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Lighting of the Ceremonial Lamp by Dr. D. S. Meshram, President Emeritus, ITPI during Inaugural Session

### **International Conference on Town and Country** Planning Education – Retrospect and Prospect

Institute of Development Studies, University of Mysore in collaboration with Institute of Town Planners. India organized the International Conference on "Town and Country Planning Education - Retrospect and Prospect" from 21 November 2014 to 23 November 2014 in Mysore.

Prof. Dr. A. N. Sachithandandan. President ITPI. in his address highlighted that the ITPI and Mysore University has a unique relationship which helped binding profession and education together. He was of the opinion that sustainable development is always smart but smart is not always sustainable. He further stated that in present day context planning is guided by politics while we are not teaching political science in town planning education. Therefore, he called on the planners to be politically savvy.

in planning education. He touched on the aspect of financing of development to see that proposals are implemented. Therefore, financial implications of master plan proposals merit consideration in planning education. Planning now a day, planners need to be people-centric, scientific and technological oriented besides being sensitive to the local conditions. He further mentioned that planners should not forget that they are not planning for themselves but for the people at large. Over 40 percent of the people living in towns and cities are counted as urban poor and therefore their considerations are required to be addressed adequately.

In his address Dr. D. S. Meshram, President Emeritus, ITPI mentioned that spatial planning and development activities would get major boost due to liberalization of the economy and industrial policies and emerging globalization trends. There is already visible spurt in urban areas for the development of Spatial Economic Zones, New Townships,

Chairman Editorial Board: K. S. Akode

Editor and Secretary Publication: Prof. Dr. Ashok Kumar

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Designed by: Dr. D.S. Meshram

He also advocated that we should follow bottom up planning and encourage equity and high efficiency





Prof. Rangappa, Vice Chancellor, University of Mysore, delivering presidential address



Dr. A. N. Sachithanandan President, ITPI addressing the delegates



High-Tech Cities, Knowledge Cities, Cyber Cities, IT Cities, and Smart Cities, which would further enhance new avenues and opportunities for town and country planners. Besides, it is noticeable that total population of the country by 2050 is likely to increase from present 377 million to 600 million by 2030 and 900 million by 2050. Cities and towns have increased from 5.161 in 2001 to 7.935 in 2011 and will be over 10,000 by 2021. In addition planning functions to Gram Panchayats and Nagar Panchayats for (rural and urban local bodies) under 73rd and 74th Constitution Amendment Acts should be devolved to these bodies. All these trends clearly indicate that the task of town and country planning would be enormous in terms of trained planning manpower requirements. It is well know that economic progress of the country is deeply linked with the quality of manpower to improve capacity of rural and urban local bodies in order to prepare them to plan for future towns and cities. This is crucial as urban settlements - generators of economic momentum - contribute 60 percent to the national GDP. By 2051 this share is likely to rise to 75 percent to 80 percent. In this scenario human resource development through quality town and country planning education is the challenging task not only in terms of quality but quantity as well.

Prof. Rangappa, Vice Chancellor, University of Mysore, in his presidential address stated that planning education system which is in vogue, needs to reorient itself to meet the challenges of future generations, which itself is a challenging task. As per 2011 Census there are 7,935 towns and cities, including 53 metropolitan cities (having population more than 10 lakh). In addition there is a need to prepare District Development Plans for over 600 districts besides planning for over 4 lakh rural settlements, which is a gigantic task in front of the planning community, specifically when there are hardly 4,500 gualified town and country planners available in the country. At present the existing planning schools and institutions are hardly producing 600 students every year, and therefore, there is a need not only to increase the number of Schools of Planning but to consider increasing intake of existing Planning Schools. At the same time we have to ensure that the quality of planning education is not degraded but significantly improved from what it is today.

As we are aware that Government of India has recently announced taking up of 100 smart cities for which it is but natural that we have to give weightage to information communication technology (ICT) at the same time we have to find out ways and means for devising smart planning tools to accomplish the perceived project of the Government. It is but natural that it calls for reorienting curriculum and developing proper pedagogy so that the students of planning are given the basic knowledge by upgrading their skills to make them able to plan and develop such cities. Government is also trying to develop high growth potential townships in addition to developing twin cities and satellite towns. I am aware of the task which is in front of planners and to reorient town and country planning education in the country for which we have also invited the experts from abroad so that we can dwell on their experiences for resolving the challenges of urban planning and development. Even though we can dwell on experiences of the other countries, we have to take into consideration the prevailing circumstances and systems beside social and cultural dimensions of our society and their aspirations specifically of the excluded people, those who were never included in the planning and decision making and implementation processes. Therefore, the onus lies on planners to include such excluded people like urban poor, slum dwellers, physically challenged persons, women, etc. Without their participation in the whole process, I am sure, it would not be possible to achieve the objectives of planning for the masses.

Prof. Dr. Padmavathi, Vice Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru Architecture and Fine Arts University, Hyderabad in her address noted that the age old spatial planning technologies such as concentric development and radial development, linear planning, etc.; needs to be revisited so as to see their applicability in the present day contexts, specifically the new concepts like sustainable city, and inclusive city. She also touched upon the concept of smart city and mentioned that there is need to control crime, besides providing efficient transportation system and services, etc. She also brought into focus the concept of clean city to ensure adequate supply of potable water, good sanitary conditions, hygienic surroundings, solid waste management, effluent treatment, etc. She also highlighted the concerns of ecology and disappearing water bodies, forest cover, hills, flora and fauna under the garb of development. Her concern was also observed towards taking up of land meant for animal habitation.

Prof. Anthony G.O. Yeh while tracing the history of urban planning stated that the paradigms of planning are changing and people are concerned more about health and safety. Economic and social development which was prime importance earlier is being taken over by regeneration and redevelopment along with emphasis on participatory planning and development. Planning education is being influenced by changes occurring in the West. However, we should strive to achieve universal models applicable to planning education. In addition he also emphasized the need to take into consideration high density development and informal sector into to consideration. While planning of our towns and cities we should also strive for sustainable development. He also called for integration of planning education and research.

Prof. Krishnegowda, Director, IDS, Mysore University, in his welcome address mentioned that the present conference provides an opportunity to introspect and redefine town and country planning education in the country. The scope and subject matter and challenges of urban planning have undergone a phenomenal change during the last 50 years. It is hearting to note that experts from academic, professional practice in town and country planning and allied fields spread across various countries have assembled here to revisit town and country planning education.

Prof. Dr. Ashok Kumar presented a paper titled "Silences in the Indian Planning Academy: Spatiality, Diversity and Participation". In this paper, he argued that planning education and educators in India have remained largely silent over the last 60 years about several crucial aspects, which are central to the advancement of planning education. One of the major aspects includes complete lack of discussion on how spatiality in planning education should be understood. This implies that diverse roles of space and spatiality need to be clearly specified in spite of the complexity and fluidity of these terms. Second aspect about which planning education in India has remained silent is the role of diversity based on region, religion, caste and gender. Prof. Kumar argued that these silences have made planning education poor because planning educators have been unable to take advantage of diverse knowledges based on these social and spatial differences. The third important aspect is the uncritical acceptance of the fact that participation and decentralization are inherently good for everyone. For example decentralization used alongside neoliberal development has generated inequalities whereby conflicts are downplayed and the possibility of the construction of the public interest is largely assumed. Based on this discussion he urged planners to think about providing silences their rightful place in planning education, particularly in planning theory. He wondered perhaps one day we would develop a Theory of Silence in Planning.

Over 200 delegates from Delhi, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Haryana, the Punjab, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, West Bengal, etc. participated in the Conference. Delegates from various government departments and the corporate sector also participated in the event. International delegates who attended the Conference came from Australia, Hong Kong, France, Italy, the UK and the Netherlands. After two days thread bear discussions and deliberations, the following recommendations emerged from this International Conference.

- There is a major shift from 'allocative planning' to one of 'innovative planning', which requires decentralized decision making and devolution of powers. Under these circumstances it becomes paramount that objectives of town and country planning are firmly focused on maximizing choices for all but particularly for those whose choices are most limited. Planning educators should also develop and teach skills on conflict resolution, negotiation, and arbitration to look after the interests of all stakeholders in town and country planning.
- Education of town and country planning should have at least four levels namely exposure courses in the form of capsule programs for lawyers, financiers, chartered accountants and general public, bachelors, undergraduate and postgraduate degree programs, and research programs for knowledge creation. Lastly attempts should also be made to update knowledge of planners in private and government organizations through refresher courses.
- There was a general consensus that one year masters degree programs will not do justice in the Indian or Asian context. Hence the duration of two year planning programs is required to be continued as all postgraduate professional programs in India are governed by the University Grants Commission and the Institute of Town Planners, India which do not approve one year postgraduate programs.
- We need to acknowledge complexities in town and country planning at grassroots level by launching programs of short duration in local languages and also involve and educate media to create another constituency that supports the academy and profession of town planning and takes our proposals to the policy makers in a conducive environment.
- Although planning of settlements requires use of scientific and technological tools, these are not ends in themselves as planning is meant for the wellbeing of human beings. Therefore, development plans must become sensitive to diverse contexts and cultures.
- The Institute of Town Planners, India should make efforts to achieve interface between educational institutions and professionals working both in



Dr. D. S. Meshram, President Emeritus, ITPI addressing the delegates



Prof. Dr. Padmavathi, Vice Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru Architecture and Fine Arts University, Hyderabad addressing and the delegates







Prof. Anthony G.O. Yeh addressing the delegates



Prof. Krishnegowda, Director, IDS, Mysore University, welcoming the delegates



the public sector, corporate sector and the third sector. In this direction, the Institute of Town Planners, India has been facilitating networking of academic institutions by organizing national congresses and national meets since 1951. Therefore, it would be desirable if the ITPI continues to promote these interactions by facilitating networking of educational institutions, professional bodies. Regional chapters of the Institute of Town Planners, India, which are located in almost all state capitals, can further this mission of networking.

- Planning ethics need to be made an integral part of syllabi of all undergraduate and postgraduate planning programs being taught in the country.
- Ethical planning education resonates with equity, collaborative planning and decision making while teachers deliver knowledges to learners and produce new knowledges. As spatial inequalities increase beyond our imagination in cities and regions, teaching of ethics becomes imperative in all planning schools.
- It is proposed that a greater emphasis should be placed on mix methods research, which in itself is a form of integration of diverse planning knowledges.
- Administrative rules and regulations for ethical teaching, learning and research need to be developed in all planning schools and these rules should be followed when teachers teach students, grade students, prioritize subjects to be taught, and make publications. As far as the students are concerned, they should follow ethical guidelines when they submit assignments, seek clarifications from teachers, make photocopies of other's works, and write thesis.
- All planning schools can contribute for training and capacity building. One way to do capacity building is to set up training and planning resource centres. The ITPI may take a lead and assume a pivotal role in this endeavour.
- More flexibility should be reflected in teaching methodologies and we may adopt credit system in all planning schools.
- Shortage of planning teachers needs to be met urgently by making new faculty recruitment. In this direction, planning schools should increase intake in the existing planning schools and also start new planning schools both in public and private sectors. Establishment of new bachelor of planning programs in existing and proposed planning schools will go a long way in promoting pivotal role of planning. The Conference strongly recommended establishment of many more new SPAs in the country.

- Efforts should be made to carry out research, which can directly be used for improving teaching in general but planning studios in particular.
- Interface between planning education and practice is sporadic. For example, students normally go to planning agencies for few weeks for training, planning practitioners teach at planning schools, planning practitioners provide consultancy services for planning projects in planning schools, and planning faculty provide consulting and advice to planning agencies. This needs to be strengthened, broadened and deepened.
- A need was felt that joint knowledge production should be taken up urgently with a focus on learning from planning practice. It is proposed that planning educators should periodically spend longer sabbatical periods in planning agencies.
- Competent planning practitioners should be encouraged to join planning schools as they could bring a wealth of knowledge from planning practice.
- There is a need to strike a balance between diverse knowledges and teach all standpoints and perspectives to the students. This will also promote integration of all forms of knowledges such as technical knowledge, experiential knowledge, etc.
- While edifice of teaching planning is based on the ethic of discourse with predominant reliance placed upon effective public participation, it should be also made clear that citizen participation is a conflict ridden process and consensus building is a long drawn process.
- It is proposed that silences should be accorded their rightful place in planning syllabi. It was recommended that silences understood as language without verbal presence should be made an integral planning syllabi both in undergraduate and postgraduate planning programmes.
- Planning knowledges such as those based on neo-liberal ideology and those based on egalitarian principles could be looked at for the purposes of finding out if there exist any convergence between the two ideologies.
- Valorization of planning knowledges focused on specialization of religion, caste, and regional affiliations need to be taken up by all planning schools. This is imperative as entire society is organized around these institutions.
- Planning researchers need to work on radical ways of producing and integrating knowledges created by public or private universities, government organizations, private sector and the third sector.

Shri R. Lingappa, Mayor of Mysore City, in his valedictory address, tracing the history of Mysore City stated that the earliest mention of Mysore can be found in the days of King Ashok back in time around 245 B.C. The history of Mysore points out that it was in 1399 A.D. that the Yadu Dynasty came to power in Mysore. From the year 1761 to 1799 Mysore was ruled by Hyder Ali and his son Tippu Sultan. Mysore remained the second most important city till the death of Tippu Sultan. As Mysore went under the control of the Britishers, they placed a Prince Krishnaraja Wodeyar on the throne of Mysore and Mysore was once again made the capital in 1881. Today the civic administration of the city is managed by the Mysore City Corporation, which was established as a municipality in 1888 and later converted to a corporation in 1977. The Corporation oversees engineering works, health, sanitation, water supply, administration and taxation in the city.

Growth and expansion of the city is managed by the Mysore Urban Development Authority, which is headed by the Commissioner. Its activities include developing new layouts and roads, town planning and land acquisition. However, for the economic development it is essential to have a trained manpower because cities shape the citizens living in it. Planners shape the cities for their planned and orderly development. In this direction Mysore being the educational hub of Karnataka has got great potential to expand planning education and can give a head start for a new era in town planning education, which will benefit not only Mysore and Karnataka but the whole country.

In his valedictory address Dr. D. S. Meshram, the Chief Guest, noted that it is general fashion to lay emphasis on the concept which is originated in the West. For example, nowadays everybody talks about smart cities, but then what will happen to earlier concepts which were pioneered by eminent planners. Concepts like garden cities, green cities, safe cities, healthy cities, sustainable cities, inclusive cities, etc., are out dated or have relevance even today. He questioned whether smart cities can afford to be unsafe, unhealthy, not green, unsustainable and not inclusive. All these concepts being taught in planning education has a place and needs to be taught along with their relevant concepts. Planner is a technical person and has to ponder over all these evolving concepts and bring to the knowledge of students. It is for them to assess their importance and utility.

During valedictory session the welcome address was delivered by Prof. Dr. Najammuuddin, Secretary General, ITPI, while recommendations of the Conference were read by Prof. Dr. Ashok Kumar, SPA New Delhi, and presidential address was delivered by Prof. C. Basavaraju, Registrar University of Mysore. A vote of thanks was extended by Prof. Dr. Krishnegowda, Director, IDS, Mysore University.

### Interactive Session with the Executive Director of the Un-Habitat

During the India visit of Dr. Joan Clos, UN Under Secretary General and Executive Director UN-Habitat, the ITPI in partnership with TCPO of the Ministry of Urban Development of the Government of India organised a special interactive session with Dr. Joan Clos' on the theme "HABITAT – III and New Urban Agenda for Managing Urbanization in the Developing World" on 14 November, 2014 in the Conference Hall of Institute of Town Planners. During the two hour interactive session at ITPI, senior academics, senior town planners, policy makers and urban managers of India participated in the event.

Dr. Kulwant Singh, Regional Advisor, United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) introduced Dr. Joan Clos, UN Under-Secretary General and Executive Director, UN-habitat. He said Dr. Clos was appointed by the General Assembly as the Secretary General of HABITAT III in 2013. In 2016 Habitat III shall provide a great opportunity to unite the global community through a renewed dialogue about the best outcomes of good urbanization for the future of our societies and its relevance for the majority of the population, especially for the ones in biggest need.

Dr. D. S. Meshram, President Emeritus, ITPI while chairing the Session mentioned that UN-HABITAT, with its headquarters in Nairobi is the only City Agency of UN responsible for addressing issues pertaining to all urban areas including urban governance, urban infrastructure, urban planning, urban environment, urban slums, provision of urban housing and urban basic services, urban safety, urban transport or any issues relating to cities. All the 193 countries are members of UN-HABITAT. India is a permanent member on the Governing Council of UN-HABITAT.

He further mentioned that as the cities are growing fast, UN-HABITAT is promoting a new urban agenda to manage this process of fast urbanisation in the world



Prof. Dr. Ashok Kumar addressing the delegates



Dr. Joan Clos, UN Under Secretary General and Executive Director UN-Habitat delivering the talk







Dr. Joan Clos, UN Under Secretary General and Executive Director UN-Habitat, addressing the participants

in a most sustainable manner. In this direction Dr. Joan Clos gave highlights and updates of HABITAT - III.

Dr. Clos shared his vision for a new urban agenda and discussed key aspects of urban development including UN-HABITAT's three-pronged approach for planned urbanisation including urban design, urban legislation and municipal finance and warned of the risks of neglecting any one of these aspects.

In his talk Dr. Joan Clos noted that urban population of the world has grown rapidly from 746 million in 1950 to 3.9 billion in 2014. Today, 54 percent of world's population lives in urban areas, a proportion that is expected to increase to 66 percent by 2050. Projections show that urbanization combined with the overall growth of the world's population could add another 2.5 billion people to urban population by 2050, with close to 90 percent of the increase concentrated in Asia and Africa, according to a new United Nations report launched in July 2014. With nearly 38 million people, Tokyo tops UN ranking of most populous cities followed by Delhi, Shanghai, Mexico City, São Paulo and Mumbai.

By 2050 fifty percent of India's population will live in urban areas. By that year, India's urban dwellers are expected to increase by 404 million. By 2030, India is expected to be home to 6 mega-cities with populations above 10 million. With a fourth of India residing in urban slums, urban infrastructure cannot keep pace with usage; half of all urban areas do not have sewage treatment facilities and only 6 percent of cities and towns have a public transport system. A recent Report by McKinsey estimates that by 2013, 70 percent of new jobs in India will be created in the cities and 91 million urban households will be middle class as compared to the current 22 million. UN-HABITAT's vision of urbanisation includes the concepts of competitiveness, social, environmental, financial sustainability and quality of life. The three-legged approach of UN-HABITAT is inferred from both its normative work and previous extensive experience in sustainable development. It comprises legislation and governance, planning and design and socio-economics and finance.

UN-HABITAT supports countries to develop urban planning methods and systems to address current urbanization challenges such as population growth, urban sprawl, poverty, inequality, pollution, congestion, as well as urban biodiversity, urban mobility and energy by promoting its vision at the national, regional and metropolitan scales to achieve more compact, better integrated and connected cities which are socially inclusive and resilient to climate change.

Dr. Clos placed emphasis on compact sustainable urban form (shape, density and land use) that reduces over exploitation of natural resources, promotes liveability, environmental economic viability, quality and social equity. Urban compaction aims to increase built area and residential population densities; to intensify urban economic, social and cultural activities and to manipulate urban size, form, structure and settlement systems in search of the environmental, social and global sustainability benefits, which can be derived from concentration of urban functions. He argued for a more integrated and holistic approach to urban development that interlinks various dimensions of urban life; social, economic, environmental, political and cultural. He placed emphasis on the linkage of spatial aspects of urban development with economic, social, environmental components, in particular to achieve both mixed use and social mix. Both vertical and

Interactive Session with the Executive Director of the Un-Habitat is in progress



horizontal integration also constitute the crucial components of the integrated approach.

Dr. Clos suggested that development of policies, plans and designs that offer better physical, social and virtual connectivity among people living in different locations and urban areas should be promoted. It regards cities as entities connected to neighbouring settlements, surrounding regions and hinterland, with which they share resources and opportunities. It also includes national and regional strategies such as the development of networks and corridors to address transportationrelated needs based on a full understanding of the dynamics of human and goods flows and all interacting influences including national and international trade. Connectivity fosters innovation in business, government and education, allowing interlinked cities to gain from complementariness in their production structures and service structures.

He suggested a socially inclusive approach by conferring certain rights to individuals and groups in a society, recognizing diversity and promoting equality by giving attention to those whose voice has often not been heard in conventional public policy. It promotes the concept of participatory planning which is not limited to the integration of stakeholders with more influence, but also the integration of all stakeholders. He recognised the role of cities in climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as the potential role cities play as centres of innovation, development and application of new technologies and solutions in the effort to curb, halt, reverse and adapt to global climate change. Human activities in cities are major contributors to climate change and the source of a considerable portion of global greenhouse gas emissions, especially CO2. Resilience to Climate Change therefore includes policies, strategies, frameworks, plans and designs that promote both the adaptation to climate change and mitigation of GHG emissions.

Referring to the last century urban development model, Dr. Clos said that modernist principles guided urban planning during the twentieth century, and by following these ideas, cities and neighbourhoods turned into fragmented zoned built environments with low density sprawl and high density disconnected residential areas. Uses were segregated, reducing the liveability of the city, disconnecting urban areas and forcing residents to travel long distances to access services, with the consequent raise in energy consumption and reduction of productivity. Connectivity in the twentieth century planning model relied basically on automobile and road transportation, as lack of compactness and sprawl made public transportation and service delivery not affordable. Pedestrian and bicycle transportation were hindered, as the city lost its human scale and neighbourhoods got disconnected through large road or train infrastructures as well as industrial areas. The whole urban model from the environmental perspective implied high energy consumption both in buildings and transportation, loss of agricultural land and biodiversity due to sprawl and predominance of impervious surfaces. Also the implementation of the modernist principles of specialization, mass production and standardization had strong social impact in the liveability, cultural diversity and adaptability of the urban pattern and housing options.

As a reaction to the failed urbanization model of the 20th Century and in order to fix and reintroduce the historic proven principles of successful cities, UN-HABITAT has developed a vision based on the 21st Century Urban Model. This vision is translated into several principles for sustainable development of cities and neighbourhoods. The main objectives of these principles are to promote compactness and maximize land efficiency, to promote sustainable, diversified, socially equal and thriving communities, to encourage walkable neighbourhoods, to promote street connectivity, to foster employment and local consumption and to provide a diversity of housing options that are adapted to the social needs. He briefly summarized these principles for smart cities.

According to Dr. Clos a smart city should promote a street network that not only works for vehicles and public transport but also specifically aims to attract pedestrians and cyclists. It includes a street hierarchy with arterial routes and local streets based on traffic speed differences. The street is the structural element that shapes the urban structure and sets the pattern of development blocks, streets, buildings, open spaces and landscape, structure which supports local economy, connectivity, culture, creativity, and future developments. According to him the principle entails:

- 50 percent of the land should be used for public spaces
- From this 50 percent, 30 percent should be allocated to streets and 20 percent to squares, parks and open spaces.
- At least 18 km of street length per square kilometre
- At least 80 crossings per sq km required in order to build a well connected grid

This principle addresses population growth and is a direct response to the global population explosion and rapid urbanization. To prevent urban sprawl and promote sustainable urban extension, it is necessary to achieve appropriate density (at least 150 people/ha = 15.000

Interactive Session with the Executive Director of the Un-Habitat is in progress

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people/km2), which is the foundation of a sustainable neighbourhood. Adequate density essentially means a concentration of people and their activities, which triggers economies of scale and ensures liveability.

This principle is aimed at developing a range of compatible activities and land uses close together in appropriate locations and flexible enough to adapt over time to the changing market. The purpose of mixed land-use is to create local jobs, promote the local economy, reduce car dependency and commute, encourage pedestrian and cyclist traffic, reduce landscape fragmentation and green house gas emissions, provide closer public services, support mixed communities and local economies, promote safer communities and create attractive neighbourhoods. Dr. Clos strongly argued for the following:

- Avoid zoning and avoid dividing neighbourhoods by highways or hard infrastructures
- at least 40 percent of floor space allocated to economic uses in any neighbourhood
- Single use blocks should cover less than 10 percent of any neighbourhood

This principle proposes a grid and a hierarchy of streets with arterial and secondary roads that are well connected through intersections. Good connectivity suggests that there are frequent intersections and multiple routes to get from point A and to point B, as opposed to Cul-de-sacs, T-junctions and the privatization of public roads (often for security reasons) which leads to congestion and to reduced mobility. As connectivity increases, travel distances decrease and route options and travel modes increase, allowing more direct travel between destinations, creating a more accessible and resilient system. It is assumed that such physical connectivity will promote functional connectivity in order to increase social connection among individuals in the society. The purpose of connectivity is to create access to jobs and services for all and to boost local economies. He strongly encouraged this principle that promotes walking distances, public transport, ICT-accessibility

This principle aims at promoting cohesion and interaction between different social classes in the same community and to ensure accessibility to equitable urban opportunities by providing different types of housing. Social mix provides the basis for healthy social networks, which are the driving force of city life and at the same time enable social integration, social groups diversity, and avoid social exclusion. This principle entails spatially combined rental and ownership property models, a range of different rent levels to achieve integration and disseminate cosmopolitan values and dedicating 20- 50 percent of residential space for low and affordable income residents

Urban Resilience recognizes the role of cities in climate change mitigation and adaptation, disaster preparedness and natural resources management as well as the potential role cities play as centres of innovation, development and application of new technologies and solutions in the effort to curb, halt, reverse and adapt to global climate change. Human activities in cities are major contributors to climate change and resource exhaustion and the source of a considerable portion of global Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, especially CO2. At the same time, cities concentrate large populations, infrastructures and socio-economic assets which will be affected by climate change and thus Climate Change Adaptation also has a urban focus. Resilience to Climate Change therefore includes policies, strategies, frameworks, plans and designs that promote both, the adaptation to climate change and mitigation of GHG emissions. This principle entails reduction of GHG emission, assessment of high risk areas inside settlements and disaster preparedness strategies.

Understood as the way of managing and restraining the growth in energy consumption and resource exhaustion, the use of strategic planning to coordinate policies with efficiency measures in buildings, appliances, transport and agricultural, industrial and services industries. By using resources on a sustainable manner, cities will minimize impacts on the environment, creating more with less and delivering greater value with less input. This principle entails energy efficiency in sectoral policies related to the city and the hinterland, promotion of renewable energies, resource management and preservation strategies, preservation of agricultural land and recycle, reuse, reduce and closed loop cycle strategies. In order to adapt to the rapid urban growth that cities are experiencing, it is critical to provide policies, plans, norms and rules that respond to the current needs of municipalities and that at the same time are flexible enough to accommodate the possible different growth scenarios of urban areas. This norms and rules should be developed with a participatory approach, and carrying the principles of equity, democracy and social integration.

One key methodology developed by UN-HABITAT to accommodate rapid growth in cities is the planned city extension. The methodology addresses sustainable urban growth at a required scale including the provision of sufficient public space, resilience and at the same time buildable plots to unleash the housing process. Dr. Clos listed several benefits from planned city extensions that include:

- Adequately planned future supply of land with affordable development solutions
- Optimization of land use at appropriate densities, thus promoting economies of agglomeration
- Less energy consumption and reduced carbon
  print
- Maximization of use of existing infrastructure and more cost effective and phased development of new infrastructure
- · Improved resilience while facing natural disasters

In the long term, benefits of this approach include economic agglomeration advantages, including lower infrastructure, transport, transaction and services costs; reduced mobility demand and strengthened social interactions and increased social heterogeneity as a result of mixed land use. Planned city extensions need to consider different tools to secure public land and manage plot layout. Land readjustment and pooling are particularly crucial, together with adequate land management and regulatory tools.

The provision of basic services, often done in an incremental way, should be the key public sector intervention and linked transparently with local taxation and the sharing of value accrued on private land. Collaboration among different sectors and actors is essential for the development of an implementable and successful plan. When there is already a large provision of urban land, or low density and sprawl, planned city infill strategies are recommended.

To come to successful implementation of the 21 Century Urban Model, UN-HABITAT uses the three-legged approach in which urban planning and design, legislation and governance and finance and economy are the enabling components. Each of the three legs is related to the other. This means planning without legislation and a sound financial plan will fail in the implementation. Deep knowledge of each of the three legs of the approach is represented by three branches within UN-Habitat. The planning of cities by UN-HABITAT is done in an interactive process in which the effectiveness and functionality of legislation finance and planning is related to each other and adapted accordingly to ensure the implementation of urban planning projects. An overview of reason and objectives of each of the three legs is summarized below.

Legislation and Governance focus on the protection of public space, the clear delimitation of buildability and the establishment of development rights, the effective and adequate plot layout and the elaboration of appropriate building codes. The objective is to promote a better formulated and more transparent legal framework for urban development. The emphasis lies on the establishment of a system of regulations and rules that provide a solid and predictable long-term framework for urban development that can be built upon, and that is adequate to real needs, real capacity and available resources.

Planning and Design from the planned city extension perspective focuses on public space layout which minimizes transport needs and service delivery costs optimizing the use of land. Also the street pattern should allow adequate mobility and enable space for civic and economic activities. Thirdly, open spaces, which provide areas for recreation and social interaction and finally block typology, which allows private investment in defined and serviced areas.

Finance and Economy: Developing a realistic and implementable financial plan is crucial to the successful implementation of planned city extensions and infill. The feasibility of a financial plan depends upon the ability of planning and public investments to generate economic benefits. Economic activity is the primary generator of the revenue which local governments will need to finance investments. Some of the tools used by the agency to ensure financial feasibility are economic impact assessment and financial modelling.

The UN-HABITAT's 21st Century Smart Urban Model is based on principles that allow for incremental growth and modification. Key principle here is to provide a connected and sufficient network of streets and public space that is protected by law. This network can and will prevail for centuries and has economic, social and environmental benefits on the long term. Smart cities like New York or Barcelona are based on this and have not been built overnight. The street pattern of New York has been designed in 1811 and the pattern of Barcelona in 1859. Both urban plans contain a set of rules and regulations and a taxing system that allowed the cities to develop over time and create public and private economic value.

The 21st Century Smart Urban Model introduces key principles deducted from intensive research and broad international experience of UN-Habitat. Incremental growth possibilities and the flexibility to adapt according to the economic, social and environmental reality of an era are essential to sustain the cities' long term development potential. Still nobody can foresee the future and so the basic structure of settlements should unlock potential for the long term rather than to create a fixed temporary solution.

A smart city combines the most effective aspects of urban planning and design to deliver affordable housing, transport and services to its population as it grows. Dr. Clos also argued that there was a need to Interactive Session with the Executive Director of the Un-Habitat is in progress





ITPI Annual General Meeting -2014 empower local authorities to carry out their respective responsibilities and meet the needs and expectations of their citizens; an area in which UN-HABITAT supports the countries in building capacity and sharing expertise. He emphasised the importance of the devolution of power to the city level to enable municipalities to deliver on services and urban development. This is proving to be a challenge in India, as in many countries, where resources and implementation are largely controlled at the national level.

HABITAT-III is the Global UN Conference scheduled in 2016 in Quito, Ecuador. This will be the first UN global summit after the adoption of the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals by the UN-General Assembly in September 2015, and hopefully, a new climate change agreement. It offers a unique

The Annual General Meeting of ITPI was held on 26 September 2014 At 14:00 hours at the ITPI HQ, New Delhi. Welcoming the members to the Annual General Meeting in accordance with Article 11 to 13 of Memorandum of Articles of Association and Bye-Laws of ITPI, Prof. Dr. A. N. Sachithandandan, President, ITPI took up the agenda items as enumerated in Article 20:

# Item No.1: To receive, consider, and adopt the Audited Statements of Account and the Audit for the year ended on March 31st 2014.

Prof. Dr. Najamuddin, Secretary General, ITPI gave the highlights of the Audited Statement of the Accounts for the year 2013-2014. The members present unanimously accepted the Audited Statement and Auditors Report for the year 2013-2014.

Proposed by: Shri P.K. Duria Seconded by: Dr. Sandeep Kumar Raut

# Item No.2: To present the Scrutinizers' Report on the Council Elections for the year 2014 - 2015.

The Scrutinizers' Report of the Council Elections for the year 2014 - 2015 was presented by Shri Sunil Mehra, Scrutinizer and declared following members as elected for the Council for the year 2014 - 2015.

#### **General Constituency**

- 1. Meshram, D. S.
- 2. Kapoor, Pradeep
- 3. Udayan, Raj Kumar
- 4. Mahendra, B.
- 5. Rajasekarapandian, S.

opportunity to discuss the important challenges of how cities, towns and villages are planned and managed, in order to fulfil their role as drivers of sustainable development, and hence shape the implementation of new global development and climate change goals. HABITAT III shall be taking place 20 years after HABITAT II in Istanbul and 40 years after HABITAT I in Vancouver and shall discuss and decide the new global urban agenda for Inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities both in developed and developing world. The process of Habitat III has already started. The first PrepCom took place in New York in September 2014 and the second one will take place in Nairobi in April 2015.

After Open House discussions Prof. Dr. Najamuddin Secretary General extended the vote of thanks

### **ITPI Annual General Meeting - 2014**

- 6. Sathyanarayan, V.
- 7. Saini, S.D.
- 8. Sharma, Rajinder
- 9. Patnaik, S.M.
- 10. Khodankar, S.B.
- 11. Kapse, Vijay S.
- 12. Patil, Milind B.
- 13. Banerjee, Gautam

# Special Constituencies (Chairmen of Regional Chapters)

14. Singh, Gurpreet

- 15. Patel, N. Kantilal
- 16. Raghu, G.V.
- 17. Redhu, J.S.
- 18. Roy, Souvanic

Prof. (Dr.) A. N. Sachithandandan, Shri K. S. Akode, Prof. (Dr.) Najamuddin would be Ex-officio members being immediate Past President, Vice-President and Secretary General (as per Bye-Law No.35).

# Item No.3: To appoint Auditors and to fix their remuneration.

The members decided to continue Messer Sarkar and Associates as Auditors for the year 2014-2015 on the same remuneration fixed during the year 2013-2014.

Proposed by: Shri B. C. Datta Seconded by: Shri S. B. Khodankar Meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

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## **ITPI Council 2014-2015**



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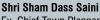
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# ITPI Council 2014-2015

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## Chairmen and Secretaries of Committees (2014 – 2015)

Name of Committees	Chairperson	Co-Chairperson	Secretary
Executive Committee	Dr. A. N. Sachithanandan	Shri K. S. Akode	Dr. Najamuddin
Educational Standing Committee	Prof. (Dr.) Krishnegowda	Prof. Alka Bharat	Dr. R. Biswas
Professional Standing Committee	Shri S. D. Landge	Shri Ranjan Chattopadhyay	Shri Jibesh Paul
Library Committee	Prof. Jitender Singh	Prof. Shivanand Swami	Dr. Sandeep Kumar Raut
Regional Chapter Building Committee	Mrs. Anjali Goswami	Shri B. S. Kanawat	Shri Sunil Mehra
Technical Committee	Dr. S. K. Kulshrestha	Shri A. R. Patharkar	Dr. Najamuddin
Head Quarter Building Committee	Shri V. K. Bugga	Shri Rajiv Malhotra	Shri Naveen Bhatnagar
Information Technology Committee	Shri P. S. Uttarwar	Shri Sudhir Singh Chauhan	Shri Sujit Rodge
Town Planning Examination Board	Dr. A. N. Sachithanandan		Dr. Mayank Mathur
Editorial Board	Shri K. S. Akode		Prof. (Dr.) Ashok Kumar
Evaluation Committee	Shri S. S. Mathur	Shri PramodBehera	Shri R. Srinivas

### XVI NOSPlan Convention on 'Cities for All'

National Organization of Students of Planning (NOSPLAN) in collaboration with the School of Planning and Architecture Bhopal organized XVI Annual NOSPLAN Convention from 26 to 29 December 2014. The event was sponsored by the Institute of Town Planners, India, which was named as "samavesh (lekos"k)" which signifies integration and amalgamation. It thus stands for the coming together of ideas, approaches and people in the effort to build a more equitable, economically strong and democratic society. Societies for future should be organized in such a way that they become inclusive, self sustaining and progressive. The theme for the event was "City for all" which targets just, fair and equitable inclusion of all. Equity ensures that individuals and groups have access to a wide variety of experiences, resources, goods and services. They are protected from health,

economic, environmental and social disparities. They have the opportunity to participate in public decisions, and are treated fairly regardless of race, ethnicity, region, income, gender, age, or physical ability. Its fundamental distinction from equality lies in the practice of redistributing resources from the rich to the poor and working classes based on their need with the opportunity to achieve a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being in order to develop their fullest potential.

For a large part of the population, reduced mobility and impaired accessibility to the community nodes or everyday destinations states the link between accessibility and suburban sprawl. The problem is accentuated by an individual's state of affordability. In most cases, a stark difference among the living environs of different social classes and income groups

Chairmen and Secretaries of Committees (2014 – 2015)





Release of Souvenir is in progress

forms the urban fabric of the city. Urban planning as a tool can bridge gaps in quality of life services between the main city and the peripheral areas.

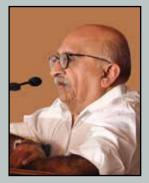
The event was inaugurated on 26 December, 2014 by Padma Bushan Shri M. N. Buch, popularly known as the Architect of Modern Bhopal. In his addresses Shri Buch encouraged students and young planners to develop the city such that they are usable and accessible to the common men and women. He also said that public-private participation model (PPP) is not very encouraging. He felt that the orientation of PPP model of India is more towards reducing expenditure of the government and to reduce fiscal deficit rather than improving services for the public. The government brought PPP model in education sector. If it can contribute 85 percent, what is the problem in paying 15 percent more, he questioned. Instead of PPP model, the government should free private sector to spend 100 percent and in return government should give concession in taxes. Shri Buch also said that smart cities were not all about wearing three piece suits and living lavish life but having trouble free life is the real meaning of smart cities.

Prof. Amitabh Kundu, former Professor at the JNU, Delhi in his keynote address stated that in India there is a need to develop 700 to 800 smart cities comprising not only of large cities but also small and medium towns. He also lamented that by 2050 there will be requirement of creating 430 million extra jobs for meeting the requirement of small cities. He also opined that in India and South Asia slum population is increasing, and therefore there is a need that large cities take cognisance of labour force migrating from small and medium towns to large cities. He also mentioned that government should not depend much on public-private partnership model but should take the responsibility through public sector by exploring the possibility of increasing tax base. On the issue of use of non-conventional energy, Prof. Kundu stated that while approving the plan it should be ensured that adequate provisions are made for nonconventional energy in addition to water harvesting.

Smart cities should not be limited to leading comfortable life and planned facilities. The cities would be called smart where absorption of people in jobs would be more and labour would be highly productive. The cities would not only create jobs for people but also make them skilled, he said. He was also of the opinion that with smart cities, urban growth rate which is declining substantially due to migration of people from rural to urban could increase.

Government has targeted fiscal deficit of 4.1 percent of gross domestic products (GDP) for the 2015 financial year down from 4.5 percent. To achieve the target, central government is cutting expenditure on important development works and is emphasizing on PPP mode, which needs to be re-visited. Prof. Kundu also highlighted that there are about 350 towns in India that have less than 5 lakh population and smaller cities like Sehore near Bhopal can take first step towards becoming smart by having an underground sewage network. India in coming years, he said, would be in a position to reap advantageous of demographic dividend.

Prof. V. K. Singh, Director, SPA, Bhopal, delivered welcome address. While Prof. Binayak Chaudhary, HoD, Planning Department, SPA, Bhopal, proposed a vote of thanks.



Padma Bushan Shri M. N. Buch addressing the delegates

XVI NOSPlan Convention on 'Cities for All' is in progress

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GIS and Smart Cities -Building Future of Sustainable Cities

Smart cities project is one of the key priorities of the Indian Government. The Prime Minister has outlined a vision to set up 100 smart cities to develop a foundation for sustainable urban India by providing world class infrastructure. GIS has a key role to play in integrating all aspects of smart city ecosystem. With an objective to bring all stakeholders involved in Smart City initiative to a common platform ESRI India and the Institute of Town Planners, India (ITPI) co-hosted a seminar on GIS and Smart Cities on



Prof. Dr. Najumuddin, Secretary General, ITPI, addressing the delegates

GIS and Smart Cities - Building Future of Sustainable Cities

> Planners Newsletter

11 December 2014 during fifteenth ESRI India User Conference. The objective of the seminar was to showcase how GIS can provide a central IT framework which integrates every aspect of a smart city from conceptualization, planning and development to maintenance.

In the Inaugural Session of the seminar, Prof. Dr. Najamuddin, Secretary General, ITPI emphasised on the importance of GIS in planning for smart cities. He said that "GIS can be used for entire phase of city building from conceptualising to planning to design to day to day maintenance operations". Adding further, he said "ESRI India provides a platform to discuss new applications of GIS and experiences of new products towards improving technical development skills and facilitates town planners towards new mapping techniques which not only improve the GIS effectiveness but also allow us to expand network with all stakeholders of urban development".

Agendra Kumar, President ESRI, India provided insights into how technology could help in converting cities into smart cities. He emphasised on reasons why there is a need to build smart cities and how GIS techniques can be used for the same.

The Keynote Address by Mr. Anand Singh Bahl, Economic Advisor, Ministry of Urban Development, provided point of view of the Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India about GIS and Smart Cities. He emphasised that "only way forward, in this time and era for India is to go for planned urbanisation and supplement this with GIS".

The panel discussion on Smart Planning was chaired by Prof. Chetan Vaidya, Director, SPA Delhi and Cochaired by Mr. K. K. Joadder, Additional Chief Planner, TCPO. Prominent panellists included Prof. Dr. Ashok Kumar, Professor, SPA New Delhi; Mr. KVRK Ravi Kumar, Additional Chief Planner, CIDCO, and Dr. G. S. Rao, Director, Symbiosis Institute of Geomatics. Prof. Dr. Ashok Kumar pointed out that analysis (with the help of GIS) of location of 100 smart cities need to be carried out urgently before planning for any smart city could begin. Another key aspect that was highlighted in the panel discussion was capacity building and role of educational institutions to support the upcoming demand of GIS skilled resources.

### Sixty Third NTCP Congress

Institute of Town Planners, India announces its 63rd National Town and Country Planners' Congress to be held from 9 to 11 January 2015 at Chennai on the theme "High Growth Inclusive Urban Settlements" with the sub-themes "Twin Cities and Satellite Towns"; and "Inclusive Smart Cities". with local sub-theme on "Transformation of Cities as Nuclei of Development".

Members are requested to send the papers on the theme and sub-themes not exceeding 3,000 words along with hard and soft copy in MS Word to reach the Secretary General, ITPI, New Delhi before 25 December 2014.

### **Obituary**



Shri M. C. K. Swamy born on 23rd December 1933, was qualified as a Civil Engineer from N I E, Mysore University with a PG diploma in Town and Country Planning from SPA, New Delhi. He joined Government of India in 1963 and served in various departments in various capacities. Initially from 1968 to 1975, he worked in the Town and Country Planning Organization as Additional Town and Country Planner. From 1976 to 1981 he moved to the Department of Science and Technology as Senior Environmental Officer. From 1981 to 1991, he served the Ministry of Environment and Forests as Additional Director. In the interim

he also worked as Professor of Planning in SPA, New Delhi from 1984 to 1987. He worked on a variety of projects related to the environmental sector, urban development, tourism and housing, and conducted training programs, workshops and seminars on the same. Post retirement also he continued to be actively associated with various organizations like STEM and ADB consulting on environmental capacity building issues.

Whilst the mainstay of his professional career was human settlements and environmental impact assessment, on a personal note he was an avid traveller with a flair for offbeat locations. He was a zestful person with a quiet sense of humour and wore his years lightly. Blessed with remarkably green fingers, he took pride in creating quaint little gardens in the localities he resided.

He was Fellow United Nations' Asian Development Institute, Bangkok; Member, Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), New Delhi; and Fellow Member, Institute of Town Planners India (ITPI), New Delhi.

After living an active life in the serene environment of Bangalore and later Kuppam, he passed way after a brief illness on 10 September 2014.

#### Continued from Page 16

Subsequently he took a postgraduate degree in Architecture and also in Urban and Rural Planning from the same institute. Later, he did his Postgraduate Diploma in Housing from Holland in the year 1974 and a Ph.D. Degree in Architecture from USA in the year 1989.

Prof. Dr. Najammuuddin worked for the preparation of Master Plan with South Yemen Government and was associated with various town planning projects in Nigeria. Further, he worked as a faculty in Aden University for three years and the University of Jos, Nigeria for two years. He worked as a Professor in the Department of Architecture and Planning, IIT Roorkee, and also looked after the responsibility of the Head of the Department for a long period. During his tenure at the IIT Roorkee he guided more than 20 Ph.D. students, more than 50 postgraduate students and 150 Bachelor in Architecture students. He has authored more than 100 research papers in the field of architecture and town planning, and has published in various journals and conference proceedings. During his tenure as Head of the Department, he evolved a Vision Plan for IIT Roorkee for the year 2010. He bagged numerous research awards in India and from across the globe, which include the prestigious National Design Award in Architectural Engineering, 2002, which was instituted by the Institution of Engineers - India. He has been working as a consultant to Florida Group of Architects, USA.

At present Prof. Dr. Najammuuddin is working as a Visiting Professor in IIT Roorkee and Director MET group of institutions, Moradabad, U.P. He is a member, Board of Governors, School of Planning and Architecture, Bhopal; Town Planning Board of the All India Council for Technical Education, New Delhi, and President, Architects Association, U.P. and Uttarakhand State.

Prof. Dr. Najammuuddin was elected as Secretary General of ITPI for the year 2010 - 2011, 2013 -2014 and again for the year 2014-2015. He is a soft spoken and kind hearted human being.





Dr. A.N. Sachithanandan President, ITPI



Shri K.S. Akode Vice-President, ITPI



Prof. Najamuddin Secretary General

### Elected Office Bearers of ITPI (2014-2015)

#### President : Dr. A. N. Sachithandandan

Prof. Dr. A.N. Sachithandandan completed his bachelor's degree in Architecture in 1964, and Masters in Town Planning in 1966 from the School of Architecture and Planning, Chennai and Ph. D. in Housing in the year 1987 besides having undergone advanced practical training in housing in 1984 in the University of London, U.K. He started his career in Town and Country Planning Department, Government of Pondicherry in 1967, and shifted to the School of Architecture and Planning, Anna University, Chennai as Lecturer in Planning. Since then he has been working in various capacities and retired as Director, SAP Chennai in the year 2003. After retirement he took over as Dean MEASI Academy of Architecture, Chennai.

Prof. Dr. A.N. Sachithandandan successfully guided a number of Ph. D. scholars. He has authored more than 30 technical papers for national and international conferences. He visited many countries which include USA, UK, Singapore, Italy, Japan and France as part of his professional work. Dr. A.N. Sachithandandan received Dr. Radhakrishnan Award from Government of Tamil Nadu for the best college teacher in town planning education. He was chairman of Tamil Nadu Regional Chapter for six terms. He was Council Member of the ITPI for a number of times and also the Vice President of the ITPI in 1987 - 1988. Besides, he was also the Chairman of Educational Standing Committee of the ITPI and Chairman of Editorial Board of ITPI in the year 1987 - 1988. He was a member of the Land Use and Environmental Committee, Housing Sub-committee and Heritage Committee, Second Master Plan of Chennai Metropolitan Area. He was a member of the Committee for Revision of Town and Country Planning Act, 1971 constituted by Tamil Nadu Government, 2007 - 2009. Prof. Dr.

Dr. A. N. Sachithandandan was elected President of the ITPI for the year 2004 - 2005 and 2010 - 2011, 2013 - 2014 and again for the year 2014-2015.

#### Vice President : Kamalakar Sakharam Akode

Shri Kamalakar Sakharam Akode, elected as Vice President of the ITPI, graduated in Civil Engineering from Nagpur University in 1983 and passed his postgraduate degree in Town and Country Planning from University of Pune in 1996.

He started his career in Government of Maharashtra in 1983 as Planning Assistant and was elevated to Assistant Town Planner in 1986 followed by a further promotion to the position of Town Planner. In 1992 he became Assistant Director in Town Planning and Valuation Department of Maharashtra. He was promoted as Deputy Director in the same Department in 2003 and as Joint Director in 2004. He also served as Under Secretary in Revenue and Forest Department, Government of Maharashtra during 2000 - 2003. He also got the opportunity to work as Chief Planner, Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation, Mumbai during 2009 - 2012. Recently, Government of India nominated Shri Akode as a member of Indian delegation who visited Brazil in the month of October 2012 for sharing experiences of urban planning and development of Brazil.

Presently Shri Akode is working as Director, Town Planning and Valuation Department, and is responsible for advising Government of Maharashtra in matters of urban planning, guiding preparation of development plans of various towns and cities in the state, guiding preparation of regional plans for various districts in the state, area planning schemes, valuation of immovable properties, monitoring and control on emerging special townships, etc.

Shri K.S. Akode was elected Vice President of the ITPI in the year 2013-2014 and again elected as Vice President in the year 2014-2015.

Shri Akode was also responsible for organizing the 62nd National Town and Country Planners Congress on the theme 'Urban Renewal, Redevelopment and Regeneration: Challenges and Options'; with Sub-themes - 'Consequences and Implications'; 'Regulatory and Institutional Mechanism'; and 'Special Township Policies - Experiences'

#### Secretary General : Prof. (Dr.) Najammuuddin

Prof. Dr. Najammuuddin completed his graduation in architecture from the IIT Roorkee in 1964.

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