

**National Seminar
on
DEVELOPING HARMONIOUS AND SUSTAINABLE CITIES
IN INDIA FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE**

**at
India Habitat Centre, New Delhi
20-21 March, 2009**

PROCEEDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS



Organized by
ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITIES (AMDA)
NEW DELHI

In Collaboration with

- Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India
- Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Government of India
- Delhi Development Authority
- National Housing Bank
- National Capital Region Planning Board
- Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority
- GTZ
- UN-HABITAT



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- Shri J.N. Barman, Joint Director, NCR Planning Board, New Delhi
- Ms. Nicole Bolomey, Programme Specialist, UNESCO
- Shri Abhijit Samanta, Asstt. Director, NCR Planning Board, New Delhi

Association of Municipalities and Development Authorities (AMDA)
(www.amdaindia.org)

AMDA established in 1983, is an association of municipalities and development authorities in India. As the name signifies, the institution addresses the issues pertaining to interface between the municipal bodies and urban development authorities in the realm of urbanization, urban development and urban governance. It offers a valuable forum for members (a) to exchange ideas of topical interest in the field of urbanization; (b) to place information on good practices in the field of urban development through newsletters, workshops, seminars, training programmes, applied research and the kind; and (c) makes a valuable contribution in the field of planned urban settlements and their development. The Association has emerged as knowledge-integration and experience exchange platform across the country, besides performing an advocacy and interfacing role to improve efficiency of urban local bodies and development authorities. For over two decades, AMDA has been working on issues of planned development and management of cities by sensitizing local, state and central governments.

AMDA E-NEWS is bi-monthly newsletter brought out by AMDA. The Newsletter covers major events in the field of urban development. The Newsletter seeks to promote exchange of information on common urban issues having a bearing on urban governance. It endeavors to provide substantive and well focused information on the subject.



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3	Affordable Shelter for All	Shri Raj Pal, Principal Advisor, NHB
4	Slum-free City Agenda: Providing Land for Housing the Poor	Dr. P.K. Mohanty, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation, Gol.
5	Greater Noida City - A Marvel of Planning	Shri Pankaj Agrawal, CEO, Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority (GNIDA)
6	Shelterless in the Opulent National Capital	Dr. Shipra Maitra, Professor, Urban Management and Director, Amity College of Commerce & Finance Amity University, U.P
7	Urban Governance and Reforms Issues and Way Forward	Prof. Chetan Vaidya, Director, NIUA
8	“Water & Sanitation Program South Asia (WSP-SA) Strategy	Dr. Nabaroon Bhattacharjee, India Country Team Leader, WSP



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10	Capacity Building for Inclusive Cities	Prof. K.K. Pandey, IIPA
11	Solar Cities and Green Building Programs	Dr. Arun K. Tripathy, Director, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), GoI
12	Sustainable Cities & Green Buildings: Focusing on the basics	Shri Deependra Prasad, Architect, International Network for Traditional Building, Architecture & Urbanism (INTBAU)
13	Sustainable Solid Waste Management for the Indian Cities	Dr. N.B. Mazumdar, Technical Advisor, IL&FS
14	Capacity Building and JNNURM	Dr. Mukesh P. Mathur, NIUA
15	Building Harmonious & Sustainable Cities	Prof. A.G.K. Menon
16	Disaster and Heritage	Prof. M.N. Joglekar, Director, Vastu Kala Academy, College of Architecture
17	Aligning Heritage Planning and Legislation with DPRs and Conservation Projects	Dr. Shikha Jain, Dronah
18	Urban Ecologies & Transition : New Frontiers for Cities in India and Elsewhere	Shri Sunder Subramanian, ICRA Management Consulting
19	Urban Inequality and State Initiatives in Punjab	Prof. B.S. Shekhon, GND University, Amritsar
20	Urban Mobility in an era of Global Warming	Prof. Dinesh Mohan and Dr. Geetam Tiwari, IIT
21	Safe and Secure Cities	Shri S.P. Jakhanwal, Director General, Amity School of Urban Management
22	Cities and Climate Change	Dr. Jyoti Parikh, Executive Director, IRADe
23	Multimodal Transport System in Urban India	Shri Pawan Kumar, Asstt. Town & Country Planner, TCPO, GoI
24	Values in Administration	U.S. Jolly, Ex-Principal Commissioner, DDA



PREFACE

To highlight the importance of sustainable urban development so as to make our cities more harmonious and sustainable and to present the best and leading urban practices, share experiences and take forward various urban initiatives by the central, state and local governments particularly under JNNURM which cover important topics like urban reforms, pro-poor infrastructure investments, inclusive urban planning, integrated management of urban infrastructure including water and waste water, slum rehabilitation and affordable housing, safety and security of our cities and adaptation to climate change; AMDA organised a two-day National Seminar on “Developing Harmonious and Sustainable Cities in India for a better Urban Future” during 20-21 March, 2009 in New Delhi. AMDA Organised this Seminar in collaboration with the Ministry of Urban Development and Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Government of India; Delhi Development Authority; National Housing Bank; National Capital Region Planning Board; Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority; GTZ (Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit - German Technical Cooperation) and UN-HABITAT.

Hon'ble, Secretary, Union Ministry of Urban Development, Dr. M. Ramachandran inaugurated the National Seminar. Hon'ble Former Member, Planning Commission, Prof. S.R. Hashim delivered the Valedictory Address. Dr. Ramachandran launched the “State of the World's Cities 2008/2009 - Harmonious Cities” - an UN-HABITAT publication. The Key-note Address was delivered by Dr. Eduardo López Moreno, Head, City Monitoring Branch, Monitoring and Research Division, UN-HABITAT

The Seminar evoked an overwhelming response attracting many distinguished participants and experts. In all, 28 papers were presented in the Seminar. The Seminar brought about 140 participants representing Central and State Governments, Policy makers, State Secretaries for Urban Development and Municipal Administration, municipalities, development authorities, experts and academicians. The participants were also from International organizations such as UN-HABITAT, GTZ, UNESCO and ADB. The Seminar specially focused on five sub-themes: i) Making Indian Cities Economically Productive and More Equitable; ii) Harmonising the Built and Natural Environment of Indian Cities; iii) Promoting Social Equity and Inclusiveness in Indian Cities; iv) Preserving the Historical Roots and Soul of the Indian Cities and v) Developing Indian Cities for all Generations.

The Recommendations of the Seminar flowing from the discussions in various Sessions as contained in the proceedings will go a long way in the specific context of developing harmonious and sustainable cities for a better urban future.



PREFACE

In bringing out the proceedings, we received valuable support from Chairpersons of various Technical Sessions – Prof. K.C. Sivaramakrishnan, Chairman, Centre for Policy Research (CPR); Shri S.P. Jakhanwal, Director General, Amity School of Urban Management; Shri S. Sridhar, CMD, National Housing Bank, Tmt. Susan Mathew, Vice-Chairperson, CMDA; Prof. E. F. N. Ribeiro, Former Director, AMDA, Shri B.N. Puri, Sr. Consultant, Planning Commission. The contributions of Prof. H.B. Singh and Dr. Kulwant Singh in synthesizing the issues to formulating recommendations, were extremely helpful and we thankfully acknowledge the same.

Thanks are also due to the colleagues – Shri Ashfaq Alam, Shri S.R. Kashyap, Shri P.K. Chakravorty for their help and cooperation in various ways. We are also thankful to Ms. Sangeeta Gupta, Ms. Kiran Chanana and Shri R. Sudarshan for their valuable assistance.

July, 2009

Noor Mohammad
Chairman, AMDA



PROGRAMME

20-21 March, 2009
Gulmohar Hall, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi

Friday, 20 MARCH 2009 (DAY 1)
INAUGURAL SESSION
Session Rapporteur: Dr. K.K. Pandey, Professor, IIPA

08.30-09.30 Programme Registration & Tea/Coffee

09.30-10.30 **Inauguration of the Seminar** Welcome : Dr. Noor Mohammad, Chairman, AMDA and Member Secretary, NCR Planning Board

Lighting of the Lamp

Keynote Address : Dr. Eduardo López Moreno, Head, City Monitoring Branch, Monitoring and Research Division, UN-HABITAT

National Launch of the State of the World's Cities 2008/2009 - Harmonious Cities - UN-HABITAT Publication : Dr. M. Ramachandran, Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India

Inaugural Address : Dr. M. Ramachandran, Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India

Vote of Thanks : Dr. Kulwant Singh, Director-cum-Member Secretary, AMDA

10.30-11.00 Tea Break

Plenary Session

Session Chair: Prof. K.C. Sivaramakrishnan, Chairman, CPR, New Delhi

Session Co-chair: Shri Abhijit Dasgupta, Metropolitan Commissioner, BMRDA

Session Rapporteur: Dr. Shipra Maitra, Professor of Urban Management, Amity University

11.00-13.00 **Theme Presentation on Harmonious and Sustainable Urbanisation: The Challenge of Balanced Territorial Development:** Dr. Eduardo López Moreno, Head, City Monitoring Branch, Monitoring and Research Division, UN-HABITAT

Asian Development Bank: Urban Sector Strategy Operation in India:
Ms. Gulfer Cezayirli, ADB, India Country Office

Preserving Heritage Cities in India : Dr. Minja Yang, Director, UNESCO

Mandates of the 73rd and 74th Constitution Amendments for Planning Municipal and Panchayat Areas in India : Shri R.M. Kapoor, Chief, Local Governance Synergy, Kolkata

Discussion

13.00-14.00 Lunch Break



PROGRAMME

Technical Session – I

Theme: Promoting Social Equity and Inclusiveness in Indian Cities

Session Chair: Shri S.P. Jakhanwal, Director General, Amity School of Urban Management

Session Co-chair: Dr. P.K. Mohanty, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Gol.

Session Rapporteur: Ms. Aparna Das, Independent Consultant

14.00-15.45 Affordable Shelter for All : Shri Raj Pal, Principal Advisor, NHB

Slum-free City Agenda: Providing Land for Housing the Poor: Dr. P.K. Mohanty, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Gol.

Greater Noida City - A Marvel of Planning : Shri Pankaj Agrawal, CEO, Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority (GNIDA)

Shelterless in the Opulent National Capital: Dr. Shipra Maitra, Professor, Urban Management and Director, Amity College of Commerce & Finance Amity University, U.P

Panel Discussion on - Inclusive Urban Planning for sustainable Cities in India – New Approaches for Master Plans and City Development Plans: Prof. E.F.N. Ribeiro, Shri B.N. Singh, Dr. Gopal Krishan, Shri Ved Mittal.

15.45-16.15 Tea/Coffee Break

Technical Session – II

Theme: Making Indian Cities Economically Productive and More Equitable

Session Chair: Shrir. S. Sridhar, CMD, National Housing Bank

Session Co-chair: Dr. Oyebanji Oyeinka, Director, UN-HABITAT

Session Rapporteur: Ms. Anjali P. Roy, Dy Director, NCRPB

16.15-18.00 Urban Governance and Reforms: Issues and Way Forward: Prof. Chetan Vaidya, Director, NIUA

“Water & Sanitation Program South Asia (WSP-SA) Strategy : Dr. Nabaroon Bhattacharjee, India Country Team Leader, WSP

Housing Scenario for Poor in India: Dr. Debolina Kundu, Associate Professor, NIUA

Sulabh Initiatives for making Indian Cities Sustainable and Harmonious. Prof. S. Tripathy, Pro-vice-Chancellor Sulabh International Academy of Environmental Sanitation

Capacity Building for Inclusive Cities: Prof. K.K. Pandey, IIPA



PROGRAMME

Saturday, 21 March 2009 (DAY 2)

Technical Session - III

Theme: Harmonising the Built and Natural Environment of Indian Cities

Session Chair: Tmt. Susan Mathew, Vice-Chairperson, CMDA

Session Rapporteur: J.N. Barman, JD, NCRPB

09.30-11.00 Solar Cities and Green Building Programs : Dr. Arun K. Tripathy, Director, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Gol

Sustainable Cities & Green Buildings: Focusing on the basics: Shri Deependra Prasad, Architect, International Network for Traditional Building, Architecture & Urbanism (INTBAU)

Sustainable Solid Waste Management for the Indian Cities: Dr. N.B. Mazumdar, Technical Advisor, IL&FS

Capacity Building and JNNURM : Dr. Mukesh P. Mathur, NIUA

11.00-11.30 Tea/Coffee Break

Technical Session - IV

Theme: Preserving the Historical Roots and Soul of the Indian Cities

Session Chair: Prof. E.F.N. Ribeiro, Former Director, AMDA

Session Rapporteur: Ms. Nicole Bolomey, Programme Specialist, UNESCO

11.30-13.00 Building Harmonious & Sustainable Cities : Prof. A.G.K. Menon

Disaster and Heritage: Prof. M.N. Joglekar, Director, Vastu Kala Academy, College of Architecture

Aligning Heritage Planning and Legislation with DPRs and Conservation Projects : Dr. Shikha Jain, Dronah

Urban Ecologies & Transition : New Frontiers for Cities in India and Elsewhere: Shri Sunder Subramanian, ICRA Management Consulting

Preserving the Historical Roots of Indian Cities: Prof. D.P. Kambo Vastu Kala Academy, College of Architecture

Urban Inequality and State Initiatives in Punjab: Prof. B.S. Shekhon, GND University, Amritsar

13.15-14.00 Lunch Break



PROGRAMME

Technical Session - V
Theme: Developing Indian Cities for all Generations
Session Chair : Dr. B.N. Puri, Sr. Consultant, Planning Commission,
Government of India
Session Rapporteur: Abhijeet Samanta, Asstt. Director, NCRPB

- 14.00-15.30 Promoting Public Transport systems for sustainable Cities in India:** Dr. B.N. Puri, Principal Secretary, Planning Commission, Gol
Urban Mobility in an era of Global Warming: Prof. Dinesh Mohan and Dr. Geetam Tiwari. IIT
Safe and Secure Cities : Shri S.P. Jakhanwal, Director General, Amity School of Urban Management
Cities and Climate Change : Dr. Jyoti Parikh, Executive Director, IRADe
Multimodal Transport System in Urban India: Shri Pawan Kumar, Asstt. Town & Country Planner, TCPO, Gol
Values in Administration: U.S. Jolly, Ex-Principal Commissioner, DDA
- 15.30-16.00 Tea Break**
- 16.00-16.30** Finalisation of recommendations- By Professor H.B. Singh and Rapporteurs

Concluding Session
Session Rapporteur: Prof. H.B. Singh, Former HoD,
Dept. of Regional Planning, SPA

- 16.30-17.30 Welcome**
Dr. Noor Mohammad, Chairman, AMDA and Member Secretary, NCR Planning Board.
- Seminar Recommendations**
Dr. Kulwant Singh, Director, AMDA
- Concluding Remarks and Way Forward**
Dr. Eduardo López Moreno, Head, City Monitoring Branch, Monitoring and Research Division, UN-HABITAT
- Valedictory Address**
Prof. S. R. Hashim, Former Member, Planning Commission, Gol
- Vote of Thanks**
Dr. Kulwant Singh, Director, AMDA



INTRODUCTION

1.0 THE CONTEXT

1.1 The Objective

The broad objective of the Seminar was to highlight the importance of sustainable urban development so as to make our cities more harmonious and sustainable. It also to present the best and leading urban practices, share experiences and take forward various urban initiatives by the central, state and local governments particularly under JNNURM. The seminar covered important topics like urban reforms, pro-poor infrastructure investments, inclusive urban planning, integrated management of urban infrastructure including water and waste water, slum rehabilitation and affordable housing, safety and security of our cities and adaptation to climate change.

1.2 Seminar Sub-themes

- Making Indian Cities Economically Productive and More Equitable
- Harmonising the Built and Natural Environment of Indian Cities
- Promoting Social Equity and Inclusiveness in Indian Cities
- Preserving the Historical Roots and Soul of the Indian Cities
- Developing Indian Cities for all Generations

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Inaugural Session

- It is crucial to address the challenges of urbanization with particular reference to poverty, slums, environmental degradation, regional disparities, inequalities, social unrest. These issues call for immediate attention towards city development systems and governance.
- The 21st Millennium is the century of cities. How to prepare and keep the cities sustainable is the key concern as the urban population has overtaken the rural population; 93% population growth in next 20 years will be in cities and towns and there are significant disparities in the growth of cities in terms of space, services and economic activities.
- Harmony in space is required to accommodate physical, environmental and social concerns.
- India is projected to be the third economic power by 2050 and will have a larger challenge to address the growth and equity.



RECOMMENDATIONS

- The high economic growth is not accompanied by a balanced distribution of income and employment opportunities. Benefits of growth are not reaching to the poor. The cities are vulnerable for social issues such as crime, violence, ethnic conflicts etc.
- Environmental condition of cities has negative externalities in terms of CO₂ emissions which require a range of changes in life style management. These considerations are important for all in the context of 10% of global population living in coastal area, half of which will be residing in Asia.
- There is a need to protect soul of city through appropriate actions on governance structure for a larger metropolitan area, reduction of poverty, slum improvement, supply of land, finance and housing. There is also a need to increase the share of national budget for city governance to a level of 10-20% which is significantly low, leading to scarcity of funds at local level and a constant decline in the levels of services.
- Harmony of cities is a process involving harmony of space, wealth and resources. It is a journey and not a destination and therefore all partners in the journey need to contribute to the best of the ability.
- Development of harmony is required in a three-pronged strategy:
 - Synergy between urban, regional and local planning;
 - Social harmony within cities to have social justice and equity through low-cost infrastructure and service; and
 - Harmony between built and natural environment covering sustainability of eco-systems and cost effective environmental solutions

Plenary Session

Harmonious and Sustainable Urbanisation

- In order to create harmonious cities emphasis should be on: pro-poor policies; slum development programmes; protecting cultural assets
- Preservation of cultural properties and heritage site to be protected from massive urban sprawl
- Economic sustainability of heritage site through tourism development
- Long term planning for infrastructure
- Protection of bio-diversity and linking of river with appropriate infrastructure
- 74th Amendments do not mention cities but municipalities implying both small and big urban settlements



RECOMMENDATIONS

- State Town Planning Laws are not upgraded in many states
- Planning around people, rather than space should be focused with social and economic change
- Constitution Amendment Act is necessary but not sufficient. It is a supply side attempt at decentralization. There is not sufficient demand-driven involvement
- It creates a bottleneck towards inclusiveness
- There is still significant apathy from the state government to share power with the local bodies. Changing characteristics of the stakeholders also need to be considered in order to create harmonious and sustainable cities.

Technical Session I

Theme: Promoting Social Equity and Inclusiveness in Indian Cities

- There is need to look at the conventional planning tools like Master Plans, FAR and other development regulations to rationalize an optimum use of land / housing in cities.
- New instruments need to be devised such as 'Shelter Fund' to extend housing credits to the urban poor.
- Partnerships need to be forged with Private Partners in making housing available to urban poor, under a carefully designed policy framework.
- For the urban poor options such as Rental Housing should be promoted in cities. Maharashtra State Housing policy has included Rental Housing as one of the option for the urban poor.
- Land in cities need to be analyzed not only from its real estate commercial value but also from the perspective of its social value. While relocating slums in cities these aspects need to be taken care of.

Technical Session II

Theme: Making Indian Cities Economically Productive and More Equitable

- Municipal functions should be classified into core and other functions
- Industrial areas should not be exempted from formation of urban local bodies
- Central Finance Commissions should provide grant-in-aid to ULBs linked to certain central taxes
- There should be legislative provision for enabling private sector participation in providing municipal services



RECOMMENDATIONS

- Road Map for capacity building to recognize role of local government, participatory governance, inclusive planning, resource mobilization, equitable allocation, adequate access to services and shelters, income and employment generation.
- In order to achieve 'water and sanitation for all', Policy reforms, Institutional Reforms and behavior change are required
- Harmonious cities entail the synchronization and integration of all of the Earth's assets, whether they are physical, environmental, cultural, historical, social or human.
- Planning for harmonious cities requires coordination and collaboration between central, state and local authorities in order to achieve harmonious regional and urban development, provided they share a common vision and demonstrate sufficient political will.

Technical Session-III

Theme: Harmonizing the Built and Natural Environment of Indian Cities

- The built environment of cities has to be sustainable in synergy with the Natural environment on the principle of "with no regrets policy"
- Energy audit and retrofitting should be part of regular planning design and monitoring process to create and maintain built environment of cities
- All efforts should be made to reduce the use of fossil fuels and increase renewable energy options including 'Solar Energy' which is becoming commercially more and more viable with efficient management and evolved technology
- Solid Waste Management may be made more effective and efficient by having a long term land use planning with no development plans in 500 meter distance around the landfill site.
- There is need to have a public awareness programme to make people more cooperative with change of their perception towards this aspect and have sympathetic attitude towards people involved in waste collection and management.
- All rules and regulations related to solid waste management have to be in tune with the Carbon Credit Trading System evolved globally to mitigate the ill-effects of climate change.
- Solid Waste Management has to be made sustainable considering the sites, citizens, technology management, finances and resource recovery.
- There has to be Citizen Centered Governance, considering gender issues, sensitivity to urban poor and involving CBOs and NGOs.
- There is need to have a Dedicated Training Mechanism for Capacity Building of ULBs in every state and urban centre.



RECOMMENDATIONS

Technical Session IV

Theme: Preserving the historical roots and soul of the Indian cities

- Living heritage of Natural and Built Environment, as well as socio-cultural activities has to be planned together in an integrated manner - Archeological Survey of India, Town Planning aspects and cultural aspects have to be put together for conservation and preservation in a holistic approach and sustainable commercial format.
- It is important to have an accurate mapping of such heritage areas and built environment with provision of updating periodically.
- Instead of Environment Management Plan it is better and more holistic to have Urban - Ecological - Management Plan.
- Efforts should be made to make people aware and actively participate in decision making process like evolving Urban Development Plan – which may be conceived as a living document for all citizen including urban poor.

Technical Session V

Theme: Developing Indian Cities for all Generations

- A Multi Modal Transportation System is desirable with an objective to: reduce travel time; improve accessibility; meet travel demand and supply; transport services; traffic operation; travel information; coordination; and integration and intelligent transport system application.
- Public transport system for sustainable cities should be accessible and provide ways to reduce transport demand by reducing transport intensity; positive measures for public transport both in public and private sector.
- Planning for transport in cities to let the cities be livable, improve safety on roads, promote cycles and cycle tracks
- Value of good governance emphasizes value based administration.



PROCEEDINGS

3. PROCEEDINGS

3.1 INAUGURAL SESSION

The National Seminar was inaugurated by Dr. M. Ramachandran, Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India on 20 March, 2009 at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. Dr. Noor Mohammad, Chairman, AMDA and Member Secretary NCR Planning Board welcomed the dignitaries and the participants. Dr. Eduardo Lopez Moreno, Head, City Monitoring Branch, Monitoring and Research Division, UN-HABITAT delivered the keynote address. Vote of thanks was extended by Dr. Kulwant Singh, Director, AMDA. The sequence of the Inaugural Session is as given below:

<i>Welcome Address</i>	Dr. Noor Mohammad Chairman, AMDA and Member Secretary NCR Planning Board
<i>Keynote Address</i>	Dr. Eduardo Lopez Moreno Head, City Monitoring Branch, Monitoring and Research Division, UN-HABITAT
<i>Inaugural Address</i>	Dr. M. Ramachandran Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development Government of India
<i>Vote of Thanks</i>	Dr. Kulwant Singh Director-cum-Member Secretary, AMDA



PROCEEDINGS

WELCOME ADDRESS

by **Dr. Noor Mohammad**

Chairman, AMDA

I am very pleased to welcome you all on behalf of the Association of Municipalities and Development Authorities to this two-day Seminar on “Developing Harmonious and Sustainable Cities in India for a Better Urban Future”. AMDA’s main mission is to focus on the concerns of urban local bodies and development authorities with the overall objectives of improving human settlements and improving the quality of life in urban areas; and to promote and facilitate economically efficient, environmentally sustainable, socially just and politically participatory urbanization in the country by information sharing, mutual learning and networking between urban local bodies, development authorities and other agencies involved in urban development in the country. In pursuance of these goals, AMDA has planned this seminar in partnership with UN-HABITAT, GTZ and several other national, state and city level organisations.

As we all know that managing rapid urbanization in India will be a major challenge for at least a few decades to come, with far reaching ramifications on sustaining high economic growth rates, reducing urban poverty, improving the quality of life of urban citizens, and improving the environment and reducing carbon emission. The scale of challenges in developing efficient and sustainable cities in India is multidisciplinary and complex. The chances of success are much higher when synergic partnerships are evolved to deal with these challenges. I hope this seminar will evoke constructive discussion and generate new ideas and partnerships that will further consolidate the ongoing efforts of the Ministry of Urban Development through their flagship program, the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission and various policies including the recent Housing and Habitat Policy, Urban Transport Policy and recently launched National Urban Sanitation Policy. I also hope that this Seminar will highlight national and global best practices to strengthen Urban Governance and also the city infrastructure for sustainable and harmonious development of our cities.

UN-HABITAT’s global report on State of the World’s Cities 2008/2009 is on the theme of Harmonious Cities which shows that spatial and social disparities within cities and between cities and regions within the same country are growing as some areas benefit more than others from public services, infrastructure and other investments. Evidence presented in this report also shows that when cities already have high levels of inequality, spatial and social disparities are likely to become more, and not less, pronounced with economic growth. High levels of urban inequality present a double jeopardy. They have a dampening effect on economic growth and contribute to a less favourable environment for investment. This report which will be launched by the Hon’ble Secretary, Urban Development during this session will be formally introduced by our visiting



PROCEEDINGS

colleagues from UN-HABITAT, Nairobi. The data and analysis contained in this report are intended to improve our understanding of how cities function and what we can do to increase their livability and unity.

Let me also briefly touch upon the structure of the seminar. The broad objective of the Seminar is to highlight the importance of sustainable urban development so as to make our cities more harmonious. The two-day National Seminar seeks to address some of the critical issues relating to the theme of the Seminar under five sub-themes:

1. Promoting Social Equity and Inclusiveness in Indian Cities
2. Making Indian Cities Economically Productive and More Equitable
3. Harmonising the Built and Natural Environment of Indian Cities
4. Preserving the Historical Roots and Soul of the Indian Cities
5. Developing Indian Cities for all Generations

Besides the plenary, in which theme presentation on Developing Harmonious and Sustainable Cities in India shall be made, there are about 25 papers that will be presented and discussed in five technical sessions in which various national policies and programmes will be discussed. These papers will also present the leading urban practices, share experiences and take forward various urban initiatives by the central, state and local governments. These presentations also cover important topics like urban reforms, pro-poor infrastructure investments, inclusive urban planning, integrated management of urban infrastructure including water and waste water, slum rehabilitation and affordable housing, safety and security of our cities and adaptation to climate change.

The presence of Dr. M. Ramachandran, Secretary (UD) indicates his commitment to the cause of making our cities most livable, harmonious and sustainable. While specially welcoming him, I would like to thank him for his big support for AMDA. I also welcome our colleagues from partner organisations collaborating in the seminar - UN-HABITAT, GTZ, NHB, DDA, Greater Noida Authority and my own organisation NCRPB. My special welcome is also to all the participants from AMDA Member organisations, non-member municipalities and development authorities as well as partner NGOs, private sector and civil society organisations.

I hope that we shall have very fruitful discussions for the next two days.

Thank you.



PROCEEDINGS

KEYNOTE ADDRESS¹

by **Dr. Eduardo Lopez Moreno**

Head, Monitoring Branch, Monitoring and Research Division UN-HABITAT

Dr. Ramachandran, Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development, , Dr. Noor Mohammad, Chairman of AMDA, Mr. Abhijit Dasgupta, Vice Chairman of AMDA and Dr. Kulwant Singh, Director-cum-Member Secretary of AMDA..

Cities are a central and timeless display of humanity's best and worst features. They are today, have been in the past and will be in the future. They can be beautiful but also ugly. History has shown that cities have not always provided the best options and solutions to serve human's best interests and enable them to fulfil their full potential.

When we think about cities, we think about culture, technology, innovation, we think about several important things that have helped humanity to be better. But cities which are not well governed, and are not well-planned, become repository of society's ills, crime, diseases, pollution, etc. These are the dialectics of our cities.

We would like to think that we are united here today because we care about the cities and are concerned about their future. But we must also acknowledge that some members of society would like the city to be different for personal motivations, out of greed, or to serve specific interests.

How can we accommodate and unite these apparently contradictory aspirations? How can we create and preserve cities to reflect our wishes as human beings and serve the greater interest of mankind?

These are particularly important topics and discussions because we are living in the century of the city. As I am sure you are aware, last year, for the first time in history, the rural population was outnumbered by the urban population. Furthermore, we can predict that in 20 years from now, 93% of humanity's growth will occur in cities.

This means two interrelated things. Rural areas in the world will not grow or will grow only 7% and cities will all increase in size but at different rates. This is the key to the understanding of urbanization. The State of the World's Cities Report 2008/9 that we are presenting in this seminar, and his Excellency Dr. Ramachandran, Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development, will launch officially in India today, reveals that 57% of all cities in the developing world - Asia, Africa, and Latin America - grew very fast, more than 4% a year: in 20 years times their population will have doubled. However, on the other hand, around 20% of cities are slowing down growth. In the next few years, the general trend will therefore be a decrease in the cities' population.

As part of the findings of the Report, we presented a very interesting new trend in urbanization: the

¹ *This Address is the transcriptions of an oral presentation from tape recording*



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decline of urban populations in the developing world. This is still marginal, but I believe it is a new trend that is unfolding in the global south, where slightly more than 10% of the developing world's cities population has declined. In the future we are therefore going to see some cities and regions growing very fast and others not growing at all, or even declining in their populations and also in their economic bases.

In other words, some areas will experience dynamic economic growth with all its' benefits in terms of development and societal outcomes, whereas in other areas there will be a lack of dynamism, with low employment and other disparities will start to emerge. If we do not take action, regional development will continue to grow with a lot of asymmetries, causing disharmony and all the other negative consequences that this entails.

Most of the time, the media and researchers equate the 'century of the city' with mega cities. Mega cities are extremely important but today they account for a mere 10% of the world's population. 50 to 52% of all humans are actually to be found in the intermediate cities. This suggests that we may not be considering polarization at the right levels. There is harmony when a system of cities is working well.

India is an interesting case. In India, the percentages of population living in both small and large cities are higher than those of the world averages. For instance whereas the average of the share of the population living in small cities in whole Asia is around of 24%, in India it is 35 percent. In other words, a lot of people live in big cities, and a lot of people live in small cities, but very few live in intermediate cities. However, most of India's growth is taking place in its intermediate cities. This type of cities is growing much faster than the mega cities and any other city size, and they are expected to grow further in the coming years. Therefore it would be possible to reach a certain level of harmony in this space but to do so, some form of action must be taken; an action that leads to more harmonious urban and regional development.

Recently, still unpublished economic projections suggested that providing an efficient implementation of policies and growth orientated initiatives to the different regions, and propelling growth through cities, will make India the world's third economic power by 2050. But harmony cannot be achieved without dealing with poverty. Today, 30 to 40% of the world's population lives in slum areas and data suggests that this percentage is around this proportion also in India.

Income and wealth is unequally distributed and concentrated only in few hands in today's world. Development is therefore not providing all with the expected benefits. Harmony cannot be achieved if there is a risk of social unrest. Poverty and inequality and even just the perception of them, can be a trigger force for it.

Studies show that Asia has the lowest percentage of income concentration measured by the gini-coefficient, compared to other developing regions. However, this percentage is rising and disparities are increasing. Currently Asian cities are still below the percentage that has been established as the threshold of inequality or a sort of "alert line", but if they continue to grow as it seems to be the case,



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at least in India, inequalities can generate different forms of violence, social unrest and forms of economic inefficiency. The Report shows with new data at urban level that today the highest inequalities in the world can be found in the Latin American and South African cities, and it is not a coincidence that many of these large cities are characterized by high levels of crime and violence.

Contrary to conventional economic thinking and theories, economic growth is not necessarily generating inequalities or exacerbating them. In our report, we show through the analysis of 40 prospering world cities in different developing countries that half of them grew economically without generating economic inequalities. This could happen because these countries and cities were implementing pro-poor oriented policies and actions.

Rather than creating inequalities, economic growth in one region at sub-national level can in fact serve as a tool to protect and improve living conditions of people in non developing areas thus reducing disparities in the whole country. But for that we need a strong State. Furthermore, within a city, growth through good policy making could offer the possibility of improving living conditions, access to water, sanitation, health and education, in different parts of the city; thus, bridging the urban divide.

The second point concerns the environment. For some people urban development and environmental protection seem to be incompatible. They only see that cities are held responsible for generating high levels of CO₂ emissions and thus harming the environment. No doubt that cities are the main culprits of all green house emissions (estimated around 60 to 70%). However, not all cities participate in the generation of green house emissions in the same way and the same proportion. For example, the city of Houston in the United States of America is a city of one million inhabitants and produces 20 times more emissions than the huge 20 million people cities of Sao Paulo and Mexico City. This proves in my view that it is not growth and the size of cities as such that cause environmental damage. The issue revolves around the nature of the development, the way the process of urbanization is carried out and the urban dwellers' way of life in terms of consumption and habits.

The consequences of CO₂ emissions on climate change are evident. Today nearly 60 percent of the world's population living in low elevation coastal zones –the continuous area along coastlines that is less than 10 meters above sea level, is urban. It is estimated that around 300 million people are at risk living in these cities. Seventeen percent of the total urban population in Asia lives in the low elevation coastal zones, and in South-Eastern Asia the proportion reaches more than one-third of the urban population. In Northern Africa 18 percent, and in total there are more than 3,300 cities in the world in these risk locations and vulnerable to climate change. The Report highlights this issue and stresses that environmental harmony is fundamental for the security of these populations. We are all affected by and responsible for environmental issues. No society is exempt and none can claim environmental harmony and biodiversity can be preserved without taking bold policy actions: social and economic harmony being prerequisites for achieving environmental harmony. Moreover, we strongly believe that cities provide an opportunity to mitigate or even reverse the impact of climate change, as they provide the economies of scale that reduce per capita costs and demand for resources. However, it is difficult for poor countries to have environmental concerns integrated into development policies. They will not



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be able to climb the environmental leader if the international community does not support them.

To conclude, this report presents important policies and how to go about achieving harmony. These are not prescriptions, knowledge claims or pretensions of universal truth. Policies that work are analyzed in attempt to reveal and highlight what is making a difference. I would like to share with you two or three important findings:

Today in most of the cities of the global south, it is almost impossible to talk about municipalities or other lowest levels of political administrative units as fully fledged cities. Most cities in the developing world are made of two or more municipalities, in some cases up to 20 or 30 municipalities. Even those of no more than 100,000 inhabitants, are made of 2 or 3 municipalities at the very least. Therefore while considering harmonious development one will have to address income disparities and environmental disparities, and consider metropolitan governance structures in order to integrate the different municipalities and work together.

Secondly, in order to reduce poverty in cities and address the growth of slum settlements, cities have to recognize the existence of these informal areas and they need also to create sound information systems to identify and monitor them. A recent survey conducted by UN-HABITAT has revealed that 80% of cities in the developing world do not have means (technical, financial and human resources) to track changes in slum areas, and to identify which part of the city is growing through informal and formal mechanisms. Cities must then undergo institutional innovations, i.e. sometimes simple changes in the way the cities are governed and more radical institutional reforms in terms of finance, land and housing.

However, although cities and countries have the responsibility of growth and development in their own contexts, we at the UN believe cities should not achieve all these important Millennium Development Goals by themselves. It is fundamental to develop synergy, complementarities to work hand in hand with the international community, which in some cases is also responsible for some of the poverty related issues. Moreover, cities need to work with other levels of government to be successful. Policy evidence shows that cities that are successful work together with provincial/state and national governments, and successful Indian cities are not an exception.

UN-HABITAT shows in this edition of the Report that cities and countries that are successful in reducing the numbers of slum dwellers are successful because they are mobilizing huge domestic resources through national budgets. Indeed, it is shown that countries that have achieved a significant reduction in the number of slums have for at least 10-15 years been sustainably mobilizing an important part of the national revenue, 10 to 20% of the budget. Finally, these successful cases of cities and countries also show that they have to have serious targets and monitoring mechanisms with clear processes set up by lessons learnt, in order to understand what works to scale up actions.

Only when all these processes and mechanisms are in place harmony can really be part of the development agenda. This is why I wrote in the Report that: Harmony is both a process and a journey.



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INAUGURAL ADDRESS

by **Dr. M. Ramachandran**

Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development

Dr. Noor Mohammad, Member Secretary NCR Planning Board and Chairman AMDA, Shri Abhijit Dasgupta, Metropolitan Commissioner, BMRDA, Dr. Eduardo Moreno, Head, City Monitoring Branch, UN-HABITAT Distinguished delegates, Ladies and gentlemen:

It is a great pleasure for me to be invited for inaugurating this National Seminar on Developing Harmonious and Sustainable Cities in India for a Better Urban Future organised by the Association of Municipalities and Development Authorities - an organization which is a platform to share views and experiences and aspires, among other goals, to be a centre point for frontier research, a treasure house of information on urban issues, and a think-tank for planned development of cities and towns in India.

Since its inception in 1983, AMDA has played a significant role in knowledge management, advocacy, training and capacity building of our urban local bodies and I do hope that AMDA will continue playing a bigger role in further promoting decentralization and institutionalization of empowered municipalities for better urban management. I am also happy to note that the seminar is being organised in close collaboration with state, regional, national, bilateral and multilateral organisations that include NHB, DDA, Greater Noida Authority, NCRPB, GTZ and UN-HABITAT etc.

Harmonious Cities was the theme of last year's World Habitat Day which was celebrated the world over in October 2008 and subsequently the subject was also discussed at length during the Fourth Session of the World Urban Forum held at Nanjing in PR China in November 2008. Considering the theme of the seminar on building harmonious and sustainable cities in the context of India let me briefly discuss the whole concept of Harmonious and Sustainable Cities. As you all know, we now live in an urban world. In 2007, humanity witnessed a significant event in its history: the world's urban population, for the first time, equaled the rural population. This historic milestone represented both a demographic change signified by a shift or growth of population, and more importantly, a social, cultural and economic transformation. The change is even more remarkable if we consider that 200 years ago the human existence was overwhelmingly rural, with less than 3 per cent of the total population living in cities. Until then, the pace of urbanization was extremely slow. Urban growth began to accelerate in the 1950s, when the urban population accounted for one-third of the world's population. Since then, humanity has witnessed the fastest urban growth ever experienced, bringing the number of urban residents closer to the number of rural residents.



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Urbanization has been an essential part of most nations' development. Evidence shows that economic growth, social and political change, technical and scientific advances and progress in various other areas are direct result of the urbanization process. Levels of income and performance on human development indicators are also strongly linked to urbanization. However, in some countries and cities urbanization is raising red flags, particularly because an increase on income inequalities not only in developing countries, but also in various developed nations. In many other places, urbanization is synonymous to slum formation, with more and more people living in poor informal settlements, known by different names such as Favelas, Ranchos, Chawls, Katchi Abadis, and many other names that describe forms of deprivation, economic morbidity and social differentiation. Urbanization is also raising red flags because of the alarming number of countries that are observing an increase in land and resources consumption as well as more pollution and waste.

A world that urbanizes cannot claim to be harmonious if some groups concentrate resources and opportunities while others remain impoverished and marginalized. This seminar on Harmonious and Sustainable Cities is a good opportunity to remind all of us that urbanization does not necessarily mean unrestrained economic growth that generates poverty and exclusion. Harmonious and Sustainable Cities recalls all of us that urbanization cannot be done at the expense of the natural environment. The connotation of Harmonious Cities means harmony in economic and societal relations, urban and regional relations and urban growth and environmental relations. It is a concept that parallels the economy, social justice, equity and politics, which are all independent and closely related to one another at the same time. This integration seeks to promote a more harmonious coexistence at city level.

Urbanisation as the Engine of Economic Growth

A country's level of urbanization (percentage of population living in cities, towns, and settlements defined as urban) is directly correlated with its level of economic development (as measured by per capita gross domestic product - GDP). In view of such correlation, many development planners have advocated using urbanization as a developmental engine to spark nationwide economic growth. Instead of mainly reacting to observed urban development patterns and often using measures that inhibit urbanization by controlling internal migration or evicting urban poor residents and resettling them elsewhere, they recommend proactive planning strategies that rely on providing infrastructure and services to accelerate economic growth in urban areas.

Call for Harmonious and Sustainable Urban Development

Cities have tremendous potential to combine safe and healthy living conditions and culturally rich and diverse lifestyles with remarkably low levels of energy consumption, resource use and waste. However, to realize this potential there is a need to promote more balanced urban development by trying to harmonize the various interest, diversity and inherent contradictions within cities. The concept of Harmony calls not only for economic prosperity in cities and its attendant benefits, but



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for various other inter-related aspects such as equity, sustainability, fairness, social justice and good urban governance. Cities that are well planned and governed properly, when they are competent and efficient, and when they care for the poor, have an enormous potential for more balanced social, economic and environmental development.

This seminar provides an excellent opportunity to highlight key human settlement issues related to the concept of Harmonious and Sustainable Cities in India. This concept is both a theoretical framework and an operational tool to act today. It is as well an instrument to raise awareness in different cities of the country about the need to shift policy priorities towards those more in need on the road to more balanced and sustainable urban development. This can be done by addressing social, economic, environmental and political dimensions of urban growth in a more integrated manner.

We need to consider three dimensions of Harmony which have a direct impact on sustainable urbanization and overall national development. These three dimensions are:

- Growth or decline of cities is not accidental. New city-regions, city corridors and geographic cluster of cities explain some of the new location and comparative advantages of economically dynamic cities. However, is it possible to talk about a well balanced system of cities in which regional planning plays a key role for more harmonious national development? Is it possible to articulate urban planning practices with new regional approaches to planning? How local decision-makers can work together with national authorities in search of more harmonious urban development?
- Harmony within Cities: Balanced development matters not only for the sake of social justice, but also for social cohesion and economic development. Disparities within and between countries and cities weaken political legitimacy and undermine development gains. Inequalities within cities have the potential to turn into social protests and generate social instability. It is, therefore, at this level that social justice and equity issues need to be addressed in order to create a fair and just social order that will bring harmony in economic and societal relations. What is the best way to improve the lives of slum dwellers through low-cost interventions? How the cities' development agenda can integrate urban poverty related issues? How best to articulate institutional responses to maximize benefits and cover more deprived populations?
- Harmony between the built and natural environment. Urbanization is the most powerful and irreversible phenomenon in today's world. It can be a cause of loss of biodiversity and environmental pollution; but it can be as well a way out to make environmental sustainability possible. It is believed that slum areas contaminate water and other resources, propitiate the conversion of cropland, forest and wetlands, and affect biodiversity and ecosystems; yet slum dwellers are the lowest consumers of water, land and other



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resources and are more likely to engage in recycling and other environmentally-friendly practices than their non-slum neighbours. Is it possible to design and implement cost-effective environmental solutions that without obstructing the growth potential of urban areas can preserve the natural environment? How economic, social, and environmental planning practices embodying urban sustainability can curb negative urban trends affecting the environment? Furthermore, cities have been blamed for the rise in greenhouse emissions and the resulting climate change. What policies need to be urgently adopted to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in cities? What adaptation and mitigation strategies have proved to be effective in poor countries?

I do hope that you will be pondering over these questions during your two days' deliberations in this seminar.

Let me now come back to the scenario in our own country.

Growth in India - achievements and concerns

As you know, India's performance in recent years has been among the best in the world. The reforms initiated since the early 1990s have unshackled the economy. The long-term trend rate of growth has steadily increased from an average of 3.5% a year between the 1950s and 1970s, to around 8% in recent years. The prowess of India's IT and IT-enabled services, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, and various manufacturing segments is being recognized the world over. Despite the current recession, its macro-fundamentals are sound and foreign exchange reserves are comfortable.

Importantly, high growth has led to a decline in the incidence of poverty - from 36% in 1993-1994 to 26% in 1999-2000. The number of people in poverty came down from 320 million to 260 million during this period, and has undoubtedly declined further since the last official estimates became available. Urban poverty has also been reduced substantially.

Urban India

India is one of the emerging urban economies in the world with a specific shift in terms of contribution to GDP from agriculture to tertiary and manufacturing sectors, thus bringing urban areas to the centre stage of the development process. Because of high economic growth and low urban base, our cities are growing at a fast rate. At present, India has second largest urban system in the world with 310 million people and 5,161 cities and towns. The share of urban population is expected to reach 40% by 2021, and urban areas could contribute around 65% of GDP. Clearly, the availability and quality of basic infrastructure is key to sustaining such growth. Given current trends in population growth and migration, India's urban population is estimated to reach 575 million by 2030.



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Our cities, however, are characterized by widespread poverty, poor urban infrastructure, and environmental degradation. Less than 60 percent of the households in the cities have sanitation facilities, and less than half have tap water on their premises. About 40 million people are also estimated to live in slums.

Poor urban development, weak urban infrastructure and urban management is not only undermining our ability to deliver a decent quality of life to our citizens, it is also constraining potential local and national economic growth. We realize the need for strong focus and accelerated investment in infrastructure and improving the governance and management of our cities.

As you are all aware that in 1992, the Government of India had decentralized more powers to rural and urban local bodies (ULBs) through the 73rd and 74th constitution amendments. In terms of strategic support by the central Government to the urban centers, India's major push came through the launching of the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) in 2005. With the launch of this flagship programme, the country recognised the importance of unleashing the energy of cities as engines of economic and social development. Under this programme the Government of India initially decided to support 63 major urban centers across the country. Our strategy, therefore, is mainly focusing on developments within the formally delineated territories of individual cities.

The main goals of the JNNURM are: (i) improving and expanding the economic and social infrastructure of cities; (ii) ensuring access to basic services at affordable prices on the part of the urban poor, including security of tenure in land and housing; (iii) initiating wide-ranging urban sector reforms; and (iv) strengthening municipal governments and their functions. The Mission which started of 63 cities now covers 65 cities nationwide and provides these cities with grants under two sub-programs (support for urban infrastructure and governance and basic services to the urban poor). Under these sub-programs, the JNNURM requires state and city governments to undertake reforms as a precondition to receiving grants. These reforms include the repeal of the Urban Land Ceiling and Regulation Act, reform of the Rent Control Act, enacting Public Disclosure Law, the introduction of double-entry accounting at the municipal level, property tax reforms, levy of user charges, devolution of powers based on the 74th Constitutional Amendment, and reforms to improve the lives of the urban poor. The total budget for the infrastructure programs amounts to Rs. 100,000 crores for the 7-year period up to 2012. However, comprehensive development planning of city regions beyond the formal boundaries of cities is not yet practiced under the JNNURM. It is our hope that the reforms under the JNNURM would indeed deliver effective and efficient urban governance and bring forth financial viability of urban projects through its cost recovery mechanisms. The Programme should reduce pressure on India's mega-cities, and create adequate infrastructure in other cities across the country. Under the urban renewal mission, 65 cities will benefit from better housing, water and sanitation - and ultimately, better delivery of other basic services such as health, education, and social security.



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The total budget of the program may seem insufficient in view of the magnitude of the urban infrastructure demand in India. Currently, annual spending for all types of infrastructure in India amounts to \$21 billion, which is estimated to be only about 3.6% of GDP. About 2.8% of GDP devoted to infrastructure comes from the Government and only 0.8% from the private sector. I understand that PR China spends about \$150 billion for infrastructure annually, or roughly 10.6% of its GDP. The biggest challenge of the JNNURM is, therefore, how to create a cycle of sustained investment and economic growth initiated by a one-time grant allocation to meet the backlog demand in cities. The success of the program hinges on the successful generation of economic growth in these cities.

Inclusive Growth Essential for Harmonious and Sustainable Cities in India

As India's economy matures, it is important to ensure that growth becomes much more inclusive. You will all agree that no one should be constrained by the lottery of birth - by the region, family, race, caste, or sex into which one is born. In my view, including all citizens in the process of growth is not just a moral imperative. When certain regions, sectors, or groups of people are bypassed by economic opportunities for long periods, the spread and sustainability of growth itself is threatened. Inclusiveness is, therefore, critical for enabling country to reach its full potential in a manner which can be sustained economically, socially, and politically.

What matters is our determination to prevail over the problem. Already 30% of our population lives in towns and cities. But because of a combination of growth and migration, the number of urban dwellers is projected to reach 40% by 2021.

Harmonious cities are those in which all have a right to decent housing, clean water, energy, education, health, safety, security of tenure and all of those stepping stones so essential to securing a decent, peaceful future for our children in a sound economy. Creating a harmonious city is a lifetime cultural, social, political, economic and financial undertaking.

JNNURM investments in housing and urban development are not only economic investments which will strengthen city infrastructure but will also generate lot of employment opportunities and also provide basic urban services thus reducing poverty in a big way paving way for Harmonious and Sustainable Cities. This is a big win-win situation for all of us.

Before I conclude my address, I would like to say a special word of appreciation to everybody here in this most distinguished audience: your presence and participation here today shows how strongly committed you are in our joint quest to make our cities most Harmonious and Sustainable which is the theme of this seminar.



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VOTE OF THANKS

by **Dr. Kulwant Singh**

Director-cum-Member Secretary, AMDA

On behalf of AMDA and the Seminar Organizing Committee I would like to thank you for joining and participating in the National Seminar. Mr. Secretary Sir, developing, sustainable and harmonious cities is stupendous task and it is also a matter of good urban governance. It is a challenge that no country can achieve without the leadership guiding the rest of us paving the way paving the path we have to really follow. Today you are spearheading this process by launching and supporting policies such as National Urban Transport Policy or Urban Sanitation Policy and implementing major investment programme under JNNURM. It's of course our dream that each household in our towns and cities should get some of those basic services including water, sanitation and also I would call it public transport in our towns and cities including our senior citizens. In the quest of building harmonious and sustainable cities it will be AMDA's endeavour to lend complete support in implementing government policies through knowledge sharing, knowledge management, advocacy awareness, training and capacity building. AMDA works with a large number of partners from among NGOs, academic institutions and also the civil society. AMDA has established strategic alliances and partnership with various governments at the local level. We would like to thank Hon'ble Secretary very specially Dr. Ramachandran sahib for joining us this morning and delivering this inaugural address and setting the tone and tenor of the Seminar and we assure you Sir that we will come up with some kind of brief agenda as a way forward for all of us. We are particularly thankful to your Ministry Sir for giving us support for organizing this National Seminar. We would like to thank all our partners very particularly DDA, National Housing Bank, NCR Planning Board, Greater Noida Authority, UNESCO, GTZ, UN-HABITAT and of course all our member cities and development authorities. Our special thanks to Dr. Noor Mohammad, Chairman, AMDA for his guidance and support. His whole team in NCR Planning Board has been lending us big support. Thanks also to Shri Abhijit Dasgupta, Metropolitan Commissioner, BMRDA who as a matter of fact has been very supportive of various initiatives of AMDA. He is also the Vice President of AMDA. In designing the Seminar and its concept our colleagues from Nairobi Dr. Eduardo and also Dr. Oyebanji, Prof. Mathur of NIFPP, Prof. Kundu of JNU, Prof. Chetan Vaidya of NIUA and many of my old colleagues. I would particularly name Dr. K.K. Pandey of IIPA, Prof. Chary of ASCI, Hyderabad. They have lent a very big helping hand. Our own colleagues who are working particularly on some of the projects, Shri. B.N. Singh, Prof. Ribeiro and the whole team as a matter of fact has been involved in planning this. I place on record our appreciation for that. We will also like to thank the management of India Habitat Centre for making this wonderful facility available for organizing this event. I shall be failing in my duty if I do not thank my own team mates within AMDA who have been working very hard to make this event possible. We look forward to highly fruitful deliberations for which I like to thank all those who are participating in the Seminar making presentation and also participating in the debates and discussion. With these words, I would like to thank everyone and request you to kindly join for a cup of tea. We are behind schedule by nearly half an hour or so. We will request you if we can have tea just in 10 minutes and come back for the Plenary Session.



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3.2 VALEDICTORY SESSION

The Valedictory Address was delivered by Prof. S.R. Hashim, Former Member, Planning Commission. Based on the discussions held in different sessions, Dr. Kulwant Singh, Director cum Member Secretary, AMDA presented the recommendations of the seminar. Dr. Noor Mohammad, Chairman AMDA and Member Secretary, NCR Planning Board delivered the welcome address. Vote of thanks was extended by Dr. Kulwant Singh, Director, AMDA.

Welcome Address

Dr. Noor Mohammad

Chairman, AMDA and Member Secretary
NCR Planning Board

Recommendations of the Seminar

Dr. Kulwant Singh

Director-cum-Member Secretary, AMDA

Concluding Remarks

Dr. Eduardo Lopez Moreno

Head, City Monitoring Branch, Monitoring and
Research Division, UN-HBITAT

Valedictory Address

Prof. S.R. Hashim

Former Member, Planning Commission,
Government of India

Vote of Thanks

Dr. Kulwant Singh

Director cum Member Secretary, AMDA



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WELCOME ADDRESS

By **Dr. Noor Mohammad**

Chairman, AMDA

Hon'ble Prof. S. R. Hashim, Dr. Eduardo Lopez Moreno from UN-HABITAT, Dr. Kulwant Singh, Prof. H. B. Singh, Ladies and Gentlemen

I welcome you all to the valedictory session of this seminar. Last two days we had very exciting and stimulating discussions on issues related to Harmonious Cities and Sustainable Development. As we know, the world is witnessing a boom of urbanization and India is not far behind - in the next 20 years we will have about 50% of India as urban population. In such a short time we have to accommodate a very large number of people in our cities; this is a alarm bell for all the planners, administrators as well as intellectuals to think seriously as to how we are going to go about it. If we go at the normal pace at which we have been going about, I am sure we are going to create a mess of it. We grew from 19% to 29% in the last nearly 60 years and we could not successfully manage this growth. I think we need to deliberate seriously on what should be the strategy for meeting this challenge of accommodating from 29% to 50% of people in our cities in the next 20-22 years. An innovative approach is needed; a discussion on such approaches alone deserves a separate seminar.

According to the World Development Report, 2009, we need to talk about development in a regional context. The NCR Planning Board works for NCR region and is engaged in planning for the NCR region. In 1985, it was thought that there will be regional plan for NCR which will ensure harmonious development of the region and there will be sub-regional plans for its state constituents to ensure inter-district harmony. Many years thereafter, in the 74th Constitutional Amendment preparation of District Development Plans has been mandated which will ensure intra-district harmony. The District Development Plans could then be integrated harmoniously into a sub-regional plan; however, it could not be translated into reality fully till now.

There has been a strong urban bias in the Regional Plans and most projects taken up by NCR Planning Board relate to urban basic services. Wherever we went to the rural areas; be it for expressways, power transmission lines, or drinking water schemes; there was connectivity with the urban areas or similar concern in the background. So basically the rural areas did not get attention as did the urban areas. We have plenty of rural areas in NCR which has to get significant place in our strategy in the coming days.

The second issue that I wanted to bring to the notice of the people present here and which did not get the required attention in the discussions was regarding planning and the time required for making plans. The NCR Regional Plan 2021 should have been ready in 2001 and it was suppose



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to be for 20 years from 2002-21 but we have been able to complete it only in 2005 after 4 years. Thereafter, we had to make sub-regional plans and none of the NCR constituent states except Haryana have even started the sub-regional planning process seriously, which means another two years or three years will be taken by them for preparation of sub-regional plans and by that time, in 2010, the regional plan will be in the mid-term review. So, the whole planning process becomes meaningless as we are not adhering to the desired time frame. This may be a subject for another seminar though for development of sustainable and harmonious cities also, the time lines are important and should be part of such deliberations.

At present, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) is implementing a technical assistance project with NCR Planning Board and we are trying to develop a GIS based system to ensure that as soon as our regional plan is ready, in one year's time, we should be having our sub-regional plan as well as master plans ready so that nearly 19 years are available to implement the plan.

The third issue I thought could have been discuss a little more in details was about resource mobilization; FSI and density of population can be used for resource mobilization for urban development projects. The individuals having land use FSI and density to earn profits without paying for it and the ULBs have to create urban services to serve this growth at their own cost. As they are deriving benefits of development of that area, they have to pay, at least part of the profit earned to ULBs. The Municipal Corporations and Development Authorities are meant to serve the same urban area; Development authorities do development, take away all the money they collect as development charges and all the profits; the assets thus created are transferred to the Municipal Corporation for creation of urban services and their maintenance which is very costly. The transferred assets do not create enough income in terms of house tax or water tax; so it becomes difficult to maintain those services. Therefore, when we talk about FSI and density being used as resource development, the development authorities may be expected to give a part of the earnings to the Municipal Corporations to run their basic services.

NCR Planning Board intends to prepare City Development Plans, on the JNNURM pattern, for all 18 metro and regional centres of NCR. We are going to prepare Comprehensive Mobility Plans for all those towns going to have 5 lakh population in 2021. We are going to have functional plans on tourism, transport, water, drainage, sanitation, powers etc; this will generate a very large number of projects and we have to gear up to meet the accompanying challenges of resources mobilisation.

The last thing I wanted to mention is about capacity building. Prof. Mathur made very illuminating presentation about the number of capacity development centres needed and the training centres required to meet the growing need of ULBs for capacity building in India. I would like to mentions that on Election Day a huge work force is deployed on seven and half lakh polling stations in India and every polling station needs at least 3 to 5 polling personnel. Such a large number of people



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are trained just in a week's time by providing clear cut guidelines, rules and procedures. Similarly for about 80% of our Municipal Corporation's functions, wholesale training can be organized without much effort. But about 20% of the Municipal functions need rigorous training; Project identification, DPR preparation, implementation and maintenance of the projects need a comprehensive capacity building strategy. These are the issues where we really have to concentrate and probably 14-15 training institutions may not be enough for a vast country like India – it is needed to fully utilise training facilities available with various institutions in the country.

I must say that your participation in the last two days has focused on several important issues regarding sustainability and harmonious development of cities and you would have benefitted from the presentations made by the experts. I am sure the experts, urban planners and urban administrators would also have benefitted immensely with the feedback given by the participants. I thank you all for your time, for your interest in the subject and I am especially thankful to Prof. Hashim for sparing time from his very busy schedule and providing us his very valuable guidance.

Thank you very much.



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CONCLUDING REMARKS¹

by **Dr Eduardo Moreno Lopez,**

Head, Monitoring Branch, Monitoring and Research Division UN-HABITAT

Good Afternoon.

I would like to begin by excusing our colleague and UN-HABITAT representative Dr. Oyebanji, who unfortunately, due to illness cannot be amongst us today.

Nevertheless, we are sincerely happy to be here today working with you. I would like to take the opportunity to reiterate how much we appreciate your invitation to this workshop. Thank you.

As the Manager of the State of the World Cities report, I am pleased to point out that the framework and foundations for this workshop have stemmed from the State of the World's Cities Report on "Harmonious Cities". This concept has been seriously discussed during these days, and particularly by the presentations of Dr. Ramachandran, Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development. Unfortunately, I have not been able to be here all the time as I have had to attend some bilateral meetings. Therefore my comments may be slightly general.

I think the review is excellent and very comprehensive of what we discussed. However, I would like to point out a few issues that in my opinion should have been considered or could be considered in the future.

For the past two years I have done a lot of work on the concept of harmony. The achievement of harmony is a lengthy process, which requires widespread consensus. It requires building unity, while respecting diversity in our heterogeneous society.

I just heard the provocative presentation on transport. This presentation illustrates well the point that I want to make. When one looks at cities' different functionalities and consequently their different policies, different consumption patterns and different life style preferences, one understands the tremendous efforts that support to develop a project that the one on transport, which required to build consensus around too many things and too many actors. The transport project that was presented managed to put together different functions and issues such as new considerations, like climate change and other relevant issues such as insecurity threats. All these was cook together and resulted in an interesting compromise with a different understanding of what an interesting transport solution can look like.

I believe a key objective of the conference was to provide us with a holistic approach and interpretation of harmony. This was successfully achieved. However, I would like to draw attention to the concept of holism. It is problematic in the sense that it can be open to various interpretations.

¹ *These remarks are the transcription of an oral presentation from tape recording.*



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How societal, political and technical change be achieved within a holistic approach to harmony? What strategy can we follow to create or fundamentally transform institutions and actors? Harmony is crucial if these issues are to be responded to successfully. We must build consensus and agree on a path of action by creating and working within a framework where we can openly discuss, argue and express our opinions, and where reactionary forces and prevalent interest will not suppose a return to the status quo.

The concept of harmony with regards to cities refers to inclusion. A harmonic city is an inclusive city - a city for everyone, regardless of the way they think, look or where they live. This is the approach to development on which the next State of the World City Report (2010) will be based on.

We are today going through a fundamental transition. Important elements thus need to be considered. The financial crisis has seriously discredited the very foundations of the capitalist mode of function of society. This will no doubt bring changes in global and national governance schemes. We will have to consider different and new clusters of knowledge, beliefs and practices; as new forms of physical spaces and cluster of cities: urban corridors, mega-regions, city-regions, etc, all these categories are emerging now and they are changing conventional concepts such as urban-rural categories. All this in return changes the concept of harmony at the regional and urban levels. It will also affect the term of harmony as a concept and ideal. But how can we or will we adapt to these new requirements? In my opinion, with regards to these issues, we must require a new ethos and a way of thinking, based on new form of solidarity and collective action. In other words, a new social pact that will enable us to see the world through a different lens, where the role of the private sector, the state, and the communities needs to be reconfigured, based on other societal values.

The private sector is characteristically heterogeneous. While a large part of it would be inclined to urbanize if possible even the whole Amazons in Brazil. Other part of the private sector, I am afraid a more limited one, is increasingly taking on the concept of social and corporate responsibility. Therefore, I truly believe that working with the private sector can prove beneficial and help to open doors to new forms of urbanization, realistic development and business, if we manage to create harmony among these two contrasted points of view. The private sector is both mercantillist and capitalist and committed to humanitarian and societal development. Our challenge is thus to establish a balance and harmony between these opposing elements to turn the private sector into a positive force.

As for the role of the state, it is of increasing importance in the modern world. The need for economic growth means that the national state will increase its' hold on control and regulation of energy and natural resources more and more and not only within their own space, but often in extra-territorial terms. The national States are adapting or developing a new thinking of regional or sub-national development, using cities to connect the country to the world by developing infrastructure, IT and better connectivity in general. This way of acting would require a radical revision of the role of the state, which will integrate new financial mechanisms, innovation, imagination and perhaps new forms of protection. This holds many implications for the concept



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of sustainable cities. A very important conclusion is that we need new forms of national governance that articulate the three levels of government in better coordination and regions working together through competitive collaboration mechanisms.

Having focused on change at state and governance levels, I would like to draw your attention to society itself. It is accurate today to speak of social fragmentation. This is reflected most overtly through the appearance of gated communities especially in Latin American, South African cities and other similar expressions in different parts of the world. However, the fragmentation is not merely physical. It lies deeply entrenched in people's values, beliefs and fears. The old concept of utopia is becoming more and more fragmented. The rich want to live in their own world, with their own walls, security and environment. This is the utopia of separation. The poor, on the other hand, dream of basic things that they should have as part of human and housing rights, such as having access to water and sanitation. Utopia for the poor is to resist the world as it is. It is not an idea of separation, but neither of integration. Society has become increasingly divided. The old idea of a more homogenous world is forgotten.

This causes migration to the North as groups, unable to find their place in their own cities and countries search for a better way of life elsewhere. This raises another issue: that of northern countries having to open borders. This seems inevitable for northern countries as according to our estimates, in future their development will be directly dependent on their migrant population.

A change in trend is also beginning to emerge with new concepts of harmony, society and development. Although the elite have been able to maintain their status quo and promote their version of harmony by manipulating the media and communication technologies, some people are now denouncing the world as it is as opposed to how it should be. There are now different narratives of the same thing or event, and this is very healthy.

To conclude, a consideration of the concept of harmony must include all the different actors that represent today's heterogeneous society. Only that way can one begin to consider how best to achieve some level of harmonious development.

I believe the discussion with the Indian Government is providing us with a great opportunity. They have responded very positively with regards to the initiation of a State of the Indian's Cities Report. Furthermore, UN-Habitat has been invited by the Government of India to work in this endeavor and, we have also received the support of other multilateral partners such as Cities Alliance and World Bank to assist the Government to develop this project together.

I am, therefore, positive that this will be an excellent opportunity to rethink the concept of harmony with regards to Indian cities that as they develop and become more prosperous, they will integrate all society in the benefits of this development. The search for harmony starts and continuous with this project that is why I think harmony is both a journey and a destination.

Thank you very much.



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VALEDICTORY ADDRESS

By **Prof. S.R. Hashim**

Former Member, Planning Commission, Government of India

Dr. Noor Mohammad, Prof. H.B. Singh, Dr. Eduardo Moreno and friends

I am very grateful to the organizers of the seminar and particularly to Dr. Kulwant Singh who remembered me and persuaded me to join here this afternoon. I was initially reluctant for the reasons as he mentioned, i.e., a journey overnight. But when he described what type of seminar it is, I said I would come. I am in-fact happy that I came. Thank you Dr. Kulwant Singh for your very kind words about me. I have no speech to deliver. I thought I will just listen to what has been happening and if possible reflect on one or two points emerging from the discussion itself. It was mentioned here by Dr. Noor Mohammad, Dr. Kulwant Singh and Dr. Moreno that India at present is at a very low level of urbanization. The fact is well known. The world has already crossed 50% level of urbanization, i.e., more than 50% people live in urban areas. In developed countries, it is 80-85%, for example, in the countries of Europe and other developed countries. We rightly compare ourselves in developmental trends and processes to China for the reason that these are the two countries which are more or less equal in size and population. India is almost approaching Chinese population. In a few decades may be, we overtake China in terms of population. China and India are comparable also in the size of the economy and in the last one decade, in terms of the growth rate of the economy, so these two are comparable countries. India became Independent in 1947 and China's Revolution took place in 1949. We have these two republics more or less of the same vintage. According to 1951 census, Indian urbanization was 17% i.e. 17% of Indian people lived in urban areas in 1951 and in China urbanization was less than in India. In terms of other economic parameters also China was less developed than India around 1950-51. Even in 1981, Indian urban population was 23% while in China it was only 20%. The urbanization level in China today is 46. We in India, have travelled from 17% of urban population to about 29%. So in 60 years, in nearly six decades we have achieved an urban growth of just 12 percentage points. Indian pace of urbanization has been the slowest in the world. One should think about it, why is it so? Was it really a desirable development or it was undesirable development? It could be a long debate, but looking to the world trends, looking to what is happening along with development elsewhere; I think urbanization should have been much faster. Then why was it so slow. I think there was something the mind of planners in India that urbanization is not good. So if you read the 1st and the 2nd Five Year Plans, there you find a lot of emphasis on rural development with the implication that rural people should be kept in the village and the village is the ideal. May be to some extent this realization came from the teaching of Mahatma Gandhi in a different context. The 2nd Five Year Plan, is the best written document on planning in India. If you read the chapter on education in the 2nd Plan document it says we should have rural university to impart rural skills to rural people, so that they live in rural areas, and skills are used in agriculture and in all occupations around the rural areas. Why that, why can't a son of a rural black smith come to urban area and become an engineer. Why should he be only trained in rural skills? Why not a son of a rural farmer should come to an



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urban area and become a bank manager. So we did have at the back of our mind a static social framework. We never thought in terms of a dynamic, a mobile social framework. This gets expressed in many other ways. Then we developed a concept of elite cities. There are elite people in the society, they are more cultured, have high incomes and should live in the cities. In fact the word we use for village people as we all know, village is known as 'Gaon', and those who lived in 'Gaon' are known as 'Ganvar' and 'Ganvar' is an expression which simply means 'rustic' in English, and that is still consciously or unconsciously at the back of our mind. When we plan for a city, we plan for a vision and unless we break through this divide, this frame of mind, this static social framework in which we think, we will not be able to cope-up with what is likely to come in the next two decades.

Once, I remember Prof. Amartya Sen was giving a lecture on education in India and he pointed out that India had one of the oldest traditions in higher education, while many other countries did not have any traditions in higher education. But that was only for very-very small elite. So our education system was also created for the elites. Instead of having a pyramid of education, our system produced a column - a few started at the bottom and went up to the top - others didn't get much of education. We did not have the concept of pyramid that will start with a large base and go on narrowing at the top. It may be it's a reflection of the same frame of mind, may not be consciously, but sub-consciously. India has yet another peculiar feature as regards the process of development. If you look at the history of many of the developed countries, they have gone through a process of development which takes them from agriculture to manufacturing, to services. We had some manufacturing but very small in proportion to the total size of the economy, and from agriculture we have directly jumped to the services. Manufacturing stage has been largely skipped. That has its own implication for employment because larger employment for common people, for less educated, people, is generated in manufacturing. Services that have given us very high and good growth, they give employment mostly to highly educated people. So again the elitist type of development. But, whatever route you follow, a stage comes in development, when ultimately you will have to catch up with the things which have been left behind. If industrialization and particularly manufacturing has not developed, a stage comes when we have to develop manufacturing, otherwise we will not be able to give employment to the masses, and hence the new emphasis on industrialization: the type of emphasis that says let us do SEZ for encouraging manufacturing, let us invite foreign investment, FDI and so on. Because we have realized that somehow we have skipped an important step and this is a gap that we have to fill in. Now consider this point that in 60 years the pace of urbanization has been so slow that it has gone from 17 to 29% and yet we have not been able to manage the urban problems such as slums. We have not been able to manage the problems of informal sector in urban areas. You need workers, domestic servants, load carriers, etc., unless you provide for them they will create slums they will intrude in an unplanned way. But the city had never planned for it, never provided for it, and as far as the future is concerned I think we hardly emphasize the social aspects of planning. This is our problem we have to break away from it. In the next two decades if we are going from 30 to 50% of urbanization, then think of the pace of urbanization, how we shall be able to cope up with that speed, when we have not been able to cope up with such a slow pace of speed. Unless we think in terms of these parameters we don't realize the gravity of the problem. I think some of these aspects have to be hammered into



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our thinking process. We do not have dearth of work in cities. In fact we don't have to plan to provide more jobs in the city. We will only have to see, that we don't prevent jobs being created in the cities. We come in the way of creation of the jobs in the cities, we just prevent that: Street hawkers, vegetable sellers. There is demand, for those vegetable, there is supply, they earn a good income, but we declare them illegal. So, they sit here, next day somewhere else, they run from here to there. Where the street markets are available, people like to buy there, because they are good in quality and supplied fresh vegetables at cheaper rates. There is a demand, there is a supply, they are prepared to work for it, they earn, they are not going to beg, but we prevent them because we think that in our elite cities these things look dirty.

We have declared industries as dirty industries. So in the good cities we should not keep dirty activities. In fact, Delhi was one of the earlier big cities which prevented some of the industries. Delhi did not industrialize as many other cities did. It was only Gujarat and some other states which took up all the dirty industrialization and they are much ahead now with chemical, fertilizers, petro-chemical starting with cotton textiles. In the initial stages, they didn't bother about what was dirty and what was otherwise. Of course when you have to industrialize you have to put up with all that and you have to deal with those situations also. In our city planning, we have to create spaces. Even in USA and other western countries I have seen they provide spaces for flea markets, where they come and sell on the footpath, open spaces in the city. We could provide some spaces in different parts of the city, where people could come and sell their goods. But wherever these markets did exist, like back of Lal Quila, they were closed for variety of reasons, including security, of course. We have stopped! We have removed those markets! See the size of the markets, which used to exist behind Lal Quila, the flea market, and what type of income it would have generated and employment, and it was going on for decades. Now we have to think in terms of making provision in our planning. Cities have a job that is why people come to cities. Rural people will not come to city unless they find a job, unless they find a foothold, through somebody, they just don't come. In fact some of the studies on migration, and it is very well documented in the urban poverty report, show that those who migrate come to work in the cities, are the better off ones. They are not the poorest, they are not the beggars. This category come from those already well settled in the cities. Migrants are hard workers and they are relatively better off, but only they don't have house, they don't have a place to live. There is so much of job already existing in the city; people complain that they don't get domestic servants. How will you get the domestic servant, if that poor woman doesn't have a place to live around your locality and she cannot come from 50 kilometers to you for doing the household work. She had to have a foothold, a shelter somewhere near about, and then only she will work. So, unless we incorporate some of these issues in our thinking, in our city planning, it will be very difficult to deal with the pace of urbanization which is undoubtedly going to be very fast, because our economic growth is good now. In spite of the depression, with a little set back, I am sure the growth will pick up, and in the next few decades, that growth itself will pressurize for the creation of very large urban metropolises, mega-polises. How are we going to cope-up with it.

I think I will just stop at this point.



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VOTE OF THANKS

by **Dr. Kulwant Singh**

Director-cum-Member Secretary, AMDA

I like to thank Prof. Hashim who has been kind enough to join us. Our colleagues Dr. Eduardo and Dr. Oyebanji who of course is not present unfortunately he is unwell. I like to thank them also who flew all the way from Nairobi very specially for this event and also brought lot of literature for us to read like to thank them. I would also like to thank Dr. Noor Mohammad sahib who as a matter of fact has been giving a leadership to AMDA and steering it through and creating now greater and greater opportunities for us to take up new challenges in the organization. Lastly, I would like to thank you all who joined us patiently, stayed on and been with us till the Concluding Session. Numbers do not matter Sir so much. I remember in November, 2008 when we were in Nanjing for the World Urban Forum, in the opening session we could not even drop a pin in that session. It was jam packed. I remember I was in a duty to take some notes there but I had no space to sit. The moment the session was over in the plenary there were only few people who one could count on figure tips. Everybody went away. But you know these are opportunities where people come meet interact discuss throw up ideas and perhaps, I think, connect with each other. We are quite optimistic about it. I think the recommendations that have emerged, the ideas that have emerged will give us lot of food for thought for months to come and I think that will provide us a good basis for planning many other things. With these words I would like to thank you all for being with us and I assure you in about a week's time we will try to put all these presentations put together and share with you through a CD and we will also try to bring out nice proceedings with the recommendations for consideration and also for appropriate thinking.

Thank you so much.

ANNEXES

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POWER-POINT PRESENTATIONS (in CD)



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