



planners newsletter

INSTITUTE OF TOWN PLANNERS, INDIA

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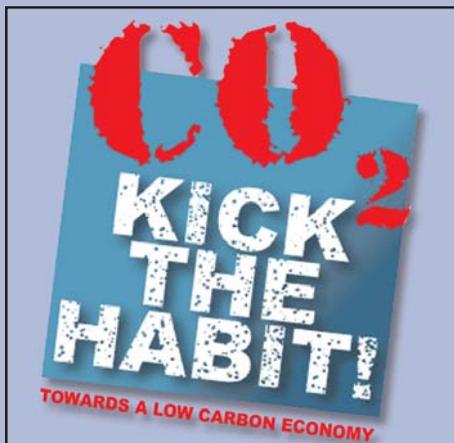
Chairman Editorial Board: B.Mahendra

Editor and Secretary Publications: Dr. Ashok Kumar

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2008

Commemorated each year on 5th June, the World Environment Day (WED) is one of the principal vehicles through which the United Nations stimulates worldwide awareness of the environment and enhances political attention and action. In fact, the World Environment Day was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1972 to mark the opening of the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment.

As per UNEP information brochure, Heads of State, Prime Ministers and Ministers of Environment deliver statements and commit themselves to care for the Earth. Serious pledges are made which lead to the establishment of permanent governmental structures dealing with environmental management and economic planning.



This observance also provides an opportunity to sign or ratify international environmental conventions. WED can be celebrated in many ways, including street rallies, bicycles parades, green concerts, essay and poster competitions in schools, tree planting, recycling efforts, clean up campaigns and much more. In many countries, this annual event is used to enhance political attention and action.

On this World Environment Day, let us examine the state of our environment. Let us consider carefully the actions which each of us must take, and then address ourselves to our common task of preserving all life on earth in a mood of sober resolution and quiet confidence.

The World Environment Day slogan for 2008 is 'CO₂ Kick the Habit! Towards a Low Carbon Economy'. Recognizing that climate change is becoming the defining issue of our era, UNEP is asking countries, companies and communities to focus on greenhouse gas emissions and how to reduce them. The WED will highlight resources and initiatives that promote low carbon economies and life styles, such as improved energy efficiency, alternative energy sources, forest conservation and eco-friendly consumption.

The host for WED 2008 was New Zealand which was one of the first

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countries to pledge to achieve carbon neutrality, and will also focus on forest management as a tool for reducing greenhouse gases. Activities based around the event have been planned in the Wellington region from 28th May to 13th June, 2008. The day's agenda is to give a human face to environmental issues; empower people to become active agents of sustainable and equitable development; promote an understanding that communities are pivotal to changing attitudes towards environmental issues; and advocate partnership, which will ensure all nations and peoples enjoy a safer and more prosperous future.

Measures include greater energy efficiency in buildings and appliances, including light bulbs, up to a switch towards cleaner and renewable forms of electricity generation and transport

systems. The focus will also be put on the role of forests in countering rises in greenhouse gases. An estimated 20 percent of emissions contributing to climate change globally are a result of deforestation. New Zealand, where forestry is an important industry and conservation of forests is a high priority, plans to use WED to highlight the role technologies and forestry management can play in achieving domestic and international climate goals.

Volunteers appeared around the Auckland region in New Zealand on World Environment Day 2008. These volunteers were located primarily at major transport hubs (such as train stations) and advertised World Environment Day, as well as handing out eco-friendly products such as eco-friendly light-bulbs and eco-friendly shopping bags. Volunteers at public transport hubs also handed out stickers with the slogan 'I am reducing my carbon footprint! World Environment Day, Thursday 5 June 2008' as well as providing free entertainment as an act of gratitude to public transport users.

World Environment Day celebrations have been earlier hosted in the cities:

- 1987 - Nairobi, Kenya
- 1988 - Bangkok, Thailand
- 1989 - Brussels, Belgium
- 1990 - Mexico City, Mexico
- 1991 - Stockholm, Sweden
- 1992 - Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 1993 - Beijing, People's Republic of China
- 1994 - London, United Kingdom
- 1995 - Pretoria, South Africa
- 1996 - Istanbul, Turkey
- 1997 - Seoul, Republic of Korea
- 1998 - Moscow, Russian Federation
- 1999 - Tokyo, Japan
- 2000 - Adelaide, Australia
- 2001 - Torino, Italy and Havana, Cuba
- 2002 - Shenzhen, People's Republic of China
- 2003 - Beirut, Lebanon

- 2004 - Barcelona, Spain
- 2005 - San Francisco, U.S.
- 2006 - Algiers, Algeria
- 2007 - Tromsø, Norway
- 2008 - Wellington, New Zealand

Previous Themes of WED

- 1974 - Only one Earth
- 1975 - Human Settlements
- 1976 - Water: Vital Resource for Life
- 1977 - Ozone Layer Environmental Concern; Lands Loss and Soil Degradation
- 1978 - Development without Destruction
- 1979 - Only One Future for Our Children - Development without Destruction
- 1980 - A New Challenge for the New Decade: Development Without Destruction
- 1981 - Ground Water; Toxic Chemicals in Human Food Chains
- 1982 - Ten Years after Stockholm (Renewal of Environmental Concerns)
- 1983 - Managing and Disposing Hazardous Waste: Acid Rain and Energy
- 1984 - Desertification
- 1985 - Youth: Population and the Environment
- 1986 - A Tree for Peace
- 1987 - Environment and Shelter: More Than A Roof
- 1988 - When People Put the Environment First, Development will Last

- 1989 - Global Warming; Global Warning
- 1990 - Children and the Environment
- 1991 - Climate Change. Need for Global Partnership
- 1992 - Only One Earth, Care and Share
- 1993 - Poverty and the Environment - Breaking the Vicious Circle
- 1994 - One Earth One Family
- 1995 - We the Peoples: United for the Global Environment
- 1996 - Our Earth, Our Habitat, Our Home
- 1997 - For Life on Earth
- 1998 - For Life on Earth - Save Our Seas
- 1999 - Our Earth - Our Future: Just Save It!
- 2000 - The Environment Millennium: Time to Act
- 2001 - Connect with the World Wide Web of Life
- 2002 - Give Earth a Chance
- 2003 - Water: Two Billion People are Dying for It!
- 2004 - Wanted! Seas and Oceans: Dead or Alive?
- 2005 - Green Cities: Plan for the Planet!
- 2006 - Deserts and Desertification: Don't Desert Drylands!
- 2007 - Melting Ice – a Hot Topic?
- 2008 - Kick The Habit - Towards A Low Carbon Economy

For further information please visit: Website: www.unep.org/wed/2008

GURGAON: PLANNED GLOBAL CITY – A MYTH OR REALITY

On the occasion of the World Environment Day, Haryana Regional Chapter (HRC) organized one day workshop on 'Gurgaon: Planned Global City – A Myth or Reality'. In his welcome address Shri Sham Das Saini, Chairman, HRC, stated that Gurgaon - the show window of Haryana Government has been projected as a

global city and an example of planned development emerging out of public private partnership. It is characterized by beautifully designed high rise buildings exhibiting architectural marvels, yet the question being asked very often regarding compatibility between land uses, town density, physical and social infrastructure,



Present on the dias are Shri J.S. Redhu, Shri D.S. Meshram, Shri Sham Das Saini and Shri Vijay Kumar (left to right)

reliable and efficient transport system, etc.

Shri Raj Vir Singh, Chief Town Planner, HSIDC, while introducing the theme, noted that, Gurgaon recorded 68 percent growth rate during the year 1991-2001, with present population of 15 lakhs. In fact Gurgaon is part of Delhi Urban Agglomeration constituting Ghaziabad, Noida and Faridabad. Therefore, planning for Gurgaon can not be seen in isolation of Delhi. He has also brought into focus the aspect of ribbon development taking place between Gurgaon and Manesar, which is situated about 16 kms from Gurgaon and being developed as Model Industrial Township by the HSIDC on land admeasuring 5,000 hectare. Even though Gurgaon is a good example of public private partnership in real estate ventures, very often land purchased by colonizers is developed in a zigzag manner and invariably results in poor planning without proper and integrated road networks. Besides, the town is facing the deficiency in terms of external services such as water supply, sewerage, storm water and electric supply, etc. He has also advocated that Gurgaon must be planned, keeping in view its regional context.

Shri D.S. Meshram, Chairman, All India Board of Town and Country Planning, AICTE and the Chief Guest on this

occasion pointed out that the concept of global city can not be defined only on the basis of population or rapid rate of growth of population but various other aspects or indicators need to be taken into consideration like (a) city participation in international events and world affairs; (b) self recognition without reference to political sub-division; (c) major international airport that serve as an established hub for several international air lines; (d) an advanced transportation system that includes several freeways, large mass transit networks offering multiple modes of transportation; (e) several cultures and communities; (f) international financial institutions, law firms, corporate headquarters, stock exchanges that have influence over the world economy; (g) an advanced communication infrastructure; (h) world renowned cultural institutions such as museums and universities; and (i) several powerful and influential media outlets, besides strong sporting community, including major sports facilities. He also pointed out that Globalization and World Cities Study Group and Network (GaWC) in 1999 attempted to categorize the world cities and ranked them based on provision of 'advanced producer services'. However, the ranking is based on the selected indicators like population of the city; population of metropolitan area, percent of foreign born expatriates;

cost of living; metro rail systems by annual passenger air traffic in a single airport; number of billionaires in terms of US dollar, and gross metropolitan product. Mumbai and Delhi ranks first and third only in terms of population and stands nowhere in terms of other indicators. He therefore urged the planners to use the terminology – Global City or World City more cautiously.

The private sector participation was one of the notable features of the workshop as DLF, Ansals API and EMMAAR MGF Ltd. made presentations in the workshop.

The workshop was organized into technical sessions. The first session was chaired by Shri Sanjay Verma while second session was chaired by Shri R.C. Aggarwal. After detailed discussions and deliberations, the following recommendations emerged:

- Gurgaon is yet to near the status of Global City and it has to strive hard to reach a level where it can have a national and international dominance. This calls for an all round development in the physical and social infrastructure;
- Linkages by roads from Gurgaon to Delhi are limited and there is heavy load of traffic on NH-8, which is likely to increase rapidly due to the numerous SEZs coming up within Gurgaon and its adjoining areas stretching as far as Pataudi and Jhajjar. Therefore, there is a need to implement the linkages purposed in the Gurgaon – Manesar Urban Complex Plan and also to explore the possibility of providing additional linkages which are very essential as the existing and proposed linkages can not meet the requirement of additional traffic load;
- Gurgaon is characterized by leapfrog urban development and urban sprawl in which non-compatible land uses exist side by side. This is also resulting in

uneconomic urban development and unsystematic pattern of road networks. Therefore, while granting licenses under Haryana Act No. 8 of 1975, it should be ensured that the proposed colony is situated in continuity with the development area and is in a regular shape as far as possible;

- Very often, the provision of essential services such as road, water supply, sewerage, electricity and storm water is held up due to the stay orders granted by honorable courts. Therefore, HUDA should acquire land for these essential services under the urgency provisions of the Land Acquisition Act, and must not club the same with land acquisition for residential and other sectors;
- Natural flow of storm water from Gurgaon is through various creeks, the natural flow of water has been restrained without keeping any local ecological conditions in mind. This calls for maintaining natural slope of land and eco-system;
- Gurgaon Development Plan area has to be extended to include the industrial development coming up at Manesar. There was a proposal of SEZ zone within the Gurgaon Development Plan, which are stretching upto Pataudi and Jhajjar. Therefore, the whole urban agglomeration of Gurgaon with its extensions in Manesar, Pataudi and Jhajjar will surpass the existing urbanized area of Delhi. Therefore, the Development Plan of Gurgaon – Manesar Urban Complex needs to be revisited and augmented to take up the additional load of development, which is likely to come near the planned area and also to ensure additional linkages to Delhi;
- Participants felt that the Government should come up with Urbanization Policy for Haryana, which should also include the component of SEZs as at present

there is no policy to integrate and regulate the same. This is resulting in an imbalanced Regional Development apart from scattered uneconomical urban development;

- The town centre of Gurgaon in Sector 29, is yet to be developed to cater to approximately 15 lakh population. Town level economic activities are being disbursed from the Gurgaon – Mehrauli Road and in many of the commercial centers of residential colonies for which licenses have been granted under Haryana Act No. 8 of 1975. This is resulting in strain on the infrastructure wherever town level commercial activities are provided. Therefore, there is a need to reconsider the policy regarding provision of enormous commercial activities in the residential sectors and also to ensure that the town centre of Gurgaon is developed without any further delay as adverse fall out of utilizing commercial land is being felt by the residents of various sectors;

- There is an urgent need to impose a condition on the licensees of Group Housing Colonies making it compulsory for them to recycle at least 50 percent of the water which may be used for green and open spaces, etc;
- Execution of the NCR Canal Scheme needs to be taken up on priority to match the demand and supply of water;
- Environment Management Plan (EMP) for Gurgaon-Manesar Urban Complex as approved by the Government should be effectively implemented and monitored so as to ensure sustainability of this urban complex;
- Mass Rapid Transport System or MRTS with Inter-modal traffic integration needs to be put in place on priority; and
- Quantity and quality of social and physical infrastructure falls far below the expectations of a 'Global City', which is required to be augmented.

A vote of thanks was extended by Shri Vijay Kumar, Secretary, HRC.

PARKING POLICY FOR JAIPUR

Rajasthan Regional Chapter celebrated the World Environment Day on 28th June, 2008 by organizing a workshop on 'Parking Policy for Jaipur'.

Shri Praveen Jain, Technical PA to the Chief Town Planner Rajasthan, while introducing the subject, stated that in the present scenario there are 4 cars per thousand people in India, while in Pakistan it is 6 and in China the number is 3 (China relies more on cycles). In spite of this situation, there is traffic congestion and traffic bottlenecks in all our major cities, which definitely warrant revisiting our norms and standards because of ever increasing number of vehicles, otherwise, the situation would assume alarming proportions. In fact our norms are very generalized i.e. prescribe ECS for commercial, educational and

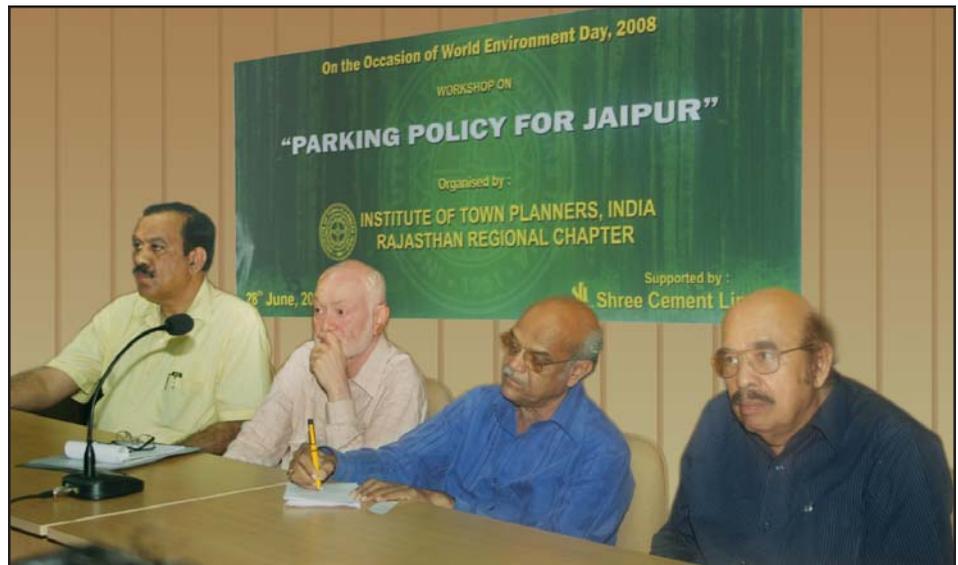
residential purposes, while parking requirements for commercial activities differ for Malls, CBDs, trade and commerce, retail and wholesale markets, etc. He therefore requested the planners' community to accord priority to the preparation of Traffic and Transportation Plan in conformity with the Land Use Plan. He also emphasized that we should accord priority to pedestrians by providing footpaths and not to consider major projects generating major parking requirements unless these are backed by Traffic Impact Assessment, which in fact should be made mandatory. The BRTS which is under construction in Jaipur needs to be completed in a time bound manner.

Shri Pradeep Kapoor made the video presentation highlighting the Traffic

and Transportation problems of Jaipur, specifically extent of mixed traffic in front of Jaipur Railway Station. About 30 to 40 percent of the width of road is used for parking purposes reducing the effective width of road, creating traffic jams and bottlenecks. This, he argued, is caused due to the poor enforcement mechanisms and strongly recommended to adopt the Traffic and Transportation Policy for Jaipur. City does not have an organized parking places for private buses coming to capital city from different parts of the state. There are no terminals for the City Bus Service at terminal nodes and are parked on roads. For auto rickshaws and metered taxis there is no provision of parking in any part of the city. All these issues need to be addressed on priority, he contended.

Shri B.L. Mehra, former Chief Town Planner JDA, stated that all these problems are arising because of non-implementation and deviations from the Master Plan proposals due to frequent changes in land uses. Prof. Rajwansi advocated involvement of private sector for solving the parking problems of Jaipur.

Shri D.S. Meshram, Immediate Past President of the ITPI, who was Chief Guest for this Workshop, highlighted the importance of the workshop and noted that every year the World Environment Day (WED) is celebrated since 1972 to stimulate the awareness of human environment. New Zealand is the host for WED – 2008, with the slogan – ‘CO2, Kick the Habit! Towards a Low Carbon Economy’. In fact New Zealand was one of the first countries to pledge to achieve carbon neutrality. Pointing out the importance of the workshop theme ‘Parking Policy for Jaipur’ on the occasion of WED – 2008, Shri Meshram stated that the emission of carbon by transport sector is more than the industrial sector and therefore, appropriate steps are required to be taken to reduce the carbon emissions by reducing halting



Present on the dias are Shri Pradeep Kapoor, Shri H.C. Mahagaonkar, Shri D.S. Meshram, and Shri R.K. Sharma (left to right)

time at traffic signals and encouraging the vehicles not to keep standing on the roads in working mode and asking them to park their vehicles in parking lots by providing adequate parking lots at appropriate locations. Staggering of office and working hours would also provide some relief to traffic congestion, thereby reducing carbon emissions. On the issue of BRTS, he was of the opinion that we should consider positive and negative aspects of the BRTS, which came in the limelight during implementation of the BRTS project at Delhi.

Shri Mahagonkar, Chief Town Planner, JDA and Chairman of RRC while concluding the workshop stated that it is encouraging to note that Honorable Chief Minister of Rajasthan has announced in her budget speech ‘Parking Policy for Jaipur’ to be prepared on priority. Shri Mahagonkar also stated that the suggestions received from members would receive utmost attention and also invited further comments and suggestions in writing so that the same could be adequately addressed.

ITPI ACTIVITIES: 2007 – 2008

Article 3 of Memorandum of Articles of Association and Bylaws of Institute of Town Planners, India provides the basic objectives of the ITPI. To achieve these objectives, action taken during 2007 – 2008 is given below:

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

- Assisted the All India Council of Technical Education for preparing ‘Model Curriculum for Undergraduate Programme in Town and Country Planning’
- For Associateship Examination of the ITPI, held during the month

of May 2007, a total of 126 students appeared: 36 in Stage – I, 89 in Stage – II, and 11 in Stage – III. During the examination held in the month of October 2007, a total of 79 students appeared: 35 in Stage – I, 36 in Stage – II, and 8 in Stage - III.

- Number of students applied for the Associateship Examination of the ITPI in the year 2007 was 85.
- Professor V.N. Prasad Best Thesis Award (Gold Medal) for the year 2007-2008 was given away to Ms. Anu Punj, of School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi for her thesis on ‘Housing Strategy for

Urban Extension Areas of New Delhi'.

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

- In the meeting convened by Secretary (UD), Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India it was impressed to employ qualified town planners and to develop cadre of town planners. The Secretary (UD) agreed for active involvement of town planners during preparation of Revised CDP under JNNURM; and to issue advisory to the states to amend the Recruitment Rules for town planners and also create Municipal Cadre of Town Planners.
- The recommendations of Planners Pay Committee setup by ITPI for suggesting improved pay scales for town planners was submitted to the Sixth Central Pay Commission of Government of India for consideration.
- During this year 94 planners joined as Associate Members of the ITPI.

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

- The 56th National Town and Country Planners' Congress was organized from 20th – 22nd December, 2007 at the Science City Auditorium, Kolkata, on the theme 'Planning and Development of Peri-Urban Areas' with a focus on the sub-themes: 'Planning and Development Policies'; 'Implications of Peri-urban Developments'; 'Financing and Management of Infrastructure'; and 'Integrating Needs of Urban Poor in the Development Processes' as the local theme. The Congress was sponsored by the Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India and organized in

collaboration with Municipal Affairs and Urban Development Department, Government of West Bengal.

The Congress was inaugurated by Shri Asok Bhattacharya, Honorable Minister-in-Charge, Municipal Affairs Department and Urban Development Department, Government of West Bengal. While the exhibition on the theme 'Provision of Infrastructure in Urban Areas including Peri-Urban Area' was inaugurated by Shri Bikas Ranjan Bhattacharya, Hon'ble Mayor of Kolkata Municipal Corporation. The Valedictory Address was delivered by Shri Asok Bhattacharya, Honorable Minister for Housing and Public Health Engineering, Government of West Bengal.

- West Zone Conference was held during 17th – 18th November, 2007 at Maharashtra Regional Chapter (Mumbai) on the theme 'Impact of Liberalization on Urban Development', which was inaugurated by Shri Rajesh Tope, Honorable Minister of State for Urban Development, Government of Maharashtra.
- The East Zone Conference was organized in Guwahati on 23rd February, 2008 at Hotel Nakshatra, Guwahati on the theme 'Emerging Challenges in Urban Planning: Issues in Master Plan Implementation'. The Conference was inaugurated by Mrs. Dolly Bora, Mayor Guwahati Municipal Corporation, Assam.
- The NOSPLAN organized by the CEPT University, Ahmedabad during 26th – 29th February, 2008 was sponsored by ITPI.
- Ms. Christine Platt, President, Commonwealth Association of Planners, visited Institute of Town Planner, India on 9th October, 2007 on this occasion a discussion on 'Emerging Role of Planners in Development of Urban Areas' was

organized by Delhi Regional Chapter of the ITPI.

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

- Construction of Tamilnadu Regional Chapter (TNRC) building at Chennai is in progress.
- Chapter building of Haryana Regional Chapter at Panchkula has been made operational.

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

- During the year 2007-2008, four volumes of the ITPI Journal were published. A special volume of the technical papers (comprising 57 papers) on the occasion of the 56th National Town and Country Planners Congress along with a colorful Souvenir were published.
- Four issues of Planners Newsletter were also published.

APPOINTMENTS: DIRECTOR AND RESEARCH FELLOW IN PLANNING

Institute of Town Planners, India the apex body of professional Town and Country Planners desires to fill up the following positions.

1. Director (CRDT) in Planning: A candidate with 20 years of professional experience at a senior level will be appointed on a consolidated salary (which is negotiable).
2. Research Fellow in Planning: A graduate or postgraduate in planning will be appointed on a consolidated salary (which is negotiable).

Interested persons need to apply to the Secretary General, ITPI, 4-A, Ring Road, I.P. Estate, New Delhi – 110 002 along with their CVs by **14th August, 2008**.

Secretary General, ITPI

**ENTRY LEVEL QUALIFICATIONS FOR TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING EDUCATION
(INCLUDING ASSOCIATESHIP EXAMINATION OF THE ITPI)**

Town and Country Planning is a multi - dimensional and multi - disciplinary profession that deals with planning and development of spaces, encompassing all walks of life for better environment with improved quality of life in the context of urban, rural and regional planning and development. That is the reason why in early stages the philosophies of thinkers of various schools of thoughts were embedded in town and country planning education like Ebenezer Howard, Patrick Geddes, Abercrombie, Doxiadis, etc. Their thinking influenced not only the planning processes but left imprints on the town and country planning profession as well as education forever.

It is a fact that town and country planning education is relatively of recent origin and therefore has been undergoing vast changes to keep pace with the present day life conditions. The techniques and technologies not only for plan making but also for plan implementation and enforcement are undergoing sea change. Environmental, legal, administrative and financial issues have further raised the aspirations among the people for better quality of life, besides improved communications, marketing strategies, and fast track disposal systems, also embracing the disciplines of statistics, mathematics, remote sensing, telecommunication, infrastructure development and management, GIS and GPS, computer software, real estate development and management, etc; to keep pace with the latest developments in the planning field. There is no need to emphasize that all these disciplines influence planning and development of land to a greater extent, which makes role of the planner more challenging who is expected to understand all the intricacies that influence planning and development of land requiring comprehension of the minutest details in planning, development and disposal of land so as to provide complete solutions.

Keeping in view the market orientated pursuits, local requirements and ever increasing demand of communities towards better quality of life, it is essential that graduates in planning schools are trained in such a manner that they are able to match the requirements of the profession and do justice to organizations and departments in which they are likely to work in future. It is the fact that, since inception the town and country planning education was dominated by Architects and Engineers, because town and country planning education in India was imparted at post-graduate level to the graduates in architecture, civil engineering or to post-graduates in geography, sociology and economics.

Due to the opening up of the Indian economy and liberalization of industrial policies and increasing influence of globalization besides emergence of the innovative techniques and technologies in planning, development and management, apart from the increased use of computer and information technologies, recent initiatives of the Government of India such as the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme of Small and Medium Towns, Provision of Urban Infrastructure in Rural Areas, backed by private sector participation in urban development in terms of large projects like IT Parks, Knowledge Cities, SEZs, etc; the situation merits exploring widening of the canvas for entry level qualifications for admission to postgraduate degrees programs in town and country planning.

Therefore there is an urgent need to study, investigate and suggest required changes in town planning education to suit local, regional and state needs. Accordingly, the ITPI has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Najamuddin, Prof. Emeritus, I. I. T Roorkee to give suggestions and make recommendations for entry level qualifications for Postgraduate and Undergraduate Programs in Town and Country Planning.

We request all the members of the ITPI to suggest entry level qualifications along with full justification for admission to postgraduate and undergraduate programs in town and country planning. You may send in your responses to the Secretary General, ITPI, 4-A, Ring Road, I.P. Estate, New Delhi – 110 002 or Fax on 011-23702453 or on Email: itpidel@nda.vsnl.net.in

S.S. Mathur
Secretary General, ITPI

Director, Schools of Planning and Architecture (SPAs)

Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India invites applications from suitable candidates for appointments to the Post of Director in the Schools of Planning and Architecture (SPAs) in each at Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh; and Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh; in the pay scale of 18,400 – 500 – 22,400 plus other allowances.

For further information please contact
Shri Harvinder Singh, Deputy Secretary
Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India
Phone : 011-23382604. Telefax: 011-23070177

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOPS AND CONGRESSES

World Cities Summit 2008 on 'Livable and Vibrant Cities'

World Cities Summit 2008 is organizing three days conference on 'Livable and Vibrant Cities' from 23rd – 25th June, 2008 at Singapore.

By 2008, more than half of the world's population will live in cities. Urbanisation, if managed well, offers significant potential for increased productivity and economic growth. However, the environmental consequences and impact on quality of life cannot be ignored. Good leadership, careful planning and effective implementation are critical success factors for sustainable development of cities around the world. Livable cities that offer a good quality of life attract internationally mobile capital and talent, which contribute to economic competitiveness and cultural dynamism.

How should we address the challenges of a rapidly urbanizing landscape? What are the strategies to balance economic progress and livability of cities? How can cities develop both the "hardware" and "software" to succeed? World Cities Summit 2008 will offer practical insights into these important issues.

The conference will be held at the same time as the Singapore International Water Week 2008, a leading event on policies and applications of water innovation and technologies, under the theme "Sustainable Water Solutions for Cities".

World Cities Summit 2008 is organized by the Singapore Civil Service College and Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy. The event will be supported by leading international organizations and associations. The strategic partners include the World Bank and United Nations Development Programme. Besides, the Asian Development Bank, United Nations Environment Programme, UN-HABITAT, United Cities and local Governments, Urban Land Institute and Fundacion Metropoli have also been invited.

For further information please contact

Phone : +65 6542 8660 (ext 168)

Email : info@worldcities.com.sg

Website: www.worldcities.com.sg

2008 IPHS Conference on Public versus Private Planning: Trends and Tensions

The 2008 IPHS conference coincides with commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the creation of the Burnham and Bennett Plan of Chicago, one of the major landmarks in modern planning history. This was a privately produced plan ultimately adopted as public policy. The interplay between the private interests of business, individuals and non-governmental organizations versus the more public interests of the state evident in the Plan of Chicago has been an enduring theme in the history of planning. The relationship has changed dramatically over time. In the pre-modern era, public planning affected only a fraction of the built environment. The 20th century saw a vast expansion in the practice of public planning in almost all democratic societies. There has latterly been a major reaction against purely public planning and a rehabilitation of the idea of more private planning, often in the form of privatization, expanded use of market mechanisms, and public-private partnerships. The 2008 IPHS conference to be held between 10th – 13th July, 2008 will seek to shed light on this creative tension within planning history.

The sub-themes of the conference would cover issues like:

- Studies of iconic private and public plans;
- Conflict and complementarity in private and public planning;
- constructing meanings of public and private;
- Locating power and decision-making;
- The role of individuals and institutions;

- The outcomes of various kinds of planning models;
- Revisionist and alternative planning histories;
- Commodification of planning; and
- Private interests and the public realm.

For further information please contact:

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331 Architecture Building

PO Box 115701

Gainesville, FL 32611 USA

Phone : 352-392-4836

Fax : 352-392-7266

Email : iphs2008@dcp.ufl.edu

Ideopolis Conference 2008 on Successful Cities in a Changing Economy

How can cities strike the right balance in the knowledge economy? What does the future hold for cities?

Building on The Work Foundation's ground breaking research on the changing economy and its impact on cities, this conference will share the latest research on how different cities can thrive in the knowledge economy, bringing experts together to debate what the changing economy means for the future of cities.

The conference is scheduled to be held on 16th July, 2008 at Central London (Venue TBC) on the theme Successful cities in a changing economy will be invaluable for public and private sector with an interest in the economic development and regeneration of cities. As well as launching the most recent Ideopolis report on successful 'knowledge' cities, this conference will debate what the changing economy and, in particular, the knowledge economy means for British cities;

For further information please contact

Sarah Barnett

Phone : 020-7976-3596

Email: sbarnett@theworkfoundation.com

Third International Conference on Public Policy and Management

The Centre for Public Policy, Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore, India is organizing the Third International Conference on Public Policy and Management between 3rd – 6th August, 2008 at Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore on the theme Public Private Partnerships and Urban Governance.

Public policy has become an effective instrument of development and several initiatives have sprung up in its context like new public management, reinvention, PPP, E-governance, etc. PPP have gained currency in the context of the emerging economies failing to rise to the demands of infrastructure, which have grown enormously. Similarly, the growth of urban conglomeration has been phenomenal in these countries and different countries are coping with it having failed to anticipate it. It is time to take stock and look for underlying trends from different perspectives.

The conference will focus on the following themes:

- Origins and Trends in the use of PPP: Learning from Country Experiences;
- Issues in the Institutional Design of PPP: Lessons from Case Studies;
- Effective Governance of PPP: Negotiations, Contracts and Procurement; and
- Participatory Governance, Stakeholders and Empowerment: PPP as a Mechanism for Development

Rapid growth in urbanization witnessed in recent times in developing countries has thrown up enormous challenges in governance and efforts to cope with it by different countries have met with varying degrees of success. Urbanization has also attracted the academicians who have been focusing in the areas of Urban Governance and Institutional Reforms, Resources, appropriate Service Delivery systems, Accounting Reforms and E-

Governance, Migration, etc. There is now considerable experience gained in this field from practice to distill out learning's that emerge from these experiments. The sub-themes of the congress are:

- Governance and Institutional Reforms, Participation and Representation models, Constitutional and Legal issues, Organizational Networks and Reforms;
- Financial Resources trend, Municipal Borrowings, User Charges, and Ratings;
- Sectoral Reforms with reference to Mass Rapid and other Public Urban Transport, Utilities, Water, Health, Education, etc;
- Infrastructure management, financing options, PPPs, SPVs, etc.;
- Exploration of Technology and IT in improving service deliveries; and
- Sustainable urban development, characteristics, trends and problems of migration and migrant population, slums, etc.

For further information please contact:
Centre for Public Policy
Indian Institute of Management,
Bangalore, Bannerghatta road,
Bangalore, 560076
Phone :080 26993303
Email :rameshg@iimb.ernet.in

Workshop on Best Practices to Relieve Congestion on Mixed Traffic Urban Streets in Developing Countries

Transportation Engineering Division, Civil Engineering Department, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras is organizing International Workshop on 'Best Practices to Relieve Congestion on Mixed Traffic Urban Streets in Developing Countries (BPRCM-2008)' from 12th-14th September, 2008.

The problems associated with mixed traffic conditions on urban streets of developing countries are unique. Pedestrians, bicycles, buses, cars, motorcycles or scooters, auto

rickshaws, cycle rickshaws, and various other kinds of travel modes share the same street space creating inefficient mobility conditions that are robbing the economic potential of the cities in developing countries.

On mixed traffic urban streets, which are most common in typical cities of developing countries, more than 70 percent of person trips are made by walk, bicycle, and bus. In some cities, walk and bicycle, the two most sustainable urban transportation modes, account for over 40 percent of person trips on these streets. Preserving these modes and enhancing their use are essential to provide mobility to different income groups and to maintain healthy environment in urban areas of developing countries. However, no significant effort is made to improve the conditions, especially in terms of safety, comfort, and efficiency of these modes of travel. In fact, if the immediate problems pertaining to these modes are resolved, the proposed capital intensive long-term public transit projects such as Bus Rapid Transit, Light Rail, or Metro systems will become more efficient and functional, when the projects are completed, because these modes will serve as feeders and distributors to the transit projects.

This international workshop will serve as a platform to highlight the need for concerted effort by the developing countries in this direction and to discuss how to develop best solutions. The topics to be discussed in the workshop are pedestrians, bicycles, buses, auto rickshaws and cycle rickshaws (paratransit or intermediate public transport), motor cycles or scooters and cars under typical scenarios of developing countries.

For further information please contact:

Senior Fulbright Research Scholar
Transportation Engineering Division
Civil Engineering Department
Indian Institute of Technology, Madras
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Email: murthy.bondada@gmail.com

NATIONAL WORKSHOPS, CONGRESS AND TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Indian Building Congress on Environment Protection in the Building Industry

The Indian Buildings Congress was founded on 1st September 1992 and registered as a society on 29th March 1993 with its headquarters at New Delhi. The vision of the organization is a built environment, which is affordable, aesthetic, cost competitive, technology driven and capable of meeting the needs of the Indian masses.

Indian Buildings Congress will be holding seminar in November 2008 on the theme 'Environment Protection in the Building Industry'.

Areas of key concern for the protection and enhancement of environment include energy with associated greenhouse gas emissions, waste generation, use and recycling of construction materials, water management and waste water disposal as well as integration of buildings with related infrastructure and social systems. Overall, buildings consume about one-third of primary energy, two third of electricity generated, one-third of raw material inputs and a substantial percentage of freshwater resources. At the same time, buildings account for one-third of greenhouse gas emissions and material waste output. The building sector contributes upto 40 percent emissions, mostly from energy use during the lifetime of buildings. Identifying areas to reduce these emissions has assumed significant priority in the global effort to reduce climate change. The proposed seminar will provide a unique opportunity to all understanding the protection and enhancement measures required for environmentally sustainable built environment.

Many of the problems can be avoided or at least mitigated by foresight in planning and development of built environment. The sub-themes of the seminar are:

- Environment, health and safety issues;
- Environment impact assessment;
- Environment standardization and legislation;
- Land resource management;
- Water and waste management including recycling;
- Energy conservation; and
- Protection against natural hazards.

For further information please contact:

Indian Buildings Congress
Sector VI, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110022

Phone :011-26169531, 26170197

Fax :011-26196391

Email:info@indianbuildingscongress.com

Summer Training Programme for Planning Teachers

A one-week Summer Training Programme for Planning Teachers being organized by the Department of Architecture and Planning Vishweshwarayya National Institute of Technology (VNIT), Nagpur under the aegis of AICTE, on 14th – 19th July, 2008.

Exposure, awareness and sensitivity to the environment are the important attributes for a teacher, who has been entrusted with a very responsible job of transferring knowledge to the coming generations. Syllabi are designed to focus on theory in absolute terms, historically known to be constant over large stretches of time, irrespective and independent of the changes in technology or in the society itself with its socio-cultural or even political and economical environment. The field requires professionals who have an all round update on issues directly or indirectly related to the profession.

A Training Programme on "Emerging issues in Architecture and Planning" provides a platform for incorporating the latest developments in the field of Architecture and Planning which will have an impact on the planning and

design trends as also the built environment in the future.

The basic objectives of the training are:

- To initiate technical discussions and analysis of issues like Conservation of Heritage, Disaster Mitigation and Management, Green Architecture, Urban Land Management, Urban Planning and Design Trends and Technological Innovations.
- To examine the Planning and Design Process in the light of the changes in the context thus created.

For further information please contact

Prof. V.S. Kapse

HoD, Architecture and Planning, VNIT

Phone :0712-2801376, 9822204403

Email :kapse_vijay@hotmail.com

Urban Infrastructure Development: Issues and Challenges (NCUID-08)

M.V.S.R. Engineering College, Hyderabad is organizing National Conference on "Urban Infrastructure Development: Issues and Challenges (NCUID-08)" under the aegis of AICTE and ISTE on 18th – 19th, December, 2008 at M.V.S.R. Engineering College, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh.

The main objective of the conference is to provide an update in the field of Urban Infrastructure Development with a view to provide a platform for exchange of information on various identified themes of the Conference.

The conference theme among others cover the following topics:

- Urban Land use planning with Infrastructure development;
- GIS, GPS and GPR applications in Urban Infrastructure Planning;
- Traffic and Transportation Planning – Roads, Railways, Airways – Bridge engineering – Mass transport systems;
- Seismic design of structures;
- Infrastructure project management;

- Environmental Impact assessment of various development projects;
- Storm Water management;
- Water network Planning – Use and quality of water resources – Water Supply / Waste water disposal;
- Energy Management;

- Impact of Information technology on Urban Forms / Structures.

For further information please contact Convener, NCUID-08 MVSR Engineering College, Nadergul, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh-501510 Email :ncuid2008@gmail.com

where he influenced the career of many planning professionals.

Shri Govindan Nair was a person of great human values and he considered everyone working in the Directorate as his partner in work rather than the usual boss subordinate relationship. He was always ready to help the staff learn to become better planners. His contribution to planning education was also highly significant and during his time, the Directorate was manned by a large number of professional town planners.

His professional competence, his personal qualities, his suave manners and his diplomatic interaction with officers and staff, both inside and outside the Directorate, earned him a lot of personal respect and regards. His tenure in the state could be counted as the golden period of town and country planning in Tamil Nadu.

Shri Govindan Nair died on 7th May 1970, after a brief illness. He was 61.

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

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that were being carried out and this can be seen in the completed inner ring road, parts of which were provided in the K.K. Nagar and Anna Nagar neighborhoods. During his period, draft Master Plans were prepared for Chennai, Coimbatore and Trichy. The Master Plan report prepared for Chennai became the basis for the final Master Plan that was approved in 1971. Another important work that was carried out under his guidance was the revision of the Madras Town and Country Planning Act, 1920. The Town Planning Act, 1971 is a result of his commitment to carry forward the recommendations made by the Town Planning Enquiry Committee in 1948. He was also instrumental in initiating a comprehensive traffic and transport study for Madras.

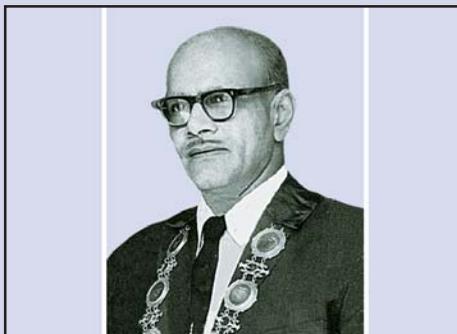
After a long and illustrious career, Shri Govindan Nair retired as Joint Director of Town and Country Planning in 1966. It was generally felt that he in spite of all his contributions to the town and country planning in the State was not given his official status in the hierarchy of the government set up. However, this did not deter him from carrying out what he considered his duty to town planning and welfare of the people of the State. When he came in, he was practically a lone planner and when he retired from the Directorate, he had left a large body of planning professionals to carry on this work.

After retirement, Shri Govindan Nair was active in many spheres. He was a Visiting Professor in the School of Planning and Architecture, Chennai,

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KNOW YOUR FORMER PRESIDENTS



SHRI C. GOVINDAN NAIR

Shri C. Govindan Nair was an eminent engineer and planner of pre and post independent India. He was one of the early members of the Institute of Town Planners, India (ITPI), as also a member of the Institute of Town Planners, U.K. His commitment to the promotion of professional values in Madras was so strong that the ITPI organized, at his initiative, its tenth Annual Town Planning Seminar (1961-1962) at Madras. As a follow up of the Seminar, the first Regional Chapter of the Institute was set up in Madras. Later, he was honored by the Institute by electing him its Vice President for 1962-63 and President for 1963-64. During his tenure as President, the Twelfth Annual Town Planning Seminar was held in Guwahati in October, 1963. The theme of the Seminar was 'Town Planning and Housing in relation to National Emergency and Defence Needs'. In his message, the Prime Minister of India, Jawahar Lal Nehru expressed the hope that deliberations would help the planners find expeditious and economic solutions to problems relating to planning of cantonments and air ports, design and alignment of border roads, and also planning of urban settlements to meet defense needs.

In his presidential address, Shri Govindan Nair observed that the Institute of Town Planners, India, as the highest professional body in physical planning in the country is committed to the progress of town

planning profession in the country so that it could serve the nation in better way. Referring to the national emergency, Shri Nair said that town and country planning had a very vital and substantial contribution to make in achieving a full measure of defense security for the country; ways and means have to be found out, not merely as temporary expedients but also as long range measures of planning so that in the event of any kind of enemy action, towns and cities could be so organized and planned so as to safeguard to the maximum possible extent to ravages that might be caused. The President made a fervent plea for a close liaison between the defense and civilian sectors during the war as well as in peace time. The Seminar, in addition to the regular participants, was also attended by the military engineers, a team from the Ministry of Defence and other military officers.

Shri C. Govindan Nair was born on 12th May 1909. His father was an engineer with the then State Government of Travancore. Shri Govindan Nair had his schooling in Trivandrum Government Model School and had his intermediate education in the Government Maharaja College of Science, Trivandrum. Subsequently, he went to Madras (now Chennai) to take his engineering studies. After qualifying in Civil Engineering, Shri Govindan Nair worked with the Public Works Department of the erstwhile Travancore State. His interest in Town and Country Planning took him to Edinburgh UK from where he obtained his professional qualifications in Town Planning. He returned to India and joined the Directorate of Town Planning, Madras, as a Junior Town Planning Expert, around the time India became independent. At this time, Madras Presidency covered parts of

Andhra Pradesh in Rayalaseema and Circars, parts of Kerala in Malabar and parts of Karnataka in South Kanara and the whole state of Madras (now Tamil Nadu).

After the State Reorganization in 1956, Shri Govindan Nair became the Chief Town and Country Planner for the Tamil Nadu Government and was the key person in formulating policies and programmes in town and country planning sectors in the State. One of the first steps taken by him was to formulate a scheme for assistance in the preparation of detailed Town Planning Schemes and Master Plans for Local Bodies under the Second Five Year Plan (1956-1961). When these proposals fructified, he was instrumental in assembling whatever human resources were available and harnessing these resources to meet the emergent planning needs. It was due to his efforts that a number of officers from Tamil Nadu were deputed to the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi and the Department of Architecture and Regional Planning, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur was established the nucleus for future expansion of the Town Planning Directorate. His contribution in planning and development, particularly for the city of Madras (Chennai) has been enormous. The development of Madras (Chennai) as an industrial and manufacturing center brought in the need to plan industrial estates, residential neighborhoods as well as numerous other planning projects. He designed the best traditional industrial estates of Gunidy, Ambattur and Manali and extremely livable residential neighborhoods at Ashok Nagar, Besant Nagar and in many other parts of the city.

His long range vision incorporated city development strategies in the projects

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