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EDITOR'S NOTE

Greetings to all our readers!

NOSPlan welcomes all incoming First Year B.Plan and M.Plan members and hopes that you enjoy learning Planning and what this organisation has to offer.

In this edition we bring to you 'Way Ahead' which gives you information about options for the future. I take this opportunity to thank Mr. Janmejy Sahoo for taking out the time to write on the GATE Exam, an important but confusing choice for us all. We at the NOSPlan Editorial Board will continue to try to bring articles on the experiences of alumni and professionals that will help us.

Our contributors have written about their internship experiences over the summer for you to take inspiration from. We also have for you an interesting Crossword puzzle and some cartoons that tell it like it really is.

We hope you enjoy this edition and give valuable feedback and suggestions. You may reach us at chiefeditor@nosplan.org

Wish you a Happy Reading and a great semester ahead!

NOSPlan EC MEMBERS ATTEND 1ST NATIONAL ROUND TABLE ON SOCIAL MEDIA



NOSPlan- Organisation of Students of Planning enjoyed the opportunity to be part of the First National Round Table Discussion on the Role of Social Media in Emerging Urban Development. This Round Table, a first of its kind, was organised by India Urban Forum and took place at CEPT University, Ahmedabad on 1st and 2nd July, 2016. It was mainly organised by Mr. Saswat Bandyopadhyay, faculty at CEPT University.

India Urban Forum a forum dedicated to urban practitioners, policy makers, academia, researchers, NGOs and other communities with interests in India's urban challenges. The Forum provides a common platform for sharing experiences and ideas towards meeting these challenges. The Forum invited people belonging to different communities and groups that make use of social media to deliberate and work on urban development issues to be a part of this Meeting. There were

representatives from renowned organisations in the planning world such as Urban Voices, Indian Smart Cities Forum, Indian Cities, Everything about Sustainability, etc. Executive Council Members Madhur Chitte (NOSPlan General Secretary) and Abhas Dudeja (NOSPlan National Web Manager) represented NOSPlan at the Round Table. Being a part of one of the largest social media network of planners in India, NOSPlan can play an important role in India's development.

The discussion began with a talk by Mr. Kumar Manish, Journalist and Social Media Strategist at Urban Voices on Urban Social Media-opportunities and challenges. All the present groups including NOSPlan gave presentations on their group activities, motivations and challenges. Thereafter, the following issues were discussed in depth with active participation from the NOSPlan members.

- Planning jobs eligibility.
- The tendering process in smart cities.
- Approach of the Government in different urban missions.
- The different conditions in cities across India and thus, the different problems.

The Social Media discussion ended on a positive note with an overall consensus on the positive role social media has on raising awareness on

urban issues and the resolution of the problems.



Following are the decisions and further actions post discussions:

- All groups working on urban development related issues will be brought together on a common platform such as a Facebook group.
- A Google Group for all members of such groups to be formed that would be a Digital Urban Forum.
- Sensitization and awareness by all groups on particular issues in particular periods.
- A Digital Urban Studio can be formed where professionals and students may interact and students could learn about planning reforms and strategies. The students too may release articles and college or research works in this Studio.
- Organising TEDx talks on urban issues and experiences.
- A Digital Conference for all groups' part of the Digital Urban Forum.

Madhur Chitte
General Secretary, NOSPlan

MUMBAI'S RECENT DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2034 GLOBAL ISSUES



Mumbai's Development Plan (DP) 2034 has made headlines in the past year for all the wrong reasons, with the Maharashtra State Government scrapping the Plan and ordering it to be redrawn. The greatest blunder of the plan was the absence of heritage structures, their wrong uses specified and non-existent roads marked in the Existing Land Use map. The plan evoked huge public outrage and has been criticised heavily as misdirected, inaccurate and disastrous in essence. The question that arose was not what the Development Plan would mean for Mumbai- but what

planners mean by 'development' and 'planning' of a city for the future.

Mumbai's DP needs to solve the problems of affordable housing, provision of infrastructure to keep pace with the requirements arising out of population growth, improvement and increase of open spaces, implementation of different Floor Space Indices (FSI) all over the city and Transit Oriented Development and Densification to improve the overall standard of living, create and manage resources, and remain competitive, all of which were not clearly addressed in the previous draft.

The previous draft introduced the system of two-tier planning, with emphasis on local area plans, and detailed urban design guidelines for heritage and redevelopment of slums in the city. Due to lack of implementation of the previous DP, the plan was to be reviewed every five years to measure

the progress achieved on ground. Instead, concerted efforts towards redeveloping slum land would be a more feasible way of achieving this.

The Revised Draft DP was released in May and suggestions invited until the end of July. The feedback from citizens this time was about 10,000 as opposed to around 65,000 after release of the previous draft. The objections will have to be addressed by a special committee before the end of October and the DP sent for review to the State Government. It remains to be seen whether the newly formed plan will be satisfactory.

Yash Singh Chandel,
Amity University, Manesar

The Revised Draft Development Plan may be viewed at:

http://www.mcgm.gov.in/irj/portal/anonymous/qlddevplan?quest_user=english

and further reading may be done in newspapers and citizen group websites.

LUCKNOW – ART CITY TO SMART CITY

The golden past of Lucknow can be realised by visiting its many fascinating heritage monuments showcasing rich culture. Many of them built in the Mughal and British eras and some inspired by Persian architecture, these must-visit tourist attractions include Bada Imambara, Rumi Darwaza, Chowk Bazaar and Asfi Masjid. Here are some insights on "Art city to Smart City- Lucknow".

Lucknow is the second largest city after NCR in North India. It is famous as a heritage city consisting of Mughal and British architecture. And now it is has also topped the Fast Track competition conducted by the Central Government and will be a Smart City very soon. Lucknow has made it to the first position in this competition followed by Warangal in Telangana, Dharmashala in Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh.

How was Lucknow selected as a Smart City? Due to heritage monuments/places and ongoing infrastructure development projects like the Lucknow Metro Rail Corporation

(LMRC) Project and the Gomti River Front Development could have helped Lucknow to secure a place in the list of Fast Track Smart Cities that the Union Ministry of Urban Development released.

Ongoing Development Projects –

- Lucknow Metro Rail Corporation (LMRC) – First Phase Completed out of 5
- Cycle track and footpaths within the city
- Asia's largest Urban Park – Janeshwar Mishra Park (376 acres) Lucknow's own Connaught Place near Shaheed Path Expressway Retrofitting and redevelopment of India's largest clock tower at Hussainabad.



Undergoing Economic Development at Shaheed Path, Lucknow



Cycle Track



Gomti River Front Development

Lucknow is undergoing economic development at a good pace. Lucknow boasts of a good transportation network; people use cycle tracks in the VIP areas for decongested traffic and maintain an eco-friendly environment. The fabric of Bada Imambara, Rumi Darwaza and the Ghanta Ghar is very magnificent. However Lucknow is in need of proper urban design in the core area to magnify this magnificence

Yash Singh Chandel,
Amity University, Manesar

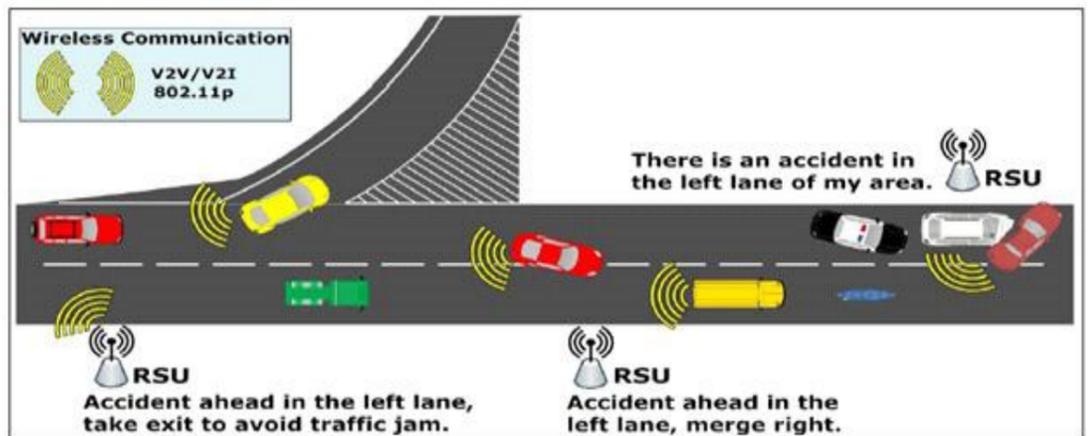
VEHICULAR AD-HOC NETWORKS (VANETS) AS A SMART SOLUTION

India is one of the countries facing traffic congestion problems nowadays; its vehicle population underwent the second largest growth rate, up by 8.9% from 2009 (as per Sausanis, 2011). Vehicular Ad-Hoc Networks (VANETs) is emerging as a smart technology solution for this congestion problem.

VANETs are widely emerging in many developed countries as a less expensive, distributive and collaborative traffic congestion system. It requires some inexpensive devices to be incorporated in

vehicles itself and communicate with geostationary satellites to accumulate the data and fetch into the system. The technology integrates WLAN/Cellular and Ad Hoc networks to achieve the continuous connectivity.

VANETs turn every participating moving car into a wireless router or node and allow cars in approximately 100 to 300 meters range to connect and in turn, create a network with a wider range. Communication in VANET can be facilitated in two ways: (i) Vehicle-to-Vehicle (V2V) (ii) Vehicle-to-Infrastructure (V2I). Its safety applications monitor the



A VANET System

Source: <http://www2.cs.siu.edu/~adwise/project-vanet.html>

surface of the road and approaching vehicles and all data which can put the car to risk and informs it to the driver. It integrates the data related to location of

the jam, resulting in reducing the congestion problems.

Sakshi Khare, MANIT Bhopal

HOW CITIES CAN BENEFIT FROM THE OLYMPIC GAMES IN URBAN PLANNING CONTEXT?

The world's foremost sporting event that witnessed participation of more than 200 nations, the 2016 Summer Olympics was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, this August. Planning and hosting an event of such a large scale takes great efforts. Rather than viewing such events as small term projects, they should be considered as opportunities for creating a sustainable and equitable future for the host city. An Olympics event takes planning of an area of around 1000 ha including all indoor, outdoor, training, accommodation, service and special facilities for the international participants. A city having a chance to host similar

events should consider an approach which will not only deliver a successful event but a better future prospect for the city itself. The different approaches can be,

I) Urban Spread; for cities which are in process of expansion, the Games could be powerful instruments for directing, channeling and qualifying territories for green field residential development. E.g. Munich in 1972, which strategically used resources for the preparation to direct urban growth towards peripheral areas in line with the ideas contained in the 1964 General Plan.

II) Urban Renewal; for cities with high density urban land use, the Games could be leveraged for land use

requalification and revitalization of the city e.g. Barcelona in 1992, the Olympic Games provided the force behind the renewal of the city's five sea side strips and nucleus of the city.

III) A Combined Approach of previous approaches e.g. Seoul in 1988, in which the Games area was inside the city by the process of renewal and revitalization and the residential area planned in the peripheral areas to strengthen the sub-urban area.

The positive or negative effects of the Olympic Games mainly depend on the strategy chosen by the city officials in the overall planning of the Games. An

Olympics Village model or type would be successful in a specific urban context. But, it would probably be a failure if it were applied somewhere else. The essential idea is that both the Games' territorial implantation model and the type of residential operation chosen for the Villages should be coherent with the urban strategy and model of the city and democratically accepted by its inhabitants.

Stray Observation: Town Planning was considered as a competitive event in previous Olympics (1912-1948).

Harsh Desai
SVNIT, Surat

GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION REGULATION BILL-2016: A REVIEW

What is GIRB?

The Geospatial Information Regulation Bill-2016 is a legal guideline for acquiring, analyzing, editing and publishing any information which includes co-ordinates, map boundaries, and attribute data within it which are acquired from satellite imagery, aircrafts, balloons, unmanned aerial drones, etc. This bill guides and restricts the way of work in the field of geospatial technology.

The Draft Geospatial Information Regulation Bill was published on May 4, 2016 by the Ministry of Home Affairs. Suggestions were requested by June 4, 2016.

BRIEF

This bill shall be applicable to all citizens of India within and outside the country; on planes or ships or wherever they are. The fines for breaching the terms of this bill range from INR 10 lac to 100 crores.

All firms or organisations having any geospatial data beforehand must register themselves with requisite fees within one year of application of this bill as a law.

The act is not applicable to any government, state or central bodies.

. This is only applicable to private sectors, organization or personnel.

VARIOUS BODIES UNDER THE BILL

1. Apex Committee

The Apex Committee has functions such as to oversee implementation of the law, deciding fees, surveillance and monitoring of the Act, etc.

PROS AND CONS OF GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION REGULATION BILL

PROS	CONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many map providers showing wrong boundaries of India can be stopped. Openness of data in some area may cause the area more prone to terror attack, which can be decreased. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requisition fees vaguely mentioned. In times of disaster, communities cannot help using geospatial data without license. It conflicts with other missions in India like "Startup India-Standup India." Due to it, many startups like Zomato and Ola will not be able to lend their services affordable Students and researcher who are not using data for profit purposes will face problems.

Source: <http://savethemap.in/>

2. Security Vetting Authority

The Security Vetting Authority may approve or reject or give change to the application from any person or organisation regarding geospatial information and provide licenses for the same.

3. Enforcement Authority

The Enforcement Authority shall monitor and inspect the compliance of license given by Security Vetting Authority as per the terms granted.

4. Appellate Authority

This authority works for adjudicating the motion against the Security Vetting Authority and provide the common way. Unsatisfactory decisions by the Appellate Authority may be adjudicated in the High Court.

WHY SHOULD WE WORRY ABOUT THIS BILL?

When we hail an Uber/ Ola by marking our location on a map, we are creating geospatial information. When we "share location" on WhatsApp with our friend, we create and disseminate geospatial information. Technically, the bill will make sharing our location with a third party without prior government approval illegal. So it would make easy work today very difficult after its enforcement.

Devang Kapadia
SVNIT, Surat

FLOODING IN CITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY

India is a country well known for its diversity in terms of culture, society, geography and much more. In this huge list, climate is no exception. As the geography is different around the corners of the country, so is the climate! This certainly creates imbalances in terms of rainfall in a monsoon dependent country. Though reasons are playing phenomenal role in this calamity; deforestation is the most prominent among them. Uneven forestry creates huge impact on precipitation, and also leads to soil erosion which coagulates on river beds at reservoirs etc., which rises the river bed and creates floods. Cyclones in South India and cloud bursts in

extreme north India are also the reasons for flash floods. Despite all these, urban flooding is becoming one of the most dangerous calamities; it is taking the death and destruction toll to alarming rates. Along with some natural flood causes discussed above, urban infrastructure failures in sanitation and drainage systems is the main reason for urban flooding. The Chennai Floods in 2015 gave us an alarm as to how disastrous they can be, with a death toll of over 500 and Rs. 15,000 Crore loss to the treasury! Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Chennai, Mumbai and Delhi also suffer these floods in monsoon. In 2005, the floods in Mumbai affected the railways, the



heart of transport, which acted as a barricade to the lifestyle of Mumbai. Also improperly banked roads in Hyderabad and Bengaluru cause water stagnation on roads causing heavy traffic jams. The recent traffic jam on the Delhi-Gurgaon highway is a horrible example of the side effects of flooding. As rains cannot be blamed for this, there is an urgent need for proper disaster management squads etc. Measures like afforestation, clearing of slit in large as well of small scale water bodies must be implemented. A program called mission Kakatiya is implemented in

Telangana for restoration of lakes and clearing slit. Such programmes have dual advantages like flood prevention and ground and surface water preservation. Multiple programmes like these are required for the country to combat floods.

S. Vishnu Shashank
JNAFAU, Hyderabad



EDUCATION & CAREER OPPORTUNITIES FOR PLANNERS

There are plenty of jobs in planning after a B. Plan degree but it will solely depend on your skills and your field of choice. The sectors where you have jobs available (after B. Plan)-

1. Transportation Planning & Mobility Services
2. Real Estate & Realty
3. Urban Infrastructure
4. Landscape Planning /Design
5. Interior Design
6. Regional Planning
7. Housing
8. Finance / Stocks / Rating systems (High level of maths, statistics, knowledge required)
9. NGOs

Getting these jobs is not difficult but for that you need knowledge about the field, know cities in which firms are active, what all the government is doing, what all

the private sector demands, a professional work culture. You will have to make specific CVs and portfolios, which show your proficiency in the field for the type of Company you are applying to. You will have to create a professional culture in your batch and become good professionals rather than good students. For a job, you will have to do things on your own; make the extra effort. Talk amongst yourselves about new projects and developments, about new initiatives by the government. The skills that you will definitely need –

1. Good Software skills
2. Good Vocal skills
3. Proficiency in English and Hindi both.
4. A decent CV and Portfolio.
5. Meaningful Internships.
6. Knowledge in real estate, finance, management,

investments, schemes, policies, active projects.

7. Extra-Curricular activities.

For a Government job-, you can apply for a Government job either with a B. Plan or M. Plan degree. Experience after B. Plan will be more beneficial than an M. Plan degree if you are looking for a government job. However, you will need contacts in both the cases.

Master's programmes that will boost your career significantly -

1. M. Tech from IIT-D, IIT-M, IIT-B or IIT-R that prefer Architectural/Civil/Planning students
2. M. Des from IIT-B/NID
3. MBA from the Big 10 (IIMs, IITs, FMS, JBIMS XLRI etc.)
4. Specified MBA programme for Architectural /Planning/Civil students - Real Estate Management - Urban Infra Management - Courses in TISS - all courses are

beneficial to planners and offer good packages.

5. GMAT and GRE - Europe is good for research only, if jobs is a must then choose between US, SouthEast Asia, China, Hong Kong.

Along with your job, you can earn more than your salary every month if you know how things happen in our field. (Ex- Salary 35k per month, plus extra stuff 50k per month - Net Salary - 85k per month).

Salka Khan
MANIT Bhopal

MYSTERIES AND GRATUITIES OF 'MASTERS' LIFE AT AN IIT

Do I start looking for a job? Pursue an M.Tech perhaps? These are some (not so) simple questions which haunts the mind of a fresh planning graduate. I had similar doubts boggling my brain in the last year of Bachelor of Planning. While I was still in a conundrum, many of my friends had decided what they wanted to do after graduation. A few prepared for GRE and TOEFL and went abroad for further studies, while a few other took jobs on their own terms due to lack of a solid placement policy in our college at the time. The remaining who could score modestly in GATE/CCMT pursued different courses in the IITs, NITs or SPA itself.

GATE is widely preferred by students who want to pursue further studies, as those who qualify get advantage in selection procedures along with monthly stipends in return for research work. But cracking it requires a thorough understanding of the basics of multiple subjects taught during the years of undergraduate journey. GATE is usually believed to be an easy examination, but ask those who give it, particularly planners. Unlike engineering where each specialization has its own GATE, planning is clubbed with architecture and the paper is often biased towards architecture. This fact seems a bit absurd considering the number of post graduate specializations offered in planning which outnumbers those in architecture.

Nevertheless, studying for GATE is fairly straightforward. Some of the syllabus is common to both architecture and planning studies.

The prominent ones among them being related to basic planning and architectural concepts of towns and cities, various development policies and related institutions and organizations associated with them. The vast syllabus also includes practical subjects like project management and cost estimation. But for students having a non-architectural background, it is advisable to cover architectural subjects such as B.E.M, basic components of architecture, structures, heating, and illumination, as past papers comprised of several numericals based on these topics. Apart from these, planning and architecture related codes and guidelines such as NBC, UTIPEC,

and IRC Codes may always come in handy.

An application to IIT consists of three sections- your GATE score; a written examination and an interview. There is no fixed cut off for the GATE score as every IIT generates its own cumulative score and thus the cut off and ranking, but aspirants can always refer to previous years' cut-offs to get an idea of the rat race. The interview questions are primarily based out of a student's undergraduate terminal project or thesis or their experiences from internships or any other academic exercises undertaken. Small chances are some of these interviews may even include trick questions. Make an effort to apply for all the possible courses at different institutions to keep your options

open, in case you don't get what you wanted as your first preference.

The predominant assumption of an undergraduate remains that repetitive subjects are taught in Master's courses. It is true to a certain limit. In the contemporary world, with a similar syllabus followed across institutions like IITs and even SPAs, new experiments are being tried out in way of teaching and conducting studio exercises. As a planner you are taught a spectrum of subjects and no matter which field you choose for post-graduation, you will always find some similarities to what you have been taught in Bachelor's. The classes in the first semester focus



on teaching basics of planning so as to assist people from different backgrounds

to get acquainted with the course. But later they get an opportunity to focus on subjects or electives of their choice. A notable difference in pursuing M.Tech at an IIT is that they focus more on theory and academic exercises as opposed to institutes like SPA, which focus more on the practical application and exposure. An added advantage of studying at an IIT is that you get the freedom to choose subjects for your upcoming semester be it in your department or another for extra credit points. This is beneficial for students sharing interests in courses outside their field. The academic load is relatively lighter and spread out evenly over the semesters allowing you to focus and plan things well in advance. Moreover, you receive the IIT tag which creates a

huge impact when finding a job.

The biggest edge that IITs provide over conventional institutes is their ability to accommodate different facilities, extra-curricular activities and opportunities within the campus. You can choose to relax at clubs offering different indoor activities and games or decide to join hobby groups that include exclusive clubs like the Himalayan trekking club at IITR. Most of these campuses include basic facilities of banking, post offices, hospitals, and reservation counters integrated into different common areas. The vast lush green periphery also offers scenic views and places to relax during leisurely hours if you wish to do so. If not, you can always hook your laptop onto one of the fastest broadband connections in the country for the geek within you. A day will not go wasted if you are up for it.

Janmejay Sahoo
Masters of Urban and Rural Planning
IIT Roorkee

Mr. Sahoo may be reached by email at Janmejay.001@gmail.com in case of any doubts or questions with respect to GATE.

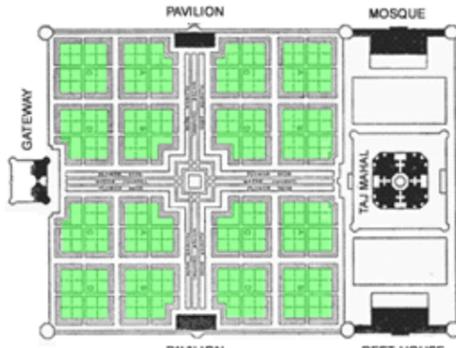
GATE-2017 is being organised by IIT Roorkee this year, and will take place online on February 4 - 5, 2017 & February 11 - 12, 2017. Visit <http://gate.iitr.ernet.in/> for more information and apply for the exam at <http://appsgate.iitr.ac.in/> last date for submission of online application through the website is 4th October, 2016.

IMPORTANCE OF LANDSCAPE AT CITY LEVEL

"I think the kind landscape that you grew up in, it lives with you. I don't think it's true of people who've grown up in cities so much; you may love a building, but I don't think that you can love it in the way that you love a tree or a river or the colour of the earth; it's a different kind of love."—
Arundhati Roy

This statement clearly defines that landscape is important because it contributes significantly to our well-being and quality of life. Landscape features gives us the broader context within which we live our lives. It has been said that if a person is living with aesthetically pleasing and culturally meaningful landscapes it enhances our ability to handle stress and improves our sense of well-being. When people are close to nature, it refreshes their minds and bodies so it helps them to face challenges in their professional life.

Landscaping plays an important role in the land market because people are more attracted to residential areas influenced by beauty where they would rather live with family; it even attracts tourists. Taj Mahal with "Char Bagh" is a peculiar example as with



Char Bagh of Taj Mahal
(Source: Photobucket)

the magnificent piece of architecture, people even get influenced by the landscape. Rural landscaping also supports the primary production activities such as farming, forestry and horticulture.

People value different landscapes for different reasons. Some landscapes are appreciated for their highly aesthetic natural values. These include such iconic landscapes as the Garden of Five



Garden of Five Senses (Source: Blogspot)

Senses, Delhi and Rashtrapati Bhavan, Delhi. Other landscapes are appreciated for their unique or special character which has arisen from the interaction of natural and human influences over time. Such landscapes can become an integral part of the identity of local communities. Examples include Pari Chowk, Noida which is maintaining the identity of the node and at the same time has developed the character of the city which is easily noticeable and is a symbol of the city for its citizens. People being materialistic these days have lost the value of the landscape since



Pari Chowk (Source: Blogspot)

development is having negative impacts on landscape through the intrusion of human-made structures and patterns into predominantly natural areas. This has the effect of reducing the naturalness of landscapes and features, something which is highly valued by the public. Due to this there is great misbalance in the environment and the biome is getting affected; hence time has now come for us to be concerned about creating natural landscapes to improve the character of the city.

Iesha Rana
Amity University, Manesar

URBANISATION- WHAT NEXT?



We live in a developing country where urbanisation is trend. What is urbanisation? Usually the changes resulting from people moving into cities or urban areas or other densely populated areas is what we mean by urbanisation. This process of increased population concentration can be deliberate

and it may be planned or spontaneous and unplanned.

In the last several centuries, the world has acquired a sizable urban population. As per the United Nations report (2014), the proportion of the world population living in urban areas was only 19 % in the 1940's. Today, 54 % of the world's

population lives in urban areas, a proportion that is expected to increase to 66 % by 2050.

However, why does this tremendous urban growth occurring in developing countries, concern us? Aren't growing cities generally a good thing? After all, urban areas

produce jobs, generate better health care, and stimulate improvements in various technologies. The answer to this second question is double framed. Some urban areas do these things whereas some fail to do so. Recent decades have witnessed hundreds of millions of people, tempted by the promise of a better life, moving into the urban areas but most of these cannot keep up with the incoming flow. Results are poverty, malnutrition, crime, disasters and disease for many people. Nevertheless, indicators show that urban areas are improving.

At the end of this overview, most of the cities or as we say urban areas of the developing world, are going to continue growing at the enormous rates for the conceivable

future. With this growth will come unsurprisingly greater problems including congestion, pollution and major shortages of basic necessities such as infrastructure. Perhaps the more remarkable aspect has been the speed at which modern development has taken place. The so-called over-urbanisation in the developing world may well get a good deal worse before it gets better. We do not have a single solution for the problems we face today, or which are yet to arise. If urbanisation continues at this rate, the sight of a brighter forthcoming future will be pushed further.

Meera Patel
SCET, Surat

INTEGRATED TOWNSHIP AS SOLUTION TO URBAN SPRAWL

The rapid transition of people from rural areas to the urban areas is an ever-increasing phenomenon in our country. An estimated population of 160 million has migrated to Indian cities and about 230 million are projected to shift within twenty years. This exponential rise has created an ever-increasing demand for housing and infrastructure facilities. The tremendous influx of people has strained the Indian cities to their maximum extent resulting in slums formation and the residents being deprived of the facilities of sanitation, services and security.

In order to alleviate the demographic pressure the cities have extended beyond their boundaries in the outskirts. The government as a facilitator has encouraged the private developers to promote their real estate activity. The outskirts are being developed into townships with facilities of employment, housing, recreation and education. The planning authorities and policy makers view this development of Integrated Townships as a solution to the pressure of the urbanization.

The setting up of townships in a decentralized manner has

enabled a development of holistic living environment preventing the proliferation of the urban villages. The people tend to accept this approach to urban planning and development. Maharashtra is the first state to setup a policy in 2004 for this kind of development, instigated by the Magarpatta township development. Presently different states have different policies for township development. As the government has now launched 'Housing for All' Mission (expected to be complete by 2022) it has earmarked the idea of Integrated Townships.

The relaxing of land requirements, easing of FDI and

provision for external commercial borrowings are various initiatives by the government that would further help create a conducive investment environment for the growth of townships. The Integrated Township model is seen as an eminent solution to the basic housing needs. We could probe some more into how effective it could turn out to be in creating a solution effective to all sections of the society.

Reena Mathew
CET, Thiruvananthapuram

ACCOUNT OF AN INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE UNDER ICAP

I worked as a summer intern under a live project 'Integrated Cluster Action Plan' (ICAP) for M.P. Govt under Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM) of Govt. of India with Prof. N.R. Mandal as Project In-charge at SPA Bhopal. Under this project, the institute included 14 student trainees from the planning field for development of rural areas of different state selected as cluster of villages under the selection and delineation procedure of the area by the Government.

School of Planning and Architecture, Bhopal gave me a wonderful experience by offering all the resources such as its well-equipped GIS lab with various software working on separate systems, Atlas books, Census handbooks, etc. The facilities available there helped to complete this project task within a duration of 6 months. We were involved in work for the initial 2 months under 3 primary heads, namely-

1. Scheme Mapping and Secondary data collection

This mission had 14 major components to work upon example, infrastructure, connectivity, literacy etc. A funding mechanism through various schemes running for these components was prescribed covering up nearly 70% of the funds and rest 30% of coverage gap fund was to be given by the mission and

hence, an extensive scheme mapping was required to know the details of all schemes running for the components which were allotted to each trainee. Mine was Agri-services and Processing, which had nearly 30 schemes running at various levels of national, state and districts of jurisdiction.

2. Preparation of Survey formats and GIS based mapping

For collection of data under each component, survey formats were prepared at various levels like for the stakeholder consultation at Panchayat level of the villages, household level and the block office of scheme based on requirement of data to be collected specified under the mission document by the government. Preparation of base maps of all the clusters for M.P. was done based on maps available from Bhuvan, Land use maps, contour maps. Thematic maps of demography were prepared after digitization of Khasra map of all villages. Scalogram and Chloropeth analysis were carried out.

3. Site visit and Submission of Inception Report

Data was collected from site visits and the work was submitted in the form of an inception report prepared from a template prescribed by the govt.

Fiza Naseer
MANIT Bhopal

SUMMER INTERNSHIP AT DIRECTORATE OF URBAN LAND TRANSPORT (DULT)

Internships are professional training periods that give students the opportunity to gain practical experience in a professional environment. This was my first experience as an intern, at one of Bangalore City's leading Traffic and Transport Management Authority, which turned my level of knowledge within the vast expanse of Planning to its utmost capable approach.

The group of 40 was divided into 8 smaller groups of 5 members, each with an assigned task of work for the next 6 – 8 weeks of internship experience. Our group worked on the Bangalore Mobility Indicators that followed the Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) Guidelines, providing us with an outline of work which were to be accomplished either through available secondary data or survey based primary data. The data collected was then put into selective tables and formats which were analyzed to provide us with the Level of Service (LoS) for the year 2015 – 2016. The calculated LoS was compared with the previously prepared documents on the Mobility Indicators 2008 and 2010 – 2011 which helped identify the LoS as to have either improved or deteriorated over the years.

Our Study Area constituted the limits of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and

Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) which summed up to a total of 1307 Sq. Km. covering up to 8 major Zones. The Service Level Benchmarks were listed and their Overall LoS was calculated on the following parameters – public transport facilities, financial sustainability of public transport, Intermediate Public Transport System, pedestrian infrastructure, NMT facilities, Intelligent Transport System (ITS), road network performance, availability of parking spaces, pollution levels, road safety and Integrated Urban Land Use Transport System.

Bangalore being a major IT Hub showed great variations in its LoS from its initial studies conducted in the previous years, but scopes of improvement were still present with the onset of modified transport based systems in the platform. This experience gave me as well as my fellow colleagues an overview of how wide and treacherous a task so elaborate could be. Directorate of Urban Land Transport really brought out the competitive world in the smallest effort possible.

Aditi Bhattacharya
MANIT Bhopal

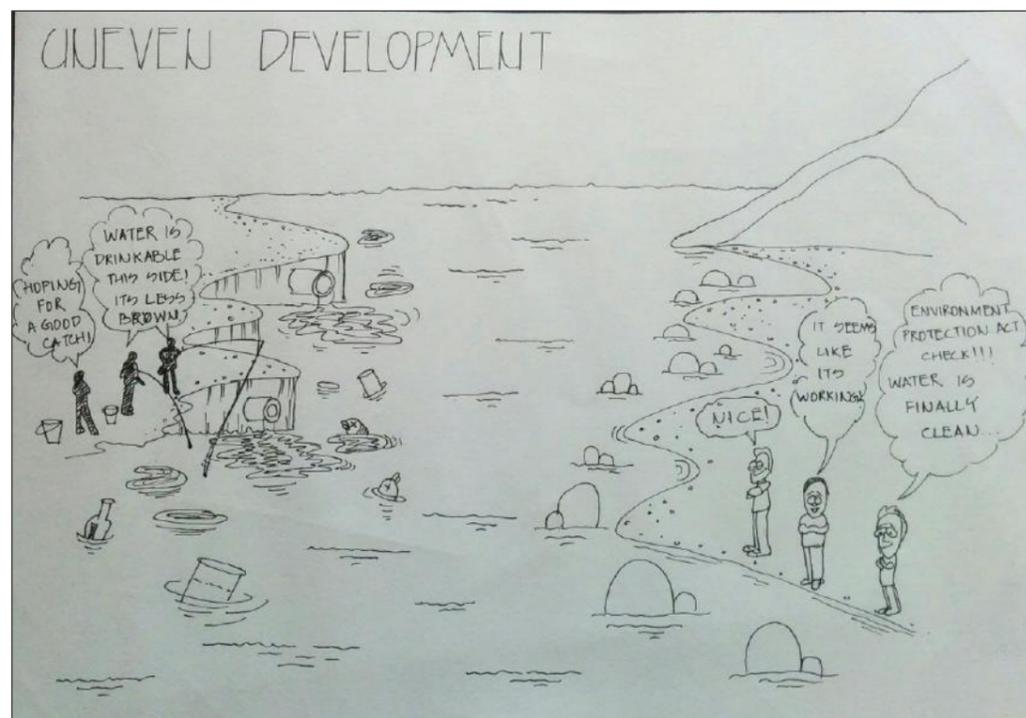
LAVISH NONCHALANCE

The topic itself surmises the premise of this article. The much debated and controversial World Cultural Festival organised by Sri Sri Ravi Shankar and his foundation. Once on the way to the college, I casually remarked it as not just a festival but an "Urban phenomenon" which gives it a positive connotation but on the contrary it has a nuanced cause for worry for us as a mass. The very venue the event entertained was the conjunction of the one of the most populated urban agglomeration which brought a beaucoup of traffic to a standstill, one of the restrictions imposed, which to a 2nd year B.Plan student, is a transgression of Article 12 of Universal Declaration of Human Rights (perhaps a farfetched claim) was the closure of the route accessing NH24 from the Noida-Greater Noida road so those travelling to the CWG village (on NH24) would have to travel arbitrary 12 Km more to reach their homes. Secondly the controversy that brewed regarding the negligence and the damage to river ecosystem in the course of the 3 day event

3 day event which drew a fine of Rs. 5 crore from the NGT, questions the moral conduct, as to what extent money will be able to attune the damage caused to the ecology? Thirdly, the institutional agitation between the NGT and DDA over the permitted land for the event which was 24 Ha against the actual land used of 50 to 60 Ha and permission for footfall of 2 to 3 lakh people against the actual footfall of 3.5 lakh (as claimed in the event pamphlets). As perversely precautions laid by the authorities over the debris generation and the waste disposal, Hindustan Times on 14 March 2016 surfaced some photographs showing the actual damage that has been fared. As a residue we are left to ponder over whether to prioritize grandeur display of wealth and culture or the neglected and ungauged interest of the larger portion of the society.

Anunay Chowdhary
SPA Delhi

LIFE AS WE KNOW IT

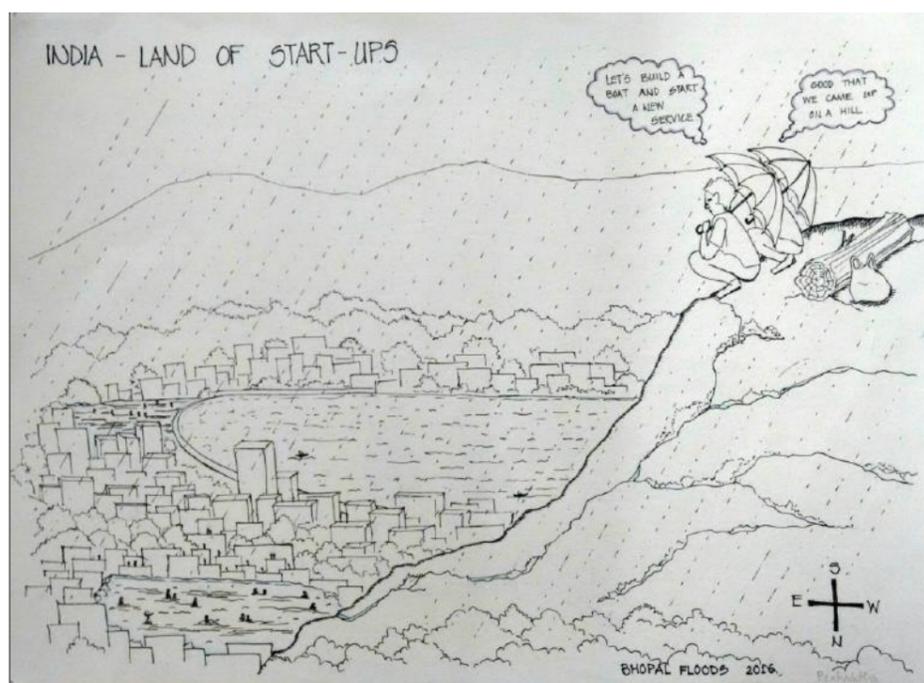


Tanvi Tomar
SPA Bhopal

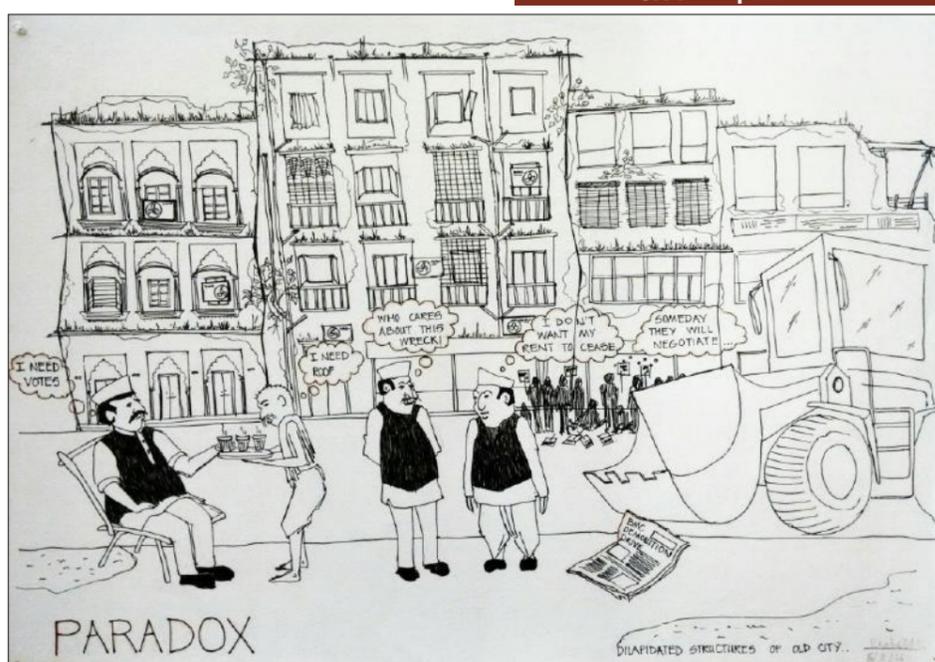
LIFE AS WE KNOW IT



Tanvi Tomar
SPA Bhopal



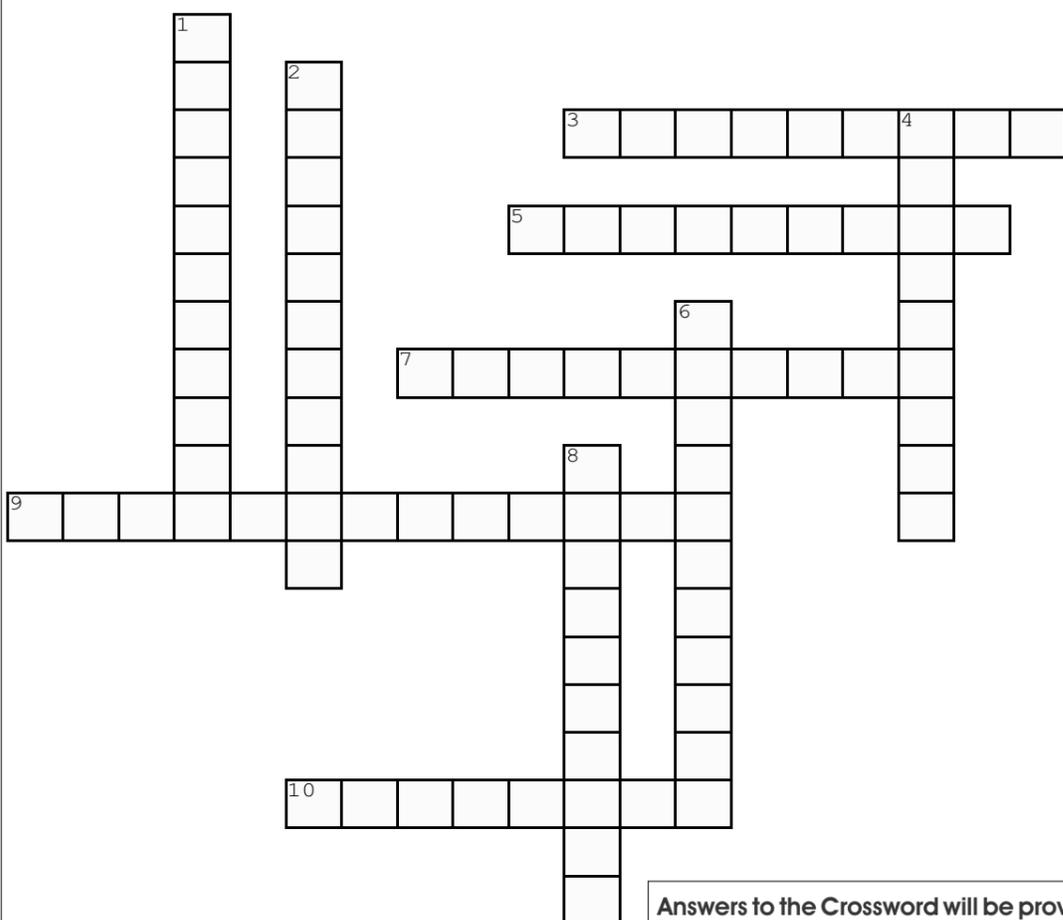
Pratishtha Jain
SPA Bhopal



Pratishtha Jain
SPA Bhopal

TRY THE CROSSWORD

Complete the crossword below



Across

3. The North-Eastern station is the origin for the longest train route in the India.
5. Lakes in this city were reported to catch fire.
7. The new headquarters of this Municipal Corporation is cited as India's first 'green' government building.
9. LIC building, at Connaught Place, New Delhi, designed by ____
10. Minister of State MoS independent charge of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in 2016

Down

1. He gave the Central Place Theory.
2. Planner of Chandigarh, Museum built in Sector-19 of Chandigarh to honor him.
4. City of Dawn, an experimental township in South India
6. The ____ Development Goals replaced the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which expired at the end of 2015.
8. This commission prepared the report- Our Common Future, first use of the word Sustainable development.

Answers to the Crossword will be provided a few days after release of NewsPlan.

Jay Baviskar
COEP

SNAPS



Taken at Hyderabad
By Kumar Sai
Amity University Manesar



Taken at Jaipur
By Kumar Sai
Amity University Manesar



Taken at Bhopal By
Chandrika Rai
MANIT Bhopal



Taken at Dholpur, Rajasthan
By Girish salode
MANIT Bhopal



Taken at Jaipur
By Kumar Sai
Amity University Manesar



Taken at Hyderabad
By Antara Bhattacharya
MANIT Bhopal

SUCCESS

One evening as the sun went down and the high tides
were approaching,
It rapped the rocks again and again;
the rocks must be under immense pain,
It takes a whole lot of courage and determination;
to stand still or else face annihilation,
Soon the time will come when the tides are low;
may be the rocks will cheer in the sunshine glow,
Soon the time will come when the water recedes;
may be the rocks will finally succeed.

Ashish Pandey
SVNIT, Surat.

STARS OF RUSTOM IN AMITY GURGAON



Akshay Kumar, Ileana D' Cruz and Esha Gupta visited Amity University Gurgaon on 8th August 2016 for promoting their recent movie Rustom which released on 12th of August.

There was excitement to meet the stars and a huge crowd of Akshay Kumar's fans could be seen chanting his name. The stars interacted with their fans and distributed CDs and T-shirts of their movie among the spectators. It was an enthusiastic moment for everyone.



Punita Singh
Amity University, Manesar

ACHIEVEMENT

A Smart City Competition was organised by University Of South Australia, SIEC and Maharashtra Academy of Engineering and Educational Research (MAEER's) Maharashtra Institute of Technology, Pune. Amruta Patil, Aniket Kendre, Dhanshri Jadhav, and Vaishnavi Vaidya of College of Engineering, Pune secured 1st place for their topic "Energy Management" and presentation on Transit Oriented Development and Smart Grid Iron Pattern. The winning team received medals and certificates, a memento and a cash prizes worth Rs. 8000.

Congratulations to the team !



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