



planners newsletter

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WORLD TOWN PLANNING DAY – WORKSHOP ON TOWN PLANNING TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE

Dr. M. Ramachandran, Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India, while delivering inaugural address on the occasion of the World Town Planning Day celebrated by Delhi Regional Chapter on 12th November 2009 in the auditorium of ITPI at New Delhi, complemented Delhi Regional Chapter of Institute of Town planners, India for commemorating the World Town Planning Day and organizing the workshop on 'Town Planning to combat Climate Change'. He noted that climate change is one of the most important global environmental challenges with implications for food production, water supply, health,

energy, etc., which in turn may have adverse impact on the day to day life of urban dweller. Addressing climate change requires a good scientific understanding as well as coordinated action at the settlement level.

The reality is, Dr. Ramachandran stated, that we are still living in a developing country. Our per capita energy consumption is about 500 against the world average of 1,800. There are an estimated 400 million Indians who do not have access to commercial energy. Developmental imperatives are huge and we have to be determined to meet them with a sense of environmental responsibility.

In the overall global scenario, unfortunately many cities in the developed world currently have an urban structure which encourages unsustainable practices with regard to water management, biodiversity, air quality and greenhouse emissions. A rigid separation of housing, employment, commercial, and recreational activities creates a dependency on road based transport, which in turn contributes to high levels of urban air pollution and greenhouse emissions.

It is now a well known fact that a phenomena known as the "Urban Heat



Dr. M. Ramachandran, Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India, delivering inaugural address

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Island" exacerbates climate change. Pavements, buildings, and other structures typical of urban areas replace natural vegetation and eliminate cooling provided by vegetation through both shade and evaporation. In urban areas temperatures are raised by this process between two and ten degree Celsius. This contributes to the formation of ground level ozone, which may be detrimental to human health. Furthermore, the compounding effects of the urban heat island and increased temperatures from climate change result in increased demand for air conditioning. Increased air conditioning means increased generation of electricity, which again contributes to emission of greenhouse gases and climate change.

Climate change risk to India's urban centers can be seen in the perspective of the expected transition in city growth. An addition of almost 500 million people is estimated in 6,000 to



Inaugural function in progress. Present on the Dias are Shri J.B. Kshirsagar, Chief Planner, TCPO; Dr. M. Ramachandran, Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India; Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI; and Dr. Sandeep Raut, Secretary DRC.

7,000 urban settlements by 2050. This will involve environmental transition related to water, sanitation and environmental health, air and water pollution, and climate change. Urban challenges for India in the 21st century are dual. One calls for priority interventions like providing housing and basic services to all, the infrastructure to support an ever growing population, and addressing poverty. The other aspect is that of the challenge of coping with air and noise pollution, environmental degradation, and climate change induced by extreme events and disasters.

Our cities require integrated intervention that involves urban development and growth coupled with environmental safety and sustainability. Any framework needs to first identify the city level vulnerability and risks, and redirect investments and programmes in the city planning process. This calls for reducing a city's social structural vulnerability. It involves redirecting investments towards climate sensitive planning and linking different levels of institutional interventions. This means equipping our cities in two ways, firstly, by building resilience, coping mechanisms against disasters and extreme events, and planning city development in an environment friendly manner that's sustainable in the long run.

Other strategies could include promoting low rise – high density mixed land use developments to reduce demand for travel and land and integrating sustainability norms in the master or development plans of cities and towns. Besides, increasing and restoring the green cover in and around cities, use of building materials and surfaces that reduce urban heat island effect, and improving storm water drainage system, could also help. Strategies could also include interventions at the regional level for proper resource management, improving weather forecasting to

prepare for extreme events, having a disaster management plan in place for environmentally sensitive and drought and flood-prone areas, and the preservation of threatened areas.

This could be achieved through specific mitigation and adaptation plans that are built into city development planning and by improving institutional back up to enable making these plans operational. But, a huge knowledge gap exists in terms of possible climate change impacts at regional and local (city) levels and the nature of responses to be designed to take care of location specific impacts. Hence, there is a need to look at the R&D needs specific to design urban responses against climate change for Indian cities. The National Mission on Sustainable Habitat under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) articulates the level of financial investment required to take up some of the measures suggested in the Mission Plan. Since each city would have a unique set of problems and issues, understanding and design for city-specific intervention is important.

In the context of climate change, role of town planners assumes significance as they have to be sensitive towards the adverse impact of climate change.



Technical Session is in progress. Present on the dias are Dr. Meenakshi Dhote, HoD, Environmental Planning, SPA, New Delhi; Shri V.K. Bugga, Chief Town Planner, MCD; Prof. Ashok Kumar, HoD, Physical Planning, SPA, New Delhi; Prof. Kavas Kapadia, Dean of Studies, SPA, New Delhi (in Chair); Shri Rajiv Malhotra, Chief Regional Planner, NCRPB; and Shri P.K. Behera, Joint Director, DDA. (from left to right)

While undertaking preparation of master plan, zonal development plan and layout plans, it has to be ensured that adverse impact on quality of air and water is minimized. Dr. M. Ramachandran, hoped that the professional body like Institute of Town Planners, India will play a very important role in taking up the issue of climate change and accordingly, advice all the State Town and Country Planning Departments and Urban Development Authorities to take necessary steps for sensitizing the town planners for incorporating the environmental concerns of cities in planning and development processes of cities and towns.

Shri J.B. Kshirsagar, Chief Planner, TCPO in his keynote address informed that the international organization for World Town Planning Day was founded in 1949 by the late Professor Carlos Maia della Paolera of the University of Buenos Aires to advance public and professional interest in planning, both locally and overseas. Currently, the World Town Planning Day is celebrated in 30 countries across four continents on the 8th November every year. It is a special day to recognize and promote the role of physical planning in creating livable communities. World Town Planning Day presents an opportunity to look at planning from a global perspective.

Today we are focusing on, how town planning helps in combating impact of climate change? "Climate change" encompasses long term weather patterns such as increased average temperatures precipitation changes, sea-level rise, and other associated changes. Increase in greenhouse gases are associated with climate change. Greenhouse gases include Carbon-Dioxide (CO₂), Methane (CH₄), Nitrous Oxide (N₂O), Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), and Ozone. These gases are called greenhouse gases because they contribute to what is known as the Greenhouse Effect.

As light waves from the sun are transformed into infrared radiation or heat, they reradiate back toward the atmosphere. Greenhouse gases in the atmosphere trap this radiation much like the glass roof of a greenhouse, and reradiate it back to earth's surface resulting in increases in temperature. Some of the greenhouse warming is important and natural, but enhanced warming resulting from human activities that increase the greenhouse gases may be a problem.

Global warming is often used interchangeably with climate change, but warming contributes to other changes. Some of these include: Water expansion and sea-level rise, Melting of polar ice-caps, increases or decreases in average precipitation, Changes in soil moisture content associated with precipitation and evaporation, Alterations of species make-up associated with the changing ecosystem for urban planning, it is important to understand the urban activities that contribute to global warming and climate change. However, greenhouse effect is a natural geophysical process, which allows us to exist on earth. The gases known as greenhouse gases are naturally found in the atmosphere are water, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrogen oxide, ozone, and chlorofluorocarbons. These gases trap heat close to the earth's surface. Without greenhouse effect, the earth's surface temperature would be 180°C. The natural greenhouse effect warms the temperature of the atmosphere to 15°C at the earth's surface. This natural warming allows water to exist on the Earth's surface, the basis of life supports.

Cities account for about seventy eight percent of carbon emissions from human activities. Human activities typical of cities such as polluting industries, commercial businesses, and heavy traffic and dependency on cars contribute to emission of greenhouse

gases and therefore climate change. Denser cities tend to have lower carbon emissions caused by transportation. A phenomena known as the "urban heat island" effects compounds and exacerbates climate change. Pavements, buildings, and other structures typical of urban areas replace natural vegetation and eliminate the cooling provided by vegetation through both shade and evaporation. In urban areas temperatures can be raised from this process between two and ten degrees fahrenheit. This contributes to the formation of ground level ozone, which can be detrimental to human health.

Planners and environmental professionals need to join hands to commit development for supporting sustainable habitat through use of sustainable energy, sustainable transport and sustainable urban planning and design options, Shri Kshirsagar stated.

Welcoming Dr. Ramachandran to the Institute of Town Planners, India on the occasion of World Town Planning Day; Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI underlined the initiatives taken by Dr. Ramachandran by calling a meeting of all Directors of Schools of Planning and issuing the advisory to State Governments and Local Bodies to create the Town Planning Cadre and also brought into focus the shortage of town planners. As a follow up of these initiatives, the ITPI has conducted dialogues with the Ministry of Human Resource and Development for starting 4 new Schools of Planning in the country through central funding. It is heartening to know that the MHRD has agreed to start two new Schools of Planning. Presently both the Schools are functioning from Bhopal and Vijaywada. He also narrated initiatives being taken up by the ITPI by adopting virtual technology for imparting town and country planning education. He also underlined the collaboration of the ITPI with the

Ministry of Urban Development for formulating the Model Town and Country Planning Act and UDPFI Guidelines to substantiate the efforts of the Ministry of Urban Development. Shri Meshram assured the Secretary Urban Development that the MoUD would not find the ITPI wanting in the efforts for orderly and planned development of our towns and cities.

On the issue of combating climate change, Shri D.S. Meshram stated that urban activities are also responsible for global warming and climate change, for example, cities account for 78 percent of carbon emissions generated by human activities like transportation, construction and building activities along with industrial production. He also said whether roads of Delhi can sustain additional vehicles as the vehicle population of Delhi is already more than the aggregate of Kolkata, Chennai and Mumbai, specifically when major traffic and transportation load is being taken by roads. Arrival of small cars such as Nano and Nissan – cheapest cars will further aggravate the situation. Is it prudent to bring more cars on the roads when roads can not sustain it? Are our car manufacturing policies wrong? Should we not use environment friendly vehicles? Yet another issue flagged by him was of migration to the largest cities which adds into these problems because every person who lands in Delhi impacts traffic and transportation. He further added that travel by private vehicle is the main culprit for urban climate change but it is the necessary evil and to mitigate this he called on the planners to search for the alternatives which reduce the need to travel and also distance. He asked: can travel trips be reduced?; can vehicles on the road be used to their fullest capacities? Answers to these questions would greatly be responsible in reducing carbon gas emissions. By 2021 the total area of NCTD would be urbanized without any further scope for

extending urbanization limit of Delhi. Where this urban growth will take us in terms of climate change, he asked.

On the issue of planning of denser cities - the talk of the day, he stated that, if the intention is to increase the density then it can also be achieved not only through high rise high density but through low rise high density avoiding the provision of lift which consumes electricity and generates heat. He also issued a note of caution and said that we should not opt for denser cities creating few island of prosperity but side by side full of slums without any adequate infrastructure.

As the residential and commercial buildings consume one third of energy, can we design buildings more efficiently and environment friendly on the concept of green buildings. Similarly, should garden city concept be brought back as the green belts around the cities like Delhi, Chandigarh, etc; are

vanishing which are eroding lung spaces from the cities. Therefore, Shri D.S. Meshram suggested that we should identify 'urban heat islands' and prepare their specific location maps, so that contingency measures can be urgently taken.

Welcome address was given by Shri R.M. Lal, Chairman, DRC and a vote of thanks was given by Dr. Sandeep Raut, Secretary, DRC.

Inaugural session was followed by a technical session, which was chaired by Prof. Kavas Kapadia, Dean of Studies, SPA, New Delhi. Key presentations were made by Dr. Meenakshi Dhote, Head, Department of Environmental Planning, SPA, New Delhi; Shri V.K. Bugga, Chief Town Planner, MCD; Prof. Dr. Ashok Kumar, Head, Department of Physical Planning, SPA, New Delhi; Shri Rajiv Malhotra, Chief Regional Planner, NCRPB; and Shri P.K. Behera, Joint Director, DDA.

WORLD HABITAT DAY

Uttaranchal Regional Chapter

The Institute of Engineers (India), Roorkee Local Center, IIT Roorkee Campus celebrated the World Habitat Day on 5th October 2009 on the theme 'Planning our Urban Future'. Shri D.S. Meshram, President Institute of Town Planners, India was the Chief Guest on this occasion. In his inaugural address Shri Meshram quoted the excerpts from the Message of Secretary General of United Nations - the major challenges of 21st century includes – rapid growth of many cities and declining of others; expansion of informal sector, role of cities causing climate change and urban sprawl and unplanned development. Governments at all levels are largely failing to address these challenges and called for better, more equitable planning, smart cities towards sustainable urbanization and environment friendly public transport. Planning is at the heart of this agenda but planning will work only

where there is good urban governance and where urban poor are brought into decisions and where corruption is honestly tackled. Shri Meshram also read out the excerpts from the statement of Executive Director, UN-Habitat which states that urban planning system have changed very little. They are often contributors to urban problems than tools for human and environment improvement and suggested that current approaches to planning must change and further added that many ills of urbanization have been conveniently left at the door steps of urban planners and planning. Powerful economic interests may feel threatened by planning recommendations. Politicians may not have an adequate sense of public interest or plans may not reflect their priorities of community groups. Has planning failed and does it need to be replaced by more effective approaches.



Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI lighting the inaugural lamp during Habitat Day Celebration at IIT Roorkee.

Shri D.S. Meshram underlined that statement of Executive Director UN-Habitat has highlighted that actually there is no replacement for planning and as world grows more and more urban, it is vital that governments accept urbanization as a positive trend, planning fulfills its proper role in guiding urban development for improving access to services and economic and social opportunities. Thus, the message of Secretary General of United Nations and statement of Executive Director of UN-Habitat clearly indicate that town and country planners have a positive role to play in 'Planning Our Urban Future' because due to globalization, opening up of economy and liberalization of industrial policy, urbanization in our country is bound to increase. He also pointed out that by 2051 every second Indian is going to live in urban areas. In fact urban areas also produce 60 percent of our GDP but the same is not ploughed back in the urban areas. Therefore, he cautioned, if we do not deal with urbanization constructively it may deal with our towns and cities most destructively. Therefore, there is a need that the stipulation of UNCHS Habitat – II be implemented in true spirit i.e. integrating urban planning and management in relation to housing, transport, employment opportunities,

environmental conditions, community facilities for sustainable human settlements and to promote land use pattern that minimizes transport demand. He also commended the objective of National Urban Housing and Habitat Policy–2007 for sustainable development of habitat in the country and affordable housing for all.

Prof. V.K. Agarwal, Chairman, IE (I) RLC gave the welcome address while Shri R.D. Singh, Convener introduced the subject and Prof. S.Y. Kulkarni, Head, Department of Architecture and Planning of IIT Roorkee introduced the Chief Guest. A vote of thanks was extended by Shri S.K. Singh, Honorary Secretary IE (I) RLC.

Delhi Regional Chapter

Delhi Regional Chapter of Institute of Town Planners, India celebrated the World Habitat Day – 2009 on 24th October 2009 and organized a workshop on the theme 'Future Cities' on this occasion. Shri A.R. Patharkar, Past President ITPI was the Guest of Honor and Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI was the Chief Guest. Welcome address was given by Shri R.M. Lal, Chairman, DRC, and a vote of thanks was given by Shri Promod Behera, Joint Director, DDA. On this occasion the presentations were made by Prof. Dr. Ashok Kumar, Head, Department of Physical Planning, SPA, New Delhi on 'Right to Housing and Habitat' and by Prof. P.S.N. Rao, Head, Department of Housing, SPA, New Delhi on 'Planning our Urban Future'. In the open house Prof. B.K. Sengupta, IIT Kharagpur; Shri A.R. Sankhyan, State Town Planner, Himachal Pradesh; Dr. S.K. Kulshreshtha, Founder Editor SDR, New Delhi; Shri S.D. Landge, Director, Town Planning and Valuation Department, Pune; Prof. Vijay Kapse, VNIT, Nagpur; Prof. Sarup Singh, GNDU, Amritsar; Shri S. Behera, Chief Town Planner, Orissa; Shri Rajesh Nagpal, Chairman, MPRC; Shri B.C. Datta, former Chief Regional Planner, NCPRB, New Delhi; Shri Rajvir Singh, Chief Town Planner, HUDA; Shri Sham Dass Saini, Chairman, HRC, Panchkula; Shri Rajender Sharma, Chairman, PRC, Chandigarh; and Shri Pradeep Kapoor,



Workshop is in progress on the occasion of World Habitat Day.



Workshop is in progress at MRC (Nagpur) on the occasion of World Habitat Day.

Secretary General, ITPI also participated in discussions and expressed their views.

Maharashtra Regional Chapter (Nagpur)

In view of rapid pace of development of urban areas in developing countries, major problems being experienced are population growth, unorganized housing, insufficient or lack of infrastructure, etc. Mid size metropolitan cities like Nagpur, Indore, Chandigarh, etc; are experiencing rapid growth in the last few years. This year United Nation has selected the theme "Planning Our Urban Future" for the World Habitat Day. To discuss this issue, a workshop was organized on 4th October, 2009 by MRC (Nagpur).

Shri Pravin Dixit, IPS, Commissioner of Police, Nagpur was the Chief Guest who focused his discussions mainly on safety measures to be adopted for individuals and for properties, especially in the fringe areas.

Guest of Honor Shri S.V. Chahande, Chief Engineer, MADC, Nagpur was also the speaker for the technical session. He focused on MIHAN which included planning of airport, SEZ, health city, international school, and infrastructure facility, residential and recreational areas. He noted that this project will attract foreign investors and industries as well.

Gurudutt Deshmukh, Assistant Vice President, Reliance, NMSEZ spoke about global warming and how planners could contribute in reducing global warming. Today built environment is creating its own climate change called as Urban Heat Island. Its impact can be seen on the change in cropping pattern, air pattern, cloud formation, etc. Some mitigation strategies need to be adopted based on built environment, technological approaches and land use approaches.

Shri Tarun Shrivastava, NIC, Nagpur, delivered his talk on Computer Aided Utility Facility Mapping. While Prof. Rahul Ralegaonkar, Associate Professor, Civil Engineering Department, NIC, Nagpur concentrated on Sustainable development of urban infrastructure by following Indian Green Building Norms approach. He placed emphasis on green buildings and green campus planning as 57 percent of energy is consumed by built environment. Ms. Sarika Bahadure, Assistant Professor, Department of Architecture and Planning, VNIT, Nagpur, delivered a talk on 'Emerging Sprawl Versus New City form as Anti-Sprawl'.

Concluding remarks were made by Shri. V.M. Kinkhikar, Chairman of Technical Session. Compeering was done by Shri Parag Date, Coordinator of the workshop, while welcome address was given by Prof. Vijay Kapse, Chairman, MRC (Nagpur). A vote of thanks was given by Shri Parag Yelne, Secretary, ITPI, MRC, Nagpur.

West Bengal Regional Chapter

The West Bengal Regional Chapter of the Institute of Town Planners, India celebrated "World Habitat Day" on 30th October 2009 by organizing a lecture programme in the Chapter Building at Salt Lake, Kolkata on the topic 'New Urban settlements – Project Development, Implementation and Transfer'. The talk was delivered by Prof. Dr. S. P. Mukhopadhyay, former Professor of the Department of Architecture and Regional Planning, I.I.T. Kharagpur and Advisor, Bengal Ambuja Housing Development Ltd. (BAHDL), who emphasized on the need for new urban settlement projects, which face various challenges at every stage of development, implementation and transfer. It is possible to systematize the entire process of development and implementation of new urban settlement projects, integrating all relevant issues, both the common and project specific to form a generalized guideline for future project leaders. He also emphasized different phases of the project like:

- Project Initiation Phase
- Project Mobilization Phase
- Project Implementation Phase
- Project Transfer Phase

Large number of members of the Chapter and other delegates attended the function.

NORTH ZONE CONFERENCE

The North Zone Conference was organized by Haryana Regional Chapter, Punchkula on 7th November 2009 on the topic 'Land a Resource for Development Planning'

Shri T.C. Gupta, Director, Town and Country Planning, Haryana, and Chief Administrator, HUDA, while inaugurating the Conference stated that at present gross density of



Shri T.C. Gupta, Director, Town and Country Planning, Haryana, and Chief Administrator, HUDA; releasing the Souvenir. Present on the Dias are Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI; Shri Vijay Kumar, Secretary, HRC; on his left; and Shri Sham Das Saini, Chairman, Haryana Regional Chapter on his right.

population in Haryana is 80 and 100 persons per acre. In order to cope with the increasing pressure on land, Haryana is set to increase the density in upcoming residential areas. To this effect the state government would be issuing a notification. The increase would even be over 20 percent. On the theme of "Land-A Resource for Development Planning", Shri Gupta emphasized on the need for updating rules for optimum utilization of available urban land. Technology has given us options for intensive utilization of land by constructing safe, high-rise buildings, he said. The required infrastructure for such buildings in densely populated areas, including fire safety measures and earthquake resistant designs could also be taken care of by using modern technologies. Outdated laws and policies should be weeded out to make way for modern planning practices, he said, adding that town planners should be flexible and innovative so that land could be put to best use in a balanced manner.

Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI in his address stated that land is a limited resource and therefore needs to be used optimally and judiciously for urban development activities specifically when acquisition of land even for the public purposes is

becoming difficult. This is so, firstly, because it is not possible for the government and development authorities to pay compensation at the market rate and secondly, the people resist to surrender their land due to their attachment with land and property. Besides, there is a growing awareness among land owners about the importance of land which they possess in the form of precious real estate.

The conference organized by the Haryana Regional Chapter of the ITPI was attended by more than 100 delegates, including town planners, architects, engineers and other professionals from Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi

12TH ANNUAL NOSPLAN CONVENTION

The 12th Annual NOSPLAN Convention was organized by Guru Ramdas School of Planning, Guru Nanak Dev University from 29th December 2009 to 1st January, 2010 on the theme 'Spatial Planning: Emerging Issues and Strategies'.

Shri D.S. Meshram, President, Institute of Town Planners, India inaugurated the Convention on 29th December 2009. He said that he has special

and the Council Members of the Institute.

Welcome address was given by Shri S.D. Saini, Chairman, HRC and a vote of thanks was given by Shri Vijay Kumar, Secretary, HRC. Discussions were organized in two technical sessions chaired by Shri J.S. Ghuman, Ex-Chief Town Planner, Punjab in which presentations were made by Shri N.K. Sehgal, Senior Consultant, (EQ-President) Ansals Properties and Infrastructure limited on 'Compulsory Acquisition of land for Housing' and by Shri Nadim Akhtar, Senior Town Planner, HUDA on 'Urban Land Supply: Real Resource Constraint or Man Made Shortage'. The second Technical Session was chaired by Shri VVLN Sarma, Chairman, UPRC in which presentations were made by Shri A.R. Sankhayan, State Town Planner, Himachal Pradesh on 'Planning and Development of Development Land in Urban Areas of Himachal Pradesh'; Prof. Dr. Ashok Kumar, Head, Department of Physical Planning, SPA on 'Comprehending the Urban: A Marxian Perspective'; and by Prof. Ashwani Luthra, Head, Guru Ramdas School of Planning, GNDU, Amritsar on 'National Rehabilitation Policy, 2006: Some Observations'.

On this occasion, the Council Meeting was hosted by Shri Rajender Sharma, Chairman, Punjab Regional Chapter of the ITPI at PRC Building, Chandigarh.

attachment with Guru Ramdas School of Planning because he was among the first batch of teachers who started this School.

On the theme of NOSPLAN - 'Spatial Planning: Emerging Issues and Strategies' Shri Meshram stated that the issue of making Master Plans dynamic and transparent assumes more importance as the issue was flagged during the National Seminar on



Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI lighting the Inaugural Lamp. Present are Prof. Ashwani Luthra, Head, Guru Ramdas School of Planning, GNDU, Amritsar (on his left); and Dr. Raghubir Singh, Dean Academy Affair, Guru Nanak Dev University (on his right).

'Master Plan Approach: Efficacy and Alternative' organized by Town and Country Planning Organization, Government of India, Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment during 24th – 25th February 1995 in which not only the planners but architects, engineers, policy makers, educationist, and researchers participated. The basic question raised against the present practice of preparation of master plans or development plans is that these instruments are static while development of towns and cities is dynamic. Yet another issue he flagged was that of population projection – the basic postulate which leads to preparation of development plans which is very difficult to project population accurately because it gets biased due to political compulsions. He quoted the example of Delhi where earlier due to the Asiad Games in Delhi and now Commonwealth Games taking place in Delhi will attract majority of service and construction workers to Delhi.

On the issue of climate change he was of the opinion that it is bound to change due to human activities and ever increasing population, which will increase the demand for per capita consumption of food, electricity, water and the ingredient required for shelters

i.e. land and material because production of building material will generate heat. Besides, traffic and transportation would increase, the consumption of fossil fuel resulting into generation of heat and environmental degradation. He therefore was of the view that it is not possible to totally eliminate these problems but there is every possibility of minimizing ill effects of these activities through planning interventions by use of planning instruments like development plan, master plan, etc. To this end he suggested that remedies like – reducing the numbers of trips and length of trips by bringing workplaces and residential areas nearer to each other; preparing the layout plans where consumption of water and electricity can be reduced;

planning the shelter using more solar energy and also street lighting, etc; using the dry solid waste to convert it to energy. He ended his talk by saying that master planning should not be very ambitious but realistic and ground to earth.

During the open house discussions, the students' community raised the issue of inclusion of B. Tech Planning in Recruitment Rules of Government and Semi-Government Agencies and putting Thesis of planning schools on the website of the ITPI. To this Shri Meshram replied that in the Model Recruitments Rules prepared by Institute of Town Planners, India, B. Tech Planning has already been included. He also called on all the Schools of Planning to send brief synopsis of all the Thesis of their students which then will be published in the ITPI Newsletter.

The welcome address was given by Prof. Ashwani Luthra, Head, Guru Ramdas School of Planning, GNDU, Amritsar and a vote of thanks were given by Shri Varun Mahajan, Coordinator (NOSPLAN), GNDU. While extending a vote of thanks Shri Mahajan commended the liberal financial grant given by the ITPI amounting to Rs.1.5 lakh for organizing the NOSPLAN. On this occasion Dr. Raghubir Singh, Dean Academic Affair, Guru Nanak Dev University, also addressed the participants.

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOPS AND CONGRESSES

New Readings on the Theory of Production of Space: Lefebvre and the Developing World

Nowadays, one could observe the regeneration of Henri Lefebvre's perspective on the questions of production of space, urbanism and modernization. On the other hand, despite Lefebvre's overemphasis on the urban sociology, he was able to also

grasp the importance of the rural sociology. According to him, the main objective of the Marxian rural sociology should be of transforming the peasant and agricultural reality.

Lefebvre's radical attitude on rural questions expressed itself in the rural problems of socialism through the conviction that Marxism should firstly

focus on agricultural problems. Accordingly, one should primarily solve the contradiction between the "agricultural and industrial eras". Therefore, the main problem of the panel would be - "Is an alternative and inventive reading of Lefebvre's work possible? If yes, how to examine the intensification of rural and suburban struggles in the developing world, based on this perspective of politics of space? How to conceive a new strategy of production of space centered in the Third World? How to redefine 'the right to city' in the Global South?"

The Conference "A Measure of Place: Space in Text and Context" will be held on 5th - 7th February 2010 at McGill University, Montreal. Topics for discussion include:

- Rural and Suburban Spatial Struggles in Today's South America,

- Critique of Traditional Urban Revolutionism,
- Urban Revolution or Rural Revolution? Possible Strategies,
- Lefebvre and the Third World,
- New Strategies of Production of Space,
- Redefinition of "the Right to City",
- Rural Sociology and Politics of Space,
- Socialist Communes in Venezuela (and the "Socialist Caracas Project"),
- People's Councils in Cuba, Cuban Urban Agriculture and Production of Space,
- The Chinese Project of the Construction of Socialist Villages.

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REGIONAL CHAPTERS NEWS

Delhi Regional Chapter

On the occasion of the Annual General Meeting of the Institute of Town Planners, India, Delhi Regional Chapter organized a colloquium on 25th September 2009 at ITPI Headquarters under the chairmanship of Shri R.M. Lal, Chairman, DRC. In the colloquium presentations were made by Prof. P.K. Sarkar, Head, Department of Transport Planning, SPA, New Delhi and Prof. Dr. Ashok Kumar, Head, Department of Physical Planning, SPA, New Delhi. Shri J.B. Kshirsagar, Chief Planner, TCPO was the Chief Guest on this occasion. The welcome address was given by Dr. Sandeep Raut, Secretary, DRC and a vote of thanks was extended by Shri Paresh Kumar Dhuria, Associate Planner, TCPO.

Tamilnadu Regional Chapter

Tamilnadu Regional Chapter of the ITPI celebrated World Town Planning Day 2009 on 10th November 2009 at Hotel Marina Tower, Egmore Chennai. On this occasion Thiru Ma. Subramanian, Worshipful Mayor, Corporation of Chennai delivered the Presidential Address and Thiru Parithi Ellamvazhuthi, Hon'ble Minister for Information and Chairman, CMDA was the Chief Guest and delivered the Inaugural Address.

West Bengal Regional Chapter Celebrates its Silver Jubilee: 1984-2009

Kharagpur Regional Chapter of the Institute of Town Planners, India was established in 1984 as the 11th Regional Chapter in the Department of Architecture and Regional Planning, IIT Kharagpur, in order to take care of the professional matters of planners in the eastern region. Kharagpur Regional Chapter changed its nomenclature to West Bengal Regional Chapter in the year 1997-1998 having 116 members at that time and was among the 18 Regional Chapters in the country. The

NATIONAL WORKSHOPS AND CONGRESSES

Energy Conservation in Buildings

National Productivity Council is organizing residential programme on "Energy Conservation in Buildings" from 20th December 2009 to 24th December 2009 at Hotel Anmol Continental, Hyderabad.

Since a sizable portion of the energy in buildings is mostly consumed by utilities like air conditioning, pumps, fans, lighting, lifts, computers, etc; one need to focus on various aspects of their operation. The NPC's experiences over the last four decades in energy auditing and conservation studies in various industries, hotels, hospitals, commercial and office buildings have revealed tremendous scope for improvement and energy cost reduction through various cost reduction and innovative approaches. The themes of the Programme are:

- Energy Conservation Act, 2001

- Energy Consumption profile in Commercial and Office buildings, Hotels, Hospitals, Software Buildings, malls, etc.
- Energy Efficient Green Buildings
- Building Energy Management System (BMS)
- Latest Trends and Development in Air conditioning
- Energy Efficient Projects Implementation through ESCO Route
- Energy Conservation in Pumps, Lifts, Fans, Computers, etc
- Latest trends and developments in lighting

For further information please contact
 National Productivity Council
 10-E, Gagan Vihar Complex, MJ Road,
 Hyderabad-500001
 Email : npc.ac@nic.in



Releasing of Colourful Souviner by Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI on the occasion of Silver Jubilee function of West Bengal Regional Chapter

Chapter has since grown and has celebrated its Silver Jubilee in 2009.

The Chapter took initiative to get allotted a piece of land amounting to 412.25 sq m or 6 *kattah* at Salt Lake City, Kolkata by the Urban Development Department, Government of West Bengal in 1991. WBRC was the second chapter in the country in inaugurating its own building.

Construction of the Chapter's building at Salt Lake started in December 1992, and the first phase of the building was inaugurated on 10th April 1998. The building has since been completed with full financial assistance from the ITPI headquarters. The building is ground plus four storeys with the provision of lift and car parking facility in the stilted ground floor. Total built up area of the Chapter Building is 1,030.70 sq mt with 206.14 sq mt in each floor.

ITPI ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 2009

The Annual General Meeting of the ITPI was held on 25th September 2009 at the ITPI headquarters at 4-A Ring Road, Indraprastha Estate, New Delhi at 1400 hours. The notice for the same was issued on 31st August 2009 for transacting the Ordinary Business. Accordingly, in the Annual General Meeting, the following business was transacted.

Ordinary Business

- To receive, consider and adopt the Audited Statements of Accounts together with Report of the Council and the Auditors for the year ended on 31 March 2009. The Report of the Council 2008-2009 along with Audited Statements of Accounts were considered and approved.

- To present the Scrutinizers' Report on the Council Election for the year 2009-2010.

The Scrutinizers Report was presented in AGM, which was approved by the members. The

Scrutinizers Report declared the following as elected members of Council 2009-2010.

General Constituency

Dr. A.N. Sachithanandan
Shri B.C. Datta
Shri B. Mahendra
Shri G. Mohanan
Shri J.C. Datta
Dr. Najamuddin
Shri N.K. Patel
Shri P.A.S.M. Lakshman Rao
Shri P.K. Rajkohwa
Shri R.P. Sachan
Shri S. Behra
Dr. S.P. Bansal
Shri T.K. Bhattacharyya

Special Constituency

Shri S.D. Landge
Shri Sham Dass Saini
Shri S.H. Sancheti
Shri Rajinder Sharma
Prof. Vijay S. Kapse

Shri D.S. Meshram, Shri Aniyam Mathew and Shri Pradeep Kapoor would be ex-officio members as immediate past President, Vice-President and Secretary General, respectively.

- To appoint Auditor and to fix their remuneration.

The Members agreed to continue the services of M/S Sarkar and Associates for the year 2009 – 2010 on the annual remuneration of Rs.1,00,000 per annum.

CHAIRMEN, CO-CHAIRPERSON AND SECRETARIES OF COMMITTEES, 2008-2009

Name of Committee	Chairman	Co-Chairperson	Secretary
Professional Standing Committee	M.S. Belekar	Uma Adusumalli	Jibesh Paul
Information Technology Committee	B.S. Sokhi	Alok Ranjan	Dr. Sandeep
Library Committee	R.G. Bhambhani	Smaran K. Das	P.K. Behera
Educational Standing Committee	Dr. Krishna Gowda	Prof. K. Kapadia	Dr. Mayank
Regional Chapter Building Committee	Ranjan Chattopadhyay	B.S. Kanawat	Sunil Mehra
Evaluation Committee	S.S. Mathur	-	R. Srinivas
Head Quarter Building Committee	V.K. Bugga	M.P. Goel	S.B. Khodankar
Editorial Board	Aniyam Mathew	-	Dr. Ashok Kumar
Technical Committee	A.R. Patharkar	C.K. Thomas	Pradeep Kapoor
Executive Committee	D.S. Meshram	Aniyam Mathew	Pradeep Kapoor

ITPI COUNCIL 2009 – 2010

In the first meeting of the Council held on 26th September 2009 at ITPI headquarters, following office bearers were elected unanimously:

President

Shri D.S. Meshram

Vice-President

Shri Aniyam Mathew

Secretary General

Shri Pradeep Kapoor

Prof. Dr. Ashok Kumar and Shri R. Biswas, has been appointed as Secretary (Publications) and Secretary (Examinations) respectively.

58TH NATIONAL TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNERS CONGRESS

The 58th National Town and Country Planners Congress of ITPI will be held at Hotel Tuli International Nagpur, during 4th-6th January, 2010 on the Theme "Inclusive Planning for Empowering the Urban Poor" with sub-themes on (i) Access to Shelter, Livelihood Opportunities and Infrastructure; (ii) Institutional Mechanism and Planning Process; (iii) Mobilization of Resources for the Poor; and (iv) Slum Rehabilitation and Re-development Initiatives (Local sub-theme).

Members are invited to attend National Congress and also to contribute a paper on the theme / sub-themes. The abstract of the paper may be send by 10th December, 2009, followed by a hard and soft copy of the full paper in Ms-Word (not exceeding 3000 words) and maps, photographs, drawings, etc; shall be in JPEG format latest by 20th December, 2009.

ELECTED OFFICE BEARERS (2009-10) OF ITPI

Shri D.S. Meshram President

Shri D.S. Meshram was elected President of the ITPI for the eleventh time. Prior to this, he held the prestigious position of the Chief Planner, Town and Country Planning Organization, Government of India for over 12 years and was responsible for elevating the status of the Chief Planner to Joint Secretary in Government of India. When he joined the TCPO, in the beginning itself he was given the charge of a very important scheme called the Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns or IDSMT. He ensured speedy implementation of not only the IDSMT but also initiated other vital schemes like Urban Mapping and Urban Information System (URIS), which were extended in successive Five Year Plans. The process of functioning of TCPO, with the help of modern tools and technologies was carried forward by him. Use of computer software and hardware was given fillip and its use was impressed upon the State Town Planning Departments. The Regional Plan of Bharatpur based on GIS environment, was initiated by him as a demonstration project. Software with an automated system was developed in the TCPO to replace the manual scheme of monitoring Town Planning Schemes. The Model Town and Country Planning Law was revised while he was the Chief Planner to bring it in conformity with the 73rd and 74th Constitution Amendments. After his retirement from the TCPO as Chief Planner, the Government of Uttarakhand appointed him as Advisor, Urban Development.

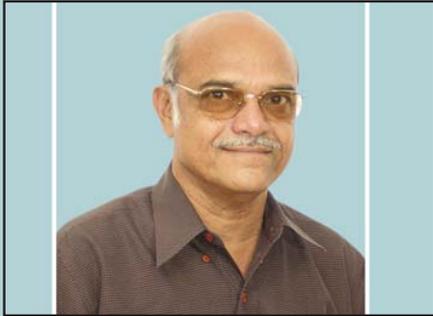
Shri Meshram represented India at several international meets including the Commonwealth Association of Planners in Canada, UNDP Conference on Population at Barcelona in Spain, Barrier Free Environment in Indonesia, Thailand and China, Congress on Environmental Pollution in New York and Washington, etc. He delivered lectures at prominent academic

institutions including the University College of London and Lal Bahadur Shastri Academy, Missouri on urban development and management. He has undergone training in disaster mitigation and risk management in Sweden and visited England, Norway, Germany, the Netherlands, France, Luxemburg, and many other countries.

Shri D.S. Meshram was a member of Delhi Development Authority and New Delhi Municipal Council. Due to his initiatives, the ITPI was awarded the work of preparation of 'Urban Development Plan Formulation and Implementation (UDPFI) Guidelines' by the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation in 1996, for which Ministry appointed him Chairman of Technical Committee. The UDPFI Guidelines are being followed by various state departments and organizations. The Development Plan for the Universal Township of Auroville was prepared by Shri Meshram adopting the UDPFI Guidelines to demonstrate its practical applicability.

The Institute under his Presidency acquired land for the construction of a majority of the Regional Chapter buildings. It was due to his efforts that the annual ITPI Congress was regularly sponsored by the parent Ministry. He initiated the idea of organizing Annual Zonal Conferences by the ITPI on the themes of regional interests for better interaction among the members of Regional Chapters at Zonal level. He ensured that such conferences are held in different zones regularly. It is due to his untiring efforts that a separate All India Board of Town and Country Planning have been constituted by All India Council of Technical Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development. Currently Shri D.S. Meshram has been again appointed the Chairman of this Board.

Shri Meshram was also instrumental in taking up the issue of starting



Diwakar S. Meshram, President

undergraduate planning courses in country with the help of then Ministry of Education, Government of India and recently with Ministry of Human Resource Development to start four new Schools of Planning. Ministry of HRD has already started two new Schools of Planning at Vijaywada and Bhopal.

Shri Meshram was born on 16th May 1941 at Nagpur. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Arts and Bachelor's Degree in Architecture from Nagpur University. He got his Master's Degree in Town and Country Planning from the School of Architecture and Planning, Chennai and an LLB from the Punjab University, Chandigarh. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Town Planners, India.

**Shri Aniyam Mathew
Vice-President**

Shri Aniyam Mathew, elected as Vice-President, ITPI, graduated in civil engineering from the University of Kerala in 1963. He has been a consultant to many NGOs involved in development activities. He also played pivotal role in poverty alleviation programmes organized in southern India by agencies such as the USAID, CIDA and the Government of Belgium. In late 1960s, he was associated with the pioneering works of world renowned architects like Padmasree Laurier Baker OBE. He has also made contributions to environment friendly designs and low cost building technologies.

His vast experience with the aid agencies prompted him to pursue town planning education. He passed his postgraduate degree in Town and Country Planning from the School of Architecture and Planning, Chennai in 1972. In 1975, a German aid agency invited Shri Aniyam Mathew to join them as a planner in their expert team. It was here that he made many environment friendly designs for medium sized projects in different parts of the developing countries. Some of his designs for Health Centers from



Aniyam Mathew, Vice-President

various climatic zones were adopted by the World Health Organization as type-plans.

Since his return to India, Shri Mathew has been working as a freelance planner. He also served for a short while in the State Nirmiti Kendra as senior resource person. He actively participated in the activities of Kerala Regional Chapter. He encouraged many professionals to enhance their qualifications by joining postgraduate courses in town planning through Associateship Examination of the ITPI. Shri Mathew has traveled extensively in Europe and India learning about land and the people.

Presently Shri Mathew is a member of the State Level Steering Committee for the preparation of IDDP and LDP, a programme which has attracted national attention. Shri Mathew has been elected as Vice-President of the ITPI for the third time.

**Shri Pradeep Kapoor
Secretary General**

Shri Pradeep Kapoor, elected as Secretary General, is working as Deputy Town Planner with the Government of Rajasthan. He was Nodal Officer for the Rajasthan Urban Spatial Data Centre established by Government of Rajasthan in the State Town Planning Department. In the capacity of Deputy Town Planner, he has been involved in the preparation of the Model Building Regulations for urban areas of the state. Draft Rajasthan (Conservation of Heritage Buildings, Heritage Areas and Heritage Precincts) Bill was prepared by Shri Kapoor as Deputy Town Planner (Projects). Presently Shri Kapoor is working as Deputy Secretary, in Government of Rajasthan.



Pradeep Kapoor, Secretary General

Shri Kapoor completed his postgraduate degree in Regional Planning from IIT Kharagpur in 1981. In 1992, he completed a postgraduate diploma in Management from IGNOU. He has been actively involved in the various activities of Rajasthan Regional Chapter including that of the Treasurer, Secretary and Chairman. Shri Kapoor was instrumental in procuring land and construction of the Chapter building in Rajasthan. He was the Council member of the ITPI in 1998-1999, Chairman RCBC in 2001-2002, and Chairman, Finance Committee in 2004-2005 of the ITPI. Shri Pradeep Kapoor has been elected Secretary General for the sixth time in 2009-2010.