

National Association of Students of Architecture  
HUDCO Trophy 2025-26  
Catalyse



## About NASA India



The National Association of Students of Architecture (NASA, India) is the world's largest architectural student-run organization. Founded in 1957 with just seven colleges, it has grown to include over 350+ colleges and more than 66,000+ students, making it a significant voice for architecture students across India. The association aims to provide a platform for learning and interaction among students from diverse cultural backgrounds.

NASA India functions as a non-profit and non-political organization. It is officially registered under the Societies Act of 1860, with its headquarters at the Department of Architecture, School of Planning and Architecture in New Delhi.

NASA India organizes various events, programs, and competitions throughout the year. These include partnerships with organizations like HUDCO, GRIHA, and CPK for design trophies. There are 11 design trophies in total, with the Annual NASA Design Competition being the flagship trophy and offering students a platform to showcase their creative talents and design innovations. We have partnered with the Council of Architecture, India, for the Student of the Year trophy as well.

The association's flagship event is the Annual NASA Convention (ANC), the world's largest gathering of student architects. This event attracts over 4000+ students participating in workshops, masterclasses, and programs led by more than 200 esteemed architects. Additionally, there are regional Zonal NASA Conventions held annually.

NASA India's initiatives extend beyond traditional academics. The summer-winter school programs offer immersive experiences that enhance students' practical skills and broaden their educational horizons. The "Insider" initiative allows students to engage directly with experienced architects, gaining insights into office management and professional practice. This interaction fosters mentorship and provides valuable guidance. The Louis I. Kahn Documentation series aims to preserve and disseminate architectural knowledge by documenting significant but often overlooked sites.

NASA India hosts programs both nationally and internationally, in countries like Japan, Sri Lanka, the USA, and South Korea. These experiences provide students with enriching learning opportunities and enhance their networking capabilities.

The NEXUS is an informal meeting ground where students can form bonds, share ideas, and collaborate. It emphasizes learning, mentoring, and networking, allowing students to showcase their talents and develop new ideas with peers from around the globe. We have also expanded into podcasts with our Spotify exclusive, The Archade.

For more information, you can visit NASA India's website - <https://www.nasaindia.co/> Our social media pages are [@wenasaindia](#) and [@mynasaindia](#) on Instagram.



## Catalyse - Our Annual Theme

For nearly seven decades, NASA India has stood as a movement - built by students & led by students. As we step into the 68th year of our association's existence, I call upon the stakeholders to honour the legacy not by looking back, but by asking what we can spark next.

NASA India has always been more than just an association. It's been a force: a surge of youthful energy, ideas, voices, and action. This year, we recognise and compound over the force for what it truly is.

In the grand reaction of change, whether in our built environments, our learning systems, or the profession itself, we, the students, are the accelerators. With over 66,000 students across the country, our numbers are not just statistics. They are the untapped potential of a generation ready to shape what's next. This year, we reflect on the immense power of coming together - not just to participate, but to instigate. A catalyst doesn't wait for change. It creates movement, breaks inertia, and opens new paths. **NASA India today stands not just as a platform for learning and collaboration, but as an agent of impact - nationally & globally.** One that ignites bold conversations, challenges outdated practices, and pushes the profession toward more inclusive, ethical, and relevant futures.

### So what does it mean to catalyse?

- It means taking responsibility.
- It means using architecture as a lens to rethink society, equity, and the future.
- It means challenging what no longer serves us.
- It means questioning the boundaries of architecture and expanding its purpose.

This is a call to all students, designers, thinkers, makers, rebels:  
Catalyse conversations, communities & the future.

Because this is our moment in the reaction.  
Let's use it to spark something irreversible.

Come, let's **CATALYSE** the reaction that serves the greater good!



# Introduction

# HUDCO TROPHY

## Design Solutions for Future Ready Cities in India

To develop **Future Ready Sub-Cities** (population 50,000-1,000,000) as self-sustaining, resilient, and economically vibrant **growth hubs** that complement metropolitan regions while celebrating futuristic growth, local culture, ecology, and heritage. These sub-cities are envisioned as strategic urban extensions that alleviate the growing pressures on major metropolitan areas while enabling balanced and decentralized regional development. They act as independent yet interconnected nodes within a larger urban network, supporting economic diversification, employment generation, and improved living standards.

Rooted in the principles of **ancient Indian planning wisdom** such as climatic responsiveness, walkability, social cohesion, and respect for natural systems these cities reinterpret traditional knowledge through contemporary design approaches. This integration with advanced, technology-driven urban systems allows for efficient governance, data-driven planning, and the seamless delivery of infrastructure and services. Smart mobility networks, digital infrastructure, and mixed-use developments ensure that these environments remain **adaptive and future-oriented**.

A strong emphasis is placed on human-centric planning, prioritizing inclusivity, accessibility, safety, and community well-being. Public spaces, cultural nodes, and local identities are carefully preserved and enhanced to create a sense of belonging and continuity. Simultaneously, climate-responsive strategies such as renewable energy adoption, water-sensitive urban design, green infrastructure, and waste management systems ensure long-term environmental sustainability and resilience against climate change.

Furthermore, these sub-cities function as innovation-led ecosystems, encouraging entrepreneurship, research, and skill development through integrated economic and institutional frameworks. By fostering a synergy between tradition and modernity, ecology and technology, and growth and sustainability, Future Ready Sub-Cities emerge as holistic, adaptive, and forward-thinking urban models that not only support metropolitan regions but redefine the paradigm of urban living in India.





# The Task

## Core Objectives

- **Strategic Objectives:** The development of Future Ready Sub-Cities focuses on creating **balanced and sustainable urban centers** that align with regional economic corridors, Special Economic Zones (SEZs), tourism circuits, and cultural routes. These sub-cities act as catalysts for regional growth, strengthening economic linkages while reducing the burden on metropolitan cores. By blending **heritage-based planning principles** such as walkability, environmental harmony, and water stewardship with **advanced smart-city infrastructure**, they create a seamless integration of tradition and innovation. Emphasis is placed on achieving **net-zero urban systems** through circular resource cycles, renewable energy adoption, and climate-responsive design strategies. Additionally, these cities are envisioned as thriving economic ecosystems that attract **entrepreneurs, innovators, and future-ready talent, supported by flexible work environments including work-from-home and hybrid solutions.**
- **Social & Community Objectives:** A key priority of these sub-cities is to ensure **inclusive and equitable urban growth** by providing accessible public spaces, affordable housing, and essential services for all sections of society. The planning approach emphasizes **community-first living, fostering social interaction, well-being, and a strong sense of belonging.** Blue-green infrastructure networks, including parks, water bodies, and green corridors, are integrated to promote healthier lifestyles and environmental balance. Active mobility systems such as walking and cycling are encouraged to enhance accessibility and reduce dependence on motorized transport. Furthermore, the integration of **digital hubs and co-working spaces supports evolving work cultures, enabling residents to adapt to work-from-home and hybrid work models while maintaining strong social and professional connectivity.**
- **Environmental Objectives:** Environmental sustainability forms the backbone of Future Ready Sub-Cities, with a strong focus on **landform and climate-responsive design that respects the natural context of each site.** Planning strategies aim to create water-secure environments through efficient water management systems, including rainwater harvesting, reuse, and conservation. Nature-based solutions are employed to enhance resilience against flooding and urban heat, such as green roofs, urban forests, permeable surfaces, and restored natural drainage systems. **The use of local, renewable, and recycled materials** is prioritized to reduce environmental impact and support regional economies. These measures collectively contribute to the creation of ecologically balanced and resilient urban environments capable of adapting to future climatic challenges.
- **Infrastructure & Governance Objectives:** The success of Future Ready Sub-Cities relies on the delivery of reliable, efficient, and **future-proof infrastructure systems.** This includes the provision of essential services such as water supply, mobility networks, sanitation, waste management, energy systems, and robust digital connectivity. Infrastructure is designed to be adaptable and scalable, allowing cities to grow and evolve without compromising performance or quality of life. Strong governance frameworks are essential to ensure effective planning, implementation, and management, supported by data-driven decision-making and smart technologies. Additionally, a focus on long-term economic viability ensures that these sub-cities remain financially sustainable, resilient, and capable of supporting continuous development and innovation over time.

## Key Planning & Design Principles

- **Planning Hierarchy:** A multilevel planning framework is adopted, ranging from regional to neighbourhood and public realm scales. The approach emphasizes walkable neighbourhoods, mixed-use clusters, and human-scaled street design to create cohesive, accessible, and people-centric urban environments.
- **Land Use & Zoning:** Land use planning responds to natural systems such as topography, hydrology, climate, and ecology. It promotes mixed-use, high-density development around transit nodes while ensuring the protection of sensitive ecological areas and heritage zones.
- **Blue-Green Infrastructure:** An integrated blue-green network forms the ecological backbone, incorporating watersheds, wetlands, green corridors, and bioswales. Greenways are designed to support walking, cycling, and overall ecological resilience.
- **Housing & Social Infrastructure:** A diverse housing mix caters to varying needs, including affordable, rental, co-living, senior-friendly, and WFH-ready options. Each neighbourhood is supported by essential social infrastructure such as schools, healthcare, markets, and community spaces.
- **Sustainability & Net-Zero Strategies:** Sustainability is driven through renewable energy systems like solar rooftops and microgrids. Circular water management, including rainwater harvesting and greywater reuse, along with a zero-waste approach, ensures resource efficiency.
- **Cultural & Heritage Integration:** Local culture and heritage are integrated through public spaces such as plazas, ghats, temple precincts, and cultural markets. The design encourages the promotion of local crafts, festivals, cuisine, and tourism.
- **Economic & Innovation Ecosystem:** The plan fosters economic growth through innovation districts, start-up clusters, R&D hubs, eco-industrial zones, and tourism circuits. Flexible and modular workspaces are introduced to support entrepreneurship and creative industries.



# Guidelines

## Submission Requirements

The scale of the drawings is left to the discretion of the participants.

- Participants may use views, perspectives and any other means felt suitable and relevant to explain the design proposal.
- Regional context analysis and site justification.
- Sustainability Strategy
- The number of **presentation slides/panels should not exceed 20 of A2 size**.
- The presentation should be supported by a **report (Maximum of 15 A4 size pages)** providing design brief, design options and concept as in earlier Section of Selection criteria.
- All entries must be prepared using metric units of measurements.
- The presentation/report must mention the source, where applicable.

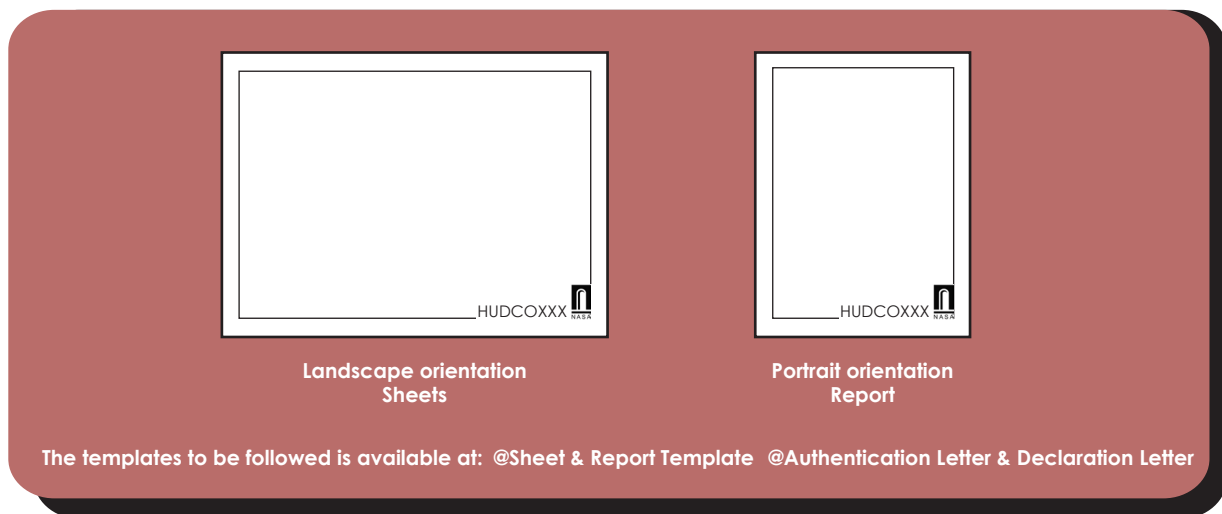
## Checklist for submission

1. Online Submission of Sheets in form of PDF
2. Online Submission of Report in form of PDF
3. Original Copy of Authentication Letter
4. Original Copy of Declaration Letter
5. Editable Format of the Sheets (Applicable if shortlisted)

## Sheet & NASA India Logo Guidelines

Failing to comply with any of the guidelines may lead to disqualification at the discretion of the executive council.

- NASA India Internal Logo shall always be placed on the right-hand bottom corner of the sheet.
- NASA India logo should not be merged, overlapped etc. with any sort of text, graphic, image, etc.
- NASA India logo should be in true black with a perfectly white background.
- Sheet Template to be followed is available in the drive link - <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1HFUe8vY6npUg4kRv2vD6uoe0vNft5MR1?usp=sharing>



## General Submission Guidelines

Failing to comply with any of the guidelines may lead to disqualification at the discretion of the executive council.

- All text should be in English.
- The projects should use the decimal metric system and contain a metric graphic scale in order to enable publication in reduced formats.
- The format of the sheets should clearly mention the name of the trophy followed by the year i.e. "HUDCO Trophy 2025-26"
- The format of the sheet should contain a square box of 25mm\*25mm at the bottom right-hand corner, next to the NASA INDIA logo which should have the unique registration number allotted to the participants after registrations.
- 10MM White margin is to be left on all sides of A2 sheets.
- The scale is left to the discretion of the participant(s) to the condition that the scale should be in metric system and all the drawings should be clear and legible.
- Manually rendered entry should be scanned at least in 300\*300dpi (dots per Inch) resolution.
- The soft copy (non-editable format) of the sheets along with authentication letter, declaration letter and any other required documents prescribed in the submission requirements should be uploaded on the website by the submission deadline.
- The soft copy file of the sheets should not be corrupted or incomplete or in low resolution.
- It is mandatory to produce the original copy of the Authentication Letter for each entry(entry code should be mentioned if allotted) with the name of participant(s) and stating the unit will abide by whatever may be the final results and also agree that this entry is a property of both the institute and NASA India.
- The Authentication Letter should be signed by the HOD/Principal/Director of the unit.
- It is mandatory for the colleges to produce the original copy of the Declaration Letter for each entry(entry code should be mentioned if allotted) signed by the participants stating the work submitted is genuine and they have endorsed copy- rights for the same and to adhere by all the rules and regulations, jury process and the results.
- **Authetication & Declaration formats to be followed are available in the drive link - <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1mschiSd0GIM4gjzg5914bdkUi54ZzluS?usp=sharing>**
- The Prize Money Authenticating Letter signed by the Director/ Principal / HOD in the college letterhead specifying the account details ( Account Name, Account Number, Bank Name, IFSC Code) in which the money is to be credited for each entry (entry code should be mentioned if allotted) shall be collected at a later stage.
- The working files in editable formats of the Shortlisted Entries should be submitted to the Council, failing which, the submission requirements would be deemed incomplete leading to the prize money being withheld.
- Shortlisted Entries with manual hand-done sheets should submit high quality scans(min. 300\*300dpi) along with the content in a word document of the shortlisted entries should be submitted to the Council, failing which, the submission requirements would be deemed incomplete leading to the prize money being withheld.
- Any misconduct such as exposing identity through college name/ stamp participant(s) name or college code on the sheets or the video will be disqualified.

## Other Information

- **Maximum One (01) Entry Will Be Accepted Per College For HUDCO Trophy.**
- Queries to be put forward through the trophy page on the website
- **Registration should be done by the Unit secretary in NASA India website before the registration deadline. (<https://www.nasaindia.co/Trophy?groupid=1&trophyid=MnhZeJyMyFAIw==>)**
- Registration of the trophies will be final and cannot be changed or withdrawn henceforth.
- Late Registration and submission will not be entertained and henceforth the defaulters shall be disqualified

# Important Dates



Release of Brief:  
**15th April 2026, Wednesday**

Queries Deadline:  
**25th April 2026, Saturday 1800 hrs IST**

Registration Deadline:  
**30th April 2026, Thursday 1800 hrs IST**

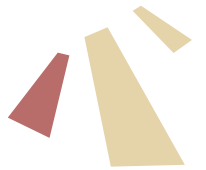
Submission Deadline  
**25th May 2026, Monday 1800 hrs IST**



**Prize money of 7 Lakh  
INR is allotted**

The prize money will be divided according to the number of Citations and Special Mentions based on the jury.

# Prize Money



# Moderator

## The Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO)

The Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO) is a government owned financial institution in India that plays a vital role in promoting housing and urban infrastructure development.

Established in 1970, HUDCO operates under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs and primarily focuses on financing projects that contribute to sustainable urban growth. It provides financial assistance for housing projects, with a special emphasis on affordable housing for economically weaker sections (EWS) and low-income groups (LIG). Additionally, HUDCO supports various urban infrastructure projects, including water supply, sanitation, transportation, and social amenities, to enhance the quality of life in cities and towns. The corporation extends funding to state governments, urban local bodies, and private developers, helping them implement large-scale housing and infrastructure initiatives. With a commitment to sustainability, HUDCO also promotes eco-friendly and energy-efficient building practices. As a Miniratna company, it continues to contribute significantly to India's vision of inclusive urbanization and "Housing for All."



A NAVRATNA CPSE

### All the Best !

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