



# planners newsletter

INSTITUTE OF TOWN PLANNERS, INDIA

4A, Ring Road, I.P. Estate, New Delhi-110002

No. 6 x 3

RNI - DELENG/2004/12724

July - September 2009

Chairman Editorial Board: Aniyam Mathew

Editor and Secretary Publications: Dr. Ashok Kumar

## NATIONAL CONSULTATION ON BASIC QUALIFICATIONS FOR TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING EDUCATION

National Consultation on "Basic Qualifications for post graduation in Town and Country Planning" was held on 20th June, 2009 at the ITPI Auditorium. Shri S.K. Singh, IAS, Joint Secretary (H) Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, in his inaugural address discussed the experience of Bihar and noted how difficult it is to get the qualified town and country planners even for the post of Chief Town Planner. He added that there is an urgent need to start at least one School of Planning in every state where there is not even a single School of Planning and added that the ITPI

should take immediate steps in this direction.

Due to opening up of economy and liberalization of industrial policy the real estate activities in the country are bound to get boost. It would therefore be pertinent to increase the number of town planners. Besides, he stressed that planning functions under the 74th Constitution Amendment Act has been assigned to local bodies but most of them do not have a single town planner. He also touched upon the point of reorienting the town planning curriculum to include the latest technological innovations not only in

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respect of plan preparation but also in the context of plan implementation.

Shri D.S. Meshram, President, ITPI in his address stated that since 1951, the basic qualifications prevalent for postgraduation in town planning are B. Arch. or B.E. (Civil) or Master's degree in Geography, Economics and Sociology. But in the last 50 years not only the planning parameters and apparatus have changed, but the requirements of the communities have also changed along with planning tools. In the market driven economy, therefore, it becomes pertinent to evolve planning education which sustains and participates in development process of the community. As the new specializations like Infrastructure Planning and Management, etc; has been introduced it is pertinent to make town and country planning education broad based. Accordingly, the canvas of planning needs to be enlarged, he opined. In view of this scenario the



Present on the dias are Shri Chetan Vaidya, Director NIUA; Dr. Najamuddin, Prof. Emaruatus, IIT Roorkee; Shri S.K. Singh, IAS, Joint Secretary (H) Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation; Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI; and Shri R.M. Lal, Chairman DRC, (from left to right)

Institute of Town Planners, India has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Najamuddin, Prof. Emeritus, IIT Roorkee, along with Prof. Ashok Kumar, Prof. Shivanand Swamy, and Shri Ashwani Luthra as members.

Prof. Najamuddin in his address stated that the Committee has held three meetings and invited the suggestions from all the Schools of Planning in the country, besides the industry and prepared a brief report based on their suggestions. The information was disseminated, deliberated and discussed in the Zonal Conferences held at Nagpur, Lucknow and Bhubaneswar and added that there are two school of thoughts: one believes that the scope of basic qualifications should not be enlarged because it would amount to diluting planning education and eventually the standing of planning profession. While another school of thought believes that in the present scenario to meet the challenges of 21st century, it is essential to enlarge the scope of basic qualifications so that other relevant disciplines can also participate in planning education which could enrich planning education and profession.

The Technical Session was chaired by Prof. Najamuddin, in which presentations were made by Prof. Ashok Kumar, HoD, Department of Physical Planning, SPA, New Delhi; Shri Ashwani Luthra, HoD, Guru Ramdas School of Planning, GNDU, Amritsar; Prof Shivanand Swamy, Dean, CEPT University, Ahmedabad; Shri V.V.L.N. Sarma, Senior Town Planner, Government of Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow; Prof. Sandhya Ekbote, Bhopal; and Dr. K.P. Subramaniam, Chennai.

During the open house discussions it was pointed out that at present the specializations are being offered at master's degree level in Housing, Urban Planning, Regional Planning, Traffic and Transportation, Environmental Planning, and Infrastructure Planning

and Management. Therefore, it would be appropriate to identify core subjects in order to admit students to these specializations.

On the issue of making eligible the Post Diploma of Polytechnic of Chennai and Bhopal, the presentations were made by Prof. Sandhya Ekbote and Dr. K.P. Subramaniam. Both impressed upon the members to continue the present practice. However, members desired the committee to examine the syllabus and number of years after doing 10+2 and also to consider the aspects of mobility and lateral entry for students.

The participants agreed that for admission to Bachelor of Planning degree course, the basic qualifications should be 10+2 with mathematics, while for postgraduate planning

studies; the committee was requested to work out the details of basic qualifications for the consideration in the AGM.

While giving the vote of thanks Shri Pradeep Kapoor quoted the example that most of surgeries are operated through surgical machines and software. However, the persons operating these machines can not be eligible for becoming surgeons. At the same time the advancement of technologies in plan preparation and implementation needs to be given due weight so as to meet the aspirations of the society. The committee therefore was requested to give specific recommendations for the consideration in AGM.

#### NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON ADOPTING VIRTUAL TECHNOLOGY IN TOWN PLANNING EDUCATION AND PROFESSION

The National workshop on "Adopting Virtual Technology in Town and Country Planning Education and Profession" was organized by the Institute of Town Planners, India on 18th July, 2009 at ITPI Auditorium, New Delhi. In his inaugural address Shri D.S. Meshram Chairman, All India Board of Town and Country Planning Education, AICTE specifically pointed out that since last 50 years, we could only produce 3,500 town and country planners in the country, while we have over 5,000 towns and 600 districts besides the significant requirement of town and country planners in education, research and consultancy. Thus, the total requirement on the basis of a modest estimate would be about 9,000 town and country planners. With this speed another 50 years would be required to meet this gap. Therefore, he emphasized that we should adopt virtual technology as a substitute to the traditional classroom based approach for town and country planning education as virtualization of planning education would allow access to even those prospective students who are located in the remote districts and towns. With reference to adopting

virtual technology in the profession, it has great advantages because it is possible to reach large number of people during plan preparation and approval processes.

The Workshop was conducted in two Technical Sessions. The first Technical Session on 'Adopting Virtual Technology in Town Planning Education' was chaired by Dr. Krishnegowda, Chairman, Educational Standing Committee. In this session presentations were made by Prof. Ashok Kumar, SPA New Delhi; Dr. S. Chattopadhyaya, IIT Kharagpur; Dr. S.P. Sekar, SAP, Chennai; Prof. S.K. Acharya, CEPT, Ahmedabad; and Dr. B.S. Sokhi, IIRS, Dehradun. Shri S.B. Khodankar, Joint Director, DDA was the Rapporteur of this session.

The second Technical Session on 'Adopting Virtual Technology in Town Planning Profession' was chaired by Ms. Adusumilli Uma, Chief Planner, MMRDA and Key Speakers were Shri J.B. Kshirsagar, Chief Planner, TCPO; Dr. S.P. Bansal, Additional Commissioner DDA; and Shri V.V.L.N. Sarma, Senior Town Planner, Town Planning Department, U.P. Dr. Sandeep Raut,



Present on the dias are Shri S.B. Khodankar; Dr. B.S. Sokhi; Prof. S.K. Acharya; Dr. Krishnegowda; Prof. Ashok Kumar; Dr. S. Chattopadhaya; (from left to right)

Associate Planner, TCPO was the Rapporteur of this session.

After detail discussions and deliberations it was decided that the ITPI would actively encourage adoption of virtual technology in town and country planning education and professions. The delegates were also of the opinion that to meet the demand and supply gap in respect of

qualified town and country planners, there is no other alternative but to impart town and country planning education through virtual technology. The workshop also recommended that the ITPI should endeavor to start the National Virtual Town and Country Planning University. The vote of thanks was given by Shri Pradeep Kapoor, Secretary General, ITPI.

### EAST ZONE CONFERENCE AT ORC BHUBANESWAR

The East Zone Conference of the ITPI was inaugurated by Dr. A.K. Panda, IAS, Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Government of Orissa on 5th April, 2009 at Hotel Pal Heights, Bhubaneswar.

Shri D.S. Meshram, President, ITPI in his Presidential Address stated that due to opening up of a national economy, liberalization of industrial policy and globalization trends, the scope of urban



Present on the dias are Shri Sitansu Patnaik, Chairman, ORC; Shri Pradeep Kapoor Secretary General, ITPI; Dr. A. K. Panda, IAS, Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Government of Orissa; Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI; Shri Aniyam Mathew, Vice-President ITPI; Shri Surendra Behera, Director, Town Planning Department, Government of Orissa (from left to right)

and regional planning and development has changed. By 2051, every second Indian would be living in urban areas which would overstretch the already deficient infrastructure like water supply, sanitation, solid waste management, power, etc. If proper and timely planning interventions are not made, the situation would become more alarming with reference to need of additional planners. He stated that we hardly have one town planner per town. He argued that we should start new schools of planning specifically in the states where there is not even a single school. He also stated that being Chairman of Town Planning Education, All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE), he would provide all the assistance to state governments in this direction.

On the issue of outsourcing certain planning activities, he stated that planning is a continuous process and it would not be possible and desirable to outsource all the planning functions and activities. After completion of the preparation of a development plan, it is essential to monitor the implementation of development plan proposals. Not only implementation but enforcement of development plans is yet another challenge which can not be outsourced. While outsourcing, he cautioned that proper balance is required to be achieved because consultants would do one time job of preparation of plan and would vacate the scene but implementation and enforcement is a continuous process for which trained manpower is required to be placed at the disposal of state governments, local bodies, development authorities and line departments. Therefore, it is essential to strengthen the existing town planning departments, local bodies, and development authorities by giving them adequate number of trained and qualified town planners and also to build the efficient cadre of town planners, specifically when the town planning function has been devaluated



Releasing of the Souvenir by Dr. A. K. Panda, IAS, Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Government of Orissa

to the local bodies. On the issue of Development Promotion Rules, Shri Meshram was of the opinion that these rules should be user friendly, simple and easy to follow and transparent so that masses are not put at the disadvantage. Ultimately it needs to be underlined that planning is for the larger section of masses, which comprises of urban poor and their requirements should not be neglected or downplayed.

In his inaugural address Dr. A.K. Panda, IAS, Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Government of Orissa stated that as land resource is limited, it is essential to use land for urban development optimally for which the use of latest and innovative technologies of town planning and implementation are essential along with trained technical manpower. In addition, it is also essential to bring the people on board along with the peoples representatives. On the issue of starting new town planning school raised by Shri D.S. Meshram, President, ITPI; Dr. Panda noted that there are very good institutions and colleges of engineering in the state but they are not imparting town planning programmes and stated that Orissa Regional Chapter may impress upon these institutions to start town planning courses and also agreed to provide all the possible assistance for starting new town planning schools.

He also suggested that the Orissa Regional Chapter should initiate training and orientation programmes for elected representatives, government officials, planners and technical personnel working in town planning departments, local bodies and development authorities of the state. He also underlined that it should be brought to the knowledge of the general public that town planning interventions are in the larger interest of the public. For example, he illustrated, if the existing width of the road gets narrowed down due to encroachments, it is only short term gain to the owners because instead of

encroaching on the right of way of the road if the owner gives his own land for increasing width of the road, then he may get the incentive in terms of additional FAR which would be more beneficial to him. He also advocated having a very strong legislation so that violators are not encouraged, as it happens in other developed countries. On the issue of outsourcing of certain jobs to consultants, he requested the delegates to deliberate on these issues and to identify activities which can not be outsourced. He also desired to strengthen the town planning department by capacity building and employing trained manpower. He also underlined the need of housing for urban poor within affordable limits and stated that he would look forward to receiving the recommendations of the Zonal Conference.

During the inaugural session the welcome address was given by Shri Surendra Behera, Director, Town Planning Department and Shri Sitansu Patnaik, Chairman of Orissa Regional Chapter gave a vote of thanks. The inaugural session was followed up by two Technical Sessions, which were chaired by Shri Aniyam Mathew, Vice President, ITPI and Dr. K. Das, Professor NIT, Rourkela, respectively.

#### ITPI ACTIVITIES 2008-2009

Article 3 of Memorandum of Articles of Association and Bylaws of Institute of Town Planners, India highlights the basic objectives of the ITPI. To achieve these objectives, major steps were taken during 2008 – 2009, which are given below:

1. **To advance the study of town planning, civic design and kindred subjects.**
  - The ITPI assisted the All India Council of Technical Education in preparing the Model Curriculum for Postgraduate Programmes in Town and Country Planning.
  - In the Associateship Examination of the ITPI held during the month

of May 2009, a total of 74 students appeared, 27 in Stage-I, 31 in Stage-II, and 16 in State-III.

- The number of students registered for the Associateship Examinations for 2009-2010 is 91.
- Prof. V.N. Prasad Best Thesis Award (Gold Medal) of the year 2008-2009 was given away to Shri Sandeep Chakravarty of IIT Kharagpur for the thesis 'Behavioral Analysis of Automobile Parking Demand and Planning for Off-street Parking Facilities'.
- The Commendation Certificate was awarded to Ms. Deepti Suri of the

School of Architecture and Planning, Hyderabad for her work 'Identifying HUDA Master Plan Project Activities for Clean Development Mechanism' and Shri Anuj Kapur of SPA, New Delhi for his Thesis on 'Evaluation of BUDP and Slum Rehabilitation in Mumbai'.

## 2. To promote general interest of those engaged in the practice of town and country planning.

- The Professional Standing Committee took up matters related to furthering the interest of the professional town planners working in public and semi-public departments, practicing planners, educationists and researcher besides the matter related to the appointment of qualified town planners in government and semi-government departments in various parts of the country with the Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India and different state governments.
- Shri D.S. Meshram, President, ITPI discussed the matter of revising Recruitment Rules for inclusion of Bachelor of Technology in Planning or Bachelor of Planning and also to consider the filling up of vacant posts of town planners in Rajasthan State with Shri G.S. Sandhu, IAS, Principal Secretary, Urban Development, Government of Rajasthan, who desired to have a copy of Model Recruitment Rules prepared by the ITPI and also the names of qualified students for consideration. Accordingly, a copy of Model Recruitment Rules framed by the ITPI was sent and a letter was addressed to all the Head of Departments of all the recognized Planning Schools by the ITPI with a request to send the names of qualified students. On recommendation of the ITPI, the following candidates were offered the post of Town Planner: Shri Arvind Singh Kanawat; Shri Arpit

Sancheti; Shri Mukesh Kumar Jangir; Ms. Anuja Singh; Ms. Appala Mishra; Shri Santosh Singh; Shri Virender Singh Parihar; Shri Sandeep Kumar; Ms. Vandana Sharma; Ms. Vandana Sen; Ms. Monica Kadam; Shri Rakesh Kumar Singh; Shri Pawan Kumar Kabra.

- Shri D.S. Meshram, President, ITPI made the presentation to the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India for setting up of National Virtual Town and Country Planning University under the National Mission on Education through ICT of Ministry of Human Resource Development.
  - The DPR for setting up of ITPI National Virtual University in Town and Country Planning was prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Human Resource Development which is under active consideration of the Ministry
- ## 3. To hold conferences or meetings for discussions, and exchange of views on matters affecting or relating to town and country planning:
- The 57th National Town and Country Planners Congress was organized at Goa during 23rd – 25th January, 2009. The Congress was sponsored by the Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India and co-sponsored 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, Vasocda-Gama, besides Delhi Development Authority and EMAAR MGF Land Limited. The Congress was inaugurated by His Excellency Dr. S.S. Sidhu, Governor of Goa on 23rd January 2009 at NIO Auditorium, Goa. On

this occasion a colorful Souvenir containing messages from dignitaries was also released by him. The Exhibition on the theme "Regional Planning Efforts in India" was inaugurated by Shri E.F.N. Ribeiro, the Past President of ITPI.

- Plenary Session was chaired by Shri D.S. Meshram, President, ITPI in which presentations were made by Shri E.F.N. Ribeiro and Prof. Dr. A.N. Sachithanandan.
- Technical Session-I on 'Scope and Methodology' was chaired by Prof. Ribeiro and Shri S.K. Singh, Joint Secretary Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation Government of India was the Chief Guest and presentations were made by Shri B.C. Datta and Shri S.C. Mahagaonkar, Shri J.K. Gupta, Shri Easow Jacob and Ms. Shirley Ballaney.
- Technical Session-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. Putta Raju, Shri M.D. Lele and Shri D.C. Misra.
- Technical Session-III was chaired by Shri V. Satyanaraya, the 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. Thooyavan.
- Technical Session-IV on 'Peoples' Movement in Development Planning' was chaired by Prof. Dr. A. N. Sachithanandan, the 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).
- The Valedictory Address was delivered by Shri Filipe Neri Rodriguez, Honorable Minister for

Water Resources and Forest, Government of Goa on 24th January, 2009. The Guest of Honor for the Valedictory function was Shri Arun Goel, IAS, Secretary, Housing and Urban Development, Government of Punjab. Shri Aniyam Mathew Vice-President, ITPI presented the recommendations adopted by the Congress.

- It is worth noting that sixty one technical papers were received from all over the country and were published and circulated not only to the participants of the Congress but to all the members of the ITPI. The proceedings and major recommendations were also circulated to all the members and various actors involved in urban planning and development.
- West Zone Conference was held in Udaipur on the theme 'Legal Frame work for Heritage Conservation' Shri Kuldeep Ranka, IAS, District Collector of Udaipur and Shri Ravindra Shrimali Chairman Municipal Council were Chief Guest and Guest of Honor respectively and papers were presented by Shri Pradeep Kapoor, Shri S.D. Landge, Dr. S.P. Bansal, Shri Jaydev Nancey and Shri S.C. Mahagaonkar. The Valedictory Address was given by Shri D.S. Meshram, President, ITPI and Chief Guest was Shri Shiv Kishore Sandhya, Chairman Urban Improvement Trust, Udaipur. A Souvenir was also released by President, ITPI containing Articles on the subject.
- North Zone Conference was held in Lucknow on the theme 'Basic Qualifications for Planning Education and Role of Public Private Partnership in Urban Development' on 22nd February 2009. The Chief Guest for the Conference was Commissioner UP Housing Board.
- East Zone Conference was organized at Bhubaneswar by

Orissa Regional Chapter. The theme of the conference was 'Entry Level Qualification for Post Graduation in Town and Country Planning' with the local theme of 'Recent Trends in Urban Planning and Development Control'. Dr. A.K. Panda, IAS, Commissioner - cum - Secretary Urban Development, Government of Orissa was the Chief Guest.

- The NOSPLAN was organized by the SPA, Delhi from 17th-20th January, 2009 and was co-sponsored by the ITPI.
  - To prescribe entry level qualifications for post graduation in town planning, a Committee was constituted under the chairmanship of Dr. Najamuddin, Professor Emeritus, IIT, Roorkee.
- 4. To purchase lease, rent, hold and dispose of any land to be used as a place for meeting for the members of the Institute:**

- Building plans for the ITPI Headquarters, New Delhi have been sanctioned by the MCD.
  - Land for the Visakhapatnam Centre has been procured.
  - Buildings for North East Regional Chapter at Guwahati, and TNRC at Chennai are under construction.
- 5. To compile, collect, print and publish statistics professional record periodicals, etc; relating to any of the objectives of the Institute:**
- During the year 2008-2009, four volumes of the ITPI Journal were published.
  - A special volume of the Technical Papers (comprising 61 papers) on the occasion of the 57th National Town and Country Planners Congress along with a colorful Souvenir were published.
  - Four issues of Planners' Newsletter have also been published during the year 2008-2009.

## ACTIVITIES OF REGIONAL CHAPTERS

### Andhra Pradesh Regional Chapter, Hyderabad

During this year, seven major events were organized by the APRC including World Environment Day, World Town Planning Day, Workshop on AP Town Planning Act, Talk on 'Environmental Regulations for Hyderabad Metropolitan Region', etc. The Chapter also took initiatives for the establishment of Regional Centre at Visakhapatnam.

### Delhi Regional Chapter, Delhi

During the year 2008-2009, the DRC organized interactive session on "Promoting Green Buildings" and a seminar on "Gender issues in Town Planning." In order to commemorate World Town Planning Day, a workshop was also organized on "National Community Planning and Development". A workshop was also conducted on "Urban Diagnosis and Progress in the context of Integrated Disaster Risk Management".

### Goa Regional Chapter, Panjim

Goa Regional Chapter was the host for organizing 57th National Town and Country Planners Congress during 23rd-25th January, 2009. The World Environment Day was celebrated in collaboration with Department of Science, Technology and Environment and Department of Town and Country Planning. On this occasion a workshop was also organized. On World Habitat Day, a seminar was organized on the theme "Harmonious Cities". During the year two Newsletters were also published.

### Haryana Regional Chapter, Panchkula

During the year 2008-2009, the Haryana Regional Chapter organized number of workshops on topical issues of urban planning and development in the state such as "Gurgaon Planned Global City – A Myth or Reality" and "Recent Economics Trends in real Estate Development and Urban

Planning". One newsletter was also published highlighting the status of Town Planning Practice in Haryana. The Chapter also conducted an orientation and training programme for newly appointed planners in Town and Country Planning Department.

### **H.P. and J.K. Regional Chapter, Shimla**

Seminars and Workshops were organized by the Chapter during the year on professional issues in the state. Initiatives are being taken by the Chapter for identification of land for Regional Chapter building.

### **Karnataka Regional Chapter, Bangaluru**

During the year 2008-2009, the World Environment Day and World Town Planning Day were celebrated in which experts from the field addressed the members. Interactive sessions were organized on various topical issues in different parts of the state. Various facilities were augmented in the Chapter building and guest house.

### **Kerala Regional Chapter, Thiruvananthapuram**

During the year under report the Kerala Regional Chapter successfully conducted two seminars one on "Town Planning Act of Kerala" and the other on "Measures for Improving Safety and Efficiency in Traffic Planning". A brainstorming session was also organized on the topic of "Manpower requirement in the Planning Profession".

### **Madhya Pradesh Regional Chapter, Bhopal**

During the year, MPRC organized a workshop on the theme 'Harmonious Cities' on the occasion of World Habitat Day. The World Town Planning Day was also celebrated by the Chapter. The Chapter also presented best thesis award on the entries received from the MANIT planning students. During the year four issues of the Chapter's newsletter were published.

### **Maharashtra Regional Chapter**

MRC (Nagpur) organized a workshop on the theme "Urban Housing - Policies and issues" to commemorate the World Habitat Day. The conference was organized with Department of Architecture and Planning, VNIT on the theme "Orientation of Planning Profession and Education for 21st Century". Renovation of the Chapter building was completed and additional facilities have been provided.

### **North East Regional Chapter, Guwahati**

During the year North East Regional Chapter organized seminars and workshops to promote the activities of ITPI in the region. A seminar was organized on "Rural - Urban Dichotomy in Spatial Planning". One issue of NE Planners Newsletter was published. The construction of NERC building is progressing well and the super structure is likely to be completed shortly.

### **Orissa Regional Chapter, Bhubaneswar**

East Zone Conference of the ITPI was organized by the Orissa Regional Chapter in Bhubaneswar on the occasion of East Zone Conference a Souvenir was released carrying 12 technical papers. The Chapter also gave representation to the state government for involving the Chapter in monitoring and evaluation of development plans prepared by consultants. The building committee of the Chapter has taken an initiative for upgradation of the Chapter building.

### **Punjab Regional Chapter, Chandigarh**

The Punjab Regional Chapter besides organizing seminars also undertook renovation of the Chapter building and created infrastructure in the building by generating financial resources.

### **Rajasthan Regional Chapter, Jaipur**

During 2008-2009, the RRC organized seminar on the occasion of the World

Environment Day and a video film was prepared by the Chapter depicting the parking problems in Jaipur, which was shown during the seminar. The West Zone Conference of the ITPI was organized with the help of the RRC, Udaipur Centre at Udaipur on the occasion of World Tourism Day on the theme "Regulations for Conservation of Heritage". The Chapter / Center buildings at Jaipur and Udaipur have been made self sustaining by leasing out certain portions of the buildings and at the same time facilities have been increased in the Chapter building and guest houses. Library of the RRC has been made functional by procuring new books.

### **Tamilnadu Regional Chapter, Chennai**

A seminar on the World Environment Day on the theme "Kick the CO2 Habit towards Sustainability and Growth" was inaugurated by the Vice Chancellor of Anna University and special address was delivered by Shri M.R. Mohan, Member Secretary, CMDA. The World Town Planning Day was inaugurated by Minister of Information and Chairman, CMDA. The construction work of the Chapter building is in progress.

### **U.P. Regional Chapter, Lucknow**

The UPRC was the host for organizing North Zone Conference on the theme "Basic Qualifications for Planning Education" and "Role of Public - Private Partnerships in Urban Development" in which members of North Zone Chapters participated. Facilities in the Chapter building have been augmented and proposals for the extension of the Chapter building are being prepared.

### **West Bengal Regional Chapter, Kolkata**

During the year the WBRC arranged a programme on the occasion of the World Environment Day with lectures by eminent environmental experts on the theme "Kick the CO2 Habit".

Workshop on the theme "Development Prospects for Barjora – Gangajalhati Planning Area" was also conducted in collaboration with the Area Planning Authority. During the year lectures of eminent professionals

were also organized by the Chapter. Four issues of Planners' Newsletter of the Chapter were also published. The Chapter conducted the AITP examinations in which more than 20 students appeared in the examination.

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

### ISOCARP's Forty Fifth World Congress on Low Carbon Cities

ISOCARP's 45th World Congress to be held in Porto, Portugal 18th-22th October, 2009 would explore the role of planning and of all those involved in the planning and development process, in the drive to achieve less resource intensive, low carbon cities. The Congress will focus on five discussion themes

*Theme 1: Tackling the Effects of Climate Change on our Cities and Urban Regions – today and tomorrow*

According to the climatologists, there is a high level of confidence that already dry areas for example the Mediterranean Basin, the Western USA, Southern Africa and North Eastern Brazil – will suffer a further decrease in water resources due to climate change. By contrast, areas to high latitudes that are already wet will receive even more rainfall. Worldwide, sea level rise threatens the integrity of many coastal cities while extreme weather events will increase in their intensity. On the other hand, some region might benefit in the medium term, in terms of crop yields, for example, before negative effects become more general.

The Congress seeks to address the realities for cities and urban regions in different parts of the world. What is the right way forward for specific cities? Should they adapt to observe and anticipate climate change, or should the emphasis be on mitigation, to tackle the cause of climate change, as part of the collective effort to reduce the build up of greenhouse gases? The view of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is that,

globally, a mix of strategies that includes both mitigation and adaptation is required, but which ingredient should be prioritized in any specific city, or are both equally important?

*Theme 2: The role of strategic land use planning*

The link to planning for low carbon cities is through the concept of sustainable development. However, while we can readily recognize urban sprawl as the antithesis of sustainable development, it can be more difficult to define city structures that work well in those terms. So a key question is, how at the strategic scale we should shape our cities and urban regions as sustainable, low carbon places and how we should formulate and implement our plans to that end.

In any one place, there may be a number of option. From a European perspective, the conventional planning wisdom is that a reasonably high density, a mix between housing and employment uses, and a degree of self containment are among the pre-requisites for low carbon areas. But how universally valid is such a vision? Also, given that sustainability has economic and social, as well as environmental dimensions, how should we set the priorities, or are there genuine 'win win' strategies that provide clear routes to low carbon cities?

*Theme 3: Integrating transport, community energy, and waste / recycling strategies.*

Land use planning cannot on its own guarantee low carbon cities and high environmental quality; a spatial

planning, approach is vital, whereby land use considerations can be integrated with infrastructure planning. Thus, efficient public transport systems, and measures to manage or restrain the unbridled use of the private car, can play a major role in limiting carbon emissions. Local energy planning, providing, for energy efficient building layouts and designs, efficient local electricity and heat generating plant, and the widespread use of generating plant, and the widespread use of renewable technology, has also a substantial part to play. And effective waste planning, through waste-minimization, recycling, and composting, as well as energy recovery in appropriate cases, makes better use of resources, and limits landfill disposal and emissions. The Congress will look at planning approaches for these sectors.

*Theme 4: Design for low carbon cities.*

Planning, by itself; has often been too 'broad brushed' to cope with the necessary detail for a quality living and working environment. That is the domain of urban design, Good design is the key to creating successful places that are sustainable in the broadest sense. There is a growing recognition of what constitutes good design and there are numerous examples from around the world of successful places that both function well and are attractive in architectural and landscape terms. But the new dimension is the need for those places to be low carbon as well. The Congress will address the ingredients of low carbon design.

*Theme 5: The management and delivery of low carbon cities.*

The move towards low carbon cities will place immense burdens upon those responsible from the public authorities and related agencies, to the developers who will carry out the work, and to the communities that will be directly affected. Spatially, there will be two

elements to this, the new developments that will be planned and designed following low carbon principles and the remodeling of older areas. There is also the question of skills, in what for many will be an entirely new area of work.

So who should take the lead in this process, central or local government or other agencies? How should the low carbon city be financed and who should be the financiers? What monitoring schemes are needed to measure environmental performance over the longer term? The switch from present practices to low carbon cities is going to require considerable management skill, and a great willingness to innovate.

For further information visit  
Website: [www.isocarp.org](http://www.isocarp.org)

### **Third International Conference on "Problems of Nature Management, Sustainable Development and Industrial Safety"**

The Institute of Nature Management Problems and Ecology of National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, is organizing III International Conference on "problems of Nature Management, Sustainable Development and Industrial Safety", which will be held in Dnepropetrovsk on 6th-9th October, 2009.

Aim of Conference is to Exchange of scientific expertise and practical experience in nature management problems solving, sustainable development and safety of environment under the pressure of man and industry with focus on general theoretical problems of nature management, sustainable development and safety of environment; sustainable development, present state and future; natural resources potential of territory, components and estimation; environmental control, earth remote monitoring methods; biological diversity, measures for

biological species protection, reserves and national parks; resource saving and environment-oriented nature management procedures; system analysis and forecast of environmental conditions; and industrial safety and environmental risk.

For further information please contact  
E-mail : [ippe-main@svitonline.com](mailto:ippe-main@svitonline.com)

### **Urban Design Research: Method and Application Conference**

While the foundation of modern urban design goes back to the work of Cerda and Sitte, twentieth century designers such as Howard, Wright, and Le Corbusier broke with the past by developing unprecedented utopian urban visions representing the modern and industrialized society. In the 1950s, 'urban design' became a distinctive term, and by 1960, the introduction of analytical research methodologies in urban design challenged the prevailing top down approach of modernist urban planning. Researchers like Kevin Lynch, Gordon Cullen, M.R.G. Conzen, Amos Rapport, and Bill Hillier developed powerful concepts and tools to analyze the city in terms of visual perception and cognition, human behavior, morphology, and connectivity. The conference theme is therefore related to questions such as: what is urban design research and how is it carried out today? What do we need to know about the social, historical and cultural environment of the city and how does this knowledge inform urban design and architecture? Are research outcomes transferable or are they specific to each location? How have research methods been applied in urban design projects and how have they influenced urban design?

The conference to be held on 3rd-4th December, 2009, at Birmingham, U.K will focus on the three subject areas:

- Exploration of contemporary methods of urban design research and their influence on perception and understanding of the city,

- Methods of application of research outcomes in practice, and
- Case studies: appraisal of applied research in practice.

For further information please contact  
Website: <http://www.biad.bcu.ac.uk/schools/architecture/urabdesignresearch.htm>

### **CTBUH 2010 World Conference – Remaking Sustainable Cities in the Vertical Age**

Rapid urbanization of developing countries such as India and China over the past decade have resulted in almost 20,00,000 people migrating from rural to urban regions somewhere on the planet every day (United Nations statistics). This translates into the need for the world to accommodate the equivalent of a new city of one million people every week. How can our existing – or new – urban centers accommodate this growth? The traditional American model of a dense working downtown core and an ever-expanding residential suburb have been generally recognized as an unsustainable model for the future, due to the high energy transport commute itself (largely automobile) and the loss of natural greenbelt/landscape for agriculture and ecological balance. Humanity needs to evolve into a more sustainable pattern of existence, and cities need to become denser with more concentrated centers for living, work and play.

This is not a scenario that is unique to the developing world. Whilst population growth is more static in many developed countries, immigration and changing social demographics are having a massive impact on countries such as the US and UK.

The real situation of the countries such as India and China face – as well as large parts of the developed world – is not necessarily how to create new sustainable cities where the urban slate is wiped clean, but how to re-make

existing cities in a sustainable way. This conference will debate these urban and policy issues, while also considering what role tall buildings and increased urban density will play. The Council on Tall Buildings and Urban habitat is the arbiter of the criteria upon which tall building height is measured, and thus determines the title of 'The World's Tallest Building'. CTBUH is the world's leading body dedicated to the field of

tall buildings and urban habitat and the recognized international source for information in these fields. The World Congress to be held during 3rd-5th February, 2010 would focus on the theme "Remaking Sustainable Cities in the Vertical Age" at Hotel Renaissance Convention Centre, Mumbai

For further information please contact  
E-mail : info@ctbuch.org

means world over in meeting housing shortages, as all people can not afford ownership houses, is practically non-existent.

Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) has made significant contribution in strengthening infrastructure and providing Basic Services to Urban Poor in select cities, but private sector contribution in the scheme is negligible. The sector is still in search of a viable model and synergy between public and private sectors. The stray examples of public private partnership available in housing sector neither provide adequate learning experience nor act as benchmarks with international best practices.

National Real Estate Development Council (NAREDCO) is organizing a National Conference on "Public Private Partnerships in Housing" on 9th October, 2009 as part of its 9th National Convention and conference will focus on:

- Impact of Recession on Housing and Real Estate Industry.
- Role of Central / State Governments, Urban Local Bodies and private Sector in Meeting Housing shortages .
- Public Private Partnership Models for Housing.
- Regulatory and Legislative Reforms for Speedy Construction.
- FDI and ECB Reforms for Attracting Foreign Investment.
- Special incentives and Status for Housing Industry.
- Government Policies for Inclusive Growth.
- Land Economics and Supply of Serviced Land.
- Reforms and Incentives for Augmenting Rental housing Stock.
- Reforms for Attracting Private Investment.
- Innovative Financing Mechanisms for Cheap Credit.
- Innovative Building Materials and Technologies for Affordable Housing.

## NATIONAL SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

### **MID TERM SEMINAR ON "Low Cost Housing"**

In India, since Independence of the country in 1947, the subject matter of housing for the poor has always been an ethical and political one. Often clubbed with food and clothing, the housing problem remains gigantic. Although the state governments have undertaken large number of subsidized housing programmes for the poor, paradoxically the number of homeless and slum dwellers continue to multiply. The cities are witnessing chaos with acute problem of shelter for the poor. According to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation (2007), the total housing shortage in India was about 24.71 million Dwelling Units (DUs), out of which 21.78 million DUs relate to the Economically Weaker Sections, while 2.89 million DUs are required for Low Income Group. The housing shortage during the 11th Plan period is expected to be 26.53 million DUs.

In order to solve this gigantic, problem, there is a need to explore new options such as in situ slum rehabilitation, shifting, from plotted housing to group housing, reviewing height controls for optimum utilization of land, permanent, environment friendly, affordable and speedy construction, etc. There is need for foresight in planning and development of built environment.

Seminar on "Low Cost Housing" in November, 2009 will focus on following sub-themes.

- Low Cost Housing as Appropriate to Different Regions of country- Plains, Hills, etc.

- Low Cost Housing in Disaster Prone Areas
- Planning and Design Concepts, Norms, etc.
- Appropriate Specifications using mostly Locally Available Materials.
- Durable and Environment Friendly construction
- Optimal Structural Design
- Cost effective Construction techniques

For further information please contact  
E-mail : info@ibc.org.in

### **National Conference on Public Partnerships in Housing**

Providing shelter to all shelter less in India is difficult task, looking at the large population, the second largest in the world after China. India was short of approximately 24.71 million houses at the beginning of 11th Five Year Plan and maximum shortage was in lower income group category. While middle income housing shortage was mainly in tier I and II cities, low income housing shortage was across all cities.

Efforts of Government of India and state governments in providing shelter to all and upgrading slums, through various Government sponsored schemes and incentives, though laudable, are drastically inadequate in comparison to the size of the problem.

Availability of serviced land at cheap rates, favorable regulations, cost effective technologies and affordable credit continue to remain challenges in successful implementation of viable affordable housing projects. Rental housing, recognized as an important

For further information please contact  
E-mail : naredco@naredco.org

### Green Conclave, Delhi, India

Green Conclave is a platform that offers an opportunity to discuss environmental issues, challenges and achievements at different levels, and increase awareness and understanding of the persisting problems and their solutions. The conclave encourages cooperation among agencies to address climate change.

Green Conclave has been designed to be one of the prominent forums of public discussion on climate change, climate protection, earth system sciences and earth care policies which attract worldwide attention.

The objective of the Green Conclave to be held from 7th-9th April, 2010 at Delhi is to provide a forum for the individuals and organizations working in the region, to share information and build relationships in an informal working environment.

For further information please contact  
E-mail : padmapriya@gatewaymedia.in

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local government experts in dealing with the enormous task of metropolitan decentralization and also suggested options which required serious attention of the decision makers.

He pointed out that the metropolitan decentralization efforts in India have evolved gradually though piecemeal efforts were being made, to integrate development activities in the metropolitan cities and their regions. Efforts have also been made from time to time to contain the growth of population and spatial expansion of these cities. Further, he said that the past planning and developmental efforts in the four super-metro-regions presented a varied picture and experience in adaptation of the decentralization process and development strategies. In Calcutta

## OBITUARY



**D.B. Kunthe**

Shri Durgaji Bhimrao Kunthe was born on 13th March, 1941 in Dharwad (Karnataka). He did M.A. (Geography) in the year 1965 from Karnataka University and Masters in Regional Planning from IIT Kharagpur in 1967. He had also undergone advance training in Development Planning from University College, London. After completing Masters in Regional Planning, he had worked in Town and Country Planning Department of Government of Uttar Pradesh, as Assistant Town Planner from 1968 to 1970. He also contributed in the preparation Comprehensive Development Plan for Kanpur and Outline Development Plan for Agra. In 1970, he joined Town and Country

(CMDA) and Madras (MMDA), the decentralization strategy was confined to metropolitan development area only, whereas in the case of Bombay (Mumbai) BMRDA and Delhi (NCR/DDA) a regional approach has been adopted to effectively manage the growth and development in the metropolitan regions. These variations in planning and development of metro cities, as he suggested, required serious consideration. Shri Ghuman felt that there was need to upgrade the essential services, to introduce innovative planning measures and to execute vital projects and schemes aimed at conservation and economic regeneration of the metro centers, and for the environmental improvement of urban slums. Decentralization, he clarified, did not mean that it was to limit and check the growth and development of metropolitan centers, rather concerted

Planning Organization, Government of India as Assistant Town and Country Planner and superannuated in 2001 as Town and Country Planner.

While working in TCPO Shri Kunthe handled important assignments like Zonal Development Plan exercise of MPD-1962, Traffic and transportation study for Metro Rail, Monitoring and Implementation of Infrastructure Development Scheme in NCR towns. As a head of IDSMT Division he was closely appraising and monitoring centrally sponsored scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT).

He was very active in the professional activities of Institute of Town Planners, India as a Council member during 1972-1982. He also held the post of Hon. Joint Secretary of ITPI during 1972-73 and became Secretary General in the year 1974. He will be remembered by fellow professionals for his contribution to the profession and as an affable person.

As Shri Kunthe expired on 20th May, 2009; members of the Institute are deeply grieved on his untimely demise and express deep condolences and pray to almighty to grant strength to his family to bear the tragedy.

efforts were needed to manage the growth and development of the metro centers along with their regions.

After retirement from the State Government service, Shri Ghuman joined as Professor of Planning at the Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar in 1992.

Shri Ghuman's knowledge and experience in the field of urban, regional and environmental planning is a valuable asset to the profession. One can profitably seek advice on urban, regional and environmental planning from his very rich experience spanning over more than four decades. Added to his wide and long professional experience are his great personal qualities like calm and cool temperament, amicable, hospitable and helpful nature.

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

## KNOW YOUR FORMER PRESIDENTS



**Jagjit Singh Ghuman**

Shri Jagjit Singh Ghuman, President of the Institute of Town Planners, India during 1990-1991 and Vice-President during 1988-1989, is a well known town planner. During his long tenure of service in Punjab Town and Country Planning Department, right from the Assistant Town Planner to the Head of the Department, Shri Ghuman worked studiously. Professionally he was engaged in formulating policies and strategies for urban and regional planning, preparation of master plans for cities and towns, development of tourist centers, programming and monitoring of projects such as urban estates, industrial estates, shopping centers, development and implementation of schemes in the urban and rural sectors to ensure orderly growth and development of environmentally critical areas and the human settlements in the state of Punjab.

Shri Jagjit Singh Ghuman was born on 20th May 1934. He did his matriculation from the Punjab University in 1953, and was placed in the first division. He did his Bachelor of Engineering (Civil) from Gujarat University in 1960 and M.Tech in Regional Planning from the Department of Architecture and Regional Planning, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur in 1963. He is a Member of the Institution of Engineers, India (M.I.E.) and the Fellow of the Institute of Town Planners, India (FITP).

Shri Ghuman joined the Town and Country Planning Department, Government of Punjab as Assistant Town Planner on 28th November 1962 and worked in different capacities such as Divisional Town Planner, Senior Town Planner, Chief Coordinator and Planner in Environmental Research, Planning and Design Organization, then a part of the Punjab Town Planning Department, charged to look after plan schemes of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT), Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums' (EIUS) – a scheme under the state Minimum Needs Programme and also a part of the Prime Minister's 20 Point Programme, envisaged a package of services for the immediate improvement of the unhygienic environment of the urban slums; and Rural Sector – community development block planning, programming and monitoring of schemes at the block level in coordination with the District Administration. Shri Ghuman was appointed Chief Town Planner, Town and Country Planning Department, Government of Punjab in January 1979, the post which he held for 13 years till his superannuation in 1992.

Shri Ghuman had a long tenure of service, almost 30 years, from 1962 to 1992 in the Town and Country Planning Department, including the 13 years (1979-1992) as Chief Town Planner. He also held dual charge of Chief Co-coordinator and Planner, and Chief Town Planner from January 1979 to August 1982.

As Chief Town Planner of the State, Shri Ghuman was responsible for environmental and physical planning, formulating policies and strategies for urban and regional planning, programming and monitoring of projects and schemes in the urban and rural areas. He supervised and coordinated the work of the officers of the Environmental Research,

Planning and Design Organization, Senior Town Planner and Divisional Town Planners. He advised and assisted the State Government in matters related to physical planning. Shri Ghuman guided and supervised the studies leading to the preparation of the Report on the Development of the Area around the Golden Temple Complex at Amritsar in 1988.

Shri Ghuman did extensive work on the compilation of information, drafting and presentation of the study on "Human Settlement Structure Plan – Hierarchy of Human Settlements in Punjab – 2001". He strongly advocated and promoted the orderly growth and development of the human settlements through chenalization of public and private investments in "Free Enterprise Zone" for location and siting of industrial and other economic activities on the periphery of urban settlements.

As the President of the Institute of Town Planners, India, Shri Ghuman successfully organized and conducted the Annual Town and Country Planning Seminar at Calcutta (Kolkata) in 1990-1991. The theme of the Seminar was "Metropolitan Decentralization". On the occasion, Shri Ghuman recalled that 23 years ago (1967-1968), the Institute had the honor of being invited to hold its Annual Town Planning Seminar in this very historic city. The theme of the Seminar then was "Metropolitan Areas – Problems and Prospects: their Future Role in the National Economy". It was in this very Seminar that the Institute had the opportunity of discussing a subject of extreme importance which made the Centre alive in terms of playing an active and promotional role in matters pertaining to town planning and urban development in the states.

In his Presidential Address, Shri Ghuman briefly touched upon the critical issues faced by the town and country planners, administrators, and

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