



# PLANNERS NEWS LETTER

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Chairman, Editorial Board:  
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Editor:  
Prof. Dr. Prafulla Parlewar

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Dr. Prabhuram Choudhary, Honourable Minister, Public Health and Family Welfare, Madhya Pradesh lighting ceremonial lamp during inauguration of conference; (on his left) Shri Manish Singh, IAS, Principal Secretary, Urban Development and Housing, Madhya Pradesh; Prof. Dr. D. S. Meshram, President, ITPI; and Dr. Subhashish Banerjee, Chairman, MPRC; (on his right) Shri Pradeep Kapoor, Secretary General, ITPI; and Prof. Dr. Jagdish Singh, Vice-President, ITPI

## 70TH NATIONAL TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNERS CONFERENCE “URBAN INDIA AT 75: SPATIAL PLANNING INITIATIVES”

Dr. Prabhuram Choudhary, Honourable Minister, Public Health and Family Welfare, was the Chief Guest at the Inaugural Function held on 15th April 2022 at Bhopal. In his inaugural address Honourable Minister was happy to note that the Institute of Town Planners, India is organizing 70th National Town and Country Planners Conference at Bhopal when the country is celebrating “Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav” i.e. 75th year of independence. He further highlighted that this year is also important for the planning fraternity as Madhya Pradesh Regional Chapter is also celebrating Golden Jubilee of its existence. Honourable Minister also observed that earlier the National Town and Country Planners Conferences were held twice at Indore and twice at Bhopal for discussing topical themes and thanked

the ITPI for choosing once again Bhopal as the venue for the 70th National Town and Country Planners Conference. He felt that it was the proud moment for the Institute of Town Planners, India, which started with only 15 town and country planners in 1952, today the ITPI has over 7,000 qualified town and country planners as its members. Besides, India is the second largest represented country in the Commonwealth Association of Planners after Britain. He also observed that delegates from more than 16 states of our country are participating in this Conference. He remembered his student days when he and his colleagues used to discuss about Chandigarh, the only planned city of India. But today there are more than 150 new towns in India.



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Planners, India



**Dr. Prabhuram  
Choudhary,  
Honourable Minister,  
Public Health and  
Family Welfare,  
Madhya Pradesh,  
delivering Inaugural  
Address**



Present on dais are Dr. Prabhuram Choudhary, Honourable Minister, Public Health and Family Welfare, Madhya Pradesh; (third from the right) on his right are Shri Manish Singh, IAS, Principal Secretary, Urban Development and Housing, Madhya Pradesh; Shri Pradeep Kapoor, Secretary General, ITPI; Dr. Subhashish Banerjee, Chairman, MPRC; (on his left) are Prof. Dr. D. S. Meshram, President, ITPI; and Prof. Dr. Jagdish Singh, Vice-President, ITPI, during the Inaugural Function

Town and country planners are required for orderly and planned developed of our towns, cities and rural areas, who ultimately help in our endeavours of nation building. In this direction Honourable Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi Ji has taken several notable initiatives in spatial planning by launching various schemes and missions in the urban sector including the Smart Cities Mission (SCM); Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT); Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana (HRIDAY); Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY): Housing for All; and Swachh Bharat Mission, etc. Focusing on the Swachh Bharat Mission, the Honourable Minister said that the basic purpose of this Mission is to provide household toilets, community toilets, besides public toilets and urinals to the public in our towns, cities, *kasbas* and *galis*. The core idea is that if we become Swachh it will improve not only citizens' health and hygiene in our towns and cities but also contribute to our economic growth.

In spite of challenges of Covid - 19, Honourable Chief Minister, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, prepared the model of 'Jan Bhagidari' by involving people, and elected representatives in District Crises Committees and Ward Management Committees with government machinery which also helped in mitigating the effects of Covid – 19 pandemic. Here, efforts were made to tackle the challenges of Covid – 19 through door to door campaign, daily vaccination, video conferencing, etc., which was a great relief to the people. He further elaborated that during the period of Covid – 19, pandemic, all the precautions and directions of competent authorities were meticulously followed due to which casualties in Madhya Pradesh were less than other major states as majority of people of Madhya Pradesh were vaccinated. He said the credit of this initiative should go to the Honourable Chief Minister for issuing measures involving strict enforcement of directions issued by the Honourable Prime Minister.



Dignitaries on dais are Dr. Prabhuram Choudhary, Honourable Minister, Public Health and Family Welfare, Madhya Pradesh; (third from the right) on his right are Shri Manish Singh, IAS, Principal Secretary, Urban Development and Housing, Madhya Pradesh; Shri Pradeep Kapoor, Secretary General, ITPI; Dr. Subhashish Banerjee, Chairman, MPRC; (on his left) are Prof. Dr. D. S. Meshram, President, ITPI; and Prof. Dr. Jagdish Singh, Vice-President, ITPI, during Release of Souvenir



Audience during Inaugural Function

He further noted that efforts are being made to provide infrastructure, services and facilities including water supply, solid waste disposal, sanitation and roads, etc., to people living in rural areas so that they do not migrate to cities and towns. In fact the migrants from rural areas get settled near their work places in towns. For such people 'Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana: Housing for All', is very important because it seeks to address the housing requirements of urban poor including slum dwellers. He also pointed out that he has recently visited some projects being implemented under the PMAY and was happy to notice that clusters are being developed in a planned manner in Madhya Pradesh in right earnest.

The basic objectives of the Smart Cities Mission are to promote cities that provide state of the art core infrastructure and a decent quality of life to its citizen, a clean and sustainable environment, and safety by application of smart solutions, which will make our cities smart. Honourable Minister explained that clean environment not only makes the cities healthy but also results in changing their mind sets about hygiene.

On the issue of increasing the number of planners required for preparation of development plans, he noted that the number of planning schools and other planning institutions have also increased. In 1951-52, there was not even a single planning school in the country. As per the ITPI estimates, the country

now has over 60 planning schools imparting town and country planning education. He also called on the town and country planners' community to adopt the latest innovations and technologies for plan preparation, implementation, and enforcement. He emphasized that planners should prepare the development plans for small settlements because by the passage of time these settlements will grow to towns and cities. Therefore there is a need to adopt pro-active planning approach. Honourable Minister was also happy to note that the Local Area Plan of Indore has been approved by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India as a good practice for all AMRUT cities and also mentioned that all other towns should also make efforts to prepare plans under AMRUT.

Before concluding his address Honourable Minister also released the colourful Souvenir of 70th NTCP Conference and also the 'Smaranika of MPRC' prepared on the occasion of Golden Jubilee of the MPRC. Honourable Minister also inaugurated the Exhibition organized on this occasion showcasing the progress achieved in respect of various missions and schemes by the various agencies of Madhya Pradesh.

A special message was received from Honourable Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan on the occasion of inauguration of the 70th National Town and Country Planners Conference, was read out by Dr. Subhashish Banerjee, Chairman, MPRC.



Institute of Town  
Planners, India



**Shivraj Singh Chouhan,**  
Honourable Chief  
Minister, Madhya  
Pradesh



अर्द्ध शास.पत्र क्र. 22/मुमंनि/2022  
भोपाल, दिनांक, 15/04/2022

## शिवराज सिंह चौहान

मुख्यमंत्री  
मध्यप्रदेश

### प्रिय साथियों,

आज अत्यंत हर्ष का विषय है, की भारत की "आजादी के 75 वे वर्ष पूरे होने पर अमृत महोत्सव वर्ष तथा ITPI के मध्यप्रदेश Chapter की स्थापना के स्वर्ण जयंती वर्ष में "शहरी भारत: स्थानिक नियोजन प्रयास" विषय की पृष्ठभूमि पर 70 वे. राष्ट्रीय नगर एवं ग्राम योजनाकार सम्मेलन में चर्चा करने के लिए आज हम सभी मध्यप्रदेश के भोपाल शहर में उपस्थित हुए हैं। मैं आप सभी का देश के हृदय-स्थली पर हृदय से अभिनन्दन करता हूँ।

इस तीन दिवसीय मंथन में मुझे बताया गया है कि भविष्य के भारत की नगरीय संरचना तथा उनसे जुड़े महत्वपूर्ण विषयों पर व्यापक चिन्तन किया जाएगा, मैं आशा करता हूँ, इस सम्मेलन के माध्यम से नये भारत को गति देते हुए अग्रणीय मध्यप्रदेश के निर्माण के हमारे संकल्प को साकार करने में भी आप सभी कि महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका होगी।

आज एक अच्छे शहर की पहचान उस शहर में सुनियोजित अधोसंरचना तथा नागरिक सुविधाओं की व्यापकता से होती है। इसलिए हमने प्रदेश के नगरीय निकायों में भौतिक अधोसंरचना के विकास के साथ-साथ नागरिकों को मिलने वाली लगभग सभी सुविधाएँ जैसे, नल कनेक्शन, नामांतरण, पेंशन, जन्म-मृत्यु प्रमाण पत्र, प्रोपर्टी टेक्स, जल कर, भवन-अनुज्ञा, विकास अनुज्ञा इत्यादि सेवाओं को पारदर्शी, सुलभ और सुगम बनाते हुए ऑन-लाइन व्यवस्थाओं को लागू किया है।

नगरीय विकास को दिशा देने के उद्देश्य से प्रदेश के शहरों, विशेष रूप से छोटे और मध्यम शहरों की बेहतर तरीके से योजना बनाने के लिए, सरकार ने शहरी स्थानीय निकायों को सत्ता का विकेंद्रीकरण, स्थानीय निकायों को आत्मनिर्भर बनने और सामना करने के लिए समर्थन जैसे महत्वपूर्ण कदम भी उठाये हैं।

मध्यप्रदेश के नगरीय क्षेत्रों में बड़े-बुजुर्ग, महिलाओं बच्चों, युवाओं व सभी वर्गों के लिए एक सुरक्षित और सशक्त वातवरण बनाना हमारी प्राथमिकता है। आधुनिक विकास के मापदंडों पर हमारे शहर विश्व स्तरीय विकास आयामों को प्राप्त करें, तथा अपनी सांस्कृतिक धरोहर और नैसर्गिक पर्यावरण को कायम रखते हुये हमारा मध्यप्रदेश स्वच्छ रहे, स्वस्थ रहे, सुन्दर बने व समृद्ध हो मेरी यही कामना है। आप सभी को अच्छे आयोजन की शुभकामनाएं।

जय हिन्द .....जय मध्यप्रदेश।

धन्यवाद

भवदीय

(शिवराज सिंह चौहान)

Shri Manish Singh, IAS, Principal Secretary, Urban Development and Housing, Madhya Pradesh, Guest of Honour welcoming the delegates and participants to 'City of Lakes - Bhopal' recalled the contribution of Shri M. N. Buch who gave a new direction to planning and development of Bhopal and brought Bhopal on the map of planned towns of India. He also mentioned that discussions and deliberations in this Conference should guide not only India but also developing nations. He also noted that on the occasion of celebrations of 75th year of our independence, we should start deliberations now about what kind of development we foresee for our country during the celebrations to be held on the completion of 100 years of our independence. In fact we should aim at orderly and planned India with better livable environment not only for cities but also masses so that other countries can take inspiration from India.

Prof. Dr. D. S. Meshram, President, Institute of Town Planners, India mentioned that organization of the National Town and Country Planners Conference, held annually without any break; in different parts of the country on the subject of topical interest, is one of the most important promotional activity of the Institute since 1951, which in essence provides important forum to promote understanding of the subject, and ensures continual debate on current issues. This is the time when experiences gained by professionals, educationists and researchers in public, private, corporate and cooperative sectors are shared with a view to keep planning practice and education, revitalized with the latest theories, techniques and technologies. The vision of Institute is to 'promote dynamic, inclusive and integrated town and country planning practice, education, research and institutional mechanism for vibrant, sustainable and resilient spatio-economic development of towns, cities and regions'. To achieve this vision the ITPI promotes understanding of the subject of urban and regional planning, and its relevance and application in the ever-changing scenario of our towns, cities, and regions, in addition to advance the study in town planning, civic design and kindred subjects.

For promoting town and country planning education, ITPI is interacting with Ministry of Education, Government of India; University Grant Commission; NITI Aayog and All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE). ITPI recognizes Schools, Colleges, Universities and NITs / IITs. These institutions approach ITPI voluntarily on their own for

recognition so that their students after graduation / post-graduation can be eligible to become corporate Associate / Fellow members of ITPI. To watch the interest of planning students, ITPI has taken up the matter with concerned agencies not to equate the one-year postgraduate degree offered by foreign institutions at par with two years postgraduate degree program of our country so that our students are not placed at disadvantaged position. ITPI also gives generous grant to NOSPlan (students organization) for promoting their activities. Similarly, ITPI has taken up the matter with National Testing Agency, Ministry of Education for having separate test for B. Planning.

ITPI is also interacting with various State Governments, Semi-governments, Housing Boards, Development Authorities and Corporate and Private Sectors for fostering town planning profession. To protect the interest of qualified planners ITPI has published 'Professional Fees and Charges for Planning Practice', the copies of the same were made available to all the members of ITPI, besides the same are also available on the website of ITPI.

To strengthen the publication program, the Institute has been encouraging Regional Chapters by providing liberal financial assistance to publish Newsletters apart from setting up and upgrading Regional Chapter's libraries with hardware and software. To facilitate the deliberations on regional and local issues, the ITPI has been organizing number of Zonal Conferences throughout the country since last ten years.

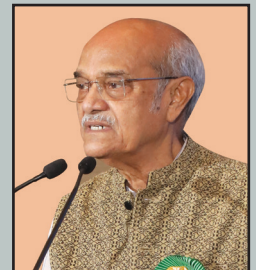
### **'URBAN INDIA AT 75: SPATIAL PLANNING INITIATIVES'**

On the theme of 70th National Town and Country Planners, Conference, Dr. Meshram, highlighted that India would be completing 75 years of Independence, therefore, the Institute of Town Planners, India has devoted the theme of 70th National Town and Country Planners, Conference to 'Urban India at 75: Spatial Planning Initiatives', which is also coinciding with Golden Jubilee year, of Madhya Pradesh Regional Chapter of ITPI.

In seventy-five years of independent, the Republic of India has made noticeable achievements in town and country planning. First, between 1950s and 1980s, the country has built institutional system of town and country planning organizations / departments in almost all the states, replacing improvement trusts, the last relics of the colonists. Second, after



**Shri Manish Singh, IAS,  
Principal Secretary,  
Urban Development  
and Housing, Madhya  
Pradesh, Guest of  
Honour Addressing the  
delegates**



**Prof. Dr. D. S. Meshram,  
President, ITPI  
delivering presidential  
Address in Inaugural  
Session**



Institute of Town  
Planners, India

70th NTCP Conference is in progress

independence in the late 1940s to early 1980s, India built nearly 120 new towns. After a brief lull between early 1980s and early 1990s due to economic transition; new town activity again picked up after sufficient deepening of economic reforms towards the mid-1990s, viewing urban settlements as wealth creators. Third, more recently, India has built world class infrastructure like state-of-the-art airports, ports, and road networks connecting major cities of India with the world. The present Government also initiated National Missions / Schemes like Smart Cities Mission, Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), and Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana (HRIDAY), etc., under urban sector.

Achievements are countless; however, city challenges are also mounting day by day. A large part of the population has yet to get access to decent housing and jobs. Unauthorized developments and slums still predominantly mark Indian cities. Growing population is only adding up to these challenges. However, India is aspiring to become a global power and developed country by realizing the target of becoming 5 trillion US dollars economy by 2024. This target is achievable in spite of the fact that the COVID-19 pandemic has thwarted this aspiration by two years.

#### **'RE-IMAGINING INDIA'S URBAN FUTURES'**

With 34 % of the total number of people living in urban centres, India has urbanized and the processes of urbanization will continue at a fast pace and country's urban population is likely to be doubled in next three decades i.e. by 2050. The processes of this change can be observed from the fact that there are 7,935 urban centres in the country. To achieve India's vision of becoming a 5 - trillion dollar economy, the role of urban centres in national development, will increasingly become prominent. New planning tools, techniques, simulation models, concepts, approaches and policy initiatives will guide future spatial planning and development efforts. The future cities in India needs to be smart with intelligent transport, management and governance, beside planning strategies also needs to be innovative, sustainable and participatory.

Futuristic research and pragmatic thinking in town and country planning to achieve our national and global aspirations is realizable. Development plans of various kinds are nothing but an attempts to steer clear future uncertainties. Theory building

by academics and practitioners is another way of dealing with uncertainties by proposing new ways of practicing planning.

#### **'ENHANCING URBAN PLANNING CAPACITY IN INDIA'**

To achieve our national targets like size of the Indian economy being as big as 5 trillion US dollars, we need to enhance urban and regional planning capacities of planners. Town and country planning organizations and development authorities need to promote efficiency and equity through their decision-making processes. At the same time democratic processes providing real chances to people participating in planning processes need to be embedded in daily planning practices.

Planning schools and other academic institutions has a significant role to play in enhancing urban and regional planning capacities through imparting right kind of skills, knowledges, and ways of practicing when they get such opportunities. Along with the production of a large number of planners every year, the country should also produce a large number of jobs. Planning schools must also advise governments on how such large number of employment opportunities could be created. In this regard the recently published Report of NITI Aayog on 'Reform in Urban Planning Capacity in India', noted that a city Master Plan is a statutory requirement and an essential tool for socio-economic development, better livability, inclusion, citizen engagement, environmental sustainability and presentation of climate change related aspects, however in our country about 52 % of statutory towns lack any kind of Master Plan; and accordingly suggested 'Healthy Cities Program' for 500 towns. Besides revision of Development Control Regulations, filling up of existing vacant position of town planners post and to create additional 8,268 town planners posts have also been recommended. In addition, the Advisory Committee remarked to curb the tendency of considering architecture, civil, engineering and urban design as equivalent to domain of urban planning. Hiring professionals qualified in other disciplines for urban planning can lead to inefficiencies or in worst case scenario, and therefore desired to ensuring qualified urban planners, in services by changing Recruitment Rules accordingly, and also recommended to strengthen urban planning education system and to retain names or specializations based on the industry requirements, and should be limited

only to two nomenclatures. The Committee also suggested to create 'National Digital Platform of Town and Country Planners' (NDPTCP) and to constitute a 'National Council of Town and Country Planners' (NCTCP). However, the Committee has apprehension that after creation of NDPTCP and NCTCP, the ITPI may need to redefine their role to avoid duplication in functions. In this reference Dr. Meshram, mentioned that when 'Council of Architecture' CoA was created by the Act of Parliament in 1972, the Indian Institute of Architects was existing since 1917 and both the bodies are working in tandem since then. Similarly, ITPI and NCTCP can function without jeopardizing each others work, as role of ITPI is to register the qualified Town Planners, as Corporate Associate / Fellow members, and to recognize Schools imparting planning education to make their students eligible to become corporate Associate / Fellow members of ITPI. Besides, to organize Conferences, conduct Associateship Examination, giving awards, etc.

### **'RESILIENCY OF INDIAN CITIES'**

A resilient city is one that is able to absorb or recover from the effect of a sudden change. This change could be caused by disaster, pandemic or variation in climate. The recent pandemic COVID-19 has affected 3.37 crore people and caused 4,47,000 deaths in India. Climate change has started showing its couloirs in the form of rise in temperature or changing pattern of rainfall and their related impacts. To counter the spread of the Corona virus, lock down of cities extending for weeks, has caused confinement of people within their houses. It also resulted in closure of industries, trade and commerce followed by loss of jobs and mass home-word migration of workers. Indiscriminate disposal of medical waste caused environment hazards. New normal have evolved in the form - work from home and online functioning of offices, businesses, educational institutions and many other activities requiring interaction among people.

However, in spite of above challenges, it needs no emphasis to mention that Indian citizens and cities are fairly resilient even with low to moderate provisioning of dwelling units, water, power, sanitation, health and education. Floods, droughts and even Tsunamis do not stop Indian cities from working and thriving, mostly due to the resiliency of the Indian cities. However, there is a need to study the effect of these changes on city planning and identify resilient solutions and promote a resilient city planning, management and governance system.

### **'LOCAL AREA PLANNING FOR MAKING CITIES OF MADHYA PRADESH RESILIENT'**

Local area plan is the third tier plan after the master plan and zonal plans. Master Plan for Delhi introduced the local area planning and provided that the urban local bodies will prepare the plan for the area in their jurisdiction after defining the local areas which may include several wards. The 74th CAA requires ward plans which could be treated as local area plans prepared within the framework of an approved master plan / zonal plan. In Madhya Pradesh, the local area plan of Indore has been approved by the MoHUA as a good practice for AMRUT cities. It is basically a redevelopment plan. However, there is a need to clearly define local area plans and promote preparation and implementation of such plans for making cities in Madhya Pradesh resilient.

Prof. Dr. Jagdish Singh, Vice-President of Institute of Town Planners, India read out the messages received from the dignitaries for this Conference.

Shri Pradeep Kapoor, Secretary General, ITPI in his welcome address mentioned that earlier National Town and Country Planners Conferences were held in Madhya Pradesh during 1962-63 at Bhopal on the theme "Planning Problems of Small and Medium Size Towns"; and in the year 1973-74 again at Bhopal on the theme "Human Environment and National Development in Context of the Fifth Five Year Plan". While in the year 1986-87 the Conference was held at Indore on the theme "Development Management in Urban and Rural Areas"; and in the year 2004-05 again at Indore on the theme "Plan Implementation and Enforcement: Innovative Mechanisms and Techniques". Today we discuss the theme of 'Urban India at 75: Spatial Planning Initiatives' in the 70th National Town and Country Planners' Conference in Bhopal on the invitation of Madhya Pradesh. He also outlined in brief the journey of the ITPI since its inception during 1951-52 till date covering the aspects of town and country planning education and profession. He has also mentioned that the ITPI is a very active member of the Commonwealth Association of Planners. Prof. Dr. D. S. Meshram, President ITPI is the Vice-President of the Commonwealth Association of Planners, (CAP). He further underlined that with reference to Digital India, the ITPI has taken a leap forward by creating registration of members along with their profiles besides registration of schools online.



**Prof. Dr. Jagdish Singh,  
Vice-President, ITPI  
reading the messages  
received from dignities  
in the Inaugural  
Function**



**Shri Pradeep Kapoor,  
Secretary General, ITPI  
delivering the welcome  
address in Inaugural  
Function**



**Dr. Subhashish  
Banerjee, Chairman,  
MPRC, delivering  
the vote of thanks in  
Inaugural Function**



Institute of Town Planners, India



**Shri Bharat Yadav, IAS,**  
Commissioner MP  
Housing and Infrastructure  
Development Board, M.P.  
Addressing the delegates in  
Technical Session - I



**Shri Buddesh Vaidya, IAS,**  
Chief Executive Officer, Bhopal  
Development Authority, M.P.,  
Addressing the delegates in  
Technical Session - I



**Shri N. K. Patel,**  
Former President, ITPI  
addressing delegates in  
Technical Session - I



Plenary Session is in progress: Dignitaries on dais are Shri Pradeep Kapoor, Secretary General, ITPI; Prof. Dr. D. S. Meshram, President, ITPI; Shri Manish Singh, IAS, Principal Secretary, Urban Development and Housing, Madhya Pradesh; and Prof. Dr. Vijay Kapse, Rapporteur

Dr. Subhashish Banerjee, Chairman, MPRC extended a vote of thanks to all the dignitaries. He also put on record the whole hearted support extended by Shri Manish Singh, IAS, Principal Secretary, UD&H, Madhya Pradesh in organizing the 70th NTCP Conference at Bhopal.

## PLENARY SESSION AND TECHNICAL SESSIONS

### Plenary Session on the theme 'Urban India at 75: Spatial Planning Initiatives'

In the Plenary Session on the theme 'Urban India at 75: Spatial Planning Initiatives' Shri Manish Singh, IAS, Principal Secretary, UD&H, Government of Madhya Pradesh, was the Chief Guest. In his address he noted that during 1990s the focus of the country was on rural development. However, India has a strong tradition of planned development as is evident from the towns that existed during the Indus Valley Civilization. But we lost this tradition

somehow. Now when we are celebrating 75th Year of Independence, cities should be planned with intensive use of IT and ITeS where the country has excelled. In fact our towns and cities contribute over 60 percent to the GDP of the country and the country is aspiring to become the 5 trillion US dollar economy. Accordingly, the present government has launched a number of missions and schemes for the urban sector. He also underlined that Indore City has been identified as cleanest city five times and Madhya Pradesh ranks third in the Swachh Bharat Mission.

The Plenary Session was Chaired by Prof. Dr. D. S. Meshram, President, ITPI, in which a presentation was made by Prof. Dr. Ashok Kumar, Dean (Academics), School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi. Prof. Kumar argued that the ethics of care and compassion should form the core of town and country planning education and profession as these ideas and values have always remained at the



Technical Session - I is in progress: Present on dais are Prof. Dr. Saswat Bandyopadhyay, Professor, CEPT, Ahmedabad; Shri N. K. Patel, Former President, ITPI; Guest of Honour Shri Buddesh Vaidya, IAS, Chief Executive Officer, Bhopal Development Authority; Chief Guest Shri Bharat Yadav, IAS, Commissioner Madhya Pradesh Housing and Infrastructure Development Board; Prof. Dr. P. P. Anil Kumar, NIT, Calicut; and Prof. Dr. Ashwani Luthra, GNDU, Amritsar



heart of Indian culture and history. He also noted that compassionate town and country planners would be able to create inclusive cities which are at peace with its people and the physical environment.

Prof. Vijay Kapse from VNIT, Nagpur was the Rapporteur.

**Technical Session - I on the theme “Re-imagining the India’s Urban Future”**

Shri Bharat Yadav, IAS, Commissioner Madhya Pradesh Housing and Infrastructure Development Board was the Chief Guest and Shri Buddesh Vaidya, IAS, Chief Executive Officer, Bhopal Development Authority was the Guest of Honour. The session was chaired by Shri N. K. Patel, Former President, ITPI and Dr. Sandeep Kumar Raut was Rapporteur. In this session presentations were made by Prof. Dr. P. P. Anil Kumar, NIT, Calicut; Prof. Dr. Ashwani Luthra, GNDU, Amritsar, and Prof. Dr. Saswat Bandyopadhyay, Professor, CEPT, Ahmedabad.

Initiating the discussion, Shri N. K. Patel said that urban population of 377 million is likely to increase to 600 million by 2050 and cities and towns would continue to be major contributors to the GDP of the country. Therefore, planned urbanization should be taken as challenge as well as an opportunity.

Shri Bharat Yadav, IAS, in his address recommended that we should opt for sustainable development and also area-based development so that other areas also get developed in the process. He also suggested involving all the stakeholders including public and private sector not only in planning but also in redevelopment, re-densification and re-planning. At the same time he cautioned not to adopt the policy of ‘one jacket fits all’ solution because schemes, which

are successful in one town, may not necessarily be successful in other towns. To amplify his point, he cited the example of BRTS development with mixed results, successful in some towns but not in other towns. He also highlighted that planners need to be mindful of the fact that they prepare development plans which are not being implemented by them but by others. Therefore, involvement of the public during plan preparation and implementation is essential because they are the actual users and beneficiaries.

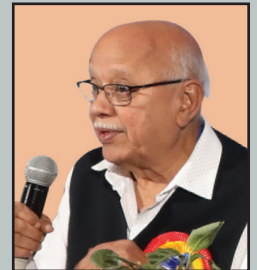
Shri Buddesh Vaidya, IAS, in his address noted that our cities perform multiple activities which include education, industry, commerce, etc., due to which people from rural areas always migrate to cities. Thus, people in fact were tempted to migrate to cities due to availability of employment opportunities and also of utilities and services. However, by the time we think and plan for provision of infrastructure for them, they already stand migrated to the cities and towns. Therefore, infrastructure falls short and the areas - specifically fringe areas of cities get developed in a haphazard manner because development is a continuous process, and cannot be stopped. Therefore, Shri Buddesh Vaidya suggested that we should adopt proactive strategies focusing on long term planning by adopting pragmatic and deliverable models.

**In Technical Session - II on the theme “Enhancing Urban Planning Capacity in India”**

Shri S. N. Mishra, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary Water Resources, Transport and Narmada Valley Development Department, Government of Madya Pradesh was the Chief Guest. While Shri A. R. Patharkar, Former President of ITPI, was the Chairman and Dr. Sarika Bahadure, VNIT, Nagpur



**Shri S. N. Mishra, IAS, Addl. Chief Secretary Water Resources, Transport and Narmada Valley Development Department, Madya Pradesh, Addressing the delegates in Technical Session - II**



**Shri A. R. Patharkar Former President, ITPI Addressing delegates in Technical Session - II**



Present on the dais are Prof. Dr. P. S. N. Rao, Director, SPA, New Delhi; Shri A. R. Patharkar, Former President, ITPI; Shri S. N. Mishra, IAS, Addl. Chief Secretary Water Resources, Transport and Narmada Valley Development Department, Government of Madya Pradesh; Prof. Dr. Kajri Misra, Dean, XIM University, Bhubaneswar, Orissa; Dr. Sarika Bahadure, VNIT, Nagpur



## Institute of Town Planners, India



**Shri Ajeet Kumar, IAS, Secretary, Finance Department, Madhya Pradesh, Addressing the delegates in Technical Session - III**



**Shri K. S. Akode, Former President, ITPI Addressing the delegates in Technical Session - III**

was the Rapporteur. In this session, presentations were made by Prof. Dr. P. S. N. Rao, Director, SPA, New Delhi; Dr. Sanjeev Vidyarthi, Professor, Department of Urban Planning and Policy, University of Illinois at Chicago and Prof. Dr. Kajri Misra, Dean, XIM University, Bhubaneswar, Orissa.

Shri A. R. Patharkar initiated the discussion by emphasizing enhancement in the planning capacity in India. It is imperative to increase the number of qualified town and country planners. He emphasized his point by quoting the example of U. K. where the ratio of planner per lakh population is 38; in Nigeria it is 1.44 but in India as per NITI Aayog report, it is less than one planner per town, the ratio being 0.23. This situation needs to be improved fast. He also mentioned that there is a need to revisit basic planning theories in the light of ground realities, evolution of concepts like TDR and Accommodation Reservation, and innovative technologies need to be re-looked at.

Shri S. N. Mishra, IAS, in his address noted that in planning we need to address the base of the pyramid involving basic needs of the people i.e. food, clothing and housing where governance also plays an importance role. In fact, it is not only the buildings but also the values of people which need to receive our attention. He also called on the planning community that criticism should be taken in a positive sense because when we provide water for the citizens, who get the water supply, planning and utility organizations are appreciated. But those who are not getting water will not be happy and criticize the process. In yet another example, he

said that if land owner who has two sons, if the land of one son is earmarked as green use and other's as commercial or residential, the son whose land is earmarked as parks and playground becomes unhappy. Therefore, principle of equity needs to be adopted by following participatory approaches. He also noted that planning needs to be linked with budget, otherwise the plan may not get implemented. Shri Mishra while concluding his address said that within the framework suggested by NITI Aayog, states need to evolve specific policies for planning profession and education and the number of qualified planners need to be increased by taking into consideration the demand and supply gap.

### **In Technical Session – III on the theme “Resiliency of India Cities”**

Shri Ajeet Kumar, IAS, Secretary, Finance Department, Madhya Pradesh, was the Chief Guest. Shri K. S. Akode, Former President, ITPI, chaired the session. In this session, presentations were made by Shri R. Srinivas, Senior Planner, TCPO; Dr. Amir Ali Khan, Associate Professor, Resilient Infrastructure Division, NIDM; and Ms. Raina Singh, Deputy Regional Director, South and West Asia, C40 Cities. Shri B. S. Kanawat, Former Additional Senior Town Planner, Government of Rajasthan, was the Rapporteur.

In his initial remarks, Shri K. S. Akode noted that there are two types of disasters i.e. natural disasters and man made disasters. With reference to natural disasters, he quoted the example of Latur Earthquake occurred in 1993 during which the Department of



Present on dais are Shri R. Srinivas, Senior Planner, TCPO; Shri K. S. Akode; Shri Ajeet Kumar, IAS, Secretary, Finance Department, Madhya Pradesh; Shri B. S. Kanawat, Former Additional Senior Town Planner, Government of Rajasthan

Town Planning, Government of Maharashtra played an important role and was involved from conducting of surveys to preparation of re-settlement or redevelopment plan. Similarly, in Bhuj Earthquake occurred in 2001, where Town Planning Department of Gujarat also played a key role for redevelopment through town planning schemes. With reference to man made disasters, he quoted the example of Mumbai Bomb Blast of 2008 where the Mumbai City recovered within two days and resumed regular functions. In fact the local trains which are lifelines of Mumbai started functioning after two days. These are the examples which indicate that the shocks of calamities have been absorbed due to resilience of the people and cities. He also lamented that if no open spaces are provided in cities where do we install jumbo covid centres for provisions of 1,000 beds.

Shri Ajeet Kumar, IAS, in his address stated that resiliency focuses on the ability to recover from the shocks and bounces back to its original form, and we have been adopting these phenomena. To clarify his point, he gave the example of Bhuj earthquake where the city resumed its routine functions after the calamity. He also mentioned that cities are engines of growth, and accordingly physical infrastructure in terms of roads, water supply, sanitation, etc., need to be provided. But there is a human face to all these activities which is equally important and needs to be addressed through provision of social infrastructure. Our planning system is inclined towards well off. However, planners should make efforts to bring happiness to every house by adopting the principle of equity and social justice, specifically to less advantaged people. He called on the planning

community not to focus only on well off people, while planning for traffic and transportation but also to consider the needs of cyclists and pedestrians. He also noted that all these facilities and services will not smoothly function without proper law and order; thus governance and management is equally important.

**In Technical Session – IV on the theme ‘Local Area Planning for Making Cities Resilient in Madhya Pradesh’**

Shri Gulshan Bamra, IAS, Commissioner, Bhopal Division, was the Chief Guest. Mr. K. V. S. Choudhary, IAS, Commissioner, Bhopal Municipal Corporation, was the Guest of Honor. The session was Chaired by Shri V. Satyanarayana, Former President, ITPI, in which presentations were made by Shri Vishnu Khare, Chief City Planner, Indore Municipal Corporation; and Prof. Dr. Manmohan Kapshe, Professor MANIT, Bhopal. Shri S. K. Shrimali, former, Additional Chief Town Planner, Rajasthan, was the Rapporteur.

Shri V. Satyanarayana underlined the fact that in general parlance Local Area Planning is treated as a process of planning that is concerned with resolving the local challenges and issues. In fact it creates a strong bond of association with the location and people because its priorities include overall welfare of the people and development of local area. In terms of size, it is the smallest unit, however, he recommended to have the area of about 200 acres, for LAP. He was also of the opinion that Local Area Plans are required to be brought within the ambit of planning process in our country by providing statutory backing for its implementation.



**Shri Gulshan Bamra, IAS, Commissioner, Bhopal Division, Madhya Pradesh, Addressing the delegates of Technical Session - IV**



**Mr. K.V.S. Choudhary, IAS, Commissioner, Bhopal Municipal Corporation, Addressing the delegates of Technical Session - IV**



**Shri V. Satyanarayana Former President, ITPI, Addressing the delegates of Technical Session - IV**



Present on dais are Shri Vishnu Khare, Chief City Planner, Indore Municipal Corporation; Shri V. Satyanarayana, Former President ITPI; Chief Guest Shri Gulshan Bamra, IAS, Commissioner, Bhopal Division; Guest of Honour Shri K. V. S. Choudhary, IAS, Commissioner, Bhopal Municipal Corporation; and Prof. Dr. Manmohan Kapshe, Professor MANIT, Bhopal



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Shri Gulshan Bamra, IAS, in his address noted that Municipal Corporations and Councils are busy with their routine work for resolving local issues and may not be in a position to devote more time on the issues related to master plans. As planning and development is the dynamic process, incremental changes are bound to take place and to address such issues latest innovations and technologies need to be adopted. He also called on the planners' community to take into account climate change, resilience and sustainable development while preparing master plans and also provide for the requirements of children, women and elderly people. He further highlighted that Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh desires that Bhopal city should celebrate its' foundation day in which not only stakeholders of planning and development but citizens could also participate and give suggestions for the development of Bhopal city. People should tell us how Bhopal should look like in future. He also urged planners to prepare Local Area Plan (LAP) for areas adjoining the smart city area of Bhopal. Besides, the Redevelopment Plan for Kolar and Hoshangabad areas should be prepared by using the instrument of LAP.

Shri K. V. S. Choudhary, IAS, Commissioner, Bhopal Municipal Corporation, in his address underlined that Local Area Plan provides strategy for proper planning and sustainable development of a specific area within a city that requires redevelopment and renewal where large scale development is expected and accordingly provides opportunities for setting out principles and policies for the future development. Therefore, it would be advisable to explore the possibilities

for the preparation of Local Area Plans in Madhya Pradesh, specifically for all the fast-growing towns and cities. It is encouraging to note that Local Area Plan for Indore City has been identified as model under the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT). He also recommended that other cities and towns should also make efforts in this direction.

### Valedictory Session

The Chief Guest Shri Vishvas Sarang, Honourable Minister of Bhopal Gas Tragedy Relief and Rehabilitation and Medical Education, Madhya Pradesh started his address by pointing out that the person who leads his life in a planned manner becomes successful. He then said that he is privileged to address planners' fraternity. Planning and development of Bhopal, a city of seven lakes, is planned by the visionaries without disturbing natural contours of the seven lakes as after the overflow of upper lake, the next lake gets filled up and likewise other lakes also get filled up. Integration of lakes is a great planning idea.

Honourable Minister also highlighted that in the message of Shri Shiv Raj Chauhan, Honourable Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, received for this event, the priorities of development of Madhya Pradesh have been specified which include the provision of infrastructure services and facilities. And accordingly efforts are being made in this direction to achieve the targets set by Honourable Chief Minister.

Urbanization should not be treated as a curse but as an opportunity and therefore, urbanization should be channelized in a planned manner.



Dignitaries on dais are Shri Pradeep Kapoor, Secretary General, ITPI; Prof. Dr. D. S. Meshram, President, ITPI; Chief Guest Shri Vishvas Sarang, Honourable Minister of Bhopal Gas Tragedy Relief and Rehabilitation and Medical Education, Madhya Pradesh; Prof. Dr. Jagdish Singh, Vice-President of ITPI; and Dr. Subhashish Banerjee, Chairman, MPRC

Cities pose certain challenges but also provide employment opportunities. He then called on the planners' community not to limit the planning of cities up to the boundaries of cities but also look beyond cities by inclusion of adjoining areas, i.e. villages, *Kasbas*, and settlements. He noted that we should adopt the principle of cluster development that is a group of settlements are developed together. Thus, the major emphasis of Honourable Minister was to have the development plan prepared for a region.

He then shared his experience of achieving big results through small schemes. He narrated that when he became MLA, he wanted to provide water to his constituency at least once a day because other areas use to get water once in two days, as there was scarcity of water. Therefore, efforts were made to fill up the sump well through feeder main and also construct 5 to 6 tube wells and water was provided to people in my constituency once a day. This demonstrated that small but innovative projects can also solve major problems. He further added that now the Honourable Chief Minister solved this problem by bringing water to Bhopal city from 70 km. He also illustrated another example which he adopted, for Chetak Bridge which was 30-year-old and had only two lanes and wanted to widen it by making it six lanes. But he was told that it is not possible to widen this road because private land needs to be acquired at the cost of Rs. 150 crore. Therefore, he suggested constructing the cantilever to widen the road for which acquisition of land was not required. Accordingly the work was completed at the cost of Rs. 17 crore only. Thus, small and innovative projects can also prove to be boon to the people. He further highlighted that the Honourable Prime Minister has initiated a number of schemes and missions like the Swachh Bharat Mission, which has created awareness about health and hygiene even among the children. If the parents throw dirt on the roads, the children ask them not to spoil roads by throwing the dirt on roads. He also noted that the development of any town can be judged from the quality of its roads. Why America is developed country, because their roads are developed. While concluding his address Honourable Minister assured that the recommendations of the Conference would receive the attention of the government.

The Guest of Honor Shri S. S. Rajput, Member (Technical) Madhya Pradesh Real Estate Regulatory

Authority, in his address said that the task of urban planning is a most challenging as the urbanization is increasing rapidly. He also mentioned that the number of town planners available in India for one lakh population is only 0.23, which is quite grim and needs to be increased quickly, specifically when every fourth person will be living in urban areas by 2050, in India and 80 to 90 percent of the world population will be living in urban areas by that time.

He then highlighted that due weightage should be given to environmental planning as green cover of the country is reducing in order to accommodate ever increasing urban population. Bhopal, a green city, is a unique example where tigers are living in the natural environment and are roaming freely in the vicinity of Bhopal. A large number of people also settle in Bhopal because it is a livable city. He also underlined the fact that there is a need to take adequate steps to increase green cover which is declining rapidly. He emphasized that environment planning should be at the back of mind of urban planners while planning for future growth of population along with likely future climate changes in addition to effective governance and management. While concluding his address Shri Rajput once again highlighted that trained manpower is required to be increased for taking up the task of urban planning which at present is quite lopsided.

The Valedictory Session was chaired by Prof. D. S. Meshram in which welcome address was delivered by Dr. Subhashish Banerjee, Chairman, MPRC; and the recommendations adopted by the Conference were read by Prof. Dr. Jagdish Singh, Vice President, ITPI; and the vote of thanks was extended by Shri Pradeep Kapoor, Secretary General, ITPI.

### Recommendations

After detailed discussions and deliberations, the recommendations adopted are outlined below for each session:

#### Plenary Session: "Urban India at 75: Spatial Planning Initiatives"

- A majority of missions and schemes launched by the government for the urban sector focus on provision of infrastructure to promote growth of economy, creating employment opportunities and achieving sustainable and inclusive development. Therefore, there is a need to prepare development plans not only



**Shri Vishvas Sarang,**  
Honourable Minister  
of Bhopal Gas  
Tragedy Relief and  
Rehabilitation and  
Medical Education,  
Madhya Pradesh,  
delivering Valedictory  
Addressing



**Shri S.S. Rajput,**  
Member (Technical)  
Madhya Pradesh Real  
Estate Regulatory  
Authority, Guest of  
Honour in Valedictory  
Session



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## Recommendations of 70th NTCP Conference

for urban areas but also for peri-urban areas because the migrated workforce generally settles in these areas resulting in slums, blighted areas, unplanned, haphazard and unauthorized developments.

- Cities are the living entities and therefore are prone to age and decay by the passage of time. This can be witnessed in the form of degradation not only of buildings but also of the physical and social infrastructure, quality of life and the environment. Therefore, there is a need to have 'whole body check-up' of towns and cities so that deficiency in terms of physical and social infrastructure including traffic and transportation can be ascertained and measures can be taken to remedy these deficiencies.
- While economic growth is imperative to build and redevelop towns and cities, equally important is the fact that planners create compassionate human settlements which are at peace with its people and the environment. Values of equity and inclusivity stand at the core of such an approach to planning. A major part of the challenge of climate change could be resolved if we start producing compassionate cities.
- In the Smart Cities Mission, it is underlined that urban planners create aspirational city with smart population and also focus on resilient eco-systems represented by four pillars of comprehensive development i.e. institutional, physical social and economic infrastructure, however, involvement of planners in the Mission is minimal.
- Planners should craft a new National Urbanization Policy suiting the changed global, local, social, economic, spatial and environmental goals. There is a need to revisit the recommendations of the National Commission on Urbanization (1988).
- Macro-economic approach propagating decentralized distribution of economic activities should be the key so that migration from rural or smaller urban settlements to bigger cities can be controlled and congregation of urban problems and challenges can be checked.
- The collective working of multiple government and non-government organizations can help address the global agenda of the Sustainable Development Goals which needs to be prioritized in urban planning strategies. The concepts of resilience, risk and vulnerability are correlated.

Therefore, the policy makers and urban-planners need to integrate all these aspects while preparing short-term and long-term development plans or master plans.

- It is vital to strengthen the institutional capacity on climate change adaptation and urban resilience, accordingly, capacity building of policy makers, urban planners and other development professionals should be initiated.
- At the time of preparation of master plans or development plans specifically while preparing the plan for the provision of basic services, the concept of equality and equity needs to be adopted so that excluded people like children, women, senior citizens, etc., could be included.

### Technical Session - I: Re-imagining the Indian Urban Future

- Complete control over the future is impossible. Future may be uncertain but planning for uncertain future is possible. Futuristic research and pragmatic thinking in town and country planning to achieve our national and global aspirations is realizable. Development plans of various kinds are nothing but our attempt to steer clear of future uncertainties, and therefore, preparation of Development Plans for all the towns and cities be taken up on priority through the qualified town and country planners.
- United Nations Climate Change Conference COP 26 held at Glasgow from 31 October to 13 November 2021 set the road map for the future development of urban centres at global scale. Accordingly, in order to bring a radical change in our urban centres and to visualize future urban development in India, this road map should be adopted for implementation taking into consideration Indian heritage, culture, and local resources to develop our cities as safe, healthy, and resilient and to create our own indigenous sustainable livability paradigms.
- In combination with infrastructural projects undertaken under the Smart Cities Mission, town planners and urban managers and experts need to address challenges of urbanization by introducing transparency, accessibility, and convenience. However, in order to cope up with the global cities, there is a need to upgrade ICT technologies, security threats, and inter-operability in urban systems.

- Future cities should be imagined as safer and disaster resilient. Therefore, local authorities should prepare Natural Resource Plans for their cities based on GIS and be super imposed on master plans. Such an approach will facilitate the proper use of natural resources such as water reservoirs, river beds, minerals, forest covers, etc.
- Retrofitting and redevelopment projects should be undertaken in the brown field areas of the cities to improve their environs on the one side and reducing the pressure on green lands on the other side. In combination with this, there is a need to plan and develop IT Inclusive cities to make them competitive and resilient to mitigate challenges of pandemics.
- Cities of tomorrow need smart infrastructure to meet social, physical and mobility needs of the inhabitants. Therefore, inclusion of digital technologies in education, medical, banking, policing, postal, water, sanitation, mobility and governance sectors will improve the efficiency of cities and also make them resilient during disasters.
- Local bodies should be made responsible to prepare Smart City Disaster Management Plans for their cities focusing on incorporation of smart evacuation and rehabilitation strategies to mitigate the natural and man-made disasters.
- Town planning organizations, development authorities, urban improvement trusts and government departments should upgrade their capacities through training of their staff by anticipating risks in advance in order to create efficient and cost-effective responses faster for post disaster recovery. Hence, there is a need to leverage urban data and develop capabilities towards transactional analytics and predictive modelling in order to have safe smart cities in future.

### **Technical Session - II: Enhancing Urban Planning Capacity in India**

- Currently the ITPI recognizes the institutions imparting town and country planning education in the country to make their students eligible to become Corporate Associate Member and Fellow Member of the ITPI. Accordingly students from such institutions are only eligible for membership of the ITPI. Besides, the ITPI also undertakes professional, educational,

research, documentation and training activities in addition organizes conferences, seminars and workshops on the theme of topical interest. Thus, the activities carried out by the ITPI since 1951 – 52 will not hinder the work of proposed 'National Council of Town and Country Planners'. (NCTCP) by Advisory committee of NITI Aayog. In fact the similar situation was prevailing when the Council of Architecture (CoA) was created by the Architects Act, 1972. At that time also the Indian Institute of Architects (IIA) existed since 1917. Today both these bodies IIA and CoA are working in tandem without jeopardizing each other's work. In the similar manner, the NCTCP and ITPI can co-exist without any conflict in their functions. However, for keeping proper balance, there is a need to give adequate representation to the ITPI in the National Council of Town and Country Planners as provided to the Indian Institute of Architects (IIA) in the Council of Architecture under the Architects Act, 1972.

In light of above facts the recommendations of the Advisory Committee of the NITI Aayog were adopted by the Conference as listed below:

#### **• On Planning Education**

- Establish a Department of Planning in each central university;
- Encourage universities to establish a department of planning to offer postgraduate degree programs in planning;
- Encourage programs in Rural Area Planning;
- Include Planning as a discipline in National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF);
- Normalization of nomenclature: The names of all planning degrees should be limited to two i.e. Undergraduate Degree in Planning and Postgraduate Degree in Planning with specializations in bracket;
- Encourage institutional collaborations with prominent national and international institutions; and
- Faculty upgradation and exposure in curricula on economics should be undertaken.

#### **• On Training and Capacity Building**

- Mainstreaming capacity building: Concerted efforts are required to be made by the states and UTs to ensure regular capacity building of their town planning staff;



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- Rejuvenation of capacity building of institutions: Strengthening of the existing Centres of Excellence established by MoHUA to regularly build skills and expertise of urban functionaries;
  - Building local urban leadership: Organize short term training programs for city level elected officials to impress upon them the economics and social benefits of urban planning; and
  - Initiate training and capacity building of all town and country planning department officers including their administrative heads as well as lateral entrants on project management skills, communications, etc.
  - **On Planning Profession**
    - Programmatic interventions are required for advancement in development control regulations;
    - Ramping of human resources in public sector:
      - States and UTs to expedite the filling up of vacant positions.
      - Additionally, sanction 8,268 town planners' position which should be filled up by qualified Town and Country Planners only;
    - Ensuring qualified urban planners in service: States to undertake requisite amendments in their Recruitment Rules to ensure essential qualifications of Postgraduate Degree (M. Plan.) and Bachelor Degree (B. Plan.) for town planners' positions;
    - Re-engineering of urban planning governance: States need to re-engineer and strengthen urban governance structures;
    - De-mystifying planning by involving citizens: Initiate "Citizen Outreach Campaign" for demystifying and making urban planning more accessible; and
    - Enhancing role of private sector: Concerted measures need to be taken at multiple levels to strengthen the role of private sector.
- trained workforce as well as the scope of formally organized planning activities. This includes:
- Establishment of new planning schools and educational institutions under public sector to facilitate implementation of urban development policies and programs; and
  - Strengthen the state town planning departments by creating number of posts of planners as per the city and population size.
- Just increasing the number of planners is not enough because number of positions in the town and country planning departments and public sector planning schools also need to be created. Therefore, supply and demand aspects need to be taken into account. The existing vacant posts need to be filled by the qualified town planner only.
  - Involvement of qualified country planners in the domain of town and country planning is necessary for sustainable development which will facilitate reducing environmental impacts and addressing climate change.
  - There is a need for pedagogical changes in the education system by following more contemporary approaches focussed on increasing emphasis on environmental concerns and participative inclusive approaches to planning. This could be done by utilizing latest technological innovations like aerial photography, drone surveying, GIS and GPS, artificial intelligence, etc.
  - In planning practice, methodological changes are required. For example, earlier planning was done as a centralized exercise with land being acquired and made available for development. Today with difficulties in the acquisition of land, the emphasis is placed increasingly on the private sector involvement while states are assuming the role of facilitators.

### Technical Session III: Resiliency of Indian Cities

#### Other recommendations

- Public sector, private sector, and education and research organizations are the three pillars of the country's overall planning capacity, and needs to be involved in boosting the country's urban planning capacity both in terms of
- It is essential that well connected cities can



provide speedy and efficient public health measures to counter the infections speedily. Therefore, to avoid the adverse impacts of future pandemics, and to avoid occurrence of future pandemics, it is essential to make the cities resilient.

- The pandemic also provides a once-in-a-generation opportunity to reset the social contact between citizens, cities, governments and corporations, elevating a commitment to support the vulnerables, protect natural systems, build a sustainable economy, and address coming threats together. Such pandemics provide way for adopting effective approach to building a safer and more equitable world by prioritizing urban resilience.
- Decentralized urbanization holds the key to healthy urban growth, moving away from primate centric urbanization. Decentralized governance will assist several viable cities to grow and share amongst them the urbanization pressures that are currently concentrated on a handful of urban centres.
- Health facilities in the containment zones must be geo-tagged and information should be made available through mobile applications in view of any epidemic or pandemic.
- Smart cities play a pivotal role in combating the Covid-19 crisis specifically smart city components such as Integrated Command and Control centres which has been implemented by 74 cities and has been effectively put to use for city operation management and converted into covid war-rooms for analyzing city-specific data, co-ordination with states, city agencies and for making connections with the citizens.
- There is a need for revisiting the planning guidelines and building regulations to ensure pandemic resilience as to how cities are going to tackle the density management along with redistribution of population which is one of the key challenges of urban planning. With the availability of disaggregated data and possibilities of micro zoning through strong interface of GIS and integrated Command and Control Centres would certainly facilitate streamlining the decision making to curb the spread of virus.
- Cities needs to be made more resilient to pandemics by:

- Decongesting urban centres – especially slow-moving pedestrian precincts that have been planned and achieved much higher occupant load in an effort to earn high positive returns of investment over high land values;
  - Decongest the crowded conditions on roads, public areas and markets;
  - Plan neighbourhoods with hygienic environmental conditions i.e. adequate sunlight and air;
  - Make offices and institutional buildings better accessible and less congested;
  - Promote well distributed transport network with variety of modal choices;
  - Leverage technology for information management; and
  - Cities must become more self-reliant and innovative, enlisting all stakeholders in crisis responses and recovery during disasters.
- Digital transformation is the key enabler for adaptive resilience. It is a one-stop solution for preparing for disasters and calamities through early warning data enabled forecast systems or improving citizen involvement through digital platforms among others.

#### **Technical Session of Local Them: Local Area plans for making cities Resilient in Madhya Pradesh**

- Urban resilience is the capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, businesses and systems within a city to survive, adapt, and grow. This needs to be focused on what kind of chronic stresses and acute shocks they experience. While Local Area Planning is a tool for redevelopment of the existing organically developed areas as well as green field areas for which new infrastructure has to be developed. The main purpose of Local Area Plan is to redevelop the existing infrastructure of the city in a systematic and organized manner to achieve more specific objectives. Therefore, we should include LAP in the hierarchy of plans prepared under the relevant Acts.
- The focus of Local Area Planning is on the quality of development in the specified area. It enhances the built-up environment by restructuring growth, by improving connectivity, and quality development.



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Prof. V. N. Prasad National Best Thesis Award, 2021

- The city resilience framework provides a lens through which the complexity of cities and the numerous factors that contribute to a city's resilience can be viewed and understood, and accordingly actions could be taken.
- As Madhya Pradesh is transforming, preparation of Local Area Plans, will not only help to channelize the development and growth in proper and sustainable manner but also help in proper and exhaustive use of state's resources because local resources are important for Local Area Planning to carry out development activities. In fact the use of local resources minimizes the cost of planning and maximizes the benefits to local people.
- From the perspective of tourism, Madhya Pradesh has enormous potentials and resources to become a major tourism destination. Numerous monuments of historical, archaeological, architectural and pilgrimage are the important destinations in the State. Local Area Plans will help in proper planning and development of these areas.
- In Local Area Plans the Central Business District and Transit Oriented Development should be included.

## PROF. V. N. PRASAD NATIONAL BEST THESIS AWARD, 2021 (For Postgraduate Students of Planning)

**The First Prize** was awarded to Shri Jaideep Singh from the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi for the thesis titled as "Planning Strategies for Developing Industrial Ecology in Panipat - Samalkha Region".

The name Panipat was derived from "Paniprastha", and three battles of Mahabharata were fought there. Today Panipat district has a population of 12 lakh, and Panipat city has population of 3 lakh (approximately) and majority of workforce is employed under secondary and tertiary sectors. Panipat city is also known as "City of Weavers". District possesses 2.9 percent of the geographical area of the state and is located in Rohtak division with the two sub-divisional offices in Panipat city and Samalkha town, which is 90 km away from Delhi.

The study observed that since the mid-1900s Panipat regained its strength from an industrial development and so does Haryana state as large-scale PSUs like the National Power Plant, Indian Oil Corporation Limited and also big chain of private corporates like Nestle and Venkeys, etc., are located here. All these industries are also getting benefit of geographical location of Panipat which is a plain plateau and is a part of the NCR since 1985. Panipat is also famous for its textile and foundry clusters. By implementing the strategies proposed by the NCR, the district is aiming to change the course of development towards sustainability and with the help of industrial, ecological symbiosis; it is not only promoting industrial development in the region but also promoting it in an environmentally sound manner by efficiently utilizing the resources and managing its wastes within the region.

**The Second Prize** was awarded to Shri Ganesh Nadiga D. from the School of Planning and Architecture, University of Mysore for the thesis titled as "Planning Study to Integrate Land Use and Transportation: A Case Study of Satellite Town, Ring Road between Devanahalli to Kanakapura in the BMR".

Government of Karnataka took steps to improve and augment network within and neighbouring areas of the city to match with its development. Bangalore Metropolitan Regional Development Authority has planned the network of roads consisting of a length of 367 km. The total length of Satellite Town Ring Road is 204 km which connects the important towns namely Dobbaspeta, Doddaballapura, Devanahalli, Sulibele, Hoskote, Sarjapura, Attibele, Anekal, Tattakere, Kanakapura, Ramanagara and Magadi.

The thesis observes that transportation aspects in addition to socio-economic as well as the locational aspects and linkages of Bengaluru city with its region play a very significant role for the future growth of the greater Bengaluru in relation to urban and regional planning. The Master Plan for STRR, LPA attempts primarily the decentralization of the excessive urban growth by distributing it in the BMR by providing good linkages to the city structure of Bengaluru through STRR. Whereas providing regional accessibility to Bengaluru city within the Karnataka State and Region beyond the state boundary for establishing socio-economic relations through STRR at regional context will play a very important role in the future. It enables the movement of people, goods and services by integrating all modes of transport in the region. Hence, there is a necessity of preparing master plan for the area adjacent to STRR as it will attract

many activities in its close proximity while providing regional accessibility services in the BMR.

**The Third Prize** was awarded to Ms. Sachi Shashank Dongarwar from the Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology, (VNIT) Nagpur for the thesis titled as “Assessment of Social Sustainability and its Relation with the Urban Form: A Case Study of Nagpur City”.

Rapid developments in the society have been disturbing our own traditional socio-cultural set up, which supports a typical quality of life of Indian society. This can lead to unsustainable practices in cities. Out of all pillars of sustainable development, environmental, social and economic aspects and social sustainability has always been the least defined and most vague pillars. The social aspect has always been taken as add-on while considering the city’s growth and sustenance. There is a lack of conceptualization and practical formulation of this concept as many theories are either conflicting or focusing on philosophical issues. The research conducted by taking a case study of Nagpur city aims at assessing social sustainability and the performance of urban forms in fostering it. The evaluation of social sustainability index revealed that it is the highest in old city areas followed by middle income layouts than in the slum settlements and lastly the new township areas. The scores obtained from the analysis of urban form and social sustainability parameters revealed that the old city areas scores moderately good in social network, social trust, place attachment, social participation and health wellbeing, while the new township areas scores moderately good in terms of perception of safety, basic services and facilities; segregation and equity. Based on the assessment and evaluation of concerned parameters, spatial proposals are made in terms of redevelopment strategies. Recommendations are also suggested to upgrade neighbourhoods’ social sustainability.

All the three prizes were distributed by the Shri Vishvas Sarang, Honourable Minister of Bhopal Gas Tragedy Relief and Rehabilitation and Medical Education, Madhya Pradesh in Valedictory Session.

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health infrastructure for all to make a healthy community. It has also been endeavored to study both the quantitative and qualitative aspects of the existing conditions of public health institutions and accordingly, recommendations are made to make the public health institutions a reliable unit for the provision of healthcare facilities and services to the



Shri Vishvas Sarang, Honourable Minister of Bhopal Gas Tragedy Relief and Rehabilitation and Medical Education, Madhya Pradesh, awarding 1st prize to Shri Jaideep Singh from SPA, New Delhi.



Shri Vishvas Sarang, Honourable Minister of Bhopal Gas Tragedy Relief and Rehabilitation and Medical Education, Madhya Pradesh, awarding 2nd prize to Shri Ganesh Nadiga D. from SPA, University of Mysore.



Shri Vishvas Sarang, Honourable Minister of Bhopal Gas Tragedy Relief and Rehabilitation and Medical Education, Madhya Pradesh, awarding 3rd prize to Ms. Sachi Shashank Dongarwar from VNIT, Nagpur.

people for the development of healthy communities in Amritsar.

Both prizes were distributed by the Shri Vishvas Sarang, Honourable Minister of Bhopal Gas Tragedy Relief and Rehabilitation and Medical Education, Madhya Pradesh, in Valedictory Session



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## PROF. DR. D. S. MESHRAM NATIONAL BEST THESIS AWARD, 2021 (For Undergraduate Students of Planning)

**The First Prize** was awarded to Ms. Bhujal Varia from the Institute of Architecture and Planning, Nirma University, Ahmedabad for her thesis titled as “Water Conservation and Harvesting in Semi-Arid Region of Rajasthan: Case Study of 4 Villages in Jaipur District”.

Aquifers in many areas of India have been rapidly exhausted as a result of the agriculture revolution through use of groundwater for irrigation. Rainwater

monsoon run-off that percolates, but environmental and societal consequences of which remain unknown.

This research focuses on traditional and modern water conservation practices, particularly a series of *chaukas* in a village that was experiencing water scarcity, and problems of fluoride pollution and salinity problems. The aim of the thesis was to figure out how they can affect groundwater levels and quality as well as peoples’ livelihood by using GIS tool to understand entire study area.

The study found that local residents are important players and actors of creative nature-based management interventions as well as the primary beneficiaries. Environmental systems and local livelihood needs are adapted to technological advances and governance, and forced engineered solutions are avoided. These findings can be applied to dry land areas also that are facing similar water and livelihood protection problems. It is suggested to integrate traditional water practices with GIS technology in villages of Rajasthan to make it more water sufficient.



Shri Vishvas Sarang, Honourable Minister of Bhopal Gas Tragedy Relief and Rehabilitation and Medical Education, Madhya Pradesh awarding 1st prize to Ms. Bhujal Varia, from IAP, Nirma University, Ahmedabad (received by her mother).



Shri Vishvas Sarang, Honourable Minister of Bhopal Gas Tragedy Relief and Rehabilitation and Medical Education, Madhya Pradesh awarding 2nd prize to Shri Gurpreet Singh Jaura, GNDU, Amritsar.

**The Second Prize** was awarded to Shri Gurpreet Singh Jaura from Guru Ramdas School of Planning, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar for the thesis titled “Planning for Health Infrastructure in Amritsar City”.

The study examined infrastructural provisions specifically for health and made recommendations at spatial, design and at management level which can be a useful tool in fostering active transportation as well as accessible health services within Amritsar city. The objective was to make the city healthy by creating and continually improving the conditions that enable all inhabitants to enjoy the highest level of health and well-being. In the further stage of research and analysis these parameters have been considered in relation to structure of health services, services of health workforce, community outreach, social protection schemes, health centre locations and staffing, knowledge of health risks, solid and bio-medical waste management and adequate and accessible

harvesting systems have been widely pushed by state and federal governments as a Controlled Aquifer Recharge strategy to improve the amount of abundant

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