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FROM THE DESK OF CHIEF EDITOR

Dr. Nishith Rai, Director

“Urbanization is a process of population concentration.”- H.T. Eldridge (Woude, Hayami, & Vries, 1995). The term urbanization is often used loosely as synonymous to development. It denotes the proportion of the country that has urbanized. There are various factors that can play a role in deciding the urban growth or lack of it in a country. These factors could be geographical, historical, economical and many more as they influence the rate of urbanization. Post-Independence India begun to witness significant growth in urban areas. Lack of employment opportunities in rural areas and income disparities between urban and rural areas, a greater concentration of infrastructural resources in urban areas and attraction of the city life were some of the major causes of greater migration towards urban areas from the rural regions (Solanki, 2011). India along with China is at present the fastest growing economy and even though the majority of its population still lives in rural areas but it's increasingly becoming urban. In India, the urban population is growing at an average rate of three percent per annum (Kadi, Halingali, & Ravi Shankar, 2012) and is expected to be 39.8% of its population by 2030 (United Nations, 2012).

Even though urban growth is a significant indicator of the rising status of India from a poor underdeveloped nation to a rising power, there are an enormous number of problems that the country faces which are very important for it to overcome. The existing infrastructure finds itself short of meeting the demands due to unplanned urbanization. The displacement of the work force from a still predominantly rural economy has led to serious distress in the delicate balance of the economic fabric of India (Kundu, 2007). The urban areas which have to absorb the migrating workforce find itself unable to provide employment, access to land, basic amenities etc. The increase in urban population has brought a significant burden on the existing resources that have led to rising in the size of slums. There is a real and looming problem of providing adequate services like sanitation, clean drinking water for all, affordable and better health care services, transportation, housing, sewage, waste management etc. for this ever-increasing populace. There is also the problem of regionally unbalanced urbanization as the population distribution is not uniform and there exists pockets of overcrowded slums or other unplanned housing areas. The people who live in these areas seldom benefit from the proximity to the infrastructural resources which are barely able to cope with the increased demand on them (Kundu, 2007).

The growth of unregulated slums has led to significant problems, for example,



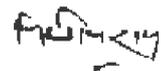
there exists uneven distribution of water in urban areas where for example in cities like Ahmedabad and Kolkata 25% of the population consumes 90% of water being supplied and the 75% of population that lives largely in slums are forced to do with the remaining 10% of water (Kadi et al., 2012). There is also a significant level of contamination of water with contaminants like Fluoride, Salt, Iron, Arsenic and Nitrate which are released untreated into the water bodies by factories and causes serious health hazards to the people (Kadi et al., 2012).

The Indian Government is sensitive and concerned towards the enormity of the problem and has initiated significant schemes and programs that can provide some relief in this area. However, the need of the hour is an all-around concentrated effort of all areas that have a stake in this from real estate to health sector to sit together and find sustainable solutions to the problems. The above-mentioned concerns barely touch upon the enormous problems of unplanned urbanization in India but what is important is to do something however small the step is.

The contribution to this end is also done by the experts, researchers, academicians, etc. in the field of Urban Development with whose support we at RCUES Lucknow bring out the Biannual Journal Urban Panorama. The journal presents the refereed results of original scientific research, and new developments in policy and practice in the fields of housing, spatial planning, building and urban development.

The aim is to give exposure to recent developments, providing a forum for the exchange and discussion of new ideas. The journal benefits a diverse readership of scientists, specialists, practitioners and policy-makers in government and in organizations dealing with housing and urban issues.

Lucknow
June, 2017



Dr. Nishith Rai
Director



FROM THE DESK OF EDITOR

The Journal Urban Panorama aims to provide an effective means for the exchange of research findings, ideas and information in the fields of urban development and environment among researchers, activists and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) international agency staff, students and teachers.

With every new issue of Urban Panorama, we focus on newer areas of urban and environmental issues and their interconnections. In this issue, we have a bouquet of articles by experts and researchers in the field of urban governance and management.

In this issue of Urban Panorama, Dr Rambooshan Tiwari in his paper titled, 'Critical Evaluation of SWOT Analysis of Jabalpur City Made in Smart City Project Proposal' attempts quantitative and qualitative analyses of the various indicators discussed under SWOT analysis. The only aim of the paper is to analyse those variables and indicators that were used during the SWOT analysis of Jabalpur city in the project proposal.

Dr Janki Prasad in his paper titled- 'Patterns and Trends of Urbanization in Jhansi District, Uttar Pradesh' attempts to study urban pattern and the trends of urbanization in the district of Jhansi. It focuses on the distribution of urban areas and class wise urban population in the district and compares the trend of urbanization of the district, the state and the nation. It also explores various factors and processes which are undergoing the urbanization in the study area.

Prof Indrasen Singh in his paper titled- 'Imperative of Safety Audit for Public Transportation - A case study' describes the role of recent urban public transportation system in the city of Ludhiana. The main objective of this study is to interview the people using the public transportation in Ludhiana city with the help of the questionnaire and analyze their responses and suggest the suitable measures to reduce the road accidents in Ludhiana city. In this study, an attempt has been made to audit the safety issues of public transportation in detail in Ludhiana city and to identify the actual factors which are responsible for accidents and their relative contribution to safety of public transportation.

Taran Prakash Sinha and Sanjib Kumar Jha, in their joint paper titled- 'Municipal Finance and Resource Mobilization in Chhattisgarh' attempts to address some of the challenges that the urban local bodies face with regard to revenue generation and highlights the dependency of the urban local bodies on state government. The article attempts to analyze various sources of municipal finance in



India and in particular that of Chhattisgarh. The main findings suggest that the urban local bodies face the problems of inadequate revenue generation and a wide gap between revenue collection and demand. The article also attempts to provide suggestions and recommendations for increasing municipal revenue to cope with these challenges.

Dhaarna and Anurima Mukherjee Basu in their joint paper titled 'Municipal Governance: A Study of Small and Medium towns of Uttar Pradesh' aims at evaluating the performance of Municipal governance of small and medium towns of Uttar Pradesh, with a special focus on functional and financing aspects.

Dr K. Baby in her paper titled- 'Urban Sanitation and Waste Water Management- The Ways and Means' highlights issues of sewage overload and a shortage of water owing it to the two major problems faced by India, lack of infrastructure and an ever-increasing urban population. The paper attempts to study the implications estimated by 2050 that more than 50 percent of the country's population will live in cities and towns and thus the demand for infrastructure facilities is expected to rise sharply, posing a challenge to urban planners and policymakers.

Prajakta Shinde in her paper titled- 'Understanding Land-Use Change Policies and Impacts: Case of Pimpri Chinchwad, Maharashtra' aims to understand policies facilitating land-use change and the impacts of the same. The study addresses the main questions regarding what the current institutional policies governing land-use changes were and their framework and functioning and what environmental and socio-economic impacts follow these land-use changes.

Dr Lal Krishna Mishra in his paper titled- 'Approaches to Urban Planning' discusses and highlights how urban planning approaches could be implemented to remove the problems of cities and help them reach an ideal situation.

It is expected that the readers at large will be benefitted by the content and new presentation of the journal. Urban Panorama has achieved the present status due to all round support from our authors, referees, members of Editorial & Advisory Board of the journal and also time to time guidance and suggestions from the officials of the Ministry of Urban Development, Govt. of India, New Delhi, and of course the readers.

I am sure joint efforts of all of us will make our task easier to achieve the heights of new successes in the field of Urban Development education and research through such publications.

Lucknow
June, 2017



Rachna Rishi
Publication Officer



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Nishith Rai



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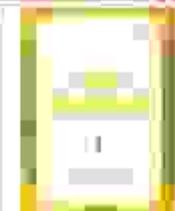
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