

ARCH O PLAN

NEWSLETTER FROM DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING

“

IN THIS ISSUE :

- Events
- Publication
- Projects
- Achievements

”

Highlight of the Session

NIRF Rank 4



EDITORIAL TEAM

Prof. Keya Mitra
Mouli Majumdar

October 2025 - March 2026
VOLUME - II | ISSUE - 2

FROM THE HEAD'S DESK

I am happy to welcome you to the **4th issue** of Arch-O-Plan, the newsletter of the Department of Architecture and Planning, IEST Shibpur, for the period **October 2025 to March 2026**.



This semester has been full of achievements and active learning. Our students have done very well in academics and won prizes in different competitions, bringing pride to the department. Our faculty members have continued their research work through journal papers, projects, and new academic activities. We also successfully organized three important programs—Disaster Day in October, World Town Planning Day in November, and the Climate Literacy Programme in January. These events included participation from international professionals, our respected alumni, and experts from different fields. Their valuable discussions created new learning opportunities and opened doors for future collaborations.

I congratulate all students, teachers, and staff for their hard work and dedication, and I wish the department continued success in the future.

EVENTS



To mark **the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDDRR)**, the enthusiastic PG 1st semester students in the Disaster Mitigation Planning course arranged a small commemorative event on **October 8, 2025**. It was marked by invited lectures by our alumni who are currently involved in various disaster risk reduction initiatives :

Dr. Hari Kumar, [PhD, 2020], Ms. Maria Rose Francis [MOP, 2022] and Mr. Bakary F Njie [MOP, 2020]

Guest lectures were followed by a **Poster Competition** that was arranged to commemorate the event. The entries were judged by **Prof. Meera Shirolkar, BNCA, Pune, Prof. Mainak Ghosh, Jadavpur University, and Dr. Arjun Mukerji, IIT Kharagpur.**



EVENTS



World Town Planning Day 2025 was observed on **November 8, 2025** followed by release of the **Compendium of Master of Planning Thesis 2025**. The day was marked invited talks by various architects, planner and economists :

- Invited talk by **Prof. Subir Pal**, Architect & Planner on **“Urban Planning and Sustainable Infrastructure Development”**
- Invited Talk by **Mr. Santanu Dutta**, Geo-Informatics on **“GeoAI in Urban Planning and Architecture”**
- Invited Talk by **Prof. Mahalaya Chatterjee**, Economist on **“Local Economic Development & Urban Planning”**
- Invited Talk by **Prof. Subhash Chandra Bose**, Architect on **“Planning for Rural Development”** followed by a **Book Launch**

The day ended with a **Poster competition for students** with participants from various colleges.



Workshop on Construction Techniques using Brick conducted on November 8, 2025 followed by **Prof. Subhash Chandra Bose**, an expert in planning for rural development.



Department of Architecture and Planning and the Students Society of Architecture, Town and Regional Planning (SSAT), in collaboration with the departmental Alumni Community, organised a day-long symposium titled “**Climate Literacy in Academia and Practice**” on **Saturday, 17 January 2026**, at the Alumni Seminar Hall, IEST, Shibpur.

The symposium was held as part of the year-long celebrations commemorating the Platinum Jubilee of the Department. The programme was supported by the **Commonwealth Association of Architects (CAA)** and is majorly sponsored by **Kerovit**. The Symposium was also promoted by our alumni group with **Mrs. Chandrima Mukherjee** and **Prof. Aditya Bandyopadhyay** encouraging us in realising the event.



The symposium started with an inaugural session graced by **Dean [IRRA]** and **Dean [RC]** along with alumni representative **Mrs. Chandrima Mukherjee** and **Prof. Aditya Bandyopadhyay** and our **Head of the Department**. The symposium was structured into three technical sessions, followed by interactive discussions aimed at identifying future research directions:

- **Technical Session I: Climate Literacy in Academia**
- **Technical Session II: Climate Literacy in Practice**
- **Software Presentation**

Distinguished speakers (both International and National) from reputed organizations such as **CAA, IFC, IGBC, Sintali, BMTPC, C40 Cities, and CSE**, along with **several alumni of the Department**, participated in the event. A **students’ poster competition** was arranged, in which architecture students from various local institutions participated.



A **Joint-Studio with the 3rd Year B.Arch. Students of IIT Kharagpur and IEST Shibpur** and was held on 7-8 Feb 2026 at IIT Research Park under the mentorship of **Prof. Dr. Keya Mitra [IIESTS]** and **Dr Gaurab Das Mahapatra [IIT Kharagpur]**



The design problem was a time-test on proposal for **Craft Café : A Tourist-village Interface at the Ballavpur Danga Village in Shantiniketan, Bolpur, West Bengal**. **IEST Shibpur secured both 1st place and 2nd place** in the competition and **3rd place** was secured by IIT Kharagpur



BOOK CHAPTER

- Bhor, M., & Mitra, K. (2026). Assessing the characteristics and circumstances of a community under threat from multiple hazards (pp. 29–49). In R. Chatterjee, G. Aggarwal, A. A. Khan, & R. Shaw (Eds.), *Risk to resilience: A socio-ecological perspective on the Indian Sundarbans*. National Institute of Disaster Management.
- Mukhopadhyay, P., & Ray, R. (2025). The idea of service design: Understanding its evolving nature. In R. Mahamuni & P. Onkar (Eds.), *SERVDES 2025: Empowering Diversity, Nurturing Lasting Impact*. Design Research Society(DRS). <https://doi.org/10.21606/servdes2025.125>.
- Ray, R., & Mukhopadhyay, P. (2025). Affordable Housing with Bamboo: Community-driven Service Design Inquiry using Creative What-if Exercises. In R. Mahamuni & P. Onkar (Eds.), *SERVDES 2025: Empowering Diversity, Nurturing Lasting Impact*. Design Research Society (DRS). <https://doi.org/10.21606/servdes2025.110>

CONFERENCE

- Dhanesh N, Mitra K., Majumdar M, (2026, January 16). Planning for Safer Cities : A Literature Review on Women’s Safety [paper presentation]. CPTED 2026 Symposium, SPA Bhopal and Information Sharing and Analysis Centre, New Delhi ,India.
- Islam K.U., Titiksha. , Joseph N., Mitra K. (2026, January 16). Retrofitting for Enhanced Security in Government Housing, Howrah: Integrating CPTED Principles with Social Cohesion for Defensible and Liveable Spaces [paper presentation]. CPTED 2026 Symposium, SPA Bhopal and Information Sharing and Analysis Centre, New Delhi , India.
- Maiti, D., Maparu, T. S., & Santra, K. (2026, February 6). Exploring the relationship between transport infrastructure, land use, and land value: The case of Kolkata [paper presentation]. The 10th Annual Research on Cities Summit (ARCS 10.0): New Approaches to Governance and Resilience (NAGAR), School of Human Settlements, XIM University, Bhubaneswar, India. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18453743> (pg 74-78).

CONFERENCE

- Mitra, S., Roy, S., Mitra, S., Identification of Parameters influencing Urban Growth and Urban Flooding in a rapidly expanding Low-Elevation Coastal Zone (LECZ) city: A Delphi Analysis, International Conference on Urban Resilience and Sustainable Architecture at NIT Patna, 2025
- Panda, D., Das, S., Maparu, T. S. (2025, 13th -15th November). Flooding issues in census towns of peri-urban areas near Kolkata [paper presentation]. DTE-2025: Down To Earth 2025 2nd International Conference on Natural Hazards: Risk Analysis & Mitigation at Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology, Manipal, India.
- Samanta, D., Das, S., (2026, January 9th -10th). Impact assessment of urban flooding on transport network in Kolkata through geospatial techniques [paper presentation]. International Conference on Resilience ,Navrachana University, Vadodara, India.
- Singh, D., Majumdar M, Mitra K. (5–7 February 2026). Balancing ecology and livelihoods: A sustainable strategy for the Loktak Lake region, Manipur [paper presentation]. International Conference on New Approaches to Governance and Resilience (NAGAR) , School of Human Settlements, XIM University, Bhubaneswar, India.
- Saha, P., Mitra, S., Mondal, S.,(16th - 17th January, 2026). Sustainable E-Rickshaw Integration for Urban Mobility, 126, 8th Regional Science and Technology Congress (Region-4), Kalyani University, Kalyani ,West Bengal,India.

JOURNALS

- Kundu, A., Roy, S., & Chauhan, A. (2025), Spatiotemporal flood hazard Mapping in Kolkata based on Sentinel-1 SAR observations. *Advances in Space Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.asr.2025.12.082>
- Mandal, I., Mondal, S., Saha, P., & Mitra, S. (2026). Platooning Tendency and Subsequent Air Quality on Roads Passing Through Urban Fringes with Significant E-Rickshaw Fractions. *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, 2680(2), 639–660. <https://doi.org/10.1177/03611981251366251>
- Shee, I., Nag, S., Mitra, S. Investigating Transformations of Public Places in Planned Urban Developments: Comparative Case Study of Bidhannagar and New Town, Kolkata, 4, 124-135, *The Social Science Review*, 2026

PROJECT TITLE	FUNDING AGENCY	INVESTIGATORS	YEAR
Declaration of Nabadwip as Heritage Town	Urban Development and Municipal Affairs Department, Govt. of West Bengal	PI: Prof Aditya Bandyopadhyay	2017 (ongoing)
UKRI GCRF Living Deltas Hub sponsored by UKRI-RCUK and coordinated by Newcastle University, UK	UK Research and Innovation -RCUK	Dr. Souvanic Roy and Dr. Manas K. Sanyal	2019 (ongoing)
Preparation of bid document for the proposed 'Green Field City' under 15th Finance Commission, Government of India, within Sector-VI Industrial Township Authority at Bantala, District: 24 Pgs. (South)	Sector VI Industrial Township Authority, West Bengal	PI: Dr. Tuhin Subhra Maparu	2022 (ongoing)
Teaching Resource Material (TRM) on Steel Usage in Structural and Architectural Applications for Professional Architects, Teachers and Students	Institute for steel Development and Growth (INSDAG)	D. Bhaskar De [Dr. Mahua Mukherjee (PI), IIT Roorkee and Dr. Suresh Ranjan Dash, IIT Bhubaneswar]	March 2025 (ongoing)

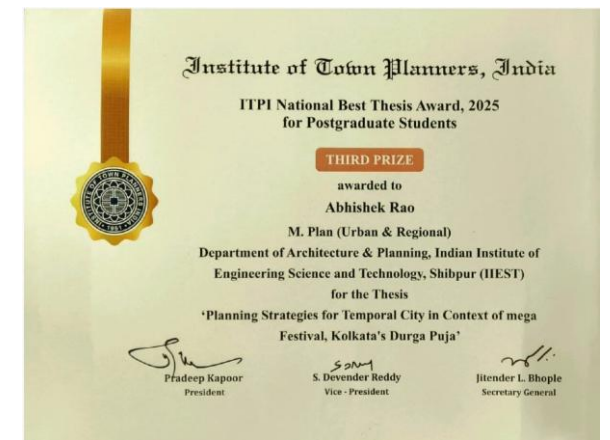
OUTREACH

- Dr. Soumen Mitra Invited by National Institute of Technology, Calicut as external examiner from 5th to 6th December 2025.
- Prof. Keya Mitra was invited by the School of Architecture and Planning, Sister Nivedita University, New Town, Kolkata, to conduct a session on "Inclusive Resilience: Strengthening Local Capacities for Risk Reduction" on January 15, 2026, as a part of the Two-Day Symposium on Resilient Infrastructure for Sustainable Expansion (RISE), held through 14th and 15th January 2026.
- Dr. Mouli Majumdar, Dr. Krishanu Santra and Ar. Sovan Saha had organized a COA Online Training Programme titled "Building Materials and Construction Techniques in Architecture – Today & Tomorrow" from 23rd-27th February 2026.

- Dr. Souvanic Roy delivered a lecture on 'sustainable Development' in the National Seminar on "Infrastructure Projects-Challenges for Sustainable Development", February 28, 2026, Salt Lake, Kolkata (jointly organized by B.E. College Ex-students Club and IEST, Shibpur).

PARTICIPATION

- Dr. Krishanu Santra participated in 5-Day Residential Faculty Leadership Development Programme titled "Nurturing Future Leadership Programme" from 17th November 2025 to 21st November 2025 at Indian Institute of Technology (ISM) Dhanbad, Jharkhand
- Prof. Parthasarathi Mukhopadhyay participated in the "Service Design and Innovation Conference, 2025: Empowering Diversity, Nurturing Lasting Impact (servDES'25)", held during 6th - 8th October 2025 at the Indian institute of Technology, Hyderabad, organised by Department of Design, IIT Hyderabad and TCS Research.
- Dr. Tuhin Subhra Maparu, Dr. Souvanic Roy and Dr. Soumen Mitra participated in the National Seminar on "Infrastructure Projects-Challenges for Sustainable Development", February 28, 2026, Salt Lake, Kolkata (jointly organized by B.E. College Ex-students Club and IEST, Shibpur).



V.N. Prasad Memorial Best Thesis Award (3rd Prize) was awarded to Abhishek Rao in 2025 for outstanding academic work in postgraduate urban planning. He received the recognition during the ITPI National Best Thesis Award 2025 for Postgraduate Students.

ACHIEVEMENTS



Disha Maiti was awarded the **Third Prize in the Annual Urban Research Award (AURA)** for her paper presentation at the 10th Annual Research on Cities Summit (ARCS 10.0), held at XIM University, Bhubaneswar.

Disha Maiti has also successfully completed the **Finlatics Machine Learning Program** (Online Certificate Course) from 30-10-2025 to 29-12-2025. The program covered key concepts in Machine Learning along with practical applications and project-based learning.

Research Scholar **Aritra Ganguly** attended workshop on **"R" and "R Studio,"** organized by the Institute of Development Studies, Kolkata (January 19-22, 2026).

Research Scholar **Aritra Ganguly** attended workshop on **"Climate Change: Economics, Politics, and Global Governance,"** organized by the Centre for Educational Technology, Online Education and Skilling Section, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati (February 04-14, 2026),

ACHIEVEMENTS



Md. Ajib KP has secured 1st Place in the Student Category at the **AI Designpreneur Summit 2025**, a core part of the Design Business Renaissance (FDBR) initiative. Presented by Ar. Somali Sinha



Manya Lakhera and Aarushi Dey proudly secured 3rd Position in **Archumen 25-26 – Eastern Interface Architecture Quiz**, held during the 2025-26 academic session.

ACHIEVEMENTS



Ankur Kr. Saiba and Disha Maiti from MOP 2nd year secured 2nd Position in the Poster Competition on “**Smart City Infrastructure Projects – Innovative Approach Achieving Sustainable Urban Living,**” organized as part of the seminar titled “**Infrastructure Projects – Challenges towards Sustainable Development**” by the **B.E. College Ex-Students’ Club**

Shreyas Patel A S from UG 1st year has secured 1st position in poster making Competition held on 26 Jan 2026 by SCAGE on occasion on Republic Day **Shreyas Patel A S** from UG 1st year has secured 1st position in poster making Competition held on 26 Jan 2026 by **SCAGE** on occasion on Republic Day



ACHIEVEMENTS



Apurv Mirgule, as part of a two-member team, received an **Honourable Mention** in the international design competition titled “**Designing the Stall**”, organized by **Claymire** in collaboration with **Alliance Française, Dhaka**.



Swapneel, Adarsh, and Nandini from UG 3rd Year secured **1st Position**, while **Manya, Aarushi, and Saptami**, also from UG 3rd Year, secured **2nd Position** in the **IIT KGP × IEST Shibpur Joint Studio Session**, held at the IIT Kharagpur Research Park.

ACHIEVEMENTS



Adarsh Dhanraj Panchbhai and Ritwiz Barua from 3rd Year, along with Udit Bachi, Samadrita, Jei Shruti, and Sanjukta from UG 2nd Year, secured 1st Position in the prestigious Design 24 Trophy at the Zonal NASA Convention, held at OmDayal Group of Institutions from 31st January to 2nd February.



In the **Comic Strip competition**, Ritwiz Barua and Trishit Das from UG 3rd Year secured 1st Position, impressing the jury with their strong narrative

In **Live Sketch competition**, Sneha Moshra from UG 3rd Year secured 2nd Position, showcasing remarkable observational skills, artistic precision.

ACHIEVEMENTS

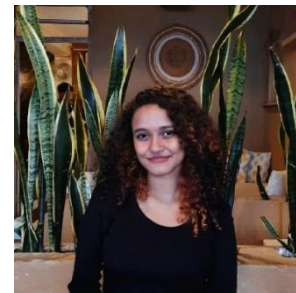


- **Gourav Dutta**, 5th year undergraduate student was elected as co leader for the **International Watercolour Society Globe Young**.
- He has been invited to serve on the **Jury at the Japanese Watercolour Triennale 2026**.
- He has secured an **internship at University of Grenoble, France**, scheduled to commence in summer, 2026.
- He also received a **Special Mention for his entry in an international campus design competition** hosted by the **University of Cracow, Poland**.

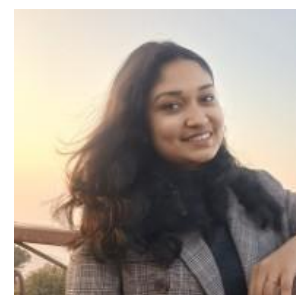


Sneha Moshra 3rd year UG has been selected for UG fellowship for a time bound sponsored research project '**Mine SAFE PODs**' under **TEXMiN-IIEST Shibpur Mining CPS COE**. She is working under mentorship of **Dr. Sutapa Das**

PLACEMENTS AND HIGHER STUDIES



Aratrika Das, 5th year undergraduate student has got a placement offer from **Pinnacle Infotech**.



Rwitika Chattopadhyay, post-graduate student [2024 2026 batch] is currently pursuing her PhD from **IIT Roorkee**.



DEPARTMENT OF
ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF ENGINEERING SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY SHIBPUR

Reach out to us :

Science and Technology Building,
Indian Institute of Engineering Science and
Technology, Shibpur,
Botanical Garden Area, Howrah,
West Bengal 71103.
Email: hod@arch.iiests.ac.in |
hod.arch@faculty.iiests.ac.in
Phone: 033 2668 4561 to 63 (Ext. 411) |
+91 9831443101