

# THE INDIAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

REGISTERED UNDER THE SOCIETIES REGISTRATION ACT. XXI OF 1860



## Office Bearers : 2023-2025

Ar. VILAS AVACHAT President Mob.: 098212 04790	Ar. JITENDRA MEHTA Vice President Mob.: 098930 30404	Ar. TUSHAR SOGANI Jr. Vice President Mob.: 099295 90171	Ar. B. SUDHIR Hon. Treasurer Mob.: 098955 33999	Ar. RANEE M L VEDAMUTHU Jt. Hon. Secretary Mob.: 093821 93374	Ar. SANDEEP M BAWDEKAR Jt. Hon. Secretary Mob.: 098220 13085	Ar. AKSHAY KUMAR BEURIA Jt. Hon. Secretary Mob.: 094370 08001	Ar. C. R. RAJU Imm. Past President Mob.: 098400 85152
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## Declaration on The World Habitat Day

**Housing more than 1.4 billion people and home to one -sixth of the world' population, India has been globally recognized as the most populated nation in the world. Housing more than 543 million urbanites in more than 8000 urban centres , with level of urbanisation currently placed above 37%, India has been ranked as the second largest urban system in the world after China.**

**Looking at the existing scenario of growth and development, India as a nation, remains different and distinct , offering numerous challenges and opportunities in the domain of planning, designing, developing and management of human settlements in general and urban settlements in particular with cities occupying the center stage and becoming the promoters of economy, employment, hope opportunities, prosperity, infrastructure, services, skill and entrepreneurship , large proportion of Indian population is opting for urban centers as their preferred destination of residence and employment. Presence of large population in the Indian cities presents both an opportunity and a formidable challenge.**

**As India is urbanizing rapidly, with majority of cities growing in unplanned, irrational and haphazard manner, largely led by urban sprawl, has created numerous operational and developmental problems of population, poverty and pollution. role, relevance and importance of cities , to emancipate communities and nation becomes critical.**

**Recognising the presence of large proportion of urban population and critical role of cities in emancipation/regeneration , UN HABITAT has accepted; "Urban Crisis and Response ", as the universal theme for The World Habitat Day, to be celebrated on October 6, 2025**

**Considering the UN mandate and recognising the critical role, relevance and importance of architects, in making cities more productive and human living more qualitative we, the members of the Indian Institute of Architects (IIA), do hereby solemnly resolve , undertake, commit, dedicate and reaffirm as under;**

- That IIA, shall use all its available resource, professional skill, knowledge and understanding related to architecture, in overcoming the existing urban challenges and evolve options for transforming cities and communities, to make them more livable and qualitative .
- That IIA, shall use all its available resource, professional skill, knowledge and understanding to make cities more sustainable and resource efficient. aligned with sustainable development goals
- That IIA, shall actively support all endeavors of embedding designing sustainable buildings by optimizing the use of nature and natural resource, as integral part of teaching-learning of Architecture.
- That IIA, shall take all possible steps to co-operate and collaborate with all its Chapters, Centres and sub-centres of the IIA, to involve local architects, as an active and productive partner, in ensuring urban transformation and building sustainable cities
- That IIA, shall continue to hold dedicated seminars, discussions and workshops at the national and local level for professional Architects, for creating a common platform , to showcase their ideas, vision, talent, skill and innovations, to make cities more livable and sustainable.

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- *That IIA, commits itself to create an enabling environment and dedicated structure to leverage the strength, talent, energy and ideas of learned professional architects, to improve the quality of social living and making cities more socially vibrant and environmentally sustainable.*
- *That IIA, shall work in close partnership with academic and professional institutions, locally and globally, for making all efforts to review, revise and redefine course curricula, to make architectural education more qualitative, productive and focused,*
- *That IIA, partnering with architectural institutions commits to involve students of Architecture in undertaking studies, carrying out analysis, in identifying urban issues and defining realistic options/programs for overcoming existing challenges to make urban development more sustainable.*
- *That IIA, shall focus on leveraging the technological skill, including AI, AR, VR, BIM etc., available with the young professionals for urban transformation and making built environment more qualitative, cost-effective, resource-efficient and productive.*
- *That IIA, undertakes to work, in close collaboration with various parastatal agencies operating at national and state levels, in the domain of urban development to provide necessary support and to make urban India, safer and more sustainable beside making built environment more qualitative and productive.*
- *That IIA, while working with urban local bodies, and local communities shall provide all professional support, to make urban planning, development and governance process, more meaningful, focused and community oriented.*
- *That IIA, shall assist, advise, co-operate and collaborate with all professional agencies to evolve rational and realistic strategies for making built environment more sustainable, and making cities more safe, inclusive and resilient*
- *That IIA, while recognising the role and importance of professional architects, shall dedicates itself to create options of affordable housing for achieving the national goal of 'housing for all', so that nobody is left behind.*
- *That IIA, commits itself to create a dedicated platform for spacing all profession Architects, to interact, discuss, deliberate and innovate out of box options for making cities more sustainable and livable.*
- *That IIA, undertakes to use all its knowledge, experience and expertise, to evolve rational strategies and develop actionable programs, to overcome the emerging urban challenges and climate crisis for achieving the universal good of humanity, communities, environment and ecology besides achieving the agenda defined under 17 Sustainable Development Goals, to transform cities into make them sustainable and better places to live and work.*

**Ar. Vilas Avachat**  
President,  
The Indian Institute of Architects

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> October 2025.