



## **Ajay Piramal Inaugurates Anant National University's New Student Housing, Interacts with Foundation Year Students**

**Ahmedabad, 29 August 2024:** Mr Ajay Piramal, President, Anant National University, inaugurated the university's newest building, Student Housing 2 (SH2), on 29 August 2024 in the presence of key members of the university leadership. The event marks a significant milestone in the university's commitment to providing a vibrant living experience for its students.

The newly built SH2, designed by Ahmedabad-based Arya Architects, has a built-up area of 14,000 square meters and a capacity to accommodate nearly 500 residents. It offers world-class amenities, including thoughtfully designed air-conditioned rooms, well-equipped pantries serving nutritious meals and lounges to study and unwind. To ensure student safety, the residence has CCTV cameras installed in all common areas, and Anant's security personnel guard the premises round the clock.

Anant National University also recently launched a new 24/7 medical service within the residence premises to provide improved healthcare facilities for all students. The enhanced facility builds on the previous setup, offering a four-bed daycare setup staffed with qualified nursing personnel and a doctor on duty at all times. The university has also established tie-ups with nearby hospitals to facilitate seamless access to tertiary care when needed.

During his visit, Mr Piramal interacted with the BDes Class of 2028. In December 2023, under the leadership of Anant's President, Provost and Board, the university did something no other institution had done before. It introduced the first ever and India's only multilingual design entrance exam called ADEPT - Anant Design Entrance and Proficiency Test. The online test was offered in five languages - Hindi, Marathi, Tamil, Bengali and English. This step was taken so that each student had the chance to showcase their creative talent and critical thinking potential in a language they were most comfortable with. Anant is committed to offering accessible and inclusive design education, and this commitment was demonstrated when the university opened its doors wider than ever, creating opportunities for students from all walks of life to pursue their passions and make an impact through design. To quote Mr Piramal, President, Anant National University, "Design goes beyond language."

The university celebrates the results of this bold endeavour as its Class of 2028 has brought together 478 students from 4 nationalities, 30 Indian states, 283 cities and 468 schools.

During the interaction, Mr Piramal encouraged students to follow their passion and use their creativity to design solutions for global impact, something that Anant National University prepares them for. He said, “India is a young country, and you are the future. You can make a difference with your design thinking and develop solutions that are unique to India and globally relevant. Anant offers that opportunity and scope for you to create impactful solutions. The diversity of this cohort exemplifies who we are as a university.”

The inauguration of SH2 represents a significant enhancement of the university’s infrastructure, reflecting its dedication to fostering a supportive and innovative learning environment. The University’s 78-acre campus will soon have three new academic blocks designed by HCP Design, RMA Architects and Sangath Vastushilp LLP. These academic blocks will be like future tech centres, complete with robots, laser cutters, 3D-printers and other emerging technologies.

### **About Anant National University**

Anant National University, India’s first DesignX university, is dedicated to training young designers to devise solutions to problems through creative thinking, fusing contemporary technologies and indigenous practices.

Our DesignX way is unique in helping young designers develop a better understanding of the context we live in through community immersion, innovation and collaboration. The core of our pedagogy is sustainable design multiplied by a host of knowledge disciplines and technology to make problem-solving impactful. Our multidisciplinary undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral programmes in design, architecture, climate action and visual arts harness the knowledge from various disciplines and traditional practices to integrate it with cutting-edge technology to address diverse challenges.

We train our designers to become solutionaries - revolutionary thinkers with a solution-oriented mindset.