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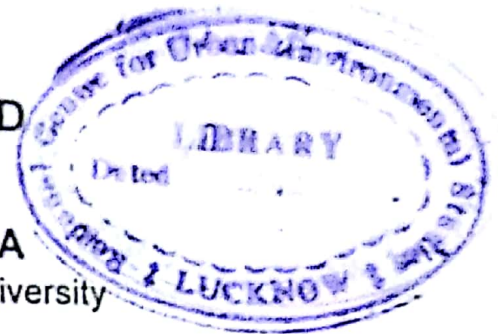
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FROM THE DESK OF THE CHIEF EDITOR

Urbanization in India is gaining momentum however, the excessive concentration of population in large cities and towns has caused concern as unprecedented increase in the demand for infrastructure and facilities has led to problems of land and housing shortage and inadequate urban civic services. The efficient management of urban infrastructure, amenities and facilities is imperative to cope up with the emerging challenges of urbanization and economic opportunities unleashed by globalization and economic liberalization. The Government of India had ventured upon the task of launching JNNURM in 2005 for development of urban infrastructure and improving urban services in selected cities with the major emphasis on strengthening of urban local bodies through effective implementation of urban reforms.

Since Independence, a number of programmes, schemes, projects and policies were introduced by various Ministries, Departments and Agencies by Central and State governments targeting towards development, welfare and empowerment of urban poor, however, there has been constant increase in the number of urban poor in India. The implementation of social development programmes targeting towards urban poverty alleviation and improving the status of urban poor demonstrates that there is lack of coordination and integration among these programmes and schemes. These programmes and schemes are sectoral and fragmented in nature, resulting in duplication of efforts, wastage of resources and poor achievements of goals and objectives.

Urban sustainable development is gaining momentum in the context of global environmental changes. India's environment has been degraded due to the adoption of western models of development. Today, more than 40 per cent of the forest area and about half of the land mass have been degraded. The gradual decline of groundwater level in urban areas is the cause of concern. The main role of ULBs is to ensure proper cleanliness and disposal of solid waste. However, most of the ULBs do not have adequate institutional arrangement for this. India has a long tradition of mass movement for the conservation of natural resources and environment. We have to ensure the role of various stakeholders in conservation of natural resources, urban sustainable development, urban poverty alleviation and delivery of urban services. However, stakeholders also need training and capacity building for performing their role in sustainable development and urban governance.

I am happy to introduce you the present issue of Urban Panorma. It is hoped that the present issue will be helpful in understanding some of the critical issues of urban development and governance besides the case studies of Nepal, Bangladesh and some of the Indian cities will provide a new vision for urban social inclusion, poverty alleviation, convergence of social development schemes, development of micro enterprises, delivery of health care services, management of natural resources and empowering women.

August 2011

G. P. Tripathi
Director

FROM THE DESK OF EDITOR

Urbanization is a global phenomenon experienced by developed as well as developing countries. There is migration from villages to towns and cities with results in growth of metropolitan cities since they provide multiple avenues, services and amenities viz. education, health care, employment, business and entertainment options etc. People also migrate for economic opportunities and urban life styles. Though urbanization brings about development in social, economic and cultural spheres of life, it sometimes disturbs the ecological systems, environment and stress on civic services and infrastructure amenities. Rapid and unplanned growth of urban agglomerations generates a series of negative environmental effects besides increasing stress on urban infrastructure and services. As per 2011 Census, 377.5 million populations i.e. 31.16 per cent of total population of India is residing in 7935 cities and towns in the country. The characteristic of urbanization in India is concentration of urban population in larger urban centres. About two-thirds of its urban content are found concentrated in class-I towns i.e. towns with more than one lakh population. Four mega cities viz., Mumbai, Kolkata, Delhi, and Chennai with a population of more than 6 million each in 2001, account for almost one fourth populations living in cities. India will have the largest growing work force for the next 20 years, as 270 million Indians will join the working age population by the year 2030. Job growth in cities will be for more robust, growing at around 3.6 percent annually increasing from around 100 million today to 220 million in 2030. Cities will account for 70 percent of all new jobs created in India during 2010 to 2030. Cities provide benefits beyond their own boundaries that live close to cities with the benefits of the economic opportunities, markets and the connecting infrastructure in the urban centers. Urban poverty alleviation and improving the status of urban poor has been one of the policy agenda as Government of India is emphasizing on inclusive urban development. Inclusive urban development can not be achieved without the active participation of corporate and private sector as well as civil societies. The role of public private partnership assumes pivotal in delivery of services, infrastructure development, poverty alleviation and urban social inclusion.

Present issue of the journal comprises of 13 well written papers dealing with diverse issues of urban development and governance. Prof. Norbert Koubek and Prof. G.R. Krishnamurty in their paper on "Urban Social Inclusion" have highlighted the urbanization trends in Nepal and the role of German Technical Cooperation in urban social inclusion. The paper has attempted to assess the impact of programme on urban development through local efforts supported by GTZ in Nepal. Sri Amir Mohammad Nasrula in his paper on "Development of Urban Micro Enterprises" has attempted to review the status of micro enterprises in Bangladesh. He has also examined the role of micro enterprises in economic development and constraints of micro enterprise development in the country besides critical

appreciation of national policy of micro enterprises. Dr. Atika Khatoon in her paper on "Growth and Development of Urban Micro Enterprises in Uttar Pradesh" has presented the profile of micro and small enterprises in the state of Uttar Pradesh besides presenting the analysis of emerging trends, patterns and issues of urban on-farm sector in the state. Dr. B.R. Neupane and Dr. S.P. Singh in their joint paper on "Climate Change and Its Implications on Water Resources" have examined the attitudinal change among youth in the state of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh regarding the climate change and its impact on urban water resources. They have also suggested policy measures for effective and efficient management of urban water resources. Prof. A.R. Dubey and Prof. R.V.M. Reddy in their paper on "Health Care Delivery in Urban India" have examined the role of public private partnership in delivery of health care services to urban dwellers and particularly urban poor. Prof. Sanjay Bhatt and Dr. Atul Pratap Singh in their joint paper on "Convergence of Developmental Schemes in Urban Poverty Alleviation" have presented critical appreciation of theoretical and policy perspective of convergence of social development programmes and schemes. They have also categorized government schemes and programmes targeting urban poor besides reviewing of Samajik Suvidha Sangam – the Delhi Convergence Model. Dr. Lalrintluanga in his paper on "Aizawal Municipal Council" has reviewed the urban development in Mizoram state and with special reference to state capital. He has also examined the implementation of Mizoram Municipalities Act, 2007 and impact of 74th Constitutional Amendment Act in the state. Prof. S.S.A. Jafri and Mr. S.M.S. Jafri in their paper on "Management of Indian Metropolitan" have presented the status of urban morphology of Lucknow City. They have also examined the trends and patterns of urbanization, status of urban civic services and amenities, environment and urban renewal. Dr. P.S. Tripathi in his paper on "Urban Poverty in India" has critically examined the issues and concerns of urban poverty. He also discussed policy perspective and government interventions for urban poverty alleviation in India. Dr. Archana Dassi in her paper on "Street Children" has examined the status of street children in India and particularly in Delhi. She has also suggested policy measures for improving the status of street children. Dr. Roli Mishra in her paper on "Solid Waste Management" has examined the role of private sector in solid waste management in Lucknow City. She has also reviewed the privatization of solid waste management in Lucknow and its impact on rag-pickers. Dr. G. Barani in his paper on "Empowering Women through Entrepreneurship" has critically examined the role of entrepreneurship in empowerment of urban poor women in Erode district of Tamil Nadu. Dr. Akhilesh Trivedi and Dr. K.K. Shukla in their joint paper on "Impact of Tourism on Urban Environment" have critically examined the theoretical perspective of environmental impacts of tourism besides analyzing the carrying capacity of natural and built environment.

Dr. A.K. Singh

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