Choose between being a goat in a herd or the king of the jungle as a lion.

I believe that most of us choose architecture as the path to break away from the conventional routes of engineering and medicine. It's a pursuit fueled by the desire to showcase one's unique ideas, creativity, and innovation. Many of us carry dreams of designing landmark buildings in the cities or villages where we were born and raised, making pursuing this lengthy professional program.

However, the obstacles that a student architect faces in India are sadly numerous. These include the demanding nature of the course, navigating through assessments that balance creativity and innovation, limited exposure to professional practice within a six-month timeframe, inadequate or nonexistent compensation for interns, and witnessing unhealthy working conditions. Yet, for aspiring architects in India, the road is riddled with challenges. From the intense demands of the course which eventually bounds creativity and innovation between juries, the journey is far from easy, limited exposure to professional practice within a six-month timeframe, inadequate or nonexistent pay for interns, and witnessing unhealthy working conditions adds to the struggle.

In the face of such obstacles, many find themselves questioning their choices and seeking alternative paths. It's not uncommon to see architecture graduates ending up in IT roles and other such irrelevant platforms.

Did they choose to be a lion only to find themselves relegated to the role of a goat?

With the staggering pace of urbanisation and its consequential social and environmental concerns, the necessity for architects is indisputable. However, do we possess sufficient awareness of architecture within the *grassroots* of the society? Can we *envision* architectural education as accessible and affordable for all? Will our curriculum provide enough autonomy to both institutions and students to ensure the quality of architectural education in India?

I call upon all members of the National Association of Students of Architecture to participate in the *assemblage* with like minds and deliberate upon the array of prevalent issues and potential solutions. Together let's **Exclaim** **for reform** and ensure a brighter future for the architecture fraternity in India!

We welcome your valuable thoughts on the current situation of the architecture fraternity in India in the comment section below.

Regards,
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