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57TH NATIONAL TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNERS CONGRESS: THE DISTRICT REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The 57th National Town and Country Planners' Congress was organized by the Institute of Town Planners, India from 23rd-25th January, 2009; at NIO Auditorium Dona Paula, Goa. The main theme of the Congress was 'The District Regional Development Plan' with a focus on the sub-themes: (i) Scope and Methodologies (ii) Convergence of Regional Development Plans and Governance (iii) Metropolitan Regions and Districts; and (iv) Peoples' Movement in Development Planning. The Congress was sponsored by the Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India and cosponsored by Government of

Goa and was organized in collaboration with Town and Country Planning Department, Government of Goa; North Goa Planning and Development Authority, Panaji, Goa; South Goa Planning and Development Authority, Margao, Goa; Mormugao Planning and Development Authority, Vasoc-da-Gama, besides Delhi Development Authority and EMAAR MGF Land Limited.

While inaugurating the Congress, His Excellency Dr. S.S. Sidhu, Governor of Goa stated that it is satisfying to note that the Institute of Town Planners, India, which made humble beginning

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as a small group of 15 town planners in 1951, has now become a well established and reputed Institution with over 3,000 members. The basic objective of this Institute is to promote greater awareness and understanding on the ever important subject of urban and regional planning and to foster development of town and country planning profession in a manner that it gets harmoniously integrated with our overall national development priorities and growth strategies.

The theme chosen for deliberations in this Congress 'The District Regional Development Plan' is of topical interest, considering our contemporary socio-economic realities and the prevailing legal provisions. The programme of the Congress is well structured with relevant sub-themes about Scope and Methodologies; Convergence of Regional Development Plans and Governance; Metropolitan Regions and Districts; and most importantly, People's Movement in Development



His Excellency Dr. S.S. Sidhu, Governor of Goa lighting the lamp during inaugural session of the NTCP Congress.



His Excellency Dr. S.S. Sidhu, Governor of Goa delivering the inaugural address.

Planning. Needless to say, all these issues are particularly important for country's long term progress and all round sustainable development.

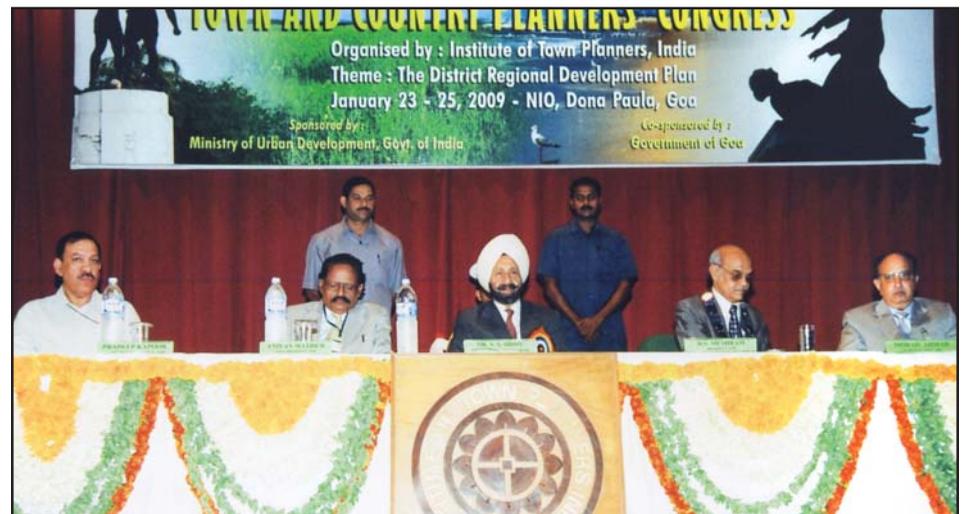
District, a basic unit of administration and governance, was primarily created to maintain law and order, to collect land revenues and for the development and maintenance of basic civic infrastructure and facilities. Post independence planned socio-economic development was targeted through five year plans, which led to the creation of district level *Zilla Parishads* for devolution of plan funds through districts. Today, we have about 630 districts in the country and the transformation of a district from a law and order, revenue collection and administrative unit to a largely planning and development entity is being crystallized by the prevailing mandatory constitutional provisions. The 74th Constitutional Amendment Act (CAA) provides for the creation of District Planning Committees (DPCs) for consolidation of plans prepared by *Nagar Panchayats* (Urban Local Bodies) and *Gram Panchayats* (Rural Local Bodies) in the district, so as to prepare the draft development plan for the district as a whole. I am told that some states have already embarked upon bringing this objective to fruition by preparing the district regional plans. Government of Goa has recently

brought out the draft Regional Plan - 2021, which is disaggregated into plans for Goa's two districts and further disaggregated into plans for Goa's eleven *talukas*, all at comparative spatial scales. These plans are further enlarged at uniform scales of maps for all the Municipalities and *Panchayats* and circulated for eliciting comments and suggestions from the public and enabling greater community participation before the two District Regional Plans get finally notified and legalized for the perspective year 2021.

In Goa a well meaning attempt is being made to achieve greater public participation in resource mapping as well as detailed planning at grassroots level with illustrative and user-friendly maps. Sincere efforts have been made to map all the conservable land resources and a category of eco-sensitive zones has been delineated in the draft Regional Plan, which are being treated as conservable land masses. The main thrust of the proposed Regional Plan-2021 is to create a more vibrant and prosperous Goa, so that all sections of Goan society, especially the young, feel confident, optimistic and enthusiastic about their future. The Regional Plan is a comprehensive plan, which seeks to foster greater economic prosperity in Goa in a manner

that protects, conserves and nourishes the fragile eco-systems like forests, slopes, mangroves, paddy fields and beaches. All these precious and irreplaceable treasures of Goa's natural heritage need to be protected zealously not just for today, but for our future generations. Undoubtedly, the success and inherent value of any regional plan hinges on stakeholders' involvement, community participation, a general bottom-up planning approach and a widespread public acceptance of the plan, its role, relevance, rationale and objectives. The essence of intelligent and constructive planning lies in a whole hearted support of the people by allowing them freedom to express their needs, aspirations, goals and choices. Since public participation is pivotal for progressive planning in a democratic system, any plan therefore, needs to revolve around the well and welfare of its major stakeholders – the people.

It should be the earnest endeavor of every professional in the realm of town and country planning to conceptualize and evolve processes and prepare regional development plans in a more transparent, inclusive and participative manner to help in strengthening the overall socio-economic development in the country. The experts and chief town planners gathered here would



Inaugural Session in progress. Present on the Dias are Shri Pradeep Kapoor, Secretary General; Shri Aniyam Mathew, Vice-President; His Excellency Dr. S.S. Sidhu, Governor of Goa; Shri D.S. Meshram, President; and Shri Morad Ahmad, Chairman GRC, ITPI (left to right).



His Excellency Dr. S.S. Sidhu, Governor of Goa releasing the Souvenir. Present on the Dias on his right are Shri Aniyam Mathew, Vice-President; and Shri Pradeep Kapoor, Secretary General; and on his left Shri D.S. Meshram, President, ITPI.

have brought with them the success stories of their states and their discussions, interactions and experience would greatly enrich the town planners of Goa with new ideas and innovative approaches.

I am happy to note that apart from assessments, deliberations and discourses on the current status of District Regional Planning and Metropolitan Regional Planning, you will also revisit other fundamental issues and concerns being faced by the town and country planners in our country including the issues of how far regional plans have been successful in addressing spatial and economic integration; to what extent sectoral priorities have been reflected in policy integration, who are the actual beneficiaries of regional planning and development, forms of conflicts that arise between various district planning committees and how to revolve and reduce such spatial conflicts. I am sure that during your discussions, analyses and debates, many more relevant issues will emerge, which would require effective and practical answers. I have no doubt that the experts, policy planners, researchers and educationists gathered here would discuss threadbare and cogently address all such critical issues in order to bring forth appropriate solutions.

Hon'ble Governor further mentioned that in depth deliberations in this Congress will open a new chapter in the history of this important institution of Town Planners and serve to enrich and invigorate the collective intellect of all the delegates towards furtherance of their profession and the national interest.

On this occasion a colorful souvenir was also released by His Excellency Dr. S.S. Sidhu, Governor of Goa.

Shri D.S. Meshram in his Presidential Address stated that organizing the National Town and Country Planners' Congress annually in different parts of the country on the subject of topical interest is one of the most important promotional activities of the Institute. The Congress in essence provides important forum for planners to promote understanding on the subject, and ensures continual debate on current issues facing the profession of town and country planning. This is the time when experiences gained by individual professionals and educationists are shared with a view to keeping planning practices and education revitalized with the latest theories, techniques and technologies.

On the theme of the Congress, Shri Meshram noted that it is well known

fact that the process of national development also involves regional development initiatives. However, far too long, according to the National Commission on Urbanization, regional development *per se* has not been the main consideration as regional development concept could not form an integral part of the national planning process. It is essential to consider regional spatial planning in relation to national planning, because without it, major socio-economic conflicts would remain unaddressed. This is more so in a vast and diverse country as ours where the states have their separate histories, cultures, traditions and languages. Spatial planning can make its greatest contribution at regional level because at this level national development policies can best be translated into spatial form and through the preparation of regional plans these could provide detailed framework for development. Once regional spatial plans are made an integral part of the national planning process, such bottom up approach in planning has much to contribute.

The importance of regional planning, Shri Meshram, stated was first stressed in India at government level by the 'Housing and Regional Planning Panel' (1955) of Planning Commission to achieve the objective of balanced regional development. But balanced regional development was pursued through financial and fiscal devices and not by spatial planning thereby ignoring the fact that regional activities compete in space and has dialectical relationship with space. Thus, in India regional planning efforts initially were of sporadic bouts and regional plans were prepared for formal regions such as coastal regions, resource regions, hilly areas, etc. However, planning in general, and district and regional planning in particular have been radically changed since the enactment of statutes, as all the state governments incorporated major provisions of the 73rd and 74th Constitution Amendment Acts, 1992.



Audience in the 57th National Town and Country Planners Congress

The 74th CAA particularly provided institutional framework in the form of District Planning Committees (DPCs) and Metropolitan Planning Committees (MPCs) for the preparation and implementation of district and metropolitan regional plans.

With reference to sub-theme on 'Scope and Methodologies', he stated that spatial development plans are embedded in a specific spatial context. The scope of District Development Plans (DDPs) could vary according to physical, economic, social and political factors. For example, scope of district development plan for a hilly area or a coastal zone would be distinct from each other as well as from the plans being prepared for plain areas. Similarly, the scope and contents of district development plan for a buoyant district would be different from that of an economically depressed district. Therefore, it is imperative that DDPs are seen in the appropriate context and accordingly methodology is evolved and followed.

On the sub-theme of 'Convergence of Regional Development Plans and Governance', he stated that convergence refers to the coming together of different elements that make up the system for achieving a particular purpose. Spatial integration is the concrete form of convergence and integration that is salient for regional planning practice. Each

decision being made by different institutions and stakeholders have multiple impacts on all other decisions being made by disparate institutions and stakeholders. Convergence of development plans prepared at various levels i.e. national, state, region, sub-region, district, block, village and urban areas is significant for spatial integration which has also been emphasized by the National Commission on Urbanization.

The sub-theme on 'Metropolitan Regions and Districts' is a concern, it needs no emphasis to state that metropolitan regions such as the Mumbai Metropolitan Region, Kolkata Metropolitan Region, etc; display unique physical, economic, social and political characteristics, and therefore require different institutional, financial and plan making arrangements. But there are other regions like the National Capital Region, which are carved out of a number of state territories. Whatever the case, metropolitan regions have very large geographical areas, numerous serving organizations and huge population, which throw up enormous challenges for planners and policy makers.

The local sub-theme of 'Peoples' Movement in Development Planning' is concerned, after the enactment of 73rd and 74th CAA, the process of decentralization and devolution of powers at the grassroots level was set in motion, specifically to devolve

planning functions to local bodies, which constitute the third tier of the government after the centre and state governments. Participation of the people ensures ownership of planning policies that is people begin to see planning policies as their own, making implementation a likely possibility. However, in the present planning practice, public participation is generally invited at the implementation stage but it is required that people should get involved not only at implementation stage but also at plan preparation and enforcement stages. Government and urban local bodies need to recognize the fact that in the public sphere there is sizeable number of knowledgeable individuals who are capable of determining their own development needs and giving practical and better solutions to the problems than what are emerging from the planners and politicians. Therefore, they are required to be invited to participate in the planning and development process. It is heartening to note that in this context the recent initiatives of Government of Goa for the preparation of the Draft Regional Plan for Goa, 2021 (RPG – 2021) through open and honest collaboration with the people of Goa, with their whole hearted support by allowing them to express their needs and aspirations is commendable. The main thrust of RPG – 2021 is to create more vibrant and prosperous Goa in the manner that does not endanger the fragile eco-systems that make Goa what it is (the forest, the mangroves, the paddy fields, beaches and villages). This process is expected to bring together a positive interaction between the people at the grassroots level, the municipal bodies and village *panchayats* at the local level, the DPC and the state at the highest level.

Before ending his speech Shri Meshram noted that the significance of regional planning as a link between macro and micro planning and to bring them together as a comprehensive system of planning is required to be better understood along with the needs of a



Prof. E.F.N. Riberio, Past President ITPI inaugurating the Exhibition. Present on his right are Shri S.T. Puttaraju and on his left Dr. A.K. Rege and Shri D.S. Meshram, President.

regional framework for an effective planning. As per 74th CAA, it is mandatory to constitute District Planning Committees (DPCs) for consolidating the plans prepared by the *Nagar Panchayats* (Urban Local Bodies) and *Gram Panchayats* (Rural Local Bodies) so as to evolve regional plan for the whole district. And if all such regional development plans are prepared for all the districts of the country, it will automatically evolve as a spatial development plan for the country as whole.

Shri Aniyam Mathew, Vice-President, read the messages received from the dignitaries during the inaugural session.

During the Congress an Exhibition on the theme 'Regional Planning Efforts in India' was also organized which was inaugurated by Prof. E.F.N. Ribeiro, Past President of the ITPI.

The Plenary session was chaired by Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI on the main theme 'The District Regional Development Plan' in which presentations were made by Prof. E.F.N. Ribeiro and Dr. A.N. Sachithanandan, while Dr. Sandeep Raut and Dr. Ashish Rege were the Rapporteurs.

Workshop – I on 'Scope and Methodologies' was chaired by Prof. E.F.N. Ribeiro, Past President ITPI and presentations were made by Shri B.C. Datta, Shri S.C. Mahegoankar, Shri J.K.

Gupta, Shri Easow Jacob and Ms. Shirley Ballaney. Shri S.B. Khodankar and Shri B.C. Fernandis were the Rapporteurs.

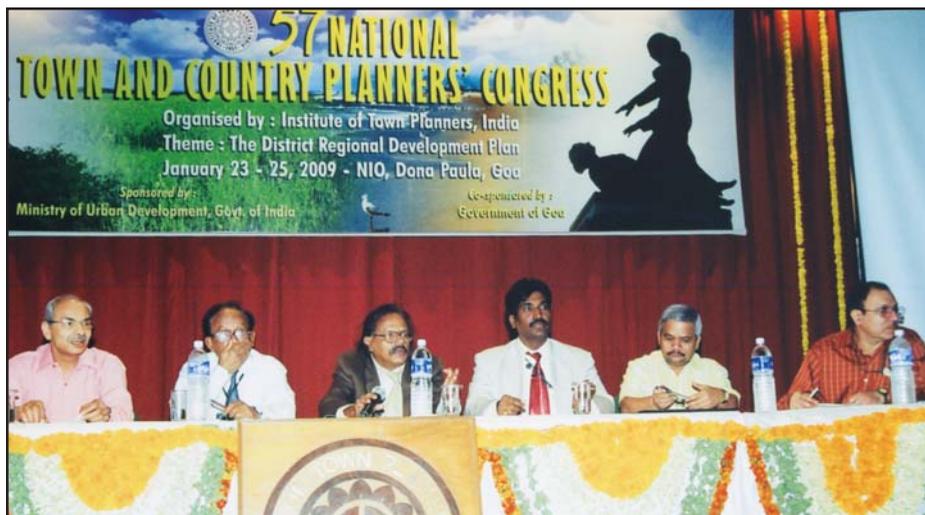
Shri S.K. Singh Joint Secretary (H), Ministry of Housing and Poverty Alleviation, Government of India was the chief guest in this Technical Session. In his address Shri Singh stated that the role of town and country planners in the preparation of regional plans and district plans is crucial, as it not only involves the socio-economic aspects but the spatial planning aspects as enshrined in the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act and both these aspects are required to be integrated

with each other. He further stated that National Urban Housing and Habitat Policy-2007, while describing development of sustainable habitat, underlined that development of sustainable habitat is closely related to the adoption of 'the Regional Planning Approach', while preparing master plans of town or cities, district plans and regional or sub-regional plans. It involves the maintenance of the ecological balance in terms of symbiotic perspective of rural and urban development. The policy specifically provides to prepare the master plans of metropolitan areas that are in consonance with the concerned district plans and state regional plans. He called upon the planners to identify city specific housing shortages and prepare city level urban housing and habitat action plans that are embedded in the District Regional Plans and further emphasized the need to ensure access for housing to economically weaker sections of the society.

Workshop-II on 'Convergence of Regional Development Plans and Governance' was chaired by Shri Aniyam Mathew, Vice-President, ITPI and presentations were made by Shri T.K. Mitra, Shri Bharat Bhushan, Shri S.T. Puttaraju, Shri M.D. Lele, and Shri D.C. Misra. Shri Sunil Mehra and Shri Vinod Kumar were the Rapporteurs



Workshop-I is in progress. Present on the dias are Shri B.C. Datta; Prof. E.F.N. Ribeiro, Past President ITPI (chairing the Session); Shri S.K. Singh, Jr. Secretary (H) Ministry of Urban Housing and Poverty Alleviation, Government of India (Chief Guest); Shri S.B. Khodankar (Rapporteur); and Shri Easow Jacob.



Workshop-II is in progress. Present on the dias are Shri Bharat Bhushan; Shri D.C. Misra; Shri Aniyam Mathew, Vice-President (chairing the Session); Shri S.T. Puttaraju; Shri M.D. Lele; and Shri Sunil Mehra (Rapporteur)

Workshop-III on 'Metropolitan Regions and Districts' was chaired by Shri V. Satyanarayan, Past President, ITPI and presentations were made by Shri J.B. Kshirsagar, Dr. S.P. Bansal, Shri Rajeev Malhotra, Ms. Uma Adusumilli, Prof. Sarup Singh, Shri V.K. Bugga and Dr. K.R. Tyooyavan. Shri Jibesh Paul and Shri James Mathew were the Rapporteurs.

Workshop-IV on 'People's Movement in Development Planning' was chaired by Dr. A.N. Sachithanandan, Past President, ITPI and presentations were made by Shri A.K. Jain, Shri M.L. Chotani, Shri Vinod Kumar, Shri Nitin Kunkolienkar (paper read by Shri Mangrinish Pai Raiker, Vice-President, Goa Chamber of Commerce and Industry), Prof. Alok Ranjan, and Dr. A.K. Rege. Shri P.K. Behra and Shri R.K. Pandita were the Rapporteurs.

These four technical sessions were followed by the Valedictory Function in which Shri Aniyam Mathew read the recommendations adopted by the Congress. While giving concluding remarks Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI noted that after two days of thread bare discussions these recommendations were adopted and if these recommendation are taken seriously by the concerned stakeholders, this event would have contributed in a big way not only in

the preparation of Regional Development Plans in the country but also in its implementation.

In his address Shri Arun Goel, Secretary Housing and Urban Development, Government of Punjab emphasized that the Town Planners have great role to play in building the nation for sustainable urban development keeping in view the ever changing socio-economic scenario of the country. Appreciating the presentations made by the Best Thesis award winner – young planners, he highlighted the approach and in depth study of their respective topics and stated that the future of the country with respect to town planning is in safe hands. He then highlighted the role of the ITPI in urban development and overall growth of the country and appreciated the contribution of the ITPI by conducting such research oriented seminars for sharing of ideas of different states and exchange of views of delegates. He also mentioned that the ITPI being premier organization must play the role of research institutions and also monitor the norm and standards in planning practice. He suggested that the role of town planners should be broadened and added that the enforcement should also be vested with the town planners for effective

implementation of the development plans. He also narrated the initiatives taken by Government of Punjab in the field of urban development and shared some policy issues of the Punjab Government to attract investments and FDI in the field of urban development. In identifying the importance of public participation as an important tool in the preparation of master plans and regional plans, he shared his experience of preparing the Master Plans of SAS Nagar, Multanpur and Ludhiana and also Regional Plan of GMADA region in Punjab.

While delivering Valedictory address Shri Filipe Neri Rodrigues, Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources and Forest, Government of Goa stated that after many years Goa was once again chosen to host the National Town and Country Planners' Congress which is at a most appropriate time because government is at the threshold of finalizing the Regional Plan of Goa. He also stated that through this Congress the people of Goa would get the collective wisdom and experience of Town and Country Planners from all over India.

He also mentioned that at this juncture of culmination of the Congress the learned Chairmen and experts and delegates must have considered all the relevant issues and aspects of the main theme and sub-themes and would not like to revisit all these issues again. However, the relevance of regional planning to Goa state is more important because it has the impact not only on development of Goa but on its natural scenery, forests, slopes, mangroves, paddy fields and beaches which are required to be preserved and conserved in a balanced and sustainable manner. At the same time, efforts are required to be made to make Goa a more vibrant and prosperous state of the country. In this direction, the Government of Goa has already taken the lead by initiating action for the preparation of Regional Plan as far back as 1986 when the first Regional Plan for Goa was prepared and of course, the recent exercise of RPG-



Shri Filipe Neri Rodrigues, Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources and Forest, Government of Goa awarding Prof. V.N. Prasad National Best Thesis Award to Shri Sandip Chakrabarti of IIT Kharagpur during Valedictory Session

2021. Government has already started the process of consulting the people of Goa on the Regional Plan - 2021, so as to bring in the aspirations of the people so as to what way they wanted to develop their own territory. Consultations at the grassroots level, in tune with 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments are in progress. Our Government is open to receiving the comments and suggestions from all stakeholders, specifically individuals at grass-roots level and evolve an appropriate plan, which is economically as well as ecologically and environmentally sustainable. Government will consider the suggestions, inputs and feedback received from the people of Goa, on the RPG-2021. The recommendations adopted by the Congress would also receive the due consideration of the Government, he assured.

While introducing the National Best Thesis Award popularly known as Prof. V.N. Prasad Best Thesis Award, Shri Pradeep Kapoor, Secretary General stated that the award comprises of a citation and cash prize of Rs.5,000 along with the gold medal. This award was introduced in 1990 for encouraging competition among young planners. One thesis each from each specialization from all recognized

schools of planning by the ITPI getting highest marks is eligible contender for this Award. This year's Gold Medal was given to Shri Sandip Chakrabarti of IIT Kharagpur for the thesis 'Behavioral Analysis of Automobile Parking Demand and Planning for Off-street Parking Facilities'. The commendation certificates were awarded to Ms. Deepthi Suri from SAP, Hyderabad for the thesis 'Identifying HUDA Master Plan Project Activities for Clean Development Mechanism' and to Shri Tanuj Kapur from SPA, New Delhi for the thesis 'Evaluation of BUDP and Slum Rehabilitation Approach in Mumbai'. Shri Sandip Chakrabarti and Shri Tanuj Kapur were given the opportunity to present their theses. Ms. Deepthi Suri could not attend the function due to her prior commitments.

The welcome address was given by Shri Pradeep Kapoor, Secretary General ITPI and vote of thanks was extended by Shri Morad Ahmad, Chairman, Goa Regional Chapter.

After two days of detail discussions and deliberations, the following recommendations were made by the Congress in Goa.

Workshop – I: Scope and Methodology

- District regional plans should reconcile and accommodate local needs by taking cognizance of the state visions and national priorities.
- District regional plans while addressing the short term issues should strive to identify resources through public-private modes to obtain long term objectives from within the region and outside, even from outside the country.
- Recognizing the role of politics and governance, it is recommended that selective choice options and mechanisms be provided within the district regional plans to develop a sense of commitment towards successful implementation of the plans.
- Recognizing the developmental pressures faced by rural areas

adjoining the urban settlements, it is imperative that the district regional development plans take adequate care to spell out strategies for these areas by extending services and utilities to reduce migration to urban areas.

- District Assessment and Development Strategies (DADS) based on detailed studies, critical analysis, and assessment of available resources coupled with analysis of the specific problems and potentials of the district should be used as methodology for preparing realistic District Regional Plans.
- District Regional Planning Methodologies must remove mismatch between the urban and rural settlements, sectoral and spatial planning, top down and bottom up approach in order to make District Regional Plans more effective and efficient.
- The essence of District Plan is to achieve a balanced development with adequate provision for infrastructure development in small and medium towns, and rural settlements.

Workshop – II: Convergence of Regional Development Plans and Governance

- All states should encourage delineation of important metropolitan regions and set up fast track approval mechanisms specifying roles and responsibilities of planning of the DPCs to initiate regional planning.
- Block level administrative systems should be strengthened to cover the requirements of the particular areas and feed such information to district plans.
- District Planning Committees should immediately be made operational and they should be encouraged to formulate specific time bound plans for removing regional disparities.

- Physical planning boundaries and administrative boundaries of the district have to be coterminous. Accordingly district boundaries of existing districts in the country are required to be rationalized in terms of size, physical features, population and environmental features (eco-system), etc.
 - While sectoral allocation flow from the central and state plans, the spatial location and distribution will become meaningful only if state urbanization and regional development policies are put in place. The state vision and district plans therefore should have mutual respect for forward and backward linkages.
 - Metropolitan Development Authorities should be made planning secretariat of MPCs along with their planning staff.
 - Mismatch between district as an administrative unit and district as a planning unit needs to be removed by addressing these issues on priority in order to optimize the benefits from the District Regional Planning.
 - When spatial planning has been emphasized in 74th CAA, it would be desirable if district planning is perceived as an essentially spatial planning exercise, focusing on the location of economic activities over space depending on the potential of urban and rural settlements.
 - District planning may not be confined to sectoral integration or sectoral priorities drawn up by the district authorities but sectoral priorities to be also translated in physical terms.
- Workshop – III: Metropolitan Regions and Districts**
- Transportation is the biggest driver of urban development. Synergy between land use and transportation, development of 'influence zone', highway 'corridor zone' through transit oriented guidelines with public interface, use of intelligent transport system policy to encourage multi model public transport and setting up of unified transport authority are key to integrated district regional plan.
 - For balanced development of regions, physical planning and economic planning needs to be integrated at all geographical scales.
 - The existing district town planning set up to act as a nodal agency for preparation of district plans with effective use of modern technologies. If not existing then it should be setup.
 - Planners should be supported with spatial information by the district informatics centers already established in the country.
 - Eco-sensitive areas and carrying capacity issues are equally important for providing employment opportunities and therefore ecological preservation needs to be brought on a temporal context.
 - District planning exercise will not be complete without assessing the potential of both urban and rural settlements, and based on the same it would be imperative to identify the hierarchy of settlements so as to plan for infrastructure and services as per the order of settlements such as Service Centre, Growth Point, Growth Centre (from village to district headquarters). It is natural that the functions of settlements in the district will vary as per population and area and also administrative functions.
 - District Town and Country Planning Office should be made responsible for the preparation of Draft District Plan and periodic revision and updating of the same. It shall also be responsible for the preparation of maps at district, block and panchayat level.
 - In order to make district plan operational, it is necessary to provide statutory backing by amending State Town and Country Planning Acts for the preparation of district plans and their implementation. Otherwise, the district plans must have statutory control on regulation of land uses at district level, conversion of agriculture land to urban use, unplanned location of economic activities, haphazard and unauthorized development which are quite common in peri-urban areas.
 - District plans can be further consolidated into a regional plan by combining number of district plans together taking into various factors like physical features, administrative convenience, economic activities and availability of resources which can ultimately be dovetailed to state level spatial plan.
 - The District and Metropolitan Regional Development Plans shall have all required technical inputs with objectives and targets in respect of water resource management and other environmental considerations with a balanced distribution of development projects.
 - Disaster management plans may be made part of District Development Plans.
 - The states should adopt a uniform system of plan formulation including the scale of maps for regional and district perspective plans, development plans and settlement plans.
 - District and Regional Plans should fix and establish nodes and hubs for economic development with growth targets, where detailed spatial planning and land use controls can be introduced for environmental management in advance.
 - District and Regional Plans shall clearly define the role of government sector, private sector

and communities for plan implementation.

- District and Regional Plan shall be prepared with due consideration to all ongoing centrally and state sponsored development schemes.
- Cities are significant to India's socio-economic development. They also provide exposure to diverse ideas and values. To support economic growth in the national capital region, integrated planning of transport infrastructure within MCD Delhi, Central NCR and the rest of the region is crucial.

Workshop – IV: Peoples' Movement in Development Planning

- Mechanisms of public participation should be made effective at every stage of plan preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation for which necessary provision needs to be made in the existing planning laws.
- Planning process to contain a holistic prospective taking into consideration the issues pertaining to local communities and eco-system.
- Public participation can be made very effective by involving the lowest planning units and communities in the region that is *gram sabha* representatives and making them aware of the planning provisions. Their feed back, observations and inputs should play very important role in framing the final proposals.
- While recognizing the strengths of participatory approach in planning and implementation, there is a need to accommodate projects of extra territorial nature.
- Regional plans should adopt participatory planning approaches from grassroots level. All local bodies should be equipped with town planners to assist the district planning bodies to prepare district

and regional plans through public participation.

- For inclusive plan development throughout India, there is a need to adopt integrated system for socio-economic investments and public participation as mandatory in planning practice. To have Vision Plan for States as a whole, broad regional perspective plan for the metropolitan districts and other district of the state; specific development plans for all settlements (municipal and *panchayat*) within the district; detail local area plan for each ward of the settlement should be prepared.
- People's participation should be ensured at every stage of plan preparation implementation monitory review and evaluation.
- State Town and Country Planning Acts should be amended to provide for public participation at various levels.
- District development planning processes should involve stakeholders consultation. The plans for *panchayat* and municipalities should be well publicized and adequate opportunities should be given to public by inviting objections and suggestions. After screening these views, the plans should be modified and amended in the interest of public. Any rejection of views of the public should be done in transparent manner.

General Recommendations

- Planning and Development in India needs to be pursued by giving adequate attention to environmental issues, otherwise it would exercise pressure on natural resources, besides creating negative impacts on the human habitats. The unplanned development projects are associated with the deep adverse impacts. Common issues are

extensive uses of ground water without recharging, blocking of water catchments areas, and lack of sewerage and solid wastes, inefficient power utilization, air and noise pollutions. Regional development plans prepared without examining the environmental issues and impacts of the development on the surrounding area fail to serve regional planning purpose.

- In the wake of global warming and increase in natural and man made disasters, it is environmentally sustainable development, which will play a critical role in averting major ecological crises.
- The Constitutional provisions under 73rd and 74th CAA provide for consolidation of proposals from the urban and rural local bodies. Accordingly required institutional mechanisms with necessary deployment of professional town and country planners are required to be set up.
- Urgent action should be taken to spell out the role of state town planning departments and role of metropolitan development authorities in each state so as to avoid duplication of efforts.
- State Town and Country Planning Departments should be strengthened to evolve urbanization policy on a continuous basis and also to appoint district town and country planning officers who can become part of the planning secretariat for each district.
- State Planning Commissions should have the core office of town and country planners, who should help to integrate various sectoral programmes outlined in the five year plans into spatial frames which could become the starting point for various district plans to prepare and spell out their priorities before the state plans are finalized.

- Role of town planners and spatial planning is most critical and must be recognized in preparing rational, realistic and implementable district regional development plans in order to launch India on the path of social, economic, and physical development.
- As settlements vary according to population and area, it is essential to evolve standards and norms for physical infrastructure and social amenities and based on these standards, planners can map requirements of both – urban and rural settlements.
- For district planning exercise the preparation of maps to an appropriate scale is essential. The base map may be overlaid with various thematic layers analyzing the existing situation and thereafter proposals can also be made for a given perspective period. Further, large scale maps can also be prepared at block level and *panchayat* level.
- The mapping at district, block and *panchayat* level is essential which will be used extensively for planning by locating activities, physical and social infrastructure, land uses, hazard and vulnerability, environmental conservation in terms of delineating environmentally sensitive zones, water and soil conservation zones, carrying capacity of the district and so on. The maps may be generated based on satellite images by using GIS. This enables generation of maps at periodic intervals which can analyze the changes in various parameters and accordingly the district authorities can prioritize development activities.
- For preparing district plan after consolidation of *panchayats* and municipalities, it should be made mandatory that these spatial plans are prepared by town and country planners. In the 1980s, National

Informatics Centre established District Informatics Centers (DIC) in every district of the country. The DIC was responsible for creating databases for each district which can be readily used for the preparation of district development plans. The DICs should be made friendlier in disseminating the data. Since, at the district level, there are no town planners in the existing district planning offices, it is essential to appoint town planners at district level.

- District planning as part of regional planning is taught in Schools of Planning both at undergraduate and postgraduate levels and thus Town and Country Planners are well equipped and trained to take up the preparation of District Development Plans. It would be

useful to include town and country planning professionals from schools of planning in the working groups and task forces so as to assimilate their inputs in the district planning exercises.

- Based on the experience gained from the Kollam Model of Development Plan, an exercise for designing a fast track district development plan along with its handbook, manuals, tool Kit, etc; may be prepared.
- Due to unprecedented migration to million plus cities these cities are likely to experience tremendous strain on urban infrastructure. Hence, it is natural that district planning should aim at reducing these pressures by speedily providing such infrastructure.

EXTRA ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF ITPI

The Extra Ordinary General Meeting of ITPI was organized on 23rd January, 2009 at 1700 hrs at NIO Auditorium, Dona Paula, Tiswadi, Goa; to discuss 'Basic Qualifications for Planning Education'. A background note for the meeting was circulated on 13th December, 2008.

At the outset Shri Pradeep Kapoor, Secretary General, ITPI readout the background note, after that Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI open up the discussions for the members to present their views.

In the discussions Prof. R.D. Singh; Shri K.M. Sadhanandh; Dr. A.N. Sachithanandan; Prof. Alok Ranjan; Shri R.K. Pandita; Shri M.D. Lele; Ms. Tenjenrenla Kechu; Shri S. Santhanam; Shri S.T. Puttaraju; Shri Samran Das; Shri N.K. Patel; Shri P.K. Krishnaje; Ms. Snehalata Peonekar; Shri A.K. Jain; Shri Deepak Khosala; Ms. Suneeta Aloni; Shri Manav Jain; Shri Morad Ahmad; Shri Pradeep Kapoor; Prof. Vijay Kapase; and Prof. V.S. Adane expressed their opinion on the

prevailing basic qualifications for post graduation in town and country planning, including Associateship Examination of ITPI; and were of the opinion that before making eligible other qualifications for post graduation in town and country planning, the issue be deliberated threadbare in Regional Chapters / Zonal Conferences.

Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI, in his concluding remarks stated that ITPI has already requested all the Regional Chapters to discuss this issue and send their considered opinion to ITPI for consideration. He has also stated that this issue has been deliberated at West Zone Conference held on 3rd January, 2009 at MRC (Nagpur) and added that, it would further be deliberated at Zonal Conferences comprising of concerned Regional Chapter before submitting it to the General Meeting of ITPI for consideration, because this issue is not only crucial for the town and country planning education but also for profession.

ITPI ZONAL CONFERENCES

North Zone Conference at Lucknow

Uttar Pradesh Regional Chapter, (Lucknow) would be organizing the North Zone Conference on 22nd February, 2009 on the theme 'Basic Qualifications for Planning Education in India' to deliberate on the issue of basic qualifications for post graduation in town and country planning. Members from Punjab; Haryana; Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir; and Uttrakhand Regional Chapters are invited to attend.

West Zone Conference at MRC, Nagpur

Maharashtra Regional Chapter (Nagpur) in collaboration with Department of Architecture and Planning, VNIT, Nagpur organized a Zonal Conference on 'Orientation of Planning Profession and Education for 21st Century' on 3rd January, 2009.

In his welcome address Shri Ashok Waghaye, Chairman, MRC (Nagpur) gave the background and specifically requested the delegates to deliberate on the entry level qualifications for postgraduation in Town and Country Planning for which Institute of Town Planners, India has requested all the Regional Chapters of the ITPI to organize such workshops so as to decide whether the canvas of basic qualifications for postgraduate education in town and country planning be widened or *status quo* be maintained.

In his inaugural address Dr. S.S. Gokhale, Director VNIT, Nagpur who was the chief guest stated that, there is lot of scope for the town and country planners, as the planning and development activities are likely to be increased many fold due to ever increasing urbanization.

Shri S.D. Langde, Director Town Planning and Valuation Department of

Government of Maharashtra who was the Guest of Honor, in his address stated that to meet the challenges of 21st century, town and country planning education needs to be reoriented, specifically with reference to addressing the impact of the large scale projects like SEZs, Knowledge Cities and Technology Parks besides the advancement of latest technologies. And further suggested to review the eligibility requirements for planning education, at post graduate level.

Shri D.S. Meshram, in his presidential address stated that town and country planning education is relatively of recent origin and therefore has been undergoing vast changes to keep pace with the present socio-economic 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. Therefore, the role of town planning profession assumes more importance. The disciplines like - information technology and management, statistics and demography, mathematics, remote sensing and GIS,

telecommunication, infrastructure development and management, real estate development and management influence planning and development of land to a great extent. Therefore, the role of planner becomes more challenging and the town planners are expected to understand all the intricacies that influence planning and development of land requiring minutest details in planning, development and disposals of land so as to provide complete solutions in planning and management. Planners, therefore are also required to be trained adequately in these fields so as to enable them to address the matters relating to spatial development of human settlements. Therefore, there is an urgent need to re-visit basic qualifications for post graduate education in town and country planning.

The inaugural session was followed by the Technical session, which was chaired by Dr. A.N. Sachithanandan, Past President, ITPI in which presentations were made by Prof. Utpal Sharma, CEPT Ahmedabad and Dr. Vrinda Joglekar, HoD, Statistics. The vote of thanks was extended by Prof. A.M. Deshmukh and Prof. V.S. Kapse, Secretary and Treasurer respectively of MPRC (Nagpur). Ms. C.S. Sabnani, Convener of the Workshop moderated the proceedings.



Dr. S.S. Gokhale, Director VNIT, Nagpur lighting the lamp during inauguration of the Workshop.

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOPS AND CONGRESSES

International Executive Workshop on Good Governance

Australian Habitat Studies (Aus-HS) and its regional counterpart Aus-Hs, India; are organizing International Executive Workshop on 'Good Governance' to be held in Thailand, Singapore and China from 4th-14th April, 2009. There will be two specific parts in this programme. Part 1: Classroom sessions and professional field visits; and Part 2: the Tour and Conclusion. The classroom and professional field visits will mainly cover Thailand and Singapore, and the tour component and conclusion will take place in China.

Aus-HS is an Australian training and capacity building entity that primarily deals in training, research and advisory services, a pioneer in the field of training and capacity building. The main objective of Aus-HS is to promote good governance and poverty alleviation. The focus of the programme will be on the following three modules:

- **Public Private Partnership and Financing of infrastructure:**
This module will include presentations on modalities of partnership between public and private sector in the context of developing countries and an examination of issues related to partnership and assessment of partnership options. This component of the program will also address the innovative methods of financing infrastructure, i.e. Property Tax, and Pricing and Cost Recovery. In the context of PPP and as case studies, elevated roads, metro and the sky train in Bangkok will be visited and studied.
- **Affordable Housing and Provision of Basic Services:**
This module will present the two case studies from Thailand in the Context of provision of affordable

housing and poverty alleviation; namely (i) Community Organization Development Institute (CODI) of Thailand will be presented in detail and its applicability to other countries in the developing world will be examined, and (ii) Government Housing Bank (GHB) of Thailand will be visited to discuss and review its remarkable achievements in helping poor and middle class citizens to gain access to affordable housing.

- **Leadership in Urban / Rural Management:**

Rapidly developing and industrializing countries of the world pose a challenge of their urban and rural managers to keep pace with provision of adequate public services. While lack of funds is often discussed as the main constraint for the poor state of public services, international experience suggests that more often than not, inadequate capacity to show leadership, mobilize resources, plan and implement effective projects are the main contributing factors.

This module provides exposure to participants to relevant good practices in Thailand, Singapore and China. This extensive exposure will broaden their vision, enhance their understanding and enable them to give an innovative touch to their policies and programs back home.

China Component: This is the tour component of the program. After a week of intensive presentations, exchange of information and field visits in Bangkok and Singapore, participants will proceed to Beijing, China to witness for themselves, China's remarkable achievement and progress in the recent past, especially in the fields of infrastructure and housing.

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45th ISOCARP Congress on 'Low Carbon Cities'

The ISOCARP 45th International Planning Congress is being organized from 18th-22nd October, 2009 in Porto, Portugal. It aims at promoting innovative planning practices and at fostering international co-operation towards 'Low Carbon Cities', which is the main theme of the Conference. The Conference will also raise issues like the reduction of carbon emissions and energy production and consumption generated by buildings and neighborhoods and how to make the best use of carbon trading schemes.

An exhibition space is provided as an important part of the Conference. It offers companies, institutions and municipalities an opportunity to present their products, technologies, services and strategies to a large audience of more than 300 leading international professionals and scientist; and more than 7000 staff and students of the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Porto.

The International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP) is a global association of experienced professional planners. The ISOCARP network consists of both individual and institutional members from more than 70 countries. ISOCARP is a non-governmental organization recognized by the UN, UNHCS and the Council of Europe and has a formal consultative status with UNESCO.

The 2009 Congress in Porto will focus upon the environmental effects of

man's activities, in the context of the world's expanding cities and city regions. It is those cities and agglomerations that are undoubtedly the source of a large share of the greenhouse gas emissions that underline climate change; at the same time, there are the places that are often the most vulnerable to its effects. Time is short and if we are to avoid the worst effects of anthropogenic climate change, we must act and act quickly. The challenge is to use (and reuse) our resources, including land, far more efficiently and, in particular, to move towards low carbon cities.

The Congress will focus upon the 'Environmental Effects of Man's Activities in the Context of the Worlds Expanding Cities and City Region'

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Geospatial Technology for Sustainable Planet Earth

GIS Development is organizing MAP World Forum, the second Global Conference on Geospatial Technologies and Applications from 10th-13th February, 2009 at Hyderabad International Conventional Centre, Hyderabad.

Founded In the year 2007, Map World Forum became one of the largest Global Conference and Exhibition on Geospatial information, Technology and Applications in Its year of inception.

"Geospatial Technologies for Sustainable Planet Earth" is the guiding theme for Map World Forum. As we all are aware that our planet is constantly facing pressure from various external and internal factors. Thus, there is an urgent need that the society at large

should function in a way to have better optimization of the available resources so that we can fulfill the needs and aspirations of future generation. Geospatial technologies, because of their geospatial information dependent nature, provide the only way to look at these issues from a holistic viewpoint.

Creating a 'Sustainable Planet Earth' is the only way out. There is an urgent need to safeguard our planet so that we are not held guilty by our future generations of not having responded to its calls of distress. They all have associated interlinked roots. Hence, we need to have a tool, which can associate and analyze them in a seamless manner. Today, there exists a notable lack of geographic data and literature on observed changes, with marked scarcity in developing countries. The need of the hour is to build an exhaustive geospatial database that is going to serve as an enabling platform for the various stakeholders of this community. The upcoming 'Map World Forum', would bring together

responsible stakeholders of this beautiful planet from diverse fields like environment, finance, management, technology and governance, to share and explore the need and utility of geospatial technologies to resolve the issues in a non-confrontationist form.

The Conference will focus on the theme:

- Geo Spatial Technologies and Sustainable Development
- Geo Spatial Technologies and Trends
- Geo Spatial for Public Sector
- Geo Spatial for sustainable Infrastructure Development

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NATIONAL WORKSHOPS AND CONGRESSES

Urban Infrastructure and Services: Planning and Implementation

AICTE Sponsored Winter School for Staff Development Programme on Urban Infrastructure and Services: Planning and Implementation (UIPI) during 5th-9th January, 2009 at Sardar Vallabhabhai National Institute of Technology (SVNIT) Surat, Gujarat.

The Sardar Vallabhabhai National Institute of Technology (SVNIT), Surat is one of the twenty National Institutes of Technology in India, set up with the objective to provide high quality technical education to meet the needs of the nation in the present competitive world.

Over the years, Civil Engineering Department has progressed at a rapid pace with development in both the

spheres of infrastructure facilities and academic programmes. The department offers Under Graduate course in Civil Engineering and Post Graduate programs in the following areas:

- Planning
- Environmental Engineering
- Water Recourses Engineering
- Transportation Engineering and Planning

The Postgraduate Section for M. Tech. (Planning) is in force since 1987. The section has produced many quality town planners serving the nation at various fronts.

It is said that by the turn of the present century India will be on top of the population table of the world. It is estimated that approximately 30% of the population will be living in the urban

area. The major problems of the urban areas are limiting resources. The Urban settlements are economic engines pulling manpower from various rural and sub-rural areas. In order to gain the maximum national productivity, they should be provided needed infrastructure in terms of basic services and amenities. Urban infrastructures are symbols of holistic urban development and a boon to quality of life.

The discussion shall be programmed on the following themes:

- Urban scenario and challenges
- Sustainable urban water planning
- Prediction of urban water demand and sewage system planning
- Urban solid waste management infrastructure
- Urban transportation network
- Urban infrastructure and QOL
- JNNURM - Government Policies for Infrastructure
- Economic analysis of urban infrastructure
- PPP in Urban Infrastructure Projects

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Environment Protection in Building Industry

The Indian Buildings Congress was founded on 1st September, 1992 with its headquarter 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.

In order to meet its objectives, the organization is striving continuously to bring all professionals connected with built environment on a single platform

so as to form collective opinion on subjects related to Building Industry and project the same for consideration of the Government.

Indian Buildings Congress will be holding its Mid Term Session and National Seminar on "Environment Protection In Building Industry" on 09th-10th January, 2009 at Nagpur.

Protecting and enhancing the environment in Building Industry present many challenges and require in-depth knowledge of building components and their vulnerability to contamination and also the environmental impact assessment procedures laid down by the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

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 up to 40% 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 stakeholders of the building construction and maintenance industry in 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. It is therefore proposed to hold deliberations on 'Environment Protection in Building Industry' under the following sub themes including their case studies.

- Environment, Health and Safety Issues
- Environmental Impact Assessment
- Environmental Standardization and legislation
- Land Resource Management
- Water and Waste Management including Recycling
- Energy Conservation
- Protection against Natural Hazards

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Editorial Board is happy to receive the appreciation, from the members of ITPI, regarding improvement in the quality of ITPI Journals and Newsletters. However, Board is desirous of further upgrading the quality of ITPI Journals and therefore request all the contributors of the papers to send their brief bio-data, giving professional achievements, their qualifications, etc, along with their latest photograph while sending their papers as a soft copy (Ms-Word) as well as hard copy and also email the paper to itpidel@nda.vsnl.net.in Diagrams and sketches should be neatly drawn, labeled, numbered and sent as soft as well as hard Copy.

Editor

OBITUARY



CHANDRA BALLABH

Shri Chandra Ballabh born on 24th April, 1942 was one of the senior member of Institute of Town Planners, India. He did his B.Arch. with 1st division from University of Roorkee in the year 1966, followed by P.G. Diploma (T&CP) from the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi in 1968.

He joined Delhi Development Authority as Junior Planner on 29th June, 1969 and promoted as Deputy Director (Planning) and Director (Planning). He was then promoted to the position of Additional Commissioner (Planning) in the year 1995 and was working on this position till he retired in 2002.

Shri Chandra Ballabh was the Fellow of ITPI since 1986 and was actively associated with the activities of ITPI. In fact he was associated with the ITPI in various capacities like Secretary General (during 1980-1982), Vice-President (2002), Chairman Headquarters Building Committee, etc. He was also the Chairman of Delhi Regional Chapter.

He had a long and variegated work experience over 32 years in the field of Town and Country Planning from preparation of zonal plans, detailed residential, industrial and commercial area schemes. He also contributed on policy matters, relating to regularization of unauthorized colonies, regularization of banquet halls, motels, etc. Besides technical and professional activities he was a keen sportsman and represented his Departments / University in various capacities.

Shri Chandra Ballabh expired on 11th January, 2009 at the age of 66. May his soul rest in peace and almighty grant strength to bereaved family to bear his loss.

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Education for the 20 - Point Programme' held in Delhi in 1983; and Development and Environment held in Mysore in 1984.

In his Presidential Address, he informed that most of the metropolitan development authorities in India have been established, more or less on the same broad objectives, that is, to plan, to co-ordinate and to develop in order to give proper direction, consistent with the long term perspective. However, with few exceptions, as he observed, they failed to ensure development. He felt that the time was ripe to look back and review the whole planning process and development activities in our metropolises, their organizational structures and professional skills required for governing these cities.

Shri Bhargava highlighted the crucial need for physical planning inputs in development programmes and the significant role planners could play in their implementations. The environmental policies of developing countries must naturally be concerned with both categories of problems – the problems arising out of poverty or the inadequacy of development itself, and the problems that arise out of the very process of development.

Shri Bhargava was selected by the UNICEF (United Nations Children Emergency Fund) as Project Director for their social and poverty eradication projects in Uttar Pradesh, a great achievement indeed for a physical planner. The work done at Barabanki and Baliya were highly commended.

As a Member of Board of Director, Shri Bhargava assisted the U.P. Housing Board, Rajkiya Nirman Nigam, U.P. Tourist Corporation, U.P. Avas Nigam, Avas Sangh etc. Shri Bhargava organized and guided the work of U.P. and National Cooperative Housing Federation and U.P. State Road Transport Corporation.

He is a versatile planner. As Trustee and Director Development of Era's Educational Trust, Shri Bhargava has planned, guided and monitored the establishment of Era's Lucknow Medical College and Hospital with intake of 100 students for MBBS with Hospital of 520 beds; Era's Institute of Allied Health Services and Research in four subjects with intake of 40 students per subject; Era's School of Nursing with intake of 50 students and Era's Degree College.

Shri Bhargava's 35 years of service career is living example of his whole hearted dedication to the profession of town and country planning. Even after his retirement, he is serving the State and profession for the last 15 years, by dint of hard, sincere and devoted labor in quest of excellence. At present, he is consultant of Tata Consultancy Services of Urban Development, Uttarakhand. As Chairman of Rudrabhisek Enterprises Private Limited, Shri Bhargava is contributing and assisting the State Government in implementation of its very important schemes i.e. 'High-Tech Township' or 'Integrated Township'. The projects designed under his guidance are highly appreciated for being unique, economical, eco-friendly and consumer friendly.

Most important of all, it was during his tenure as President that much of the construction work of the Institute's headquarters building was completed. Shri Bhargava is a man of positive and helping attitude.

Profile prepared by Shri Abdul Qaiyum, Former Town and Country Planner, TCPO, New Delhi.

KNOW YOUR FORMER PRESIDENTS



J.P. BHARGAVA

Shri Jagdish Prasad Bhargava was thrice President of the Institute of Town Planners, India from 1981 to 1984 and Secretary General during 1977-1978. He is an eminent architect and town planner. During his long tenure of service in Uttar Pradesh State Town and Country Planning Department, right from Assistant Engineer (Architecture) to the Head of the Department, Shri Bhargava worked with zeal and enthusiasm and displayed extra ordinary abilities in visualizing, drafting projects, getting them approved by the government, monitoring and assisting their implementation by the concerned agencies. This extra ordinary quality of Shri Bhargava enabled him to get 34 towns in Uttar Pradesh approved by the Government of India for implementation under the Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns Scheme sponsored by it. A mammoth job implemented with credit resulting in the development of 34 small and medium towns in Uttar Pradesh, which earned the State top position as beneficiary in India. Because of his remarkable new vision, Shri Bhargava was asked to plan New Okhla Industrial Township, which gave new approach and dimension to industrial development. This is said to be the beginning of integrated township concept in the State.

Shri Bhargava was born on 1st June, 1935 in Lucknow. He is a qualified

architect and urban designer. He did Bachelor's Degree in Architecture with honors from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur in 1958, and got first position in his batch in order of merit. He did Master of Arts in Planning from the University of British Columbia, Vancouver in 1964. He obtained Diploma in Urban Studies from London University in 1970.

He joined the Uttar Pradesh Government as Assistant Engineer (Architecture) in July 1958; worked in different capacities, such as Senior Architect, Executive Engineer (Planning and Surveys), Associate Planner, Architect Planner, Town Planner, Senior Town Planner and Architect (on deputation to the New Okhla Industrial Development Authority, NOIDA), a Government of Uttar Pradesh undertaking. He was appointed Chief Town and Country Planner to the Government of Uttar Pradesh in June 1983, the post which he held for 10 years till his superannuation in May 1993.

As Chief Town and Country Planner of the State, Shri Bhargava was responsible for drawing up policies and programmes relating to urban and regional planning activities to be initiated in the State for implementation. He advised and assisted the State Government in implementation of urban development and housing schemes; in formulation of revision of bye-laws relating to urban planning and development; assisted the State Government and competent authorities with regard to the implementation of Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1970; assisted the State Government in establishing development authorities in various towns and guiding them in their efficient functioning in the early stages,

to prepare layout plans for them; undertook all planning and architectural work of the Uttar Pradesh Housing and Development Board till the formation of an architectural wing in the Board; prepared standard design for various categories of houses, i.e. for low-income group, middle income group; economically weaker sections of society, etc; scrutinized and evaluated the physical progress of housing and urban development projects of the local bodies and Development Authorities in the field of housing and urban development and the work under the Integrated Development Authorities in the field of housing and urban development. The work under the Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns was conceived and implemented through the department under his supervision. He guided and supervised the work of regional offices entrusted with the preparation of master plans, regional plans of various towns and regions in the State.

Shri Bhargava is Fellow of the Institute of Town Planners, India (FITP) and the Indian Institute of Architects (FIIA) and. He has been Member of the Council, Secretary Publications and Editor of the Journal of the Institute of Town Planners, India.

As Secretary General, he ably organized the Sixth Congress of the Eastern Regional Organization for Planning and Housing (EAROPH) in New Delhi in February 1978, and the celebration of the Silver Jubilee of the Institute of Town Planners, India.

The themes of the three seminars held during Shri Bhargava's tenure as President were 'Integrated Approach to the Planning and Development of Metropolitan Areas', held in Delhi 1982; 'Physical Planning Inputs and Planning

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