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SOUTH ZONE CONFERENCE ON TAMILNADU STATE URBANIZATION POLICY: IMPERATIVES AND INITIATIVES

The South Zone Conference of the ITPI was organized by the Tamilnadu Regional Chapter, Institute of Town Planners, India on 27th - 28th May, 2006 at Kodaikanal on the theme 'Tamilnadu State Urbanization Policy: Imperatives and Initiatives'. It was attended by the town planners from all constituent Regional Chapters namely Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamilnadu; besides the town planners from Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan.

Tmt. Jayanthi, IAS, Vice-Chairperson of the Chennai Metropolitan Urban Development Authority was the Chief

Guest at the Conference. In her address she emphasized the need for having interface between Industrial Policy and Urbanization Policy. She also stated that planning and provision of infrastructure should be synchronized with the process of urbanization. She also stressed that Master Plans should be prepared well in advance that is before the plan period of the existing master plan expires. She also underlined the aspects of information technology, which is changing the whole urban scenario, specifically telecommunication technology. She raised the issue of investing back the GDP generated by cities for their



Present on the dias are Tmt. R. Vasuki, IAS, Collector, Dindigul District, Guest of Honor; Tmt. Jayanthi, IAS, Vice-Chairperson, CMDA, Chief Guest; Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI; Shri Pradeep Kapoor, Secretary General, ITPI; and Shri S.R. Rajendhiran, Secretary, TNRC; (from right to Left)

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development. She emphasized that the model urbanization policy should be prepared by the Institute of Town Planners, India and circulated to all the states for their guidance and reference. She suggested that this model policy could be adopted by various states with required local changes.

Tmt. R. Vasuki, IAS, Collector; Dindigul District was the Guest of Honour. In her address she highlighted the need for research for better plan preparation and implementation by adopting latest technologies and innovative techniques. She also advocated that for checking migration to urban areas; rural areas need to be given urgent attention for their development so that people are discouraged from migrating to urban areas.

The Conference was organized around two technical sessions; the first one was chaired by Shri V.M. Hegde, Chairman Karnataka Regional Chapter and seconded by Shri M.S. Khan, Chairman UP Regional Chapter. The inaugural session was chaired by Dr.

A.N. Sachithanandan, the Past President of the ITPI who in his address noted that planners are required to take care of their own domain and all the resources available at their disposal are needed to be put to use instead of indulging in repairing and preparing. He was also of the opinion that the Town Planning Department of Tamilnadu needs to be energized by inducing qualified planners to meet the challenges, if Tamilnadu is to be made most progressive state of the country. Advocating the principle of urbanization without urban growth, he quoted the example of Tripur where only one third population is residing in the city and two third population is commuting from the sub-urban areas, thanks to good transport network. Thus, there is a scope to plan the whole state of Tamilnadu on the basis of such principles.

Shri D.S. Meshram, President of the ITPI in his Presidential Address stated that in 1901 urban population of the country was hardly 26 million, which in 2001 has increased to 286 million that is 11 times increase in 100 years. Urban population has also registered growth of 28 percent between 1991-2001 and is likely to register 40 percent growth by 2021 and 50 percent by 2031. Therefore,, the issue of urbanization will assume the gigantic magnitude. It is high time that Government of India takes up the preparation of National Urbanization Policy on priority. It is not that the Government has not been concerned about this issue, attempts have been made in the past to evolve a national policy on urban development. In 1974, the State Ministers of Housing and Urban Development endorsed TCPO to prepare an approach paper on National Urban Policy. Accordingly, TCPO in 1975 prepared a draft 'Human Settlement Policy in India - 2001'. These efforts were followed by setting up National Urbanization Commission by Government of India in 1988. TCPO again in 1992 prepared draft 'National Urban Policy', followed by joint efforts of TCPO, NIUA and

HUDCO, in 1999. However, as it stands today, there is no National Urban Policy in India. Therefore, there is a felt need to have comprehensive National Urban Policy. He also mentioned that opening up of our economy; liberalization of Industrial Policy and constitution of DPCs and MPCs under 73rd and 74th Constitution Amendment Acts; renewal of 63 towns and cities under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme of Small and Medium Towns besides development of Special Economic Zones will further give boost to urban development activities. He stressed that these liberalization measures would provide desired investment for the existing infrastructure and services, which already need urgent upgradation and augmentation and maintenance in order to cater to the present level of urbanization. He also drew the attention towards urban scenario of Tamilnadu where as per 2001 Census; the urbanization level is 44 percent against the national average of 28 percent which itself requires urgent attention for the preparation of Urbanization Policy for Tamilnadu. In this direction Shri Meshram offered technical assistance to the state from the ITPI side.

After deliberations and discussions among the delegates, the following issue based recommendations emerged.

Integrated approach to Urban Policy

Total population of Tamilnadu as per 2001 Census was 62.41 million, out of which 27.48 million that is 44 percent of the total population lives in urban areas. The Conference, while recognizing the fact that urbanization has a strong economic, political and spatial implications, pointed out the need to take into consideration the spread, shape and magnitude of the problem so that the need for physical planning, infrastructure requirements, environmental implications and issues

of management and governance could be effectively addressed.

Implications of globalization and growth in the varied applications of information technology and the speed, with which changes are taking place in urban areas, can not be addressed through adhoc project based policies. Thus, there is a need for a paradigm shift from sector oriented supply based mode to demand based provision of infrastructure and job locations. Therefore, comprehensive policy on urbanization integrating the sectoral investments on a spatial canvas should be evolved and adopted by the state so that economic development and urbanization strategy results in an efficient spatial pattern. Accordingly the following specific recommendations are made:

- A pragmatic and comprehensive urbanization policy should be framed by taking into consideration various sector policies like industry, IT, housing, transport and the urban poor. Dispersal of economic activities from the first order cities to the second and the third order cities needs to be emphasized, for example, from Chennai to Trichy, Coimbatore, Hosur, Nanganeri, etc.
- Implementation of the 73rd and 74th Constitution Amendment Acts may be further examined by framing rules and guidelines. Metropolitan Planning Committees should be immediately constituted.
- To achieve optimum benefit out of the JNNURM, District Planning Committees (DPCs) should be activated for integrating all the sector development plans and mobilization of resources. The main objective of DPCs should be to provide basic amenities such as water supply, drainage, road network, jobs for the youth and women.

- There must be integration between the JNNURM and master plans for desired urban development. Master plans should prioritize the projects and identify resources for each to enable proper budget allocation to facilitate active private participation in urban development. In the context of demands of the information technology, micro enterprises, etc.; should be encouraged. The planners, who are working on the JNNURM projects, need to keep an aggressive outlook to attract and capture these activities besides deliberately implanting catalytic ingredients.
- Such micro technopoles and export service processing zones within the product mix has to revitalize the older areas of the cities and towns. There will be an increase in property tax revenues, increase in rental income to properties, and the run down properties will be bought by property developers and quality development will take place.
- Regional approach should be followed and enough jobs should be created at rural level in order to minimize the rural urban migration. Urbanization without urban growth, Tirupur being a good example, should be replicated in selected city regions with improved transport networks.
- Current trends of urbanization and urban growth in Tamilnadu clearly bring out that erstwhile old districts of 1970's and their headquarters along the transport routes have shown progress, while select areas like Dharmapuri, Perambalur, Ariyalur, Pudukkottai and Ramanathapuram are less urbanized. By selective investment policies and transport networks coupled with incentives for the backward areas' development and tele-communication advancements

through the PURA (Provision of Urban Facilities in Rural Areas), and improvements in agriculture sector could help in strengthening the rural economy.

- Direct selling of the farm products will generate rural employment and also dispense with middlemen who fail to pass the selling price of the agro products to farmers. Each district needs a wholesale market for perishable goods as in Chennai.

Infrastructure and Investment

- Assured budget allocation on catalytic projects should be made in various sectors such as transport, water and sewerage in all urban settlements where population is more than 5,00,000 as per 2001 Census on a priority basis so that it can attract private investment leading to balanced urban development.

Land and Shelter

- Studies have proved that citizens having own houses lead better lives thereby improving the quality of life. With enhanced house ownership, the city will achieve competitive edge and avoid the encroachment on public lands particularly along water bodies and on government land.
- Preparation of annual action plans should place emphasis on housing for the poor and downtrodden people in all urban centers.
- Optimum utilization of land was emphasized, especially for the IT and bio-technology sectors.
- Provisions of various acts related to Town Planning and Urban Development have to be scrupulously followed for plan preparation, implementation and enforcement in order to ensure better revenue generation for local bodies.
- Development authorities functioning especially in major cities should remain proactive in

identifying potential areas of development outside the city and initiate major network systems on a priority basis so as to attract active private investment. Separate regulations should be evolved for new developments and retro filling of the existing buildings and areas.

- Mixed land uses are Inevitable in growing areas but need to be regulated through strict zoning regulations.
- To make available required land for infrastructure development and for implementation of spatial development plans, land pooling and spiraling techniques similar to the ones adopted by Haryana and Gujarat should be adopted instead of resorting to Land Acquisition Act, compensation and litigations.

Urban Transportation

- Sustainable urban transport has to be the focal point for state urban policy since congestion results in socio-economic degradation and loss of time. Public transport needs to be encouraged since it consumes lesser urban space and is friendly to poor. Relationships between urban land uses and traffic issues have to be appreciated. Water transport should also be given due priority. Detailed project reports and feasibility report need to be prepared for the MRTS in urban settlements with population more than 5,00,000 coupled with development of industrial estates.

Environment, Ecology and Cultural Heritage

- The state urban policy should include sustainable environmental policies to take care of the natural eco-system, cultural heritage, water energy and pollution free cities.
- Urbanization policy should include measures to take care of cities, which are located on sites prone

to risks from natural calamities such as floods, land slides, erosion and deluge, and not to forget the Tsunami.

- Non-conventional energy, such as solar power, wind power, energy from waste should be given top priority by local bodies. Tamilnadu Energy Development Agency (TEDA) has to play a vital role in disseminating these ideas. Further TEDA has to explore the possibility of getting maximum projects and grants from Government of India.

Capacity building for the Town Planners

- A shift from policing development to that of promoting and accommodating development, from exclusion to inclusion of the poor households and informal sector into formal development, from public funding as a source for infrastructure to active participatory pooled funding, requires competence, skills and knowledge besides the 'Can Do' attitude, and above all readiness to work with different stakeholders in the context of globalization of the Indian economy. Therefore, Town Planners needs to be exposed to these aspects by designing proper training capsules.
- Tamilnadu Directorate of Town and Country Planning, which was the first department to have prepared plans for 8 Regions of Tamilnadu, is now bereft of adequate qualified personnel. As per the norms of the ITPI, over 300 qualified town planners are required in Tamilnadu for the State, local bodies, development authorities, sector agencies and the State Planning Commission. An equal number of town planners in the private sector are also needed. At present, the Directorate of Town Planning has single digit of qualified town planners. State Government is urged that it should take

appropriate and urgent action initially to fill the existing vacancies and progressively create additional posts at the required cadres.

- Training programmes both within the country and abroad are essential and it has to be accommodated as a continuous process following the World Bank norms.

Urban Governance

- The role of elected representatives has to be strengthened so that they could participate in a meaningful way for the implementation of development plans.
- Conflict and overlap between town and country planning acts and municipal acts have often led to confusion and this affects implementation. A review of the same should be undertaken.
- Development could never be realized without taking recourse to equity. For good governance to become a reality, socially and economically deprived sections of our society in cities and towns should get priority for provision of basic services such as water, power, health and education.
- Planning techniques such as Geographical Information System (GIS), aerial photography and computer networking should be actively pursued to create data base to assist in tax assessments, land use planning and development control. Land records need to be computerized as it has been done in Andhra Pradesh to avoid fake transactions.
- Majority of the urban local bodies are not in a financially sound position to meet the growing requirements of investment for maintaining and creating infrastructure for the growing population. Private sector participation is necessary.

Development proposals will remain unimplemented unless private sector investment is attracted. E-Governance, GIS and Communication Technology (ICT) should be fully exploited for urban governance to improve the quality of administration.

Re-investment Programme

- As the Gross Domestic Product originated in cities, small and medium towns it should be ploughed back into the same cities or towns for infrastructure development in order to sustain and improve the quality of life in these areas. This way these cities would become competitive in attracting investments in the long run.

Urban Renewal

- Urban renewal programmes have to be taken up extensively for better utilization of land. Better infrastructure attracts more investment in the Metropolitan cities, and small and medium towns.
- Commensurate with IT development, other sectors also need to be improved and developed in an integrated manner to sustain economic development.
- There is a large gap between demand and supply of infrastructure, which calls for private sector involvement. Water supply and sewerage accounts for major share. Pooled financing is an option for urban infrastructure funding. Ability of urban system to improve the quality of life is to be addressed in the proposed State Urbanization Policy. Municipalities, which have a primary role in providing capital and maintenance investments, need to be revamped.
- Public Private Partnerships or PPP should be introduced in the Urban

Renewal Programmes by taking up old town centers like Pudupet, Triplicane, etc., in Chennai. Similarly, in other towns, as well as wherever new developments take place. We must also encourage involvement of land owners, who have to be partners in the development and derive the benefits out of development instead of mere land acquisition.

Role of Educational and Research Institutions:

- Tie up with educational and research institutions should be encouraged and their knowledge and experiences has to be incorporated in the plans before implementation.

Role of Institute of Town Planners, India

- The Institute of Town Planners, India should prepare a Model Urbanization Policy and circulate to all the state governments for their guidance and reference.

New Towns

- Nurturing the primate cities and the second order cities, satellite towns, Special Economic Zones are to be actively pursued by giving thrust to specialization of activities for developing them as counter magnets to primate cities to create a balanced growth of region.
- At present, Tamilnadu has only one full fledged Urban Development Authority. But the state has many second order and third order cities. All these urban settlements need urban development authorities, which could help these urban areas to develop.

The State Planning Commission

- To sustain urban development on a coherent manner, the sector allocations are to be dovetailed to urban policies and monitored on

a continuous basis and mid course correction is also to be made. Therefore, Town and Country Planning Wing in the State Planning Commission is required to be created.

Political Will and Citizens' Participation

- Planning is primarily a process of decision making on policies. Therefore, political will is a must for formulation and implementing these policies.
- Citizens' participation is essential which will result in successful implementation of the programs.
- By adopting an urbanization policy we can guarantee cities that will be environmentally livable, economically productive and socially just and inclusive.
- It will also ensure that people determine development and land use decisions need rather than by their means.

- Adoption of an urbanization policy by the legislature will ensure resolution of conflicts between sector agencies and other participants in urban development. It can usher a new era of coalition between sector agencies, which can then put in their efforts in tandem to avoid conflicts and maximize benefits.
- It will also help to move towards demand responsive client centered urban development rather than the sub-optimal supply based stand hitherto being unsuccessfully followed.
- Our ultimate concern as a community is to keep human settlements as a vibrant system to support the living and working needs of the people.

Shri M. Subash Chandira, Chairman, Tamilnadu Regional Chapter gave the welcome address while Shri S.R. Rajendhiran, Secretary Tamilnadu Regional Chapter extended the vote of thanks.

TWENTY THIRD CONVOCATION OF THE SCHOOL OF PLANNING AND ARCHITECTURE, NEW DELHI

On the occasion of the Twenty Third Annual Convocation of the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi held on 29th May, 2006 Professor M.S. Swaminathan, Padmavibhushan and eminent Agricultural Scientist was the chief guest. On this occasion he noted that all the buildings irrespective of their use should harvest sun and rain and every drop of water should be conserved. He has also advocated that all the buildings and surroundings should be accessible to all irrespective of their age, including elderly and handicapped. Quoting an example of rural areas, Professor Swaminathan stated that in rural areas human beings and animals live in harmony while in urban areas there is no proper place even for human beings. To emphasize his point he gave the example of Dharavi slum of Mumbai. On the issue

of Tsunami affected areas, he cautioned that glaciers are melting, which is alarming because all our coastal zones will be in danger. This is a huge challenge to town planners to prepare Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plans. On the ashes of the past he called upon the architects and planners to build and create new environments conducive to all irrespective of their economic conditions by evolving new kind of innovations. He has also pleaded for the idea of evolving the National Policy for Farmers.

Professor Damodar Acharya, Chairman AICTE and Guest of Honour for the Convocation addressed the students, faculty and guests. In his address he stated that mobility is the index of development. As far as physical mobility is concerned,

reaching people is important for planners because they work for the people. He, however, wondered as to how without studying physics one could become an architect. He called upon the audience to help in creating the knowledge society based on creativity to govern our future society. He also underlined the importance of preservation of our culture and heritage and impressed upon the architects and town planners to strive for this.

Shri D.S. Meshram, President, ITPI, the Special Guest on this occasion, began his address by noting that it is a proud privilege to address the students in the presence of Professor Swaminathan, the eminent agricultural scientist. Shri Meshram pointed out that he himself started his career as Assistant Professor in an Agriculture University teaching rural housing, farm structure, hydrology, etc. It is heartening to note that SPA, which made a humble beginning in 1955, has established itself as a leader in providing education and training in architecture and town and country planning in the country. The School has grown to become a diversified academic institution providing instruction and training in various specialized subjects of architecture and planning apart from achieving the status of a Deemed to

be a University and international acclaim. Graduates from the School occupy high positions and have reputation in government and private sectors both in India and abroad. Since last 50 years about 6,000 students have qualified from the SPA; 2,100 in planning and 2,900 in architecture. As we have hardly 3,000 planners in the country, nearly 70 percent come from SPA, New Delhi, thus the SPA students he said dominate the town planning profession in India.

On yet another issue Shri Meshram stated that in a huge country like India there are hardly 2.5 planners per million population while in the UK this figure is 60, in Australia 40, and in Canada it is 35. As per 2001 Census, there are 5,161 number of towns and cities, 593 districts, 35 metropolitan towns besides by 2031 urban population is likely to be 50 percent which at present is 28 percent resulting in more demand for urban planners. Therefore, there is a need to start more schools of planning in the country. He accordingly invited the attention of Professor Acharya, Chairman, AICTE in this direction. Shri Meshram went on to say that opening up of the economy and liberalization of industrial policy; constitution of DPCs and MPCs under 74th and 73rd Constitution Amendment Acts; rejuvenation of 63

cities under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission for which preparation of CDPs is mandatory; Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme of Small and Medium Towns and Special Economic Zones will open up new vistas in town planning education by creating more job opportunities for planners.

At this juncture when all the students are entering the profession, the profession expects certain code of conduct to be followed while masses expect and look upon you to plan for their needs and requirements specifically the urban poor. In fact, they are our real clients. Therefore, their involvement along with other stakeholders is the key to the success of planning in our country.

Plan preparation, implementation and enforcement are the three stages of planning system in India and it is not plan preparation, which has failed but it is plan implementation and plan enforcement which has failed. Excellent plans, if badly implemented and unkindly enforced, are sure to fail and that is what you see now a days. Therefore, Shri Meshram urged the student community to watch the interests of the planning profession as well as the poor.

He also opined that architects and planners talk about harmony but it can be observed that they can not live in harmony with each other. He therefore, urged the students that when they join the profession as teachers, researchers or practicing planners or architects, should ensure that both the professions co-existence because both professions are complementary to each other and are intimately related. He urged Prof. Acharya, Chairman AICTE, to create separate All India Board of Studies for Town Planning so that planning profession and education could flourish and get the due attention to serve the nation by adopting new technologies



Lighting the Lamp on the occasion of 23rd Convocation of SPA, Prof. Damodar Acharya, Chairman AICTE; and Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI (left to right)

and innovations in planning education and practice. He also stated that the ITPI would stand by the students' community and they can always bank upon the ITPI for assistance and guidance.

In his departing message Shri Meshram invited the faculty of SPA to build a new breed of planners and architects who understands each others' limitations and scope of work and could work in harmony with each other and co-exist with each other and cherish with each other.

Professor Subir Saha, Director, SPA in his address stated that the School is proud of its faculty who continues to win many laurels for the School. He pointed out that the students are the

greatest asset and source of inspiration that have made us all proud by winning prizes and citations. SPA's name as a consequence has traveled far and wide as the centre of excellence and extended its collaboration with various foreign universities like University of New South Wales, Australia University, University of New Castle upon Tyne, Federal Institute Zurich, Switzerland, etc. At present the School has over twenty five foreign nationals from West Asia, the SAARC and African countries including a few from industrialized nations from the Far East and Europe.

Later on degrees were awarded by Prof. Subir Saha, Director, SPA and Prof. K. T. Ravindran, Dean of Studies to the students.

(PSC) of ITPI, all state governments were requested to make provisions in their Recruitment Rules so that qualified town planners, who have membership of the ITPI, become eligible for taking up town planning jobs.

- The ITPI participated actively in the drafting of the National Building Code and due care has been taken to define town planners.
- To resolve the issue of initiation of B. Arch (Planning) and M. Arch (Planning) courses by CoA, the Council of Architecture was approached. A meeting of Chapter Chairmen and Secretaries of the ITPI was convened on 8th July, 2006 to have wider consultations and to decide on the future course of action to be taken.
- During this year 83 planners joined the ITPI as Associate Members and 9 Associate Members obtained the FITP.

THE ITPI ACTIVITIES IN 2005 – 2006

Article 3 of Memorandum of Articles of Association and Bylaws of Institute of Town Planners, India gives basic objectives of ITPI. Accordingly the action taken to achieve these objective during 2005 – 2006 is given below:

To advance the study of town planning, civic design and kindred subjects:

- A proposal for starting four new Indian Schools of Planning and Architecture in the central sector was submitted to the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, for consideration.
- Recognition was granted for Masters Degree in Planning to Arvindbhai Patel Institute of Environment and Design, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Gujarat.
- The President and Secretary General, ITPI called on the Chairman, AICTE for the constitution of a separate All India Board of Studies in Town Planning Education.
- University Grant Commission was requested that it should not derecognize some planning

degrees, which do not have uniform nomenclature. It was agreed by the UGC.

- Model scheme for undergraduate and postgraduate courses in planning was prepared and circulated to all Schools of Planning.
- For Associateship Examination of the ITPI, a total of 113 students appeared in the Examination in Stage I, 137 appeared in Stage II and 17 appeared in stage III.
- Number of students applied for Associateship Examination of the ITPI in the year 2006 was 113.
- To encourage students and to improve the quality of research, Professor V.N. Prasad Best Thesis Award was instituted to be given annually. The Best Thesis Award for the year 2005-2006 was given away to Shri M. Ram Prasath of IIT Khargpur.

To promote general interest of those engaged in the practice of town and country planning:

- As per the decision of the Professional Standing Committee

To hold conferences or meetings for discussions, and exchange of views on matters affecting or relating to town and country planning:

- Fifty Fourth National Town and Country Planning Congress was organized at Amritsar on the invitation of Government of Punjab from 14th to 16th January, 2006. Main theme of the Congress was the 'Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission: Spatial Planning Implications'. The extent of interest on the theme of the Congress could be gauged from the large number of technical papers and number of participants. In all 69 technical papers were received and more than 300 participants attended the Congress at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, Punjab.
- South Zone Conference was held from 27th to 28th June, 2006 at Kodaikanal on the theme

'Tamilnadu State Urbanization Policy: Imperatives and Initiatives'. Tamilnadu Regional Chapter was the host for the South Zone Conference and representatives of all constituent Chapters namely Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamilnadu presented papers in the Conference.

- The ITPI cosponsored NOSPLAN organized by Guru Ramdas School of Planning this year to encourage budding planners.
- Brainstorming sessions on 'Vision of Planning Education in India' was organized in the month of December 2005 and March 2006. Directors and Heads of Planning Schools participated in these brainstorming sessions. Major issues on which deliberations were made are entrance qualifications for planning education for bachelor level course, measures to attract students after 12th standard level towards planning discipline, marketing of planning profession, qualifications for the recruitment of planning professionals and scales of pay, course curricula of planning education, etc.

To purchase lease, rent, hold and dispose of any land to be used as a place for meeting for the members of the Institute:

- In order to decentralize the activities of the ITPI, a three tier system has been evolved comprising of Headquarter at Delhi, Regional Chapters at State Capitals and Centers at city level. Udaipur Centre in Rajasthan Regional Chapter has been created and accordingly the building of Udaipur Centre was inaugurated by the President of the ITPI in February 2006.
- Construction of Tamilnadu Regional Chapter (TNRC) building at Chennai has been commenced.
- Chapter building of Goa Regional Chapter became operational at Porvorim.

- Chapter building of Haryana Regional Chapter at Panchkula is at the finishing stage, and is expected to be functional soon.

To compile, collect, print and publish statistics professional record periodicals, etc.; relating to any of the objectives of the Institute:

- During the year 2005-2006, four volumes of the ITPI Journal were published besides a special volume

of the Technical Papers on the occasion of the 54th National Town and Country Planners Congress and a colorful Souvenir for the same occasion.

- Four issues of Planners Newsletter were also published.
- Reading material on 'Village Planning and Rural Development' by Shri A. Qaiyum and 'History of Human Settlements' by Professor B.K. Sengupta was also published.

THE ITPI REGIONAL CHAPTERS' ACTIVITES

West Bengal Regional Chapter

The West Bengal Regional Chapter jointly organized a workshop with the Administrative Training Institute, Government of West Bengal on 'Preparedness in the Implementation of the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission in West Bengal' on 8th April 2006 at ATI Campus, Salt Lake, Kolkata. The Workshop was inaugurated by Ms. Nandita Chatterje, IAS, Secretary, Urban Development Department, Government of West Bengal and Professor B.K. Sengupta chaired the Inaugural Session. Shri Dinabandhu Pal, Chairman, Halisahar Municipality and Shri Debagopal Chakrabarty, Chairman, Bhadreswar Municipality were the key speakers of the session. Among the other noted personalities present in the workshop were Shri Gopal Mukherjee, Honorable Mayor, Howrah Municipal Corporation, Shri Biswajiban Mazumdar, Chairman, Bidhannagar Municipality and Shri P.N. Kundu, Additional Director, ATI, Government of West Bengal.

Technical Session-I was chaired by Shri T.K. Mitra, former Director General of Planning and Development of the KMDA in which presentations were made by six speakers namely, Shri N.N. Som, Professor Subrata Chattopadhyaya, Shri Uttam Kumar Roy, Shri Tapas Kumar Bhattacharyya, Shri Amit Ghosh and Professor B.K. Sengupta. The Consultants enlisted in

the JNNURM like Consulting Engineering Services, New Delhi and Bengal Pragati Infrastructural Development Limited were represented by Shri Virender Kumar, General Manager (Planning) and Shri Girish Chatterjee, Director (Planning) who also made presentations.

In his Valedictory Address Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI stated that as per the prevalent planning system in the country, there are three hierarchical levels namely Master Plan, Zonal Plans, and Layout Plans. However, it is not clear where the CDPs which are mandatory under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission fit. Therefore, there appears to be some confusion in the status of CDP in the total hierarchical system of planning. Narrating the experience of CDP of Baroda he stated that the job is required to be done by the experienced planners and not by the fresher to avoid the complications during the implementation of the CDP proposals. He also stated that to avoid the conflict between the CDP and Master Plan proposals, which is a statutory document, it should be ensured that the proposals of CDP are identified in conformity with the master plans. Moreover, he cautioned that the CDP proposals should not only focus around budget allocations but should also take into consideration the spatial aspects. In addition, he was of the

opinion that the funds released for larger towns needs to be caped, so that medium and small towns identified under the JNNURM also get sufficient funds. Summing up he stated that the JNNURM has given an opportunity to planners and requires to be taken in a positive frame because if it succeeds it will have multiplier effect.

After detailed discussions and deliberations the following major recommendations were made:

- The JNNURM presents an opportunity for planned and orderly development of towns and cities which will have multiplier effects. Therefore, efforts are required to be made while preparing CDPs to integrate these proposals with those of master plans.
- CDPs should not be conceived in isolation of master plans but should take into consideration the vision provided in master plans and regional plans.
- Urban renewal programmes and heritage conservation projects should be identified on the basis of heritage conservation areas as identified in master plans.
- CDPs should not only be prepared with a view to obtaining financial assistance from the Government of India and State Governments, but these should focus on the overall development of towns.
- Stakeholders' meetings should not be an eye wash but should be conducted seriously in the spirit conceived in the Guidelines of the JNNURM.
- For distribution of money under central sector, there must be some criteria such as population, etc., otherwise influential towns may take up the larger kitty of central funds.
- Sufficient and reasonable time should be given to the consultants for the preparation of CDPs so that consultants can collect data

from primary and secondary sources.

- Local bodies should be free to select the consultants and should not be thrust by the central or the state government.
- The 'Urban development Plan Formulation and Implementation Guidelines' (UDPFI), circulated by Government of India, which give detail guidelines for plan preparation, implementation and enforcement along with reforms should be adopted as guidelines for the preparation of CDPs.
- For capacity building of local bodies and implementing agencies, West Bengal Regional Chapter of the ITPI and Administrative Training Institute of West Bengal should work out joint training programmes for technical, non-technical and political personnel.

Shri Pradeep Kapoor, Secretary General, Institute of Town Planners, India, extended a vote of thanks.

Delhi Regional Chapter

Delhi Regional Chapter of the ITPI organized a lecture of Shri K.C. Leong, President EAROPH on the topic 'Asset Management'. Shri K.C. Leong strongly believes that planners, architects, engineers, geographers, economists, sociologists and other allied professionals should venture beyond their usual narrow professional fields into wider human settlements work and assets management. He argued that as such multi-disciplinary pursuits require serious inputs of all these professionals. Only with their committed involvement urban development and management will become sustainable. He also stated that asset management is not only maintenance of assets but it is one tip of management as assets include infrastructure, building and facilities because they enhance the quality of life. The poorer we are we need more asset management that is 'total assets management'.

Chairmen and Secretaries of Regional Chapters of ITPI for 2006-2007

Name of Chapter	Chairmen	Secretaries
Andhra Pradesh	B. Purushotham Reddy	P.A.S.M. Lakshman Rao
Punjab, Chandigarh	Kuldeep Singh Dhaliwal	M. L. Arora
Delhi	Dr. S.P. Bansal	Prof. P.S.N. Rao
Goa	S.T. Puttaraju	Dr. A.K. Rege
Gujarat	V.B. Dave	P.K. Desai
Haryana	Raj V. Singh	Nadim Akhtar
Karnataka	V.M. Hegde	M.N. Ashoka
Kerala	T. V. Kaladharan	A.R. Anil Kumar
Madhya Pradesh	B.N. Tripathi	Rajesh Nagal
Maharashtra (Mumbai)	S.P. Pendharkar	Milind B. Patil
Maharashtra (Nagpur)	Nikhil Sahasrabhojane	J.N. Gupta
North East	D.K. Gogoi	Dr. B. Choudhary
Orissa	M.K. Das	S.M. Patnaik
Rajasthan	U.K. Srivastava	Subhas Chandra Sharma
Tamil Nadu	M. Subash Chandira	S.R. Rajendhiran
Uttar Pradesh	N.R. Verma	A.K. Bhatnagar
West Bengal	Ranjan Chattopadhyay	Ashok Chakravarty

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOPS/CONGRESSES

International Conference on Urban Planning and Environment

Over 30 countries have cities that are considered 'World Class' and more than 20 countries are expecting the world class status. In recent years the use of the term 'World Class' has grown considerably. Having emerged from the discourse on globalization, world class is now a ubiquitous term that reaches every aspects of our daily life, from politics and business to our physical environment. However, it is a phenomenon that relate to the complex city of our urban environment. This Conference aims to explore the planning and environmental consequences of the world cities phenomenon and explore the impact of cities achieving the status of 'world class cities' and on those cities that do not. The Conference would be a forum for discussing with urban and environmental professionals, academicians, and policy makers. The sub-themes of the Conference are

- Political cities
- Cultural cities
- Mega cities
- Environmental cities
- Information cities
- Physical cities

The Conference is being organized by the Faculty of Architecture at Kasetsart University, Bangkok from 3rd - 5th January, 2007.

For further details contact:

Kasetsart University
50 Philophyothin Road
Jatujak Bangkok - 10900
Tel : +6649628960-3

Global Conference on Environmental Justice and Global Citizenship

This interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary global conference on environmental justice and global citizenship scheduled to be held from

3rd - 6th July, 2006 at Oxford, United Kingdom is being organized by Mansfield College, Oxford.

The Conference aims to explore the role of ecology and environmental ideas in the context of contemporary society and international politics and assess the implications of our understanding of fairness, justice and global citizenship. It will explicitly explore the relationship between environments, sustainability and technology, the role of technology in creating possibilities for sustainable resources for the future and the inherent problems and danger which accompany that role. The sub-themes of the Conference are:

- Co-operative and sustainable development
- Environmental Education and intellectual health
- Citizenship, technological innovations and sustainability

For further details contact:

Faculty of Law, Business and Arts
Charles Darwin University
Darwin NT 0909, Australia
Email : Ram at Vemuri@cdu.edu.au

International Indian Geography Congress on Development, Environment and Geo Informatics

The international Indian Geography Congress is scheduled to be held at Hyderabad during 5th - 7th October, 2006 and is being organized by Osmania University, Hyderabad on the theme Development, Environment and Geo informatics

Development has been portrayed through the lens of various paradigms. Development has been varyingly depicted as economic growth, modernization, and distributive justice, and also as socio-economic transformation. The glaring contrast between the areas of paucity and areas of plenty at times defy the efforts of planners. While environment

encompasses under its ambit the physical landscape, social landscape and built environment. All these are inextricably linked up and degree of linkages between each one of these is related to the level of development in a particular region. Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Audit have been carried out to maintain ecological balance. While earlier spatial data had a very restricted use, dissemination and exchange, the digital technologies are making the world 'spatially enabled' and also well integrated. These technologies are bringing spatial solutions to the growing number of people and their role as decision support has increased. Geo-informatics along with its accessories like GIS and remote sensing help in assessing the result of various government policies that have a bearing on the spatial locations. The Congress seeks to lay emphasis on the aspects of development, environment and geo-informatics tools being increasingly used to study them. The sub-themes of the conference are:

- Human resources and development strategies;
- Socio-cultural and power spaces and governance;
- Population explosion and urbanization;
- Spatial infrastructure and alternative planning perspectives;
- Geo-political economy of development and globalization;
- Environmental pollution and quality of life;
- Natural disaster and environmental challenges; and
- Geo Informatics technology society interface.

For further details contact:

Osmania University
Hyderabad – 500007, India
Tel. : 91-040-27097192
Mob. : 919849054856
Email : athydl_kalpanam@sanchamet.in

OBITUARY



Pratul Chand Khanna

Shri P.C. Khanna born on 17th April, 1917 in Amritsar had his early education at Government College, Lahore, now in Pakistan. Graduated in civil engineering from the Thomson College of Engineering, Roorkee in 1939, which at that time was the only premier engineering college in India. He completed his course in town planning from the King's College, University of Durham, England in 1948.

He was elected as a member of the Royal Town Planning Institute, London in 1948 and Fellow of the Royal Town Planning Institute (FRTPI), London in 1956. He was President of the Institute of Town Planners, India for two terms, 1966-1967 and 1967-1968. As the President of the Institute of Town Planners, India, he successfully organized and conducted the annual Town Planners Congress at Bhubaneswar in 1967.

Shri Khanna joined the Lahore Municipal Corporation as an Assistant Engineer in 1941. The Corporation was functioning at that time under an ICS administrator. In 1944, he was appointed as an Assistant Town Planner in the Punjab Provincial Town Planning Organization headed by a fully qualified British planner, who happened to be a member of the Town Planning Institute, London. In 1948, after the partition of the country, he was appointed as the head of then Punjab Provincial Town Planning Organization.

He held the post for nearly 13 years till 1962.

He was on deputation as the Chief of Urban Development Division in the Planning Commission from 1969 to 1975. He held this post for six and a half years till his superannuation in April 1975. After his retirement from the Planning Commission, he joined as Professor and Head of the School of Planning set up shortly before Guru Nanak Dev University came into existence.

He had a long and variegated work experience of working at levels of local authorities, state government, central government and in the field of town planning education. He influenced Indian planning practice and played a key role in the setting up of town planning departments in the states of Punjab and Haryana to promote planned urban development.

Shri P.C. Khanna expired on 11th May 2006 at the age of 89.

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During his long tenure as Chief Town Planner and Architectural Advisor, Shri Kambo gave sound footing to the Authority. Activities and functions of the Authority increased manifold since then. In order to cope with the increased technical work, the whole state was divided into a number of work regions.

Shri Kambo, in his capacity as the Chief Town Planner and Architectural Advisor of the State was also a member of Jaipur Development Authority, Rajasthan Housing Board, Rajasthan Water Pollution Board, NCR Planning Board and other state level committees and gave professional advice to these bodies on all planning matters. As Chief Town Planner of the State, he was Member Secretary of State Planning Committee and also of the NCR Sub-Region of Rajasthan. As Architectural Advisor of the State

Government he gave technical advice on architectural projects to bodies such as Rajasthan University, Regional Engineering College, Electricity Board, Road Transport Corporation, Local Bodies, etc.

Besides these regular assignments, Shri Kambo had distinguished himself by working on various committees of Central and State Governments. Prominent among these were the committee of experts for identifying a new capital site for Assam, constituted by the Government of India, of which he was chairman. Shri Kambo was a member of the New Delhi Redevelopment Advisory Committee. He also served on the Board of Governors of the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi. He was closely associated with the committee set up by the Planning Commission on 'Planning of New Industrial Townships'.

During the course of his long professional career, he participated in seminars and conferences and published a number of technical papers and articles in the journal of the Institute of Town Planners, India; Indian Institute of Architects; Royal Town Planning Institute; Fulbright Journal, etc. He had visited a large number of countries, namely USA, Canada, UK, France, Italy, Holland, Denmark, West Germany and Ghana for undertaking various professional activities.

Shri Kambo had attained vast professional experience at national and international levels. Judged by the high offices he held and conferences he attended, he was undoubtedly the first rank urban planner of modern India. He was a strict disciplinarian, a hard task master and a soft spoken gentleman.

After his retirement, Shri Kambo chose to spend last years of his life in USA, where he breathed his last on 18th February 1999. He was 71.

Contributed by Shri Abdul Qaiyum, Former Town and Country Planner, TCPO, New Delhi

KNOW YOUR FORMER PRESIDENTS



Banarsi Das Kambo

An eminent architect, urban designer and urban planner of post independent India, Shri Banarsi Das Kambo was the President of the Institute of Town Planners, India during 1970-1971 and a Council Member for a number of years. As the President of the Institute, he had the honor of participating in the first meeting of the Commonwealth Association of Planners held in London from 21st September 1970 to 24th September 1970. Important issues discussed in the meeting were the condition of planning profession in the Commonwealth countries including planning education and research, professional and technical matters, etc. It was resolved in this very meeting to form the Commonwealth Association of Planners (CAP). Shri Kambo was selected as a member of the first Executive Committee of the CAP, representing the South Asian region including India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Shri Kambo, besides serving the ITPI, was also actively involved in different professional bodies at national and international levels. He was the Fellow of the Indian Institute of architects; Vice-President of the Council of Architecture, and represented the Government of Rajasthan for a three year term. He was the full member of

the American Institute of Certified Planners; Member of American Planning Association and Member of Community Planning Association of Canada.

Shri Kambo was born on 1st April 1928 at Shankar, a village near Nakodar town in Jalandhar district of Punjab. He had his early education up to high school and intermediate levels at DAV College, Nakodar. He graduated in architecture from the erstwhile Delhi Polytechnic in 1950 and did his Master in City planning from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), USA in 1954.

Shri Kambo started his professional career as Associate Planner with Messrs Adams, Howard and Greeley, Cambridge, USA in June 1954 and thereafter worked with Shenago Valley Regional Planning Commission, Sharon, USA. While in Cambridge, Shri Kambo worked on the preparation of Master Plan for the industrial town of Peabody and analyzed planning problems of a suburban town of Andover.

Thereafter, Shri Kambo returned to India and joined the erstwhile Town Planning Organisation of Government of India in the month of December 1955 and served the Organisation till August 1959. He was one of the first groups of town planners to join the newly created Town Planning Organisation by the Government of India to prepare Master Plan for Delhi. The planning team at TPO prepared the Master Plan for Delhi (1961-1980), which was the first master plan of its kind in the country, a prototype for future master plans.

Shri Kambo was selected as Chief Architect and City Planner for designing and guiding the development of

various steel cities of India in September 1959. Master Plan for Bokaro Steel City, besides architectural design solutions for all types of residential and public buildings were prepared under his guidance. He continued working in this capacity till May 1967.

He was selected for the post of Chief Town Planner and Architectural Advisor, Government of Rajasthan, which he joined in June 1967, and held the post for about 15 years till his superannuation in March 1983. Shri Kambo rendered full range of professional services to the State Government on matters relating to urban and regional planning and housing programmes, planning administration, plan implementation and programming, etc. Master plans were prepared under his guidance for almost all the Class-I cities and steps were initiated for other towns as well. Jaipur Development Authority was constituted in August 1982 for planned development of the city. Earlier Urban Improvement Trust for Jaipur was looking after this work. Work on Regional Plan for Indira Gandhi Canal Region was in advance stages of publication during his time. During his tenure, the first plan of Rajasthan Sub-region of National Capital Region was finalized. He also published a plan for Jaipur City Region.

Shri Kambo was instrumental in initiating various legislative and administrative steps for the implementation of urban plans and programmes. To carry out planning and monitoring work, statute known as Jaipur Development Authority Act, was enacted in 1982. All physical development of Jaipur is controlled under this Act.

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