

As part of **Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav**, Smart cities mission, MoHUA, NIUA and leading academic institutions in India launched **SAAR** (Smart-cities and Academia towards Action and Research) on 5 th January 2022 as a joint initiative. Under the program, 15 premier Architecture & planning institutes of the country worked for a year with Smart Cities to document landmark projects undertaken by the Smart Cities Mission. SAAR came out with a compendium of 75 landmark urban projects in India across 47 Smart Cities to mark the 75th anniversary of India's independence with the idea to showcase the country's best practices and on-ground achievements.

Department of Architecture & Planning, CET was one among the premiere institutions who worked on the evaluation urban infrastructure projects done by Trivandrum & Kochi SMART city missions. Dr. Bejene Kothari, Dr. Priyanjali Prabhakaran, Prof. Lakshmi.S.R, Prof.Alok.S and several students from M.Planning ( Housing ) and M.Arch (UD) worked on the project. 4 technical papers prepared by the team as part of this project were included in the compendium released by NIUA at the '**National Youth Conclave**', India's biggest youth summit, held at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi on March 13-14, 2023 with support from the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MOHUA) and the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports under the aegis of India's G20 presidency.

Rakhi.S of M. Arch (UD) 2021-23 batch presented the paper on 'Marine Drive Walk way NMT project (Urban Beautification), Kochi while rest of the projects were exhibited as posters at the venue. The participating colleges were felicitated with a memento while the students were given certificates of participation.

