



IIA COCHIN CENTER

2nd Floor, GCDA Shopping Complex, Kadavanthara, Kochi – 682020, Kerala, India

KERALA AWARDS FOR THESIS IN ARCHITECTURE (KATHA) 2025

GENERAL RULES

1. INVITATION

- 1.1 The IIA Cochin Centre (Promoter) with a view to create the right threshold for fresh architects who have just graduated from architecture colleges across Kerala has instituted the Kerala Awards for Thesis in Architecture (KATHA) to create a collective discourse of architects, academicians and students, broadening the horizons of architecture discipline.
- 1.2 The aim is to promote, reward and give visibility to young graduates of architecture who are capable of bringing forward exceptional works, ideas and experimentations, taking architecture to the next level, to change the kind of built environment around us and make a better world.

2. ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 The term 'student' refers to a bonafide student of an Architecture college who has appeared and passed in the final year B.Arch. examination in 2025.
- 2.2 KATHA is open to all young graduates and postgraduates from colleges affiliated to the following six universities:
 - a. Calicut University
 - b. APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University
 - c. Mahatma Gandhi University
 - d. Kerala University
 - e. NIT Calicut
 - f. Cochin University of Science and Technology
- 2.3 Only individual submissions are permitted.

2.4 There is no limit on the number of entries from a particular college. We appreciate maximum participation.

2.5 All students who appeared for thesis in 2025 can appear for KATHA 2025 with declaration form from the institution as they have the freedom to rework on their thesis sheets before submission for awards.

3. PERSONS INELIGIBLE

3.1 No blood relative of any member of the Jury Panel shall participate in the award program either directly or indirectly nor be entrusted with any work related to the award-winning thesis, directly or indirectly.

4. JURY PANEL

4.1 The members for the Jury Panel shall be appointed by the Promoter to advise on the conduct of the awards program, judge the thesis projects submitted and choose the winner of the award. The appointments shall be made from amongst the eminent architects.

5. AWARDS PROGRAMME SCHEDULE:

5.1 The competition will be run in accordance with the following time table:

MILESTONE	DATE	TIME	VENUE
Announcement	22-10-2025	4:00 PM	Online platforms
Phase 1 Submission deadline	30-10-2025	4:00 PM	Online platform
Phase 1 Jury	01-11-2025	9:00AM – 6:00PM	IIA cochin centre
Shortlist announcement	02-11-2025	4:00 PM	Online platforms
Phase II submission deadline with hardcopy, model/walkthrough	07-11-2025	4:00 PM	IIA cochin centre
Phase II Final Jury & Exhibition	08-11-2025 09-11-2025	10:00AM – 5:00PM	Vanitha Veedu Exhibition venue
Award declaration	09-11-2025	7:00 PM	Vanitha Veedu Exhibition venue

6. ENTERING IN THE AWARDS PROGRAMME

- 6.1 The conditions for participation and registration forms are available for download on the social media platforms.
- 6.2 The complete set of registration forms (Registration Form and Declaration Forms A, B and C) duly filled in and completed in all respects should be submitted along with the submission sheets before 4 PM on 30-10-2025. No registration fee is charged.
- 6.3 Each thesis project shortlisted for the final round shall be allocated a code number by the IIA Cochin Centre and the author shall be duly informed of the same via e-mail after shortlisting.
- 6.4 The thesis projects submitted should not bear any proof of identification like name, college or roll number.

7. AWARD FRAMEWORK AND SUBMISSION FORMAT

- 7.1 The award comprises two phases. Participants can compete individually and go through each phase in order to receive the award.
- 7.2 **Phase One-** The students are to submit the entries via medium that will be announced with the mandatory following details before 4pm on 30-10-2025.
- Synopsis of Thesis Project (Max 500 words) in PDF mode* (5MB)
 - Passport Size Photograph* (500KB)
 - Photograph of Models* (1MB)
 - maximum of 2 Sheets (84.1cm x200cm) for the jury in PDF mode* (file size of max 30MB each)
 - Declaration Copy (all registration forms) in PDF mode* (5MB)
- 7.3 A participant is allowed to submit a maximum of two sheets to showcase the Thesis. Each sheet size needs to be **84.1cm x 200cm portrait format**. Maximum file size of each pdf sheet needs to be **less than 30mb each**. No submission should carry name, college name or any other remark that reveals the identity.
- 7.4 **Phase Two-** A Jury of eminent panel members will shortlist a minimum of 10 entries that will go through for the Phase II. Shortlisted Participants will be announced as per schedule.
- 7.5 The shortlisted participants are to submit the hard copy of their design sheets in prescribed format for the exhibition. Printed copy of the sheets needs to be submitted along with a physical model and 3D walkthrough for the Phase 2 evaluation in a public forum before the deadline. Each shortlisted student needs to prepare a presentation in PPT format to present before the Final jury. The winners will be awarded.

7.6 Shortlisted students for Phase II Jury's Submission of drawing panels, bearing the allotted code numbers on the reverse side, delivered by hand should reach the IIA Cochin Centre not later than 4.00 p.m. on 06-11-2025. The address is provided

Address

2nd Floor, GCDA Complex, Cochin,
Kadavanthra Junction, Kadavanthra,
Ernakulam, Kerala 682020.

7.7 Submission of the thesis projects implies that one has accepted the terms and conditions of the awards programme.

7.8 Participants are recommended to retain copies of the submitted material.

7.9 For shortlisted projects a code will be provided. All shortlisted drawing panels to be printed for final Jury must bear on the right-hand top corner a sticker (bearing only the code number of the entry) provided by the Promoter. No other symbol, motto or distinguishing mark will be placed on any part of the panel except the title of the project. The entire design project of each participant shall be dispatched in a single packet using the label.

7.10 Each competitor must be prepared to satisfy the Jury Panel that he/she is a bonafide author of the thesis project that has been submitted.

8. **JUDGING PROCEDURE**

8.1 The promoter will place a secretariat at the disposal of the Jury Panel to minute their meetings and record their decisions.

8.2 The deliberations of the Jury Panel will be secret. No member of the Jury Panel or Technical Advisor or member of the Promoter's staff or competition secretariat may disclose any details of the competitions or decisions.

8.3 The decisions of the Jury Panel are final and binding on the Promoter.

8.4 The judging of the entries is scheduled to take place in two stages as follows:

Stage 1 (Shortlisting)

A team of three eminent architects will visit the IIA Cochin Centre and shortlist a minimum of 10 best thesis projects for the Phase 2 evaluation. This will be a closed-door assessment and the list shall be handed over in a sealed envelope to the representative of the Promoter. The code numbers of the selected thesis projects shall be announced and communicated to the participants.

Stage 2 (Final Jury)

The participant must remain present in person to make the presentation to the members of the jury attended by the public and students, held in a public auditorium on 8th and 9th of November 2025.

The promoter or their representative will open the envelope containing code numbers of the shortlisted projects 30 minutes before commencement of first presentation. At the beginning of the first presentation, the code number of the second presenter will be announced. **Each shortlisted participant will be given 20 minutes for presentation** and an additional 10 minutes for Q&A. The best 5 projects will be selected as the winners and will be awarded.

9. DISQUALIFICATION

9.1 The Jury Panel may disqualify entries for the following reasons:

- a) If participants disregard any of the conditions of the programme.
- b) If the participants attempt to influence any member of the Board of Assessors.
- c) If the work submitted is not original or if there is any case of plagiarism
- d) If all the submission guidelines or timelines are not met with.

10. PRIZES AND MENTIONS

10.1 The Promoter undertakes to accept the decisions and the awards of the Jury Panel and pay all the shortlisted entries a sum of Rs. 3,000. The winners will be given prizes and additional amounts as decided later.

11. TERMINATION OF AWARDS PROGRAMME

11.1 If against all expectations entertained by the promoter, the result of the awards program is such that none of the participants could be declared by the assessors as the winners of the awards, the programme could be regarded as terminated and the promoter will on the advice of the Jury Panel award ONLY the consolation awards to all thesis projects selected for the final Jury.

12. ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARD AND EXHIBITION

12.1 All designs will be exhibited for three days (third day being the date after the awards announcement at a public gallery in the Vanitha Veedu venue.

12.2 Only code numbers of all authors will be displayed at the exhibition of entries for the jury.

13. RETURNING OF ENTRIES

13.1 The sheets of the finalists will not be returned by the Promoter.

14. RIGHTS

14.1 Copyright of all thesis projects including the thesis projects winning the prizes will be that of the authors of the designs, however, the promoter will have the right to publish the projects received, in architecture journals and as

compilation of entries received, for the purpose of records and academic interest.

15. **SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES**

15.1 In the event of a dispute not related to the judging procedure or the award of the Board of Assessors, the settlement will be by arbitration without recourse to the legal authorities.

16. **CONTACT**

General Enquiry (between 10:00am -5:00pm):

Ar. Jeff Ninan Koshy - +91-9747 557 295

Ar. Anjithadevi - +91-7902 230 278

Registration enquiry: Whatsapp at +91-9747 557 295

Email: katha.iiaochincentre@gmail.com

Address

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Kadavanthra Junction, Kadavanthra,
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Any changes in dates or details of the events will be displayed on the social media pages.