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Department Profile

The Department of Planning was established in the year 1964 under Madras University at the Alagappa College of Technology, Guindy. The Department of Planning and the Department of Architecture together formed the School of Architecture and Planning (SAP) and moved to an independent campus in the year 1968. The SAP became a constituent college of Anna University, when it was formed in the year 1979. Later in the year 2002, the SAP became one of the constituent institutions of the Anna University.

The Department was the first to offer planning education in Southern India and it is one of the prestigious and reputed institutions in India to earn a professional degree in planning. The alumni of the department occupy senior planning positions in several States of the country and have immensely contributed towards urban and regional planning and development, in India.

Vision

We envision our Students get imparted planning education, which contributes ability to unlock their full potential to enable them to reach the pinnacle of the Profession.

Mission

The mission of the Department of Planning is to

- Change curriculum and syllabus to meet needs of service organisations and consultants in the planning profession.
- Establish close collaboration with Departments and practising professionals in Planning /Alumni to get placements to Students, undertaking Thesis/Projects, offering guest lectures and organising Seminars/Workshops/Training Programs/Internships.
- Impart soft skills such as communication, presentation, group discussion and decision taking.
- Encourage, motivate and inspire students to have positive attitude and to aim high to scale greater heights in the profession.

Academic Programmes

The Department offers the following programmes -

- M.Plan (two year post graduate programme)
- Ph.D (full time and part-time)

HOD’s Desk

Urban and Regional Planning as a process focuses on optimal utilization of land towards sustainable development of communities. Understanding communities and their habitats are the fundamental requirements to make an assessment of their needs for the present and the future. Professional planners apply their technical and practical knowledge to balance between the needs of the communities and all available resources in a rational, ethical and acceptable manner to all concerned stakeholders in the development.

The planning profession is self-motivating as a pursuit towards the welfare of the people and the ultimate joy of the profession is realized when the plan proposals get implemented and the quality of life of the people is enhanced.
Programme Educational Objectives (PEOs)

- Become an urban and regional planner with knowledge and understanding of the socio-economic, cultural, physical, environmental, political, legal and management aspects of urban and rural settlements.
- Become part of urban and regional planning authorities, local governments, housing development agencies or other related public agencies.
- Become a professional consultant who can independently/jointly offer support in planning and executing the various activities of the planning process.
- Become a researcher to critically investigate planning concepts, theories, and techniques to advocate newer theories, innovative concepts and technology driven.
- Become an activist to influence policies and strategies of the government at various levels for a sustainable development and enhancement in quality of life of the citizens.

Programme Outcomes (POs)

a. An ability to demonstrate a degree of mastery over the understanding of the functioning of human settlements at various levels

b. An ability to review research literature, and analyze complex planning problems using planning techniques

c. A willingness to engage in undertaking socially useful activities related to planning and development of neighbourhood, town/city and region.

d. An ability to independently carry out research/investigation and development work to solve practical problems in the field of urban and regional planning and development.

e. Ability to exposure to best practices in the field of planning and latest technologies as planning tools.

f. An ability to understand the socio-economic and environmental consequences of planning strategies.

g. To articulate contextual planning interventions required for sustainable development.

h. A level of ability and knowledge to participate and strengthen the institutional mechanism for development of the planning education and practice.

i. To collectively work in groups and evolve consensual decisions towards achieving principle goals of development.

j. An ability to write and present planning documents, technical reports including plan documents of urban and rural settlements.

k. Demonstrate Knowledge and understanding of the planning project management and finance

l. Recognize the need for, and ability to engage in life-long learning in the broadest context of technological change
Programme Core Courses : (PCC)

- Urban Economics and Sociology
- Planning Techniques
- City and Metropolitan Planning
- Traffic and Transportation Planning
- Planning Policies and Strategies
- Planning Theory and Practice
- Urban and Rural Housing
- Regional Planning and Development
- Planning Legislation & Professional Practice
- Project Formulation and Evaluation

Employability Enhancement Courses : (EEC)

- GIS Modeling in Urban and Regional Planning
- Planning Studio I - Village and Urban Study, Layout Preparation
- Planning Studio II - Preparation of Development Plans
- Planning Studio III - Preparation of Regional Plans
- Internship Training
- Thesis – Phase I
- Thesis – Phase II

Highlights of the Programme

- Students are expected to undertake an All India Educational Tour during the Course duration.
- Students need to undergo 4 weeks full time Internship Training in a Planning Organization during the vacation, as part of the Curriculum.
- Hands on training on Layout Preparation, Master Planning and Regional Planning

Societal Contribution

The Department of Planning works in close association with the regulatory agencies of the Metropolitan City of Chennai and the Town and Country Planning Authorities of the State in helping to address the societal challenges and further to shape the physical environment in a sustainable manner. Towards improvement to the quality of life of the people and better functioning of the human settlements the faculty constantly engage in offering consultancy support to the planning and development agencies of the State. The senior faculty of the department also serve as members in high level committees constituted by the Government of Tamil Nadu to recommend measures relating to planning and development.

Major Thrust Area

- Urban Land Use Modeling
- Urban Land Use through the use of 3D LIDAR and Drones
- GIS in Urban and Regional Planning
- Impact Assessments of Policies and Projects
- Use of Artificial Intelligence in Urban Planning
- Smart City Planning
- Rural Development
- Climate Change and Resilience
- Sustainable Development
- Urban Renewal and Redevelopment
Consultancy Projects

- Impact Study of Proposed Mall in Bharathi Road, Cuddalore Municipality on behalf of The District Collector, Cuddalore District, Government of Tamil Nadu.
- Development of Grid of Road Network Plan for the villages surrounding Outer Ring Road on behalf of Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority.
- Preparation of Draft Report for taking up Comprehensive Revision of Development Control Regulations on behalf of Directorate of Town and Country Planning, Government of Tamil Nadu.
- Study on Business Plan for Income Generation and Rationalization of Rents on behalf of Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited, Neyveli.
- Master Plan for Rangat and its Environs on behalf of Andaman Public Works Department, Andaman and Nicobar Administration.
- Master Plan for Mayabunder and its Environs on behalf of Andaman Public Works Department, Andaman and Nicobar Administration.
- Master Plan for Diglipur and its Environs on behalf of Andaman Public Works Department, Andaman and Nicobar Administration.
- Master Plan for Port Blair and its Environs on behalf of Andaman Public Works Department, Andaman and Nicobar Administration.
- Master Plan for Havelock and Neil Islands on behalf of Andaman Public Works Department, Andaman and Nicobar Administration.
- Regional Plan for Andaman and Nicobar Islands on behalf of Andaman Public Works Department, Andaman and Nicobar Administration.
- City Corporate Cum Business Plan for Villupuram, Tiruvannamalai, Vellore, Salem, Erode, Udumalpet and Pollachi on behalf of Commissionerate of Municipal Administration, Government of Tamil Nadu.
- City Corporate Plan for Villupuram, Tiruvannamalai, Vellore, Salem, Erode, Udumalpet and Pollachi on behalf of Commissionerate of Municipal Administration, Government of Tamil Nadu.
- National Urban Observatory for Tiruvannamalai and Hosur on behalf of Town and Country Planning Organization, Government of India.
- Urban Renewal Plan for Tiruvannamalai, on behalf of Department of Science and Technology, Government of India under MATURE Programme.
- Development Plans for Least Urbanized Taluks in Tamil Nadu – Cheyyur, Perambalur, Kallakurichi, Uttukottai and Gandarvakottai Taluks on behalf of Directorate of Town and Country Planning, Government of Tamil Nadu.
- Detailed Project Report under Mega City Projects for 5 towns in Chennai Metropolitan Area – Maduravoyal, Porur, Valasaravakkam, Ullagaram and Puzuthivakkam on behalf of TUFIDCO, Government of Tamil Nadu.
- Detailed Financial Operating Plan for New bus stand in Villupuram Town on behalf of Commissionerate of Municipal Administration, Government of Tamil Nadu.
Research (Ph.D) Studies Carried Out

- GIS Based Three Dimensional (3D) Volumetric Analysis in Urban Planning – A Case Study of Kannadasan Nagar, Chennai
- Cellular Automata Based Simulation Model of Land Use for Metropolitan Suburban Area – A Case study of Chennai Metropolitan Area
- Evolving Transversed Landscape Preference for vistas between selected Urban and Tourist Centers of Chennai Region
- An Urban Land Use Model to test the efficacy of High Resolution Satellite Imagery in Preparing Land Use Map – A Case Study of Port Blair, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India
- Study on Characteristics of Migrants in Chennai City
- Assessment of Place Based Community Management of Urban Neighbourhood Open Space – An Integrated Approach
- Evaluation of the Urban Pedestrian Environment : A Qualitative Approach
- Peoples’ Perception of Quality of Life Concept in Urban Development Process – Case of Chennai
- Ecological Footprint and bio-capacity as tools to assess resource sustainability – A Case Study of Gudiyattam Block, Tamil Nadu
- Implication of Settlement Status and Housing moves in Sites and Services Scheme in Chennai
- Land Subdivision and Settlement Process in Madras Metropolitan Area
- Development Control as a Source of Planning Information – A GIS Model for Chennai Metropolitan Authority.

Involvement of students in various social projects

As part of the planning studios and thesis works, students are engaged in various social projects.

Collaborations

- Collaboration with Organisation of Students of Planning (NosPlan), New Delhi.
- The department is in interaction with premier development organisations such as CMDA, DTCP, TNSCB, etc.
- Collaboration with Institute of Town Planners, India (ITPI), Regional Chapters, Tamil Nadu.
Teaching-Learning Process

Encourage Online Learning Platforms such as NPTEL-SWAYAM, edx, IARF, etc.

- “Real World Learning” – Helps to improve reading and writing skills and focused on day to day industrial updates.
- Technology Advancement – Advised students to incorporates new technology, such as Drone and Mobile App based surveys, video documentations, etc.
- Personality Matters (short speech) - To emphasis their articulations and helps to conquer the stage fear.
- “Audio-Video Tools” – Video based assignments, strengthens their creative thinking.
- Industrial Collaboration - Internship programmes helps to connect with the various stakeholders and upgrade on field industrial knowledge.
- Encourage students to participate in various panel discussions and in workshops.

Field Surveys  Group Discussions  Panel Discussion with International Experts

Participated in various International Workshops & Panel Discussions

Student Support and Placement

- Average of 30% of students receiving GATE scholarship provided by AICTE.
- Progress in Placement: 90% of students placed every year in various organisations.
- About 83% of students placed in the core profession
- Able to clear various competitive exams like GATE, TNPSC, IES, etc
Infrastructure & Learning Resources

The Institution has adequate infrastructure and physical facilities for teaching – learning, viz., ICT enabled classrooms, laboratories, etc.

Well equipped ICT enabled Lecture Halls and Planning Studios

Computer Labs and Remote access to e-resources

Contact Details

Department of Planning
Head of the Department: Dr.K.Pratheep Moses
Phone: 044 – 2235 9309 (O)
E-Mail: hodplanning@annauniv.edu

Office:
Phone: 044 – 2235 9311 (O)