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**Comprehensive Advanced Specific Summarised Studies
-For Architecture Studies (CASS Studies)
An Official Publication of Bureau for Health & Education Status Upliftment
(Constitutionally Entitled as Health-Education Bureau)**

Specialization in Architecture Education: Global Trends and Indian Perspective

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ABSTRACT:

Architectural education is experiencing transformative shifts driven by technological progress, the growing emphasis on sustainability, and the challenges of an increasingly interconnected world. This review explores the historical evolution of architectural styles, the dynamic interaction between local traditions and global trends, and emerging pedagogical models reshaping the field. It highlights the adoption of digital tools such as VR, AR, and Building Information Modeling (BIM) in design education, fostering immersive and interactive learning experiences. Central themes, including sustainability, interdisciplinary collaboration, and cultural diversity, are identified as vital elements of contemporary curricula. Focusing on the Indian context, the study addresses pressing issues like faculty shortages, regulatory obstacles, and the disconnect between academia and industry, alongside the rapid expansion of architectural programs. The debate over generalized versus specialized education is examined, advocating for a balanced approach that nurtures creativity while meeting professional expectations. The future of architecture in India is discussed within the framework of urbanization, sustainability, and people-centric design, underscoring the profession's pivotal role in tackling societal and environmental challenges. This analysis emphasizes the need for innovative, adaptable, and socially responsible educational models to prepare architects for a complex and rapidly changing future.

Keywords: Architecture Education, Pedagogy, Specialization

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Website: <https://heb-nic.in/cassstudies/>

Received on 29/12/2024

Accepted on 04/01/2025

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