



# PLANNERS NEWS LETTER

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2020

Designed by:  
Dr. D.S. Meshram



Shri Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy, Honourable Chief Minister, Government of Andhra Pradesh is delivering inaugural address on virtual mode, during 69 National Town and Country Planners Conference, Visakhapatnam.

## 69 NATIONAL TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNERS CONFERENCE “SDGS IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID – 19”

### PROCEEDING AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Inaugurating virtually the 69 National Town and Country Planners Conference, on 26 February 2021, Shri Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy, Honourable Chief Minister, Government of Andhra Pradesh, in his address highlighted that as India is signatory to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Andhra Pradesh is also committed to implement SDGs. Therefore, we have to evaluate the actions we have been taking so far to implement the SDGs, specifically taking into consideration the Pre - Covid and Post-Covid scenarios. Because we are not sure how long this pandemic will continue. We also need to take the pressing action towards mitigating the direct and indirect effects of this pandemic, so as to take proper precautions to avoid its occurrence in future, because everybody is affected by it .

He also mentioned that global CO<sub>2</sub> level has increased considerably since 1990, which is responsible for pollution and climate change, and opined that we have to devise certain means to provide serviced land and housing, not only for lower income category but also for lower middle income people as well, because it is not possible to acquire land, due to heavy compensation, at the market rate, to be paid to the land owner. He also flagged the issue of growth of informal residential areas due to migration of the people from the adjoining areas and stressed the need to provide adequate infrastructure in such areas, as well.

On the issue of development of coastal areas he highlighted that Andhra Pradesh has 974 km of coastline, which is second largest in India, and suggested to prepare Regional Plans, taking



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**Smt. Y. Srilakshmi, IAS, Principal Secretary, Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Andhra Pradesh, Guest of Honour addressing the delegates during Inaugural Function**



Dignitaries on dais are Shri S.B. Khodankar, Secretary General; Shri V. Ramudu, Vice President; Smt. Y. Srilakshmi, IAS, Principal Secretary, Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Andhra Pradesh; Shri N. K. Patel, President and Shri B. Balaji, Chairman, Andhra Pradesh Regional Chapter during the Inaugural Function

into consideration the whole coastal region integrating all the urban and rural settlements. While concluding his address Honourable Chief Minister desired to receive the recommendations of the Conference for the consideration of the Government.

Guest of Honour, Smt. Y. Srilakshmi, IAS, Principal Secretary, Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Andhra Pradesh; mentioned that human beings think that earth's resources belongs to them and they can exploit them the way they want. She stressed that exploiting the natural resources beyond certain limit, can cause calamities and therefore, natural resources are required to be respected and protected to avoid such catastrophes. She further lamented that we have been discussing, since long, the issues of sustainability, but this pandemic has brought into fore that it is the time for action and not only for discussions. People throw garbage on the street and point finger at others for making pollution and expect that somebody else should clean for them. She stressed that this mind set needs to be changed for living healthy life.

She also called on the planners' community to evaluate town planning approaches followed in the past, and also in present and evolve strategies for planning during post Covid – 19 period. There is also a need to conserve and preserve our

heritage both natural and built to be passed on to next generations. There is a lot of wastage of treated water, however, it is important to note that availability of fresh water in India is not plenty and therefore, needs to be used sparingly. The industries should be encouraged to use gray water and not fresh / treated water.

Andhra Pradesh, in fact, is targeting to cover all groups including lower income and lower MIG to settle in the planned residential areas and accordingly making all the efforts to decentralize residential areas so that the people can also live outside the town if they can afford. In addition, effort are being made for developing 17,000 layouts for providing plots to lower income groups, each layout covering approximately 100 – 150 acres, which will cater offices and industries along with other infrastructure and will be developed by adopting the principle of 'walk to work' beside efforts will be made to provide facilities and amenities at door steps of the people residing in these areas. All these actions will reduce commuting distance to access these amenities and facilities, resulting easing in traffic congestion. Overhead cables are seen in the cities everywhere, therefore, these cables need to be provided through the ducts in order to keep our cities neat and clean, she mentioned. She also emphasized on the recycling of waste, while leftover waste can be used for levelling of the low lying areas. Efforts are

required to maintain open spaces and public places because people are ready to pay for living dignified life. In this direction Andhra Pradesh Government will act as facilitator and would expect the citizens to participate in this endeavour.

Smt. Y. Srilakshmi, IAS, Principal Secretary, Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Andhra Pradesh; Guest of Honour also released the souvenir containing messages from the dignitaries along with few lead articles, on this occasion.

Shri N. K. Patel, President, ITPI in his address highlighted the achievements of ITPI and further elaborated the main theme and sub-themes. There are 17 Sustainable Goals (SDGs), set by the United Nations. Each of these Goals are interlinked with urbanization which is considered as an opportunity. These Goals cater to social justice and economic development that is environmentally sustainable and resilient to climate change. India is committed to implement these goals at national, state and local levels. NITI Aayog has evolved a SDG Index which documents the progress made by states and UTs towards implementing SDGs by 2030.

Covid-19 pandemic has shaken the world. Lockdown of cities extending for long periods to counter the spread of the virus, has mixed ramifications. On the negative side, Covid-19 has caused closure of industries, trade and commerce, loss of jobs, and social confinement of people within their houses.

There was a mass migration of jobless workers to their place of origin in states like UP, Bihar and Odisha. Medical waste disposal, comprising millions of masks, hand gloves, and PPE kits, has become an environmental hazard. The priority, during this period, was safety of people and as a result, all developmental activities including implementation of SDGs suffered. While on the positive side, closure of industries and reduction of vehicular traffic on road has reduced greenhouse gases tremendously which improved the quality of air in the atmosphere and quality of water in the rivers. A new normal in the functioning of offices, businesses, educational institutions and many other activities, requiring interaction among people, has emerged. This will impact city planning, housing, commercial establishments and mobility of people.

Accordingly, taking into account the impact of Covid-19 on implementation of SDGs, the Institute of Town Planners, India has devoted its National Town and Country Planners Conference - 2021 on the theme 'SDGs in the Context of Covid-19'. In addition to the Plenary Session, there will be four Technical Sessions.

Technical Session - I will focus on 'Environment and Climate Change'. Observing that, due to human activities, the greenhouse gases are on the rise, global CO<sub>2</sub> level has increased by almost 50% since 1990, weather pattern is changing, and the average surface temperature of the world is likely to rise by almost 3<sup>o</sup> C by 2050. The SDG - 13 advocates urgent action



**Shri N. K. Patel,  
President, ITPI,  
delivering the  
presidential address,  
during Inaugural  
Function**



Smt. Y. Srilakshmi, IAS, Principal Secretary, Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Andhra Pradesh, is lighting the Ceremonial Lamp during Inaugural Function of 69 NCTP Conference



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**Shri V. Ramudu,**  
Vice President, ITPI  
reading the messages  
received from dignitaries,  
during Inaugural Function



**Shri B. Balaji,** Chairman,  
Andhra Pradesh Regional  
Chapter, extending vote of  
thanks during Inaugural  
Function

to combat climate change and its impact. This calls for resilient solutions based upon energy-efficient buildings and transport that reduce emission and save energy. This also requires changes in building bylaws, zoning regulations for provision of resilient infrastructure. At national level it requires policies, strategies and planning for climate change adaptation, impact reduction and early warning. It also requires human and institutional capacity building.

The middle-income segment of the society is left uncared as far as housing is concerned. There are a lot of schemes for housing urban poor in public sector, while private sector normally caters to higher and high income groups. As a result, the lower middle income people are left to find their own resources to build houses or continue living in rental houses paying almost 30% income as rent. Recognising the plight of the LIG and lower - MIG group, the Technical Session - II is devoted to 'Housing Strategy for LIG and MIG'.

SDG Goal - 6 focuses on clean water and sanitation. The basic objective of this Goal is that everyone on earth should have access to safe and affordable drinking water. Large cities are facing water crisis. Some of such cities, that made headlines recently, include Chennai, Cape Town, Mexico, Cairo, Tokyo, and Jakarta. Equitable distribution of water is another challenge for cities. Informal residential areas in cities suffer due to inadequate water supply and poor sanitation. As a basic premise, drinking water should be equitably distributed in cities. Recognising this, the Technical Session - III is devoted to 'Water Sensitive Planning of Cities and Regions'.

Technical Session – IV (Local sub-theme) focus on 'Integrated Coastal Region Development Plans'. The total length of the coastline of India, including the mainland, Lakshadweep Islands and Andaman & Nicobar Islands, is 7,517 km. This coastline is declared as a regulated zone by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change under the Environment Protection Act 1986. Following the Coastal Regulation Zones (CRZ) Rules, state governments have formulated the CRZ Management Plans. These plans, however, cover only the regulated zone. As a result, unplanned growth continues beyond the regulated zone. A lot of economic activities are taking place along the coastline, which calls for adopting regional approach. Therefore, preparation of an Integrated Coastal Region Development Plan having regard to environmental conservation and economic development in an integrated manner gets more pronounced.

Shri V. Ramudu, Vice President, ITPI read the messages received from the dignitaries like Honourable Vice President of India; Honourable Prime Minister of India; Honourable Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh; Honourable Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate, Government of India; Secretary Urban development Government of India, and other dignitaries.

Shri S. B. Khodankar, Secretary General, ITPI while welcoming the dignitaries and participants also gave the background of the theme of the 69 National Town and Country Planners Conference that is 'SDGs in the Context of Covid – 19'.



Souvenir being released by Smt. Y. Srilakshmi, IAS, Principal Secretary, Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Andhra Pradesh.



Smt. Y. Srilakshmi, IAS, Principal Secretary, Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Andhra Pradesh, inaugurating the Exhibition organized during Conference

Shri B. Balaji, Chairman, Andhra Pradesh Regional Chapter, extended the vote of thanks in the Inaugural Session.

Smt. Y. Srilakshmi, IAS, Principal Secretary, Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Andhra Pradesh, also inaugurated the Exhibition organized on this occasion.

The Plenary Session was chaired by Shri N. K. Patel, President, ITPI in which presentations were made by Prof. Dr. Ashok Kumar, Dean (Academic), SPA Delhi; Prof. S. Ramakrishna Rao, Chairman Environmental Monitoring Committee, VPT, and online by Prof. Dr. Ashwani Luthra, GNDU, Amritsar on the theme 'SDGs in the Context of Covid – 19'. Prof. Dr. Vijay Kapse, VNIT, Nagpur was the Rapporteur (online).

Technical Session – I on the theme 'Environment and Climate Change' was chaired by Prof. Dr. D. S. Meshram, Past President, ITPI. Shri R. Karikal Valaven, IAS, Special Chief Secretary, Industries and Commerce, Andhra Pradesh was the Chief Guest. In this session the virtual presentations were made by Prof. Dr. Meenakshi Dhote, Head and Professor Environment Planning, SPA, Delhi; Prof. C. R. Babu, Professor Emeritus, CEMDE; and Shri Tapas Paul, Senior Environmental Specialist, World Bank. Dr. Sandeep Kumar Raut, Associate Town Planner, TCPO, New Delhi was the Rapporteur.

In the Technical Session – II on the theme 'Housing Strategy for LIG and MIG', Smt. Y. Srilakshmi, IAS,

Principal Secretary, Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Andhra Pradesh; was Chief Guest. Shri M. T. Krishna Babu, IAS, Principal Secretary (Transport) to Government of Andhra Pradesh was the Special Guest. Shri Pradeep Kapoor, Past Secretary General, ITPI chaired the Session and presentations were made by Prof. Dr. P. S. N. Rao, Director, SPA, Delhi; Prof. Dr. Subrata Chattopadhyay, Professor, IIT, Kharagpur (online); and Ms. Pratiksha Baruah, Associate Urban Planner, IPE Global Limited. Prof. Dr. Sarika Bahadure, VNIT, Nagpur was the Rapporteur.

Technical Session – III focused on the theme 'Water Sensitive Planning', which was chaired by Shri K. S. Akode, Past President, ITPI. The presentations were made by Prof. Dr. Ashok Kumar Dean, SPA, Delhi; Prof. Dr. Somnath Sen, IIT, Kharagpur (online); and Dr. Mansee Bal Bhargava, Vice President, WICCI. In this session Dr. R. K. Udayan, Town Planner, Town and Country Planning Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh was the Rapporteur.

In the Technical Session – IV on the theme 'Integrated Coastal Region Development Plans', Shri V. Satyanarayan, Past President, ITPI was the Chairman of the Session and virtual presentations were made by Prof. Dr. Abdul Razak Mohamed, Dean, SPA, Vijayawada; Shri Sujeet Kumar Dongre, Scientist, Centre for Environment Education (CEE); and Dr. P. K. Panigrahy, Oceanographer, Odisha. Shri Arvind Kumar, Assistant Town Planners, Town and



**Shri S. B. Khodankar,**  
Secretary General,  
welcoming the dignitaries  
and delegates during  
Inaugural Function



**Shri K. S. Akode,**  
Past President, ITPI,  
addressing the delegates  
as a Chairman of  
Technical Session - III



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**Prof. S. Ramakrishna Rao, Chairman Environmental Monitoring Committee, VPT, presenting his paper in Plenary Session**



**Prof. Dr. Ashok Kumar, Dean (Academic), SPA Delhi, presenting his paper in Plenary Session**



Audience during Inaugural Function

Country Planning Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh was the Rapporteur.

In the Valedictory Session, Smt. Y Srilakshmi, IAS, Principal Secretary, Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Andhra Pradesh; was Chief Guest. In her address Smt. Y. Srilakshmi, underlined that we have the long history of planning of cities, since indus valley civilization, with well laid out drainage facilities. In Hyderabad, where 480 mm rain was common, Sir Visvesvaraya Mokshagundam designed the drainage which works now also. In old Hyderabad City, rainwater gets drained out today also, while new Hyderabad gets flooded. Keeping these traditions in mind, we should create something for which next generation will be proud of. She then mentioned that inverse migration is taking place into our towns and cities not only in India but also abroad and therefore, our planning practices needs to be oriented accordingly. Unauthorized colonies are coming up and going to stay with us, but not providing the services and facilities in such areas, in the democratic setup is deplorable.

Elaborating the concept of Smart Towns being developed in Andhra Pradesh specifically with reference to Covid – 19 situation, the new normal of working from home is becoming common and accordingly we are working on model layouts adopting the principle of 'walk to work'. The administration would be taken to door steps of the wards. Before closing her talk Smt. Y. Srilakshmi, highlighted that recently a team of officers from Andhra Pradesh visited the development of ring road around Ahmadabad city, developed through Town Planning Scheme (TPS), and also 'Riverfront Development of Sabarmati River'. This can be adopted by other states, and called on the planners; community to share such successful stories for adoption by other states.

Smt. Y. Srilakshmi, then distributed Prof. V. N. Prasad, National Best Thesis Award to post graduate students.

Prof. Dr. D. S. Meshram, President Emeritus ITPI, was the Guest of Honour in the Valedictory Session. In his address Dr. Meshram, stated that at this point of culmination of the event he would not like to open the debated again but would like to underline few points. The Novel Corona Virus pandemic has created a crisis which has made whole world almost pause, due to lock downs and observance of social distancing. During the period of Covid – 19, it can be very well observed that majority of people affected by pandemic are from cities and less from rural areas, which had catastrophic effects on all urban areas. This crisis has also awaked the unpreparedness of mankind for global health emergency. Though the pandemic is believed to exist for a short duration of time, our response to the same at the earliest will make remarkable difference for the future of our cities which can contribute to many more decades ahead, because recurring of such events is not affordable. Therefore, it is important to study what is the reason that majority of urban areas were affected as compared to rural areas so as to establish the link between urban planning and rural areas, so that we can plan our cities and towns in such a way that any kind of stress or shocks can be sustained by urban areas.

While closing his brief address, Dr. D. S. Meshram, mentioned that Shri V. Ramudu, Vice President, ITPI read the recommendations adopted in the Conference, which need to be circulated to all the stakeholders of urban development.

Shri N. K. Patel, President ITPI in his concluding remarks highlighted that climate change is a variation in global climate, mostly associated with global warming due to concentration of green house gases in the atmosphere as a result of anthropogenic

activities. In fact cities play an important role in the overall phenomena of emission of green house gases, in turn leading to global warming and subsequent climate change due to harmful emission from industries, automobiles and vehicles. Therefore, planners need to focus on climate change specifically in terms of how it relates to cities and towns, and follow clearer and integrated approach.

Shri B. Balaji, Chairman, Andhra Pradesh Regional Chapter gave the welcome address; while Shri S. B. Khodankar, Secretary General ITPI extended the vote of thanks.

The session-wise recommendations adopted by the Conference are given , below:

### **PLENARY SESSION – ‘SDGs in the Context of Covid – 19’**

- Effective implementation of SDGs needs to be fully integrated into national, social and economic development process of the country and should not be undertaken in isolation.
- The city size should be such that it has high handling capacity with respect to required infrastructure to drastically reduce the impacts of pandemics and endemics.
- Density distribution should be so rationalized in the cities that over-crowding is avoided, which calls for provision of adequate infrastructure.
- Specific guidelines, to handle the crisis like Covid-19, require to be laid down for preparedness against future pandemics to mitigate the various physical, social, environmental and economic challenges faced by people living in low-cost settlements and measures requires to be taken to observe social / physical distancing as per the WHO guidelines.
- Post-Covid neighbourhoods should be adaptable for implementing special measures such as lockdown, physical distancing, isolation and quarantine, through well-defined spaces and introduce ‘isolation factor’ along with ‘congestion factor’ and ‘obsolescence factor’, both at city and dwelling unit levels.
- While locating community facilities like schools, community halls, primary health care centres, parks, and play grounds, it is important to plan them in such a way that, these can be isolated and can be used during epidemics or other emergencies / exigencies.
- As the Novel Corona Virus affected the congested urban areas most, as compared to rural areas, it would be important to study the reasons for the same.

- Micro-grouping, within large and dense communities, will help in reducing the wide spread of the disease. The micro-grouping can be done based on the degree of vulnerability and level of exposure of the residents. Thus, each community can be treated as a big family which can act as a self-sustaining neighbourhoods.
- Capacity building practices for professionals and administrators should be made mandatory at all level, so as not only to improve the governance but also to ensure the planned and orderly development of our towns and cities.
- Implementation of Master Plans, in the spirit they has been conceived would go in a long way, in avoiding occurrence of slums and blighted areas, because casualties are more in such congested places, like slums, and informal settlements.
- Ill-maintained public spaces often aid the spreading of diseases due to spitting and similar habits of people. These could be avoided by planning corridors, alleys, lobbies and other public spaces, easily visible from adjacent houses so that there is a constant eye-on-them. Provision of well-maintained and clean public spaces, with landscaping and other aesthetic elements will discourage such activities.

### **TECHNICAL SESSION – I: Environment and Climate Change**

- As climate change is serious threat to ecosystems the efforts should be to create healthy ecosystem which provides natural buffer to the impacts of climate change, especially extreme weather events. In fact improving the health of ecosystem needs to be addressed instantly in the right earnest.
- Countries need to make sound policies, and technology and investment choices that lead to reduction in emissions and potential co-benefits with a focus on clean and renewable energy sources, energy efficiency and energy conservation.
- The future infrastructure needs to be designed in a sustainable manner so as to use the natural energy resources to create the congenial environment mitigating the impacts of global warming.
- Industries need to focus on the thermal resilient fabric to create sustainable ecological conditions.
- Master / Zonal Plans should focus on the principle of climate resilient urban development based on environmental parameters.



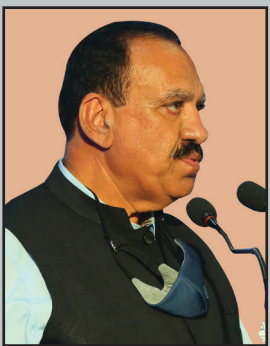
**Shri R. Karikal Valaven,  
IAS, Special Chief  
Secretary, Industries  
and Commerce, Andhra  
Pradesh, Chief Guest in  
Technical Session - I,  
addressing the delegates**



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**Shri M. T. Krishna Babu, IAS, Principal Secretary (Transport) to Government of Andhra Pradesh, Special Guest in Technical Session - II, addressing the delegates**



**Shri Pradeep Kapoor, Past Secretary General, ITPI, Chairman of the Technical Session - II, addressing the delegates**

- Advocate the 'Climate Responsive Planning' and promote 'Zero Energy Building Technologies'. State Governments may consider giving certain incentives, to promote adopting these technologies by local bodies.
- Building code and regulations need to be followed in order to reduce per capita carbon emission below the global average by 2050 at least for million plus cities.
- Biodiversity Parks act as natural reserve and harbour natural heritage and help in conserving urban ecological environment thereby, reducing the public health risk; act as filter to check air pollutions; and also as buffer to local weather; provide climate resilience; recharge ground water; sequestration of CO<sub>2</sub>; and minimize the frequency and intensity of extreme weather conditions, therefore provision of Biodiversity parks need to be embedded in the Master Plans.
- Urban planning must ensure preservation of natural heritage that, in turn, ensures environmental sustainability and resilience of cities and towns and in urban centres where the natural heritage is lost or highly degraded, it must be restored to its natural state.

#### **TECHNICAL SESSION – II 'Housing Strategy for LIG and MIG'**

- With increasing cost of land in urban areas, feasibility of affordable housing projects is facing constraints in high land cost territories especially within city limits. Therefore, majority of the affordable housing come up on the outskirts of cities in peri - urban areas or close to industrial corridors. Therefore, state governments / urban local bodies should provide the land, which is under their possession for expanding infrastructure corridors and sites for affordable housing.
- Although the physical performance of housing programs in India is not encouraging, however, the fact cannot be denied that there exists a strong institutional capacity, in various cities, in terms of network of state-level Housing Boards and Metropolitan Authorities which have capacities to build and develop housing. Therefore, these institutions should be revitalized and reoriented to deliver affordable housing by involving them at appropriate levels in implementation of housing schemes.
- In order to create demand for housing for the target groups, it is important not only to consider their Affordability to Pay (ATP) but also willingness to Pay (WTP), because closeness to

their work place cuts down their expenditure on mobility and encourages them to increase their income through various other means.

- In order to provide dignified housing to the low income migrants, the Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (ARHC) Scheme should be implemented in the spirit it has been conceived, may be with certain modifications to suit local conditions.
- For the urban poor, the contextually crafted rental housing solution is more affordable and practical than an ownership solution, therefore, it would be more appropriate to convert existing government funded vacant housing stock into Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (ARHCs) for the EWS and LIG and lower MIG. This scheme may be extend to another class of renters such as working single men, working single women, students, etc., which will also reduce pressure on urban housing market.
- Location of residential plots for EWS and LIG categories should be provided on government lands, sick industrial lands, waste lands, etc., by making provision in the layouts.
- Flexible multipurpose spaces should have the provision for converting into more compartmentalized spaces for segregating activities within the house, in case cordoning off of certain section of the house if required, this is also desirable for community facilities like toilets or washing areas.
- There should be provision for life and livelihood to go hand in hand. Well planned spaces to accommodate residents pursuing alternate livelihood like terrace farming, or manufacturing of masks and sanitizer (as in the recent case) be encouraged.
- Locational preferences of different categories of the urban poor would vary. Therefore, locations near work places should be the first preference, while in case of non - availability of land, availability of cheap and quick transport to workplaces should be given priority.
- Use of local and environmentally sustainable building materials, and other green practices as per development codes and rating system like GRIHA/ BEE/ IGBC be practiced however, giving suitable incentive by the state governments can ease the maintenance cost.

#### **TECHNICAL SESSION - III 'Water Sensitive Planning'**

- Before making a Master / Development plans, it is important to study natural ecosystems,



sustainable water sources, hydro-geophytes; and also to examine geology and geography of the area.

- The natural hydro-geographical structure (slopes, soils, water bodies and streams) should be the starting point for selecting the location for preparing spatial layout of any built area / environment.
- A separate 'Water Sensitive Unit', be formed consisting of representatives from various cross section of society, and line departments, as the case may be, within all local bodies. This unit should be vested with the control and regulation of all water bodies, including rivers, streams, canals, ponds / tanks, rainwater collection and even ground water for all kind of watershed.
- In water sensitive planning approach, the major emphasis is on better storage and usage of runoff water generated by small and medium rainstorm accordingly, while planning and designing a network of storm water drains, hydro-geophytes should be an important aspect for channelizing and discharging excess water to local streams.
- Increasing ground water infiltration is also an important component of storm water management. Therefore, the major focus should be on increasing ground water infiltration 'on site' while planning neighbourhoods and such other areas.
- Integrated Water-Land Planning from Regional to Neighbourhood level to the unit level should be encouraged because every drop in or out from a place / space counts, and accordingly this practice should be followed.
- Water Sensitive Planning helps the planners and engineers with various BMIs (bit maps images) to plan and design land use and land cover for managing the quantity and quality of runoff, which can also be used either directly, for improving the landscape, and / or indirectly for recharging the groundwater. However, the aim should be to 'Minimise runoff and maximise re-use of fresh water'.
- Efforts should be made to reduce impervious areas by using various technical measures that increases the pervious environment in the area, and the run off should be passed through vegetated patches and connected open spaces, leading to reduction in flooding.
- Common urban land use practices can be used to control urban runoff quantity and quality. Prominent among them is higher-density

development, which serves multiple goals i.e. Social (enables more and better services), economic (reduce cost), environmental (lower pollution loads), and result in lower runoff per housing unit, besides helps reduce impervious cover.

- Land cover design can provide most useful means for turning urban runoff from nuisance into a water resource, where managed with the 3Ms enables catching most of the runoff generated by small and medium rainstorm events (which constitute up to 90% of all rainfall events), for either direct use – irrigation and landscaping, including roof landscaping, and / or for indirect use through recharge into the groundwater, should be considered.

#### **TECHNICAL SESSION (Local Theme) 'Integrated Coastal Region Development Plans'**

- Community based bottom-up approach is required to perceive issues / problems specifically for a local area.
- Sensitizing of coastal communities about the coastal hazards for better conservation and wise use of the coastal and marine resources leading to sustainable development needs to be encouraged.
- Comprehensive understanding of coastal ecosystems and its dynamics is essential before any developmental activities are proposed.
- Implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Plan across the coastal states and union territories, for local livelihood enhancement and promotion of sustainable development on the coastal regions is essential. However, it is necessary to prepare the Integrated Coastal Region Development Plan (ICRDP) for whole Coastal Region including urban and rural settlement falling in the region.
- The ICRDP must concentrate on sustainable development which needs to be accepted by local bodies and communities. Such planning be finalized following an extensive consultation process. Training of the local authorities, communities and the project managers, is essential at all levels.
- Baseline Data collection, through field survey and validation by ground truthing, public consultation, stakeholder meeting at different levels to identify the key issues are very much essential.
- Issue based Sectoral Plans or sub - plans need to be prepared which can be later integrated while preparing of ICZM plan.



**Prof. Dr. P. S. N. Rao**  
Director, SPA Delhi,  
Key Speaker making  
presentation of his paper  
in Technical Session - II



**Ms. Pratiksha Baruah,**  
Associate Urban Planner,  
IPE Global Limited, Key  
Speaker presenting  
her paper in Technical  
Session - II



**Dr. Mansee Bal Bhargava,**  
Vice President, WICCI,  
Key Speaker presenting  
her paper in Technical  
Session - III



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**Shri V. Sathyanarayan,**  
former President, ITPI  
addressing the delegates  
of Technical Session of  
Local Theme



Council Members with the Chief Guest Smt. Y. Srilakshmi, IAS, Principal Secretary, Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Andhra Pradesh, during Valedictory Function

### Specific Recommendations for Andhra Pradesh Coastal Areas

- According to SDGs – 14, coastal regions, oceans, seas and marine resources need to be used sustainably and also require to be conserved in order to ensure sustainable development without compromising the ability of coastal resources and protection of coastal community, which are also mandatory provisions to prepare Coastal Zone Management Plans to address the local issues related to ecology, sustainable development and economic growth.
- Formulate State level policy such as Andhra Pradesh State Urban and Regional Development Policy (APSURDP) focusing on the spatial distribution of population, employment, natural resource, poverty reduction, development of coastal urban and rural settlements, heritage and tourism, arts and handicrafts, agriculture, forest, trade, industries, environment, water, health and sanitation, transportation, sensitive areas, vulnerable communities, etc.
- Prepare District Development Plans, and Regional Plans for the Resource Regions, in conformity with APSURDP.
- Based on the regional and district level plans the block, *taluka* level Spatial Plans should be prepared including *nagar* and *gram panchayats* in the *taluka* and block level.
- The state urban and regional development policy should highlight on the inter-state cooperation of concerned sectors.
- Preparation of Integrated Coastal Region Development Plans (ICRDP) needs to be encouraged focusing on increasing the infrastructure like coastal roads, and cyclone shelter houses, etc., particularly in high and very high vulnerability zones.

## PROF. V. N. PRASAD NATIONAL BEST THESIS AWARD 2020 (for Postgraduate Students of Planning)

The Institute of Town Planners, India in 1991 instituted the National Best Thesis Award to inculcate a healthy competition amongst the young planners so that they can compete with overseas students. One thesis each from each specialization from all the Schools of Planning, recognized by the ITPI, with the highest marks, is eligible to participate in this competition. Since 1996, the

award has been dedicated to the late Prof. V. N. Prasad, one of the founder members of the institute and a pioneer in the field of Urban and Regional Planning in the country. Subsequently the Council ITPI decided to institute three awards, comprising First, Second and Third with cash prize of Rs. 30,000; Rs. 20,000 and Rs. 10,000 respectively and a Certificate of Merit. Nominees are required

to make a presentation before the duly constituted Jury comprising of senior professionals and academicians for selecting the best entries in order of merit. The awards are to be distributed in the Valedictory Session of the NTCP Conference for which to and fro air tickets and modest accommodation will be provided by the ITPI.

The Jury for Prof. V. N. Prasad National Best Thesis Award 2020 recommended the following entries:

**The First Prize** was awarded to Sayali Sonawane, from College of Engineering, Pune for the thesis 'Determining Land Value Appreciation in Town Planning Scheme Areas: Rationalizing the Methodologies'. The thesis underlines that due to rapid growth of urbanization, cities are getting crowded and in order to plan the growing cities, town planning schemes are being used as a tool for development of towns and cities. Accordingly, the thesis attempted to study thoroughly the concept of TPS with references to Land Value Appreciation.

**The Second Prize** was awarded to Palak Passi from School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi for the thesis 'Benchmarking of Secure and Modern Streets: A Case Study of Noida'. Basically this thesis aims to develop a benchmark for street with reference to security and modernity. A comprehensive analysis has been done to identify parameters important for female and male separately and the model has been validated in cities for which crime data was available to check if the ground conditions coincide with the presence or absence of the security and modernity parameters.

**The Third Prize** was awarded to Harshitha N. from School of Planning and Architecture, University of Mysore, Mysuru for the thesis 'Planning Imperatives of Growth Nodes and Clusters in Bangalore Metropolitan Region'. The thesis in order to fill up the gap between demand and supply of increasing urban population and to channelize the migration flow so as to reduce the regional disparity and to achieve balanced regional development suggests to plan and develop strategic nodes and clusters which acts as counter magnet to mother city.

All the three awards were distributed by Smt. Y. Srilakshmi, IAS, Principal Secretary, Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Andhra Pradesh,



Smt. Y. Srilakshmi, IAS, Principal Secretary, Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Andhra Pradesh, awarding 1st prize to Sayali Sonawane



Smt. Y. Srilakshmi, IAS, Principal Secretary, Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Andhra Pradesh, awarding 2nd prize to Palak Passi

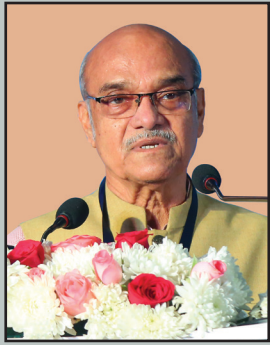


Smt. Y. Srilakshmi, IAS, Principal Secretary, Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Andhra Pradesh, awarding 3rd prize to Harshitha N.

Pradesh, who was the Chief Guest in Valedictory Session of the 69 National Town and Country Planners Conference held at Visakhapatnam.



Institute of Town  
Planners, India



**Prof. Dr. D. S. Meshram,**  
President Emeritus  
ITPI, Guest of Honour  
in Valedictory Session,  
addressing the delegates

## PROF. DR. D. S. MESHAM NATIONAL BEST THESIS AWARD, 2020 (for Undergraduate Students of Planning)



Prof. Dr. D. S. Meshram, President Emeritus ITPI awarding 1st prize to Anirudh Ray, from School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi

On the demand of undergraduate students from various planning schools and institutions who could not compete for Prof. V. N. Prasad National Best Thesis Award, which was generally claimed by postgraduate students, the ITPI Council (2014-2015) instituted the National Award for Best Thesis for undergraduate students comprising of a Certificate and cash prize of Rs. 30,000, as first prize and second prize comprises of Rs. 20,000 and a certificate of merit. The awards are to be distributed in the Valedictory Session of NTCP Conference for which to and fro air tickets and modest accommodation will be provided by the ITPI.

However, taking into account the contribution of Prof. Dr. D. S. Meshram, President Emeritus ITPI, not only in town and country planning profession but also in planning education, specifically initiating the action for starting undergraduate program in town and country planning education in the country in the year 1987 and also making efforts to start four schools of planning in the country by taking up the matter with the Ministry of Human Resource Development, and following it vigorously by preparing DPR for Ministry of Human Resource Development and making presentation to erstwhile Planning Commission of India, resulting into starting of two schools of planning one at Bhopal and other at Vijayawada.

Prof. Dr. Meshram has also taken initiatives for preparation of Urban Development Plan Formulation

and Implementation (UDPMI) Guidelines by ITPI for the then Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India. Accordingly, it was decided by the Council that the title of this award should be 'Prof. Dr. D. S. Meshram National Best Thesis Award' for undergraduate students.

Nominees are required to make a presentation before a Jury comprising of senior professionals and academicians for selecting entries. The Jury for Prof. Dr. D. S. Meshram National Best Thesis Award 2020 recommended following entries:

**The First Prize** was awarded to Anirudh Ray from School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi, for the thesis titled as 'Planning for EV Charging Infrastructure in Indian Cities: A Case Study of Surat, Gujarat'

**The Second Prize** was awarded to Akhilesh Singh Shisodia from School of Planning and Architecture, Bhopal for the thesis titled as 'Unlocking Underground Real Estate: A Case of Connaught Place, New Delhi', however, it was not possible for him to be present on this occasion.

Prof. Dr. D. S. Meshram, President Emeritus ITPI who was the Guest of Honour during Valedictory Session of the 69 National Town and Country Planners Conference awarded the first prize to Anirudh Ray.