



# planners newsletter

INSTITUTE OF TOWN PLANNERS, INDIA

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## WEST ZONE CONFERENCE ON 'GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURE CITIES'

The Institute of Town Planners, India organized the West Zone conference on 'Green and Sustainable Future Cities' on 3rd April 2010 at Sports Club Ahmedabad. While inaugurating the Conference Shri Nitinbhai Patel, Hon'ble Minister for Urban Development Department, was happy to note that the ITPI organized the West Zone Conference at Ahmedabad, on the important theme of 'Green and Sustainable Future Cities', coinciding with fifty years celebration of 'Swarnim Gujarat'. Tracing the history Shri

Nitinbhai stated that earlier resources were limited and therefore we had to dependent on natural resources, while in the present day context innovative ideas, latest technologies and innovative plan implementation techniques have become available. He pointed out that these opportunities need to be harnessed for the benefit of majority of the population. Quoting the example of internet and computer facilities, he mentioned that even day to day needs and requirements can be made available without actually visiting shops. At the

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same time he also cautioned that the natural resources like water and land are limited and even through the application of latest innovations and technologies it may not be possible to increase the supply of these natural resources. Therefore, natural resources are required to be used judiciously so that these scarce resources could be passed on to the future generations.

As the supply of land is limited, the planners' community needs to take into consideration that land is required to be used optimally for urban development. We have to be mindful that land is also available for forests and agriculture purposes.

On the issue of water, Hon'ble Minister stated that water from Sardar Sarovar could be beneficially used not only for agricultural purposes but also for greening our cities and towns. If water is available in Sabarmati River Front Development Area it would even reduce the temperature giving relief to the citizens of Ahmedabad during summer



Shri Nitinbhai Patel, Hon'ble Minister for Urban Development Department, Government of Gujarat, lighting the Inaugural Lamp. Present on the dias (on his right) are Shri D.S. Meshram, President, ITPI; N.K. Patel, Council Member ITPI; and (on his left) Shri N.V. Patel, Chairman, Vadodra Urban Development Authority; Shri K.M. Panchal, Chief Town Planner, Government of Gujarat; and Shri P.K. Ghosh, former Vice-Chairman, DDA

season. He also desired that the planners' community to disseminate information on green house effects among the masses and make them aware about environmental considerations. He also underscored that in the developed countries there is no shortage of resources specifically with reference to land. However, in India, land is not in plenty and population overwhelms. Therefore, we have to develop indigenous models instead of adopting western models. He once again congratulated the ITPI for selecting Ahmedabad as the venue for the West Zone Conference.

Shri Ashokbhai Bhavsar, Chairman, Gandhi Nagar Urban Development Authority gave a brief account of actions initiated by GUDA towards green city development and efforts being made by GUDA, including mandatory provisions of solar energy application in public buildings. He also elaborated on the issue of global warming and was of the opinion that town planners have a vital role to play through the instrument of master plans / development plans to address the issue of global warming.

Shri N.V. Patel, Chairman, Vadodra Urban Development Authority stated that the magnitude of challenges of our country are very vast. India being the second most populous country i.e. three times more population than USA, therefore, we cannot adopt the models of western countries. He also highlighted another issue of planning of integrated train and bus services and also of dedicated corridors for service trenches. He was also of the opinion that due to scarcity of land, it is pertinent to opt for vertical growth. He also advised to grow more and more trees in the cities.

Shri Surendra Kaka, Member of Parliament and former Chairman, Ahmedabad Urban Development Authority, also addressed the Conference and shed light on the development of Ring Road through

public and private partnership. He emphatically pleaded that preparation of Development Plan is important but its' implementation is even more important. He commended efforts of Government of Gujarat towards achieving urban development through the instrument of Town Planning Schemes and added that over 100 such schemes are in various stages of implementation. Yet another landmark decision of Government of Gujarat is to amend the Gujarat Town Planning Act.

Shri D.S. Meshram in his Presidential Address focused on the theme of 'green city' and noted that it is not only limited to garden cities for providing green belt around the city but encompasses much larger issues including designing of green buildings, creating sustainable energy production and consumption systems to avoid heat islands, etc. While sustainability aspect foresees conservation of resources for next generations to come, and therefore it is essential to use natural resources such as land, water and air more judiciously.

On the issue of global warming he highlighted the aspect of excessive heat generation due to human activities for production and consumption of power, forgetting its side effects i.e. contribution in global warming. To emphasis his view point he quoted the example of bearing capacity of a town. In this reference he lamented that there is one school of thought which believes that bearing capacity can be increased through certain measures for example if water is one of the aspect then supply can be accelerated, but the question arises at what cost? Similarly it holds good for power and other resources.

Coming back to the theme of conference i.e. green and sustainable future cities, Shri Meshram raised the question, whether it is possible to plan future cities which consume less water, less power; consume less natural and manmade resources, less land, etc. In

this direction he pointed out that planners and other professionals should explore the possibility of finding the middle ground between 'bottom up' and 'top down' planning processes. These concepts could be adopted for the development of our towns and cities.

During the technical sessions Shri P.K. Ghosh, former Vice-Chairman, DDA presented his views on revitalization of older cities along with future cities and underlined the issue of urban to urban migration of white collar people. Yet another aspect he highlighted was that of more spending on travel out of hard earned money by the EWS due to spread of towns. He desired that the planners need to think in terms of high rise buildings because these will reduce the costs of transportation and time as well. On the issue of future cities he asked whether 4 BHK is the answer for compact city. While summing up his presentation he noted that 'If we desire to save green spaces in the cities then we have to earmark planned areas for slum and squatter dwellers'.

Prof. Shishir Rawal, former Professor of North Carolina State University, USA raised the basic issues like: Are we willing to live as simple as trees? Are we working for planet or towards self interest? When planet is ready to have a pact with us, why we are neglecting the planet? He also lamented the aspect of vertical transportation in high rise buildings which generate more heat than horizontal spread.

Dr. Jana Dreikhauser, Urban Designer from Auroville was of the opinion that high tech is more costly in terms of maintenance and disposal. She also advocated adopting sustainable city designs. She also said that planners have significant role to play in changing our living environments to meet the challenges of 21st century.

Shri Jagdev Nansey, Planner, focused on measures to protect and conserve urban trees to increase the urban tree cover while Prof. Shivanand Swamy,

Associate Director, CEPT University made presentation on Bus Rapid Transit System in general and Ahmedabad BRTS in particular.

Welcome address was given by Shri N.K. Patel and vote of thanks were

extended by Shri K.M. Panchal, Chief Town Planner, Gujarat who also requested the ITPI Council to accept the request of GRC for hosting the 59th Town and Country Planners' Congress in January 2011 at Ahmedabad.

How can we build cities that are sustainable and livable? How do cities balance between growth and the environment? How do cities manage growing populations, increasing demand for basic services, such as clean air and water, and growing pressures on land? These are the issues that World Cities Summit 2010 will address.

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

### **ICURPT 2010: International Conference on Urban, Regional Planning and Transportation**

The International Conference on Urban, Regional Planning and Transportation is being organized by ICURPT. This conference will be held from 28th June to 30th June 2010 at Paris. The event aims to bring together academic scientists, leading engineers, industry researchers and scholar students to exchange and share their experiences and research results about all aspects of Urban, Regional Planning and Transportation, besides to discuss the practical challenges encountered and the solutions adopted.

ICURPT 2010 has teamed up with the International Journal of Natural Sciences and Engineering for publishing a Special Journal Issue on Advances in Urban, Regional Planning and Transportation. All submitted papers will have opportunities for consideration for this Special Journal Issue. The selection will be carried out during the review process as well as at the conference presentation stage.

The Refereed Conference Proceedings (ISSN: 2070-3740 & ISSN: 2070-3724) reviewed and indexed by Thomson Reuters (ISI), SCIRUS, Google Scholar, Engineering Index (Compendex), EBSCO, GALE, DOAJ, INTUTE, ScientificCommons and Electronic Journals Library) will be internationally distributed both in Electronic CD-ROM Format and Proceedings Book. The Refereed Conference Proceedings Book and CD-ROM will be included in each Conference Registrant's Packet.

Submitted papers must not be under consideration by any other journal or publication. The final decision will be made based on peer review reports by the guest editors and the Editor-in-Chief jointly.

For further information please contact

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### **World Cities Summit 2010: Livable and Sustainable Cities for the Future**

World Cities Summit 2010 on 'Livable and Sustainable Cities for the Future' is scheduled to be held between 28th June – 1st July 2010 at Singapore. World Cities Summit is a premier event that brings together leaders and policy makers with leading experts in their fields to identify innovative solutions to the most pressing challenges facing cities today.

The Summit will be a four-day event focusing on leadership and governance, eco-friendly and livable cities, and harmonious and sustainable communities. Through the exchange of ideas and knowledge, cities can learn from each other to identify practical, scalable and replicable solutions to the challenges they face.

Half the world's population now lives in cities. The size and number of cities in the developing world, particularly in Asia, Africa and Latin America, continue to grow at an unprecedented rate. The challenges posed require urgent solutions.

For further information please contact

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### **International Conference on Sustainable Architecture and Urban Development**

The Second International Conference on 'Sustainable Architecture and Urban Development' will be held between 12th - 14th July 2010 at Amman, Jordan. It is being organized by the Center for the Study of Architecture in the Arab Region, Jordan in Collaboration with The University of Dundee, School of Architecture, UK, and Jordan University, Jordan.

Increasing urbanization of many parts of the world coupled with other globally critical issues such as environmental pollution, energy consumption, and resources shortage are resulting in major urban crises in many parts of the world. A strong emphasis nowadays is placed upon improving the sustainability of the built environment 'from cradle to cradle'. This is attributed to the growing public awareness of the importance of sustainable development practices, which also enhances quality of life. Public governance and the construction industry are confronted by the push for sustainability. A fresh and holistic approach to designing, constructing and managing the built environment addressing building and the spatial environment is required, which will need to address buildings and the entire spatial environment. New sets of regulatory practices, indicators, measurements, and priorities are emerging with application at all scales

- from individual buildings to the district and city-scale level.

The Conference theme and research tracks are:

- Urban Planning and Urban Design for Sustainability;
- Design for Sustainability;
- Whole Life Urban Sustainability and its Assessment;

- Governance and Local Planning for Sustainability; and
- Climate Change Versus Sustainability.

For further information please contact

Conference Secretary  
Samer Taweel, CSAAR, Jordan  
Email :samer @ csaar-center.org

## NATIONAL SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

### Conference on Cost Effective Sustainable Sanitation- An Indian Experience

Wash Institute, in collaboration with Plan India, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, WES-Net India, UNICEF and member agencies, is organizing a "Cost Effective Sustainable Sanitation- an Indian Experience" at the Indian Habitat Centre, New Delhi, India from 28th to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010.

The conference is envisages to:

- bring all the key sector players and practitioners together to share their success stories and approaches in promoting sustainable sanitation in the country to overcome some of the key challenges.
- define the strategy to scale-up good practices in an efficient and effective ways.
- The proposed national meet would be a mini sanitation conference before SACOSAN IV in Sri Lanka next year.

For further information please contact  
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### Water Management and Technology Conference 2010

Through this Conference, CII aims to facilitate a suitable platform for industries and concerned stakeholders to disseminate and network on issues pertaining to Urban Water Management - Challenges and Solutions; New Trends in Industrial Water Management - Focus on Latest Technologies and Some Learning Experiences through Case Study Sharing. The event will take place on 4th June 2010 at Hotel Intercontinental, Andheri (E), Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Participation in this programme would enable the delegates to gather best practices from experts. Also, the networking sessions would provide the delegates with an opportunity to network with a cross section of industry colleagues from automation, cement, chemicals, engineering, environment, food and beverage, infrastructure, manufacturing, paper and pulp, pharma, power, and real estate sectors.

For further information please contact

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### Urban Transport Congress India, 2010

Urban Transport Congress India, 2010 is scheduled to be held from 24th June 2010 to 25th June 2010 at JW Marriott, Mumbai, India.

For the next five years, India is poised to witness the biggest infrastructure build up anywhere in the world. The government plans to spend an estimated \$567.2 billion over the next 5 years on infrastructure development. A sizeable chunk of this is being channelized to developing India's road and highway networks, renewing and revitalizing its cities, towns and interlinking them to push economic growth.

The crucial link here is transport infrastructure which has been attracting multi-billion dollar investments from international finance agencies, banks and investors. The pressing need for this is arising from the fact that by the year 2030 almost half of India's population is expected to live in urban areas as against the current 30 percent stretching its urban fabric beyond capacity and over burdening its roads and public transport systems.

With bigger projects, come bigger hurdles. Implementation has been and will continue to be a grey area as cost escalation, land and public utility acquisition and litigation continue to mar some of the most ambitious projects, both ongoing and completed. Given the size of the projects being undertaken and the change in thinking both at the policy level as well as the end user level about what constitutes efficient mass transit, and sustainable transport acquiring a newly found elevated status, there are several issues that need to be discussed, debated and addressed.

Urban Transport Congress India is designed to get the industry and the policy makers on one platform to hammer out the way forward for India's

tier I and tier II cities if they are to compete with their global counterparts. The agenda, developed through active and extensive research aims to generate not just insightful comments and debates but bring to the floor in-depth case studies that offer alternatives and solutions to pressing urban needs that need urgent action.

For further information please contact  
Conference Producer  
Phone : +91 22 61713204  
Email : urvashi.kumar@ideas-exchange.in

### **Sustainable Development and Environment Concerns**

Indian Building Congress will be organizing a national seminar on the theme 'Sustainable Development and Environment Concerns' during its 16th Annual Congress at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi in May 2010.

A developed society over the last few decades has become synonymous with higher consumption. Use of large variety of manufactured building materials, high level of mechanization consuming energy and creating pollution has put a lot of strain on the natural resources. Unprecedented urbanization has resulted in slums in all metropolitan cities. As the development of human civilization follows an ascending direction, this rate is going to increase and consumption of resources and land would increase, causing depletion of the environment and its resources that cannot be sustained in future. Today, the sustainability of built environment is hampered by several forces and factors, such as inadequacy of land, water, energy and unavailability of clean air. Cities in India have the problems of overcrowding, poor sanitation, pollution, lack of open spaces, depletion of underground water.

The Seminar will review all the aspects and evolve policies and guidelines that, if followed, will bring improvement in levels of sustainable development of the built environment. Discussions are

planned to be held on following sub-themes:

- Planning for Sustainable Development;
- Environmental Concerns;
- Green Buildings;
- Sustainable Materials;
- Alternative Energy Resources;
- Life Cycle Cost; and

- Legal Issues

For further information please contact  
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### **WORLD EXPO 2010 ON 'BETTER CITY, BETTER LIFE'**

The Shanghai World Expo 2010 on 'Better City, Better Life', is an international exposition that will take place from 1st May – 31st October 2010 in Shanghai, China. The Expo, which will cover over 5 square kilometer hopes to attract 70 million people to see the displays of exhibitors from over 200 countries from the public and private sectors, civil society and international organizations.

The main theme of Expo 2010 is 'Better City, Better Life' will show exciting initiatives aimed at achieving better living conditions and more sustainable urban environments – where over half of the world's population lives.

The sub-themes of the Expo are:

- Blending of diverse cultures in the city;
- Economic prosperity in the city;
- Innovations of science and technology in the city;
- Remodeling of communities in the city;
- Interaction between urban and rural areas.

Shanghai World Exposition is a grand gathering to explore urban lifestyles for humanity, a symphony of innovation and harmony as its keynote and a thrilling dialogue between all human civilizations.

#### **National Pavilion Day – India : 18th August, 2010**

Each country participant is entitled to organize a National Pavillion Day. Various friendly exchanges and cultural and artistic activities representative of its identity are to be held at the Pavilion or inside the Expo Site.

### **REGIONAL CHAPTERS ACTIVITIES**

#### **Punjab Regional Chapter**

The National Seminar on 'Sustainable Lifelines – Transportation Planning and Management' was organized by Guru Ramdas School of Planning, GNDU, Amritsar during 12th – 13th March, 2010 in collaboration with Punjab Regional Chapter, ITPI. Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI was the chief guest on this occasion. During his inaugural address he underlined that for urban

transport planning three major component requires consideration i.e. (a) mobility demand due to many fold increase in population coupled with economic growth; (b) ineffective and outdated transport infrastructure encouraging greater use of private vehicles which results into congestion on our roadways; and (c) minimal investment in transport sector. These three factors throw more challenges to

the planners because increase in population in turns warrants expansion of our towns and cities which ultimately results into increase in trip lengths for all types of activities ranging from work place, education, commerce, etc; it would therefore be more pertinent to opt for Alternative Analysis (AA) to find users friendly and cost effective solutions to address transport related issues. He further mentioned that traffic and transportation lines are the life lines of our towns, however, due to overcrowding they are not in a position to sustain many fold increase in traffic volume, while it is difficult to increase the existing road width. It would therefore be more advisable to discourage the personal vehicles which consumes more space of the road and carries less people. In this context he has also stated that as more and more personal vehicles are coming on the road it would be more pertinent to revisit our Vehicle Registration Policy. He has flagged yet another issue of providing equal opportunities to all the users irrespective of age and disabilities.

Prof. Ranganathan in his address stated that Master Plans are prepared first and then Traffic and Transportation Plans are prepared, and therefore he advocated that both the plans be prepared simultaneously. Shri Rajender Sharma, Chairman, Punjab Regional Chapter was of the opinion that public needs to be educated about traffic and transportation issues. While Shri S.S. Sidhu, SP Traffic Police, Amritsar was of the opinion that there is a need to break the mind sets of the people towards ignorance of traffic and transportation rules.

The welcome address was given by Prof. Ashwani Luthra, Head of Guru Ramdas School of Planning, GNDU while vote of thanks were extended by Prof. Balvinder Singh, Reader Guru Ramdas School of Planning, GNDU, Amritsar.

### **Delhi Regional Chapter**

Delhi Regional Chapter, ITPI organized Technical Session on 'Planning Issues

for Earthquake Prone Areas' on 30th April, 2010 at ITPI Conference Hall, New Delhi. Shri J.B. Kshirsagar, Chief Planner, TCPO was the chief guest on this occasion, who in his address state that there is a human dimension where growing need of an increasing population have exerted pressure on natural disaster prone areas in the country. Increased concentration of human settlements in natural disaster prone areas due to population growth and its pressure; increases vulnerability to natural disaster due to poverty and increase disaster risk due to environmental degradation. Yet another issue he lamented was that all the Fault Lines are required to be mapped so that adequate measures can be taken while preparing the Land Use Plans of our towns and cities. He was also of the opinion that forces of nature no doubt triggers disaster but they cannot be considered as the sole agent of actual disaster.

Shri D.S. Meshram in his presidential address stated that most of worlds' natural disasters occur in the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific, causing enormous destruction and human suffering. In India the country's geography, geology and economy render it especially vulnerable to a numbers of natural hazards including earthquakes. The natural hazards often turn into disasters causing significant loss to life and property. Two earthquakes have rocked the country since 1998. Chamoli in Uttrakhand was hit by an earthquake of 6.8 intensity of the Richter Scale in 1999 and 2 years after on January 26,

2001, another earthquake measuring 6.9 on the Richter Scale, struck many parts of Gujarat that was felt across India as well as neighboring countries like Pakistan and Nepal. The issue of disaster management broadly involves stages of preparedness, relief and rehabilitation. These should, however, be dealt with as a continuum. The relief to development continuum includes economic growth and sustainable development in the disaster prone areas. In fact the victims of natural hazards are usually the poor, who occupy the most hazard prone areas. One disaster makes the poor more vulnerable to the next and converts a disasters into a disaster process. While disaster management approach is excessively bureaucratized, top-down and non-integrated. Experiences are not institutionalized. They remain with individual persons; that is why, they are also lost when the persons leave.

Prof. Raman Dev Surie, Department of Physical Planning SPA, New Delhi made the presentation on 'Micro Level Issues in Site Planning for Earthquake Prone Areas', while Shri A.K. Lal, Planning Engineer, TCPO made presentation on 'Planning Issues for Earthquake Prone Areas'.

The welcome address was given by Dr. Sandeep Kumar Raut, Honorary Secretary, Delhi Regional Chapter, while the subject was introduced by Shri. R.M. Lal, Chairman, DRC and vote of thanks were extended by Shri P.K. Behra, Joint Director, DDA.

### **NEWS FROM PLANNING EDUCATION INSTITUTES: GOLDEN JUBILEE OF HOUSING DEPARTMENT, SPA, NEW DELHI**

The Department of Housing, SPA-New Delhi was established way back in the year 1958 when a Chair in Housing was instituted by the UN at the SPA, New Delhi. Prof. David Oakley from London, Prof. D.V.R. Rao and several others laid

the foundation of this Department which has today emerged as the leader in teaching and research on housing issues and related aspects. The Golden Jubilee celebration was held on 23 March 2010.



Prof. Dr. P.S.N. Rao, Head, Department of Housing welcoming the delegates. Present on the dias are Prof. Ranjit Mitra, Director, SPA; Shri B.K. Chugh, DG, CPWD; Shri. Arup Roy Choudary, CMD, NBCC and Prof. Kavasa Kapadia, Dean, SPA (from left to right)

Prof. Dr. P.S.N. Rao, Head, Department of Housing Department, traced the evolution of the Department over the last 50 years and highlighted the manner in which the course content and pedagogy has developed and shaped in order that it meets the norms and standards of postgraduate education, demands of academic rigor, changing policies of the governments, industry requirements and general socio-

economic and technological changes sweeping the economy.

Shri B.K. Chugh, DG, CPWD was the Chief Guest and Shri. Arup Roy Choudary, CMD, NBCC was the Guest of Honor on the golden jubilee event. Prof. Ranjit Mitra, Director, SPA and Prof. Kavasa Kapadia, Dean, SPA also addressed the gathering on this occasion.

including the Chief City Planner of Municipal Corporation, Hyderabad, twice (from 1987 to 1991 and from 1995 to 1997). He was also in-charge of the Planning Section of Hyderabad Municipal Buildings and Landscaping Projects. As a Director, Town Planning, he was actively involved in the preparation of master plans of various towns and cities of the state. Earlier he worked as Architect-cum-Town Planner in Andhra Pradesh Housing Board during 1967 to 1976 and got the first prize and cash award in a statewide competition conducted by Andhra Pradesh Housing Board for the Best House Designs for various categories of house designs and multi-storied complexes.

Shri Satyanarayan also worked as Chief Planner of Quli Qutubshah Urban Development Authority and his major works there included widening of Charminar to Falaknuma- 5 km long (widening 40 ft to 80ft) road, Dabirpura to Chanchalguda, Yukutpura and many other roads in the City's Congested areas.

Shri Satyanarayan, whether in Andhra Pradesh Housing Board or Municipal Administration Department or Municipal Corporation of Hyderabad or Quli Qutub Shah Urban Development Authority, has completed outstanding city development works, road widening programmes in congested city areas, city beautification programmes including sub-ways and flyovers were highly appreciated by his seniors and considered as an asset to the departments.

Even though Shri Satyanarayan retired on 31st May 2000, he is quite active in the profession of town and country planning and also actively participates in the activities of Andhra Pradesh Regional Chapter and ITPI as well.

Profile prepared by Shri Abdul Qaiyum, Former Town and Country Planner, TCPO, New Delhi, based on information available in the ITPI.

### SOUTH ZONE CONFERENCE

Institute of Town Planners, India would be organizing South Zone Conference at Rani Bahadur Auditorium, Mysore University Campus, Mysore on 12th June, 2010 in collaboration with Mysore University on the theme 'Metropolitan Governance, Heritage Conservation and Education'. All the members of South Zone Regional Chapters i.e. Tamil Nadu Regional Chapter, Andhra Pradesh Regional Chapter, Kerala Regional Chapter and Karnanataka Regional Chapter are invited to attend the conference. Members are also requested to inform Prof. Krishne Gowda (krishnegowda@hotmail.com) regarding their travel plans, accommodation and presentation of paper, etc.

**Pradeep Kapoor**  
Secretary General, ITPI

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London in 1984. Shri Satyanarayan traveled widely to Europe, USA and many Asian countries, and has given talks on *vastu* applications in designing buildings and exchanged views with experts of these countries, especially the Scandinavian countries.

Shri Satyanarayan was the Director, Town and Country Planning Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh during 1993-1995. Earlier he has worked in various capacities in the Municipal Administration Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh

## KNOW YOUR FORMER PRESIDENTS



**V. Satyanarayan**

Shri Vemula Satyanarayan, a fellow of the Institute of Town Planners, India, has the honor of being its President during 2007-2008. He has served as Council Member of the Institute for 12 years (1995-2006). He was Chairman of the Andhra Pradesh Regional Chapter of the Institute during 1995-1996. During his Chairmanship he made excellent efforts for allotment of land for the Regional Chapter building at Begumpet, Hyderabad and also contributed vigorously for the construction of the Chapter building.

As the President of the Institute Shri Satyanarayan successfully organized the National Town and Country Planners' Congress at Kolkata in December 2007 on 'Planning and Development of Peri-urban Areas' with a focus on the sub-themes: Planning and Development Policies; Implications of Peri-urban Developments; Financing and Management of Infrastructure; and Integrated Needs of Urban poor in the Development Process- as the local theme. The Congress was attended by a large number of delegates, which included physical planners, policy makers, development management experts, and experts from various disciplines.

This Congress was inaugurated by Shri Ashok Bhattacharya, Hon'ble Minister-in-charge Municipal Affairs Department and Urban Development Department,

Government of West Bengal. Hon'ble Shri Bhattacharya appreciated the theme of the Congress, an issue which is of extreme significance in the context of increasing urbanization being witnessed throughout the world in 21st century. He emphasized that the focus of discussion in the Congress has been rightly placed on some new concepts of comprehensive planning. According to him Comprehensive Development Plans must be prepared to meet long term demands of the developing cities, optimizing resource allocation, coordinating the development between urban and rural areas, specifying the scale and development orientation and realizing substantial development in terms of society, economy, population, resources and environment.

In his Presidential Address, Shri V. Satyanarayan described the 'Peri-urban Areas' as a space in the process of rapid transformations from rural to urban on the outskirts of mega cities, metropolitan cities and other large cities. In the large urban agglomerations, peri-urban areas have tendency to grow along the urban corridors at faster rate. Often transformations in such areas are generally unplanned and haphazard. There are both authorized and unauthorized developments including informal settlements and slums. Provision of services and infrastructure is inadequate and quality of life is generally poor. However, these transformations of peri-urban areas are inevitable. Development in these areas is governed by several agencies including village *panchayats*, *nagar panchayats*, district administration, Metropolitan Planning Committee (MPC), District Planning Committee (DPC), and development authorities. Functional responsibilities of such agencies are not clear, their functions are overlapping, and their actions are

uncoordinated. Shri Satyanarayan stressed that the District Planning Committees and Metropolitan Planning Committees constituted under the Constitution Amendment Acts could be important authorities to guide these developments and Master Plans and Regional Plans could be more appropriate and effective tools in this direction.

On the local theme 'Integrating Needs of the Urban Poor in the Development Processes' he stated that urban poverty was a stark reality due to lack of access to employment, adequate housing, services, social protection, health care and education. It is more prominent in metropolitan areas and Kolkata is no exception. Similar is the case with Hyderabad - a radial city with 33 roads - which is also experiencing the problem of rapid growth and huge development in the form of SEZs, Industrial Parks, IT, ITES, Bio-technology complex, large residential complexes and enclaves in the peri-urban areas in Hyderabad. In the absence of proper coordination mechanisms between various agencies which are responsible for granting permissions or approvals of layouts and buildings, the problem of provision of infrastructure, both physical and social, besides road networks are assuming alarming proportions. Therefore, there was an urgent need to create Metropolitan Planning Committee to coordinate the planning and development activities in the vast peri-urban areas of Hyderabad.

Born on 7th May 1942, Shri Satyanarayan is an architect and urban designer. He did his Diploma in Architecture in 1966 from College of Architecture and Fine Arts, Hyderabad. He completed his Postgraduate Diploma in Housing from the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi in 1972; and M.Sc. (Urban Development Planning) from the University College,

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