

Ref. – UPA- 4 / 1-127/06-2016

Dated: 09.06.2016

To,
President,
Council of Architecture,
India Habitat Centre,
Lodhi Road,
New Delhi-110003

Sub.: Compulsory Practical Training in the B. Arch program.

As per minimum standards of architectural education, 2008, the practical training tenure was increased to one year from 6 months which was prevalent for decades together. The intent behind increasing the training tenure to one year was probably to reduce the financial burden of students at the teaching institutions. However, to the best of my knowledge, hardly any Institution has given any financial concession like fee waiver etc. to the students for the one year period during which the students are out of the institution and during this period the institution has not to bear any expenditure on the physical infrastructure as well as on the teaching staff. Thus due to the increase in the training tenure, the institutions have become gainers while students are deprived of extremely useful academic inputs for six months.

Sir, you would agree, with an additional focus on energy efficiency, sustainability & high rise structures etc., the students of present times need sufficient time at the educational institutions and they cannot afford to be out of the institution for as long a period as one year; that too without any financial concession from their institutions . Therefore, it appears necessary to revert back to the earlier system of 6 months practical training. Here you may also consider of making it mandatory for the institutions to compulsorily ask the students to undertake short term practical assignments during their summer vacations.

Sir, we am aware that as per 2015 regulations, you have left the option of 6 months or one year training with the institutions, I have my doubts that due to the financial advantage, most of the private institutions may still like to continue with one year practical training. However, this may not be in the overall interest of the students. Thus my humble submission will be to do away with the option of one year practical training.

Hope you shall consider our suggestion in the overall interest of architectural education.

Thanking you.

You're sincerely

(Rajiv Kumar Dwivedi)
President