



planners newsletter

INSTITUTE OF TOWN PLANNERS, INDIA

No. III

RNI - DELENG/2004/12724

July - September 2004

Chairman Editorial Board: S.S. Dalal

Editor and Secretary Publications: Dr. Ashok Kumar

SOUTH ZONE REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF ITPI

Best Practices in Plan Implementation

On the occasion of South Zone Regional Conference, the Andhra Pradesh Regional Chapter, ITPI organized the conference on 22nd May, 2004 at Jubilee Hall, Hyderabad on "Best Practices in Plan Implementation". Shri S.R. Rao, IAS, Principal Secretary MA and UD Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh, in his inaugural address mentioned that good governance and public participation would facilitate and strengthen plan implementation process. Quoting the example of Singapore and Hong Kong, he highlighted the need for achieving more effective floor space through FSI. He argued that efforts should be made to realize our dreams

and vision so that results could reach the people.

In his Presidential address Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI, stressed that while adopting the best practices one has to be extra careful because all the best examples cannot be followed anywhere and everywhere due to local conditions. Quoting the example of Town Planning Schemes being implemented successfully in Gujarat, he stated that experience of Maharashtra is not encouraging. He also cited the examples of urban development models being practised in the country i.e., land acquisition on the mass scale as followed in Delhi, involvement of the private sector in urban development as followed in Haryana, etc. On the issue

IN THIS ISSUE

South Zone Regional Conference	1
National Workshops and Seminars	2
Inter national Workshops / Congress	3
World Habitat Day	4
ITPI News	5
Events : 2003-2004	8
12th Review Session of the United Nations Commission	9
Obituary	11
Know Your President	12

LETTER TO EDITOR

Dear Dr.Kumar

I have before me the April – June 2004, issue of the ITPI Journal. This is a very impressive issue with a variety of astute opinions expressed through scholarly articles, presenting a wealth of information. I believe this is what distinguishes a "Journal" from a 'magazine'.

I have really benefited from this issue and encourage you to keep up the good work, which gives quality to our profession.

Yours Sincerely

Christopher C. Benninger

Christopher C. Benninger
"Shraddha" 1 Samata Society,
Ashok Nagar, University Road,
Pune - 411 007



Present on the dias are Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI; Shri S.R. Rao, IAS, Principal Secretary MA and UD, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Shri S Muzaffar Hussain, Chairman APRC; and Shri Pardeep Kapoor, Secretary General, ITPI. (From left to right)



Audience during the South Zone Regional Conference

of TDR / AR, he opined that, this is successful only in Mumbai and Pune but not in other small towns of Maharashtra. Therefore, he again cautioned that while adopting specific models the local scenario / situation is required to be taken into consideration.

Dr. P.K. Mohanty, IAS, Executive Director, Centre for Good Governance, Hyderabad, mentioned that the nexus between Master Plan and resource mobilization is required to be established. He further emphasized that not only land be taken as resource but town planning itself should be used as resource. He also advocated the idea of Purchasable Development Right. Besides, he desired that principle of polluters to pay 'be extended to congesters to pay', 'users to pay', and also argued to bring integrated town

planning law supported by UDPFI Guidelines.

Shri Pradeep Kapoor, Secretary General ITPI, in his presentation raised the issues like – who is going to finance when implementation is the responsibility of local government. He also was of the opinion that TPS as practised in Gujarat could be better alternative to land acquisition. As the recourses are not likely to come through budgetary resources, the role of private sector becomes more important, he mentioned.

Shri V.R. Satishchandra, Director of Town and Country Planning, Government of Andhra Pradesh, in his presentation highlighted the success of road widening projects made by Municipal Corporation of Hyderabad, numbering 184 roads covering a total length of 65 km.

NATIONAL WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

Seminar on Property Tax Reforms and Technology Applications in the Improvement of Urban Basic Services.

The urban population accounts for 26% of the total population of the country, according to 1991 census. Massive urbanization process has resulted in serious problems relating to provision of infrastructure and amenities. The 74th Constitution Amendment Act, 1992 envisages urban local bodies to function as effective institutions of local self-government. They, however, are in no position to discharge their constitutional requirements towards recurring and

capital costs for augmentation of urban infrastructure services so as to cope with growing urbanization. Therefore, reforms in municipal finances in the country are urgently required.

Property tax is the most important component of municipal finance as it is the single largest source of municipal revenue and constitutes about 40% - 80% of municipal income. In the present scenario of municipal finance, funding is on the decline due to structural adjustments and requirement of funds are increasing due to economic development policies. Under such constrasting scenario, property tax

becomes the principal fiscal instrument for the financing of municipal services. The assessment and recovery of property tax as such is very poor in almost all the states in the country, as most of the properties are under assessed or not assessed at all.

Hence, in order to sustain the delivery of urban basic services, reforms in the policy and process of tax collection are unavoidable. Some of the urban local bodies have attempted successfully certain innovative methods of property tax assessment and collection system. Protex India 2004, attempts to focus these initiatives for the wider adaptation by the various urban local bodies. Through a seminar, an attempt is being made to synthesize alternatives to address the problem and to evolve an action plan for overall implementation.

The two-day seminar on 22-23 November, 2004 will focus on presentation of successful models and sharing of experiences for the wider adaptability by various other ULBs and cover following themes:

- Presentation of innovative models of property tax assessment;
- Application of GIS and other technology options for the improvement of property tax assessment and collection system;
- Exploring private partnership in assessment and collection of property tax;
- Sharing international experiences;
- Preparation of action plan to overhaul the property tax system in the country.

For further details and enquiries, contact

Organizing Secretary,
HIPSCED and Development Interface,
E – 55 Ekta Apartments,
Saket, New Delhi – 110017
Ph. : 30958118, 9811406300,
E-mail : seminar@protexindia.net
Website : www.protexindia.net

Training Course on Implementation of National Building Code.

National Council for Cement and Building Materials (NCB) will be organizing a two-day Training Programme on Implementation of national Building Code

at New Delhi from 09-10 September 2004.

The course would provide a forum to discuss the new concepts and revisions included in the revised version of National Building Code under print. The course is most suited for civil/construction engineers, builders, designers, architects, consultants, students and researchers, beside faculty in civil/construction engineering. The programme will bring together highly qualified and experienced personnel from the relevant fields from all over the country for a stimulating exchange of ideas.

Course Contents:

- Administration, development control rules and general building requirements;

- Building materials including innovative building materials;
- Structural design of concrete, steel and timber structures;
- Constructional practices and safety;
- Building services;
- Eco-friendly, energy efficient and natural hazards resistant structures;
- Provisions for fire resistance; and
- Foundation engineering.

For further details and enquiries, contact
Centre for Continuing Education Services,
National Council for Cement and
Building Materials,
34 KM Stone, Delhi – Mathura Road
Ballabgarh – 121 004, Haryana, INDIA.

will provide an opportunity to the participants to study how the City State, within a period of 40 years, has transformed itself completely from squatter settlement and overcrowded insanitary living conditions to one of the best cities of the world.

For further details and enquiries, contact
The Regional Representative, IHS-India,
6th Floor, HUDCO House, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi-110003.
Phone : 011-24367535, 24369022
Fax : 011-24369023
Email : ihsindia@vsnl.com

Map Asia 2004 at Beijing, China

Founded in the year 2002, Map Asia 2004, is the largest Annual Asian Conference and Exhibition in the field of GIS, GPS, Aerial Photography and Remote Sensing. Responding to the needs of the industry, the research community and every individual's right to geospatial information. Map Asia 2004, the 3rd International Conference to be held on 26-29 August 2004 at Beijing, China, is aimed to provide an apt platform for the convergence, sharing and use of technologies and experiences.

In the current decade of an otherwise overall global instability, Asia has reinstated its potential and emerged as a prospective strong block in itself in every respect. Space programmes, e-Initiatives, economic and trade collaborations, and steps of international agreements on various fronts have taken place. The growth of geospatial sciences and their applications have also matured in various islands of excellence. Ties and regional co-operation in every domain are also being formulated for the coming decades.

In this backdrop, 'Map Asia 2004' aims to explore and enable 'multilateral geospatial ties' or 'g-Lateral ties' that are possible and that exist in various latent forms in Asia. It plans to converge and initiate talks amongst key geospatial organizations in Asia, so that they share their strengths, experiences and expertise, and eventually develop a multilateral agreement that put forth a geospatial strategy for the region's development. Such a g-Lateral tie shall address human, economic and physical

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOPS / CONGRESS

International Workshop on Capacity Building for Urban Management and Poverty Alleviation.

Sponsored by Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO), the Institute of Housing and Urban Development Studies of India (IHS-India) and Australian Centre for Studies in Human Settlements (AusHS) are organizing Workshop on International Capacity Building for Urban Management and Poverty Alleviation for Mayors in India, state level ministers, chairpersons, councilors (ULBs, Zila Parishad, Panchayats), commissioners, housing / infrastructure executives, collectors and urban-rural planners / engineers during 29 August – 9 September, 2004 at China, Malaysia and Singapore.

Rapidly industrializing India poses a challenge to urban managers. It challenges them to keep pace with needed reform to ensure good governance and utilize development opportunities in hand for alleviating poverty. More often than not development manager possesses inadequate capacity to show leadership, encourage citizens, participation, mobilize resources and plan and implement sustainable development projects. In order to respond effectively to these needs, it is imperative that the skills and capacity of those

responsible for policy making, development and management of the urban landscape are upgraded. This workshop has been designed to address these issues.

China has performed very well in the past three decades. It has attracted massive international investment facilitating sustainable growth. The size of the country and its similarity to India will provide an excellent opportunity to participants to study the process of change in China and compare the same with that of India. Participant will be provided exposure to good practices and innovative concepts by visiting relevant projects and various agencies in China.

Malaysia has made significant progress in the past decades promoting effective growth with equity. At independence, Malaysia's economy was dominated by two commodities – rubber and tin. In the 40 years thereafter, Malaysia's economic growth has been one of Asia's biggest success stories. In the field of urban management, the country has made remarkable progress in provision of high standard infrastructure and affordable housing to which participants would be exposed.

Singapore is recognized for its pro-active planning and efficient implementation of development programmes. The workshop

development with geospatial information, sciences and human resource of the region. Sub-themes of the congress are:

- Building Asia Geospatially
- Geo-referred Infrastructure Developments

For further details and enquiries, contact
Map Asia 2004 Secretariat,
GIS Development Pte Ltd.,
25, International Business Park,
304-103F, German Centre,
Singapore – 609916.
Tel : +(65) 65627983
Fax : +(65) 65627984
Email : info@mapasia.org

Earoph World Planning and Housing Congress & Australian National Housing Conference 2004.

19th Earoph World Planning and Housing Congress 2004, on 19-22 September, 2004 at Melbourne a gateway to Australia on the theme “Reforms and Change in Housing and Planning – Towards Sustainability in the Asia Pacific” is an attempt to tackle one of the great questions of our time, namely, how do we put sustainability as a concept into living practice in planning and housing. This is a great challenge, from providing basic shelter for the poor to designing and planning for sparkling megacities, the modern wonders of the

world. How do we ensure that the needs of present and future generations are fundamentally built into our thoughts, projects and processes?

Following sub-themes will be discussed in concurrent sessions:

- Sustainability in planning and housing;
- Urbanization and shelter in the developing world;
- Affordable housing and housing affordability – public and private;
- Housing developments and construction;
- Governance and accountability;
- Indigenous planning and housing;
- Community building;
- Urban ecology;
- Strategic asset management;
- Urbanisation, towns and rural areas.

For further details and enquiries, contact
The Meeting Planners,
91-97 Islington Street,
Collingwood Victoria,
Australia 3066.
Phone : +61 3 9417 0888
Fax : +61 3 9417 0899
Email : earoph@mettingplanners.com.au

makers, government officials, academics, journalists, other professionals, and community representatives. Public information campaigns and use of popular theatre can also help to create awareness of the problems and issues.

- Governments, local authorities, NGOs and CBOs may use the Day to publicize, reward and demonstrate tangible improvements resulting from reinforced mutual relationships between rural and urban areas, such as improvements in the living conditions of urban and rural poor population.
- Universities could organize competitions to find solutions to the problems, while essay and painting competitions could be organized in schools on the theme to create awareness and a sense of belonging in institutions of learning as well as seek solutions.
- The Day could be marked by fund raising, recreational and entertainment activities like football matches, concerts, etc., and the proceeds used to upgrade and extend services for the poor communities.
- Postal authorities could issue special stamps to mark the Day.

WORLD HABITAT DAY

Inter-regional Conference on Urban-Rural Linkages, 1-4 October, 2004 United Nations Office, Nairobi, Kenya.

Every year, since 1985, when it was designated by the General Assembly, World Habitat Day has been celebrated on the first Monday in October. This day has been set aside by the United Nations for the world to reflect on the state of human settlements and the basic rights to adequate shelter and to remind the world of its collective responsibility for the future of the human habitat.

World Habitat Day provides an excellent opportunity to highlight key human settlements issues. The central government, local government, civil society and the private sector are invited

by UN-HABITAT, United Nations Human Settlement Programme activities to raise awareness and stimulate debate.

As a guide, some of the activities that can be organized are:

- Governments may use the mass media, particularly newspapers, radio and television, to draw attention to World Habitat Day celebrations through press releases, press conferences, video and audio spots. Posters can also be used.
- Partners may draw attention to the problems and issues relating to rural-urban migration, the significance of linkage between urban and rural areas, through press articles, radio and television documentaries and panel programmes with policy

Educational authorities could, in collaboration with appropriate ministries, introduce rural-urban development issues into school curricula. As the lead agency for the World Habitat Day celebrations, and to support the country-level activities, UN-HABITAT is developing information material on the theme and will provide an information kit including a poster, and a short video on the theme, which can be used by national world Habitat Day focal points, national Habitat II focal points, all relevant government institutions, NGOs CBOs, private sector companies, the media, educational institutes and other interest groups.

On this occasion, the UN-HABITAT, in collaboration with its partners, is convening an Inter-regional Conference on Urban-Rural Linkages. The Conference will take place from 1-4, October 2004 at the UN Office in Nairobi, Kenya, and culminate in the

celebration of the World Habitat Day on 4th October, 2004.

The conference is co-sponsored by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), and the International Federation of Surveyors.

The Conference envisages to do this by pooling, collating, synthesizing and sharing experiences and lessons learned, with a view to stimulating mutual learning, capacity building and utilization. The participants are expected to share their countries' and regions' experiences and review current practices in this area.

The theme of the World Habitat Day this year is on 'Cities: engines of rural development', reflects the substance and significance of the conference. The WHD will provide an opportunity to send and publicize the outcome of the conference to all cities and countries participating in the WHD.

It is now widely recognized that there exists an economic, social and environmental interdependence between rural and urban areas and a need for balanced and mutually supportive approach to development of both ends of the continuum. The discrete consideration of rural development as completely distinct from urban development is therefore no longer valid. A new approach, contemporaneously referred to as the "rural-urban linkage development perspective" has become the more accepted approach. Rural-urban linkages generally refer to the growing flow of public and private capital, people and goods between urban and rural areas.

The International Development Agenda has increasingly recognized the potency of the urban-rural linkage development approach to sustainable development. The Habitat Agenda also clearly makes the case for economic, social and environmental interdependence and for the need for balanced and mutually supportive development between rural and urban areas.

In its efforts to promote sustainable human settlements development and

eradication of poverty, UN-HABITAT considers this approach as having potentials both for promoting positive urban-rural development benefits and for generating substantial employment and therefore contributing to poverty eradication through widening livelihood opportunities and choice for both urban and rural population. The Conference will dwell on following themes:

- Review of the concept and practice of the urban-rural development linkage approach and emerging issues;
- Presentation of selected regional synthesis papers on experiences of urban-rural development linkage approach;
- The urban-rural development linkage approach: the practical and legal underpinnings and impacts;
- Strategies and tools for urban-rural development linkage;
- Institutional structures for urban-rural linkage development approach;
- Impact of urban-rural development linkage approach on employment, income generation and poverty alleviations: Case Studies;
- Impact on women's economic and social empowerment and gender relations: Case Illustrations;
- Environmental impacts of the urban-rural inter-linkage approach to development; and
- Comparative assessment of policy experiences on the urban-rural development linkage approach: the

successful and not so successful. The beneficial versus detrimental linkage effects.

The conference is open to all interested participants. It is expected to be attended by national governments, regional and metropolitan development planners, city managers and administrators, researchers, practitioners and other stakeholders dealing with planning, development and management of urban-rural and / or regional development. Representatives of international organizations and bilateral agencies are also expected to participate. The conference is also open to interested private sector and civil society stakeholders.

The highlights of World Habitat Day will include the Habitat Scroll of Honour award for those individuals and organizations that have made outstanding contributions towards improving human settlements, and the presentation of the World Habitat Awards by the UK-based Building and Social Housing Foundation.

For further details and enquiries, contact
Human Settlements Officer,
Urban Economy and Finance Branch,
UN-HABITAT,
P.O. Box 30030,
Nairobi 00100, Kenya.
Phone : (254 20) 623743
Fax : (254 20) 624736 / 623080
Email : ananda.weliwita@unhabitat.org

ITPI, request the chairmen of the Regional Chapters to participate actively in the activities, as mentioned above for celebrating WHD.

ITPI NEWS

Shri Suneet Paul, Editorial Director, A+D addressed a letter to Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI, stating that A+D (Architecture + Design) is planning to do a supplement on the "Role and Goal of Professional Bodies Today". He further stated that we are today on a fast track. Economic surge has led to newer synergies. Architectural education is also being viewed seriously for a radical transformation. The government agencies are becoming equally vocal in asserting

their views in professional matters. Globalization has hit the country in a big way. In such a scenario, it requires an assessment of the role of our professional bodies and it is also imperative for the profession to ponder over their changing goals and responsibilities. At one level, we find the profession getting further alienated. The gap within the profession, with society, with other professions is widening. The professional bodies need to reassess

their aims and objectives. Recently, there have been serious abrasions between the AICTE and the Council of Architecture. The academician and the professional feel a threat to their autonomy. The 'Professional Image' is at the same time taking a beating. Such situations are unwarranted. How should our bodies respond as representatives of the profession? These are but some of the issues that are disturbing a lot many in the profession.

To further bring clarity in the minds of the professionals and also to have ITPI viewpoint, he requested President ITPI to pen down a short piece of 800 words on this theme. Accordingly, President ITPI has sent the views on 19th May, 2004 captioned as "Game of Pushing Aside is Against the Spirit of Co-existence", the same is reproduced below:

Professional bodies like Council of Architecture (CoA) and Institute of Town Planners, India (ITPI) need to re-evaluate their role and goal in the context of the changing world economic order, calling for a re-setting of the goals of architecture education to cope with the changing needs of society; increasing tendency on the part of government to interfere in professional matters and to curb professional autonomy. In this context, it may be stated that in the Architects Act, 1972 (No.20 of 1972), it is clearly mentioned in the preamble to the Act: "An Act to provide for the registration of architects and matters connected therewith; it also provides to constitute a Council to be known as the Council of Architecture". Thus, it is quite clear that CoA has been created by the Parliament for Registration of Architects, i.e. a body responsible for registration of architects. While we believe that Indian Institute of Architects is a body responsible for fostering the professional activities. In the Act 1972, there are only 3 sections i.e. 19, 20 and 21, which deal with architectural education. May be because at that time, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) was not existing.

The All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987, (No.52 of 1987), states in the preamble that "All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)

has been established with a view to provide proper planning and co-ordinate development of the technical education system throughout the country, the promotion of qualitative improvements of such education in relation to planned quantitative growth and the regulation and proper maintenance of norms and standards in the technical education system and for matters connected therewith". Thus, the intention of the Parliament is quite clear that AICTE has a mandate to deal with technical education and accordingly all the sections of the Act deal with the technical education. The technical education, as defined in the Act, "means programmes of education, research and training in engineering, technology, architecture, town planning, etc."

As the AICTE came into being in 1987 (i.e. after 1972), to our mind it will supersede the provisions of the Architects Act of 1972 with reference to education. Therefore, we are of the firm belief that these two bodies must have respect and regard for each other and do not exceed their jurisdiction / mandate.

We would also like to state here that initially there was one joint Board, namely All India Board of Studies in Architecture and Town Planning Education. Therefore, ITPI took up the matter with the AICTE, stating that the architecture discipline is distinct from planning. The town and country planning discipline has a wider canvas in comparison with the architecture and engineering disciplines; because town and country planning does not only encompass the planning and designing of building or groups of buildings but is a comprehensive planning process, embracing economic, social and physical features not only of towns and cities but their surrounds, over a longer period of time. It not only deals with the built - environment but also the natural environment - including conservation and heritage of urban and rural areas, urban squatting and rural depopulation, rural development and rural settlements.

Population size and growth rate in human settlements, both urban and rural, are key variables in relation to human living conditions, resource utilization and

environmental stress, especially the increasing urbanization, and the continued growth of mega cities have serious adverse effect on air and water quality.

Keeping in view, the major planning goals today to make urban and rural development mutually supportive, the growth of secondary and intermediate cities has to be promoted and prime farmland has to be protected from urban encroachments. Finally, there is need to develop an integrated approach to the management of the urban environment to address the twin issues of, on the one hand, urban congestion and poverty and, on the other, development and pollution.

The other role which the Town and Country Planner has to play is to provide the government with the information it needs to make final decision on how to reach the goals. The planner, therefore, has to work as an advisor within the structure of government policies.

Owing to its dominant role as a comprehensive policy formulation, the All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) was kind enough to create a separate All India Board of Studies in Town and Country Planning Education, and, accordingly, signed a Memorandum of Understanding with ITPI on 24th May 1996. However, subsequently with some misunderstanding created by some elements, the Board has been merged with the architecture education and the CoA, instead of taking the stand that town and country planning is a separate discipline, have grabbed the opportunity to be the chairman of the joint Board, totally showing disregard to the other professional bodies. The pretext given was that the responsibility was thrust on them by the AICTE. This was done with total disregard to MoU existing between ITPI and AICTE, even before its expiry. It is thus clear that the professional bodies need to believe in the co-existence of other disciplines / professional bodies and not to overstep their jurisdiction.

It would be pertinent here to say that CoA should not indulge in treating other disciplines as allied discipline of architecture / engineering, i.e., subservient role. We would like to send

a clearcut message that the different professional bodies should respect and regard each other, do not over step their jurisdiction and mandate and do not nurture the mentality of expanding their influence and domination. The architecture and town planning disciplines, are not sub-ordinate to the other but have different role and goal from the other. The unwanted quibbling among the two profession is uncalled for and leads to tarnishing their image, which is going to intensify more in future. Mutual regard for professional bodies, non – indulgence in building up their kingdom and become professionally ambitious is the need of the day.

THE STAY VACATED BY HON'BLE HIGH COURT

Both COA and AICTE would inspect the Institutions.

The Hon'ble High Court in the case of Indian Institute of Architects, Tamil Nadu Chapter (Petitioner) vs. Council of Architecture and All India Council of Technical Education (Respondents) in which petitioner filed a petition praying that in the circumstances stated therein and in the Affidavit filed therewith, the High Court will be pleased to grant an order of Interim injunction restraining the second respondent from acting in any manner in interfering with the administration of the existing and establishment of new institutions by imparting education in architecture as they are governed by the Architects Act, 1972 and its regulations pending disposal of the W.P. No. 36520/2003.

The Hon'ble High Court passed the order: "Subject to the result of the writ petitions, AICTE and Council of Architecture can exercise their respective functions under the respective enactments".

Challenges and Priorities in Urban and Regional Planning.

Guru Ram Das School of Planning, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar in collaboration with Chandigarh Regional Chapter (Punjab), ITPI organized a

seminar on "Challenges and Priorities in Urban and Regional Planning" during 22-23 March, 2004 at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar.

While inaugurating the seminar Shri D.S. Meshram, President ITPI mentioned that as per 2001, Census the urban population of India was 285 million which is likely to cross 546 million by 2025, i.e. another urban India would be added and, therefore, to face these challenges the priorities in urban and regional planning are required to be re-oriented. He further added that employment generation, urban poverty alleviation, implementation of national housing policy, habitat policy, new industrial location policy, fiscal concession and economic reform targeting 7 to 8% growth of economy, private sector involvement in development process besides strengthening of local governments and decentralization of powers to local bodies by 73rd and 74th Constitution Amendment Acts will have bearing on urban and regional planning and development process in the country. The massive scale of urbanization, technological advancements / electronic revolution, fast changing urban structure and urban life, increasing complexities of urban problems, inadequacy of shelter and basic services, unmanageable urban sprawl, slums and squatter settlements, growing insecurity and rising crime rates, urban renewal, conservation and rejuvenation of built and natural heritage, deteriorating environmental conditions, etc, would further add to the problems of urban and regional planning. However, he opined that the urban and regional planning system / process suggested in Urban Development plan Formulation and Implementation (UDPFI) Guidelines i.e. long term Perspective Plan, short terms Five Years Development Plan, Annual / Action Plans and Plans of Project and Schemes would go a long way in mitigating these challenges. The decentralized process of plan approval, public sector interventions, private sector actions and joint ventures along with public participation / NGOs, CBOs and indirect participation of people through elected representatives as suggested in the Guidelines will further ease these impediments.

Dr. S.P. Singh, Vice Chancellor, GNDU in his address mentioned that for orderly

and planned development of towns and cities, prioritization of projects and schemes is the need of the day and planners community should take into consideration the long term and short term requirements of the community.

Prof. B.R. Batra gave the highlight of the seminar theme and Shri. Gurpreet Singh, Secretary CRC (Punjab), extended the vote of thanks.

MPC's: Engines of Co-ordinated Planning and Development.

Institute of Town Planners, India and Kolkata Metropolitan Development Authority, jointly organizing one day National Workshop on 03rd September, 2004 at Kolkata on "MPC's as Engines of Co-ordinated Planning and Development" with sub-themes on (i) Roles and Functions: General Policy Issues; and (ii) Actual Working of MPC's: Implementation, Co-ordination and Specific Functions

The Metropolitan Development Authorities i.e. MMRDA, Mumbai; CMDA, Chennai; BDA, Bangalore; BMRDA, Bangalore; HUDA, Hyderabad and DDA, Delhi besides AMDA, NCRPB and Senior Officials of the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation, Government of India have been invited to participate.

The Workshop will provide a forum to planners, engineers, architects, politicians, managers and policy makers to discuss the various issues for achieving the integration and co-ordination between various actors involved in plan preparation, implementation and enforcement in the light of 74th Constitution Amendment Act.

For further details and enquiries, contact

Director General (P&B),
Project Planning Division,
KMDA, 4th Floor, Unnyan Bhawan,
Salt Lake, Kolkata – 700 091.
Phone : 033-23372081
Fax : 033-23593563

ITPI Hostel

It was observed that the hostel facilities are being availed by non-members on the name of members, therefore, the Associate and Fellow Members of ITPI are requested to carry photo ID card, whenever they visit ITPI Hostel, New Delhi.

KRC Celebrated World Environment Day 2004.

The Karnataka Regional Chapter of the Institute of Town Planners, India has celebrated the World Environment Day on Saturday, 5th June 2004.

In his key note address Dr.K.S.Rame Gowda, former President, ITPI and Director of Town Planning, Government of Karnataka pointed out that the existing utilities and services in our cities were overloaded due to heavy migration. As a result, environmental conditions deteriorated and opined that regional approach is an advisable solution for environmental protection. He called on urban planners to work towards environmental improvement and make human settlements attractive while preparing Master Plans.

Dr.K.V.Raju, Professor, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, deliberated on the air quality management specifically in Bangalore, because in Bangalore about 700 persons die every year due to polluted air and many more suffer from respiratory problems like asthma. Therefore, he suggested to bring the pollution within the prescribed limits so as to lower down the number of deaths specifically in Bangalore.

Prof.L.R.Vagale, the Senior Member of the Institute of Town Planners, also spoke on the occasion. He highlighted on the management of coastal area and opined that an effective coastal area management not only saves the coastal areas, but also conserves the coastal habitat and eco-system.

Shri S.C.Karigowda, chairman of the Karnataka Regional Chapter, in his presidential address lamented the enormous danger caused due to pollution which, in terms of value, is estimated at \$ 7.6 billion caused due to air and water pollution only. He further added that untreated sewage water is causing havoc in contaminating underground water as well as the health of the people. He therefore pleaded to evolve mechanism through which wide publicity be given, both in newspapers and electronic media to make the people aware of the causes of pollution and suggested to have an

integrated approach of streamlining sewerage and water supply system covering not only Bangalore City Corporation limit, but also the eight

municipal areas surroundings it.

Sri P.S.Muddappa, Secretary of the Chapter extended the vote of thanks.

CHAIRMEN AND SECRETARIES OF REGIONAL CHAPTERS, 2004-2005

Name of Chapter	Chairman	Secretary
Andhra Pradesh	V.R.Satish Chandra	P.S.A. Laxmana Rao
Bihar	-	-
Chandigarh (Punjab)	Rajinder Sharma	Gurpreet Singh
Delhi	Prof. Subir Saha	R.Srinivas
Goa	Morad Ahmad	D.D.Suctankar
Gujarat	R.B. Joshi	K.J. Gajjar
Haryana	R.S. Choudhary	Nadeem Akhtar
H.P. & J. & K.	Joginder Singh	R.C. Thakur
Karnataka	S.C. Karigowda	P.S. Muddappa
Kerala	Aniyan Mathew	Prasanth H.
Madhya Pradesh	P.N. Mishra	S. Banerjee
Maharashtra-Mumbai	P.V. Deshmukh	P.Praveen Kumar
Maharashtra-Nagpur	A.C. Munje	N.B. Sahasrabhojane
North East	P.K. Rajkhowa	A.C. Thakur
Orissa	Yusuf Khan	A.K. Dutta
Rajasthan	S.C. Mahagaonkar	B.S. Kanawat
Tamil Nadu	A.N.Sachithanandan	S.Rajendhiran
Uttar Pradesh	V.K. Gupta	Ajay Kumar Mishra
Uttaranchal	Prof. K.L. Datta	V.P. Sharma
West Bengal	Smaran Kr. Das	Jibesh Paul

EVENTS : 2003-04

- To energize the students activities, the Grant for NOSPLAN has been increased from Rs.25,000/- to Rs.50,000/-.
- To strengthen the finances of Regional Chapters and to enable them to take up Chapter activities, the Chapters membership grant / Newsletter / Workshop and Seminar grants have also been increased – annual membership grant enhanced from Rs, 200/- per active member to Rs.300/- per active member, Newsletter grant for publishing more than 100 copies has been fixed at Rs.5,000/- per issue (maximum 4 issues in a year); workshop and seminar grant has been fixed at Rs.150/- per participant with the minimum grant of Rs.5,000/-
- Model Scheme for Post Graduate Education in Planning has been prepared and circulated to all Schools of Planning and Directors / Chief Town Planners of the states for their views.
- To meet the ever-increasing demand of members , ITPI Hostel at Delhi, renovated and number of beds has been increased. On demand of senior members a lift has been installed for their convenience.
- To enhance the participation of planners in ITPI activities new membership drive was taken up and accordingly during the period of report 179 new planners joined ITPI as Associate Members and 36 Associate Members became Fellow.

- To disseminate the town planning education a drive was launched due to which 118 candidates applied for student membership and 79 of them have been provisionally selected as student member.
- To channelize ITPI funds, Financial Rules have been framed which were approved by the Council and EGM.
- For the proper and smooth functioning of ITPI administration Service Rules for ITPI employees have been framed which have been approved by the Council and EGM .
- EGM approved that no regular / permanent employment shall be created at Headquarter or at Regional Chapters
- ITPI Journal and Newsletter have been registered with Registrar of Newsletters, Government of India.
- Prof.E.F.N.Ribeiro, former President ITPI has been nominated as Chairman of Board of Studies in Architecture and Town Planning Education for 3 years.
- National Congress of ITPI was organized at Shimla on 'Development of Hill Capitals: Shimla - Vision 2025' in which Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh and Minister of Tourism, Government of Himachal Pradesh participated.
- Land along with building have been purchased at a reasonable cost for Goa Regional Chapter of ITPI due to efforts of Prof. E.F.N. Ribeiro.
- Land for Haryana Regional Chapter of ITPI has been procured.
- Andhra Pradesh Regional Chapter building, at Hyderabad has been made functional.
- National Workshop on 'MPC's: Engines of Co-ordinated Planning and Development' is being organized jointly by ITPI and Kolkata Metropolitan Development Authority on 3rd September 2004, at Kolkata

concerns; for instance, while recognizing that "Human Settlements" is a wide concept, this report essentially looks at housing related issues.

India's population crossed one billion in 2001. The rural population of 741 million constitutes about 72 per cent of the population, while the urban population at 285 million makes up the remaining 28 per cent.

In terms of growth, while the decadal growth rate has come down by about 3.5 per cent over the last three decades, India added 180 million people in the last decade. While in 1991 it was still more than 2 per cent per year, in 2001 - 02 the population growth rate came down to 1.76 per cent per year. Current projections estimate that the population will reach 1.4 billion by 2026 and 1.6 billion by mid-century.

More than 70 per cent of India's population lives in villages. There are more than 1.4 million rural habitations in the country, ranging in population from less than 200 to more than 10,000. The rural population grew by 17.9 per cent in the last decade.

India's total urban population in absolute terms (285 million) is close to America's total population. The urban population has continued to grow in absolute terms, though, again, the decadal growth has declined in the last two decades (from 46 per cent in 1981, to 36 per cent in 1991, to 31 per cent in 2001).

There are more than 5,000 urban agglomerations in the country. These include 35 metropolitan cities (having population of more than one million), more than 300 large towns (population between 100,000 and 1 million), and about 3,500 other towns (population less than 100,000).

The number of metropolitan cities has increased to 35 in 2001 from 23 in 1991. These metro cities are home to 37.8 per cent of the total urban population. Out of these, there are 6 mega-cities (three with populations in excess of 10 million and two with populations above 5 million). Mumbai topped the list of most populous cities of the world in 2003, while Delhi

12TH REVIEW SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION

Mitigating Poverty : Water, Sanitation and Human Settlements (India Report) April 2004

Water, sanitation and human habitation are crucial issues for India, and have received considerable attention. Our experience of over five decades has led to the recognition of the roles of multiple stakeholders in handling such complex development tasks. Today, participation of stakeholders and participation of the people most concerned with problems, whether they are to do with water or sanitation, or with human habitation, has become an integral part of the thinking of the Government of India. Several programmes and schemes have been evolved to capture this change in thinking.

India is unique in its size and complexity of issues, with one sixth of humankind, and a multicultural society, having sizable rural and urban populations, representing ways in which people live, from ancient to perhaps the most modern of lifestyles; where one sees, parallelly and simultaneously, a diversity of methods of doing things, ways of dealing with

issues, which on the one hand have remained unchanged for several millennia, and on the other, reflect some of the latest thinking. The diversity of approaches gives rise to a variety of possible solutions and options.

It is from this richness of experience that the Report has looked at initiative in the areas of human habitation, water and sanitation focused on those experiences which try to reach out to the poorest and to improve the quality of their lives.

Each of these areas is vast in its own right, and a lot of thinking has been done sectorally in each one of them. The initial part of this report deals with each of these sectors, highlighting some of the main achievements and gives a glimpse of where we stand. In the second part of this report, a number of case studies and programmes, highlighting issues which often are derived from a single sector, have been drawn but which transcend them and which have learnings that can be applied not only to these three sectors but also to others. The report does not cover the whole gamut of

was placed fifth. It is expected that by 2021, India will have the greatest concentration of mega cities in the Asian region.

Poverty in both rural and urban areas continues to be one of the major developmental concerns for the country. The Planning Commission defines the poverty line as the cost of an all India average consumption basket at which calorie norms of 2400 calories per capita per day in rural areas and 2100 calories per capita per day for urban areas, are met. India has 22 per cent of the world's poor, with more than 260 million people living below the poverty line. Of this, about 75 per cent are in rural areas. India's developmental planning has had a major thrust towards poverty alleviation. While in 1993-94, 37 per cent or 244 million people in rural areas were poor, in 1999-2000, the figure was reduced to 193 million i.e., 27 per cent. In urban areas also the percentage of poor people has declined from 32 per cent in 1993-94 to 23 per cent in 1999-2002. Not only has the percentage of people categorized as poor gone down, the absolute number of poor has also declined during this period.

In urban areas of India, it is estimated that about one-fifth of the people live in slums. In spite of a large number of efforts, in percentage terms this number has come down dramatically. The question is how one looks at this situation. On the one hand, these people seem to have found a viable solution to living in an urban environment. On the other hand, it is not a solution that we can be satisfied with. The debate has been whether to recognize these 'solutions' or to turn a blind eye to them, and look for completely new ways of solving the problem. Over the years, slum clearance schemes gave way to slum improvement and site and service schemes, for providing better facilities. This has come with the solution that exists and improve on this, rather than come out with a completely new solution that cannot be implemented.

A challenge before a large country like India is to find the right blend of centralized and decentralized decision-making and of micro-level planning and macro-level planning. Decision-making that involves people at various levels

brings in different perceptions and enriches decision-making. The importance of involving local people in decision-making to bring in a better perspective of their requirements and in finding implementable solutions is also being recognized. With the recognition that to need the new expectations and the new way of doing things, the very machinery of the State has to change. India has also undertaken institutional reforms.

The initial period of post-Independence, in the first few decades solutions essentially were driven from outside, and by some scientific research from within the country. At the same time, there were experiments based on the Gandhian philosophy which recognized very much the traditional way, and the need to innovate on that. India in the first years really experimented with keeping the governance systems as they were, and looking at modernization solutions coming from outside. In the last thirty years or so, there has been the recognition that we needed a new paradigm for development in this country, which brought together the latest thinking, and integrated this with the knowledge base of this country and the traditional way of doing things.

Water is a good example where there has been a tremendous change in terms of how the governance of the resource is actually handled. The coverage has significantly increased over the years. The challenge of sustainability of water supply and systems is also being addressed with reforms involving greater community involvement. The 73rd Amendment (with regard to decentralized rural governance) and 74th Amendment (with regard to decentralized urban governance) have been major steps towards decentralizing governance. In the case of rural governance, considerable change has in fact taken place. The whole Panchayati Raj (Village Self-Government) system has developed, and increasingly powers have been decentralized. The sanitation, we initially started with a system based on technologies available internationally. But it was really a question of whether this technology could be implemented, because the technology required the use of large amount of water. This was

something which was not sustainable, nor really desirable. This is an area where India did a lot of research into the system itself. And it is still not over. There have been a number of innovative approaches developed. If we look at the three areas of water, urban settlement and sanitation, they score differently in terms of technological change, in terms of governance change and in terms of systems change.

NGOs have played a very important role in these sectors. It has been recognized that there are models in that system which could be looked at. Today, we have in India, a system where there is considerable innovation happening, and recognition that participation of several stakeholders is essential. There are programmes to support innovative ideas. Partnerships with non-governmental bodies for not only implementing schemes, but for making policy, are emerging. It is not a process which is finished. One of the important recognitions is that change cannot be brought about through legislation alone. It has to be a process in which you change skills, change attitudes, change relationships, and change power equations. All this requires time. For instance, in the Panchayati Raj it has been legislated that so many women must be members of the Panchayat or the Pani Samiti (Water Committee). But it will be a long process before they effectively participate in the process.

India has also been looking at the institutions to support this and is innovating with institutional reforms. For instance, what are institutional arrangements for lending money for shelter to the poor? How does one bring in private enterprise? How can housing co-operatives be effective?

Increasing privatization and globalization bring in new challenges as they offer new opportunities. Privatization often increases the productivity of less productive common resources, but in the process makes them inaccessible to the poor who depend on them for their basic needs and livelihoods. Increased globalization and consumerism often promote lifestyles and products which are both unsustainable and out of the reach of the poor. Fresh thinking and a

major effort are required to meet this challenge.

While there are several issues-including the definition of development itself-on which there are ongoing debates, India has several mechanisms for an inclusive discussion on such issues. This is part of the democratic process of the country. The preparation of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) for instance, was a massive participatory exercise. As part of India's

preparations for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), several regional multi-stakeholder workshops were held to bring in the concerns of different stakeholders in evolving the country's perspective on sustainable development. These were organized at the behest of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, by Centre for Environment Education.

Excerpt from the report, commissioned by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India.

Continued from Page 12

large and growing cities and, also some of the rapidly growing regions. During Shri Gupte's time master plans for 61 Class I and Class II towns and regional plans for few fast growing regions were taken-up.

The Town and Country Planning Organization functioned as the technical secretariat for drawing up the Regional Plan for the National Capital Region. Shri Gupte worked as its Member Secretary. The first Regional Plan for the Region was prepared under the guidance of Shri Gupte, which was approved by the High Powered Board in 1973. Another pioneer work on the preparation of Regional Development Plan for the South East Resource Region was initiated and progressed during his time.

During his tenure as Chief Planner, the Organization prepared Development Plan for Durgapur Steel Township (1969); Structure Plan for Shimla Urban Area (1973); Redevelopment Plan for Shahjahanabad (1974) and Development Plans for Aihale, Badani and Pattadakal (1974).

He pioneered the concept of satellite towns in India and was responsible for preparing the draft plan for satellite town near Ahmedabad. He was also a Member of the team working on Ahmedabad Master Plan.

Shri Gupte, travelled world over and visited a number of countries in various capacities; in 1957 he was the member of the team of planners for studying post-war redevelopment of Germany; in 1962-63, he visited Japan for studying city

planning and housing. He represented India in U.N. Conference on Regional Planning at Honolulu in 1967; he attended U.N. Seminar on Regional Planning in Eastern Europe at Bukharest, Rumania in 1969; participated in the meeting of South-American Regional Planning Board, through Ford Foundation and participated in the conference held in Caracas, Venezuela, Bogotá, Columbia, Panama, Mexico, etc.

He served as Member on various Committees; prominent among them were Regional Planning Board, Mumbai, City and Industrial Development Corporation, Regional Planning Board, Pune, Planning Committee, Noida. Member, Board of Governor of the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi.

After his retirement from TCPO, Shri Gupte joined as Consultant to Messrs Consulting Engineering Services. During this period he worked on Salalah, the old capital of Oman, Sahar Keniya and Sana of North Yemen. He also prepared a Regional Plan for the Eastern Coast of India, i.e. Vishakapatnam – Bhimumpatnam, focusing on coastal development.

His varied official career was tinted with some positive personal qualities: he was cool, soft – spoken, and considerate with his subordinates; was amicable with all and commanded respect from his juniors and seniors as well.

He is now 87. Age has debilitated him but still he is active.

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

OBITUARY



Shri B.B. Garg

Shri B.B. Garg, former Head of Housing and Planning Division, Central Building Research Institute (CBRI); Roorkee an eminent researcher and senior member of the Institute of Town Planners, India was born on 7th June, 1938. After passing his Bachelor's Degree in Architecture from University of Roorkee in 1962, he completed his Postgraduate Degree in Housing and Town and Country Planning from School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi in 1965. Earlier, he did B Sc., from Agra University in 1956.

Seventy Research papers were authored by Shri Garg, which were published in Indian and foreign journals. The important research papers published are:

- 'Planning and Construction Technologies for Housing. Indo-Jordan Science Seminar', Jan-Feb, 1987;
- 'Technologies for Human Settlements', National Conference on Application of Science and Technologies for Rural Development, Porbander, Jan 1988;
- 'Planning Growth Centres for Integrated Area Development', 3rd World Conference of Engineers and Architects in Israel, Dec 1973; to name few.

For 33 years, he was deeply associated with conducting, organizing, guiding research, and implementation and monitoring of various development projects in the country in the field of construction of different types of buildings, design of housing complexes, planning of human settlements and development of projects for integrated rural development at Central Buildings Research Institute.

Shri Garg expired on 5th February, 2004 at the age of 66.



Shri Charudatta Shankar Gupte

Shri Charudatta Shankar Gupte is an eminent architect, urban planner and urban designer of pre and post-independent India. He has the distinction of being the first Chief Planner of the Town and Country Planning Organization, Government of India.

Shri Gupte was born on 26th February, 1917 in a small town of Mahaswad near Mumbai. He did his Diploma in Architecture, Government of Bombay, in 1938; passed final examination of the Royal Institute of British Architects in 1945; completed a comprehensive course in City Planning and Housing under the Colombo Plan Technical Training Scheme, Japan in 1963.

He became the Associate of the Indian Institute of Architects (1940); Associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects (Chartered Architect) in 1946; Fellow of the Indian Institute of Architects (1956); Licentiate Member of the Institute of Town Planners, India (1967); Member of the Royal Institute of Town Planner (London) in 1969 (Chartered Town Planner).

Shri Gupte was elected Council Member of the Institute of Town Planners, India for 1968-69 and 1970-71. He was its President during 1978-79.

After qualifying in architecture, Shri Gupte worked with Messrs Sykesh Patkar Divecha and designed a number

of cinema halls and studios; notable among them were the famed Mehboob Studio and Bombay Studio. He also worked for Messrs Thakarsy and worked on various industrial projects.

Shri Gupte joined the Delhi Improvement Trust (DIT) as Chief Architect in March, 1946 and continued there till December, 1956. He joined the Town Planning Organization (TPO), as Architect-Planner, in December 1956. TPO, an expert organization of town planners, was setup in December 1955, under the Central Ministry of Health to advise the Delhi Development (Provisional) Authority in all matters relating to planning of national capital and prepare a master plan for the capital city. TPO produced an Interim General Plan (IGP) for Greater Delhi to put a medium of check on the haphazard growth of Delhi, pending the preparation of a long-term master plan. A two-volume Master Plan for Delhi was published in May 1960. Shri Gupte presented the Draft Master Plan for Delhi in 1960 to the Cabinet, in a meeting chaired by then Primer Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru. The Plan was finally approved in November 1961; it was made the law in 1961; came into force from June 1st, 1962. It considered the needs of Delhi population up to 1981. The Delhi Master Plan was the first exercise in comprehensive planning of a larger urban area. It became a prototype for many cities in the country. Shri Gupte, as the Architect - Planner of TPO, was actively involved in the preparation of the draft as well as the final plan.

After the preparation of the Master Plan, TPO was merged with the Central Regional and Urban Planning Organization (CRUPO), set up in 1958, as an all India organization and named Town and Country Planning Organization (TCPO). Shri Gupte, became the Chief Planner of TCPO in 1966, which post he held till his superannuation in February, 1975.

During his tenure as Chief Planner in TCPO, Shri Gupte was on UN assignment (1971-72), as a team leader to guide a "Research Project on Nairobi, Kenya". This was followed by the preparatory work for the ensuing Habitat Conference of the United Nations at Vancouver, Canada as follow-up action of Environment Conference at Stockholm, Sweden in 1972. Shri Gupte along with the then chairman, TCPO, visited various countries during 1972-74, to interact with global experts in the field.

While in Delhi Improvement Trust, Shri Gupte, as Chief Architect, was responsible for the preparation of improvement schemes, development schemes, slum clearance schemes, re-housing schemes, civic design projects, such as market, health centres, etc.

Shri Gupte, as the Architect - Planner in TPO, took active part in programming and co-ordination in the preparation of Interim General Plan and Master Plan for Delhi.

As Chief Planner, TCPO, Shri Gupte was responsible for drawing up programmes and policies relating to urban and regional activities to be initiated at the national and state levels and their implementation; preparation of interim general plans, master plans, town planning legislations, control of urban land values; laying down minimum standards for urban services, slum improvements, according importance to urbanization as an important aspect of economic and social development, preparation of zonal development plans and detailed project plans for Delhi.

During his tenure, TCPO played a key role in the setting up of town planning organization in the states to promote planned urban and regional development in the states. The Central government made provisions for the 100 per cent financial and technical assistance, through TCPO, for preparation of master plans for metropolitan cities and other

Continued on Page 11