



# MMRDA

Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **MMRDA launches Global Design Competition for makeover of Maharashtra Nature Park with Observer Research Foundation Mumbai as Knowledge Partner.**

The Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) invites multi-disciplinary design teams that are capable of designing and delivering a technically demanding, environmentally sensitive and world-class makeover of the prestigious Maharashtra Nature Park in the heart of India's financial capital, Mumbai.

The competition launched on 01 December 2015, has two distinct deliverables. The first is the comprehensive makeover of Maharashtra Nature Park (MNP) itself, which mandates a substantial expansion of the existing forest-like environment and significant enhancement of its nature education and nature tourism potential. The second component involves the establishment of non-motorised connectivity exclusively for pedestrians and cyclists, between the MNP and Bandra-Kurla Complex (BKC) across the Mithi River.

The winning entry will have to inspire and impress twenty million Mumbaikars who are resolute in making their city more inclusive, nature-loving, liveable and better connected. This holistic development is streamlined with the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and the Smart Cities vision of Shri Narendra Modi, Honourable Prime Minister of India, and promotes the adoption of smart solutions for efficient use of available assets that enhance the quality of urban life for all. It encourages citizen participation in the formulation of their city's future.

This online competition will be conducted by the Observer Research Foundation (ORF) Mumbai, MMRDA's Knowledge Partner in this project, through the website: [www.letsmakemumbai.org](http://www.letsmakemumbai.org).

**It is clarified here that the proposed makeover of MNP will neither lead to its privatisation, nor to its transformation as an amusement park. Its principal purpose is to further enhance the usefulness of MNP for all Mumbaikars.**

The competition seeks expressions of interest and design proposals supported by evidence of pertinent technical awareness, and relevant design expertise at Stage 1.

At Stage 2, five shortlisted competitors will be asked to develop their respective Master Plans. The winner will work with the MMRDA to further develop their Master Plan in line with the statutory environmental guidelines, and other building and construction regulations up to a point that it could be executed by a contractor after approval from competent authorities.

As per the competition schedule, the Stage 1 results are slated to be announced on February 1, and the final winner, on April 20, 2016.

A Jury Panel for the competition will be chaired by Shri UPS Madan, Metropolitan Commissioner, MMRDA, and include: 1) Dr. Pheroza Godrej, one of the existing members of the Board of Governors of Maharashtra Nature Park Society and an eminent historian, environmentalist and writer; 2) Mr. Ton Venhoeven, a globally renowned Dutch architect and urban planner; 3) Dr. Bimal Patel, President of CEPT University, Ahmedabad, and architect of the Sabarmati Riverfront Development; 4) Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Scientist and Head (Western Region), National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI); 5) Mr. Ethan Kent, Vice President, Project for Public Spaces (PPS), a New York-based urban design firm with expertise in Placemaking, and 6) Shri Sudheendra Kulkarni, Chairman, ORF Mumbai. Shri Sanjay Sethi, Additional Metropolitan Commissioner, MMRDA, and Shri Gautam Kirtane, Fellow, ORF Mumbai, will be the conveners for the competition.

An equal honorarium of Rs. 5 lakh will be paid to each of the five teams shortlisted to take part in Stage 2 including the eventual winner.

The winning design will be awarded a prize of Rs. 50 lakh at the end of Stage 2.

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**For further information, please visit: [www.letsmakemumbai.org](http://www.letsmakemumbai.org)**

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**Observer Research Foundation Mumbai**

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