



**THE INDIAN INSTITUTE  
OF ARCHITECTS**  
THANE CENTRE  
MAHARASHTRA CHAPTER



**CONFLUENCE**  
ADAPTIVE REUSE & PARAMETRIC ARCHITECTURE  
**MAHACON**  
and  
WESTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE  
24-25 JANUARY 2025



People, rePurposed, Parametric, Practical

# DESIGN & BUILD COMPETITION

FOR STUDENTS of ARCHITECTURE

## MAHACON 2025 at Thane



Floated by **The Indian Institute of Architects**, Thane Centre, Maharashtra Chapter. In Collaboration with IES's College of Architecture & IES's Centre for Innovation and Incubation, Mumbai.



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## **INTRODUCTION**

### **About IIA**

The Indian Institute of Architects (IIA) is the National body of Architects in the country. Established in 1917, the institute today has more than 29,000 members and plays a major role in promoting the profession of architecture by organising and uniting the Architects of India to promote aesthetic, scientific and practical efficiency of the profession both in Practice and in Education.

Thane centre of the Indian Institute of Architects is part of the National body (IIA), established in 1987. The Thane centre proudly boasts of its membership of more than 250 practicing architects who are working on various types of building, town planning, landscaping as well as Interior designing projects. Architects being the chief directors/coordinators of any projects have a very crucial role in selection of suitable materials and accessories for their projects.

Thane city being emerged as the preferred destination for home buyers in last two decades, many of the prestigious developers have now their ongoing and proposed projects in Thane, and with the IIA Thane centre's affiliated architects involved in more than 20 LAC square feet of development per year, it makes a great sense to get involved, participate in the centre's activities in one way or the other.

This year IIA Thane centre is hosting the state level conference "MAHACON 2025" at Thane on 24th & 25th January' 2025. With the conference centre is hosting a competition titled "THE 'P' POD- The Urban insert" (P = People's, rePurposed, Parametric, Practical) for Architectural students.

We appeal all the Universities, Colleges of Architecture to encourage their students for participating in this competition.



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## About MAHACON 25

In the realm of architecture, where visionary ideas take shape and transform into tangible structures that shape our world, there exists an indispensable platform that architects eagerly await year after year - **MahaCon**.

Organized by the esteemed Indian Institute of Architects (IIA), Mahacon stands as a beacon of excellence, uniting architects from diverse backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives in a harmonious celebration of their craft.

At the heart of Mahacon's allure lies a plethora of benefits that extend far beyond the confines of conventional conventions. These advantages not only enrich the professional lives of architects but also have far-reaching implications for architectural students and the industry as a whole.

Mahacon is more than just a convention; it is the lifeblood of the architectural community. It embodies the spirit of collaboration, innovation, and continuous learning that defines the architectural profession. Architects who partake in Mahacon find themselves not just attendees but active participants in a transformative experience that enriches their careers and, ultimately, elevates the art of architecture itself.

Mahacon is where dreams are designed, where blueprints become reality, and where the future of architecture is shaped. It is an indomitable force, a melting pot of creativity, and an essential pilgrimage for architects who aspire to greatness



## **Topic:**

The theme for the competition for MAHACON 2025 is

**“Designing an Urban insert by the roadside ‘P- Pod’ using the principles of Adaptive Reuse & Parametric Architecture.”**

## **Prizes:**

<b>1st Prize</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>Rs.25,000/- + Certificate</b>
<b>2nd Prize</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>Rs.15000/- + Certificate</b>
<b>3rd Prize</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>Rs.10000/- + Certificate</b>
<b>Special Mentions (2Nos.)</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>Certificates</b>

## **Eligibility:**

The competition is open to all first year to final year UG & PG Architecture students from the Institutes within Maharashtra State (From any AICTE/COA approved University/Schools of Architecture)

**Students can participate in teams with minimum 5 to Maximum 10 members. One institute can participate with multiple teams.**

## **The selection and stages**

This is a two stage competition with dates to remember. Stage 1 and Stage 2 will be evaluated by “The Selection Committee” that will have Renowned Architects from the Practice and Academia.

**Stage 1: Registration of the of students for the design competition through the google form. Last Date of Registration - 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2024.**

Link for uploading Submissions will be mailed to the team leader after your registration (Stage 1) is done.

**Stage 2: Idea submission with all details of execution for design and build. Online submission date - 11th January 2025.**

**Stage 3 : Results of Selected teams – 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025.**

**Stage 4: Actual building the POD at the venue of MAHACON 25 – Exhibition Ground from 21st January, 2025 10:00 a.m. To 23rd January, 2025 5:00 p.m.**



Teams selected for stage 2 of the competition shall execute the POD at the venue and the final winning entries shall be declared in the MAHACON 25 Valedictory event on 25th January 2025. Sufficient time shall be given to the teams for transporting the material and installing at the venue site. The built forms shall be fully dismantled after the event.

**General rules:**

1. Each participating team shall fill the attached "Participation form in soft format for participation.
2. The students participating in the competitions shall get free delegate entry for the 2 day MAHACON 2025. There is no limitation for participating groups from any single institution.
3. The decision of the Selection Committee shall be final and binding. Canvassing of influencing the committee members by any team shall lead to disqualification.
4. All entries/proposals received by IIA Thane centre at all stages of above competition shall be treated as property of IIA Thane centre. However, all the drawings, documents, models received in physical format shall be returned to the teams after the MAHACON 25 event. IIA shall use the images, drawings, videos submitted by the participating teams as communications for the MAHACON with due credits to the participants.
5. IIA Thane centre will not take any responsibility in case of missing any documents/communications (if any) from any side while in transit.
6. Family members/relatives of Selection Committee/IIA Thane Center Office bearers are debarred from participating in the competition.
7. Outstation teams from all over Maharashtra appearing for the final execution round will have to manage their travel, stay and transportation of materials on their own.
8. The spaces for the final execution shall be allocated three days prior to the Inauguration of MAHACON and the installation shall be ready up to 5 pm on 23 January 2025.
9. The installation will be a part of the expo exhibition venue and shall be open for all to visit during MAHACON 25.
10. The results of the stage 2 winners shall be declared during the valedictory function on January 25th and winners shall be felicitated.
11. The schedule and all other details about stage 1 and 2 are given below in the detailed competition docket.
12. As the theme of the conference as well as competition is Adaptive reuse and Parametric Architecture, teams shall try and give justice to both the thoughts while preparing the entry.
13. Stage 1 submission shall be completely paperless and online details of which are given in the docket.



### **Competition Brief:**

This competition is floated by 'The Indian Institute of Architects' Thane Centre in collaboration with Indian Education Society's College of Architecture and Centre for Innovation and Incubation Competition Partners.

In rapid growth in urban infrastructure with Gated communities and Business districts, there are certain needs of the citizens while commuting within the cities. The needs can be like a small pause points, shelters and functional urban inserts by road side. These can be termed as "P" pods. Like in nature you have Pea pods that perfectly form a minimal envelope protecting the seeds can we have such envelopes for People within cities. The probable locations can be small strips at the edge between the private and public spaces. Such as Road sides, public parks, near transit modes like railway/metro stations, parks,, open plazas, and quiet zones, recreation open spaces etc. that play a crucial role in urban environments.

The pods can suffice following functions that participants may choose from

The installations are to be placed as "public- pause points" in the city.

The participants can use them as either of the following or any other which they can propose. Participants may choose more than one functions in their design proposal.

- **Sit outs with Charging stations**
- **Senior Citizen's katta (meeting point)**
- **Taxi / Rickshaw driver's katta (meeting point)**
- **Bus / Rickshaw stand?**
- **Community reading spots with newspapers book and magazines**
- **Shelter spot form the harsh weather**
- **Pet friendly sit outs**

**The installation volume shall not exceed a more than 5m x 3 m x 3.5m ht.**

As the theme of the competition is Adaptive Reuse and Parametric design, the participants shall explore and innovate with a material pallet that would comprise of at least 70% of the material to be of repurposed nature.

The envelope, sitting systems etc. shall be evolved with the use of generative designs and parametric processes. Teams are expected to include the parametric



process adapted with complete development of form to final design. (The parameters can be Geometric patterns, generative forms, climate responsive form finding, kinetic design, use of automation etc.)

The design shall be easily deployable with clear understanding of component and assembly methods and its detailing. This shall be the part of

**Stage 1 submission.**

IIA Thane Centre and IES's Centre for Innovation and Incubation shall guide winning teams for taking their projects forward (if the teams wish to) after the Mahacon 2025 for the possibility of developing their prototypes to the level of pre incubation stage.

**Stage 1 Requirements**

The entries in PDF form shall include following

1. Self-declaration by applicant(s) certifying the originality of the work.
2. A report of 8 page (maximum) A4 Size (Inspiration, use case, idea, design process, material palette and execution details and process, cost and cost estimate of the pod etc.)
3. Maximum 3 Panels of A2 size of the design idea to proposal. Drawing shall be in appropriate scale and shall contain
  - a. Perspective views of the final POD.
  - b. Concept development
  - c. Rules for the parametric form finding and its development
  - d. Components and assembly/joinery details in form of exploded views and large scale details
  - e. Set of technical drawings (Plan, sections elevations)
4. The panels shall be clearly legible and self-explanatory.
5. The team shall prepare a max. 3 minute video of simulated walkthrough and complete concept development with Voice over that sufficiently explains the design.



## Stage 2 Requirements

1. Selected teams shall prepare the components, joinery and other necessary details to 1:1 scale at their place and shall transport the same to the expo venue.
2. The venue shall be available from **21st January 2025, 10:00 am** onwards for working on site in assembling the POD.
3. The exhibit shall be 1:1 model, concept note and printed panels of the stage 1 idea.
4. The 1:1 model shall be in complete component and assembly form easy to erect and dismantle and shall be reusable after taking down. It shall not be thrown as trash after the expo.
5. The selected teams shall be allotted the space for the installations on site on 21st January at 10am.
6. Organiser will not provide any tools for the installation the teams shall carry their own tools.

## Important Links for Participation and Submission Registration – Stage 1 –

### Curators:

**Ar. Shripad Bhalerao**, Professor, IES's College of Architecture,  
Mumbai. FIIA.

### For inquiries Contact Us:

**competition.iiamahacon@gmail.com**