and environmentally appropriate built environment.

Values

- Academic Excellence
- Accountability
- Integrity
- Innovation
- Inclusiveness
- Sustainability

- Service to Society

Core Area

- Architecture
- Urban Design
- Design Research

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS OFFERED

Bachelors of Architecture (Affiliated to University of Mumbai)

- PiCA is affiliated to the University of Mumbai. It offers a five year Bachelor of Architecture (B.Arch.) degree course approved by Council of Architecture.
- The first year B.Arch. course focuses on the development of various skills and the language of expression required by students of Architecture. In the next two and half years students learn subjects such as architectural design, building technology, building services and history of Architecture and humanities. Parallel courses such as college projects and electives help in gaining additional skills to support the core subjects.
- In the eighth semester the students undergo professional training for sixteen weeks in architecture offices. They are supposed to make a portfolio of the work done and give a jury based on the work done.
- In the final year students do a design dissertation focused on training the students for research. Over the course of five years students participate in competitions, seminars, workshops, guest lectures by eminent architects and professionals and attend study tours.

Master of Architecture - Urban Design

- Pillai College of Architecture - PiCA is offering Master of Architecture Course with specialisation in Urban Design (M. Arch. UD). This is a two year full time (four semester) course affiliated to the University of Mumbai and approved by the Council of Architecture (COA). The faculty includes academicians and practitioners from the profession.
- In the first year students are introduced to the discipline through extensive reading exercises. This knowledge is then utilised in the study of a urban

context such as a city, where they try to understand the dynamics of the city from different theoretical perspectives.

- In the second year the students design a greenfield project and in the last semester they work on a design dissertation.

PhD - Architecture

- Pillai college of architecture offer PhD program to potential aspirants persuing design research. PiCA started its PhD programme in architecture in the academic year 2017-18.

UNIQUENESS / DISTINCTIVENESS OF PiCA

Kinesthesia

Kinesthesia is an annual festival curated by our student council. The festival hosts cultural events combined with craft workshops and guest lectures on multidisciplinary subjects. We perceive the festival as a platform where students can explore their extra-curricular talent.

Mindscape

Mindscape is an annual event, organized by the student council and the Alumni Association (X-PiCAN) of PiCA. We generated this platform for the students to engage with the people who come from different disciplines and present their work or way of living their life. This has proved beneficial in enlarging the horizon of our students when it comes to the current trends and practices in the society.

Tekton

Tekton is a scholarly, refereed journal brought out under the aegis of the Mahatma Education Society, Mumbai and its Pillai College of Architecture. It is published bi-annually (September and March) in both print and digital media. Tekton envisages to become a platform of sustained critical engagement with diverse issues in architecture and built environment while framing debates within and across the disciplines. It is intended to become a forum for critical writings for young as well as established academics, scholars and practitioners in the fields of architecture, urban design and planning

Tekton talks

A public lecture series called Tekton-Talks is presented as an allied activity of the Tekton Journal. The series started in December 2015. Until March 2023, twelve Tekton-Talks events have been held. The Talks were organized with significant assistance from our alumni association, the X-Picans. We have hosted exhibitions as part of the talks in our New Panvel campus. Many distinguished architects have

been invited for the event which availed us an opportunity to develop a stronger network with the established professionals.

Online events during pandemic

We organized two online seminars during the pandemic which were attended by over two hundred and fifty participants. The speakers were well known architects, filmmakers, artists and even social science experts. We started thesis forum as an online activity to provide exposure to the final year students to our alumni who have produced excellent design dissertations in the past.

PhD.

The Pillai College of Architecture has begun a new era of research in architecture by starting the PhD in Architecture programme. It is affiliated to the University of Mumbai and it began in 2017-18. Along with the demanding coursework, it aims to instill fundamental skills like critical thinking, research writing and publication.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

- To enhance academic quality, PiCA has set up the College Development Committee (CDC) and the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) under the purview of the Principal. The committee advises and monitors quality procedures to be adopted for the curricular enhancement of the college towards achieving its academic goals.
- Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) functions as a think tank being instrumental in developing a rigorous self assessment of course plans and their execution. Since the inception of IQAC in 2017, regular meetings and workshops have been conducted to discuss, evaluate and augment all aspects of higher education. The bi-annual faculty workshops under IQAC review students performance which is then correlated with the CO-PO attainment. The cognizance of the discussion and the resulting suggestions are taken while planning for the next years curricular activity.

A summary of all strengths, weakness, opportunities and challenges are evaluated to design the perspective for future. Critical appraisal of each aspect have been earmarked in the perspective plan.

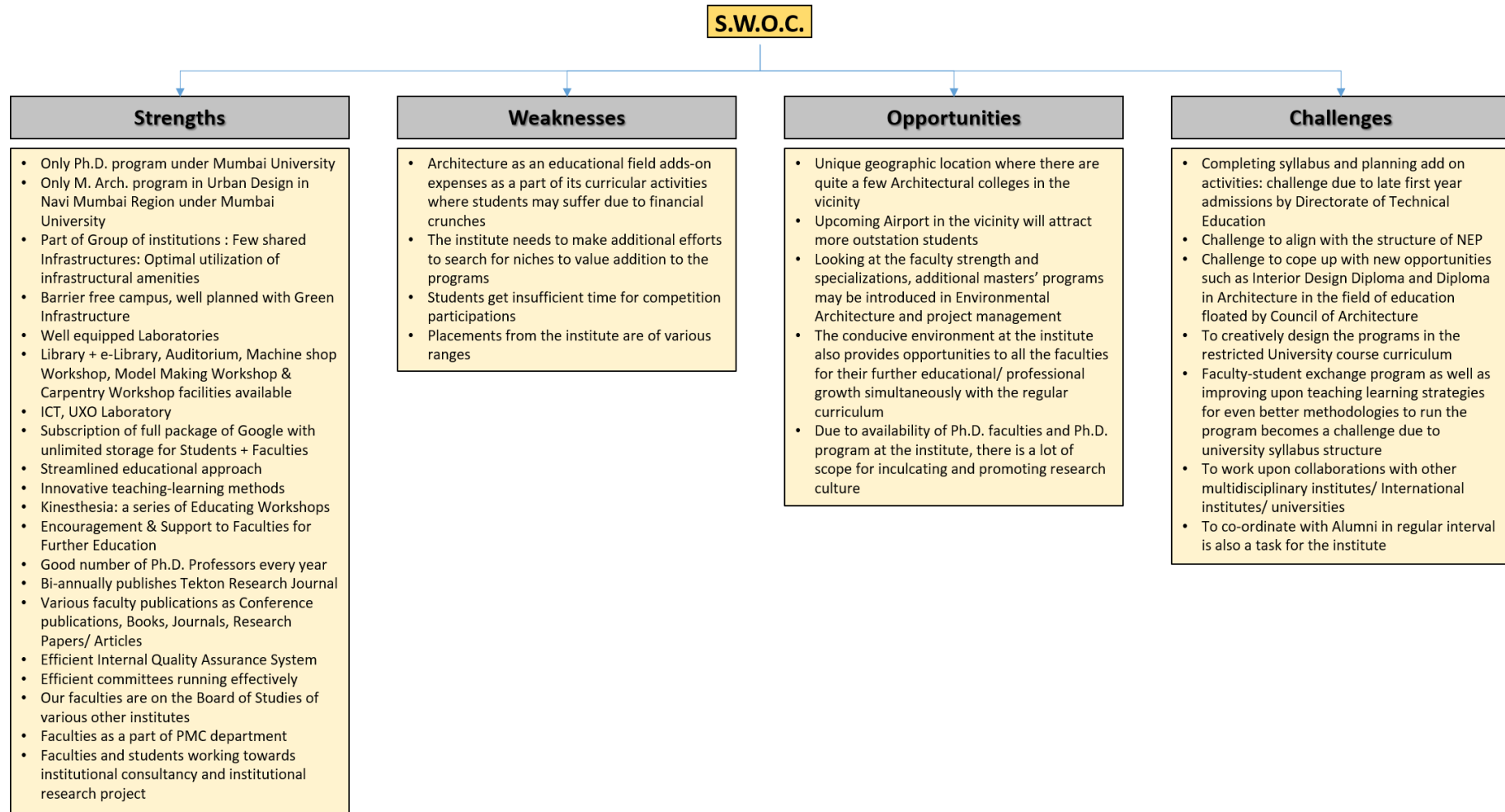


Fig.1: SWOC diagram for PiCA

GROWTH POTENTIAL

Being in Navi Mumbai we have utilised its growth potential. We committed towards upgrading our educational approach. Presently the MES hosts two programmes in Bachelors of Architecture, one in New Panvel and the other in HOC, Rasayani.

PERSPECTIVE PLAN

Keeping in mind our aim and objectives the perspective plan is designed to achieve the same at the earnest. Our IQAC committee has been the think tank which is instrumental in achieving this goal where we derive a methodology, critically evaluate our strategy, reforms the structure if needed and refine our thought process for the perspective plan. We are determined to persistently uplift the quality of our education system by periodic evaluation of our course curriculum, teaching methods, Infrastructure and governance for its efficacy and implementation.

The perspective plan is course of action to be taken to achieve our long time and short time goals.

The perspective plan enlists series of actions to be taken under each criteria. Each action is supplemented by methodology of implementation and resources needed. Embarking on our strength we aim to en-cash the opportunities and manifest our objectives in to achievements. Taking cognizance of the same, an administrative support and infrastructure is enabled by the college management.

Aim of Perspective plan

Aim of our perspective plan is to constantly evaluate our progress, value our strengths and upgrade the quality of our education system.

Objectives of Perspective plan

- To sustain and further enhance the quality of our education system and to become global leader in educational domain.
- To be committed to our attributes and propel the programme outcome towards the same.
- To build a strong system for informed research and learning.
- To sustain and further enhance healthy learning environs.
- Foster our students towards global competence and social well being.

- Strengthen the efficacy of our governance and leadership.

Methodology for implementation

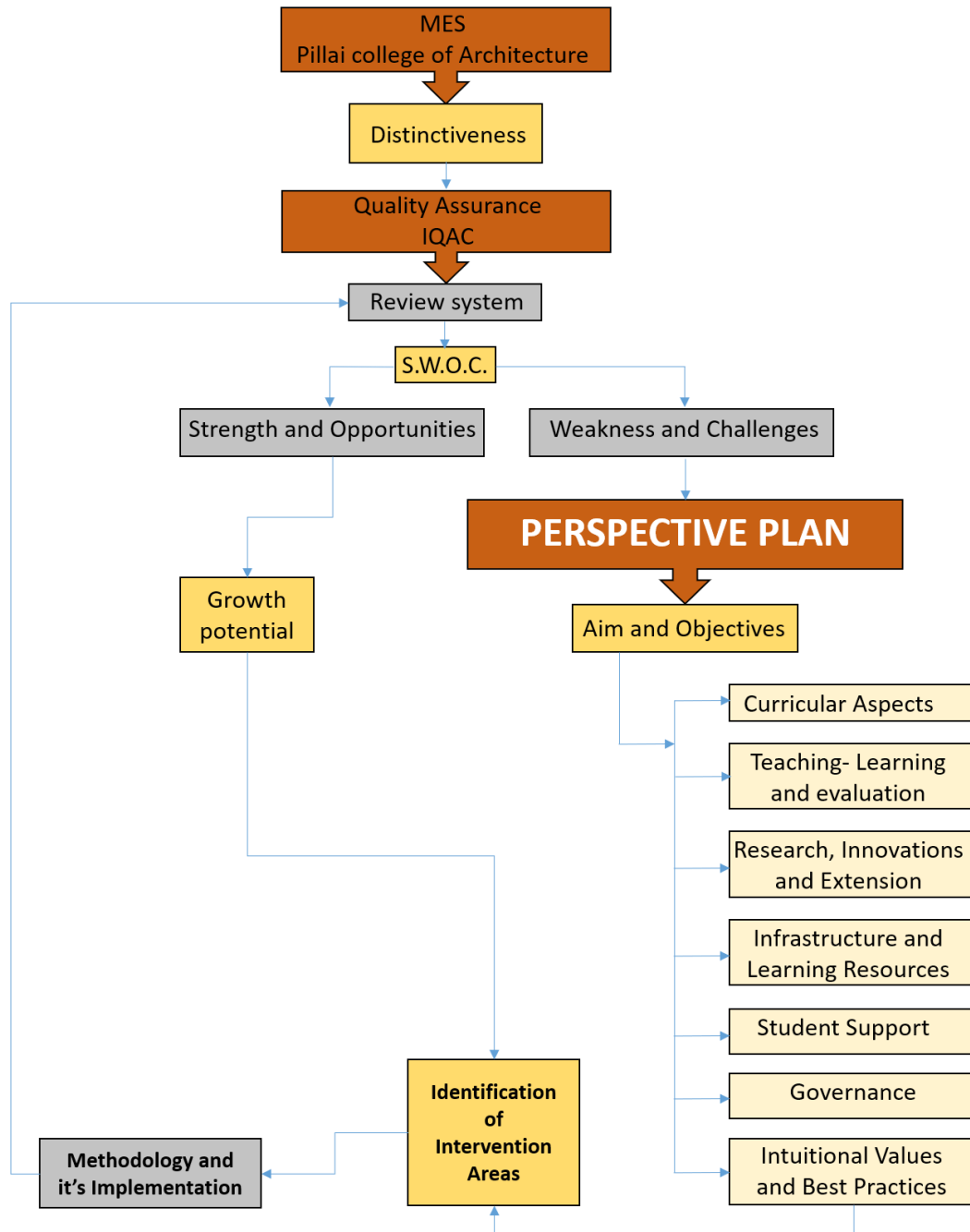


Fig. 2: Methodology of Implementation of Perspective Plan.

Action to-be taken under various domains of Quality enhancement at PiCA.

Prioritization and time scale allotted toward each action

Circular aspects

| | Quality indicators | Action | Priority | Year of completion |
|-------|---|--|--|--------------------|
| 1 | Curricular Planning and Implementation | | | |
| | <u>Procure Autonomous status</u> to add more flexibility to academic curriculum and explore / incorporate more pedagogical methods. | Apply to University of Mumbai and UGC to procure Autonomous status. | HIGH (to be done after NAAC accreditation) | 2024 |
| | Formulate Internal BOS | Appoint team of experts from within institute and practice | HIGH | 2024 |
| | Reinforce Feedback system and widen the domain of stakeholders. | Continue to take regular feedback. Revise feedback google form as required | To be done on Regular basic | Regular Update |
| | Update Term calendar regularly | Regular Update of Term calendar. | To be discuss IQAC meeting and uploaded before each term | Regular Update |
| | Pedagogy to make education more experiential and holistic | Developing teaching, learning and evaluation systems. Formulate Core team for each domain as per COA directive. | HIGH | 2025 |
| | Multidisciplinary Research Centre to act as a bridge between institute and industries. | Encourage student to register in YUKTI portal | To be done on Regular basic | Regular Update |
| 2 | Academic Flexibility | | | |
| | Introduce course and learning programs for allied discipline for comprehensive development of students. | Start MOOCs courses | MEDIUM | 2026 |
| | | Introduce Swayam based Courses | | 2026 |
| NPTEL | | 2027 | | |
| 3 | Curriculum Enrichment | | | |
| | Maintaining High efficacy of all committees pertaining to Gender issues, Human Values, | Conduct regular Meeting of all committees | To be done on Regular basic | Regular Update |
| | | Increase Vigilance towards these sensitive issues. | Always on Alert | Regular Update |
| | | Introduce / strengthen elective | HIGH | 2025 |

| | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|----------------|
| | Professional Ethics, Environment and Sustainability | sensitizing Environment and Sustainability issues | To be done while formulation syllabus for Autonomy | |
| | | Conduct special guest talks/ seminars / workshop towards these issues. | To be done on Regular basic | Regular Update |
| | | Incorporate design responses issues towards these issues within regular design curriculum. | To be done on Regular basic | Regular Update |
| 4 | Internships | | | |
| | Strengthen the system for student to pursue internship and job after graduation | Increase MOU with potential architectural firms and industries. | To be done on Regular basic | Regular Update |
| | | Explore Job in parallel profiles, (allied to design / architecture). | Medium | 2027 |
| | | Facilitate student who want to do internships in other fields. | Medium | 2027 |
| 5 | Increase the number of field visit / site study. | Plan visit to unexplored site / structures. | To be done on Regular basic. For each term | Every year |
| | | Studio: focus on documentation of historic buildings. | | 2025 |
| | | Visit to services intense structures. | | 2026 |
| 6 | Feedback system. | Summarizing outcomes of Student Feedbacks | To be done every term end | Every term end |
| | | Summarizing outcomes of Teacher Feedback | | |
| | | Summarizing outcomes of Employer feedback | | |
| | | Summarizing outcomes of Alumni Feedback | | |
| | | Comprehensive Action taken report of feedbacks. | | |

Pedagogical approaches and evaluation

| | Aspects | Action | Priority | Year of completion |
|--|---|---|-----------------------|--------------------|
| | Teaching learning and evaluation | Initiatives to increase student admissions. (As an autonomous institute) | HIGH | 2024 |
| | | Special forums to acquaint young aspirants (10 th -12 th Students) towards scope and future in architecture filed | Medium | 2025 |
| | | Regular Advertisement for | To be done on Regular | Every year |

| | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|------------|
| | | entrance exams. Periodic advertisement in newspaper | basic. | |
| | | Provide Short terms course to assist students toward entrance exams. (devising mechanism) Educate and orient students towards architectural education. | Medium | 2026 |
| | | Create Awareness about architectural education economically challenges section of the society and reserved category aspirants. | Medium – to be done before entrance exams. | 2025 |
| | Student Teachers Ratio. | Maintaining the strength of faculty as per norms. - Faculty enrichment programs. - Creating healthy working atmosphere by Providing corporate level infrastructure and facilities. | MODERATE | 2027 |
| | Teaching and Learning Process | Aiming towards Autonomy – Built a strong academic course curriculum with focus on Vision, Aim and objective of the institute. Developing a comprehensive pedagogy for overall development of student. | HIGH | 2025 |
| | | Emphasize on participative learning (Hands on workshops, experimental leaning, filed based learning) | To be done on Regular basic. | REGULAR |
| | | Promote internship form lower years to good employability potential. | MEDIUM | 2026 |
| | | Cross Integration of Subject and credits with Institute within MES campus. | To be done on Regular basic. | REGULAR |
| | | Regular Updating IT facilities to facilitate hybrid/ blended learning process. Promoting students to use contemporary digital methods of learning and outputs. | To be done on Regular basic. | REGULAR |
| | | Integrating Subject to complement each other and increase in-depth knowledge base. | To be done on Regular basic. | REGULAR |
| | Teacher Profile and Quality. (Faculty Empowerment | Regular Attending teachers training program. Providing financial assistance for the same. | MEDIUM | EVERY YEAR |
| | | Promoting faculty to pursue | REGUALR | REGUALR |

| | | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Strategies) | higher education | | |
| | Promoting faculty to upgrade their skillset as per future needs. | REGUALR | REGUALR |
| | Promoting faculty to write research papers in journals, conferences etc. | REGUALR | REGUALR |
| | Promoting faculty to file patents and provide technical and monitory assistance for the same. | REGUALR | REGUALR |
| | Host teachers training program – COA approved | HIGH | 2025 |
| Evaluation process and reforms | Aiming towards Autonomy - Focus on quality output rather than quantity. | HIGH | 2024 |
| | Rework on Credit base evaluating system to develop a comprehensive course. | To be done while formulating syllabus | 2024 |
| | Rework on exam/Jury framework to enhance a quality of learning and output. | To be done while formulating syllabus | 2024 |
| Student performance and Learning outcomes | Review and Reinforce program outcomes and course outcome by regular evaluation in IQAC. | To be done Before start of each term | EVERY TERM |
| | Review of Course Outcome at end of every semester. | To be done on regular basis | EVERY TERM |
| | Consider for slow learners. Conduct remedial studio or revision lectures. | To be done before end of each term | EVERY TERM |

Research and innovation

| | Aspects | Action | Priority | Year of completion |
|--|-----------------------------|--|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| | Research | Under umbrella of Design cell of MES- Procure research study or project from Govt and Non Govt organization. Involve student in research study. | MEDIUM | 2026 |
| | | Formulate MOU'S with organization focused on academic research. | MEDIUM | 2025 |
| | | Host workshops, seminars, conferences focused on research initiatives. Encourage faculty and Students to pursue research | MEDIUM | To be done in every term. |
| | Innovation Ecosystem | Reinforce academic engagement with incubation center. | HIGH To be done while | 2025 |

| | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|---|--|--|
| | | Incorporate IKS based course, workshops, and electives in mainstream academic coursework. | formulating syllabus Content and evaluation methods. | 2025 |
| | Extension Activities | Strengthen Our outreach imitative "ABUBHUTI". | MEDIUM | 2027 |
| | | Host more number of outreach programs. | MEDIUM | 2027 |
| | | Increase collaboration with varied NGO's, and organize integration programs. | MEDIUM | 2026 |
| | Physical facilities | Maintain and upgrade existing infrastructure as per contemporary needs. | To be done on regular basis | Regular upgrade of various aspects of infrastructure |

Support and progression

| | Aspects | Action | Priority | Year of completion |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| | Student Support | Create awareness, knowledge base and support system for Students to apply for multiple scholarship and free ships domains. | To be done on regular basis | REGULAR |
| | | Build a data base of Govt, private and Non Govt Organization offering scholarship for aspiring students. | HIGH | Database to be upgraded every term. As required. |
| | Capacity Development and Skill enhancement | Build a data base of potential skillset required for student. | HIGH To be incorporated while syllabus formulation | 2024 |
| | | Conduct special lectures and seminars focused on physical and mental health of all stakeholders. | To be done on regular basis | To be done in every term. |
| | | Strengthen Awareness about future prospect in same filed and allide fields. | To be done on regular basis | To be done in every term. |
| | | Awareness about new work tasks as per market demands and courses facilitating the same. | To be done on regular basis | To be done in every term. |
| | | Strictly follow the Zero Tolerance | HIGH – REGULAR | AWARNES |

| | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|--|---|---------------------------------|
| | Student Grievances. | policy towards ragging and sexual harassment | MINITORING | S ON DAILY BASIS |
| | | Maintain and enhance mechanism for student and faculty to register grievances. | HIGH – REGULAR MINITORING | |
| | | Regular awareness among all stakeholders towards zero tolerance. | HIGH – REGULAR MINITORING | |
| | | Continue to conduct regular meeting of all committees to ensure timely redressal of all activities. | To be done on regular basis | To be done in every term. |
| | Student guidance | Mentor mentee interactions | Minimum Two meeting per semester | To be done in every term. |
| | | Ensuring a safe learning environment. | Meeting on regular basis to be held for Anti-Ragging Committee, Grievance Redressal Committee | To be done in every term. |
| | Student Progressing | Enhance and maintain the mechanism to procure data of outgoing students and their progression, achievements after graduation. | To be done after final exams of 5 th year. | To be done in every year |
| | Students Awards | Encourage student to participate in national and international competitions. Provide consideration for such student from regular academic discourse. | To be done on regular basis | As per floating of competitions |
| | | Encourage student to participate in extracurricular activities. Provide consideration for such student in academic discourse. | HIGH- Provide extra credits for participation To be incorporated in new syllabus and evaluation system. | 2024 |
| | | Host special forums for appreciation and cognizance for student's participation and achievements. | | 2024 |

Governance and alumni support

| | Aspects | Action | Priority | Year of completion |
|--|-------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | Governance | All activities shall be designed and conducted in consonance | Regular meetings of governing body, | To be done in |

| | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|---------------------------|
| | | with Vision and Mission of the Institute. | Academic council and Board of studies. | every term. |
| | Financial Management and Resource Mobilization | Optimum utilization of funds and yearly budgeting | As required | As Required |
| | | Conduct Financial Audits | To be done annually | Per year |
| | Gender equity & sensitization | Enhancement of a hostel facility for students | As required | As required |
| | | Programs for gender rights in a work environment. Awareness and zero tolerance towards Sexual harassment | To be done annually | To be done in every term. |
| | Maintaining records and Documentation | Adopt MIS system to maintain all more precise data maintenance. | Medium | 2026 |

Alumni support

| | Aspects | Action | Priority | Year of completion |
|--|---------------------------|---|-----------------|---------------------------|
| | Alumni Engagements | Provide strong involvement / cognizance of alumni's in formulating academic content | HIGH | Per year |
| | | Host Alumni engagement forum with existing teachers and students. | MEDIUM | To be done annually |
| | | Develop a system for monitory maintenance and development of Alumni body | Medium | To be done annually |
| | Alumni database. | Form filled before giving original document or leaving certificate. | High | At the end of each year |
| | | Connect with alumni on regular basic to keep track of their professional achievements. Alumni work can be showcased on college website. | Medium | Regularly |
| | | | | |



Mahatma Education Society's

PILLAI COLLEGE OF

Pillai

ARCHITECTURE

