

INSTITUTE OF TOWN PLANNERS, INDIA

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Declaration on The World Habitat Day

Housing 1.4 billion people, with more than 50% population below the age of 25 and more than 65% below 35 years and home to a fifth of the world's youth population, with average age of an Indian placed at 29 years, compared to 37 for China and 48 for Japan, has made India the youngest and most vibrant country. India is placed on the threshold of realizing the **population dividend**, by housing largest population in the most productive age. Recognizing the fact that the country is fast treading on the path of rapid urbanization and urban centers, as engines of economic growth. These urban centers are destined to play critical and vital role, in leveraging economy, generating large employment, skilling manpower, banishing poverty, providing state of art infrastructures and making India 10 trillion economy.

Understanding that majority of urban centres in the country face enormous growth and developmental challenges posed by climate change, global warming, rising temperature, ozone depletion and increasing carbon footprints. Recognizing, understanding and appreciating the critical and valuable role played by the Town Planners in general and young professionals in particular in rationalizing the growth and development of urban centers and valuing the need of promoting planned development of urban centers. For optimization of the rational growth and development of human settlements, to make them more sustainable, productive, livable, inclusive and safe to live and work consideration to the global UN theme- **"Engaging Youth to Create a Better Urban Future"** is given. We the members and office bearers of The Institute of Town Planners, India (ITPI) including its various Chapters and Centres, on this World Habitat Day, October 7, 2024, do hereby solemnly resolve, commit, affirm and declare that;

- Institute undertakes and commit itself that it will continue to assist and empower all our young professional town planners for achieving highest level of proficiency in the art and science of planning and designing human settlements.

- Institute shall involve proactively young planners of India, in all its professional and social activities by making them valuable partners in the art and science of planning and management of cities.
- Institute shall create a dedicated mechanism within its structure, for sourcing innovative ideas, options and strategies from young professionals, for making the human settlements better places to live based on quality environment, ecology and bio-diversity.
- Institute shall create an enabling and supportive environment of making optimum use of technological skills available with the young planners in making the profession of planning more qualitative and productive.
- Institute shall work closely with various academic institutions to make teaching-learning in physical planning, more qualitative and focused, to improve the quality of young planning professionals.
- Institute commits to involve its young planners in the domain of research and development in the art and science of urban and regional planning, to make the profession more focused, productive and qualitative.
- Institute shall leverage the strength, skill, understanding, available with the young planners, for promoting the universal acceptability of the profession of physical planning in improving the quality of life and productivity of urban centers.
- Institute shall work closely with various parastatal agencies, operating at national, state and local levels to proactively involve and include young planners in the formulation and implementation of various policies, programs and projects, focusing on promoting planned development of urban settlements.
- Institute shall continue to involve and engage youth and young planners in the learning and understandings of the art and science of town planning for empowering the communities and making cities safe and making the life of people and communities, more qualitative and productive.
- Institute commits to involve proactively all its young planners in achieving the agenda defined the Seventeen Sustainable Development Goals by UNO, for making human settlements, sustainable, inclusive and safe.

- Institute commits and dedicates ourselves to use skill, knowledge, expertise of young planners to promote equity, equality for minimizing and eliminating all dualities and contradictions prevailing in the human settlements.
- Institute, with active support and involvement of young professionals, provide all possible support to various missions, yojnas, programs and policies launched by the state/ national governments, to make cities qualitative, productive, sustainable and livable,
- Institute shall take all initiatives to involve Senior professionals to cooperate, collaborate and coordinate with the young professionals of all other professional institutes, for evolving options and strategies to make urban habitat more productive and sustainable.
- Institute shall take all steps and use all its resources for protecting, preserving, safeguarding and promoting the professional interests of its young professionals.
- Institute shall hold dedicated festival, for creating a common platform for Young Planners, to showcase their ideas, projects, talent, skill and innovations, to make profession of planning, more qualitative and productive.
- Institute, along with its young professionals, commit and dedicate itself to achieve the universal goal of making cities qualitative, productive and livable, as defined by UN in its theme for the World Habitat Day,2024.

Issued by Sh. N K Patel, President Institute of Town Planners India, on October 7, 2024 for and on behalf of The Institute of Town Planners India on the World Habitat Day