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FROM THE DESK OF CHIEF EDITOR

Dr. Nishith Rai, Director

“Be the Change that we want to see in the world”. One often hears the words of complaint about how the world is slowly going to the dogs. That the times have become worse and that there is no humanity left in the world anymore. However, if we are to follow the meaning of the above quote literally then it would mean we have to be the agents of change by bringing the change in us first. This is a reassuring premise and is based on the assumption that change is achievable by individuals as well as through state-controlled institutions.

We will take the argument to its head and will try to see if this is true. How much of peoples participation is necessary to bring a change into this world.

Despite what we are led to believe by a pessimistic cynical social media we are living in a world which is far more peaceful and prosperous than what our forefathers ever inhabited. This relative peace and development have however been made possible through its share of sufferings and sacrifices. The development of scientific discoveries, improvements in medical sciences and evolution of participative political systems of the past centuries have ensured a largely stable and more equitable world which though is far from perfect is still better from how we started (Slave ownership, absolute monarchies, Kingdoms, crony capitalisms are all a case in point)

However, before we bask in their glorification of our times and pat ourselves on the back in fruitless self-congratulatory manner we should appreciate that the present has been made possible through a slow yet steady conscious effort by people who rose to bring a change in the society who were ready to shoulder their responsibility towards being the change makers. (Participative democracy, the right to vote, suffrage movement, industrial revolution, freedom struggle etc comes to the mind) In fact, this march towards change is what characterizes us the humans as separate from other species.

We have an essential duty towards owning this change that we see around us. It is not a job that we could transfer to others and either through exercising our political mandate or through direct participation in the policy-making we are participants in this process.

The government today is conscious of this power of the people and caters, even placates to it. The rise of social media with its ability to provide quick access and sharing of ideas, opinions, rumors, facts has empowered people at the touch of a button. However, whether we truly understand and appreciate this power is a different question altogether.

The governing bodies, institutions of power and legislation which have been traditionally viewed as harbingers of change are nowadays showing interest towards

exploring the potential for people's participation towards improving the lives of people. This concept has been timeless and throughout history been the backbone of all source of authority. The people's mandate or the divine right of certain sections to rule on behalf of people has been an important concept behind all principles of governance. However, it is true in modern times that this is made truly possible. The balance of power has been slowly shifting towards the marginalized, the voiceless, the downtrodden and powerless sections of the society that are now being able to rise to express their voice to the change in society. They bring to the attention the inequalities of the society whether it is the case of banning manual scavenging, cleaning of 'night soil', domestic abuse, marital rape, issues of single parenting, tripple talaq, the efforts of the individuals towards Swach Bharat or any other is a case in point. The people are hearing about these issues, they are talking about it and they are changing the society.

The government bodies are also assisting in this process by encouraging tools to listen to the people, for example, the UP government's Jansunwai App, efforts to redress concerns over social media tools like Twitter are a positive step in the right direction. However, they all require one important ingredient for achieving success and that is greater participation and appreciation by the people. Together we can be the change that we want to see in this world.

The contribution to this end is also done by the experts, researchers, academicians, etc. in the field of Urban Development with whose support we at RCUES Lucknow bring out the Biannual Journal Urban Panorama. The journal presents the refereed results of original scientific research, and new developments in policy and practice in the fields of housing, spatial planning, building and urban development.

The aim is to give exposure to recent developments, providing a forum for the exchange and discussion of new ideas. The journal benefits a diverse readership of scientists, specialists, practitioners, and policy-makers in government and in organizations dealing with housing and urban issues.

Lucknow
December, 2017



(Dr. Nishith Rai)
Director

FROM THE DESK OF EDITOR

The Journal Urban Panorama aims to provide an effective means for the exchange of research findings, ideas and information in the fields of urban development and environment among researchers, activists and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) international agency staff, students and teachers.

With every new issue of Urban Panorama, we focus on newer areas of urban and environmental issues and their interconnections. In this issue, we have a bouquet of articles by experts and researchers in the field of urban governance and management.

In this issue of Urban Panorama, Dr Rambooshan Tiwari in his paper titled, '*Problems of Urban Space in Indian Metropolitan Cities: A Case of Jabalpur City*' attempts to study an urban space to understand the root causes and nature of several urban problems. The paper studies several problems associated with the availability and utilization of urban space in the city of Jabalpur in the light of the fact that it is selected to be developed as a SMART City.

Prof Indrasen Singh in his paper titled- '*Imperative of attitude on choice of multi-modal transport in a city – A case study*' describes how attitude of an individual is formed out of feelings and perceptions towards a service like transport system. The paper highlights the two steps involved viz; measuring the importance an individual attaches to various travel attributes and the level-of-satisfaction one derives in respect of each travel attribute from the particular system or mode. The importance attached to each attribute itself depend upon the purpose of travel.

Dr K. Baby in her paper titled- '*Role of Community Participation in Urban Development Initiatives in India*' discusses about the role of Community participation and how it is considered fundamental to fair and representative decision making in contemporary urban planning practice. The paper addresses the issue of how India can unlock the full potential of urban regeneration and development to enable inclusive growth.

Ashish Kumar Chauhan, in his paper titled: '*Need of Identification of area based development activity proposal to discourage the migration: A case study of Uttar Pradesh*' discusses about migration to especially to Mumbai.

Mumbai has the largest proportion of migrants from Uttar Pradesh (one out of every 5 migrant is from U.P.), the most populous state of India and most of them have migrated due to economic reasons which is one of the main aims of the study.

Banhishikha Ghosh in her paper titled- '*Imagining Invisibility: Women and Politics of Urban Space*' explores the multiple factors that contribute to women's contested access to urban space. It tries to do so by concentrating on the experiences of women in Indian cities on two important aspects: i) use of public transport, and ii) public toilet.

Joy Karmakar, Mahalaya Chatterjee and Ranjan Basu in their joint paper titled- '*Exploring Compactness and its Challenges in the Planned Townships of West Bengal, India*' explore whether the planned towns of West Bengal are compact in nature as they are being physically planned and these towns passes more than three decades since its inception. Importance of these planned towns is enormous because these towns were developed as an alternative form of urbanization and they would be the cities of tomorrow and will play significant role in the process of future urbanization of West Bengal. So their sustainability is of prime importance. Paper argues based on compactness index that almost all towns' fails to reshape the alternative new form of urbanization of the state and sheds light on the challenges of the towns with respect to its failures of compactness and as an alternative strategy of Urbanization.

Dharmesh R. Juremalani and Krupesh A. Chauhan in their joint paper titled- '*Analyzing the influence of metropolitan physical environment on walkability in Indian context using TOPSIS method – a case study of four commercial pockets of Vadodara city*' focuses on the walkability factor of a city and how it is considered to be one of the basic parameters of livability and sustainability of built environment. The paper focuses up on analyzing how the physical environment having commercial character influences the walkability especially in the metropolitan pockets in India. Four different commercial pockets are identified each belonging to the North zone, South zone, East zone and West zone of Vadodara city respectively.

Taran Prakash Sinha and Sanjib Kumar Jha in their joint paper titled- '*SDG 11 - Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable*' attempts to highlight the Sustainable Development Goal – 11 'Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable' progress in India. It also showcases Chhattisgarh government's initiatives in the context of the goal. Beginning with a brief introduction of SDG background, the paper talks about SDG progress globally, SDG financing (globally and

nationally), SDG 11 in Chhattisgarh. The article also attempts to provide suggestions and recommendations for future policy uptake.

V.P. Sharma, in his paper titled: '*Waste Management and Sanitation: Interrelationship, Strategies and Community Participation*' discusses in detail about the Waste management process, reflecting upon the awareness regarding the methods for waste to wealth and how we may use garbage as a valuable resource or dispose in a safe and efficient manner. The paper also delves deep into the issue of community participation in making the solid waste management a real success.

Thakur Das daryana, in his paper titled: '*Improvement of Drainage needed for Prevention of Pollution in Rivers*' discusses about the levels of pollution in India which has increased from about 361 million in 1950 to 1327 million in 2015. The waste water generation has increased in proportion to the population growth in the last about six and a half decades. The paper focuses on the lack of proper planning, maintenance and encroachments on urban drains which have further deteriorated the sanitary conditions increasing the pollution loads reaching the rivers and water bodies.

Priyadarshini Sen in her paper titled- '*Planning for the Peripheries -A Study on Delhi National Capital Region, India*' focusing on the need for Physical Planning or Spatial Planning for regions and urban centres in particular. The paper identifies many such attempts of the concerned authority to implement a well fabricated land use plan along with the discussion of the suburbs for which probably the Delhi Master Plan had strategized every possible need.

Dr Lal Krishna Mishra in his paper titled- '*Approaches to Urban Planning*' discusses and highlights how urban planning approaches could be implemented to remove the problems of cities and help them reach an ideal situation.

Anju Kapoor in her paper titled- '*Self Help Groups – A Boon for Women Empowerment*' discusses at length about the Self-Help Groups, their constitution, and the fundamental aim of promoting SHGs in poverty alleviation and in achieving empowerment of women.

It is expected that the readers at large will be benefitted by the content and new presentation of the journal. Urban Panorama has achieved the present status due to all round support from our authors, referees, members of Editorial & Advisory Board of the journal and also time to time guidance and suggestions from the officials of the

Ministry of Urban Development, Govt. of India, New Delhi, and of course the readers.

I am sure joint efforts of all of us will make our task easier to achieve the heights of new successes in the field of Urban Development education and research through such publications.

Lucknow
December, 2017



Rachna Rishi
Publication Officer

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I, Nishith Rai, declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Nishith Rai

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