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Release of the Souvenir: TPr. Anoop Kumar Srivastava, Vice- President, Institute of Town Planners, India, Dr. Indramani Tripathi, Vice-Chairman, Lucknow Development Authority, Shri Nitin Ramesh Gokarn (IAS), Additional Chief Secretary, Housing and Urban Planning Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh Shri Durga Shankar Mishra (IAS), Chief Secretary, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Keshav Varma (IAS, Retired), Chairman, High Level Committee on Urban Planning, Government of India and Advisor, Urban Development, Government of Uttar Pradesh, TPr. N. K. Patel, President, Institute of Town Planners, India, New Delhi, TPr. V. P. Kulshrestha, Secretary General, Institute of Town Planners, India, TPr. Pradeep Kapoor, Coordinator (Techno Admin), Institute of Town Planners, India, New Delhi [Left to Right]

72ND NATIONAL TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNERS CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND RESILIENT SPATIAL PLANNING APPROACHES

Shri Durga Shankar Mishra (IAS), Chief Secretary, Govt of Uttar Pradesh was the Chief Guest at the 72nd National Town and Country Planners Conference

held on 5th January 2024 at the Centrum Hotel, Lucknow. In his inaugural address, he highlighted the importance of the theme of discussion on Climate



Change and Resilient Spatial Planning Approaches which are very important in today's context. He pointed out that lot of effects of climate change are being seen in terms of flooding, heat waves, changing weather conditions, etc. in the cities. He emphasized that climate sensitive urban planning needs to be ensured so that all these changes are integrated in the planning process. He referred to COP 26 held at Glasgow where Honourable Prime Minister set the target to achieve net zero emission by 2070 in India.

He elaborated on various tasks to achieve the target even before time and for which the changes in approach are required in various sectors including city planning and urban transport, E-buses numbering about 700 plying in UP towns are worth mentioning in this regard. Similar changes are required in energy consumption from fossil fuels to non-fossil fuels. Construction technology is also to be improved, and waste management, as part of Swachh Bharat Mission, will require making use of waste as a resource. In this context he highlighted the role of town planners for designing and planning the climate resilient cities. He stressed that green spaces and the parks need to be provided adequately as per the standards. He cited that we may take lessons from our old civilizations like Mohenjo-daro and Harappa, which were climate sensitive settlements. There is a lot of scope to increase the green spaces in the cities

while doing retro-fitting and re-development. He also mentioned about the importance of sponge city, water security and increasing the water table in the urban areas through planning techniques. He pointed that the vertical development in the cities can provide a scope for more green areas in the city. Planning of cities has to be energy and water sensitive. He suggested that town planners may work as think-tank and take up some action plans to make the cities resilient to climate change for wider reference and replication. Institute of Town Planners India is entering in Amritkal. It has to showcase all these approaches for wider dissemination particularly when urban population is expected to be doubled by the mid of this century.

Earlier he released the Souvenir and Books written by the planners brought out by the Institute of Town Planner on the occasion. After the inaugural address, he also inaugurated the exhibition organised by Institute of Town Planners, as a part of the conference. Inaugural session was also graced by Dr. Indramani Tripathi, Vice-Chairman, Lucknow Development Authority, Shri Nitin Ramesh Gokarn (IAS), Additional Chief Secretary, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh as special guest and Shri Keshav Varma (IAS, Retired), Chairman, High Level Committee on Urban Planning, Govt. of India and Advisor Urban Development Govt. of Uttar Pradesh as the Guest of Honour.



Inauguration of Exhibition: Shri Nitin Ramesh Gokarn (IAS), Additional Chief Secretary, Housing and Urban Planning Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh, TPr. N. K. Patel, President, Institute of Town Planners, India, New Delhi, Shri Keshav Varma (IAS, Retired), Chairman, High Level Committee on Urban Planning, Government of India and Advisor, Urban Development, Government of Uttar Pradesh and Council Members of ITPI.

In his address Shri Nitin Ramesh Gokarn mentioned that urban areas are responsible for climate change historically as well as in today's context. Our major urban centres like Lucknow, Delhi, Surat, Bengaluru, etc. are along the rivers/ water bodies and all these rivers are maintained well religiously but the situation has changed now. From drinking tap water directly we have now shifted to plastic bottles and our lifestyle is mostly based on air conditioners, so with our consumption and lifestyle we are equally responsible for damaging our environment. We have to address all these negative externalities and coordinate as well as integrate all these changes in the action plan. In Uttar Pradesh, we have worked out Urban Heat Island Policy which stresses on core issues. The time is so that we should focus on the action oriented policies and plans.

Shri Keshav Varma highlighted that Lucknow city provides lot of opportunities for our guidance for the future planning. He pointed out that urbanization is the defining phenomena of 21st century. While moving towards 75 percent urbanization level we should see that urban chaos is not created. As on date, we have about 8000 towns and we have to think in terms of its regional context taking into consideration the water bodies, green areas and slope in the cities. He emphasised that the need is to catalyse economic development through well planned cities. We should clearly mark the contours and water channels in the Master Plans, so as to identify which are the more flood prone areas and suggest the measures for avoiding such situations. He stressed on 5 pillars of urban planning and development including harnessing the economic potentials in the city, governance and improving liveability, competitiveness in economic growth of cities, resource mobilisation and bankability. He quoted one of the best examples as Sabarmati River Front developed by Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation. Highlighting the major recommendations of the High Level Committee, chaired by him, he stressed that the need is to raise the stature of urban planning, profess micro-level planning, leverage economic geography and produce good quality area plans. He also suggested that we have to have a balance between new development and the brown field development. He indicated that report of High Level Committee also suggested for creating All India Urban Planning Service and National Urban

and Regional Planning Authority like Singapore. We have to see that the great cities are the expressions of the people living there and our objective should meet their aspirations.

In this session, TPr. V. P. Kulshrestha Secretary General, ITPI, New Delhi read the messages from VIPs and dignitaries from the Central and State Government wishing for successful organisation of the conference.

TPr. N. K. Patel, President, ITPI, New Delhi addressed the gathering and presented a detailed account of conference activities and its objectives including theme of discussion to be held during the next three days of the conference. He mentioned that Institute of Town Planners, India was established in 1951 as the premium institution of qualified urban Planners in the country with the vision "To promote dynamic, inclusive and integrated Town and Country Planning practice, education, research and institutional mechanism for vibrant, sustainable and resilient spatio-economic development of towns, cities and regions." As on date, this professional body has more than 8500 qualified urban planners registered with it. ITPI promotes planning education and profession across the country through its 24 Regional Chapters and 8 Regional Centres. This year ITPI has created various forums to undertake the research programs such as climate change, water management and heritage conservation which are critical areas of research in the field of urban planning and management, which directly affect the common men. Research wing has already been established for this purpose. ITPI also plans to expand such research activities across the country through its regional chapters and centres. ITPI is the second largest constituent that has played important role in the capacity of Vice President and Member of Trustees on International Forums like Commonwealth Association of Planners (CAP). It has also joined hands with the SAARC countries like Bangladesh and Sri Lanka to promote urban planning practices.

The main theme of the 72nd National Town and Country Planning (NTCP) Conference was 'Climatic Change and Resilient Spatial Planning Approach'. This overarching theme encompasses a variety of sub-themes, such as strategies to mitigate the urban heat island effect, innovative zoning and development practices to foster resilient



cities nationwide, and the utilization of circular economy principles to achieve net-zero emission. Additionally, a local theme focusing on Urban Flood Resilience through Spatial Planning in Uttar Pradesh was included to give importance to local issues in the conference.

He said that theme of the conference holds profound relevance in the current global context, as the entire world grapples with the severe and detrimental effects of climate change. The concern extends beyond town planners to professionals in diverse fields who are increasingly alarmed by the adverse impacts.

He highlighted that the NTCP Conference of ITPI has received an overwhelming response, as it has received 72 research papers addressing climate change related issues indicating a deep interest from scholarly community. The conference had a scholarly presentation from 20 experts in the field in five technical sessions covering a broad spectrum of topics within the theme. A remarkable participation of over 400 delegates is expected in the 72nd NTCP Conference. This conference serves as a unique platform for the exchange of ideas, strategies, and insights to address the challenges posed by climate change through resilient spatial planning.

Climate change is propelled by human-induced factors disrupting earth's natural systems. Daily occurrences of extreme weather, ecosystem disruptions, rising temperatures, and sea level increase provide consistent evidence of the earth's changing climate. Since 1880, the average global temperature has increased by approximately 1 degree Celsius, with projections indicating a potential warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius by 2050 and a range of 2-4 degrees Celsius by 2100. While a 1-degree change might seem modest, its adverse impact on the planet will be substantial.

Human activities such as deforestation, transportation, and industrial processes have unleashed potent greenhouse gases, contributing to hotter temperatures, more severe storms, increased drought, species loss, food scarcity, health risks, poverty, and displacement. In the summer of 2023, the United Nations Secretary declared a pivotal moment in the climate crisis, stating that the era of global warming had concluded, marking the world's entry into an era of global boiling. This declaration came as July 2023 was recognized as the hottest

month in the past 120,000 years, underscoring the severity of the ongoing climate changes.

Inequitable development between the global North and South is a key driver of climate change. The Industrial Revolution, initiated by countries in the Global North through the burning of coal and gases, set off a chain effect of carbon emissions. Despite the economic gains reaped by these nations, the consequences have been disastrous for the climate. The privileged lifestyles in Europe, North America, and other Global North countries collectively produce a carbon footprint 100 times greater than that of all the world's poor nations combined.

In the ongoing discourse on the environment and development, it is crucial to shift the focus towards equitable development. Both developed and developing nations must engage in collaborative efforts to mitigate the impacts of climate change and work towards a more sustainable global future.

India, ranking as the world's fourth-largest emitter of carbon dioxide in 2017 after China, the US, and the EU, presents an interesting case. While total emissions are significant, a per capita perspective reveals a different story. In 2019, India emitted 1.9 tonnes of CO₂ per head of population, significantly lower than the 15.5 tonnes for the US and 12.5 tonnes for Russia in the same year. India's large population means that its emissions per capita are much lower than other major world economies. However, it is imperative to note that the country's energy landscape heavily relies on coal, with over 50 percent of its electricity generated from this source. India faces the challenge of balancing its energy needs while transitioning toward cleaner and more sustainable energy sources.

India has demonstrated a significant commitment to addressing climate change during the 26th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Glasgow. The country has outlined distinguished commitments with specific scopes and timelines, reflecting its dedication to tackling the global climate crisis like enhancing non-fossil electricity generation capacity to 500 GW by 2030. Embracing Renewable Energy with an eye toward a greener future, India aims to fulfil 50 percent of its energy requirements from renewable sources by 2030. Mitigating

Carbon Emissions. India has made a significant commitment to the global fight against climate change by pledging to reduce its total projected carbon emissions by one billion tons from 2021 to 2030. Decreasing Carbon Intensity. India is actively working towards a lower environmental impact by targeting a 45 percent reduction in its economy's carbon intensity by 2030, compared to the levels observed in 2005. Striving for Net-Zero Carbon Emission, in a bold and forward-thinking move, India has set a target to achieve Net-Zero Carbon emissions by the year 2070.

As regards urban planning and design as climate change solutions he pointed out that town planners play a pivotal role in designing and organizing urban spaces to enhance resilience against climate change impacts. Their thoughtful consideration includes measures such as ensuring critical infrastructure like water supply and drainage systems are designed to withstand extreme weather events, fostering overall urban resilience. Sustainable transportation like planning for improved connectivity, complete network and streets, transit-oriented development, and a transition to green mobility to promote eco-friendly transportation options, energy-efficient building design by encouraging the use of green building techniques, energy-efficient technologies, and environment-friendly construction materials to reduce energy consumption in urban areas.

In conclusion, the commitment of nations like India to climate action, combined with the strategic role of urban planning and design, contributes significantly to the global effort to address climate change and build a sustainable future. The application of smart growth principles in town planning is crucial for prioritizing compactness, eco-friendly materials, and mixed land-use developments. Compact designs not only foster a sense of community but also substantially reduce reliance on transportation, leading to a notable decrease in carbon emissions. This principle aligns with the overarching objective of crafting urban spaces that are not only environmentally conscious but also highly efficient.

Critical infrastructure, such as water supply and drainage systems, play a pivotal role in the overall resilience of urban environments to climate change. Town planners must ensure these infrastructural elements are designed to

withstand extreme weather events like floods and heat stress. This involves incorporating resilient features and technologies into the planning and construction of infrastructure, minimizing damage and ensuring continuous functionality during climate-related challenges.

Achieving sustainable transportation requires careful planning, improved connectivity, and enhanced accessibility. Measures such as complete networks and streets, transit-oriented development, and transitioning to green mobility are instrumental. Complete networks and streets prioritize not just vehicles but also the needs of pedestrians, cyclists, and public transit users, making urban areas more walkable and inclusive. Transitioning to electric or low-emission vehicles further promotes clean transportation, thereby reducing the carbon footprint.

Promoting energy-efficient building designs and sustainable construction practices is a key climate mitigation measure. Town planners must actively encourage the incorporation of green building techniques, energy-efficient technologies, and environment-friendly construction materials. This will result in a significant reduction in energy consumption within urban areas, contributing to lower greenhouse gas emissions associated with both construction and operation of buildings.

Town planners play a pivotal role in implementing various mitigation strategies, such as Green Building and Green Credit programs. These initiatives incentivize developers and businesses to adopt environmentally friendly practices, fostering a shift toward sustainable and eco-conscious urban development. Through incentives like tax credits, planners contribute to the overall reduction of the environmental impact of urban areas.

In response to climate change challenges, cities worldwide adopt innovative adaptation strategies to enhance urban resilience. Concepts like sponge cities, focusing on efficient water management through permeable surfaces and green infrastructure, are integrated into planning efforts. Water-sensitive design bylaws and the incorporation of green walls and cool roofing systems contribute to mitigating urban heat island effects.

An essential aspect of climate-resilient urban planning involves developing zoning regulations



that consider climate vulnerabilities. Town planners integrate measures into zoning codes anticipating and adapting to changing weather patterns and potential sea-level rise. This forward-thinking approach ensures that urban areas are designed to withstand the long-term impacts of climate change, aligning with the broader goal of creating sustainable and climate-resilient urban landscapes.

Effective floodplain management strategies reduce the risk of flooding in vulnerable areas, protecting communities from climate-related disasters. This involves careful consideration of land use in flood-prone areas, implementing stormwater management systems, and creating green spaces that act as natural buffers. Incorporating these strategies into urban planning contributes to minimizing the impact of extreme weather events, enhancing the safety and resilience of urban communities.

Formulating climate-responsive building bylaws, codes, and design standards ensures the long-term resilience of urban structures. Town planners incorporate climate projections into building regulations, ensuring structures are designed and constructed to withstand future environmental changes. This includes considerations for increased temperatures, extreme weather events, and other climate-related challenges, creating urban environments that are adaptable and resilient to face the changing climate.

Through strategic initiatives and equitable urban planning, town planners significantly contribute to fostering sustainable, resilient, and climate-aware urban environments. Their role extends beyond physical infrastructure to encompass community well-being, resource distribution, and overcoming the global challenge of climate change through both mitigation and adaptation. This comprehensive approach aligns with the broader goal of creating cities that are not only environmentally conscious but also socially equitable and resilient in the face of a changing climate.

He stated that the conference will provide a platform for experts to delve into the subject extensively and we will have meaningful discussions and deliberations during the 72nd NTCP conference.

In the **Inaugural Session**, welcome address was delivered by Shri Anoop Kumar Srivastava, Vice President, Institute of Town Planners, India, New

Delhi. Shri Anil Kumar Mishra, Chief Town and Country Planner, Uttar Pradesh also addressed the gathering highlighting the type of work being handled by the State Town and Country Planning Department. Shri Pradeep Kapoor, Coordinator (Techno Admin), Institute of Town Planners, India, New Delhi, proposed the vote of thanks.

The Conference was structured into one Plenary Session, four Technical Sessions and Valedictory Session at the end last day on 7th January 2024. A field visit was arranged by the organisers of the conference for the delegates and participants. They were taken around the city to show historical monuments in Lucknow and also to some of live urban development projects being implemented by Lucknow Development Authority and other agencies.

The Plenary Session focused on 'Climate Change and Resilient Spatial Planning Approaches'. The session was chaired by Shri Keshav Varma (IAS, Retired), Chairman, High Level Committee on Urban Planning, Govt. of India and Advisor, Urban Development, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh.

Shri Nitin Ramesh Gokarn (IAS), Additional Chief Secretary, Housing and Urban Planning Department, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh was the Guest of Honour. Four eminent speakers namely Prof. Dr. Sanjeev Vidyarthi, Professor and Department Head, University of Illinois, Chicago, USA (online), Prof. Dr. N. Sridharan, Professor and Former Director, School of Planning and Architecture, Bhopal and Vijaywada, TPr. Ravi Kumar Reddy, Chief Scientist, Lifecrypt, Hyderabad, and Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Lohia, OSD Ex Officio Joint Secy (Urban Transport), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, New Delhi, Govt. of India made presentation physically in the session. TPr. Prabhjit Singh Dhillon, District Town Planner, Town and Country Planning Department, Government of Punjab was the Rapporteur. The session was very lively and interactive. After deliberations the following important recommendations emerged:

- Effect of climate change seen in terms of urban flooding, urban heat islands, changing weather conditions etc. needs to be analysed rationally, objectively, and considering the ground realities at local level, resilient spatial plans at city, and regional level be evolved.
- Climate sensitive and climate responsive approaches should be made integral part of the urban planning development and management



Plenary Session: Chairperson- Shri Keshav Varma (IAS), Chairman, High Level Committee on Urban Planning, Govt. of India and Advisor, Urban Development, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Ms. Roshan Jacob (IAS), Divisional Commissioner, Lucknow Speakers, - Prof. Dr. N. Sridharan, Professor and Former Director, School of Planning and Architecture Bhopal and Vijaywada, TPr. Ravi Kumar Reddy, Chief Scientist, Lifencrypt, Hyderabad, Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Lohia, Former Director, Urban Transport, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, New Delhi, TPr. Prabhjit Singh Dhillon, District Town Planner, Government of Punjab (Rapporteur).

process in order to make cities, liveable, productive and sustainable.

- In order to achieve the set target of Net Zero Emissions by 2070 in India, planning efforts are also to be geared up substantially towards decarbonisation, change in energy consumption pattern, enhancement of use of public transport, recycle and re-use of resources as part of circular economy and innovations in planning techniques.
- For planning and designing of climate resilient cities and mitigating the heat island effects in the urban areas, adequate open and green spaces on the prescribed norms and standards should be made integral part of city planning and development process.
- For achieving urban sustainability goals/targets defined in SDG 11. The concepts of sponge city, water sensitive planning, energy efficient building design, smart growth principles, sustainable transport, and climate resilient building codes are required to be embedded as an integral part of the city planning and development process.

Technical Session I on ‘Strategies to Moderate the Urban Heat Island Effects’ was chaired by Ms. Anumita Roy Chowdhary, Executive Director, Research and Advocacy, Centre of Science and Environment, New Delhi. Shri Ranveer Prasad

(IAS), Secretary, Housing and Urban Planning Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh was the Guest of Honour in the session. Key Speakers in the session were TPr. S. Devendra Reddy, Director of Town and Country Planning Government of Telangana, TPr. Shirish Mahendru Technical Advisor, Sustainable Mobility - Clean Fuels - SUM - ACA (GIZ India), Dr. Rajshree Kotharkar, Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology, Nagpur and Shri Ashish Tiwari, Secretary, Department of Environment Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Dr. Ajay Kumar, Asst. Professor, National Institute of technology, Patna acted on Rapporteur in the seminar. After the discussions, concerns emerged as the following important recommendations:

- Harnessing the economic potentials and resource mobilization through land value capture must be leveraged for providing basic infrastructure, empowering poor, improving livability, and environmental sustainability in the cities.
- In city planning process, public and private goods are taken care of by the respective agencies. For promoting common goods including disaster mitigation, air quality control, water conservation etc. due attention needs to be given to make the cities climate change resilient based on collective efforts by all stakeholders and by initiating the appropriate



Technical Session I: Chairperson- Ms. Anumita Roy Chowdhury, Executive Director, Research and Advocacy, Centre of Science and Environment, New Delhi, Speakers- TPr. S. Devendra Reddy, Director, Town and Country Planning Government of Telangana, TPr. Shirish Mahendru, Technical Advisor, Sustainable Mobility - Clean Fuels - SUM - ACA (GIZ India), New Delhi, Dr. Rajshree Kotharkar, Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology, Nagpur and Shri Ashish Tiwari, Secretary, Department of Environment Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Dr. Ajay Kumar, Asst. Professor, National Institute of technology, Patna (Rapporteur). [Right to Left]

movements by involving professional institutes like ITPI.

- Considering the transition stage of urban system, efforts needs to be made for rapid infrastructure expansion in advance in the cities and also preparing Regional Plans for the fast growing urban regions.
- In the Missions like Smart Cities, AMRUT etc. Spatial Strategy Plans should be incorporated for social inclusions.
- Cool Roof Policy 2023 formulated by Telangana Government may be used as reference by other states and cities to meet the impact of extreme heat island in the urban areas to make them energy efficient.
- Form Based Code formulated for the development of traffic nodes needs to be adopted for rationalizing the urban design and for promoting the planned growth of cities besides leveraging it as a resource for financing infrastructure and urban development.
- Micro Climatic Zone needs to be identified in the city for preparing effective Heat Action Plan at the city level to achieve the agenda for net zero carbon cities.
- SOP should be developed for green infrastructure and preparing of heat islands maps at local level besides evolving a Comprehensive City

Environment Code for taking case of air pollution and urban heat island effect.

Technical Session II delved on 'Circular Economy for Net-Zero Cities'. It was chaired by Prof. Amitabh Kundu, Former Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi and Shri Keshav Varma (IAS, Retired), Chairman, High Level Committee on Urban Planning, Government of India and Advisor, Urban Development, Government of Uttar Pradesh was the Guest of Honour. Key Speakers in the session were TPr. Jit Kumar Gupta, Former Advisor (Town Planning), Punjab Urban Planning and Development Authority, Mohali (Punjab), TPr. Rajneesh Sareen, Program Director, Sustainable Habitat Programme, Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi, Dr. Kusum Lata, Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi and Mr. Jignesh Mehta, Sr. Associate Professor and Program Chair for NUP, CEPT, TPr. Parag Yelne, Urban Planner was the Rapporteur in the session. After detailed discussion the following important recommendations were suggested:

- Ecosystem Based Approach be followed in managing the Construction and Demolition Waste as part of the circular economy. Cradle to cradle approach needs to be adopted for waste management by treating waste as resource through recycling and re-use.



Technical Session II: Chairperson- Prof. Amitabh Kundu, Former Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, Speakers- TPr. Jit Kumar Gupta, Former Advisor (Town Planning), Punjab Urban Planning and Development Authority, Mohali (Punjab), TPr. Rajneesh Sareen, Program Director, Sustainable Habitat Programme, Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi, Dr. Kusum Lata, Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi, and Mr. Jignesh Mehta, Sr. Associate Professor and Program Chair for NUP, CEPT, Ahmedabad, Dr. R. K. Udayan, Council Member, ITPI, New Delhi, TPr. Parag Yelne, Urban Planner (Rapporteur).

Policy on Construction and Demolition Waste Management formulated by Govt. of Jharkhand could be considered as example by other states for formulating Construction and Demolition Waste Management Policies.

- Various government initiatives like 15th Finance Commission funding under National Clean Air Plan, Swachh Sarvekshan should be leverage for creating and enabling funding and institutional environment.
- Considering the role, relevance and importance of Local Area Planning as an integral part of multi layered planning should be considered and adopted for improving quality of life and urban infrastructure.
- Making optimum use of the existing land resource in a better way will be critical for strengthening the existing infrastructure as well as for improving the quality of life.
- Achieving Net Zero Cities requires a paradigm shift as to how we design, develop, and manage our urban spaces. Moving away from traditional models based on fossil fuels and car-centric infrastructure should be considered for achieving sustainability and equitable future.
- While journey to Net Zero Cities is long and complex but essential for achieving sustainability and improving liveability in urban areas.

Technical Session III was devoted to 'Innovative Zoning and Development Promotions for Resilient Cities'. It was chaired by Prof. Dr. N. Sridharan, Professor and Former Director, School of Planning and Architecture, Bhopal and Vijaywada and Dr. Indramani Tripathi (IAS), Vice Chairman, Lucknow Development Authority, was the Guest of Honour. TPr. Rajesh P. N., Addl. Chief Town Planner, Local Self Government Department, Government of Kerala and TPr. R. Srinivas, Former Town and Country Planner, Town and Country Planning Organization, New Delhi were the key speakers to make the presentation in the session. Dr. P. Jayapal, Former Senior Executive Director (Projects), Housing and Urban Development Corporation, New Delhi spoke online. Dr. Indrani Dhar, Secretary, ITPI-West Bengal Regional Chapter, Kolkata was the Rapporteur in the session. In the end of the deliberations following recommendations emerged:

- For rationalizing the urban development and making cities sustainable, liveable and more productive, all states must come out with the rational, realistic and objective urbanization policy on the patron followed in the National Urbanization Policy.
- For making cities net zero carbon, the option of planning and designing cities dictated by circular economy and using nature and natural



elements of sun, space and greenery should be considered.

- Considering the limited availability of land resource in the country, planning designing and development of cities must be dictated by the principle of optimum and multiple use of urban land including redefining planning norms and standards.
- For rationalizing the traffic and transportation in urban areas, the option of planning cities for people rather than vehicle and promoting accessibility rather than mobility should be adopted as the principle for preparing mobility plans for the city.
- In order to make cities safe, sustainable, cost effective and land efficient, cities must be planned, designed and developed on the analogy of Compact city.
- For achieving the objective of net zero carbon, circular economy should be included and embedded as basic principle of planning, development and management of human settlements.
- Risk Mitigation Master Plan needs to be evolved to make cities safe on the pattern defined by the state of Kerala for urban settlements.

Technical Session IV concentrated on the local theme on 'Urban Flood Resilience through Spatial Planning', which was chaired by Prof. Shiraz A. Wajih, President, Gorakhpur Environment Action Group, Gorakhpur. Shri S. K. Kulshrestha, Urban and Regional Planner, Founder Editor, Spatio-Economic

Development Record, New Delhi was the Guest of Honour for the session. Dr. Saswat Bandopadhyay, Professor Centre for Environmental Planning and Technology, Ahmedabad, Shri Subodh Shankar, Former Chief Architect Planner, Uttar Pradesh Housing and Development Board, Lucknow and Shri Anuj Malhotra, General Manager (PUD), Srinagar Smart City Limited, Srinagar were the key speakers. Dr. S. Rajendhiran, Secretary, ITPI, Tamil Nadu Regional Chapter, Chennai was the Rapporteur in the session. Following important recommendations were made in the session:

- Increasing urban flooding risks need a paradigm shift in urban planning interventions. As part of mitigation measures a holistic plan on the pattern of Chennai Climate Action Plan can be prepared with a focus on mitigation and adaptation strategies highlighting short, medium, and long-term measures based on the feasibility of their implementation temporarily. This issue has to be seen in the regional context rather than merely at the city level in a collaborative and integrated manner.
- With the rapid and massive urbanization the need for effective flood risk management has become more crucial than ever. In order to address the urban flooding problem, the approach should not be reactive rather proactive.
- Traditional approach of structural mitigation or engineering solution for flood risk management can be combined with environmental intervention, sustainable urban planning tools



Technical Session IV: Chairperson- Prof. Shiraz A. Wajih, President, Gorakhpur Environment Action Group, Gorakhpur, Dr. S. K. Kulshrestha, Urban and Regional Planner, Founder Editor, Spatio-Economic Development Record, New Delhi (Guest of Honour), Speakers- Dr. Saswat Bandopadhyay, Professor, Centre for Environmental Planning and Technology, Ahmedabad, TPr. Subodh Shankar, Former Chief Architect Planner, Uttar Pradesh Housing and Development Board, Lucknow.

and land use practices by restricting the constructions in a flood-prone area, channelizing natural drainage system, providing buffer zones along nallahs and rivers through regulatory framework as practiced in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh.

- Provision of Green TDR can be made as applied in Bhopal and Chennai. In fact, the Master Plan of the city should clearly indicate areas unfit for human habitation. Detailed hydrological surveys can be conducted before taking up further urban development projects in urban extension areas. Linear pattern and cluster planning facilitate easy and quick outflow of rainwater.
- Flood risk management can be an integral component of urban development schemes funded by the Government and other funding agencies. The Urban Flooding Management Approach should move from resistance measures to resilient systems by involving the local community and other stakeholders actively.

A Special Session was organised for giving opportunity to Young Planners, who shared their experiences by presenting their thesis and other project works relevant to the theme or sub-theme of the conference.

The session was chaired by TPr. N. K. Patel, President, ITPI, New Delhi. TPr. Akash Jha, Chairman, Young Planners Forum, ITPI New Delhi moderated the presentations in the session.

Presentations in the session were made by TPr. Mitashi Singh, Program Manager, Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi and Ms. Divyanshi Sahu, Research Intern, Centre for Sustainable Habitat, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, Punjab. In addition, presentations were also made by the best thesis awardees. TPr. Roma Marwaha Divisional Town Planner, Department of Urban Planning, Chandigarh Administration was the Rapporteur in the session.

The Valedictory Function chaired by Shri Keshav Varma (IAS, Retired), Chairman, High Level Committee on Urban Planning, Government of India and Advisor, Urban Development, Government of Uttar Pradesh. Welcome address in the session was delivered by Dr. R. K. Udayan, Council Member, ITPI, New Delhi. Important recommendations of the conference were presented by TPr. Anoop

Kumar Srivastava, Vice President, ITPI, New Delhi. Concluding session was addressed by TPr. N. K. Patel, President, ITPI, New Delhi by giving highlights of the conference. It was mentioned that in all, 24 presentations were made by the experts and all the technical sessions were chaired by domain experts. He indicated that this year's conference was in a new format. It was attended by 375 delegates from 22 states. In addition there were 110 online registered delegates also. In the conference, 15 books/ publications namely Urban Conservation and Heritage Management, Housing and Habitat Planning, National Conferences of ITPI: Conclusions and Recommendations over the Sixty Years, SUMO 2020 - Sustainable Urban Mobility: Opportunities and Challenges in Developing Countries, New Technologies of Urban Planning, Transport Infrastructure and Policies, Heritage Governance Rural Infrastructure Livelihoods, Orienting Planning Education inline with NEP 2020 brought out by ITPI and other books namely Service Delivery Process Framework- A Lifecycle Approach by Praful Gharpure, Right or Wrong? Random Thoughts on Architecture and Urban Planning by Prof. Subodh Shankar, Cities of the Future- Breakthrough Innovations That Will Change The Way We Live by Ram Khandelwal, The Great Indian City Life- Poetic Postcards of Joy, Anguish and Hope by Kiran Sandhu, Visuals of Newar (Nepal) by Sakshi Sahni, Janmeet and Jasleen Kaur, Competitive Examinations in Urban/ Regional Planning by Sakshi Sahni, Private Sector Participation in Municipal Solid Waste Management by Kiran Sandhu, Mills to Metropolis- India's Steel Urbanism by N. K. Patel and Human Settlements- A Planning Guide to Beginners by Dr. Kr. Thooyavan were also released. A record submission of 72 technical papers was noted which were compiled digitally in the pen drive and given to all the delegates. The special feature of the conference was organisation of session for young planners in which 4 young planners made presentation of their research work. The conference had wide media coverage in most newspapers and social media platforms. We have compiled major recommendations and presented in this session.

In the **Valedictory Session** citation of best thesis award were presented by TPr. Pradeep Kapoor, Coordinator (Techno Admin), ITPI New Delhi. Valedictory address was delivered by Shri Keshav Varma. He appreciated Pan India



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Valedictory Function: Dr. R. K. Udayan, Council Member, ITPI, New Delhi, TPr. Anoop kumar Srivastava, Vice President, ITPI, New Delhi, TPr. N. K. Patel, President, ITPI, New Delhi, Shri Keshav Varma (IAS, Retired), Chairman, High Level Committee on Urban Planning, Government of India and Advisor, Urban Development, Government of Uttar Pradesh, Dr. Indramani Tripathi, Vice-Chairman, Lucknow Development Authority, TPr. V. P. Kulshrestha, Secretary General, ITPI, New Delhi and TPr. Anil Kumar Mishra, Chief Town and Country Planner, Uttar Pradesh. [Left to Right]

efforts made by ITPI in organising the current conference. It provided a good platform for professional networking and strengthening of urban development activities. The conference developed a good alliance with other expert agencies and professionals involved in urban planning and allied issues. In this session he stressed that new city development and the brown field development to be taken up in a balanced manner. He was of the view that planning should not be taken in social vacuum and aspirations of people need to be well built in the planning process, in real sense the urban economy should drive the plan and the planning process. He also gave National Best Thesis Awards to the award winners.

Graduation

First Prize- Ishween Kaur Viridi, M. Plan (Transport), 2021-23, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, Punjab.

Second Prize- Shreysi Neogi M. Plan (City Planning) IIT Kharagpur

Third Prize- Promiti Mallik M. Plan, NIT Calicut and Rohan Vardhan M. Plan (Transport) School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi.

Under-Graduation

First Prize- Ahana Chatterjee, B. Planning, 2019-23, School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi,

Second Prize- Samridha K., B. Planning, 2019-23, School of Planning and Architecture, Bhopal

Third Prize- Haripriya Kesavan, B. Planning, 2019-23, School of Planning and Architecture, Vijayawada.

In the end vote of thanks was proposed by Shri V. P. Kulshrestha, Secretary General, ITPI, New Delhi and also by Shri Anil Kumar Mishra, Chief Town and Country Planner, Uttar Pradesh.

ITPI-SOUTH ZONE CONFERENCE ON RETROFITTING CITIES FOR CLIMATE CHANGE PLANNING FOR 2050

The Karnataka Regional Chapter of the Institute of Town Planners' India, organized a one-day South Zone Conference on 2nd March, 2024 at Bengaluru. The theme of the conference was 'Retrofitting Cities for Climate Change: Planning for 2050'. The ITPI

Karnataka Chapter opined that 'a huge retrofit for adapting climate change, adaptation and resilience will be demanded by existing towns and cities at all levels, i.e. from ward level to metro regional level to cater the 55 percent urban population of 2050.



Lamp Lighting Ceremony: TPr. Anoop Kumar Srivastava, Vice-President, Institute of Town Planners, India, Dr. L Shashi Kumar, Chairman, Karnataka Regional Chapter, TPr. N. K. Patel, President, Institute of Town Planners, India, Shri Rakesh Singh, Chief Guest, TPr. V. P. Kulshrestha, Secretary General, Institute of Town Planners, India, TPr. Pradeep Kapoor, Coordinator (Techno Admin), Institute of Town Planners, India, TPr. S. B. Honnur, Council Member, Institute of Town Planners, India and TPr. Shankar, Secretary, Karnataka Regional Chapter.

South Zone (consisting of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu and Telangana) continuously faces different disaster challenges: from that of cyclone, floods and waterlogging to draughts and water crisis. Addition to these challenges, retrofitting our existing towns and cities for climate proofing, and making them inclusive, digitalize them for spatial planning proof, and to generate their own resources, especially through fiscal and financial tools for the future urban 2050 are other challenges. There are multi-faceted challenges and opportunities to address climate change in south zone states. The one-day south zone conference was deliberated in four sessions:

1. Urban Past, Present and Future in South Zone States (Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Puducherry, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Telangana);
2. Climate Retrofitting and Empowering Indian Cities 2050;
3. Climate Insulated Cities for the Future with ICT and Finance Options; and
4. Concluding session on various dimensions of climate change that is from technology, mobility, land use, and climate funding.

About 200 participants across South Zone, and also from other Regional Chapters participated in the event.

The Chief Guest of the **Inaugural Session**, Shri Rakesh Singh (IAS), Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka, spoke about the importance of planning and climate change and wishes grate outcomes from the conference. TPr. V. P. Kulshrestha, Secretary General, ITPI, New Delhi welcomed the Chief Guest Shri Rakesh Singh (IAS), TPr. N. K. Patel, President of ITPI, and others in the dais, experts and participants. TPr. Pradeep Kapoor, Coordinator at ITPI, Delhi presented the objectives, role and the importance of ITPI over the years in India. TPr. N. K. Patel, President of ITPI, brought in the importance of planning and also emphasized the importance of various new programmes and the need to build the capacity of planners. TPr. L. Shashi Kumar, Chairperson, ITPI Regional Chapter-Karnataka, highlighted the theme of the Conference and various sessions. TPr. S. B. Honnur, Council Member, ITPI, New Delhi proposed the vote of thanks.

In the **Technical Session I** on 'Urban Past, Present and Future in South Zone States (Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Puducherry, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Telangana)', a panel discussion was organised. The urban-rural differentials between 2001-2011 in India was 1.60 (annual exponential growth rate in percent), which declined from 2.03 in 1971-1981. Against this, the southern states, namely, Andhra Pradesh,



Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and the UT of Puducherry had a differential urban-rural growth, ranging from 2.90 (Andhra Pradesh) to a higher level of 9.56 (Kerala). However, all the southern states had higher percentage of urban population compared to Indian average of 31.1 percent. States like Kerala, Tamil Nadu triggered urbanization through census towns and small towns revealing the density, shift in occupation and in the characteristics of urbanization. Propelled by the presence of road highways, industrial and service sector, higher infrastructure (especially social infrastructure) along with better levels of literacy, and demographic indicators, the southern states are poised for a huge leap for the next decades. This session deliberated on what will be the future urban scenario in these states: what kind of settlement structure is required: and what should be the state urban strategy and urban infrastructure requirements.

The session was chaired by Dr. P. Jayapal, Chief Planning Advisor, CMDA and Former Executive Director of HUDCO. The panel discussion was moderated by Prof. Dr. N. Sridharan and the Rapporteur for the session was Shri Karthik of VTU, Karnataka. The panel discussants were: TPr. J. Vidyulatha, Director, Town and Country Planning, Andhra Pradesh, Prof. Dr. N. N. Sastry, ITPI-Mysuru, TPr. Rajesh P. N., Addl. Chief Town Planner, Local Self Government Department, Government of Kerala and also an Executive Council Member of ITPI, New Delhi, TPr. Rajendhiran, Secretary, ITPI-Tamil Nadu Regional Chapter, TPr. S. Devendra Reddy, Director, Town and Country Planning, Telangana, and TPr. Sridharne, Senior Town Planner, co-ordinator Puducherry Centre of ITPI. Smt. Vidyulatha, highlighted the importance of Andhra Pradesh in terms of disaster occurrence, agricultural regions, and climate change dimensions. She spoke about the Andhra Pradesh Government's efforts in amending the Planning Acts and how it is implementing the various dimensions of climate change resistance aspects in land use planning. Prof. Dr. Sastry, pointed out the importance of settlement structure and regional dimensions of planning to address the climate change issues in Karnataka. He also reiterated the importance of National Urbanisation Commission (NCU) suggestions, the Western Ghats Regional Plan and its policy approach. Shri Rajesh P. N., highlighted the policy initiatives of Kerala Government to address

the climate change issues. He mentioned about the urban - rural continuum and census towns which need to be addressed in the long run. It was noted that Government of Kerala has introduced Climate Change Master Plan from ward to city level and also brought in planning education at school level. TPr. S. Devendra Reddy highlighted the policies of the Telangana Government in terms of energy, heat islands, and about the digital solutions to planning. He emphasized the importance of developing secondary cities in Telangana to address the climate change as only four cities are getting concentrated and their land use getting converted. He also reiterated the need to have settlement structure and addresses some of the issues of climate change. Shri Sridharne, in his deliberation, stated that being surrounded by other South Zone states, Puducherry has constraints to expand in terms of land use, and also exposed to extreme climate events. Puducherry being one of the most urbanized states amongst the southern states, faces challenges between industrialization, land use and climate change. He pointed out that the sea erosion and sea level rise are the important issues that are dominating the land use planning in Puducherry. Shri Rajendhiran, in his discussion, highlighted the settlement structure in Tamil Nadu, and how the TN Government has come out with a settlement policy and Amended its the Town Planning Act. He also emphasized the importance of agricultural diversification, industrialization dimensions, urbanization and climate change. He said that the coastal cities are now being planned to make them resilient to climate change. Dr. P. Jayapal, Chairperson of the session reiterated the importance of integrating climate change in the master plans and some of the cities like Chennai and Kochi are rightly integrating the two. He highlighted the importance of regional planning in addressing floods, rejuvenating water bodies, increasing forest conservation, as done in Western Ghats programme, etc. The main takeaways for this session were: the importance of ULBs and Local Panchayats in climate change adaptation, need for zoning regulations for controlling the city expansion through agricultural belt, addressing special planning for hill areas by each state, and amendments for Town Planning Acts to address climate change.

ITPI- Karnataka Regional Chapter felicitated some of the lifelong achievers in the field of planning from Karnataka. The lifelong achievers: 1) TPr. Galagali, T.N. 2) TPr. Karigowda, S.C. 3) TPr. Raju, B.R.



Felicitation Ceremony of Lifelong Achievers of Karnataka in Planning

4) TPr. Anandagowda, 5) TPr. Nayak, G.J. 6) TPr. Chikkananjayya, and 7) Prof. Dr. Krishnagowda were honoured in Karnataka cultural tradition with head gear, garland and shawl. TPr. N. K. Patel, TPr. Anoop Srivatsav, Vice-President-ITPI, TPr. Shashi Kumar, Chairperson, ITPI-Karnataka Regional Chapter, TPr. Honnur, Shri Pradeep Kapoor and other leading Executive Council members honoured the lifelong achievers and thanked them for their untiring work towards planning.

The **Technical Session II** on 'Climate Retrofitting and Empowering Indian Cities-2050' was Chaired by Dr. V. Thirupughazh (IAS, Retired), Adviser, Government of Tamil Nadu for Disaster Management. Dr. V. Thirupughazh in his initiating statement highlighting the importance of climate retrofitting in every Indian city. He highlighted the successful cases of climate change in Bhuj disaster, Tsunami in Eastern coasts and how best Indian planners can learn from these experiences. The expert presenters were from the field of disaster mitigation: Dr. Amir Ali Khan (from NIDM, Delhi), Dr. Rajarshi (IISc, Bengaluru); Gender and Vulnerability: Shri Appala Naidu (The Hindu and Ashoka Fellow), and TPr. Geetha (Jt. Director, TP, Karnataka). Dr. Amir Ali Khan in his presentation pointed out the ill-effects of bad planning on floods, inundation in Delhi, Chennai and other cities of India. He emphasized the idea of micro- zonation for linking climate and land use planning. Dr. Rajarshi, presented in depth analysis of Bengaluru floods and Chennai floods. He also brought out the importance of research especially in simulation and forecasting floods for cities and how best this can take advantage by land use planners. Shri Appala Naidu highlighted

the climate change from the dimension of extinction of rare birds, animals, coastal mangroves, and other aspects. He also pointed out that how the tribals and fishing communities, which are acclimatized to certain regions and micro-climatic conditions, could not adjust to cities and their living conditions. He reiterated the importance of understanding these concepts in regular planning process. Mrs. Geetha through the experiences of Karnataka pointed out how the master plans addresses the vulnerability and climate change at various levels. She also brought in the importance of gender dimensions at the time of preparing the master plans. Dr. Thirupugazh, while concluding this session highlighted the importance of policy perspective especially disaster management, in conjunction with climate change and land use planning. He pointed out that to make retrofit cities for 2050, it is important to have climate resilience along with economic scale point of view. Ms. Divya, K, Jt. Director of Andhra Pradesh was the rapporteur for this session.

The **Technical Session III** on 'Climate Insulated Cities for the Future with ICT and Finance Options' was chaired by Prof. Dr. Ramesh Srikonda, Director, School of Planning Architecture, Vijayawada. TPr. V. P. Kulshrestha, Secretary General, ITPI, New Delhi, Co-Chaired the session. The session focused on India's efforts in digitalization, which is being widely appreciated by G-20 and also by other developing countries. While on the one hand, technology (such as Artificial Intelligence, Internet of Things, Geographic Information System, Remote Sensing, etc.) can increase the efficiency of plan making, implementation and monitoring cities from



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Smt Geetha L., Additional Secretary to Govt , Water Resources Department, Karnataka, Dr. Rajarshi Das Bhowmik, Interdisciplinary Centre for Water Research (ICWaR) - IISc Bangalore, Dr V. Thiruppugazh, IAS, Chairman of the Advisory Committee for Mitigation and Management of Floods in Chennai Metro, Dr. Amir Ali Khan, Associate Professor, National Institute of Disaster Management, New Delhi.

the current scenario, on the other hand there are issues of access to IT (security, cost, etc). How to use the IT tools from a building to legality/illegality in planning, what kind of digital tools can we use, and can the future IT make the planners redundant are the questions that this session deliberated. The expanding city with its software and industrial hubs also requires skilled human resources and sustainable infrastructure, which currently needs an improvement and for the future city. To match this there are various dimensions such as whether to expand the city to accommodate the future beyond the urban agglomeration, or, how to match the fiscal and financial resources for this growing population? were also deliberated in this session III.

The experts for this session were Prof. Dr. Moses Head, School of Architecture and Planning, Anna University, Chennai; Prof. Dr. Gayathri Aaditya, Head, Architecture and Planning, NITTE, Vellore Technical University, Vellore; Dr. Sudeshna Mitra, Associate Dean-Academics, Indian Institute of Human Settlements, Bangalore, Dr. Naina Gupta,

Assistant Professor, School of Planning Architecture, Vijayawada and TPr. Rajesh P. N., Addl. Chief Town Planner, Local Self Government Department, Government of Kerala and Executive Council Member, ITPI, New Delhi. They covered different dimensions of technology and its integration to climate change, land use planning and climate friendly transportation. Prof. Dr. Moses presented the importance of advanced remote sensing techniques, LIDAR and Drone Technology and its links to GIS, Pegasus, and other recent software. He mentioned about the importance of updating land use plans through these technologies in the master plans. Through his case studies in Tamil Nadu, he explained how climate change can be integrated through these technologies in the Master Plans and how the land use can be updated frequently. While dwelling upon the built-in technologies and its uses from building to neighbourhood to city levels, Prof. Dr. Gayathri, explained the importance of integrating these technologies and outcomes to urban society in India. This will ensure heat resilience and adaptation at the grass root level, Dr. Gayathri said. Emphasizing on

the socio-economic and environmental integration to land use planning, she said zero transition can be made easier if implemented through the Master Plan regulations. Dr. Sudeshna Mitra through an example of unprecedented expansion of Bengaluru and other metro cities, pointed out the importance of understanding the climate parameters while giving the permissions for real estate expansion. She presented how the lakes and drainage areas were converted into land development exposing to climate change in the city. Dr. Naina Gupta emphasized the environmental disaster through the transport vehicle expansion that uses fossil fuel in India. Explaining the new policies such as E-Vehicles, hybrid vehicles, and pedestrian policies, she said it is possible to address zero transition. Lack of urban finance and multi-layered governance at city level constrains many policies. She said that the TDR policy, especially through local area plans, may reduce the pollution levels. Shri Rajesh P. N. explained country's first metro water system in Kerala and how it brings in climate friendly transportation reducing the carbon. He also mentioned about the gender integration in water metro and waste management.

The **Concluding Session** was Chaired by Shri Anoop Srivatsav, Vice-President of ITPI, New Delhi. Prof. Dr. Gayathri was the moderator of the concluding panel discussion. Addressing many dimensions, the panel discussion focussed on issues emanating from propelling economic engines in a resilient city- will the bio-diversity

sustain itself, by an expanding city?, how to equip climate commitments through fiscal and financial instruments?, can cities be planned with a gender lens making them inclusive from a gender perspective? the session covered the summary of all the three sessions (Urban Past, Present and Future in South Zone States i.e. Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Puducherry, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Telangana); Climate Retrofitting and mapping; Empowering Indian Cities 2050, Climate Insulated Cities for the Future with ICT and mapping; Finance Options. The panel experts came from various disciplines. Shri Benjamin Mathews John discussed about expanding climate change retrofitting to 7000+ cities/towns, addressing financial constraints and peri-urban land conversion, Dr. Sanjay Gupta, Professor, School of Planning Architecture, Delhi and Executive Council member of ITPI), explored aligning Indian transport policies with EV adoption, promoting water-pro transport systems, and formulating future transport policies. Shri Suprasana, General Manager Karnataka State Urban Development Finance and Member, State Finance Commission focused on Karnataka's green bonds, urban infrastructure investments, and influencing local governments' pro-tax measures for climate adaptation. Shri Kiran Rajasekariah, Advisor, GIZ-Germany, Bengaluru, narrated importing technologies from Germany, state experiences in climate change, and promoting community-driven climate policies with gender inclusivity and Dr. Anjali



Panel Discussion: Shri Sharni, Coordinator, Puducherry Center, Dr. N. N. Sastry, Former Director, IDS Mysore University, TPr. R.J. Vidyullatha, Director, Town and Country Planning, Andhra Pradesh, Dr. P. Jayapal, Former Senior Executive Director, HUDCO, TPr. S. R. Rajendhiran, Senior Town Planner, CMDA, TPr. Rajesh P. N., Additional Chief Town Planner, Kerala, Dr. S. Devendra Reddy, Director, Town and Country Planning Department, Telangana, TPr. Prof. Dr. N. Sridharan, Professor and Former Director, School of Planning and Architecture Bhopal and Vijaywada,



Mohan, Partner, Integrated Design and Consultant, Bengaluru, discussed the climate policies for India's agro-climatic zones, identified potential gateway city-regions in Karnataka, discussed gender-inclusive climate policies, and suggested Asset Based Community Development local policies for climate adaptation. Shri Akash Jha, Chairperson, Young Planners Forum, ITPI, New Delhi spoke about the role of youth.

The conference concluded with a heartfelt felicitation extended to Dr. Sreedharan for his exemplary coordination of the entire event. His dedication and leadership were instrumental in ensuring the success of the conference. Shri Honnur, Executive Council Member, ITPI, New Delhi delivered a gracious vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to all participants, organizers, and contributors for their invaluable contributions to the ITPI South Zone Conference success.

ITPI WEST BENGAL REGIONAL CHAPTER

With reference to Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction under the aegis of Y20 of G20, the women's forum of ITPI West Bengal Regional Chapter, being the knowledge partner, organised a Colloquium on "Navigating Climate Change: The Role of Policy Planning and Attainment of Sustainable Development Goals". The theme of the sessions was grossly drawn from the guidelines set by Commonwealth Association of Planners (CAP) focusing the gender based roles. The sessions were interwoven with talks by personalities from different disciplines like academics from planning, economics, oceanography, professional, literary, and green activist.

The inaugural session was chaired by the TPr. Debabrata Ghosh, Chairman, WBRC. Prof. Dr. Indrani Dhar, Secretary, WBRC, and Dr. Banhi Chakraborty, Convenor of Women Cell, WBRC, shared the dais. The welcome address was delivered by TPr. Debabrata Ghosh, followed by the release of 3rd quarterly newsletter.

There were four sessions in the Colloquium to deliberate the following issues.

- Need for resilient cities to confront climate change effect and sustainable growth.
- Climate change effect and relevance of circular economy.
- Gender roles, status in climate crisis and role of governance.
- Unplanned urban growth and climate distress.

The resource persons for the colloquium were:

- Jaya Dhindaw, Executive Program Director, Sustainable Cities and Director, WRI India Ross Centre, Bangalore. She is an urban development professional with global experience in sustainable development, urban resilience and natural resource management.
- Ms. Jaya Mitra, Bangla Novelist, Poet, Translator, and Environmentalist. Ms. Jaya Mitra is one of the leading personalities in the task of conservation of different rivers and wetlands of India. She is the editor of "Bhumadhyasagar", a social and environmental Journal.
- Dr. Sufia Zaman, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Oceanography Techno India



TPr. Debabrata Ghosh, Chairman, WBRC, delivering the inaugural address.



Release of WBRC Newsletter



Chairman, ITPI-WBRC felicitating the expert speaker

University, Kolkata; Areas of Specialization - Climate change and Blue Economy

- TPr. Aparna Das, Architect and Environmental Planner, Independent Researcher, and De-carbonization and Climate Change Expert
- Dr. Mahalaya Chatterjee; Professor, Centre for Urban Economic Studies, Calcutta University

The programme got concluded with a panel discussion attended by Prof. Dr. Abhijit Mitra, Director Research (Hony.), Techno India University, West Bengal, Former Head, Dept. of Marine Science, University of Calcutta (India),



Expert lecture in progress

Dibyendu Sarkar (IAS, Retired), Presently involved in startup companies Ecovocal Solutions and Smart Farming, India, Former Secretary, Panchayat and Rural Development Department, Govt. of West Bengal and Director, Braiprd and Prof. Dr. Souvanic Roy, Professor Deptt. of Architecture & Planning and Founder Director, School of Ecology & Human Settlements, IEST Shibpur. Principal Investigator, UKRI-GCRF Living Deltas Research Hub.

The programme ended with the vote of thanks and concluding remarks from Prof. Dr. Indrani Dhar, Secretary, WBRC.



Expert lecture in progress



Panel discussion in progress

President Bangladesh Institute of Planners visited WBRC ITPI at Kolkata

President Bangladesh Institute of Planners recently visited WBRC ITPI at Kolkata. ITPI Secretary and council member arranged the meeting as per the direction of ITPI DELHI. The chapter chairman welcomed him in Calcutta Club.

TPr. Debabrata Ghosh, Chairman, ITPI-WBRC, TPr. Dipankar Sinha, Council Member, ITPI, New Delhi, Dr. Indrani Dhar, Secretary, ITPI-WBRC, TPr. Arabindo Debnath, Building Chairman, ITPI-WBRC, TPr. Sayan Acharya, Treasurer and Senior member TPr. Ranjan Prasad Das were present in the meeting. It was a very fruitful discussion for future programs which can be

arranged jointly with BIP. Meeting and discussion ended up with dinner.



TPr. Debabrata Ghosh, Chairman, ITPI-WBRC, and TPr. Dipankar Sinha, Council Member, ITPI, New Delhi, felicitating the President, Bangladesh Institute of Planners



Press Meet on 26th January 24

A press meet was organised on 26th January 24 from 5.09pm to 6.00pm at Press Club Kolkata on the issue of the terrible accident of house collapsing on March 17, 2024 at Garden Reach, Kolkata.

The spokespersons on the dais were TPr. Debabrata Ghosh, Chapter Chairman, TPr. Dipankar Sinha, Council Member, Dr. Biman Bandyopadhyay, Permanent Invitee and Former Chairman, Dr. Banhi Chakraborty, Convenor, Women's Forum, and Dr. Indrani Dhar, Chapter Secretary.

TPr. Prasad Ranjan Das, TPr. Jyotirmoy Adhyo, Dr. Souvanic Roy (Former Chairman), TPr. Sayan Acharya (Treasurer), TPr. Rahul Bose, TPr. Sumon Chowdhury (EC Member), TPr. Hitesh Mondal, Ar. Palash Mitra, Joint Secretary, Ar. Pratik Manna, Treasurer, Ar. Jayoti Sinha, Member also attended the Meet.

Briefing the Reporters about the causes and consequences of disasters as result of rapid urbanization, reduced per capita human space, land use changes, rising densities, environmental, and in general and Kolkata in particular, the following proposals and urgent consideration of each Municipal Corporation, Municipality and Corporation, Development Authority of the State including the State Government were suggested:

1. It should be recognized that the cities or towns are composed of areas with multifarious environmental characteristics, land use characters, population density, open space availability, wetlands and vegetations, etc.
2. The deep relationship between the economic and social development of the people of the region with the comprehensive development of the human settlements should be acknowledged.
3. Before deciding to use the public land of the city for real estate works, future land needs for public purposes should be given importance.
4. For different types of areas, variations in the rules of construction should be evolved scientifically.
5. City ponds, canals, riverbanks, trees, fields and open land etc should be preserved.
6. The growth of the city should be controlled keeping the carrying capacity of city roads, drainage, water supply etc in mind.
7. Necessary initiatives should be taken to build suitable quality and safe habitable houses for poor people.
8. Land should be used to reduce inadequacy of infrastructure by stopping privatization, monetization of government land instead of using it for real estate business.
9. As was envisaged in the 74th Constitution Amendment Act and the Urban Planning Act, a City Development Plan should be prepared for a better, sustainable future for each city or town and it should be made mandatory to comply.
10. Rules related to house construction and land use (Land Use Control and Development Plan-LUDCP) should be written in compliance with urban planning framework.



Dr. Banhi Chakraborty, Professor (Retired), Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, Dr. Indrani Dhar, Secretary, ITPI-West Bengal Regional Chapter, Kolkata, TPr. Debabrata Ghosh, Chairman, ITPI-West Bengal Regional Chapter, Kolkata, TPr. Dipankar Sinha, Council Member, ITPI, New Delhi, Dr. Biman Bandyopadhyay, Former Chairman, ITPI-West Bengal Regional Chapter, Kolkata. [Left to Right]

11. The construction, if done beyond the permissive building rules, cannot be regularized in lieu of money and to be demolished.
12. Land use and Development Control Plan (LUDCP) should be prepared scientifically for each city in compliance with the Town Planning Act and non-compliance with the

Town Planning Act should be recognized as a cognizable offense in sanctioning construction.

13. In every municipal body, Corporation, Development Authority, the appointment of sufficient number of educated, experienced and registered urban planners, architects should be made mandatory.

ITPI-WOMEN PLANNERS' FORUM WEBINAR ON WOMEN AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Ms. Pooja Kapoor started the session by introducing the theme of the webinar and also introduced the council members present in it webinar. Later, she invited Mrs. Deepti Vyas, Chairperson, ITPI-Womens' Forum to carry forward the proceedings of the webinar.

Mrs. Deepti Vyas talked about the Ardhanareeshwar on the auspicious day of Mahashivratri and wished everyone Happy Women's Day. She talked about the men-women ratio in planning fraternity. She also briefed about the ITPI activities for women planners and platform on which all women planners can connect.

Dr. Mansee narrated the major points to be covered for the betterment of the women fraternity. She laid the flowing agenda for the talk.

1. Why there is need to discuss women and built environment?
2. What women can bring to the table? How and why women matter?
3. Learn and share with each other.
4. Discuss women or gender.
5. Discussion on challenges and opportunities.
6. Why there is weak acknowledgement in society?
7. How you project yourself in your fraternity?
8. What needs to be done.

Dr. Kiran Sandhu, Associate Professor, Guru Ramdas School Planning, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar put her views that the spaces are discriminatory to the women reflecting a patriarchy setup. She said that this is not the scenario in India only, but has experience in other countries as well.

Dr. Mansee said that firstly women should bring themselves forward. She discussed that women are weak in collective actions. She raised voice that why there are lesser female planners when they are also

graduating in similar manner.

Dr. Ritu Raj Kaur, Assistant Professor, Guru Ramdas School Planning, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar said that many female graduated planners are not in touch with their respective fields because of their family responsibilities. She also said that there are pros and cons that few the support from their families as well.

Later, Dr. Mansee said that how many women have documented their work throughout their life. In India, we are not so clear about the trans-disciplinary fields, where planning field is a one among all other fields. It is a trans-disciplinary practice to be accepted and acknowledged.

She said that women should be proud that they can manage both work and households. She also said that U.S Govt. has also mentioned that the homemaker should be paid highest among all other working professionals. She pointed what are the other skills required for women? Dr. Mansee said that 'every woman should be heard'.

Mr. Arun Bhandari said that in our society hardly any discussion on genders is there on planning aspects.

Later, Ms. Rama Sinha discussed about the ego problem. She said that education system and inheritance play important role. Dr. Mansee then said that the women should learn the art of communication. They should learn the path of sustainability, path of safety, path of resilient. She later concluded with her words that women need healers not hurters. Women should speak her heart out and let mind take rest. Women should definitely have a fighting spirit and sisterhood among themselves.

Thanking speech was given by Ms. Kiran Sandhu in which she concluded the major steps to be taken by women, that women should be confident and should stand for herself.



EXCERPTS OF AMENDMENTS IN THE MEMORANDUM ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION AND BYE-LAWS OF ITPI APPROVED IN THE EXTRA-ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 3RD FEBRUARY, 2024 AT 12.00 HRS AT INSTITUTE OF TOWN PLANNERS, INDIA, NEW DELHI (# indicates the change)

Article 19-

At every General Meeting, 50 member qualified to vote on the date of the meeting shall constitute the quorum-

Quorum for EGM/AGM raised from 5 to 50.

Article 26-

Power of Council to Refer to Letter Ballot/Digital Voting-

Option of Digital voting added.

Article 29-

The number of members of the Council may from time to time be increased or reduced, but there shall never be more than 31 inclusive of the 20 members in General Constituency and 08 representatives of Chairpersons of various Regional Chapters as Special Constituency and 03 Ex-officio Members.

Strength of Council increased from 21 to 31.

02 seats in General Constituency and 01 in Special Constituency shall be reserved for women candidates and 01 seat in General Constituency shall be reserved for the members of North-East Regional Chapter, if such nominations are not received, these seats would be included in General Constituency.

03 Seats for women and 01 seat for North Eastern states reserved in the Council.

Article 30 (A)

Immediately after alternate Annual General Meeting such a number of members of the Council as is prescribed by the Bye-laws shall retire and new members shall be elected. The mode of retiring and electing new members shall be prescribed by the Bye-laws. The members of the Council shall be elected biennially by the Institute in the General Meeting.

Elections for the Council shall be held BIENNIALY in place of Annually.

Article 48 (A)

Once a member is suspended, a show cause notice is to be served upon him through registered post within 14 days of the decision of suspension by the

Council, with the direction to submit reply within 90 days to the Secretary General.

A new provision added to give opportunity of hearing to a suspended member and time frame specified.

Article 48 (B)

As soon as reply is received from a suspended member, an Inquiry Committee is to be constituted by the council but not later than 90 days of receiving the reply, who shall inquire the matter within 90 days and submit its report to the Council through President, ITPI. Council shall decide to terminate the membership of suspended member, if recommended by the Inquiry Committee.

A new provision added to conduct fair and transparent inquiry against suspended member, for transparency and justice within a time frame, inquiry is to be conducted by constituting Inquiry Committee, against suspended member before further action against the delinquent member.

Article 48 (C)

Council has the power to review any case of suspension and termination on receiving review petition by the guilty member.

A new provision added to review the cases of suspension and termination.

Bye-law-4

A person seeking admission to be a Corporate Member of the Institute shall apply online to the Secretary General in Form as appended to the Bye-laws.

Provision made for online application for Associate and Fellow membership through ITPI website.

Bye-law-23

A Fellow or an Associate may use the following abbreviations after his name and prefix title "TPr."

Provision made to use title "TPr." by all qualified planners and members of ITPI.

Bye-law-29

A person who holds Corporate Membership shall pay an annual subscription as given below:

Fellows	Rs. 1500/-
Associates	Rs. 1000/-

Any existing Fellow / Associate member may opt to pay onetime subscription by paying 10 times of annual subscription. However, new Associate / Fellow members are required to pay either Rs. 1000/- or 1500/- respectively as annual subscription or 10 times of annual subscription as one time subscription to become Life Member. The life membership subscription may be paid maximum in two annual installments over a period of two years or as may be decided by the council from time to time.

Formal provision made for both Annual subscription and life membership for AITP/FITP. Provision to pay the life membership in two annual installments

Bye-law-39 A

Within 48 hours after the deadline of filing the nominations a candidate may withdraw his/her nomination by sending written request in prescribed form duly attested atleast 1 member of ITPI to Secretary General.

New provision made for withdrawal of nomination by a candidate from the elections.

Bye-law- 40 C

Send the ballot and the separate list of nominees to all persons qualified to vote along with the notice of the Annual General Meeting in accordance with the Articles and the Bye-laws or on website or through e-mail to conduct elections through postal ballot or digital voting as decided by the council from time to time.

additional provision of DIGITAL Voting made.

Bye-law-46

Three scrutinizers, of who neither shall be a candidate nor a nominator or supporter or blood relation of a candidate for election, shall be appointed by the Council. The ballot papers shall be delivered unopened to the scrutinizers, by whom alone they shall be opened and examined.

For transparency and timely completion of election process the provision for 3 scrutinizers in place of 2, who shall neither be a candidate nor nominator/supporter or blood relation of a candidate.

Bye-law- 53

In case any Emergency Meeting is called by President after consulting in writing with Secretary General, agenda of the business is mandatory to be circulated and notice shall be issued not less than 2 days before the meeting.

Provision is made to call Emergency meeting of the Council as and when some emergent situation arises, in this case agenda for business is mandatory to be circulated.

Bye-law-58

The Council shall appoint a Joint Secretary, Secretary (Examinations) and Secretary (Publications) from amongst the Corporate Members of the Institute. They shall be responsible to the Secretary General.

Considering the quantum of secretarial work, provision for nomination of Joint Secretary is made for assist Secretary General in techno-administrative matters.

Bye-law-62

Elected Office Bearers, Joint Secretary, Secretary (Examination) and Secretary (Publication) shall not be officers of the Institute for more than two consecutive terms at a time in any capacity subject to maximum three terms.

Provision made to fix the term of all functionaries as maximum two consecutive terms subject to maximum three terms in any capacity.

Bye-law- 70 A

Prepare the profile of the Corporate (Associate / Fellow) members of ITPI and upload on official website, in case any member fails to provide necessary information required for digital voting or sending any communication through electronic platform, within specified time shall loose certain privileges.

for preparation of members data on digital mode, provision is made for members to provide necessary information.

Bye-law-71

A candidate after filing nomination may canvas to the members eligible for voting but not through commercial media, and without stating any prejudice and allegations against other candidates. Any violation of canvassing norms prescribed, will disqualify the candidature of such candidate.

provision for canvassing by a candidate for elections permitted.



Bye-law- 83

The Council may appoint an Editorial Board for the purpose of editing its journals, documents and other publications. The Board shall consist of the Vice-President, the Secretary General, the Secretary (Publications) and two other members including specialists from India and abroad, as per the requirement of UGC, appointed by the Council.

Since ITPI Journal is listed in UGC CARE list provisions made for appointment of Editorial Board so as to fulfill the requirement of UGC norms.

Bye-law-97

Elections for the Regional Chapters and Centres shall be conducted every alternate year.

provision made for holding elections of Executive Committee and Coordination Committee of Regional Chapters and Centres every two years coinciding with Council Elections.

Revised volume of ITPI Memorandum Articles of Association and Bye-laws is available on our website www.itpi.org.in.

FRESH AFFILIATES OF ITPI [1ST JANUARY - 31ST MARCH, 2024]

Approved Members

(1st January - 31st March 2024)

AITP -	201
FITP -	7

Total Approved Members

AITP -	8280
FITP -	550

Approved Institutions

(January - March, 2024)

Committee Meetings

Committee Meetings	Meeting Dates			
	Evaluation Committee	13/01/2024	25/01/2024	14/02/2024
Education Standing Committee	09/03/2024			
Scrutiny Committee	02/01/2024	24/02/2024		
Regional Chapter Building Committee	03/02/2024			
Extraordinary General Meeting	03/02/2024			
Council Meeting	04/01/2024	03/02/2024	01/03/2024	
Professional Standing Committee	03/02/2024			
Code of Conduct Committee	09/03/2024			
Young Planners Forum	19/03/2024			

Final Approval

1. Integral University, Lucknow
2. Government Engineer College, School of Architecture and Planning, Thrissur, Kerala
3. XIM University, Bhubneshwar

Provisional Approval

1. IPS Academy, School of Architecture and Planning, Indore
2. Department of Architecture and Planning, NIT Raipur
3. GZS School of Architecture and Planning, Punjab
4. Sandip University, Nashik
5. Shri Rawatpura Sarkar, Raipur

Newly Formed Committee for 'All India Board of Town and Country Planning' by All India Council for Technical Education with following members

- TPr. N. K. Patel, President, Institute of Town Planners, India, New Delhi
- TPr. V. P. Kulshrestha, Secretary General, Institute of Town Planners, India, New Delhi
- TPr. P.P. Singh, Chief Town Planner, Town and Country Planning Department, Govt. of Haryana
- Prof. T. N. Majumdar, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur
- Prof. Neeraj Kanthi, School of Planning and Architecture, Bhopal
- TPr. Naresh Kumar Dhiran, Additional Chief Planner, TCPO, Delhi
- Prof. Adinarayane R, School of Planning and Architecture, Vijaywara
- Prof. Avlokita Agarwal, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee