



planners newsletter

INSTITUTE OF TOWN PLANNERS, INDIA

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SOUTH ZONE PLANNERS' CONFERENCE

South Zone Planners' Conference of the ITPI was organized in collaboration with the University of Mysore on 12th June, 2010 on 'Metropolitan Governance, Heritage Conservation and Education' at Rani Bahadur Auditorium, University of Mysore, Manasgangothri, Mysore. The Conference was inaugurated by Shri B.A. Qutinho, IAS; Metropolitan Commissioner, Bangalore Metropolitan Region Development Authority, Karnataka. In his inaugural address Shri Qutinho noted that the level of urbanization would increase further and as per projections by 2051 it would be

more than 50 percent. Therefore, the demand on resources and infrastructure would increase manifold deserving better governance of towns and cities. Efficient governance is critical for metropolitan areas as 38 percent of urban population is predicted to settle in metropolitan areas. He also underlined that nowadays it is difficult to draw the line between urban areas and rural areas. Rather rural folk have become very vocal in making demands for modern amenities and facilities. He hoped that planners and delegates of the South Zone Planners' Conference

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would suggest suitable models of metropolitan governance after taking into consideration various models being practiced in the country and abroad including London, Washington, New York, etc; so that options for adopting the same for Hubli-Dharwad, Mangalore and even for Mysore can be considered. He said that he was keenly looking forward to receiving the recommendations of the Conference.

Tracing the history right from Mahabharata, Prof. V.G. Talawar, Vice Chancellor of the University of Mysore in his Presidential Address, argued that examples of governance being followed by various civilizations should be revisited for learning lessons for present day context. With reference to conservation of built heritage he stated that monuments and buildings of heritage value are not being properly maintained in terms of methods of construction and use of building materials. Therefore, there is an urgent need of guidance and advice required by the concerned agencies from



Shri B.A. Qutinho, IAS, Metropolitan Commissioner, Bangalore Metropolitan Region Development Authority, Karnataka lighting the Inaugural Lamp. Present on the dais (on his left) are Shri Pradeep Kapoor, Secretary General ITPI; Prof. V.G. Talawar, Vice Chancellor of the University of Mysore; and Prof. K.V. Aiyanna, Director, IDS, Mysore; and (on his right) are Shri B. Mahindara, Council Member ITPI; and Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI.



Audience of the South Zone Conference

important aspect to facilitate financially sound and cost effective management, administrative and delivery of services. Transparency and Accountability are essential to facilitate understanding of planning provisions and also to help those who would be benefiting from these decisions and actions of government and other agencies by ensuring wide dissemination of relevant information. He also pointed out that 74th Constitution Amendment provides for composition of Metropolitan Committees, which could be a leap forward for good governance.

Yet another aspect which will be deliberated in the conference is 'Heritage Conservation'. In fact conservation of heritage not only involves man made heritage which includes built environment like historical monuments, architecturally important precincts, and buildings, etc; but also natural heritage like natural environments comprising of hills and hill slopes, rivers, lakes, forests, etc. In heritage conservation, therefore, it would be essential to identify towns, precincts, buildings, natural areas, etc., which merit conservation and accordingly need to be listed based on their historical and cultural value, which need to be preserved and conserved not only for the present generation but also for the future generations.

Shri Meshram further stated that rapid urbanization has changed the face of our cities and towns drastically, more so in the last few decades. Due to rapid urbanization historical monuments which have left their imprints on the character, form and face of our towns and cities are getting defaced. It needs no emphasis to state that the issue of urban conservation and resolution of its associated conflicts are not new and are being discussed and debated for the past several decades. However, these issues have not yet been resolved. Questions like – should old areas be preserved or should they make room for new developments; how much and

planners and other experts so that the monuments do not lose their original character and glory. With reference to metropolitan governance he noted that various agencies are involved in planning and development but proper attention has not been paid to planned development of extensions and peri-urban areas, and no provision has been made for adequate road width, parking and pedestrian pathways. Adequate attention is also not given for long term planning due to which lot of congestion and traffic jams take place. There are norms, standards and regulations but people generally tend to ignore them. He ended his talk by suggesting that town and country planning community present in conference should come forward with practical suggestions and concrete recommendations.

Shri D.S. Meshram, President, ITPI in his address stated that as per 2001 census 28 percent population of the country lived in urban areas which is likely to cross 50 percent by 2051. He further added that 38 percent of urban population lives in 35 metropolitan cities, which is likely to increase to more than 75 percent by 2051, exerting tremendous pressure on present infrastructure which continues to remain inadequate and over strained. This scenario calls for good governance. He also noted that governance has been defined by the UNDP as exercise of

political, economic and administrative authority in the management of country's affairs at all levels. With the increasing focus on urban governance, and based on its own experience in working, the UN-HABITAT initiated global debate and argue that good urban governance is characterized by the principles of sustainability, subsidiarity and priority, equity, efficiency, transparency, security and accountability.

Sustainability is an important part of urban governance principle implying that cities must balance their social, economic and environmental needs of the present and future generations. While subsidiarity is responsible for service provision at the closest appropriate level; it also consists of efficient and cost effective delivery of services. In fact subsidiarity is a device for geographical decentralization of urban services. This is expected to maximize the potential for inclusion of the citizenry in the process of urban governance. Equity of access to decision making processes and basic necessities of urban life is one of the important criteria for urban governance. The principle of equity necessitates sharing of power which in turn leads to equity in access to and use of resources. Efficiency in the delivery of public services and promotion of local economic development is yet another

to what extent it is possible to freeze development in a Conservation Zone; should cultural heritage be preserved or allowed to decay; what impact new developments taking place in the vicinity of such areas would have on conservation areas; can a balance be achieved so that both new and old areas can be harmonized and blended with each other, remain unresolved. All these issues need to be addressed thread bare. While summing up his address he noted that metropolitan governance and heritage conservation needs to be given due weightage in planning education by revisiting the syllabus and curriculum.

In the inaugural function welcome address was given by Prof. Krishne Gowda, IDS, Mysore and a vote of thanks was extended by Prof. K.V. Aiyanna, Director, IDS, Mysore.

Technical Session - I on 'Urban Governance' was chaired by Shri Aniyam Mathew, Vice President, ITPI. In this session three presentations were made. Dr. Amita Prasad, IAS Director General, Administrative Training Institute, Mysore made a presentation on 'Metropolitan Governance' in which she emphasized that the 74th Constitution Amendment provides for decentralization of powers to urban local bodies, under which it is mandatory to constitute Metropolitan Planning Committees for the preparation of Metropolitan Development Plans for metropolitan areas. The amendment provides for core functions like roads, bridges, water supply, public health amenities; besides welfare functions like slum improvement, urban poverty, alleviation, cultural aspects, etc; and also development functions like, urban planning, regulation of land use, planning for economic and social development, etc. She made the point that all these functions can not be performed without the involvement and participation of people. She also raised the issue of capacity building of local

bodies so that efficient governance could be achieved. She also added that multiplicity of agencies with overlapping jurisdictions is one of the major impediments to good governance of our metropolitan cities - for example there are 19 agencies involved in Bangalore and 21 in Mumbai. She also stressed that by improving techno-legal system along with making regulatory frameworks more transparent, positive steps towards good governance could be achieved. For example, use of information technology would improve urban governance. She also saw relevance in exploring the possibility of extensive use of planning instruments for good urban governance.

Prof. Dr. Abdul Razak, Professor in the Department of Planning, School of Architecture and Planning, Anna University, Chennai made a presentation on 'Metropolitan Governance – Spatial Planning and Management'. In his detail presentation Dr. Razak basically concentrated on three issues namely (i) Emerging Peri-urban World, (ii) Changing urban boundaries, and (iii) Multiple Planning Agencies. Yet another issue he emphasized was city development plans and master plans. He argued that CDPs do not contain information and analysis in total context of development of city and these documents are prepared merely for obtaining financial assistance under the JNNURM. On the other hand, Master Plans are statutory documents because these are prepared under the provisions of relevant Town and Country Planning Acts. He also flagged the issue of multiplicity of agencies in urban governance with conflicting functions. He further emphasized that by adopting latest technological innovations like e-Governance through ICT, e-citizen forums and e-society could help deliver better urban governance.

Shri M. Sivashunmugam, Senior Town Planner, Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority made a presentation on 'Metropolitan

Governance – Emerging Issues from Infrastructure Perspective' and explained his view point by taking up an example from the Metropolitan Area of Chennai. He specifically examined institutional structures for governance at state level and at local level i.e. Chennai. He contended that there are 80 departments involved including village *panchayats* and stressed the need for creating singular structure for governance, which is accountable to a metropolitan development agency. He further underscored the need for unified development of metropolitan areas including peri-urban areas.

While concluding this session Shri Aniyam Mathew remarked that risk management and disaster mitigation also needs to be addressed along with climate change. Dr. T. M. Mahesh, Professor, IDS, Mysore was the Rapporteur in this session.

The second technical session was chaired by Shri Pradeep Kapoor, Secretary General, ITPI who in his initial remarks requested the key speakers to specifically give their views on physical, legal and financial aspects of heritage conservation.

Shri M.S. Nagaraj Rao, former Director of Archeology and Archives in his presentation pointed out that Mysore is not only the commercial capital of Karnataka but is also the intellectual centre of Karnataka. Defining the heritage in a simple manner he stated that heritage is what we inherit from our ancestors. Further he added that we do not belong to past but past belongs to us, as told by Mahatma Gandhi. He also stated that Maharaja Palace is one of the finest examples, which is not starving of funds, for its maintenance. He further noted that not only few buildings or monuments need preservation but all components of heritage are required to be preserved. He also gave a list of components in Mysore which need to be considered for preservation and wondered how

only two buildings have been selected for conservation under the JNNURM. He appealed to the concerned authorities to consider all these buildings and monuments for preservations under the JNNURM.

Dr. Kodira A. Kushalappa, IFS (Retired), Former Regional Chief Conservation of Forest, Bhopal made his presentation on 'Conservation of Natural Areas of Mysore City' and stated that Mysore was an excellent example of garden city and natural areas. Identifying various components of natural areas which are required to be preserved, he charted a strategy making prescriptions for conservation of these components. For example, towards conservation strategy of Chamundi Hills, he emphatically argued for removal of eucalyptus trees because they consume more water and also suggested to create 'Village Forest Committees' for conservation of forests. Towards lakes strategy, he argued for opting for desilting of tanks at certain intervals and prevention of sewage and silage water to enter in tanks and water bodies. While concluding his presentation, he also outlined the strategy for parks and trees and suggested to preserve all trees which are over 100 years old and to desists from unmindful cutting of trees.

Ms. Vasant Sobha Turaga, Conservation Architect and Urban Regional Planner from Hyderabad made her presentation on 'Need for introduction of Master of Planning degree course with specialization in Heritage Conservation'. In her presentation she clearly identified the need for starting master's programme in planning and also discussed details of syllabus and curriculum.

Dr. S.G. Vombatkre, Major General (Retired) representing Mysore Grakara Parishat traced linkages between heritage conservation, natural areas and education. He stated that heritage conservation is a constitutional



Dr. A. Ravindra, former Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka and presently Advisor Urban Development to Chief Minister, Karnataka delivering the Valedictory Address

obligation and highlighted that ever growing urbanization coupled with industrialization is affecting our social and cultural values and therefore a development model being practiced in our country needs to be revisited and reworked. Quoting the experience of widening of roads in Mysore, which entails felling of fully grown trees, and limiting or removing pedestrian footpaths. This amounts to destruction of our heritage. Therefore, he called on the planners' community to adopt proactive means for conservation of our trees.

Dr. N.S. Rangaraju from the Department of Ancient History and Archeology, while making his presentation on 'Heritage Conservation in Mysore City with special reference to Jailakshmi Villas Mansion' informed that Government of Karnataka has declared Mysore as the heritage city and 236 structures have been listed for conservation. He also gave demonstration of excellently conserved monuments without disturbing their original form.

Dr. B. Shankar, Associate Professor, IDS, Mysore was the Rapporteur in this session

In the Valedictory Session Dr. A. Ravindra, former Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka and presently

Advisor Urban Development to Chief Minister, Karnataka in his address noted that in terms of absolute number, 300 million people live in urban areas in our country, which is more than the combined population of all European countries. He further emphasized that there is no need to conceive urbanization in a negative sense because development and urbanization go hand in hand as could be seen from high level of urbanization (70 to 80 percent) in developed nations.

Quoting the example of Singapore, which has resolved the problem of housing shortage by constructing social housing, Dr. Ravindra opined that social housing has not been adequately addressed in our country. On the issue of urban sprawl and fringe area development, he called on the planners' community to dwell on the issue of how we should regulate unauthorized constructions and unintended developments. He also called on the planners' community that planning be conceived in a holistic manner rather than treating it in a traditional manner. On the issue of good governance, it is essential to decentralize power but there are various agencies or bodies with overlapping jurisdictions. On one hand decentralization calls for sharing of power, but the fact is that those who has power do not want to share. It is

also a fact that those who do not have the power they want empowerment. How much power should be decentralized at city level is yet another issue. He also mentioned that planning and governance are interrelated and planning instruments can be gainfully utilized for improving urban governance besides more professional should come into politics and improve governance.

On the issue of protecting heritage buildings, he stated that it is good but asking for additional FAR for the same amounts to making business with heritage.

In the Valedictory function, a welcome address was delivered by Prof K.V. Aiyanna, Director IDS, Mysore, and a vote of thanks was extended by Prof. Krishne Gowda, Professor IDS, Mysore.

of functions they perform rather than preparing Comprehensive Plan for a city covering all aspects. To underscore his point he discussed the example of Hong Kong which is being developed as a Shipping and Cargo Hub. He also raised the issue of displacement of people from their land to make room for large projects specifically located in peripheral villages which are in transition from rural to urban. Social environment also merit consideration in spatial planning, because it caters for the poorer sections of the society and slum dwellers. Accordingly, he suggested that we should start new Postgraduate Programme in Slum Planning and Development on the pattern of Environment Planning. He further stressed for better implementation of Development Plans to make planning meaningful and successful. He said that implementation of a plan should be taken up in right earnest by all actors involved in implementation. He also noted that before we solve the existing problems new problems crop up; therefore planners have to be pro-active and visionary.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2010

Haryana Regional Chapter

On the occasion of the World Environment Day, Haryana Regional Chapter of ITPI, organized a workshop on 'Contemporary Environmental Issues: Challenges in Urban Planning' on 19 June 2010 at Bahadurgarh Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Prof. H. Ramachandran, Head, Department of Geography, Delhi School of Economics, Delhi University, in his Key Note address underscored that environmental issues assume much more importance, as the same has been enshrined in the 74th Constitution Amendment Act, specifically in regard

to areas such as urban forestry, protection of environment and promotion of ecological aspects. For environmental pollution, industry plays a major role. Therefore, he called on the planners to integrate environmental planning with industrial planning. In this context he quoted the example of shifting of hazardous industries from Delhi to Bahadurgarh, and argued that shifting of such industries from metropolitan cities to small towns is not advisable as the voice of the people from small towns does not reach higher authorities housed in Delhi.

Prof. Ramachandran also lauded the aspect of developing towns on the basis

Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI, in his inaugural address pointed out that environmental concerns in India are as old as Indian civilization itself. However, the primary environmental concerns in the past as evident from the history were mainly related to public health and sanitation. During the Indus Valley Civilization, existence of baths, covered drains and drainage of waste water indicated their sensitivity to health and sanitation. During the Mughal and British periods, sanitation received much attention. However, after independence deterioration of environment due to fast industrialization and urbanization started. Although water supply and sanitation were attended to through government plans, but control of pollution and environment as such were not emphasized. As a result, pollution level in the environment increased to alarming levels, especially in the large urban areas. Year 1972



The Planners Newsletter of Haryana Regional Chapter is being released on the occasion of World Environment Day '2010. Present on the dias are Prof. H. Ramachandran, Head, Department of Geography, Delhi School of Economics, Delhi University; Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI; Shri K.K. Yadav Chairman, Haryana Regional Chapter; and Shri Ashok Sarin, Secretary, Haryana Regional Chapter(from right to left)

marks the watershed in the history of environment management in India, when a national committee on Environmental Planning and Co-ordination was established in the Department of Science and Technology, followed by the enactment of 'The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974', and 'The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1976'. Government policy to promote environmental issues while undertaking any developmental activity has made it necessary to introduce the environmental aspects in planning and development. In the wake of Bhopal gas tragedy, Government of India has enacted Environment (Protection) Act 1986, under which Environmental Impact Assessment has been made mandatory.

Shri Meshram further added that slowly but surely water crises are brewing up, which will affect the mankind and its survival. Although water is a renewable resource, its depletion is gradually increasing due to imbalance between water use and available water resources. Even though poor management of water is one of the main reasons, according to UNDP, Climate Change is affecting the hydrological cycle which in turn is significantly distressing fresh water production and its distribution. Water scarcity in urban areas is alarming. In Chennai water shortage is so acute that people are dependent upon tankers for water supply. Rivers passing through cities are heavily polluted due to industrial wastes and sewage. Water bodies outside cities are tragically being turned into sewage ponds in the absence of planned sewerage networks.

In fact cities are the drivers of climate change as they are the main source of green house gases. Concentration of carbon dioxide has been attributed to burning of coal, oil and gas being used for running industries and vehicles. This ultimately results in rising of temperature responsible for the loss of

forests and biodiversity, low agricultural yield and droughts. It is therefore pertinent to attempt lesser emissions of less green house gases, which will result in less warming. This can be achieved by burning less fossil fuels; introducing technological innovations in energy sources that will replace fossil fuels; introducing technological improvements in lifestyles so as to reduce amount of energy used on transportation, heating, cooling and lighting; appliances that run on electricity; and industrial production; etc. Shri D.S. Meshram suggested that alternative sources of energy can be adopted where energy sources are renewable. These sources include wind power, solar power and hydropower, biomass such as wood, straw, and other plant material and nuclear power. Reducing emissions of gases other than CO₂ by stopping deforestation; capturing the powerful green house gas methane (CH₄) from the rotting organic wastes in garbage dumps and land fills as fuels, etc. As far as cities are concerned, CO₂ can be reduced through interventions like reducing the need to travel, introduction of efficient public transport systems, discouraging personalized modes of traffic, reducing trip length and reducing number of trips through ICT (Information Communication Technology), etc. One is not required to go to grocery shop, the same can be home delivered by using bicycles or by walk where orders could be placed through telephone or e-mail. While concluding his address Shri D.S. Meshram called on the planners to attempt 'Green Planning' and also to prepare Development Plans of towns and cities which consume less power, less electricity, less water and do not pollute the environment.

Welcome address was given by Shri K.K. Yadav Chairman, Haryana Regional Chapter. Inaugural session was followed by two Technical Sessions. Technical Session – I was chaired by Prof. H. Ramachandran, Head Department of Geography, Delhi School of Economics,

Delhi University. In this session presentations were made by Dr. Sanjukta Bhaduri, Head Department of Urban Planning, SPA, New Delhi and by Mrs. Anjala Krishan Sharma, Assistant Prof. Sushant School of Arts and Architecture, Gurgaon.

Technical Session – II was chaired by Shri S.D. Saini, Chief Town Planner (Retired), Haryana and presentations were made by Prof. Sarup Singh, Professor and Head (Retired) Guru Ramdas School of Planning, GNDU, Amritsar, and by Shri Vipin Bajaj, Senior Vice President, Bahadurgarh Chamber of Commerce and Industries. The vote of thanks was extended by Shri Ashok Sarin, Secretary, Haryana Regional Chapter.

Delhi Regional Chapter

The Environment Day 2010 was celebrated by the Delhi Regional Chapter by organizing the Workshop on 'Climate Change and Town Planning'. The key speaker on this occasion was Prof. Meenakshi Dhote, Head Department of Environmental Planning, School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi. In her presentation she mentioned that rapid expansion of urban areas specifically metro-cities are increasingly consuming scarce resources. With reference to hill towns she specifically remarked that majority of our towns in hill areas are growing on slopes, leading to sever deforestation and called for sustainable development.

Climate change is the cumulative effect of human activities, responsible for creating heat islands and invited the planners community to plan for climate resilient cities, which has less effects on our environment which can be achieved through mitigation and adoption measures. While highlighting these facts, she was also of the opinion that strategies can not be limited to urban areas but need to be extended to region and rural areas as well. Spatial planning can play a major role while responding to climate change



The Workshop on 'Climate Change and Town Planning' is in the progress on the occasion of the Environment Day 2010.

through the instruments of (i) Land use planning ensuring efficient and balanced use of resources; (ii) planning compact cities; and (iii) reducing green house gas emissions by proper siting and design; and transportation.

After presentation by Prof. Dhote, the senior professional like Shri S. C. Gupta, Addl. Commissioner (Retired), DDA; Prof. Aresh Moitra, Director (Retired) SPA, New Delhi; Shri B.C. Dutta, Chief Regional Planner (Retired), NCR Planning Board, New Delhi; Shri H.R.Suri, Past President, ITPI; and Shri P.S.Uttarwar, Shri R.Srinivas also made their view points on the various issues like scarcity of water, heat generation, reduction in green house gases, rising sea level, incidence of slums and environmental improvement of slums, etc.

Shri D.S.Meshram, President ITPI, in his presidential remarks stated that planners while responding to climate change, needs to plan climate resilient cities which consumes less water, powers and other natural resources and create less air, water and noise pollution. On the issue of migration and expansion of urban areas, specifically metro-cities, Shri Meshram stated that, in the democratic country it is not possible to stop the migration, therefore, planners needs to cater to

the projected population during the plan period. Quoting the example of Delhi he stated that by 2001, the population of Delhi was 1.32 crore, while MPD 2021 has been prepared for 2.30 crore population. To house such a human mass, the expansion of town is essential. However, efforts needs to be made to plan climate resilient cities. On the issue of water scarcity, he quoted that as per WHO report the population of the world tripled in 20th

Century while the demand for water grew to six times. Yet another issue he lamented was of environmental improvement of urban slums, where poor people live. Shri Meshram stated that poor people not only live in slums but also live in other areas of towns and cities. Poor people migrate from rural areas in search of employment to urban areas and settle there, even though the environmental conditions are not better than the areas they come from. Therefore, it is not that cities and towns make them poor. And, therefore, planners need to be proactive so that slums are not created, through appropriate interventions; instead of waiting for slums to erupt and then initiate the program of environmental improvement of slums.

The inaugural address was given by Shri Sirish Khodankar, Chairman, DRC, New Delhi and the subject was introduced by Shri Paresh Duria, Secretary DRC and vote of thanks were extended by Shri Chandu Bhutia, Treasurer of DRC. On this occasion Jakaranda sapling was also planted by Shri Meshram, President ITPI.



The Jakaranda sapling is being planted on the occasion of World Environment Day '2010. Present at the site are Shri B.C. Datta; Shri R. Srinivas; Shri S.B. Khodankar, Chairman DRC; and Shri D.S Meshram, President, ITPI. (from left to right)

ITPI ACTIVITIES 2009-2010

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 2009 – 2010, 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 Bachelor Programmes in Town and Country Planning.
- In the Associateship Examination of the ITPI held during the month of May 2010, a total of 83 students appeared, 39 in Stage–I, 21 in Stage–II, and 23 in Stage–III.
- The number of students registered for the Associateship Examinations for 2010-2011 is 130.
- Prof. V.N. Prasad Best Thesis Award (Gold Medal) for the year 2009-2010 was given away to Ms. Priyanka Kataria from SPA New Delhi for the thesis on 'Planning for an Integrated Logistic Hub in the NCR Region' and commendation certificates and cash prize of Rs. 3,000 each were awarded to Shri Shaikh Ali Ahmed from IDS Mysore for his thesis on 'Planning for Conservation of Heritage Areas in Old-Goa'; and to Ms. Aninderbir Kaur Grewal from GNDU, Amritsar for her thesis on 'Housing for Urban-Poor – Case study for Amritsar City'; and (iii) Ms. Sarika Waghmare from VNIT, Nagpur for the thesis on 'Emerging Sprawl Verses New Cities as Anti Sprawl – Case in Nagpur'.

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.
 - The matter of revising Recruitment Rules for inclusion of Bachelor of Technology in Planning or Bachelor of Planning was taken up with State Governments and various State Service Commissions.
 - The presentation on DPR for setting up of ITPI National Virtual University in Town and Country Planning was made to the Ministry of Human Resource Development on 6th March, 2010.
- ### 3. To hold conferences or meetings for discussions, and exchange of views on matters affecting or relating to town and country planning:
- The 58th National Town and Country Planners Congress was organized during 4th-6th January, 2010 at Hotel Tuli International, Nagpur on the theme- "Inclusive Planning for Empowering the Urban Poor". The Congress was sponsored by Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India; and co-sponsored by Government of Maharashtra; and was organized in collaboration with Delhi Development Authority (DDA); Town Planning and Valuation Department, Government of Maharashtra; Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority

(MMRDA); City and Industrial Development Corporation (CIDCO); Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC); Maharashtra Housing and Area Development Authority (MHADA); Nagpur Improvement Trust (NIT); Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC); and Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology, Nagpur (VNIT).

- Dr. Nitin Raut, Hon'ble Minister, Government of Maharashtra inaugurated the Congress on 4th January, 2010. On this occasion a colorful souvenir containing messages from dignitaries was also released by him. Dr. S.N. Pathan, Vice-Chancellor Nagpur University was the guest of Honour.
- The Exhibition on the theme 'Inclusive Planning and Development' was inaugurated by Mrs. Archanatai Dehankar, Hon'ble Mayor, Nagpur Municipal Corporation, Nagpur.
- The sub-themes of the congress were (i) Access to Shelter, Livelihood Opportunities and Infrastructure; (ii) Institutional Mechanisms and Planning Processes; (iii) Mobilization of Resources for the Poor; and (iv) Slum Rehabilitation and Redevelopment Initiatives.
- Plenary Session on the theme "Inclusive Planning for Empowering the Urban Poor" was chaired by Shri D.S. Meshram, President, ITPI in which presentations were made by Shri J.B. Kshirsagar, Chief Planner, TCPO; Shri B.C. Datta, former Chief Regional Planner, National Capital Region Planning Board, New Delhi; Shri B.N. Singh, former Director, Association of Municipalities and Development Authorities, New Delhi; and Shri T.K. Mitra, former Director, General, Kolkata Metropolitan Development Authority. Shri S.B. Khodankar, Joint

Director DDA New Delhi and Prof. V.K. Bakde VNIT, Nagpur were the rapporteurs for this session.

- Technical Session – I, on 'Access to Shelter, Livelihood Opportunities and Infrastructure' was chaired by Shri J.P. Bhargav, former Chief Town Planner, Government of Uttar Pradesh and Past President, ITPI. In this session presentations were made by the key speakers namely Shri P.M. Apte, Planning Consultant, Mumbai; Dr. S.P. Bansal, Additional Commissioner (Planning), DDA, New Delhi; Prof. Dr. Ashok Kumar, Head, Physical Planning, SPA, New Delhi; Dr. S. Chattopadhyay, Director, Institute of Technology and Marine Engineering, West Bengal; Prof. Alok Ranjan, Department of Architecture, Malviya National Institute of Technology, Jaipur; and Prof. Kavas Kapadia, Dean of Studies, SPA, New Delhi. Shri Sunil Mehra, Senior Town Planner, Municipal Corporation Delhi and Prof. C.S. Sabnani, VNIT, Nagpur were the rapporteurs.
- Technical Session – II, on 'Institutional Mechanism and Planning Process' was chaired by Shri A.R. Patharkar, former Director, Town Planning, Government of Maharashtra and Past President ITPI. The Key Speakers in this session included Shri M.L. Chotani, Director, Association of Municipalities and Development Authorities, New Delhi; Prof. Shivanandswami, Associate Dean, CEPT University, Ahmedabad; Prof. Sarup Singh, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar; (iv) Prof. P.M. Raval, Department of Town Planning, College of Engineering, Pune; Dr. K.R. Thooyavan, former Chief Town Planner, Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority, Chennai; and Dr. V.S. Adane, VNIT, Nagpur. Shri P.K. Behera, Joint Director, DDA, New

Delhi and Prof. S.U. Sahasrabudhe were the rapporteurs.

- Technical Session – III, on 'Mobilization of Resources for the Poor' was chaired by Shri V. Satyanarayan, former Chief Town Planner, Government of Andhra Pradesh and Past President, ITPI. The key presentations were made by Dr. S.K. Kulshrestha, Founder, Editor SDR, New Delhi; Dr. K.K. Pandey, Center of Urban Studies, IIPA, New Delhi; Shri N.N. Som, Professor, HUDCO Chair, ATI, Kolkata; Prof. Utpal Sharma, Director, School of Planning, CEPT University, Ahmedabad; Prof. Souvanik Roy, Director School of Ecology, Infrastructure and Human Settlement Management, BES University, Shibpur, West Bengal; and Shri Uttam K. Roy, Professor, ATS, West Bengal. Dr. Sandeep Raut, Associate Planner, TCPO, New Delhi and Shri Anil Hore, Consulting Planner, Nagpur were the rapporteurs.
- Technical Session – IV on 'Slum Rehabilitation and Redevelopment Initiatives' was chaired by Dr. A.N. Sachithanandan, former Director, School of Architecture and Planning, Anna University, Chennai and Past President, ITPI. In this session presentations were made by the key speakers namely Shri. S.D. Landge, Director, Town Planning and Valuation, Government of Maharashtra, Pune; Ms. Swati Meshram, Associate Planner, The Mellegren Planning Group, Florida USA; Shri G.R. Diwan, former Joint Director, Town Planning and Valuation, Government of Maharashtra, Pune; Shri Sunil Mehra, Senior Town Planner, Municipal Corporation, New Delhi; Prof. S.A. Deshpande, former Head, Department of Architecture, VNIT, Nagpur; and Prof. P. Mamtha Raj, BMS College of Engineering, Bangalore. Shri R. Srinivas,

Associate Planner, TCPO, New Delhi and Mrs. Suneeta Aloni, ADTP, NIT Nagpur were the rapporteurs.

- The Valedictory address was delivered by Dr. Gokhale, Director VNIT. Shri Aniyam Mathew Vice-President, ITPI presented the recommendations adopted by the Congress.
- It is worth noting that 88 technical papers (including 33 listed and 55 unlisted) 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 on 'Green and Sustainable Future Cities' was organized on 3rd April, 2010 at Ahmedabad which was inaugurated by Shri Nitinbhai Patel, Hon'ble Minister for Urban Development Department, Government of Gujarat; coinciding with fifty years celebration of 'Swarnim Gujarat'.
- South Zone Planners' Conference of the ITPI was organized in collaboration with the University of Mysore on 12th June, 2010 on 'Metropolitan Governance, Heritage Conservation and Education' at Rani Bahadur Auditorium, University of Mysore, Manasgangothri, Mysore.
- The 12th NOSPLAN was organized by Guru Ramdas School of Planning, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar on 29th December, 2009 to 1st January, 2010 on the theme 'Spatial Planning: Emerging Issues and Strategies' was cosponsored 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.

- The Extraordinary General Meeting of Institute of Town Planners, India was also organized on this occasion, mainly to discuss - widening the basic qualifications for admission to postgraduate programs in town and country planning along with some other issues. During deliberations it emerged that there was lack of consensus among members on the issue of basic qualifications. In the meeting some members were of the opinion that currently prescribed basic qualifications include Bachelor of Architecture, Bachelor of Engineering (Civil) and postgraduate degrees in Geography, Economics and Sociology should continue to ensure spatial quality of planning education and practice. While other members argued that basic qualifications for admission to postgraduate programs in town and country planning should be opened up to other disciplines. As the discussions were inconclusive, it was decided that the views of all Corporate Members of ITPI should be obtained by writing individual letters and also by placing information in the ITPI Newsletter.

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:

- The possession of land for the Visakhapatnam Centre has been taken.
- The first phase of building for North East Regional Chapter at Guwahati is in the final stage of completion.
- Efforts are being made to procure land for Uttarakhand Regional Chapter.

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

- During the year 2009-2010, four volumes of the ITPI Journal were published.

- A special volume of the Technical Papers (comprising 88 papers) on the occasion of the 58th 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 2009-2010.

ITPI REGIONAL CHAPTERS ACTIVITIES

Andhra Pradesh Regional Chapter, Hyderabad

During the year 2009 – 2010 the Chapter has celebrated Independence Day and Republic Day, and also organized a Workshop on the theme "Revised Master Plan for Hyderabad Core Area".

Bihar Regional Chapter, Patna

The Chapter has organized a full day National Level Seminar in collaboration with Nalanda Open University, Patna. Besides, Brain storming session was also organized on the eve of World Environment Day.

Delhi Regional Chapter, Delhi

During the year 2009-2010, the DRC has organized major events which includes interactive session on "Combating Climate Change", National workshop on "Adopting Virtual Technology in Town Planning Profession and Education". The workshop was also organized on World Town Planning Day on the theme "Town Planning to Combat Climate Change".

Goa Regional Chapter, Panjim

World Environment Day, 2009 and World Habitat Day, 2009 were the two major activities conducted by Goa Regional Chapter during the year.

Gujarat Regional Chapter, Ahmedabad

During 2009-2010 the Chapter organized discussions on "Revised Ahmedabad Development Plan and its Implication. Besides, one day Seminar

was also organized on "Green and Sustainable Future Cities".

Haryana Regional Chapter, Punchkula

The Chapter organized a workshop on "Recent Trends in Town Planning: Prospects and Challenges" and 3rd North Zone Congress on "Land - a Resource for Development Planning". Besides, National Flag hoisting function celebrated on the Chapter Building on the eve of Republic Day.

Karnataka Regional Chapter, Bangalore

On the occasion of World Environment Day, presentations on (i) land Management (ii) "Revision of Structure Plan for Bangalore Metropolitan Region (BNR) – 2031 and (iii) "74th Constitution Amendment Act – Devolution of planning functions to Urban local bodies" was organized. Beside South Zone Congress was also organized at Mysore.

Kerala Regional Chapter, Thiruvananthapuram

The Chapter organized two seminars during 2009-2010. In the first Seminar the presentations were made on "Real Estate and its impacts in Land Development"; (ii) Impact on Smart City on Kochi Region"; and (iii) "Strategy for Conservation of Munnar as a Tourist Resort". In the 2nd Seminar three papers were presented on "Thiruvananthapuram and Conservation", "Need for TQM in

Housing” and “Legislation of Conservation of Heritage”.

Madhya Pradesh Regional Chapter, Bhopal

During the year the Chapter has celebrated a World Habitat Day on the theme “Planning of our Urban Future”. Group discussions were also organized on “Draft Development Plan of Bhopal – 2021 and on “Rain Water Harvesting”.

Maharashtra Regional Chapter, Mumbai

The chapter collaborated with Maharashtra Regional Chapter, Nagpur for organizing 58th National Town and Country Planners Congress held at Nagpur during 4th – 6th January, 2010 and raised financial support for the success of Congress. The construction of 2nd floor of the Chapter Building at Navi Mumbai is progressing fast.

Maharashtra Regional Chapter, Nagpur

The Chapter organized 58th National Town & Country Planners Congress at Nagpur during 4th – 6th January, 2010. It was a mega success event. Besides, 8 workshops on various topics were also organized, apart from the full day workshop of World Habitat Day on the theme “Planning Our Future”.

North East Regional Chapter, Guwahati

The construction of Chapter building is in final stage of completion. During 2009-2010 World Habitat Day was celebrated by the Chapter and also participated in a seminar organized in IIT, Guwahati.

Orissa Regional Chapter, Bhubaneswar

The Chapter celebrated World Habitat Day, Independence Day and Republic Day during the year 2009-2010.

Punjab Regional Chapter, Chandigarh

The Chapter organized a talk on the occasion of Environment Day. Besides

Chapter has also organized a power point presentation on the draft Master Plan of Amritsar. A two day seminar was also organized on Transportation by Guru Ram Dass School of Planning at Amritsar in collaboration of the Punjab Regional Chapter.

Rajasthan Regional Chapter, Jaipur

During the year 2009-2010 the Chapter organized a workshop on “Township Policy Rajasthan” and also completed the task relating to the preparation of Draft Master Plan for 5 towns of Rajasthan State.

Tamil Nadu Regional Chapter, Chennai

A seminar on the World habitat Day 2009 on “Planning our Urban Future” and a seminar on the eve of World Town Planning Day – 2009 on the theme “New

Trends in Town and Country Planning” were organized by the Chapter.

Uttar Pradesh Regional Chapter, Lucknow

UP Regional Chapter has organized State / Regional level seminars / workshops on “Emerging Challenges of Urbanization” during the year 2009-2010

Uttarakhand Regional Chapter, Roorkee

The Chapter is in the process of procurement of land for URC.

West Bengal Regional Chapter, Kolkata

During the year 2009-2010 WBRC arranged a workshop on the occasion of Silver Jubilee celebrations and Lectures on the eve of World Environment Day and World habitat day.

CHAIRMEN, SECRETARIES AND TREASURERS OF REGIONAL CHAPTERS OF INSTITUTE OF TOWN PLANNERS, INDIA (2010-11)

Name of Chapters	Chairman	Secretaries	Treasurers
Andhra Pradesh	Purushothama Reddy	Maheep Singh Thapar	D. Ramesh Babu
Bihar	Prof. J. Singh	Manoj Kumar	S.K.Mandal
Delhi	S.B.Khodankar	Paresh Dhuria	Chandu Butia
Goa	Mansab Ali	Ashok Kumar	Snehalata Pednekar
Gujarat	K.M. Panchal	R.S. Patel	R.J. Rawal
Haryana	K.K.Yadav	Vijay Kumar	Naresh Kumar
Jharkhand	Amit Kumar De	Biswajit Soy	S.Pal
H.P. & J.& K.	A.N.Gautam	Ratan C.Thakur	Shashi Shekar
Karnataka	H.B.Mukunda	N.K.Thippeswamy	N.V. Dhananjaya Reddy
Kerala	G. Mohanan	T.V. Kaladharan	M.A. Masoom
Madhya Pradesh	Rajesh Nagal	Sunil Nath	Vibha Shrivastava
Maharashtra (Mumbai)	M.D.Lele	Milind B.Patil	J.L.Bhople
Maharashtra (Nagpur)	Prof. Vijay Kapse	Parag Yelne	Amit Deshmukh
North East	Anjali Goswami	Abhijit Sharma	Kanchan Mahanta
Orissa	Prasant Kumar Patnaik	Lingaraj Prasad Patnaik	Rajan Kumar Mallik
Punjab	Rajinder Sharma	M.L.Kaushal	Virender Singh
Rajasthan	H.S. Sancheti	R.L. Tuklia	J.B. Jakhar
Tamil Nadu	V.M.Marudachalam	R.Shivakumar	K.M.Sadhanand
Uttar Pradesh	N.R.Verma	Anil Kumar Mishra	Ashok Kumar
Uttrakhand	R.K. Jain	S.K. Negi	Prof. M. Prida
West Bengal	Ranjan Chattopadhyaya	Souvanic Roy	Subimal Datta

Cities and their Growth: Sustainability and Fractality

The development of towns was one of the most characteristic trends of the 20th century. By the 21st century, the urban population has exceeded, for the first time in history, 50 percent of the total figure. This tendency is supposed to be reinforced in the next years.

Why do cities grow so explosively, and what spatial forms will they assume in the future? What mechanisms underlie the economic development of cities? What does sustainable urban development mean? Those are the questions that both spatial management and urban geography seek to answer. The body of theoretical knowledge accumulated in this field, both abroad and in Poland, is substantial.

In the recent years the notion of a complex adaptive system is employed to model the socio-economic and spatial development of towns. It helps to elucidate many processes that play a key role in the development of towns, especially big cities. When considered in their spatial aspect, cities are modelled using the theory of fractal geometry. The aim of the conference is to present the latest achievements in this field. The main theme would be discussed in two sub-theme i.e. Fractality of Cities; and Sustainability of Cities during 5th-6th August 2010 at AMU Campus Morasko, UL. Dziegielowa 27, 61-680 Poznań.

For further information please contact Adam Mickiewicz University Campus Morasko ul. Dziegielowa 27 61-680 Poznań, Poland

The Planned World: Urban, Rural, Wild

The planned world is the world that surrounds us: in our cities, countryside,

and wilderness. How do we conceive of that world through our culture, society, and technology, and how do we relate to that world as urban planners, architects, designers, policy planners and analysts, cultural commentators, artists, writers, critics, musicians, etc.? Some questions that might be addressed include: What is the relation between the different elements of the planned world? How is society organized in the planned world? What social issues arise? What is the cultural response to the planned world?

The conference to be held on 5th-7th August 2010, at Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada will gather together researchers, scholars, students, and practitioners to address these questions and others pertaining to the topic.

The Interdisciplinary Themes focused in the Conference are:

- Urban Planning;
- National and provincial / state parks;
- The concept of the wilderness;
- Urbanity and suburban life;
- Rurality cities as designed spaces;
- Re-development of urban and / or rural and / or wild spaces;
- Planned existence and the environment;
- Planned space and the arts and culture;
- Poverty;
- Social concerns;
- Education;
- The geography of space;
- Politics and planning; and
- Development

For further information please contact

Email: conference.coordinator@interdisciplinarythemes.org

Website: www.interdisciplinarythemes.org/conferences

Home, Migration and the City: New Narratives, New Methodologies

There has been a recent surge of scholarship from human geography, sociology, history, architecture, and cultural studies that focuses on migration as a social, political, cultural and material process. This area of research on migration examines migrants' transnational spatial practices, social and political identities and relationships with the state. Central to this research has been a recognition that at the heart of migration lies a fundamental transformation in spaces and places that are linked to the social and cultural meanings of home and belonging.

Migration brings about a material change in the places and locations through which notions of identity, individual expressions and belonging are transformed. Through the movement of people, for instance, cities, homes and localities become re-narrated through migrants' stories, photographs, music, artwork and films. Cities in particular, as places of origin and (re)settlement become key sites of migrants' experiences of 'home'(s). The experience of Europe over the past fifty years is a good example; urban spaces have increasingly become contested locations where the spatial and material nature of identities are negotiated – Muslim/Christian, European/non-European, first/second generation of migrants. Much migration research, moreover, connects home and nation by investigating migrants' connections with past, present or imagined 'homelands'. Home can now also be described as translocal, transnational and diasporic – shaped by consumption, remittances and social networks. The domestic spaces inhabited by migrants are especially important for their roles in constructing attitudes and behaviors towards 'others' when strangers share living spaces in the city. Home can even be redefined through its 'socio-technical'

differences across national spaces. This conference offers an opportunity to bring these social, spatial, material and technological facets of migration together – to consider migrants' identities and experiences of homes and cities, and the material, aural and visual landscapes of mobility and movement.

The conference will be held during 6th-10th August, 2010 at Scandic Hotel Linköping Väst, Linköping, Sweden and aims to question and compare such narratives and counter-narratives, in different

contexts within Europe and beyond, through interdisciplinary perspectives from the humanities and social sciences.

For further information please contact
European Science Foundation
Research Conferences Unit
149 avenue Louise, Box 14, Tour
Generali, 15th Floor, Brussels, Belgium
Phone : +32 (0)2 533 2020
Fax : +32 (0)2 538 8486
Email : conferences@esf.org
Website: www.esf.org/conferences

different approaches / solutions for the design and technology of the shelters. More than nine years after the devastating earthquake, it is useful to revisit these initiatives and assess their performance taking advantage of a long-term perspective.

In this context, the 5th i-Rec Conference would be held during 15th-20th July, 2010, CEPT, Navrangpura, University Road, Ahmedabad and aims to provide a platform to share experience among academics, practitioners, government and civil society organizations and lessons learnt about various approaches of design and technology for long term disaster risk reduction.

For further information please contact
CEPT, Navrangpura, University Road,
Ahmedabad.
Phone : +91-79-26302470/ 2740
Fax : +91-79-26302075
Website: www.cept.ac.in

NATIONAL SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

5th i-Rec Conference and Workshop on Participatory Design and Appropriate Technology for Post-Disaster Reconstruction

Post disaster reconstruction allows us to reconsider safer planning, building design and technology to improve the resilience of communities from the next natural disaster that will inevitably strike in the future, even if we don't know exactly when. However, the choice of what are appropriate design and technology for reconstruction is dependent on various factors that are embedded in the very fabric of the communities where the reconstruction is to be carried out. Past experiences from disasters have shown that attempts at introducing different types of disaster resistant design and technology have met with different levels of successes and failures for a number of reasons. While some of these interventions may be state-of-the-art, others are based on traditional design and construction practices. Moreover the very process of developing and implementing these options; have also influenced the effectiveness of interventions. While some of the interventions are only designed by professionals and implemented by contractors, others evolve through collaborative processes by engagement of various stakeholders including home owners and local craftsmen.

Therefore, no single approaches for shelter reconstruction can be considered merely as rigid packages to be transported to the victims. Rather these should be seen as processes where appropriateness of design and technology is dependent on a range of social, cultural, geographical, climatic and economic factors that need to be assessed for their effectiveness over time.

The 2001 Gujarat earthquake caused devastating impacts on lives and property. According to the official figures (on 1 April 2001), the total population affected by it was a staggering 16.04 million. The numbers of dead and injured were placed at 20,083 and 166,836 respectively. 7633 out of 18,356 villages were affected, of these some 450 were completely destroyed. Official figures put the total number of houses damaged to be around 1.2 million, out of which 370,000 were totally destroyed and 650,000 partially destroyed.

The reconstruction process was initiated on a massive scale following the earthquake. In fact, for the first time, the government encouraged "owner-driven" reconstruction on a large scale through public private partnerships. Various governmental and non-governmental organizations initiated

Auroville Green Practices Seminar

Auroville, a growing international township near Puducherry on the Coromandel Coast in India is an inspiring model for sustainable practices and ecologically responsible living. Founded in 1968, Auroville is based on the vision of the philosopher-sage Sri Aurobindo and is endorsed by UNESCO and Government of India as an on-going experiment in human unity. Over the years, Auroville has won international acclaim for its efforts in social and environmental sustainability.

Envisioned as a township for 50,000 residents, Auroville currently has over 2200 residents from 40 countries with another 10,000 villagers in the surrounding areas. It is spread over some 2000 hectares of land and contains areas for residential complexes, handicraft units, farms, educational institutes and cultural centers as well as large tracts of forests. Over the last 42 years, Auroville has developed into a vibrant and culturally

diverse society where residents participate in the building of township and experiment with new ideas as the needs arise.

This seminar is intended for project developers, consultants, planners, architects, government officials and decision makers involved in the development of eco-friendly townships, residential complexes, resorts or similar projects. Also, students of architecture, planning, botanical sciences, forestry, hydrology, civil engineering, energy technology and design who are looking for project opportunities in the field of sustainable development.

The Seminar will focus on the issues:

- Low cost development options and alternative solutions;
- Demonstration of rejuvenated forests, water harvesting, solar installations, earth architecture, electric vehicles, landscaped waste treatment plants and others;
- Integration and inter-relations between various areas: water, waste, energy, habitat etc;
- An understanding of what an integrated green township might be;
- Quality interactions with experts for potential partnerships; and
- An inspiring experience in a township with unique vision

The seminar would held during 26th-28th August, 2010 at Auroville, Tamilnadu, India would cover: landscaping, water harvesting, waste management, organic food, renewable energy, appropriate building technologies and environmental awareness.

For further information please contact Auroville Consulting
Saracon Building, Kottakarai, Auroville
605101, Tamil Nadu, INDIA
Email : greenpractices@auroco.in
Website : www.auroco.in/greenpractices

GEOSPATIAL TECHNOLOGIES FOR SUSTAINABLE PLANET WITH EMPHASIS ON OPEN SOURCE GIS AND SDI

The geospatial technological tools, i.e., Geographical Information System (GIS), Remote Sensing, Global Positioning System (GPS) and Photogrammetry have evolved constantly in last few decades. Now-a-days, geospatial technologies have achieved a matured and operational status. These modern technological tools are being increasingly used in a variety of application areas such as Civil Engineering, Geography, Environmental Sciences, Agriculture, Developmental Planning, Archaeology, Forestry, Business and Journalism, Meteorology, Event mapping (Accident, Crime, Fire and Facility), Utility/ Facility mapping and management, Land use planning and management, Urban and Regional Planning, Natural resources inventorying and management, Infrastructural Planning geospatial web applications, Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI), sustainable development, among others.

Nature supports a wide variety of eco-systems that are dynamic in nature and change over the course of time. Flux of population in urban territories due to migration from rural areas coupled with rapid growth in population has disturbed the ecological balance. This process hampers the socio-economic as well as sustainable development of any region. The timely and reliable information about land resources with respect to their nature, extent, spatial distribution, potential and limitations is not only crucial for proper planning and balanced development but is also essential for their optimal utilization on a sustainable basis.

Demand for high-quality spatial information that is complete, up-to-date and interoperable has increased with impetus for managing widespread, long- and short-term events, domestic

security, environmental degradation and for improved community preparedness as a nation. The SDI is a portal where each stakeholder can access, use and exchange spatial data for social, economic and environmental well being thereby realizing sustainable development. SDI is increasingly being acknowledged as a national resource and has become a part of the basic infrastructural facilities that needs to be efficiently coordinated and managed in the interests of the nation. The main emphasis has been on the use of spatial information, open source geospatial resources and SDI for transforming the Earth into a Sustainable Planet.

The International Conference OpenSDI-2010 to be held on 7-9 October 2010 at Motilal Nehru National Institute of Technology (MNNIT), Allahabad, India, aims to provide an invigorating environment to all the researchers, academicians and field engineers working in the field of Geo-Information Science and Technology around the world to discuss the emerging technological trends, share their experiences, voice their concerns, empowering the peoples with geospatial information and generate synergy between different interrelated disciplines to come up with acceptable and viable solutions for the challenges to achieve spatially enabled sustainable development in the new millennium.

For further information please contact GIS Cell
Motilal Nehru National Institute of Technology Allahabad- 211004 (U.P.)
India
Phone : +91-532-2271324, 2271308
E-mail : gupta.rdg@gmail.com

361° Conference on Design and Informal Cities

The 361° Conference is going to be held in Mumbai from 22nd-24th, October 2010 at Rang Sharda, Bandra West, Mumbai. On the theme "Design and Informal Cities". The 361° Conference

signifies: the sheer creativity and freshness of thought the speakers embody, setting them apart from their contemporaries; the niche they carve out for themselves - thus the 361st degree that breaks away from the 360° convention and reality is defined by; and the newer horizons of exploration the speakers unearth/carve out for the rest of the design fraternity and the AEC industry. The objectives of the conference are: to provide a comprehensive insight into ideas and innovations that is today driving the

fields of architecture, construction and design; to create a platform of interaction and expression for the thought leaders in the field of design across the globe today.

For further information please contact
Indian Architect & Builders
3rd Floor, Taj Building, 210, Dr. D.N. Road, Fort, Mumbai-400001
Phone :91-22-42136411-12
Fax :91-22-42136401
Email :sheetalk_kamble@jasubhai.com
Website: www.iabforum.com

As a result of his contribution in the planning field, Shri Lamba was selected by the U.N. for their development programmes in 1971 and he served as a United Nations Expert in the Kingdom of Lesotho (South Africa) for two years (1971-73).

Shri Lamba was honored with a Research Associateship Scholarship by the International Development Research Centre, Canada in 1977 for one year. During the tenure of the Scholarship, he followed up with data collection tour to Kenya, Zambia, Tanzania, Nigeria, Malawi and further onto Cumberland, Scotland, Milton Keynes (UK) and other new towns in UK to analyze and study the planning of new towns in developing countries with a view to guiding those engaged in planning of new towns, especially reorienting the then prevailing systems.

As a Visiting Professor, Shri Lamba taught the subject of town planning and urban design in College of Engineering and later in College of Architecture, Chandigarh for nearly 10 years from 1959 - 1970. He contributed articles in professional journals, leading newspapers and gave interviews on the planning of Chandigarh. He wrote books on 'Trees and Towns' published by the State Government, and 'Town Planning in other Countries' published by the Technical University, Berlin in 1973. He was writing a book titled 'New Towns with reference to Chandigarh' but could not complete because of his sudden death in 1978.

Shri Lamba was perhaps an extraordinary town planner and urban designer. His planning and design approach earned him an opportunity to rub shoulders with eminent architects and town planners of his time. Besides, Shri Lamba was a teacher and author of great eminence.

Contributed by Shri Abdul Qaiyum, former Town and Country Planner, TCPO, New Delhi.

Continued from Page 16

Road at Amritsar, major towns such as Jalandhar, Ludhiana and Pathankot. Such programmes were self functioning and thus the authorities could renew old areas without much financial aid from outside the project resources.

During his tenure as President of the Institute of Town Planners, India, the Seventh Annual Town Planning Seminar was held in Trivandrum (now Thiruvananthapuram) in 1969-1970. The theme of the Seminar was 'Rural-Urban Integration in Development Planning with special reference to Coastal Regions in India'. In his presidential address, Shri Lamba observed that with increased production, mechanization, literacy and new demands and desires, rural areas around the urban core have begun to face problems not known before. Sharp differences in living standards, unequal growth of population, planning policies and programmes and administrative set up of the Panchayati Raj Institutions have made us conscious of the requirements for a new approach. Due to various programmes and policies on growth of periphery around an urban core, either independently or sometimes in competition, it may result in a situation whereby both city core and periphery do not compliment the general promotion of area as a whole. Urban administrative set up has been

reluctant to accept any responsibility for surrounding rural periphery. Such functioning in water tight compartments, working at cross purposes, emphasizes the need to define more clearly the interrelationships between organic growth, economic, administrative, physically and social structures and processes.

Shri Lamba was an internationally acknowledged and widely toured urban planner of India. He visited USA, South America, UK, Germany and France with Ford Foundation from January 1970 to March 1970 to study urban development projects and new capitals like Brasilia, Bogotá and new towns in these countries. He also visited Canberra, Australia, Hong Kong and Manila in May 1970 to attend the Forum 70 on 'City of 21 Century' and was the guest speaker on this important occasion.

As a result of his revolutionary ideas on the development of new towns and redevelopment of old towns, Shri Lamba was appointed as the Co-Director of a 'Seminar on Town Planning' in Berlin organized by the German Foundation for Developing Countries. He conducted the Seminar for one month from October to November 1970, and delegates from 15 developing countries participated in this international event.

KNOW YOUR FORMER PRESIDENTS



N.S. LAMBA

Shri Narinder Singh Lamba, Fellow of the Institute of Town Planners, India had the distinction of serving the Institute as Vice-President for four terms and President during the year 1969-1970. Establishment of Regional Chapter of the Institute at Chandigarh in 1969-1970 could take place entirely due to his initiative and leadership. Shri Lamba, who died in service as Chief Town Planner, Government of Punjab on 9 May 1978, was born on 11 April 1922 at Miani in Sargodha district, now in Pakistan. After his education at Government College Lahore, he joined the Punjab Engineering College, Lahore and obtained a degree in Civil Engineering with honors in 1942, and joined government service as Assistant Town Planner in December 1943. He was awarded Post War Reconstruction Scholarship for two years (1948-1950) to obtain Postgraduate Diploma in Town and Country Planning from Durham in England, which he achieved with distinction. He was awarded the United Nations Fellowship in 1960 to study town planning trends in Europe and U.K.

Partition of the country in 1947 and the consequent problem of resettlement of displaced persons dominated the work of the Punjab Government. Shri Lamba was entrusted with the planning of refugee towns now located in the states of Punjab and Haryana. These towns were initially developed as

residential areas, but subsequently the idea of self – contained townships with employment opportunities in industry, trade and commerce was also brought in and some of the refugee towns were planned on principles of modern town planning of which model towns are one example. Mandi towns were also planned and constructed for refugees within the seven year period after partition by the Punjab Government, which was engaged mainly in planning and establishing these mandi towns with the sole purpose of rehabilitating the displaced people. Shri Lamba was responsible for planning and establishing the mandi towns in its initial period. Later as Chief Town Planner, Government of Punjab, he was responsible for establishing Mandi Division in the State Town Planning Department, which was assigned with the task of planning and development of spaces for foodgrains, fruits and vegetables, and fodder markets in the state.

After his return from U.K. in 1950, Shri Lamba has worked for the Chandigarh Capital Project Authority for planning and development of Chandigarh in close association with Le Corbusier and other foreign experts. His loyalty to the concepts and ideas of Le Corbusier and their implementation was highlighted by Maxwell Fry in the Royal Institute of British Architects. His contribution in detailing and developing Chandigarh where he worked for nearly 16 years is well known and internationally recognized. Detailing of layouts, development controls and legislation for the development of a new city and measures such as zoning, periphery control initiated by Shri Lamba are being used as prototypes for urban development control throughout India and other developing countries. Royal Institute of Town Planners, London,

elected Shri Lamba as a Fellow at the age of 37 and he was perhaps the youngest member to receive this honour.

After the establishment of Town and Country Planning Department in the State of Punjab in 1962, Shri Lamba joined the Department as State Town Planner – the Technical Head with the task of advising, directing and correcting the preparation of master plans for a number of cities and towns, development schemes of improvement trust and state government. He was also responsible for further extension and detailing of Chandigarh Plan and its legislation.

Shri Lamba became Chief Town Planner of the Town and Country Planning Department on 4th August 1970 when it became a full fledged department with Chief Town Planner as its head with all responsibilities of planning in the State. As Chief Town Planner he was largely responsible for guiding the growth and expansion of the Department with opening of the Mandi Division, Mohali Division, and the Project Cell. The Mandi Division was responsible for planning and development of spaces for foodgrains, fruits and vegetables, and fodder markets in the state. Mohali Division was assigned the task of planning and development of an Urban Estate at Mohali, adjacent to Chandigarh, as an integrated township. The Project Cell at the headquarters under the control of Chief Town Planner worked to guide and to take care of the specialized projects in the state.

In addition to these, Shri Lamba undertook the work of planning and remodeling of old towns. Few examples of such developments are the Golden Temple and Jallianwala Bagh Approach

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