

ORGANIZED BY



IC-ACI STUDENTS' ESSAY COMPETITION-2025

FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING STUDENTS

TOPIC

**DESIGNING CONCRETE FOR DURABILITY :
FROM MATERIALS SELECTION TO LONG-TERM
PERFORMANCE**

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

DEADLINE: 25th January 2026

COMPETITION GUIDELINES ENCLOSED

SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

Draft an email to infoicaci@gmail.com and attach your essay as a .doc, .docx, or .pdf file format. Include the following information in the body of the email:

- #
- #
- Writer's Name:
- Name of Institute/Polytechnic:
- Course:
- Semester and Year essay was written:
- Email Address:
- Phone 1:
- Phone 2:
- Local Address:

CONTACT US:

INDIA CHAPTER OF AMERICAN CONCRERE INSTITUTE

1-3, Nagree Terraces, Soonawala Agiary Road, Mahim (W), Mumbai 400016, India

Phone: +91-22-24469175/35230065 | E-mail: infoicaci@gmail.com | Web:

www.icaci.com



INVITATION

ESSAY COMPETITION ON

DESIGNING CONCRETE FOR DURABILITY : FROM MATERIALS SELECTION TO LONG-TERM PERFORMANCE

Dear Sir/Madam,

India Chapter of American Concrete Institute [IC-ACI] cordially invites civil engineering students to participate in the 2025 Edition of its very-popular annual Essay Competition. The competition which has no entry fee and this year is themed Designing Concrete for Durability : From Materials selection to Long-Term Performance. The last date for submission of entries is 25th January 2026.

The competition is open to all student members of the IC-ACI Student Chapters, as well as students of Accredited Civil Engineering Colleges. Any institute not having an IC-ACI Students Chapter is also welcome to participate.

Winnies, who will be individually notified of the results by email, will be awarded attractive trophies and Cash Incentive Prizes of Rs.10,000/- for 1st position, Rs.7,000/- for 2nd position, Rs.3,000/- for 3rd position and given publicity on all India Chapter communication platforms such as the India Chapter Journal, Concrete India, and the Chapter website.

Furthermore, for this year's competition, the winning Students will also be felicitated appropriately at the upcoming Important Event of to be organized by India Chapter of ACI.

We look forward to your participation.

Thanking you and Yours faithfully,

Er. Satish C. Dhupelia

Past President of India Chapter of American Concrete Institute
Principal Co-ordinator for IC-ACI Students' Chapters and
Principal Convenor for Activities of IC-ACI Students' Chapters

About American Concrete Institute

Initially formed as 'National Association of Cement Users' in 1904, it was renamed as 'ACI' nine years later. ACI is a leading authority and resource worldwide for the development and distribution of consensus-based standards, technical resources, educational and training programs, certification programs, and proven expertise for individuals and organizations involved in concrete design, construction and materials who share a commitment to pursuing the best use of concrete.

The Institution functions to improve the 'Design, Construction, Manufacture, and use of Concrete Products and Structures with the motto of *Progress through knowledge*.

With 98 actively working Chapters and about 20,000 direct members spread across 112 nations all over the world, ACI has attained the stature of an international organization and is acclaimed as a *Treasure Trove on Concrete*. It offers more than 500 technical documents related to concrete and concrete technology and regular up gradation on the subject. These publications are unique and exclusive. With its Headquarters at Farmington Hills, Michigan, USA, it is encouraging engineering education, scientific investigation, and research by organizing the efforts of its members on a non-profit public service basis, in gathering, correlating and disseminating information.

Even before there was ACI, Indian Professionals have exchanged information and disseminated knowledge about concrete technology with the USA from the early days of the 20th century. The India Chapter established on 26th December, 1979, has today an All-India membership around of 3000 individual and organizational members.

Through its continued and tireless services in organizing seminars, workshops, symposia, technical meetings with professional bodies, special lectures by experts on selected topics and site visits, the Chapter has been bestowed the several Chapter Awards from ACI, USA for successive years. It was also awarded the 'Outstanding International Activity' status in 1984 and 'Excellent Chapter Award' in 2000 and up to 2024.

The Chapter has a rich technical library for professionals and research scholars; conducts certification course for *Construction Supervisors* and publishes quality journal and special technical publications to provide up-to-date information on concrete technology. Previously, it has held annual competition for excellence in concrete through tests of concrete cubes, given away Annual Awards to outstanding concrete structures and held interactive meetings with BIS for updating of codes. It is always striving to improve the practice of concrete technology and to take it to new heights in the country.

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

**ER. SATISH C. DHUPELIA
COMPETITION MENTOR AND PRINCIPAL CO-ORDINATOR**

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CONVENOR - MUMBAI & NAVI MUMBAI REGION
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IC-ACI Student's Chapter at Kongu Engineering
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Student's Chapter at Sanjay Ghodawat Group of
Institution, Kolhapur, Maharashtra**

MENTORS OF VARIOUS IC-ACI STUDENTS' CHAPTERS

<p>RAJKOT Prof. Gaurav Jagad Department of Civil Engineering Marwadi University, Rajkot-360003, Gujarat E-mail:gaurav.jagad@marwadieducation.edu.in Mobile No.: 88663 31464</p>	<p>MUMBAI Dr. Neelam Petkar Shri Bhagubhai Mafatlal Polytechnic and College of Engineering Irla Natakkar Ram Ganesh Gadkari Marg, Vile Parle (West), Mumbai - 400 056 Email: neelam.petkar@sbmp.ac.in Mobile No.: 99309 22116</p>	<p>KOLHAPUR (HATKANANGALE) Dr. Chetan Patil Sanjay Ghodawat University, Gate No.583 to 585, A/P Atigre, Tal. Hatkanangale, Kolhapur-416 118 E-mail: patil.cs@sgsinstitute.in Mobile No.: 94230 41617</p>
<p>PERUNDURAI (ERODE) Dr. G.S. Rampradheep, Senior Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Kongu Engineering College, Perundurai, Erode Dist, Tamilnadu - 638 060 Email:rampradheep.civil@kongu.edu Mobile No.: 97500 33500</p>	<p>NAGPUR Prof. Amruta jagdish Killol G.H. Raison College of Engineering, Gate No.3, Hingna Road, Digdoh Hills, Nagpur - 440 016. E-mail: amruta.killol@raisoni.net Mobile No.: 99605 89122</p>	<p>VAIKKALMEDU (ERODE) Dr. E. K. Mohanraj, PhD Dean - Civil Engineering Nandha Engineering College (Autonomous), Erode - 638 052 Tamil Nadu Email: mohanraj.krishnasamy@nandhaengg.org Mobile No.: 73737 14706 / 98427 94011</p>
<p>NERUL (NAVI MUMBAI) Dr. (Mrs.) Priyanka Salunkhe Terna Engineering College Plot No.12, Sector 22, Opp. Railway Station, Nerul West, Navi Mumbai - 400706 E-mail:priyankasalunkhe@ternaeng.ac.in Mobile No.: 79776 79203</p>	<p>BHUBANESHWAR Dr. Biraja Prasad Mishra - Asst. Professor Department of Civil & Env. Engg. C. V. Raman Global University, Bidyannagar, Mahura, Janla, Bhubaneswar - 752054. E-mail: birajaprasad.mishra@cgu-odisha.ac.in Mobile No.: 7008493524</p>	<p>COIMBATORE (NEELAMBUR) Prof. Elayaraja Sellappan PSG Institute of Technology and Applied Research, Avinashi Road, Neelambur, Coimbatore - 641 062 E-mail elayaraja@psgitech.ac.in Mobile No.: 94860 90930</p>
<p>TELANGANA, HYDERABAD Dr. Praveen Oggu Department of Civil Engineering, Vardhaman College of Engineering, Shamshabad, Telangana - 501 218 E-mail: hodecivil@vardhaman.org Mobile No.: 8801148248</p>	<p>TAMIL NADU (KANCHEEPURAM) Dr. S. Sindhu Nachiar SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulathur, Kancheepuram, Tamil Nadu - 603 203 E-mail: sindhus@srmiest.edu.in Mobile No.: 94430 21432</p>	<p>COIMBATORE Dr. R. Saravanakumar Associated Professor - Civil Engineering, KPR Institute of Engineering & Technology, Coimbatore - 641 407. E-mail:saravanakumar.r@kpriet.ac.in Mobile No.: 99420 66434</p>
<p>PUNE Dr. Sandeep M. Shiyekar D.Y. Patil College of Engineering, Dr. D.Y. Patil Educational Complex, Sector No.29, Nigdi, Pradhikaran, Akurdi, Pune - 411 044 E-mail: smshiyekar@dypcoekurdi.ac.in Mobile No.: 98223 77577</p>	<p>SANGLI Prof. Mayur Madhukar Maske KES's Rajarambapu Institute of Technology (RIT), Rajaramnagar, Ishwarpur, Dist. Sangli - 415 414 E-mail: mayur.maske@ritindia.edu Mobile No.: 9890711139</p>	<p>RAIGARH (CHATTISHGARH) Ms. Tulika Gupta O.P. Jindal University, O.P. Jindal Knowledge Park Gharghoda Road, Punjabathra, Raigarh - 496 107 E-mail: tulika.gupta@opju.ac.in Mobile No.: 9827963281</p>
<p>PALGHAR Mr. Basavaraj Nyamagoud St. John Technical College of Engg. & Management, St. John Technical Campus, Vevoor, Manor Road, Palghar - 401 404 E-mail: basavarajn@sjcem.edu.in Mobile No.: 76764 34801</p>	<p>ANTHIYUR Dr. R. Shanmugam, Sakthi Polytechnic College, Sakthinagar, Nachimuthupuram, Anthiyur. Erode District - 638315 Tamil Nadu E-mail:rsmbvned@gmail.com Mobile No.: 98429 33199</p>	<p>KOLHAPUR (ICHALKARANJI) Prof. Milind Krishna Chavan, Sharad Institute of Technology Polytechnic, Yadrav-Ichalkaranji, Kolhapur - 416 121 E-mail: milindia.mld@gmail.com Mobile No.: 90963 00167</p>
<p>PUNE (HAVELI) Prof. Anand Kudoli, Pimpri Chinchwad College of Engg & Research, Plot No. B, Sector 110, Gate No.1, Laxminagar, Ravet, Haveli, Pune - 412 101. Email: anand.kudoli@pccoer.in Mobile No.: 82753 76912</p>	<p>KOLHAPUR (SALOKHENAGAR) Prof. Gaurav R. Desai D. Y. Patil Pratishthan's Engineering College, 465, 'A' Ward, Salokhenagar, Kolhapur 416 007 E-Mail: grd6839@gmail.com Mobile No.: 91756 05795</p>	<p>KOLHAPUR (KASABA-BAWADA) Prof. Varsha Doijad D.Y. Patil College of Engineering and Technology, Kasaba- Bawada, Kolhapur - 416 006 E-mail: varshacivilcm@gmail.com MobileNo.:9860317224</p>
<p>KOLHAPUR (YADRIV-ICHALKARANJI) Mrs. Pranoti Omprakash Shirole, Sharad Institute of Technology, College of Engg., Yadrav-Ichalkaranji, Kolhapur - 416 121 E-mail: pranoti.h31@gmail.com Mobile No.: 89835 44966</p>	<p>AHMEDABAD (GUJARAT) Prof. Dhara Shah - Faculty of Technology, CEPT University Kasturbhai Lalbhai Campus, University Road, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad, Gujarat - 389 009 E-mail: dharashah@cept.ac.in Mobile No.: 97277 92830</p>	<p>CHENNAI (TAMIL NADU) Dr. S. Selvakumar Vel Tech Rangarajan Dr. Sagunthala R&D Institute of Science & Technology, No.42, Avadi - Vel Tech Road, Vel Nagar, Avadi, Chennai - 600062 E-mail: selvakumars@veltech.edu.in Mobile No.: 9715425400</p>
<p>ALIGARH (UTTAR PRADESH) Dr. Mohd. Shariq Zakir Hussain College of Engg & Technology Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh - 202 002, Uttar Pradesh. E-mail: mshariq.cv@amu.ac.in Mobile No.: 98979 03968</p>	<p>NAVI MUMBAI Ms.Gayatri Deshpande Pathak Assistant Professor & Faculty Advisory, Pillai HOC College of Engineering & Technology, Rasayani, HOC Colony, Rasayani Via Panvel, Dist:Raigad - 410207 E-mail: gayatri@mes.ac.in Mobile No.: 8451885176 / 8108202122</p>	<p>RAJAPALAYAM (TAMIL NADU) Prof. Chockalingam Tamilarasu Ramco Institute of Technology, Assistant Professor (Senior Grade). Civil Engineering Ramco Institute of Technology Rajapalayam - 626117. E-mail: chockalingam@ritrjpm.ac.in Mobile No: 99447 94755</p>

COMPETITION GUIDELINES

1. OBJECTIVES

Since beginning of 1940's, most of the High-Rise Structures/Buildings, World Over, used to be constructed of Structural Steel Framework as the Principal Load Transferring and Load Resisting Systems. Since about 1980's, World Over, the trends are now seen to be adoption of Reinforced Concrete Framework for most of the High-Rise Buildings, Tall Buildings, and even Super-tall Buildings. In the case of Structural Steel Framed Constructions, besides the structural stability & sustainability, Fire Resistance of aspects of structure were well established, for Structural Steel Framework. However, much of Research are ongoing as to various parameters for evolving due and desired endurance for High-Rise Buildings, in Reinforced Concrete Construction, as related beyond the measures for Fire Resistance & Fire endurance to Main Structural Reinforced Concrete Framework. Study and Research is an ongoing process. Needless to mention that there are basic fundamentals for Fire Resistance, DURABILITY, including water/cement Ratio, mix proportioning, making and placing of concrete, curing of concrete etc. etc. as related to Structural and Construction Design, for R.C.C. framed Structures, like, but not limited to the minimum Grade of Concrete, the use and selection of Aggregates, the cover to Reinforcement Bars, Detailing of Reinforcements Bars etc. etc., which are matters of importance. It is also commonly noticed that such RCC Framed Structures, the structural concrete members are seen to face early deterioration, and more so in Coastal Areas.

The Essay Competition aims at inculcating amongst Students of Civil Engineering, to have perception of some fundamentals, necessary and essential parameters as related DURABILITY of R.C.C. Framed Structures. The Essays are expected to concentrate on these and other related aspects, as related to "Structural integrity for long term durability, as any such of Repairs involves very high costs and disturbance to occupants.

2. THE COMPETITION

The Competition encourages the adoption of innovation. The contestant's knowledge and depth of understanding about the issues being addressed will be demonstrated by the quality of their essays. One goal of the contest is to encourage contestants to develop their own perspective on important issues. This perspective should be reflected in their analysis of a complex issue and presentation of clear, concise arguments to support their point of view.

3. ELIGIBILITY

The competition is only for students at any Civil Engineering college / Student's Chapter of ACI in the following categories.

- Members of Students Chapter of IC-ACI
- Students of Civil Engineering Discipline

4. RULES

- ⓪ Essays must not be more than 2500 words in length, submitted in English, type-written in black ink and double-spaced, line and paragraph spacing 1, Font should be Times New Roman and of size 12. (No images / word art / clip art, etc. Only text)
- ⓪ Only one entry per student per year, and each entry must be the work of only one student.
- ⓪ Essay entries cannot have already been published.
- ⓪ Entries after the due date will not be considered.
- ⓪ Any essays found to be plagiarized will be automatically disqualified and the student will be prohibited from entering any future ICACI competitions.
- ⓪ To be eligible, entries must be works of prose, from 800 to 2500 words in length.
- ⓪ Winners will be individually notified of the results by email.
- ⓪ The decisions of the judges are entirely their own and are final