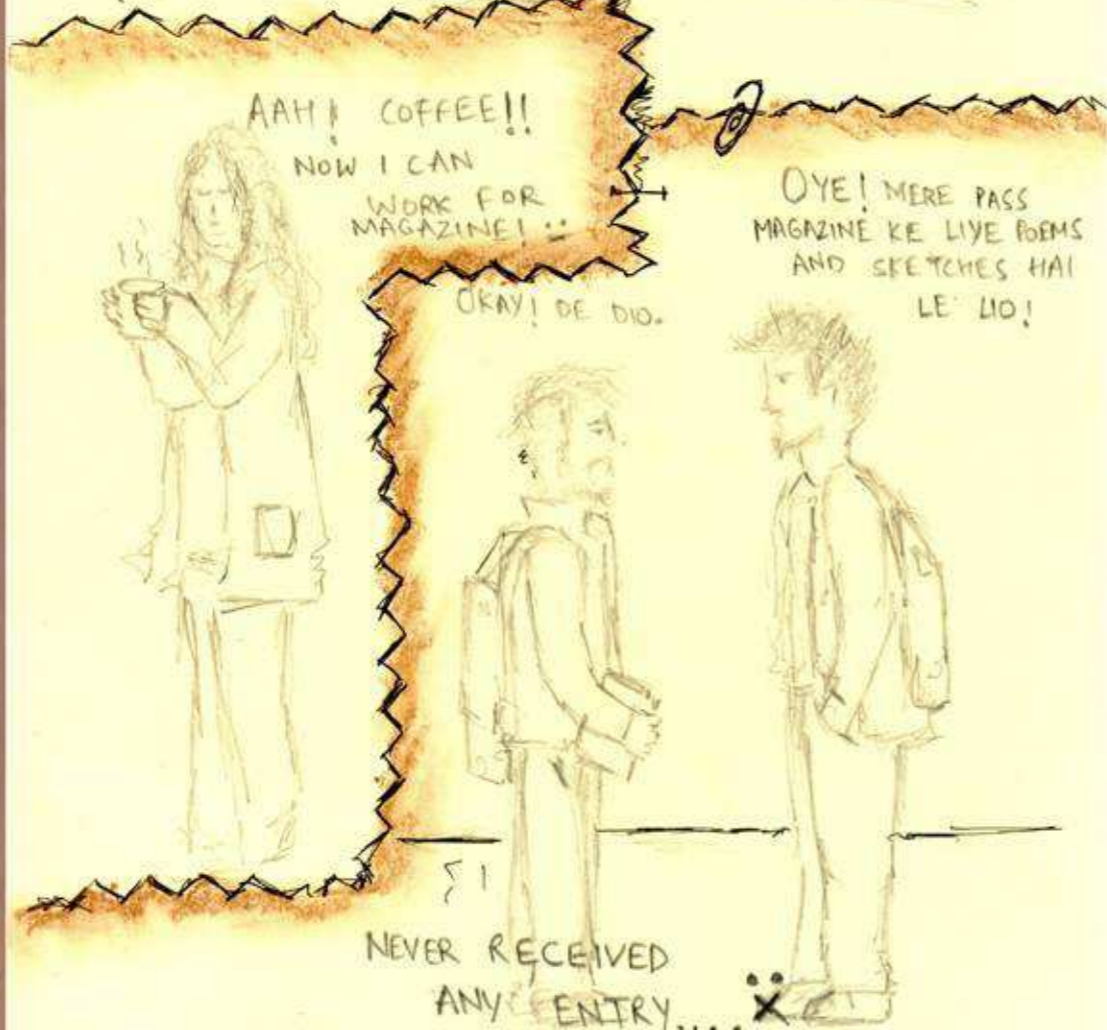




Annual NOSPLAN Magazine — 2012



Compiled & Edited by:
Pooja Rao



Graphics by:
Rohit Juneja



Cover Page by:
Aditi Dwivedi

Flipbook by:
Gautam Rawat



MESSAGE FROM ITPI PRESIDENT

India is at a critical threshold, because by 2051, the population of the country would increase to 2018 million comprising urban population of 827 million (41% of the total population) i.e. India would have more population than China; but on one-fourth land mass of that of China. The land man ratio would further lower down to 0.19 hectare, which is quite alarming. This situation calls for utilizing the available scarce resource of land of the country for urban development, optimally and judiciously so that land can also be made available for agriculture, food production, forestry, etc. Census – 2011 also reveals that there are 7,936 towns, besides 640 districts and 6,41,000 villages for which development plans need to be prepared. While as per TCPO estimates, only 1,233 cities / towns have approved Development Plans and the preparation of plans for another 657 are in progress. However there are hardly 4,000 qualified town and country planners available in the country. In addition to it, large projects like SEZ, Mega Industrial Zones, IT Parks, High-tech Cities, Sport Cities, Health Cities, Knowledge Cities and integrated townships are being implemented under PPP mode, which would further enhance the demand of qualified planning professionals. Besides, there would also be a requirement of planners in the field of education and research. Thus, there is an acute shortage of spatial planners to perform the spatial planning and development functions. According to the Committee of Experts in 'Town Planning and Architecture for Policy Guidelines to Energize Architecture and Town Planning Education' in the Country, appointed by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India; the country will need 3 lakh planners by the year 2032, while there are hardly 3,500 planners registered with ITPI as of now. This implies that 15,000 planners need to be trained every year at different levels. However there are hardly 17 educational institutions in the country, producing only about 600 graduates per year. This requires the introduction of under-graduate courses in existing institutions; increasing the intake in existing courses as well opening up of more educational institutions.

Presently, the imparting of planning education as a two-year course at the postgraduate level is the common feature in all the 17 schools/ departments in various universities/ IITs which are recognized by ITPI. Some of the Schools provide specializations in Urban Planning, Regional Planning, Housing, Traffic and Transportation, and Environmental Planning; and Infrastructure Planning, while others impart general courses in town and country planning. In addition the Planning Schools and University Departments now register candidates for doctoral programmes.

The Institute of Town Planners, India during the early 1980s realized that there is a need for starting undergraduate programmes in planning and accordingly, took up the matter with the then Ministry of Education, Government of India and designed a Model Curriculum with the objective of producing planners with basic capacity of coming to grips with a variety of planning situations and delivering the necessary services in a professional manner. The School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi was the first to start bachelors programme in planning in 1989 followed by Guru Ram Das School of Planning and Architecture, GNDU, Amritsar, and Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Hyderabad and recently in SPA, Bhopal and Vijayawada. Thus, over the years, Town and Country Planning Education has emerged as a full fledged independent discipline that from architecture.

It is not denying the fact that the training and education needs of planning have to be demand oriented which is responsive to the requirements of Urban Local Bodies, State Town and Country Planning Departments, Housing Boards, Development Authorities and other stake holders. Accordingly ITPI has recently updated the Syllabus and Curriculum for both Undergraduate and Postgraduate programmes in Planning under the aegis of AICTE, and has been adopted by the various schools.

In fact the idea of starting NOSPLAN, National Organization of Students of Planning was initiated by the Institute of Town Planners, India initially and we are happy to note that, it is being followed every year since then. We assure the organizers of the NOSPLAN and student's community of planning, that ITPI would render all the assistance for energizing their activities and to see that the XIV annual NOSPLAN Convention – 'Credence' becomes a successful and memorable event.

Diwakar S. Meshram



MESSAGE

Dear students and colleagues

I am delighted to see the enthusiasm in the students of School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi in organizing and hosting the National Annual NOSPLAN convention this year in January.

Planning deals with the handling of resources optimally, considering the needs of the people. It is also about understanding the area and coming up with suitable, area specific solutions. Being updated about latest developments, practices and technologies is a requisite to be a successful planner. NOSPLAN is a platform formed to realize this purpose and help the planning community from all over India to come together and share ideas, to jointly contribute to the future of our country.

The magazine would provide as a remembrance of 'CREDESCENCE' as an event and would also reflect the views of the planning fraternity. It would also be an opportunity for the students to talk about their experiences, learning and also display their talents. I hope the event would be an unforgettable one and everyone would cherish these memories forever.

Welcome to SPA Delhi... Hope you will enjoy your time and utilize the opportunity to enrich yourself and the profession.

With best wishes and season's greeting



A. K. Sharma

Director

School of Planning and Architecture

New Delhi



MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL

Dear All,

NOSPLAN revived by School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi in 1993 is a registered and a decentralized society, which aims to develop the community of planning students of today to become better planning professionals of tomorrow. The Annual Convention is an yearly event held since the organization's revival which provides a stage for interaction between students and entire planning fraternity at large by giving them the opportunity to raise their voices and project their ideas about the on-going planning practices.

It gives me immense pleasure to inform that the XIV Annual NOSPLAN Convention is being hosted by the School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi.

I, on behalf of the Executive Council, give best wishes to the organizing committee at SPA Delhi and hope that the XIV Annual NOSPLAN Convention – 'CREDESCENCE 2012' sets a higher standard for the future NOSPLAN activities.

I wish you all the very best for the upcoming year.

Gaurang Khandelwal
President, Executive Council
NOSPLAN



It is an honor for us, NOSPLAN Unit Council at SPA Delhi, to host the **XIV Annual NOSPLAN Convention 'CREDESCENCE -2012'**.

With effective management and control we could bring up this convention to a level that is hoped to set higher benchmark for the future conventions. This convention has left me with many memories performing multi dimensional tasks at the same time.

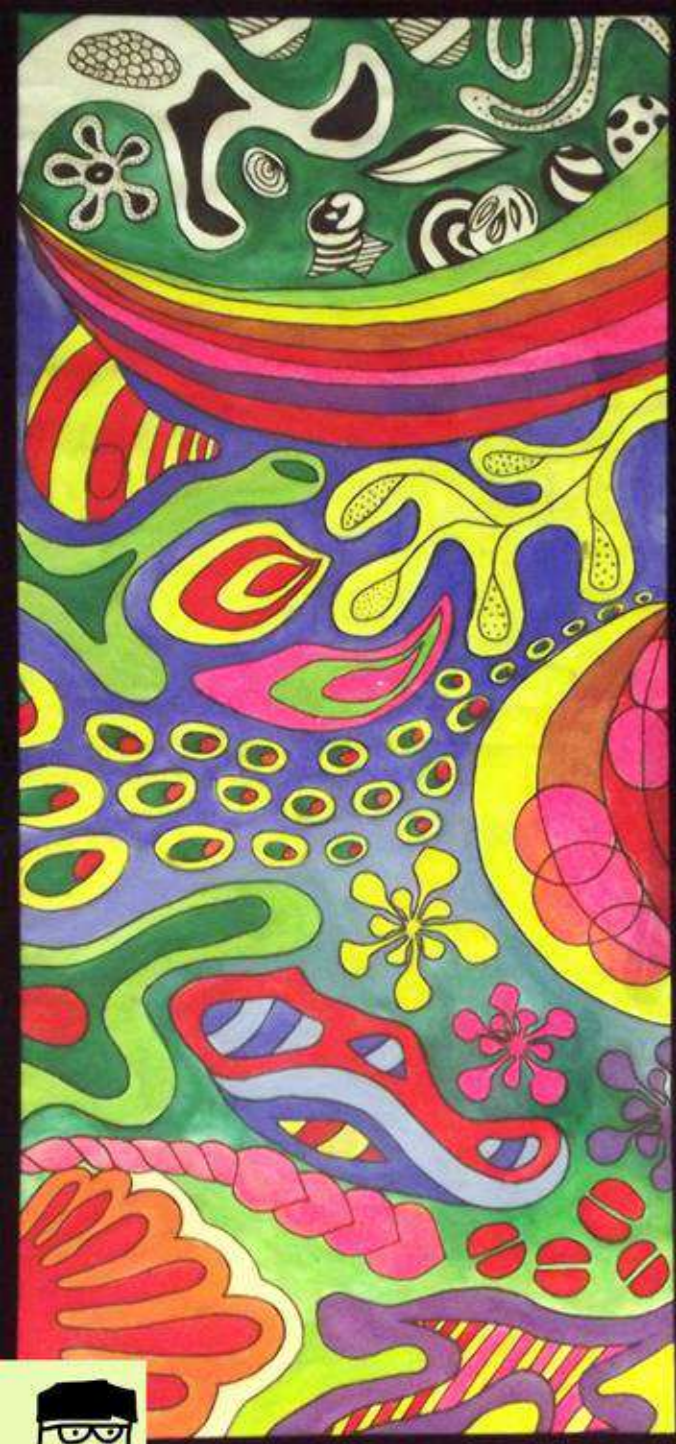
I take this opportunity to appreciate and thank the management, faculty, students and other members who worked hard with all their efforts to bring up this convention. With the current progress in promoting planning education, I am confident enough that NOSPLAN will grow higher and higher and achieve its greater goals of developing better planners for the future.

I hope this convention leaves memories with everyone that would be cherished for long time.

Wish you all the success for future.

Imran Basha
Unit Coordinator, SPA New Delhi
NOSPLAN





Editor's Note...

It has been a great experience starting from scratch and working through all the craziness to come up with this final work. All the coffee poured in, hours spent on the computer/laptop. Mail. Crop. Edit. Worth it...

A heartfelt thanks to Krati Jain for her help when I needed it, Aditi for the support and all the quick work and student council members for their help and support.

Thanks to all those who contributed, directly or indirectly, to make the magazine possible.

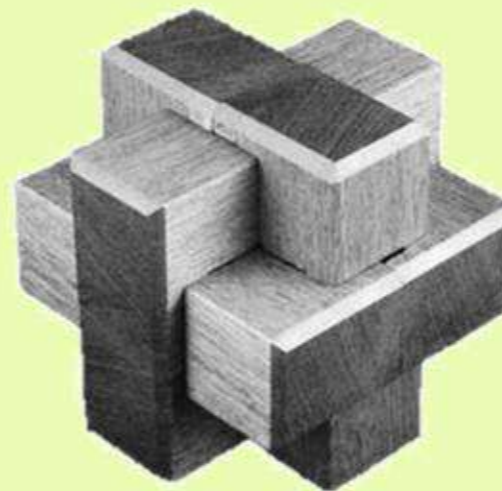
All effort has been made to make the magazine as less boring as possible! And as graphic as planning can be. Hope that happened

Have a great time reading through the magazine...

Pooja Rao

(III Year, B.Planning, SPA Delhi)

Painting by : Aditi Dwivedi, III Year B.Plan, SPA Delhi



CREDENCE
2012

The word 'Credence' signifies the convention as the path towards building confidence and trust among the individuals from diverse cultures, values and school of thoughts. This is the first step in the overall task of building integrity and unity in the group which in turn transforms a collection of individuals in to a community based on trust and mutual respect.

To signify this, the logo is designed after a six piece wooden puzzle modeled by Oskar Van Devente and crafted by Tom Lensh. The interlinking wooden pieces held together by an intelligent design supporting each other, forming the aesthetic formation signifies what NOSPLAN aims to be - a community, which is marked by its unity and integrity. The self-supporting design shows the importance of confidence, credibility and trust (Credence) as the basic mortar which holds the structure together as a whole. The font with the visible guidelines shows that this convention aims to build the community based on credence.

Other entries



Rohit Juneja, II Year B Plan



Gautam Rawat, III Year B Plan



Senni Riram, III Year B Plan



Gargi Singh, II Year B Plan



Rohit Juneja, II Year B Plan



Kaushik Bhattacharjee, III Year B Plan



Inclusion is Exclusion without Empowerment

Dr. Ashok Kumar

Professor

Department of Physical Planning

SPA Delhi



Introduction

Inclusion of citizens in planning processes generally and decision making situations specifically have become integral to planning practice in India. From plan making to plan implementation, inclusion of people is seen to be crucial as it enhances acceptability of planning policies. To further the ends of inclusive polity, Government of India handed over planning function to duly elected local bodies through two significant amendments to the Constitution of India in 1992. To some extent these efforts have contributed to the democratization of planning by providing political opportunities to women and discriminated social classes as some of them have been able to achieve positions of leadership and responsibility. In many villages *Panches* and *Sarpanches* from these classes have been looked upon to bring development projects to villages. Policy makers believe that inclusion is empowering, and hope that it could bring about societal changes benefiting the excluded and marginalized communities. In many cases inclusion is indeed empowering but this could not be conceived as the universal principal for bringing about empowerment. In this small commentary, I would like to advance the thesis that there is no difference between inclusion and exclusion if human agency remains disempowered. At this stage it becomes imperative that some discussion on empowerment takes place before moving to a discussion on the main argument of the paper.

Inclusion and Empowerment

Simply put, ability of individuals' or collectivities' to make societal changes for their own well being and the well being of their communities is empowerment. Empowerment or ability to make a difference is part of human existence. Anthony Giddens (1984) points out that placing systematic and permanent limitations on one's ability to exert power is a negation of one's very humanity. Human existence without having any influence on matters of concern to an individual or community is disempowerment.

Elisheva Sadan in the book titled "Empowerment and Community Planning" captures the essence of the term 'empowerment'. Empowerment is a process of transition from a state of powerlessness to a state of relative control over one's life, destiny, and environment. This transition can manifest itself in an improvement in the perceived ability to control, as well as in an improvement in the actual ability to control. Empowerment is a transition from this passive situation to a more active situation of control. The need for it is part of the realization of one's very humanity, so much so that one could say that a person who is powerless with regard to his life and his environment is not realizing his innate human potential. Since the sources of powerlessness are rooted in social processes

that disempower entire populations, the empowerment process aims to influence the oppressed human agency and the social structure within the limitations and possibilities in which this human agency exists and reacts (Sadan, 2004: 144).

Similarly empowerment is defined as a process whereby people, organizations, and communities gain command over their affairs (Rappaport 1981, 1984, 1985). For example, self determination within constitutional bounds in a democratic set up or democratic participation of individuals in the life of a community or society at large. Empowerment process is multidimensional, taking on different forms in different people, contexts, and times and it is also multilevel that is individual, organizational and community. Empowerment processes could be conceptualized at individual level, community level and in the context of professional context. All three processes of empowerment are not only related with each but also complement and contribute to each other.

What is the link between empowerment and inclusive polity or planning? I would like to suggest that empowerment is the essence of inclusion. Any form of inclusion that does not deliberately make empowerment as its essential agenda is no less than exclusion, dispossession and marginalization. As India is increasingly turning into an unequal society in spite of the fact that efforts are being made by Government of India to address deprivation, discrimination and dispossession, debate on inclusive planning which produces empowered citizens takes on added urgency.

Inclusion as Exclusion and Exclusion as Inclusion

Generally debates on inclusion begin by rehearsing impacts of exclusion. For example, it may be argued that there are a number of individuals and communities who feel disempowered and their human agencies are disabled by the very same social structures and institutions, which were set up to empower them. Remember the photograph of Qutubuddin Ansari in tears with folded hands during the Gujarat riots, a picture of complete and total disempowerment and dispossession. Solutions come thick and fast: inclusion of the members of the Muslim community into the mainstream remains one of the popular solutions of all. To my mind this form of inclusion is exclusion as it does not address the essence of inclusion including its nature and form. Primary issue here is how to create sustainable conditions for peaceful co-existence of communities belonging to different religions.

Likewise families condemned to living in squatters and those economically better off social classes which are compelled to live in self imposed enclaves, feel alienated and distanced. Planning as a modernist enterprise was set up by the state to plan for every family, class and community, but ended up in creating slums and squatters for a majority of the city dwellers. One significant planning issue before the nation today is: could we reverse this trend and handover the city to the majority of the population by creating spaces which are more like livable communities rather than slums and squatters where humans endure life rather than enjoy it. Here in spite of the fact that slums and squatters are part and parcel of the city, they exhibit characteristics of disempowered areas and populations.

While advent of inclusive planning should be regarded as advancement over the modernist rational planning practice, inclusion and participation of people in



planning alone could not be viewed as the solution to resolution of city's persistent problems of spatial inequality and marginalization of the socially discriminated people.

But before I move on to a number of illustrations to establish that inclusion could be viewed as exclusionary and disempowering, I also want to suggest that inclusion, exclusion, empowerment and disempowerment are social, economic and most important of all are spatial categories. Therefore, although these terms have originating from different disciplines, they properly belong to town and country planning. However, in a newsletter, there is no space available to elaborate on how these could be viewed as spatial categories.

As I move daily in and out of my house on the first floor of a building, I see slippers of a maid in front of my neighbor's front door on the ground floor. This may be termed as symbolic exclusion, notwithstanding its deep sensory impact on the agency of the maid because important guests may not be asked to follow this custom. For the maid however this is natural. As she works in a number of houses, I suspect similar custom is followed in those houses also. Practiced enough, this symbolic exclusion has been internalized by this and other maids as a necessary ritual. Of course this and other maids move about freely doing household work in the mornings and evenings in the entire area. Should we take moving about freely in the area and even within the individual houses as inclusion?

As we take tea and snacks in one of houses during a festive season, the maid of the house is also asked to take tea. As she obediently agrees, she is offered tea in a different cup. There is nothing wrong with the cup. She does not sit but stands by. She continues to take tea while also helping the house lady with small household chores. This maid has participated in the processing of taking tea with us. Should we take that since the maid has been offered tea by the house lady, the process of taking tea by the maid is an inclusive process? As this form of inclusion would discount the exclusionary process of taking tea in a different cup, this inclusion is exclusionary and disempowering.

This maid and other maids live in a nearby squatter settlement from where it is easier for them to commute to our middle class residential area. Indeed this squatter settlement is illegal from the point of view of government authorities. Nevertheless, the location of the squatter settlement is such that it is almost surrounded by flatted development from all sides. Taking a view from the squatter settlement, it may be said that it is rather centrally located as far as our area is concerned. Geographically that may be so, but in terms of social interactions of maids and their families with our middle class families is concerned, it is strictly that of work that too specific work of cleaning cars, household chores, gardening, washing clothes, baby sitting, manicuring and pedicuring, etc. Here also geographical proximity does not imply inclusion. In the night all gates of our area close for the squatter settlers as if they not people from this city or citizens of this country. As this form exclusion is disempowering in the night, so is the inclusion and free movement of squatters for various kinds of works during the day time.

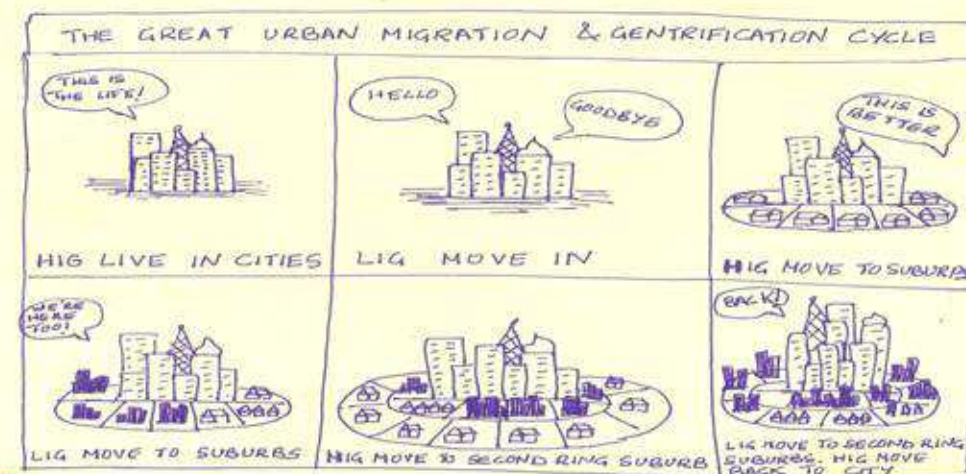
Planners have been largely concerned with geographical exclusion, which is really separation not exclusion. Exclusion is not always disempowering, at times it could be reassuring and empowering. For example, the residents of my area feel safe and reassured in the night after gates get shut on the squatters and one of their own

performs this duty of shutting squatters out. At this stage it seems there is no difference between inclusion and exclusion, what differentiates is the essence which connects these concepts to empowerment or disempowerment. What matters is whether inclusion or exclusion is able to transform human agency to have some control over her circumstances.

Before I close let me say that one does not even have to move out of his house to get a sense of exclusion and disempowerment. As I spent my formative years in a village, I saw workers were much sought after during the harvest season. When one of the laborers did not turn up for work, the farmer would come to fetch the worker from a worker's house. As the farmer comes into the house, the worker would stand up from the charpoy, not with the purpose of welcoming the farmer, but making way for the farmer to sit on the charpoy although the charpoy is big enough to accommodate both of them. As the farmer sits on the charpoy, the worker sits on the ground near the charpoy in his own house. This worker is like an outsider who is constrained and distanced in his own house. Being inside his own house is no guarantee of inclusion because structurally this kind of inclusion is disempowering and exclusionary.

References

- Giddens, A. (1984) The Constitution of Society: Outline of the Theory of Structuration, University of California Press, Berkeley.
- Rappaport, J. (1981) In praise of paradox: A social policy of empowerment over prevention, American Journal of Community Psychology, Vol.9, No.1, pp.1-25.
- Rappaport, J. (1984) studies in Empowerment: Introduction to the Issue, Prevention in Human Services, Vol.3, No.2-3, pp.1-7.
- Rappaport, J. (1985) Power of Empowerment Language, Social Policy, Vol.15, pp.15-21.
- Sadan, E. (2004) Empowerment and Community Planning, (English translation e-book available on-line at <http://www.mpow.org>). Downloaded on 25 December 2009.



Doodle by : Aditi Dwivedi, III Year B.Plan, SPA Delhi

The Great Indian Apathy...

Rajeev R

IV Year B.Planning

SPA Vijayawada



In the past two decades, India witnessed a remarkable explosive economic growth and along with it an equally alarming increase in poverty levels. While India is crossing the threshold of 1.22 billion population at the wake of 2012; more than 456 million live on less than \$1.25 a day (International Poverty Line), 25% of the population live below the minimum level of dietary consumption and many in even worse conditions.

"Can you live on Rs.32/- a day?" "Is the value of an Indian life so low-priced?" were few of the questions that flooded many of our heads when the Indian government fixed this poverty line, quite recently.

The Planning Commission's new official poverty line — remarkably low at Rs 32 — could have moved millions out of poverty: but only on paper; 36% below it once, 26 per cent now. Poverty line as per the definition according to the Gol's Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation: "The official estimates of the poverty line are based on a norm of 2400 calories per capita per day for rural areas and 2100 per capita per day for urban areas." This goes back to the 1970s; at a time when poverty levels were decided to be measured by considering a minimum nutritional level. However the Planning Commission accepted the Suresh Tendulkar Committee's recommendation of calculating poverty. That went by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) norm that 1,700 calories were enough for one to sustain. The committee reasoned: "When the findings indexed with inflation for June 2011 showed abysmally low monthly per capita spending on food of Rs.18 for urban areas and Rs.16 for rural areas. The daily expenditure on non-food items were added to this, & the poverty line stands at Rs.32 for urban and Rs.26 for rural areas respectively."

Poverty line similar to the GDP cannot be related at an individual level, but gives one a broad perspective of the situation at large. The poverty figures stand so, as it was rooted in continuity to the living standards of 1971, to measure changes over time and space. The purpose of poverty line thus explained by the committee was to study the impact of the government programmes and policies on alleviating the poverty over time. But has it? Well that's yet another question to ponder on.....

This decision made by the government seems to be insensitive and quite callous. This is an unworkable resolution as it can inevitably affect the present beneficiaries of the various schemes like the Old Age Pension, Total Sanitation Campaign, Kerosene subsidy etc. The government is trying to put a cap on who can get the benefit and who cannot through its latest line of poverty; the choice of individuals not based on dimensions such as Consumption-Expenditure based method used by the Planning Commission to measure poverty figures.

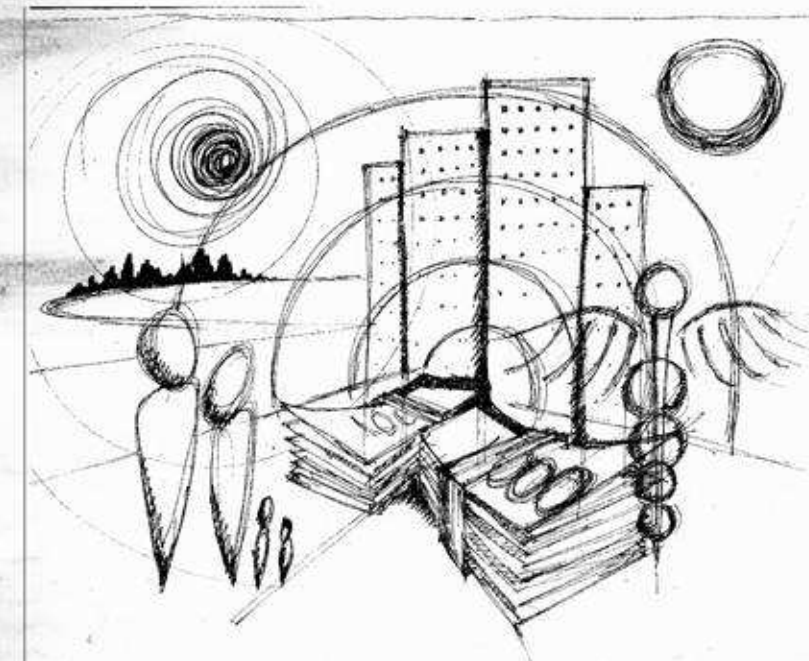
Hence presently through this, not all the targeted poor are benefitted. This causes the divide to swell between the rich and the poor - instead of decreasing it.

India is the second fastest leading economy after China. India spends greater than 2 percent of its GDP to reduce poverty. But factors like corruption, bad administration, underpayment and even limited benefits all undermine the efforts that are being made to alleviate this condition of poverty.

There is a clear lack of implementation. A simple example being the opening of government owned Public Distribution System (PDS) in order to tackle the food shortage problem. The PDS proved nothing and was totally flawed. The prime cause that is underlying all this is the lack of a good governance system - to be specific; there is neither accountability in the Indian Government nor any transparency. Hence the situation demands a new economic system as well as a new governance system. But all this can possibly be achieved if the endemic parasite of India... "Corruption" can be wiped off entirety from the face of India.

Hence, through the various safety nets that are implemented in India by the government, though not all of the poor, but at least a few, are coming out of the vicious and treacherous cycle of the Indian Poverty...

To end on an optimistic note "It is thus a long ride until poverty levels can be improved. But every little bit does help."



Doodle by : Dipankar Saikia, , IV Year (L); Rohit Juneja, II Year (R)

B.Plan SPA Delhi



Myths and Facts of Local Area Plan

Shashikant Nishant Sharma

IV Year B.Planning

SPA Delhi



Delhi is a big city-state whose most of the area has got urbanized or some are under urbanization process. In spite of various provisions, guidelines, norms and development controls; city has overrun the projected development potential and planned growth pattern giving rise to many problems. To address the ground realities, Municipal Corporation of Delhi initiated projects of preparation of Local Area Plan for 36 wards through different consultants. It should be noted that Delhi is one of the few Indian cities to have a Master Plan and Zonal Plans for guiding and controlling the urban growth and development. If you ever visit Delhi you will wonder how the city has evolved over a long time and still claim for the status of a heritage city; as the city planners and policy makers have ensured the conservation and promotion of its rich cultural and architectural heritage. Delhi has a well working Development Authority which has played a great role in giving Delhi a planned growth pattern.

To materialize the provisions of 74th Constitutional Amendment Act and to ensure decentralization of planning is to empower local people to take action and participate in various stages of plan preparation and plan implementation.

Decentralization can be perceived as a process with devolution of power, responsibilities, functions and finances to the local bodies. The primary objective of decentralization programs is to improve resource allocation and service delivery by bringing decision-making process closer to the citizens. Participatory planning is part of the decentralization process and it aims to identify the critical problems, joint priorities, and adoption of various socio-economic development strategies for the development and welfare of the community. As stated by Oltheten (1999), participatory planning is the initial step in the definition of a common agenda for development by a local community and an external entity or entities. Over the period, this initial step is expected to evolve for the parties concerned towards a self-sustaining development, planning process at the local level.

After working with two consultants with preparing the Local Area Plan till second stage, I felt there is almost no public participation in the plan making process, which I do think is good for any effective plan making process. The people, for whom the plan is being prepared, must be included in the plan making and implementation process. Only then can planning achieve its desired outcome. There should be clear cut guidelines for consultants to ensure public participation in order to make plan-making an authoritarian action. This is missing in the guidelines and various documents issued in this regard, through Delhi Development Authority and Municipal Corporation of Delhi; except for the customary objections and suggestions after the draft plan is prepared.

There are many differences in the plans prepared by the different consultants. In spite of some attempts

to universalize the legend; the legends used by different consultants are still different for the Local Area Plans, which is a basic for effective and easy interpretation of any plan.

There is no special act or regulation which ensures the preparation of Local Area Plan; and Master Plan of Delhi 2021 vaguely says that local municipal body can make local area plan for a ward. There is no specification of period for which a Local Area Plan will be prepared and revised, which may result in a planning exercise having no impact on ground reality but only in the academic field.

The planning boundaries of Local Area Plans are the existing municipal boundaries and have no or little conformity with the Zonal Plan boundaries already prepared and implemented. You might know that the municipal boundaries keep on changing to account for increase in population and creation of new wards according to population above the permissible limit decided by the Election Commission.

The pilot project taken up by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi is quite judicious and they have selected sample wards containing the old walled city, well planned colonies, squatter settlements, fringe areas, resettlement colonies, regularized and to be regularized areas, say the notified colonies. This selection will result in the identification of threats, opportunities, strength, weakness, problems, issues and potential of the areas and which are representative in nature of different parts of Delhi. This Local Area Plan preparation project will result in good database for further plan preparation and implementation of Local Area Plans.

The engagement of different consultants of Delhi will give valuable inputs for the intellectual and professional ideas in framing the proposals for different Local Areas Plans dealing with different nature of settlements spread across Delhi.

Delhi is a role model and trend settler in Urban Planning for India and the successful preparation and implementation will guide many small and large towns to adopt this planning model, mainly engaging the elected urban local bodies and the people of the town or city. This will surely help in popularizing and fructifying the concept of effective participatory planning and ultimately decentralization of planning.

In spite of many drawbacks, existing or perceived, the preparation of Local Area Plan is going to revolutionize the planning and its implementation in India.

References and Bibliography

- Thomas, Kurian (2003) "Kerala" in Inter-State Study on Rural Decentralisation, Project Report, Vinod Vyasulu and team, Centre for Good Governance Hyderabad: 70-87
- Oltheten. Theo M.P. (1999). Participatory Approaches to planning for Community Forestry, A synthesis report, Forests, Trees and People Programme, Forestry Department Working Paper No. 2.
- Isaac, Thomas, T M, with Richard Franke (2000): Local Democracy and Development: People's Campaign for Decentralised Planning in Kerala, Leftword, New Delhi.
- Prepared by Delhi Development Authority and approved by the Central Government under Section 11A(2) of Delhi Development Act 1957 and notified on 7th February 2007, Master Plan for Delhi, 2021

Traditional Solutions for Modern Cities

Barkha Shrivastava

III Year B.Planning

MANIT Bhopal



In this age of globalization, the cities across the globe are now a part of one large interconnected, interrelated & interdependent web & have dynamic ever-evolving functional linkages with each other. The current direction of this increasingly interrelating global economy has subsequently set the cities across the globe, against each other in a desperate race for grabbing even a small share of foot loose capital, beneficiary advantages and exponentially increasing trade & commerce profits.

India, which is now creating a significant impression in this vast global web due to its developing economy (which is quite stable too from the global ups & downs) & large efficient human capital, is slowly emerging as a frontrunner in the global scenario. Thus now, apart from serving as a centre of local, regional or national importance, the Indian cities are also perceived as important nodes in the dynamic global flows of finance, trade, migration and more recently, information. Consequently, many fold increase in the physical planning activities is inevitable, because of rapidly growing population, liberalization of the Indian economy and devolution of planning functions to the urban and rural local bodies so as to tackle the problems in a more grass root level. Thus, the economic progress of our country is now deeply linked not only with the quality/efficiency of manpower, but also with the managing capacity of the rural and urban local bodies.

Now this is a very huge & complex challenge before us, which can only be met with the total commitment of available professional and management expertise for addressing the task of urbanization & ensuring the proper managing capacity of the urban/rural local bodies. Apart from it, the 'sustainability' of new settlements also has to be taken care of. But, the present influx of foreign planners or principles being commissioned for several new townships makes one feel somewhat wary of what the future holds for us. Simply speaking, a lot depends upon the kind of direction that our very own committed professionals & their planning thoughts can suggest. They can probably help to define 'The Idealistic Approach' encompassing the traditional aspects of planning too, which was essentially present in older times, as observed in case of Ancient Indian Cities.

Let's consider an example. According to traditional aspect, the success of the settlement significantly depends upon how integral are the built up and open spaces. In other words, activity spaces and living spaces are merged with each other. Here, it is very clear that according to it, the intense and healthy social life emerges out of

appropriate symbiosis of built form and open spaces. Thus, a traditional city form, which follows these aspects, often reflects the closely knit fabric of built and open spaces. Then, the architecture itself is actually an expression of built, open and the relationship between them.

We all know that land is a very precious natural resource and more than fifty percent of area of any settlement is under residential land use. Thus to avoid the misuse & underuse of land and to provide a healthy social life to the residents, the traditional approach suggests that the element of positivity should always be incorporated while dealing with open spaces to use it more effectively. It clearly suggests that positive open spaces have architecture of their own; the important thing is how homogeneously those are integrated with architecture of built spaces to make it a designed space. Here lies the basic essence of the traditional aspect that the designed spaces are essentially 'finite' in nature; the only challenge is 'to provide the extent of such finite space by design'.

The problem often arises when the unfamiliar planners or the 'foreign' thoughts of planning try to fit their work in the local environment & topography. It's not that they are wrong in their aspects, but what they don't consider is the traditional aspect or approaches, which are more preferable for local scenarios or conditions which don't try to conquer nature but try to harmonize it. As it is said, history is the best tutor; & it is the traditional settlement which gave us the concept of hierarchy of open spaces and their significance in achieving better living conditions. Thus, it's essential that in individual towns and cities, indigenous framework for urban design should be developed. Not only it'll then attempt to give some identification to local customs and characteristics, but will also suggest deeper socio-economic and cultural roots. In this process, we need to assess the traditional social and cultural institutions and re-consider the validity of their re-expression in this globalized modern era.

We often realize this that apart from ensuring lively & dynamic open spaces, the 'katras', the 'mohallas' and the 'chowks' that were the expression of the extended joint family system and clan relationships, also fostered a strong sense of psychological and physical security. Some recent housing projects have attempted to recreate these values in current terms and these suggest new directions of interest, as in the case of TZED Homes in Bangalore. Thus, if the larger mass of housing that is now being implemented on a colossal scale as per the so called 'modern' physical plans across the country were based on clear traditional concepts of spatial organisation, pedestrian linkages etc., it could contribute in a big way to restore some measure of structure to the massive urban sprawl that usually characterizes most of our Indian cities.

Thus, in response to the changing role of Indian cities in these contemporary times, the physical planning process, in an attempt to be relevant, needs to be revisited again in its grassroots level & the traditional aspects should again be considered, in order to incorporate newer and more flexible approaches for addressing the current issues.



Future of Indian Cities: Urban India... A thought ahead...

Anannya Das

IV Year B.Planning

SPA Vijayawada



What is Urban India? A sense of power, information and hi-tech imagination. Future is about a leap, an enhancement, a virtual and spatial forecast in our thoughts in the arena of development. It is more likely an ideal situation we would like to have while funneling a step ahead towards urban India.

A drive towards urbanism..... A gap over 40 years from hence when uncertainty can be transformed into opportunity.

This is not only about sustainability but also inclusiveness towards planning the future. Geo-spatial view with part to techno and human ware is the requirement of speculative planning and development at all stages since past.

On the verge of becoming the next super power; India, the habitat of 2 billion lives and the heart stock of future economy, science and technology, and largest pool of eminent human resource. This is where the need of cities arises; we often doubt the current development processes which exists as a result of the consequential situation prevailing in India. Urbanization is taking place from the nub and crux of necessity.

In subsequent decades development will be faster than imagined because it is all about the demand and push that is created. A land of 3 million graduates in all perspectives will thrive to its best. All round investment and the large service provision in terms of money, resource, brands of commercial activity is soon to happen. Skyline of Indian cities will drastically change due to increasing concrete height as there would be increase in number of people, professionals and activities. As projected by a research in US, 25% of GDP of 9 most developed nations in the world would be with India. A situation with stable parliamentary with perspective decision makers empowering and sustaining lives.

As stated by Davis (1965) Stage 3 urbanization (75% urban area) when an urban area ceases to become stagnant will be banging at the door of India 2050. Urbanization welcomes not only opportunities but threats also. But as planners we are destined to be positive and think about welfare curtailing the threats of reality. So why not take up positivity towards urbanization, in emergence of the corridor of wise thinking?

New opportunities that create complementariness and necessitate reorganizations of production can be well observed in urban India. Cities can be termed as a resource hub where human history is replete with instances of how diffusion of general technologies has been transforming societies. New societies with compact houses are yet to

come, techno facilities that can structure built-forms to serve different mood and function at different times of necessity. Constantly increasing land demand has fetched into consideration the geo-space and time management factor together. Land will be crushed to its optimization. Our future might not have Sunday as 'universal holiday' as today. Introduction of 24 hour time management will not only serve humanity worldwide, but improve standard and also increase amount of work production, management, organization, opportunities and employment.

Intelligent transport system with on-road traffic sensitive cells and robotics in traffic management will be operational then. A city where Honeycomb skywalks would overlap the metro picture, connecting skyscraper door numbers of awakening activities. This will happen because that will be the time when the requirement of walking will get lost. Fleet will be required for a grade separated town. Road Traffic may not be such a serious problem with introduction of technology reducing the need to travel across for any effort to be accomplished.

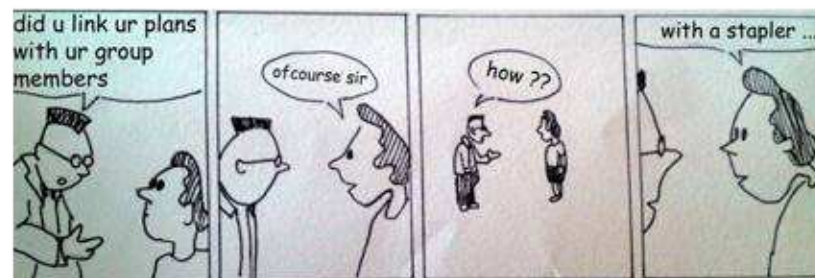
North-eastern zone of the country can take shape of Sustainable cities even faster due to its abundant reserve of natural resources and unexplored land resource. It will be a time when recycling and reuse will become compulsory as eating and sleeping. Solid waste energy production, renewable fuel- cars etc. will be at usable heights. Sustainable sea-water energy extraction and coastal cities may be flourishing.

Current weak infrastructure, acting as a stimulus for outsourcing global investment from offshore companies in the cities of India, will also be a driving cause for the rich futuristic economy of India. 2050- India will march towards sustainability for being the next global superpower. Geo-spatial view with part to techno and human ware in planning and development will make it possible.

One more reason for this enhancement can be the spatial, vertical, demographic, economic growth of mega cities, metropolitan cities and other large cities. According to a study by US banking group Citi, India will be the world's largest economy within 39 years. Projected Indian GDP as per PPP will be \$85.97 trillion. With an estimated population of 1.63 billion, India will have per capita income of \$53,000 which comes in the range of present wealthiest countries like Switzerland and Norway. Preparing towards such vision of urban India is challengeable in all sectors of functioning power, urban-governance and policy making. There have been constraints, always in the context of development. Similarly, uncertainty and transformation as well has no captivity.

The concept of urban India is not that impossible when there are examples of cities registering high economic growth. 60 years of independence has resulted in the present development; so why not use next 60 years to get grip of enhanced development.

A new India - changing the world and itself.....



Cartoon by : Harshita Rathi, III Year B.Plan, SPA Delhi



Development Paradigm

Aagya Purohit

II Year Urban & Regional Planning
CEPT University

“Hidden behind city branding exercises through large projects are acts of land capture and slum demolitions by a predatory local state and crony capitalism. In the policy arena, meanwhile, the urban, and particularly the metropolitan story has been one of deliberate confusion, and fragmentation of policy and implementation. The promise of Rapid City transformation has not been met through the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, which does something for infrastructure and something for housing but all in an uncoordinated project-by-project manner. Neither the infrastructure agenda nor shelter security for all is advanced. The urban reality instead has been one of gradual improvement, with or without these policy and branding initiatives.”

(REFERENCE : Mahadevia, Darshini in “Branded and Renewed? Policies, Politics and Processes of Urban Development in the Reform Era”, EPW July 30, 2011 Vol XVI No 31)

The sketch tries to have an artistic depiction of that side of the truth which is inherent but is avoided. A question asked more often now. What about the people at the other side of the project? What about them who has to deal with the immediate effects of decisions on development- projects? In this poem and the sketch asks such a man of his fallacious truth. In the long run where would my future lie and where would I be. If the decisions are made, my water or my precious truth I am a part of you and the color is red because now it has my vows too.

*Few People Decide
Where I Would Be
Few People Decide
My Life To Be*

*Vows You Gave Me
My Mother Water
Time Old
Names Any
They Could Be*

*If You Take It
The Beauty
Of Water
My Blood Had Traces Left
On It*

*O Narmada
O Sabarmati
U Flow
Endlessly
And My Truth
Your Fallacy.*



DEVELOPMENT PARADIGM -2



Financial Leveraging Strategies for Urban Transport

Anugrah Anil Nagaich

III Year B. Planning

MANIT Bhopal



Archimedes famously said: "Give me a lever long enough and a place to stand, and I can move the Earth." To lift a heavy object, there is a choice: whether to use leverage or not. A task can be performed, say to plan & implement a metropolitan scale urban public transportation system; directly – risking injury or say incompleteness or loss – or one can use a lever, say a financial leveraging aid, to transfer some of the weight, and then lift the object that way. Using leverage is simply the art and science of getting much more done with the same, or less effort. Thus by applying the concept of leverage in any field, including the rapidly growing transportation sector, one can accomplish very much more than one can without it. Without leverage, the efforts can be very hard, and the rewards or returns are limited by the initial investment one puts in. With leverage, it's possible to break this connection and, in time, achieve very much more in comparison with the previous scenario.

Leverage is a process that involves borrowing resources that are paired with existing assets and utilized to bring about a desired outcome to a project. Leverage normally designates a strategy simply for arranging better finances & resources for investment, in which the borrowed capital, or any other debt, is invested with the expectation of hopefully yielding a higher return to equity. In essence, leverage strategies potentially offer a superior return prospective or opportunities, although these strategies are mainly intended for investments with high risk tolerances. With leveraged investing, a larger initial investment can result in greater overall growth of the investment. It is evident that this strategy is only lucrative when the return is equal or larger than the total cost of the funds borrowed. Even if the direct return only equals the interest charged on the loan borrowed for investment in a particular scheme or a project, an implementation firm still stands to benefit since the investments acquired will produce return over and over, again further on down the road, as present in case of many transportation projects running under the Build-Operate-Transfer scheme. Additionally, leverage can provide a direct line of funds if a good business opportunity arises in a time when the firm has no funds of its own available to invest.

It often happens that the government faces some critical issues related to the funding or financing of large scale urban transportation projects, as this process is very cumbersome due to the expensiveness of the capital investments on the transportation infrastructure & the recurrent expenditure occurring on the maintenance & up keeping of the project. Thus, apart from a heavy initial investment, it also requires continuous stream of financial resources till the returns from the project start to repay the original incurred cost. These issues can be effectively tackled by applying appropriate financial leveraging strategies according to the nature, type & potential outcome (both good as well as worst case) of the transport project/scheme. Some available leveraging strategies of finance are parking fees, land value capture, land tax, public private partnership and advertising at city/

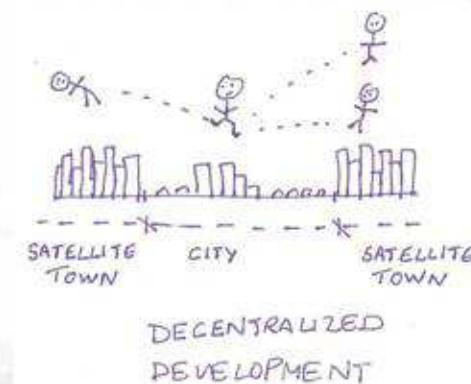
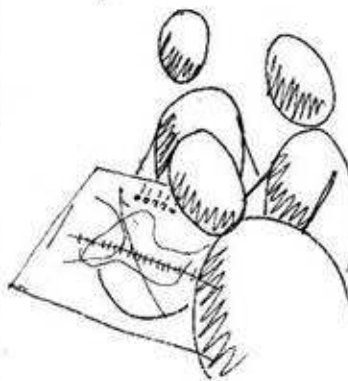
local level; fuel taxation & vehicle taxation etc. Land Value Capture is one such important method for arranging the finances, which is based on the change in the land values due to the potential outcomes of a transportation project. This method of leveraging has been implemented in many cases across the globe & in one such case of a metro corridor in Copenhagen, Denmark, it recovered around 45% of the construction cost apart from the fact that the real estate tax contributed about 16% to the metro system. Also, the private sector can also be involved in the process in various ways, for example, as in Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT), Build-Own-Operate (BOO) and Design-Build-Finance-Operate (DBFO) schemes. Some good examples of public transport using PPPs are Bangkok mass transit system, Jerusalem light rail transit and Astana light rail transit.

But, like the opposite side of a coin, there are common risks involved as well as here, leveraged investing can magnify both losses and gains, i.e., the gain or loss experienced will be magnified relative to the performance of the investment done on a project. Also, the degree of financial leverage required to achieve the desired outcome will vary, based on several factors like maintaining a favorable leverage ratio between available assets & resources in hand & the amount of acquired debt, the degree of financial leverage inherent in the proposed deal etc. Operating financial leverage is another factor to consider. In its broadest application, this factor has to do with the positive or negative impact that the leveraging process is likely to have on the general operation of any project that is initiating the proposed strategy.

The focus of any type of leveraging is usually to better the financial position of an entity or agency responsible for the execution of a project in some way. Often, the approach is employed when there is a very good chance at success and that success can be significantly increased in terms of a return by augmenting existing resources with others that are borrowed for the short term, like in the cases of a large scale urban transport project. As with any type of growth strategy, it is a good idea to investigate the potential outcomes of any financial leveraging strategy before engaging the strategy. This means looking at worst case scenarios as well as what gains could be achieved under the best of circumstances.



Planning - do we know it



Doodle by : Aditi Dwivedi, III Year (L); Dipankar Saikia, IV Year (R)

B.Plan SPA Delhi



Chharanagar : Another Rendezvous with the Oblivion

Aagya Purohit

II Year Urban & Regional Planning
CEPT University



In the journey of life, steering along the crosses and U-turns, we spearhead ourselves unaffected in many ways. Then at a certain turn we encounter a place which influences our preoccupied notions and prejudices, and changes our outlook drastically. This was the turn that I landed upon fortunately on the day of my visit to Chharanagar in Ahmedabad. From the broad roads, enormous huge beautiful buildings; after driving for about 20 km, when gradually the roads turned to shabby narrow streets, buildings took the size of small shops, frequent traffic to crowded streets and hustle bustle; I knew I have reached a different place. It was the Chharanagar, within the city but not a part of the city. As if lying untouched, unknown, and segregated from the whole.

Chharanagar is an urban settlement in Ahmedabad, dating back to the 19th century. The Chharas are just one of the many tribes that were labeled as "criminals" or "Notified tribes" by the British under India's Criminal Tribes Act of 1871, to solve their law and order problems. In 1952, five years after independence, the Criminal Tribes Act was finally repealed. But instead of accepting these tortured tribes, whole heartedly in the main stream system, Independent India declared these tribes 'denotified' giving a way to the "respected" society; to alienate this section of people as "born criminals". Released from the forced labor camp (nau kholi- nine rooms were allotted to the entire tribe in the outskirts of Ahmedabad as a reformatory cell) which had been their prison for the past forty years, the Chhara were resettled on the outskirts of Ahmedabad, in Chharanagar. Roughly 3 square miles, with a population of over 20,000, this place today is used as a 'beggar's home'.

The name of notified criminals, although was removed after the independence; they have been facing the prejudice of being criminals, offensive in eyes of people or the police and segregated socially by others. No jobs, no respect, constant surveillance by the police, imprisonment without any explanation, and out casted by the society. These people are infamous and held responsible for stealing petty things and production of liquor. This is the life of the people of Chhara tribe.

My earlier ordeal with introspection was never at any substantial discovery about myself and about my latent feelings. Pangs were as remote as stars until the hair-raising act by the young girl of Budhan that day. Budhan is a brilliant endeavor, a theatre formed by a group of people in Chharanagar in their attempts to create a space for themselves to establish an identity and to prove that they are not born criminals but born performers. And as I realized when I saw the 'Bulldozer'; that who is the actual criminal, them or us? "Bulldozer", an act which was performed, was an eye opener, throwing light on how the life of Charras is affected (apart

from being treated as criminals). The act showed an incident of the pathetic, inhumane behavior of the municipality, throwing away people, removing them from their dwellings or the places of work, in the name of beautifying the city. The agonized shrieks of the girl, in the act, that reflected a woman who had lost her unborn baby, when she tried to run away and save herself from the bulldozer, taking their life away; is still afresh pinning me since then. Is planning development limited to just drawing lines, unaware of those who would actually bear it, especially those who are already struggling for their mere existence?

"Vo katl bhi karte hain to charcha nahi hota, hum aahh bhi bharte hain to ho jate hain badnam"

As per the discussion with one of the residents, Budhan depicts the vows of people who suffered when, without prior notice or without consent, the authorities came & shattered their life. During the events in city such as festivals or celebrations, they have to move them out or "Sweep away the garbage elsewhere". It is ironic that in places, on their way to be recognized globally; there still exist groups of people who are struggling for their survival. It is not a new phenomenon and usually years of suffering slouch under the consequences of the development of cities. It has become more or less a phenomenon now. Are people not a part of the process of being ahead. At the apex, it would be just a false hood, over the cries of unnumbered people. Are we not creating another ditch or a social drift? This beautification is like merely, covering broken furniture with a cloth!

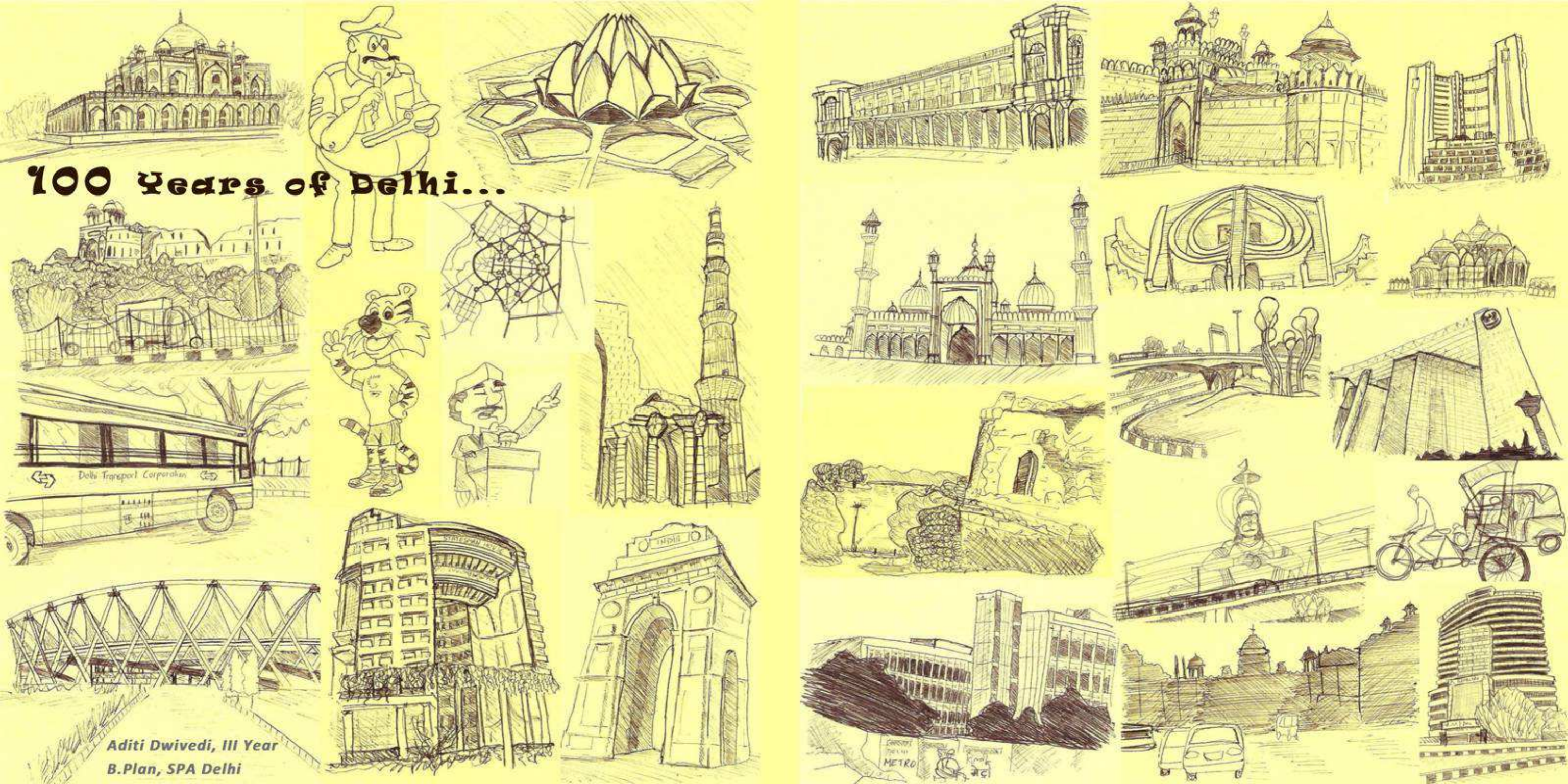
The wind needs to veer, to venerate the soul of the city, which is not the parks, the buses, the gardens or the beautiful places, but the ones who are breathing, who are living in it. The need of the hour is to have a comprehensive inclusive development which is not achieved over the tragedies of humanity. The role of the government in it is obvious and undeniable but the people and organizations in positions of bringing about a change hold no less importance in dealing with the situation. How is it that a plan cannot be made in such a manner that all sectors of the settlements are benefitted at the same time?

On my way to be a planner; what is important to me the most is the way to deal with such situation and to admit this negative side of the society, which has been anchored deep and is hard to eradicate, but not impossible. Why cannot, a place like Chharanagar be involved in the uplift processes. Make this huge space into a community upbringing or raise an economic driver that gives them a dignified role in the process of progress. Many household level industries, education centers that make them aware of their abilities, can be incorporated that give them their identities. Provide them with such opportunity, spaces to function that the other sectors of the society have to contact them. For example, the field of defense can actually contribute by making it a place to work for the Chharas. Dignity is directly related to usefulness. Provide them spaces to be useful and to revive a status of their own. A slow, but a sure way out.

It is not possible to come to solutions so easily while writing on a piece of paper, but in verbiage it's to just start believing that things can be changed.



100 Years of Delhi...



Aditi Dwivedi, III Year
B.Plan, SPA Delhi

“Ghar sajane ka tassavur to bahut baad ka hai, pahle ye toh ho ki is ghar ko bachayein kaise”

Developing or beautifying a place cannot mean to put a cover on a torn book but first you have to mend it. It's the priority that matters; it's a comprehension of planning, uplifting and raising a voice. The priority should not be the look of the city but the inner beauty of the city that lies within the factor of happiness and satisfaction of the people. Benefitting all sectors by creating some dependability might lead to some respect for those denied. It's the voice that has to reach to numerous people like you and me. It's not that people are reluctant but may be they are unaware of the conditions. People need to be aware of the agonies of their neighbors in the society, those who are living in the same city, but as unknown, indifferent and humiliated life. Generating a truculent feeling amongst people is the need of the hour and to let know of the iniquitous systems prevailing.

It is not utopia and I can visualize the girl in the play of Budhan, acting and narrating her story, from the agony to the pleasures and from depths of unidentified dark, to the development process that they are an important part of.



Library in Chharanagar



Children of 'Budhan'



Social Defense Department at Chharanagar

References

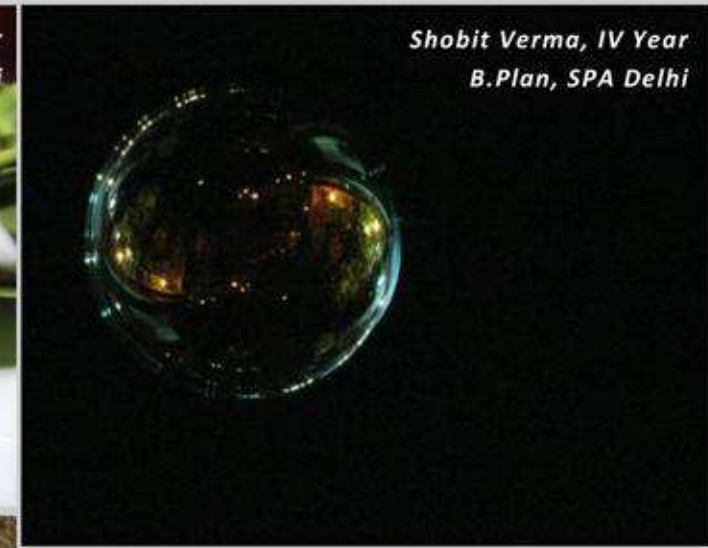
- <http://budhantheatre.org/>
- Verma ,Priyanka , “True Survivors – People of Chharanagar”
- <http://priyankavarma.wordpress.com>



Cartoon by : Harshita Rathi, III Year B.Plan, SPA Delhi



Aditi Dwivedi, III Year
B.Plan, SPA Delhi



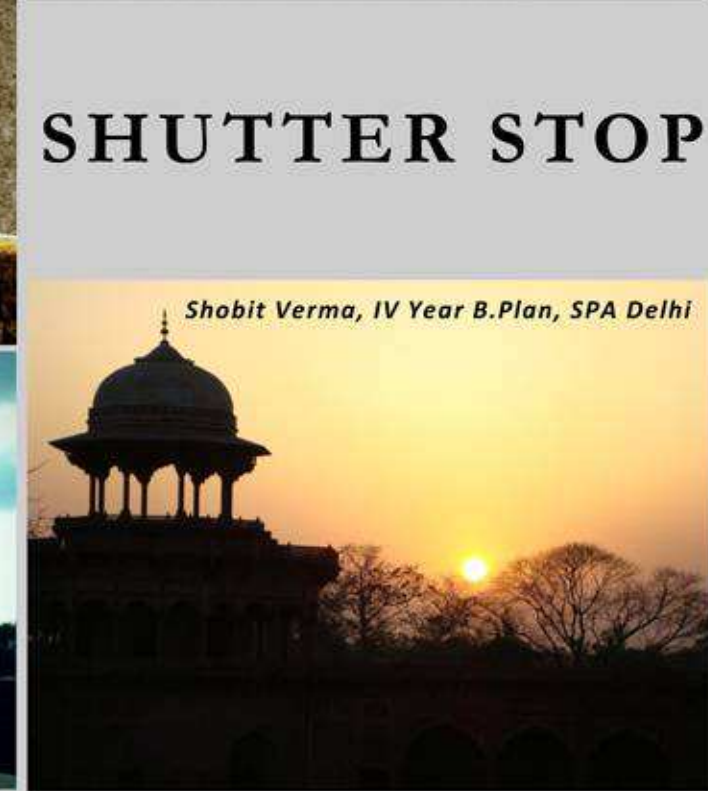
Shobit Verma, IV Year
B.Plan, SPA Delhi



Aruna Karmakar, II Year B.Plan, SPA Delhi



Prateek Verma, II Year B.Plan, SPA Delhi



Shobit Verma, IV Year B.Plan, SPA Delhi

SHUTTER STOP

It's Good from Far but Far from Good

Ayush Upadhyay
I Year B.Planning
SPA Vijayawada

I clearly remembered that day, when I was feeling like...

"Tomorrow is a big day. Tomorrow I go ahead and chase my dreams."

Ok fine, i will tell you, that day was my entrance exam, an exam with an awfully long name. My parents, friends and probably even you called it AIEEE. It is supposedly for admission to the best planning, architectural and engineering colleges in the country. I was not very hopeful that I could have a decent shot at it. My centre was my own school, which was the only comfort.

And so ended the saga, a 3 year long journey through a treacherous terrain of books, sports, crushes, friends, night chat etc. Yes! I had made it to a college.

I wouldn't say I was ecstatic. It was more like an 'I am not sad' feeling. With all the useless entrance formalities out of the way, I had finally got a chance to associate myself with one of the biggest names in the country. It finally felt like I had something worthwhile in my life. As I reflect back today, I don't know how to put all those experiences in one word. "Disappointment" sounds strong. "Happy" isn't what I felt. "Satisfied" definitely doesn't fit the bill either. I mean come on! Think about it, I don't even know what we are doing and what we are supposed to do. Even now I don't understand planning. It feels like a 4 year long journey or maybe holiday, begun with a bunch of strangers who later became friends.

The quality of students entering into this mostly barren campus is not the one to be questioned. So what is it that changes? Why is it that just after a few months, we lose the entire urge and all the fire, to actually strive for success? Is this the same with colleges all over the globe, or are we special?

We are constantly being bombarded with reasons for not attending classes. And we find the most atrocious excuses to stay in our small little havens. It is because we don't feel like studying? But then why would we have come here? It is because of the quality of professors? But again they do hold a long list of degrees. Are the teachers nonchalant because of the students or is the other way round?



Painting by: Shubham Kaul, III Year B.Plan, SPA Delhi

People might say that it doesn't matter, as long as we get our usual quota of above 7 pointer and a job at the end. But are those really important when deep beneath we all know what our mettle is? Till now I have watched more hours of movies and TV series than that of study. This wasn't what I had set out to do. Where has that long tradition of creating sharp minds gone? Has it eroded into all the red tape and bureaucracy that we see around us? Why are we more concentrated about our GT schedules than our studies? None of us would have missed classes during all those years of coaching, so why now? Does the college not have what we need? Or have we grown too lazy to go and get what we need? Teachers don't seem to care how much we learn as long as we can manage to write it out on papers in an ordeal lasting 3 hours. We don't feel ashamed to go and ask for papers a day before the exam and why should we, when we blame teachers for not forcing the classes upon us?

But now that the first semester is over, I am happy with what I have; a cool bunch of friends and a college to live my dreams.



Doodle by : Aditi Dwivedi, III Year B.Plan, SPA Delhi



Can we be a strong Youngistan?

Talleen Khirwadkar

II Year B.Planning

SPA Bhopal



One day a thought struck me: what would happen if we really had magic like in Harry Potter books? Harry's magic tricks though seemingly unreal, fascinate us all the time. Do we need such magic to change the ugly face of our nation? Can't young people like us take up the cudgels to make our beloved country an India of our dreams? A huge chunk of our country's population is young and vibrant. So can we be a strong Youngistan?

One of the greatest ills India suffers from is lack of education. Although five years ago Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan was launched by the government to spread education, we are yet to see the day when each and every child learns the alphabet and can read and write. When street children were asked what they thought was the single most important way their lives could change they said, "Education of course! With education you can earn respect, you gain knowledge and you build your life."

What can we, as youngsters, do to change this scenario, when, we go to school but thousands of other children work under most inhuman conditions? We can be vigilant and inform the authorities concerned. We can coax our parents and neighbors into not employing young children as household help. We can work as volunteers with NGOs to remove illiteracy in rural areas. They need young blood to take up their summer projects in villages. Whatever knowledge we have about health, sanitation and hygiene, we can spread through these projects.

India has a tradition of assimilating different cultures. The various religious traditions and communities have lived together in peace barring a few exceptional circumstances. We, as youngsters, can break the barriers of caste, creed and religion and follow the religion of humanity. This will free our minds and we can move towards common goal of world peace. If we decide to celebrate the various festivals of each religion together it would certainly help our country to get rid of social barriers. We can start a youngsters' congress where youngsters from every corner of India can come together and enjoy each other's folk art, music and dance. Student's organizations like NOSPLAN can act as significant platforms for exchange of ideas and cultures between youngsters of all hues and colors.

Recently I worked as a volunteer in a centre for street children in a railway station where we could teach children to read and write in just one month. Such efforts always bring hope and joy. If we have the will, our little flame can spread like fire and awaken the light of knowledge.

My heart goes out to all those poor and hungry people of my country who do not get 2 square meals a day. In areas



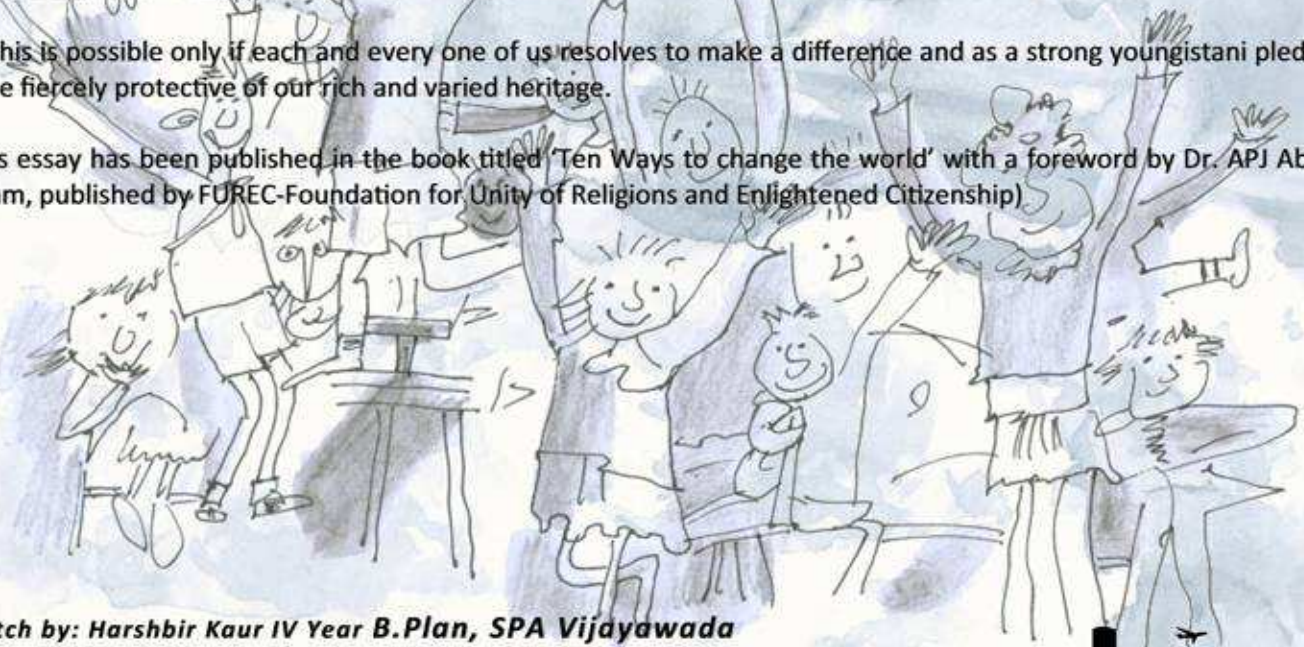
like Melghat, children suffer from malnutrition. With forest wealth denuding and no other means of livelihood, such tribal people are victims of poverty. The government schemes for provisions of nutritious food are many but the process is slow and is caught up in the shackles of corruption. What these hungry people need is not just cereals but a means of livelihood. Here too, the drives for education and awareness about their right of food and health need to be undertaken on a large scale. Instead of giving rations through government offices, these poor people need to be given these directly by trucks from the Food Corporation of India.

Not only do babies die of malnutrition but thousands of new born girls die because their parents kill them either before they are born or after. In India, even in this 21st century, raising a girl child is considered a burden. In states like Haryana and Rajasthan, the gender inequality is taking very dangerous proportions... 'Save the Girl Child' is the motto of many NGO's and government schemes.

We have become a leader in information technology and space and satellite imaging and biotechnology but the fruits are still not reaching the average Indian. We must think of ways to let the development reach the rural folk in remote villages. Information technology, if utilized properly, can reach village internet kiosks. At these places the small farmers, village traders and craftsmen can get the best price for their produce and goods. They can thus reach global markets through e-chaupals. Such novel ways have shown a bright path to many farmers in Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand. Weather reports, information on seeds and fertilizers, best crops to be grown are some of the informative uses of computer network. We need to change our mindset that computers are friendly for urban savvy people. There are many examples of boys and girls doing commendable jobs for their village folk by opening cyber cafes, e-offices and educational centres in rural India.

All this is possible only if each and every one of us resolves to make a difference and as a strong youngistani pledges to be fiercely protective of our rich and varied heritage.

(This essay has been published in the book titled 'Ten Ways to change the world' with a foreword by Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, published by FUREC-Foundation for Unity of Religions and Enlightened Citizenship)



Sketch by: Harshbir Kaur IV Year B.Plan, SPA Vijayawada

Planning Premier League

Aditya Ajit
IV Year B.Planning
SPA Delhi



Outside the world of submissions, reviews, land uses, equity and GIS we tried to create a small world of own and started calling it Planning Premier League. Planning Premier League as taken/copied/inspired from the Indian Premier League (refer to the umpteen Kolaveri Di versions, we come from the same country) was the brainchild of a young bunch of guys bored of the "morning – sheets – college – sheets – submission – sheets – home – sheets – dream about sheets" life and soon became the only reason for us to come to college.

Planning Premier League is an unofficial cricket league created by the students of SPA in 2009. It is played in the SPA campus (which is a little more than a basketball court, but you've got to take what you get) with 8 – 10 teams. Each match is 6 over match with some modified rules owing to ITPI windows and SPA parking (if player hits the ball into the ITPI campus he is rendered "out" plus a punishment of fetching the ball). The league is now in its third edition and has been converted into PPL T20 which has 20 balls per team and the aforesaid rule being taken out resulting in a rain of sixes.

PPL is not just about these 8 players coming together and playing cricket, it is much more. It has given us a platform to interact with our juniors and seniors which otherwise is very difficult as everybody is too busy with their submissions. It acts as a socializing space where we come along, sit and talk about practically everything that is happening around from Politics to Justin Beiber to Ferrari to Global economy. We have our very own set of cheerleaders as well but not with pom-poms and glittery clothes but as team owners, every team is owned by girls who are present during the match. They sit as scorers for the match, click really amazing pictures and motivate the players. Even the people who do not play come and sit along, give commentary and enjoy the atmosphere. All these things add to the fun and galore.

When we play at times there are situations which are difficult and things get heated up and a lot of pleasantries are exchanged, but during all those times we have constantly tried to carve out solutions through talks and logical reasoning. PPL has helped us a lot to work as unit, finding solutions in the time of conflict, understanding group dynamics and enhanced team spirit.

All in all we just love it and it will be taken as a big memory even after we leave this place. "Viva La SPA!!"



Distant Dreams

Ritika. H. Nagpure
M.Planning
CEPT University



*Reflections, often a collage
Dreams are a conniving mirage
Realistic dreams, optimistic dreams, fantastic dreams,
drastic dreams
What I have are the "distant dreams"*

*Everything seems to be at a distance
Trying to approach something,
Something that is forever moving ahead
I take a pause, breathe and pursue
The search to incarcerate those dreams
My distant dreams*

*Hurdles, obstacles, endless roads
All leading towards the distant dream
And when I almost reach, the whole world spins
In a huge leap it transforms into another distant dream*

*A dream within a dream, a vicious circle
That never completes its spin
From the inception of a distant dream
Follows the deception of my being.*

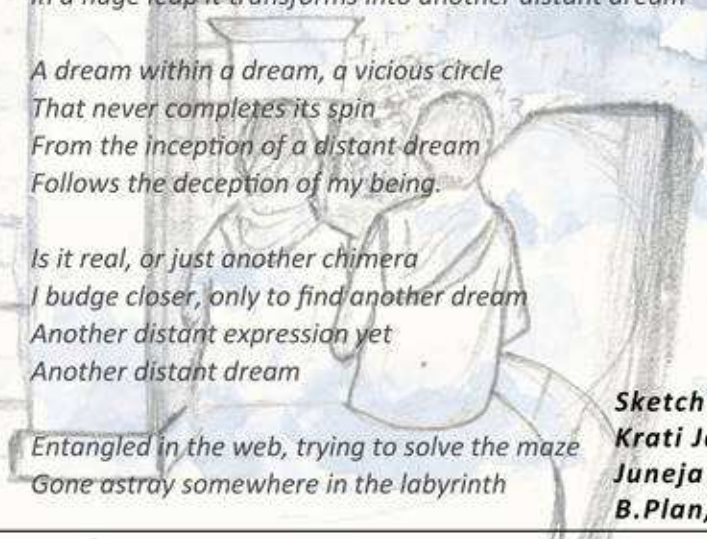
*Is it real, or just another chimera
I budge closer, only to find another dream
Another distant expression yet
Another distant dream*

*Entangled in the web, trying to solve the maze
Gone astray somewhere in the labyrinth*

*Sinking deeper to profoundness
Struggling hard to find an escape
I reach emptiness
Right in the center of the maze
The nothingness solved the mystery*

*The frames resolved, patching up a story
Images from my past and the reeling of my present
The aspirations, inhibitions and expectations of the my future
Nothing had changed, except the vantage point*

*Standing there alone in the emptiness
Instantly resolving my distant dreams
I could clearly see them unravel
Those are pure reflections of thoughts – Yours and mine*



Sketch by:
Krati Jain (L), Rohit Juneja (R), II Year B.Plan, SPA Delhi



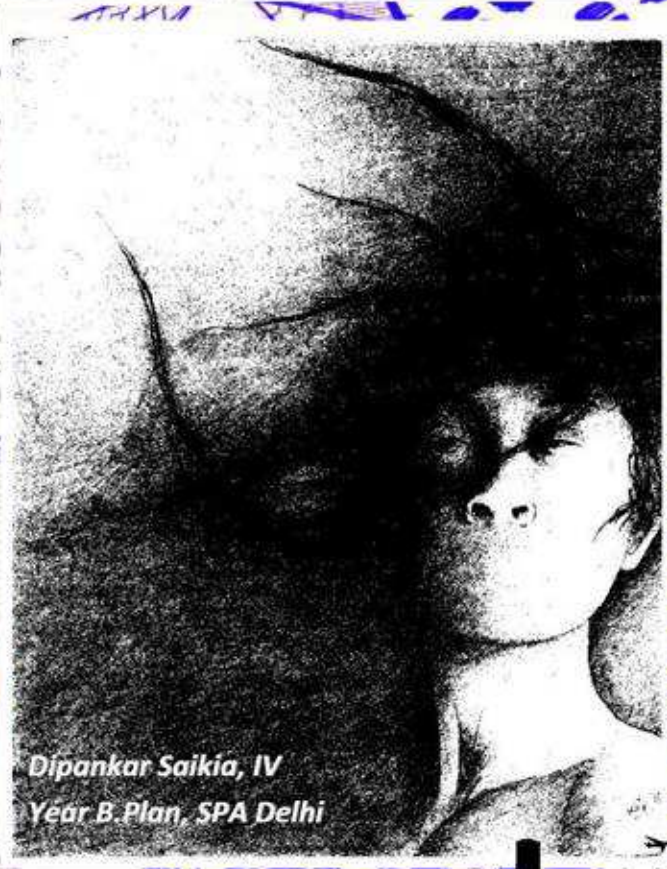
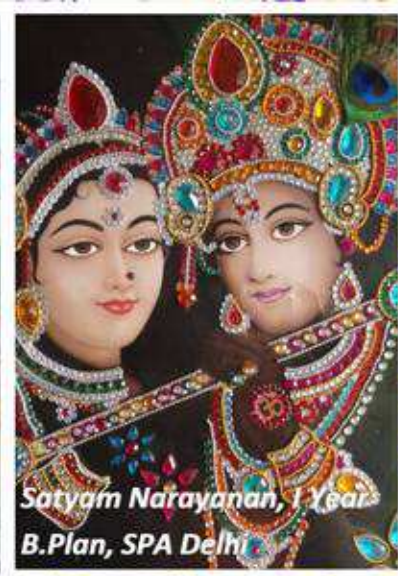
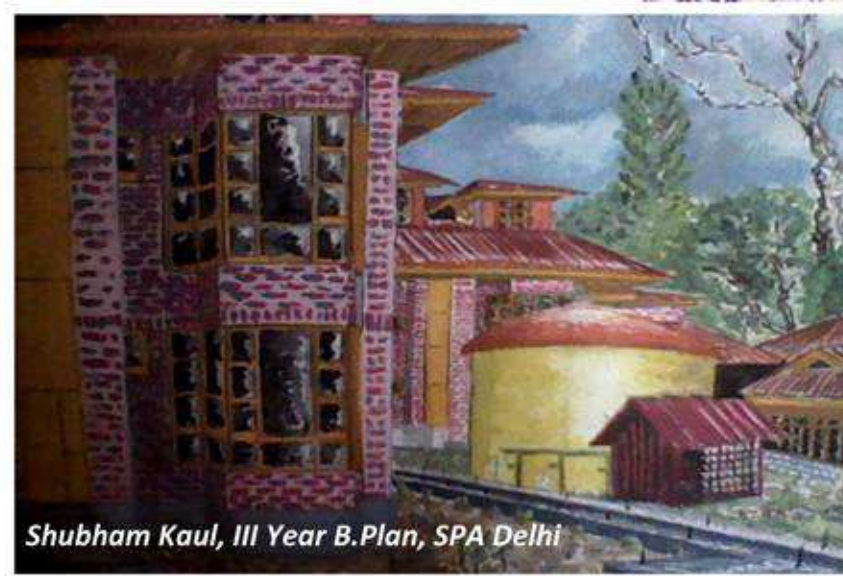
i wish i were in 3D



PLANNER MEMES



Cartoon by: Gautam Rawat, Pooja Rao, III Year B.Plan, SPA Delhi



LOST IN MIST

Shefali Parashar
II Year B.Planning
SPA Delhi

*Is it just the winter
Or the world is in a haze
When you can't see their hearts
And situations appear as maze
Is it just the winter
Or they are getting colder
So purposeful with aims
Which one is ladder and which is shoulder
Is it just the winter
Or it's hurting more than ever
Was is it me being the blind
And they being the clever
Is it just the winter
Or my heart is burning
As my lips release the vapors
In the process of learning*

*Is it just the winter
Or they becoming cold blood
I'm dying for warmth
In this tearful flood
Is it just the winter
Or I am seeing the sunny bright ray
Because if winter comes
Spring is not far away!*

Painting by: Prateek Verma, II Year B.Plan, SPA Delhi

Good Words

Shefali Parashar
II Year, B.Planning
SPA Delhi

*I've been looking good words for a while
Lost in thoughts and a mysterious smile
Should I count the stars?
Or those shining cars
To tell you something that you already know?
Should I swim the sea?
Or just find a key
To tell you something that you already know?
I've been looking good words for a while...
Just walking with you through the mile
Should I spill my heart?
Or should I stop my start
To tell you something that you already know?
I've been looking good words for a while...
Blushing and walking in that flowery aisle
I've been looking good words for a while!*

Painting by: Rohit Juneja, II Year
B.Plan, SPA Delhi



Dream

Shashikant Nishant Sharma

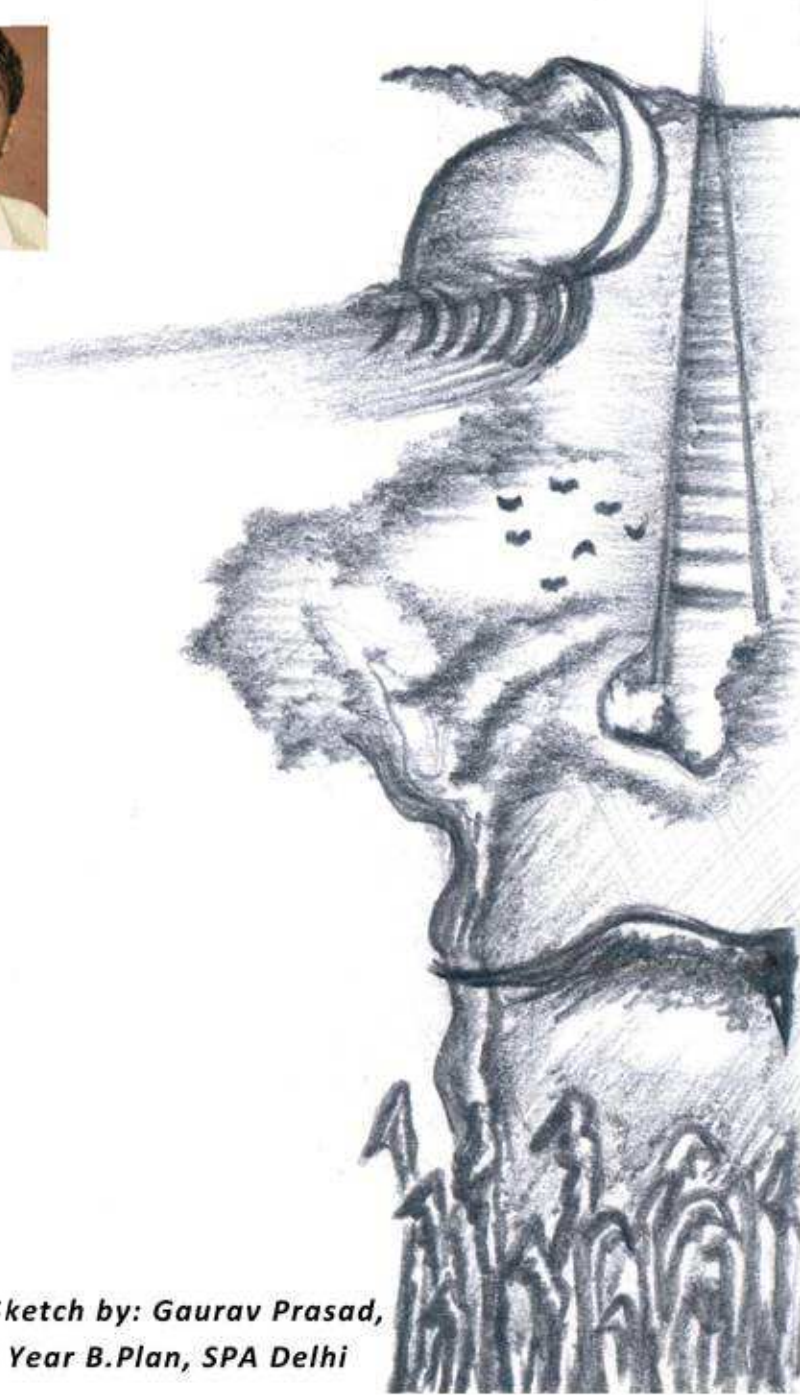
IV Year B.Planning

SPA Delhi



*Dream dream dream
And dream untill dream come true
Life is nothing but dreams
Some accomplished, some unfinished
Some dreams are trifle, some cherished
You are nothing but a result of dreams
Dreams, dreams and nothing but dreams
A dream of someone
or a dream of your own
Dream is not what you dream while asleep
Dream is what that don't let you sleep
You live for dream
and you die for dream
Your unattained desires are dreams
What you all desire are dreams
You can't accomplish unless you dream
What you accomplished was a dream
The law of attraction and power of passion
All say: dream, dream and dream.*

*Sketch by: Gaurav Prasad,
I Year B.Plan, SPA Delhi*



Forgiveness...

Rajeev R

IV Year B.Planning

SPA Vijayawada

*I spat at your profound apologies
I cursed you would trip over the devil's tail
And that when you walked that fine bridge,
Heaven on one side, Hell on the other
In your right hand, all the good deeds of your day
And in your left, all the sins for which you'd pay,
You would tip into the licking flames
And my vengeance, at long last, sated.*

*My regrets are many
Silent and deep
Promises I'd forgotten; I'd sworn to keep
Memories are a curse
And to remember them - a sin
But could I forget
How you stabbed me from within?
Years you waited to gain my trust
And it took you but moments to sever it,
To desecrate that immortal strand.*

*Your life lay strewn around me
Though at first, blinded by disbelief I see
What you were,
What you could have been...
A book of poems;
Why is my name etched inside?*

*It is you I see trapped here, your soul
Not your mistakes, not your faults
Not the choices you made
For your footsteps here, will forever stay
Every step and stagger,
Every moment of every day.*

*Confessions we have to make - Many
But there wasn't time for goodbyes
Nor enough words
Your deceptions have eaten you alive
Yet, I hope
With eternal sleep comes peace.*

*But wait!!!
Pause I must
For, what is this rosy hue upon my horizon?
This new scent in my breeze?
What is it that has brought strength to your sense?
And brought the comfort that I sought, to my wounds,
to my past?*

*Could it be... ..
Why must I hesitate?
Tremble? Or falter?
For I know it is forgiveness;
A little late, Yes,
But in a world of smoke and mirrors,
You may rest, dear friend,
Forgiven...*

Painting by: Shubham Kaul, III Year B.Plan, SPA Delhi



From the Deep

Rajeev R

IV Year B.Planning

SPA Vijaywada

As the sun goes down with a sleepy shine
As men turn homeward to recline
As sunlight dim on this land of mine
I head onward with an unheard whine.

My path is green and desolate—untreated, untrodden
And I pray others aren't this way led
For here you clamber, to death or dismay
Loneliness your brethren, Darkness everyday

Traversed have I on every human plane,
And I have come to understand, come to maintain...
That there is nothing called joy, there is only sorrow
That swells and ebbs, with each morrow

But young that I am and yet to understand
More of this world, this immortal strand
More of this life, that around me goes
With its pleasure and pain, happiness and woes.

Every step that I take, every moment awake
I use it all, just for my sake
For the dust of the planes that I have been on alone
Makes me all sick, it makes me all worn.

I know time that were much better
When aplenty they were with love, to cheer
But time has come and time has gone
Leaving me desolate, uncared, all alone...

But throughout these paths that I have tread
I can look back, hold my head high
And I can with innocent pride say
Whatever I did, I did it in my way.

Alone, I do tread on these paths of life
Alone, I do my fair share of strife
I wonder... will ever a day there be,
When some heart understands me... ..

Painting by: Rohit Juneja, II Year B.Plan, SPA Delhi

में मुसाफिर

आशुतोष शाहू

II Year M. Planning

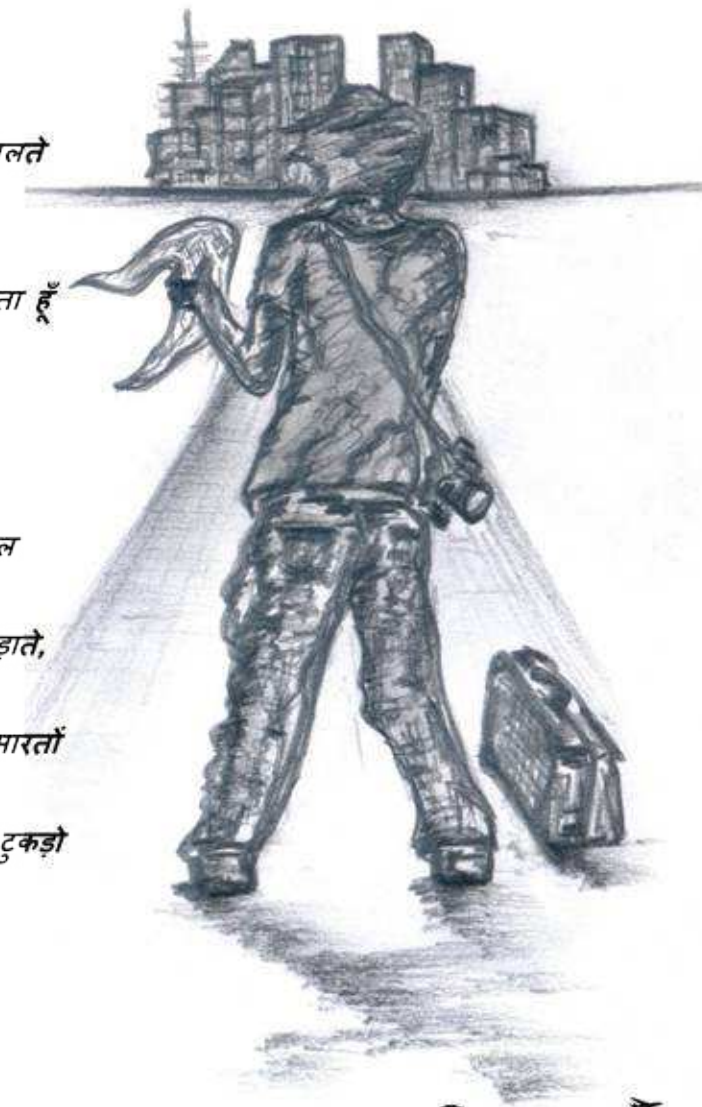
CEPT University

में मुसाफिर जब तेरे शहर को देखता हूँ
सड़कों पे मानो वज़न ढोते बड़े-बूढ़ों को देखता हूँ
लाखों की भीड़ में, समय की मारा-मारी में मासूमों को कुचलते
देखता हूँ

नाम बहुत हैं तेरे शहर का, पर लोगों को गुमनामी में देखता हूँ
लोग कहते हैं ये मायानगरी है, यहाँ किसमत बदलती है
पर तरक्की की भूख में उन्हें भूखा मरते देखता हूँ
में मुसाफिर जब तेरे शहर को देखता हूँ

कीमत नहीं है इंसानों की यहाँ और इंसानियत तो तिल-तिल
मरते देखता हूँ
कड़ी धूप से अपने आपको बचाती बेबस बुढ़िया को चिड़चिड़ाते,
ताना मारते और लोगों का उसपे हँसना देखता हूँ
एक जगह लोग यहाँ सड़कों पर सोते हैं, वहीं ऊँची-ऊँची इमारतों
को बढ़ते दिन-रात देखता हूँ
भगवान के नाम पे बिक रहे हैं ईमान यहाँ और लोगों को टुकड़ों
में उसे खरीदते देखता हूँ
में मुसाफिर जब तेरे शहर को देखता हूँ

Sketch by: Gaurav Prasad, I Year B.Plan, SPA Delhi



Site Planning Studio

Anurag Mishra
III Year B.Planning
SPA Delhi



Our long awaited desire, to take our last studio under the renowned and esteemed faculty of physical planning department, Prof. Raman Dev Surie (*the RD*) accompanied along with Prof. Souro D. Jordar (*the SD*), ended with the receding cold of mid-January 2011. After completing transport studio with us measuring road widths, counting cars for entire day, enquiring people 'Where are you going and Why?' and eventually coming up with a big ACP on four A0 sheets, we were excited to take a move from a very-technical and engineering related studio to the site planning studio apparently requiring design creativity.

Site planning studio remains the most awaited and unique studio of all, since the whole theme of the exercise revolves around design aspects and most importantly model making. After sharing room/ mess table with architecture friends and helping them in their model making, one acquires a yearning to do it on their own. This studio gave us that opportunity to show our skills as our own.

Any studio under Prof. Surie's supervision starts with the distribution of exercise handouts, stating clearly the very purpose of the exercise (which no one understood !) and jobs to be done that too with distribution among students (which never happens !). I wonder how he managed to produce a timeline for the entire semester and surprisingly stick to every date printed on that schedule. His great ability to complete same exercise on same date each year is a well-known fact!

Moving forward as per schedule, we learnt basic neighborhood principles, developed objectives and criteria for site design and then prepared the conceptual layout plans along with figurative area brief. Reconnaissance survey were carried out, which included nothing but counting trees and plants over entire site, clicking photographs and mostly hanging out at nearby malls.

Further, physiographic studies completed, in order to produce three proposals based on three approaches. Individual pockets cut out from the site layout map and assigned to each student. This was the point where group work ended and every individual got the equal opportunity to prepare designs of their will and make the model, by the end of the semester. The studio became more interactive and full of graphics. Preliminary designs sketched, on butter paper along with thermocol block models became a compulsory asset of each student. Day-to-day improvements and detailed analysis led to exciting designs and wonderful models constructed; revealing voluminous talent among students.

By the end of the semester, we were much familiar with the serious jokes of 'the RD', which eased the tensed



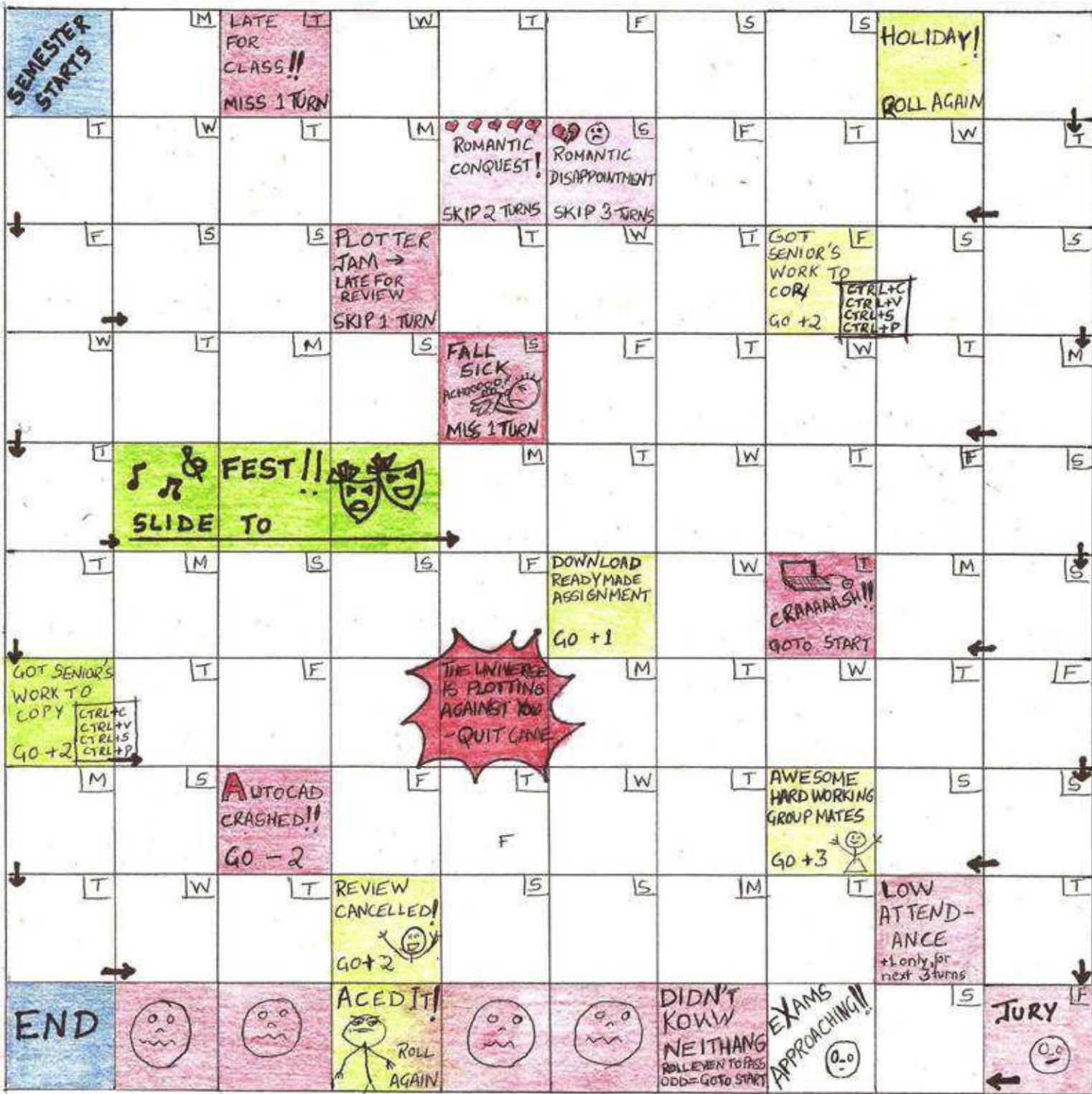
Collage compiled by : Shankhadeep Chaudhari, III Year B.Plan, SPA Delhi

atmosphere. And the Kung-Fu step of 'the SD' that suddenly creates mysterious and awesome pencil-lines on your pathetically awesome sheets; after all the while, he had been relaxing on his seat reminding me the awesomeness of great praying Mantis stance! (Strictly dedicated to our respect for dragon warrior)

Most of us were content with our work though, not appreciated much by the external jury, against our expectations. They might not have been in their good mood that day or maybe the extra-ordinary presentation skills had confused them. An ordinary Nokia phone photograph of an unfinished layout plan having low-resolution, displayed in Sony laptop screen after been sniped with 'Snipping Tool' and later printed on A1 size sheet, covered with dirty gateway sheet, showing vague utility lines drawn out of green color old fluorescent marker! Hail Planners!

Nevertheless, our beloved jodi of Jay-Viru did value our hard work and that is what cherishes my memories from Site Planning Studio.....





The planning life is full of surprises both good and bad.

Do you have it in you to make it through a whole semester?

Start at the beginning and keep rolling that die to beat your friends to the end.

Each time you land on a new square follow the instructions on it and be honest !!!!

With Best Wishes

- Production and Processing Equipment for Crude and Natural Gas
- Heating equipment, Indirect Water Bath Heaters, Boilers, Heat Exchangers
- Natural Gas Conditioning and Treatment Packages
- Produce Water, Bilge Water, Treatment of Water Containing Oil Traces

A PLUS PROJECTS & TECHNOLOGY PVT. LTD.

33, Apurva Complex, University Road, Aundh Pune 411007
 Tel: 91-20-2569 0620 or 2569 2067 | Fax: 91-20-2569 2071
 Email: sales @ aplusprojects.biz | may @ aplusprojects.biz
 Website: www.aplusprojects.biz



With Best Compliments



OBER CONSTRUCTION ENTERPRISES (P) LTD.

Incorporated in 1977,
OBER serves both public and private sector clients.

Best known for infrastructure projects including roads,
highways, tunnels, bridge mass transit facilities, high rise
buildings, hospitals and airports.

Registered Office:
CB – 57, Sector-I
Salt Lake City
Kolkata – 700064

Noida Office:
604, Ocean Complex,
6th Floor, Sector -18
Noida – 201301

Website: www.obergroup.com

With Best Compliments

REPL Rudrabhishek Enterprises Pvt. Ltd. (REPL)

Leading Real Estate Consultancy providing services in
the fields of:

- * Town and Country Planning/ GIS (Geographical Information Service)
- * Infrastructure and Services
- * Architecture
- * Project Management Consultancy
- * Strategic Marketing
- * Real Estate Advisory Services
- * Land and Revenue Works
- * Apna Ghar (Online home designs)

Head office:

820, Anriksha Bhawan, 22-K.G.Marg,
N.Delhi-110001.
Ph: 011-41069500/43509305;
Fax: 011-23738974

Other Offices:

Noida Office: Ph: 0120-4022333
Lucknow Office: Ph: 0522-2206165
Allahabad Office: Ph: 0532-2261430
Also in Cuttack (just opened)

With Best Wishes

**I.B Market Research & Consultants
Organization**

30/1/33, N. C. Das Road, Kolkata – 700 090

With Best Wishes

Durga Electrostat

All types of Books, Tax, Law, Accounts, Tariff, Manual, Export- Import Books, Computer Job work (Hindi, English), Printing (Color, B/W) in A0 to A4 size, Color Xerox, Flex, Lamination, Binding, Stationery, Photocopier machine on rent basis.

Shop No 9, DDA Market, Near Vikas Minar, ITO, New Delhi - 02
Ph: 23370544, 23370797; Mob: 9818777120

Shop No 6, Ground Floor, ISS Building, 1/50, Lalita Park, Laxminagar, Delhi - 92
Ph : 22466063, 22466068

Email : durgaelectrostat@gmail.com

With Best Wishes

NF Infratech Service Pvt Ltd



Multi disciplinary consulting company specializing in
Urban planning, Infrastructure development, Environmental management, Project management and development.

N 14, LG Floor, Malviya nagar, New Delhi-110017, India
EPABX: 911126673095 Email Id: info@nfinfratech.com

With Best Compliments

REPL Rudrabhishek Enterprises Pvt. Ltd. (REPL)

Leading Real Estate Consultancy providing services in the fields of:

- * Town and Country Planning/ GIS (Geographical Information Service)
- * Infrastructure and Services
- * Architecture
- * Project Management Consultancy
- * Strategic Marketing
- * Real Estate Advisory Services
- * Land and Revenue Works
- * Apna Ghar (Online home designs)

Head office:

820, Antriksha Bhawan, 22-K.G.Marg, N.Delhi-110001.
Ph: 011-41069500/43509305;
Fax: 011-23738974

Other Offices:

Noida Office: Ph: 0120-4022333
Lucknow Office: Ph: 0522-2206165
Allahabad Office: Ph: 0532-2261430
Also in Cuttack (just opened)

With Best Wishes



SOUTH DELHI PHARMA

60/4, Yusuf Sarai, New Delhi - 110016
Indian Oil Building Complex
Phone : 26532129, 24502443
Telefax : 011 - 26536398
southdelhipharma@gmail.com
T-garg@yahoo.com
maclau.gopal123@gmail.com

With Best Wishes

PARKASH OIL CORPORATION

MITTAL SONS

(Promoters : Mittal Jai Narain Anand Prakash)

1852-53 Khari Baoli, Delhi 110 006

Phones : 011-23975017 - 23943131 - 23922944

Email : ashok@prakashoil.com, ashok@mittalsons.com

dev@mittalsons.com

Ashok Mittal
9810 11 8589

Faridabad - Ghaziabad - Punjabi Bagh

With Best Wishes

I.B Market Research & Consultants Organization

30/1/33, N. C. Das Road, Kolkata - 700 090



With Best Wishes

Institute of Town Planners, India

4-A, Ring Road, I.P.Estate, New Delhi - 110002

Ph.: 23702455, 23702454, 64612462,

64692457, 23702457, 23702462

Fax: 23702453

Email: itpidel@nda.vsnl.net.in

Contact President: president@itpi.org.in



LEA Associates South Asia Pvt. Ltd.

A LEA Group Company
Consulting Engineers and Planners

B-1/E-27, Mathura Road, Mohan Co-operative Industrial Estate, New Delhi 110 044, INDIA,
Tel: 91-11-41678150, Fax: 91-11-2697 1062,
Email: lasa@lasaindia.com, www.lasaindia.com

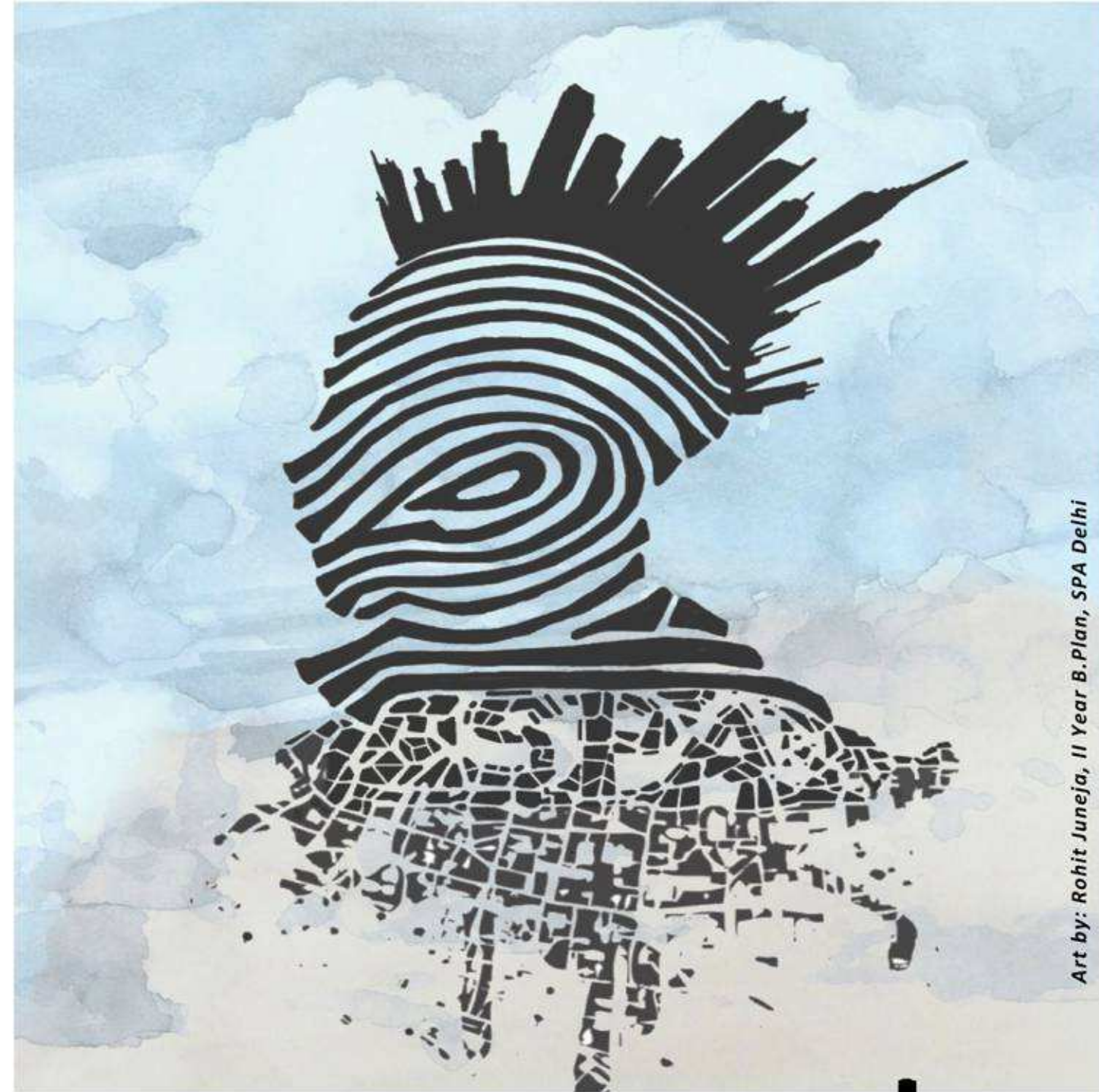
LEA Associates South Asia Private Limited (LASA), New Delhi incorporated in 1993, is an operating company of LEA Group, Canada, a pioneer in infrastructure consultancy for over five decades.

Constantly upgrading to meet the challenges of the ever changing business scenario, we could expand our operation to over 50 locations in India, also in Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Uganda, Oman and Mauritius. LASA thrives to deliver exemplary services with the strength of over 1200 professionals.

Our client includes the various organisation of Govt. of India and also of various states in India, World Bank, Asian Development Bank, African Development Bank, CIDA, Federal Governments, Local Authorities/ Corporations and Private Concessionaires.

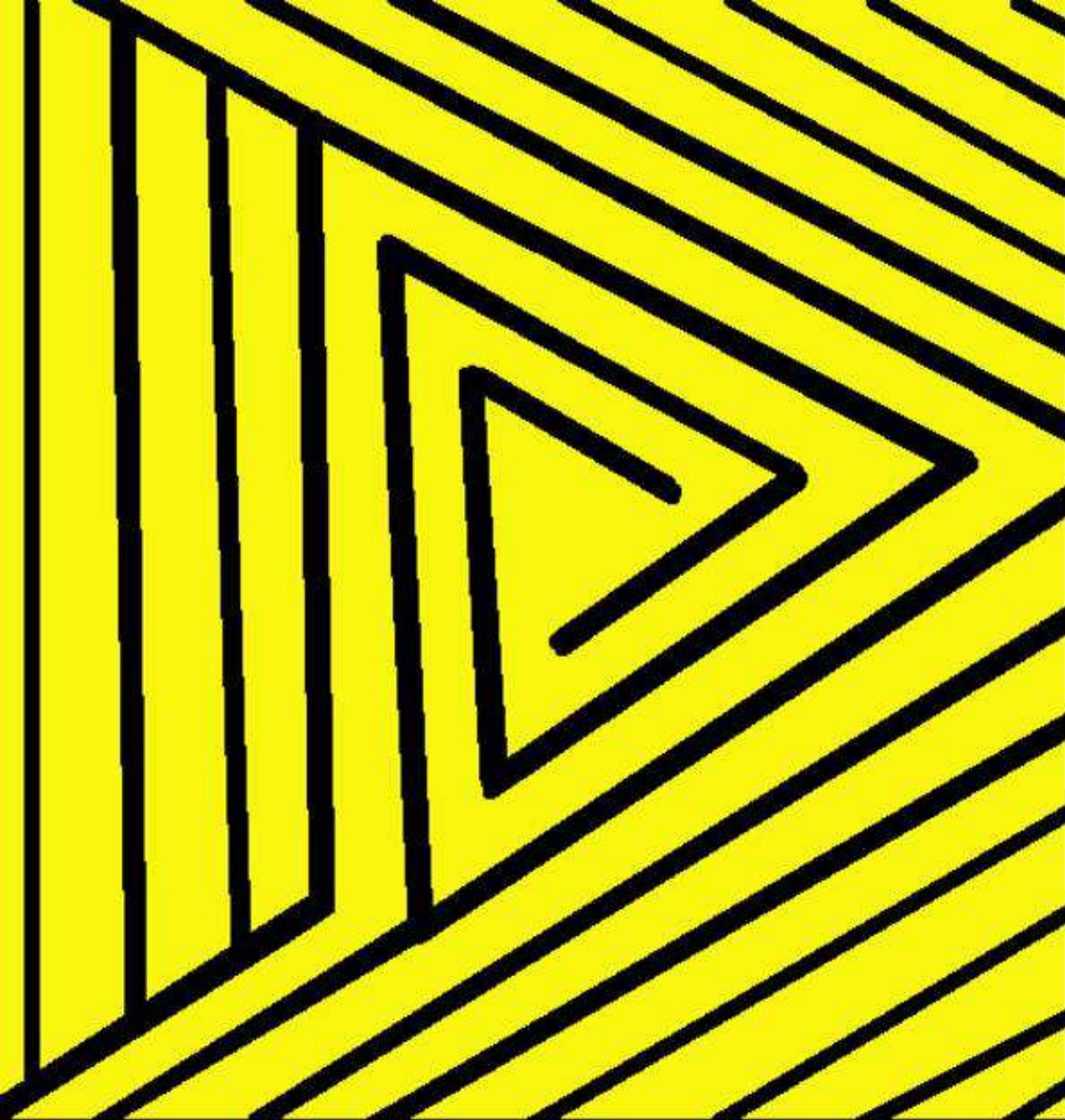
Area of Consulting Services:

- Engineering Planning/Design, Construction & Maintenance of Roads, Bridges and Highways
- Urban Development and Planning
- Traffic & Transportation Planning/Engineering
- Environment and Social Planning
- Institutional Strengthening/ Public Policy
- Hydrology & Water Resource
- Railway and Transit



Art by: Rohit Juneja, II Year B.Plan, SPA Delhi





CREDENCE