



AMDA NEWS

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AMDA

The Association of Municipalities and Development Authorities (AMDA), established in 1983, is an association of 63 municipalities and development authorities in the country. As the name signifies, this institution addresses the issues pertaining to interface between the state, municipal bodies and urban development authorities in the realm of urbanization, urban development and urban governance. It offers (a) a valuable forum for members to exchange ideas of topical interest in the field of urbanisation; (b) information on good practices in the field of urban development through newsletters, workshops, seminars, training programmes, applied research and the kind; and (c) a valuable contribution in the field of planned urban settlements and their development. The Association has emerged as a 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 sensitising local, state and central governments.

AMDA NEWS is a bi-monthly publication 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 endeavours to provide substantive and well focussed information.

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AMDA'S ANNUAL AWARD FOR BEST PRACTICES

In our issue of AMDA Newsletter of July-August 2006 (Volume 21, Number 4), we carried a news regarding institution of AMDA's Annual Award for Best Practices. Initially it was intended to showcase the initiatives of AMDA's members only. AMDA has now decided that the Annual Award for Best Practices will be open to all municipalities and development authorities in the field of urban development, management, and governance in the country.

Best Practices on urban development, among others, may include: (1) good governance (2) urban management (3) infrastructure and services provision (4) finance and cost recovery (5) social and environmental sustainability (6) innovation and change, and (7) leveraging development assistance.

The Best Practices are the examples of actions, which could serve as useful models from which others could learn and adapt to their situations. These are actions, initiatives or projects which have resulted in tangible and measurable improvements in the quality of life and improvements in the system in a sustainable way.

The Awards will generally be on selected topics to be specified annually by AMDA from time to time.

The 74th Constitution Amendment Act, 1992 has added a new dimension to urban governance by empowering urban local bodies to function as strengthened institutions of local self-government. The tasks of urban governance include coping with the challenges of urbanization, creation of employment opportunities, skills and technologies, universalizing urban infrastructure and basic services, alleviating poverty, integration of urban and rural areas, management of metropolitan cities, sustaining urban environment and responsiveness to the felt needs of the people, especially weaker sections of society.

The topic for Best Practices Award-2007 will be on **“Good Governance: Developing Partnerships”** with case studies having proven success. Partnerships could be in any sphere and may include partnerships between public and private sectors, partnerships with worker’s associations, chambers of commerce, groups of environmentalists, NGOs and citizen groups etc.

The Best Practices may focus on: (a) the improvement in the efficiency of management systems for the delivery of basic or intended services levels; (b) the forging of partnerships between public and private sectors for more effective investments; (c) the harnessing of new technology or systems to improve the current situation; or (d) any other aspects of governance.

The major criteria for a Best Practice to be considered for the award include:

1. Type of partnership formed
2. Leadership and community empowerment
3. Impact on improving the living environment of people, particularly of the poor and disadvantaged

4. Integration of social, economic, environmental, institutional and financial elements of sustainability
5. Transferability/potentiality for replicability
6. Level of community participation and commitment
7. Lessons learnt

The success of these initiatives is proposed to be documented and disseminated by AMDA which can serve as a driving force for better governance, management, financial and institutional reforms and can be used for experience-sharing among Municipalities and Development Authorities in the country.

Entries for a Best Practice may be submitted in accordance with a Reporting Format and Processing Fee to AMDA (given on page 13). All submissions complying with the Reporting Format latest by 31 October, 2007 will be forwarded to an independent Technical Committee constituted by AMDA. An initial presentation of entries will be made before the Technical Committee for review of all submissions and shortlisting for submission to a National Jury constituted by AMDA. The National Jury will select the Award Winner(s).

The Award will be in the form of a Trophy and framed Certificate of Excellence to be presented by a national dignitary. Depending on the number of entries, separate award for Municipal Corporations/Municipalities and Development Authorities can be considered.

1. POLICY AND STRATEGY

1.1 MAYORS' FORUM FOR FIGHT AGAINST URBAN POVERTY

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Government of India and UNDP have established a Mayors' Forum and Women Mayors' Forum for fight against Urban Poverty. The Mayors' Forum and Women Mayors' Forum will be anchored at the National Resource Centre for Urban Poverty at the Regional Centre for Urban and Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self-Government (AIILSG), Mumbai which will be supported under the National Strategy for Urban Poor (NSUP) Project. The programme of support for research and capacity building for urban poverty alleviation will be administered by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Government of India.

The historic 74th Constitution Amendment Act, 1992 aims at promoting good urban governance through democratic decentralization. It emphasises the participation of directly elected people's representatives in planning, management and delivery of civic services. In particular, the urban local bodies must function as vibrant grassroots level institutions of local self-government, for preparing plans for economic development and social justice. The effective implementation of the 74th Amendment Act is a mandatory requirement for accessing funds under JNNURM.

As envisaged in the 12th Schedule under the Constitution 74th Amendment Act, the crucial functions of urban poverty alleviation, slum upgradation, provision of basic amenities to the poor, including education, public health, etc., fall within the legitimate functional domain of urban local bodies. The constitutional mandate

envisages that the urban local government "own" these functions as obligatory responsibilities.

These functions are discharged most effectively when the poor are actively involved in planning and governance processes as "partners" and the City Mayors "champion" their cause. Mayors can play a pivotal role in the creation of egalitarian communities, mobilization of local community resources and establishment of partnerships with the private sector, non-governmental organizations, the community and national and international organizations.

Role of City Mayors

Mayors can play a crucial role in poverty alleviation and livelihood development programmes in their cities by:

- setting goals of poverty eradication and slum-free cities and developing and implementing urban poverty reduction strategy;
- fostering partnerships between municipal government, stakeholders and organizations of the urban poor;
- promoting knowledge management and sharing of experience on innovative practices for urban poverty reduction;
- institutionalizing consultative processes with all stakeholders, particularly with groups of urban poor and the excluded;
- becoming pathfinders in creating conducive environment for urban poverty alleviation and livelihood development;
- undertaking needs assessment and deficiency analysis with respect to availability of basic services to the poor;

- earmarking city budget for the poor in relation to their share in city population;
- monitoring and evaluating municipal service delivery to the urban poor;
- undertaking municipal reforms and providing responsive local governance, sensitive to the needs of the urban poor; and
- ensuring that programmes undertaken with support of national and state governments like JNNURM meet the needs of urban poor communities.
- develop communication material specially tailored to address the role of Mayors;
- organise multistakeholder policy advocacy events; and
- arrange visits of Mayors to various innovative projects in urban poverty alleviation.

Urban poverty reduction strategies can only succeed if the city leadership, with responsive administration, constantly engages with stakeholders and receives grassroot level support from the poor communities at large.

This Mayors' Forum for Fight against Urban Poverty is envisaged as a part of the National Programme on Capacity Building for Urban Poverty Alleviation. It will function as a conclave of Mayors and Municipal Chairpersons to discuss poverty alleviation and livelihood issues and serve as a voice and accountability platform for the urban poor. It would debate on issues of topical importance, review progress of urban poverty alleviation programmes and reforms for sustainable urban development and poverty alleviation. It will make suggestions to Central, State and Local Governments for suitable action.

Mayors' Forum: Key Activities

The All India Institute of Local Self-Government, Mumbai will anchor the Mayors' Forum and will take the following actions:

- organise Mayors' Conferences at periodic intervals;

The Mayors' Forum for fight against Urban Poverty is expected to catalyse, inter alia, establishment of city level Data Centre and Resource Centre on urban poverty and livelihoods, City UPA Cell, development of City / Slum poverty profiles, strategy and action plan for poverty alleviation, action research on urban poverty and livelihood issues, development of MIS / GIS for tracking urban poverty alleviation and livelihood development, effective implementation of JNNURM and other programmes, resource mobilisation and earmarking of funds for urban poverty alleviation, a framework for responsive responsible, sensitive and pro-poor civic governance, development of institutional and human resource capacity, partnerships with civil society and private sector and an agenda for inclusive city to usher in slum-free city and to eradicate urban poverty.

Forum of Women Mayors

A special Forum of Women Mayors will be supported under the National Programme on Capacity Building for Urban Poverty Alleviation to bring about a gender perspective into local governance, especially policies and programmes meant for addressing poverty and livelihood issues of urban women.

This Forum is aimed at:

- improving social, economic and political participation of women;

- ensuring equal and equitable access of women to health care, quality education, career and vocational guidance, employment, equal remuneration, occupational health and safety, social security and public office, etc.;
- strengthening legal systems aimed at elimination of all forms of discrimination against women;
- changing societal attitudes and community practices with active participation and involvement of both men and women;
- mainstreaming gender perspective in the urban development planning and programme implementation processes;
- building and strengthening partnerships with civil society, particularly women's organizations;
- facilitating establishment of Gender Resource Centre with emphasis on rendering support to women belonging to weaker sections including Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Castes, etc.;
- ensuring Gender Budgeting in all State and ULB plans, programmes and projects; and
- promoting research on issues relating to urban poverty and livelihoods of urban women.

Source: *Urban Environ Vision, Information Bulletin of Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies of All India Institute of Local Self-Government, Mumbai, Volume-I, No. 10, April-May, 2007.*

1.2 DELHI-MUMBAI INDUSTRIAL CORRIDOR

The ambitious Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) project was approved by the Union Cabinet

on 16 August, 2007. The 1,483-km project would include six mega investment regions of 200 square kilometres each. The DMIC project will run through Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Maharashtra, and be built along the proposed Delhi-Mumbai dedicated rail freight corridor. Work on the DMIC is expected to commence in 2008 and an estimated \$90 billion to \$100 billion would be required to create the infrastructure in the first phase of the project. Japanese companies, particularly small and medium enterprises, are expected to invest over \$10 billion in the proposed corridor during the first phase.

Investment Regions

In the first phase the DMIC would have six specially delineated investment regions planned for manufacturing facilities for domestic and export led production along with associated services and infrastructure. These investment regions are; i). Dadri-Noida-Ghaziabad in Uttar Pradesh; ii). Manesar-Bawal in Haryana; iii). Khushkhera-Bhiwadi-Neemrana in Rajasthan; iv). Pitampura-Dhar-Mhow in Madhya Pradesh; v). Bharuch-Dahej in Gujarat; and vi). Igatpuri-Nashik-Sinnar in Maharashtra. Each investment region would be a green field or a brown field area having a combination of production units, public utilities, logistics, environmental protection facilities, residential areas, social infrastructure and administrative services.

Industrial Areas

In addition to the investment regions, the DMIC will also have six industrial areas of 100 square kilometer each. These are: i) Meerut-Muzaffarnagar in Uttar Pradesh; ii) Faridabad-Palwal in Haryana; iii) Jaipur-Dausa in Rajasthan; iv) Neemach in Madhya Pradesh; v) Vadodara-

Ankleshwar in Gujarat and vi) Alewadi/Dighi in Maharashtra. These industrial nodes are expected to be set up by 2012 in synchronization with Delhi Mumbai Dedicated Rail Freight Corridor. Another 12 industrial nodes would be set up in the second phase in consultation with all stakeholders including State Governments.

The DMIC Project is conceptualized to take benefit of the high quality rail and road connectivity offered by Delhi Mumbai Dedicated Rail Freight Corridor, existing rail passenger cum freight corridor and national highways. The region has several industrial clusters, infrastructure of which is proposed to be developed so as to offer qualities equivalent to global levels. Instead of considering additional fiscal or financial incentives, the focus is on developing further the brown field areas in the Phase- I.

Each of the project, ready to be commercialized, is proposed to be offered through PPP route to private investors. It is expected that through this route, time bound industrialization could happen efficiently and in synchronization with all stakeholders. International investors would find the projects very attractive.

When set up, it is expected that the Project will double employment potential, triple industrial output and quadruple exports in five years. The Project is expected to be a catalyst in the industrial turnaround of the country. In the awareness seminars organized, a large number of domestic and foreign investors including those from Japan have shown interest in the Project.

A corporate entity, namely, Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (DMICDC) would be formed to undertake planning of the project, development of its various components, coordinating with all stakeholders, monitoring of implementation and raising finances. The DMIC

project would be overseen by an apex steering authority, headed by the Finance Minister and would have concerned central ministers and state chief ministers as members.

Source: *Hindustan Times*, 17 August, 2007 and PIB Press Release, August 19, 2007

2. STATE INITIATIVES

2.1 NEW URBAN DEVELOPMENT TAX IN RAJASTHAN

The Rajasthan Government has introduced a new property tax in urban areas of the state, replacing the house tax that was abolished early this year. A notification issued here on 29 August, 2007 imposed the urban development tax on house and flat owners and others with immediate effect.

The tax will be levied on houses, unutilised land except agricultural land, and constructed areas in premises under the jurisdiction of all municipal corporations, municipal councils and municipalities. The notification was issued under Section 104 of the Rajasthan Municipality Act, 1959. It would be levied on residential plots of more than 300 square yards, flats measuring over 1,500 square feet and commercial plots of over 100 square yards. The tax will be calculated on the basis of the District Level Committee (DLC) rate taking into account the total area of land and the builtup area. The tax assessment will be done in every calendar year.

According to the notification, the tax will be applicable to budget hotels; one, two and three star hotels; guest houses; all central government properties used for commercial purpose as well

as the public sector undertakings, corporations and boards.

Source: *The Hindu*, 31 August, 2007

2.2 URBAN LOCAL BODIES ADOPT UNIFORM WATER POLICY IN MADHYA PRADESH

UN-HABITAT organised first capacity building programme on Water Demand Management (WDM) for the top management of Municipal Corporations and the Urban Water Supply and Environmental Improvement Project (Project Uday), Urban Administration and Development Department (UADD), Government of Madhya Pradesh. The programme was held in Pachmarhi, the hill station of Madhya Pradesh on 5 and 6 July 2007.

The Participants of the programme included the Mayor and Commissioner of Gwalior Municipal Corporation, Members of the Mayor-in-Council and senior officers of all the Municipal Corporations of the 4 project cities, leader of opposition of Jabalpur Municipal Corporation and Project Director and the senior officers of Project Uday.

Experts from The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and Environmental Planning and Coordination Organisation (EPCO) had fruitful interaction with the participants on policy issues and technical and financial aspects of water demand management (WDM). The Programme was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister, UADD, Government of Madhya Pradesh on 5th July 2007.

While highlighting the importance of the theme of the programme, the Minister stressed that all the Municipal Corporations/ Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) across the state must prepare a uniform water supply policy based on the assessment of the demand. He further advised all the ULBs to

conserve the existing water resources within their jurisdiction to reduce the demand and supply gap.

Source: *WAC Regional Newsletter*, Volume III, Issue 4, July-August 2007.

2.3 URBAN LOCAL CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY IN THE CITIES OF MADHYA PRADESH

UN-HABITAT in collaboration with Lake Conservation Authority (LCA), an autonomous organisation under the Housing and Environment Department of Madhya Pradesh having the mandate of facilitating conservation and management of water resources of the state, has planned to develop the Urban Local Catchment Management (ULCM) strategy and action plan for the 4 major cities of Madhya Pradesh.

Very few cities in the state have a satisfactory network of sewerage facilities resulting in unhygienic living conditions and public health problems. The natural drains have been converted into open sewers. Due to reduction in carrying capacity, flooding of the low lying areas occurs during rains, affecting the poor the most. Inadequacy of proper waste disposal, results in waste finding their way to the water bodies either directly or through the run off, contaminating the water. The key objectives of the project are:

- (a) Developing city specific ULCM strategy and action plan focusing on management of drainage through in-stream and up-stream measures, including integrated waste management in the catchment for the ecological stability and improvement of water quality of the water resources in the cities of Bhopal, Indore, Gwalior and Jabalpur to improve availability of potable water;

- (b) Developing a working model for community management of the catchment; and
- (c) Building capacity of the personnel to enable the Municipal Corporations of the project cities in implementing the ULCM strategy and action plan.

UN-HABITAT has developed a guide-book on total Catchment Management in World's Cities. In view of the dwindling potable water resources in the identified cities of Madhya Pradesh, it seems appropriate to develop city specific local catchment management strategy and action plan based on these guidelines to support the state government in protecting the surface and ground water resources from being contaminated due to indiscriminate disposal of wastes. The ULCM strategy and action plan would help the urban local bodies in the identified cities of Madhya Pradesh to take appropriate measures against degradation of water resources and help them meet out potable water requirement. The strategy and action plan is expected to be completed by March 2009.

Source: *WAC Regional Newsletter*, Volume III, Issue 4, July-August 2007.

2.4 DRAFT LAND UTILIZATION POLICY OF KERALA

The Kerala Government has prepared the draft of its Land Utilisation Policy seeking to check illegal land use practices in the State and ensure judicious use of the land in its possession. The draft says that the Government land in the State is not optimally put to use in the State since neither a comprehensive inventory, nor a classification has been made so far. This has led to large-scale encroachments and also unprofitable leasing of land. The policy proposes completing the inventory soon and making the land records perfect for the benefit of the common landholders

too. This process will be completed in three years.

The land records will be digitised as fast as possible to prevent all kinds of fraudulent land deals. Undervaluation or overvaluation of property during acquisition or transfer of registry will be prevented by fixing 'fair value' for each property in a more logical manner than it was done previously. The fair value fixation will be completed during the current year itself. The draft policy opines that land acquisition for public purposes or development projects should be 'rational.' The Revenue Department usually does the acquisition of land for being handed over to the development agencies/projects. Acquisition by force should give way to negotiated sale, with the Revenue Department performing only the role of an arbitrator or facilitator and evicted people should be properly rehabilitated with a good 'livelihood plan'.

The draft policy says that unscientific land management has resulted in soil erosion, loss of soil fertility and frequent disasters such as landslides and flash floods.

Source: *The Hindu*, 20 August, 2007

2.5 KARNATAKA GOVERNMENT CLEARS 59 INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS

The Karnataka Government on 28 August, 2007, cleared 59 industrial projects, including 14 Special Economic Zones, with a total investment of Rs. 63,561.24 crore. The projects are expected to provide employment to 9.11 lakh people.

The State Highlevel Clearance Committee (SHLCC), headed by Chief Minister and Industries Minister, held a meeting with officials and cleared proposals for 16 information technology (IT) and biotechnology parks with an investment of Rs. 22,202.97 crore, and 10 IT and ITES (information



technology-enabled services) SEZs with an investment of Rs. 4,634.99 crore. Though the approved industrial units are spread across the State, the majority of them will come up in Bangalore Urban (15), Bangalore Rural (9), Mysore (7) and Mangalore and Bellary (5 each) districts.

The Government had told investors that the responsibility of acquiring land for SEZs would be with them and not with the Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board. The private entrepreneurs had to purchase land directly from farmers.

The SHLCC also approved seven sugar units, five steel plants, four tourism zones, four power ventures, two software development units, two chemical units and others. The panel approved a proposal by the State-owned Raichur Thermal Power Station (RTPS) to establish a 1,000 MW thermal plant at Raichur on 1,000 acres with an investment of Rs. 4,160 crore. The project is expected to generate 6,735 jobs. The RTPS would also establish a 1,500 MW unit on 2,187 acres in Bellary by investing Rs. 6,300 crore.

Source: *The Hindu*, 29 August, 2007

3. CITY INITIATIVES

3.1 LAND TITLE REGISTRATION SYSTEM FOR DELHI

The "Land Title Registration System for Delhi" has been prepared by the US Agency for International Development-India (USAID) on behalf of the Delhi government. The agency has submitted its recommendations to the government, which will now put in place legal framework within the next six months. This system will provide "titles" to

property owners to make them "undisputed" owners. The objective is to change the present system of deed registration with the title registration system and, in the process, curb property disputes.

Under the new system, the government will be guarantor for the owner. In case of fraud or incorrect information, the government will be liable to pay compensation to those who have been defrauded. Government officials said undisputed ownership of a plot can come only through provisions of 'titles', a system followed in all developed countries. The system will facilitate property transactions, encourage investment and improvement, and reduce disputes and uncertainty over ownership.

The USAID report says due to the absence of title registration system, title (ownership), possessor rights (such as lease) and other property rights are not readily verifiable. Although there are some inchoate records of publicly owned land, there are no central records of land in private ownership, including land recently transferred from leasehold to freehold. It also states that due to the difficulty of proving title, buyers and mortgagers face a risk in that the title to a property may be imperfect or fraudulent. There is also a risk to banks and housing finance companies - they may be unable to foreclose a mortgage, or the property has been used to secure a previous mortgage. If the present system of property registration were to be continued without reform it is reasonable to predict increasing land disputes and frauds, increasing marginalisation of 60 per cent of households with no good title to their property, little redevelopment of uneconomic areas of housing (primarily lower income group housing areas) and a lower quality of urban management.

Government officials said many households are



unable to prove legitimate ownership and are often not able to access mortgage finance. This, in turn, deprives banks and finance companies of a significant part of potential market. Besides affecting banks and financial institutions, the government itself loses out as stamp duty and transfer tax are "probably collected on only a minority of transactions". Collection of property tax, too, is below optimal. The absence of a verifiable property titling and record system has led to excessive litigations in Delhi. The number of property disputes, particularly over ownership of a plot, is one of the highest in Delhi.

Source: *The Indian Express*, 5 July, 2007

3.2 E-DATABASE OF ALL PROPERTIES IN DELHI

Delhi government is planning to draw up a database of all properties in the city using GIS-based technology. The decision was taken after the results of a survey on the land registration system in Delhi were presented to the Chief Minister. The survey was conducted by US-based Urban Institute (UI), International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and Urban Management Centre, and the organisations also gave concrete recommendations about how to establish a land title registry.

A steering committee headed by secretary for urban development was formed to look into the recommendations and draft an enabling legislation the Delhi Apartments Act - that would help the government bypass the many revenue and land laws in the city. The large number of laws and the perpetual problem of multiplicity of agencies has always been the principal roadblock for a registry of this nature. The other members of the steering committee include the divisional commissioner; secretary, PWD; Land and

Development Office, chief; and the chief town planner.

The cost of the exercise is estimated to be about Rs 200 crore. The idea is to minimise unnecessary litigations involving properties and also to ensure that a prospective buyer can electronically get access to all ownership details of a particular property by paying a nominal fee. All existing land records would need to be digitised and other properties would need to be surveyed and a database drawn up with the help of Survey of India.

Source: *The Times of India*, 8 August, 2007

3.3 STAMP DUTY BROUGHT DOWN IN DELHI

The Delhi Cabinet on 13 August, 2007, decided to reduce stamp duty for registration of property. The new rate is now going to be 6 per cent if the property is in the name of a male and 4 per cent if a female owns the property.

Though the announcement of reduction had been made earlier, the Cabinet formally approved the proposal and sent it to the Lt. Governor for approval. It would be sent to the Union Home Ministry subsequently as per the Constitutional provisions. Speaking to Reporters after the Cabinet meeting, Chief Minister said that the new rates would come into force after promulgation of an Ordinance.

Under the new rates of Stamp Duty, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) would get 2 per cent share in case the property is in the name of a female and 3 per cent in case a male gets it registered in his name. This means that half the revenue generated from registration of property would go to the civic body and the remaining half to the state government.

Source: *Hindustan Times*, 14 August, 2007

3.4 “TAJ INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT HUB” AT GREATER NOIDA

The proposed airport will be known as “Taj International Airport Hub (TIAH)” in Greater Noida near Delhi. It would be spread over 1,500 hectares and a private developer would hold a 74 per cent stake in it, the civil aviation ministry said on 4 July, 2007. The proposed site is located at Zewar, in Greater Noida, nearly 72 km from Delhi and 120 km from Agra. The Taj Expressway Authority will be nominated as the sponsor for the project and it will acquire the land.

A special purpose vehicle (SPV) will implement the project. A private party selected through competitive bidding will own 74 per cent in the SPV, the Uttar Pradesh government through a sponsor will hold 13 per cent and the Airports Authority of India (AAI) another 13 per cent.

The ministry has received a techno-feasibility study and project report from the Uttar Pradesh government for the airport. The ministry has considered the report and has assured the state government that it will require approximately three months to get an approval in principle for the airport from the central government under the prevailing circumstances. According to the feasibility report of the Uttar Pradesh Government, the site has been selected keeping in mind all other strategic points in nearby areas so as to have the least environmental impact.

The airport is projected to have two runways; domestic, international and cargo terminals; and aviation training centre and medicine institutes. It will also have shopping malls, entertainment plazas, hotels and convention centres. In 2011-12, when it gets functional, TIAH expects 3.9 million passengers annually, a number that will rise to 82.6 million by 2036-37. The Uttar Pradesh Government has proposed Metro connectivity to

Delhi and IGI airport and road connectivity on the Greater Noida Expressway.

The rate at which air traffic is likely to grow, it is expected that the 100 million mark at Delhi airport will be crossed by 2015-16 itself, necessitating creation of another airport to avoid air congestion in the capital. Moreover the Uttar Pradesh government says that TIAH would have a ‘marginal’ impact on Delhi International Airport (P) Ltd (DIAL). It is estimated that about 15 per cent of DIAL traffic will ultimately spill over to “Taj International Hub” because of locational reasons. The balance traffic will be generated on its own because of overall ‘economic development’ of the area. Like all upcoming airports, Taj International also wants to have a greater percentage of its revenues coming from non-aeronautical side from areas like retail, advertising, parking fee and other commercial activities. It expects this revenue to grow from Rs. 170 crore to Rs. 2,187 crore (from 2011 to 2038) in respect of both aeronautical and non-aeronautical sources.

Source: *Hindustan Times*, 5 July, 2007 and *Times of India*, 6 July, 2007.

3.5 GURGAON SHOWS THE WAY TO KEEP CURB ON SLUMS

Boom in the construction sector has led to the mushrooming of a large number of slum clusters in Gurgaon. While most construction workers continue to live in sub-human conditions, reputed real estate developers have started providing dwelling units for their workers, including pucca, make-shift rooms or dormitories, drinkable water and medical facilities, mobile toilets, canteens, creches and play schools. DLF Laing O’Rourke (India) Limited, which is coming up with 15 projects in Gurgaon, Noida, Delhi and other cities, has set up a model colony for its 1,200 workers on its 37 acre IT Park site off NH 8 in Gurgaon.

Cemented family huts and dormitories, equipped with cots, mattresses, fans and light, brick roads, a 24X7 canteen with subsidised food rates, open platform for cooking, a huge open air walled basin for washing clothes, separate toilets with bathing areas equipped with septic tank and soak pit, a small playground for children, mobile creche, art and crafts and medical attention two days a week are some of the facilities that are being provided by the company for the workers.

The company has also tied up with a professional house-keeping firm for the up-keep of the workers' colony as the construction workers are valuable inputs and it becomes important to retain quality workers with the projects for longer periods.

Source: *Hindustan Times*, 17 August, 2007.

3.6 DELHI HIGH COURT'S SUGGESTION TO MERGE 'MCD', 'NDMC' AND 'DDA'

There are so many government agencies like Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC), Delhi Development Authority (DDA) functioning in the NCT of Delhi that one overlaps the work of the other, observes the Delhi High Court.

Recommending Delhi government to look at the possibility of merging the civic bodies, the Bench observed that one body or one utility service which will look after the functions of all the agencies will answer to the centre and state government and that is better than many doing the same.

The court gave the government time till November 10 to file a report on the feasibility of such a merger. The court asked why one part of Delhi is with the MCD and other part is with the NDMC, and why is there such a multiplicity of civic responsibility in Delhi.

Source: *The Indian Express*, 30 August, 2007

4. NEWS IN BRIEF

4.1 INTEGRATED TRANSPORT FOR 'NCR'

An integrated public transportation plan for the National Capital Region (NCR) would be completed by January 2008. This was revealed at a meeting of the NCR Planning Board in New Delhi on 21 August, 2007. The decision comes in the wake of the Planning Commission setting up a task force under the chairmanship of the Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development to re-examine matters related to the extension of the Metro rail to NCR to facilitate the commuter traffic interaction with Delhi.

The task force has decided to undertake a study on 'Integrated Transportation Plan for NCR', which includes the updating of data for Regional Rapid Transit System. It also constituted an Advisory Group consisting of representatives of the participating states, Planning Commission and Railways to advise the Consultancy Evaluation and Review Committees, which were constituted to select the consultant and monitor the study. At present, the proposal is to extend the Metro in five corridors of the NCR.

Source: *Hindustan Times*, 22 August, 2007

4.2 INDIA'S FIRST ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION CENTRE

India's first Accident Investigation Centre is being set up in Rae Bareilly spread over 450 acres of land. This centre will come up by July 2010. The National Automotive testing and R & D Infrastructure Project (NATRIP) is implementing the project as part of the Automotive Mission Plan (2006-2016) that envisages creating seven world class automotive testing, validation and R & D services across the country.



The NATRIP have approached the US National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for assistance in setting up the accident data analysis wing, Spain's IDIADA has completed the designing phase for all centres, including Rae Bareli.

Source: *The Indian Express*, 16 August, 2007

4.3 NATIONAL POLICY FOR REHABILITATION AND RESETTLEMENT

The Prime Minister while addressing the nation on the occasion of India's 60th Independence Day

emphasised that industrialisation is critical for progress and promised to pursue policies to promote rapid industrialisation.

It was the government's duty to see that people who lost land to industrialisation did not lose livelihoods. The Prime Minister promised that the national policy for the rehabilitation and resettlement would fulfil this societal obligation towards people displaced by industrialisation.

Source: *Hindustan Times and The Indian Express*, 16 August, 2007.

AMDA'S ANNUAL AWARD FOR BEST PRACTICES - 2007 REPORTING FORMAT

1. Title of Best Practice
2. Location
3. Name of Municipality/Development Authority involved
4. Key words describing the Best Practice (3-4 key words)
5. Year(s)/time period of implementation of Best Practice
6. Contact details of Municipality/Development Authority
7. Contact details of person submitting the application
8. Description
 - Situation before the initiative (*A brief description of the living environment highlighting before the Best Practice was implemented*)
 - Establishment of Priorities (*List the priorities of the initiative*)
 - Formulation of Objectives and Strategies (*Summary of the main objectives and strategies of the initiative for city-wide development, how they were established*)
 - Mobilisation of Resources (*How financial, technical and human resource were mobilised*)
 - Process (*Describe how people, communities and organizations participated in decision-making processes*)
 - Results Achieved (*A description of the current conditions of improved living environment after the Best Practice was implemented*)
 - Sustainability (*Describe how the integration of social, economic, environmental, institutional and financial elements of sustainability was achieved*)
 - Lessons Learnt (*Describe three or four most important lessons learnt and how these lessons were incorporated into the initiative*)
 - Transferability (*Describe how your initiative could be replicated in other cities*)
9. *What has been the Impact on the living environment and its acceptance by the people?*

Last Date of Submission: 31 October, 2007

Processing Fee: Rs. 10,000/-

AMDA SEMINAR
on
Planning and Development of Metropolitan Regions
in the context of
Special Initiatives relating to Infrastructure Development
and **Provision of Basic Services**
on

Saturday, 17 November, 2007
India Habitat Centre, New Delhi

Organised by: Association of Municipalities and Development Authorities (AMDA)

The Context:

Recent policy changes, namely, economic liberalisation and financial sector reforms (1991) and the decentralisation as a consequence of the 73rd and 74th Constitution Amendments (1992) have given strong impetus to urban growth. Economic liberalisation has introduced a favourable environment for private sector participation and foreign direct investment (FDI).

Cities have been aptly described as engines of economic growth. The liberalisation of the Indian economy has facilitated a wider choice of locations for industrial and concomitant economic activities in metropolitan cities. In the wake of economic liberalization, the country has launched major initiatives for building core infrastructure such as golden quadrilateral, modernisation of existing ports and airports, rail freight corridors and establishment of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) throughout the country.

Despite growing economic prosperity, Metropolitan Cities are characterised by infrastructural and environmental deficiencies due to growth of population. The economic potential of a city can be deeply constrained by deficiencies in infrastructure systems like roads, transportation, power, telecommunications, water supply, drainage, sanitation and sewerage. The effect of poor infrastructure on the development of small and medium enterprises, particularly in the informal sector, is extremely detrimental vis-à-vis the urban poor in large cities. The Seminar is thus of topical relevance.

Objectives of the Seminar are to:

- stimulate awareness about the new challenges facing metropolitan regions emerging from the location of investments and how such activities should be spatially integrated in the metropolitan regional planning process;
- identify the role of strategic infrastructure in managing rapid growth of metropolitan regions; and
- look into the current planning process of cities with a view to promoting social inclusion and provision of housing and basic services to the urban poor.

The Seminar seeks to address some critical issues through three Sub-themes:

- Urbanisation and Metropolitan Regions: The Emerging Role of Urban and Regional Planning in the context of SEZs
- Sustainable Development in Metropolitan Regions in the context of JNNURM
- Mainstreaming Urban Poor and Provision of Urban Basic Services within the Framework of Master Plans

KEY STATISTICS OF MAJOR PROJECTS UNDER JNNURM

Urban Sector Investment Requirement under JNNURM

Category	No. of Cities	Investment required (Rs. in billion)	Annual fund requirement (Rs. in billion)
Cities with over 4 million population	7	517.43	81.63
Cities with 1-4 million population	28	571.43	86.13
Selected cities with less than 1 million population	28	62.50	8.93
Total	63	1,205.36	176.69

Source: JNNURM

State-wise details of projects approved under JNNURM

Urban Infrastructure and Governance (as on March 31, 2007)

State	No. of projects	Value(Rs. billion)
Andhra Pradesh	30	15.03
Arunachal Pradesh	2	0.89
Assam	1	0.35
Bihar	1	0.37
Chandigarh (UT)	2	0.57
Chhatisgarh	1	3.04
Gujarat	40	22.14
Haryana	1	1.04
Himachal Pradesh	2	0.26
Jammu & Kashmir	2	2.62
Karnataka	14	11.88
Kerala	6	6.80
Madhya Pradesh	13	9.88
Maharashtra	44	58.58
Orissa	2	5.05
Punjab	1	1.79
Rajasthan	5	3.99
Tamil Nadu	16	12.19
West Bengal	17	11.73
Uttar Pradesh	5	1.43
Total	205	169.63

Basic Services to the Urban Poor (as on August 17, 2007)

State	No. of projects	Value(Rs. billion)
Andhra Pradesh	16	13.89
Chandigarh (UT)	2	5.65
Chhatisgarh	4	3.91
Delhi	3	6.17
Gujarat	10	10.28
Haryana	2	0.64
Himachal Pradesh	1	0.10
Karnataka	5	2.95
Kerala	3	0.69
Madhya Pradesh	18	5.03
Maharashtra	32	30.56
Nagaland	1	1.35
Rajasthan	2	2.77
Tamil Nadu	19	8.30
Tripura	1	0.17
Uttar Pradesh	5	0.82
West Bengal	45	11.70
Total	169	104.98

Source: Ministry of Urban Development and Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation

Integrated Housing Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) (as on 17 August, 2007)

State	No. of projects	Value(Rs. billion)
Andhra Pradesh	26	3.57
Assam	5	0.17
Bihar	8	0.61
Chhatisgarh	14	1.77
Gujarat	11	1.09
Haryana	15	2.39
Jammu & Kashmir	10	0.42
Karnataka	20	1.61
Kerala	22	1.07

State	No. of projects	Value(Rs. billion)
Madhya Pradesh	27	2.10
Maharashtra	19	1.99
Nagaland	1	0.88
Rajasthan	20	1.49
Tamil Nadu	28	1.99
Uttar Pradesh	8	0.29
West Bengal	23	2.61
Total	257	24.07

Source: Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation

GUEST HOUSE AND CONFERENCE FACILITIES

AMDA has a Guest House in its building at 7/6, Sirifort Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi 49. The basic aim of running the guest house is to provide accommodation facilities to the officers of Member organizations who visit Delhi. The Guest House has 10 Air-Conditioned rooms i.e. 3 single bedded, 5 double bedded, 1 tripple bedded and 1 four bedded. All the rooms have attached bathrooms with 24 hour hot/cold water supply. There is one common sitting/dinning lobby where a Colour T.V. has been provided. The Guest House also has one Kitchenette to provide bed tea/coffee to the occupants. Breakfast / lunch / dinner can be arranged on request. Good quality restaurants are situated at 5-minute walkable distance. The **REVISED TARIFF** for the Guest Rooms (w.e.f. August 1. 2006), is as under :-

GUEST HOUSE TARIFF

S. No.	Category of Members	Occupancy			
		Single	Double	Triple	Quadraple
1	External Guests (subject to availability of accommodation)	650	900	1050	1170
2	AMDA members and their staff on duty and authorised guests	325	450	525	585
3	ASRTU members (while on official duty)	490	675	790	880

CONFERENCE ROOM TARIFF

S. No.	Category	Full day (09.00 hrs to 19.00 hrs)		Half day (09.00 to 14.00 hrs) or (14.00 hrs to 19.00 hrs)	
		Working days	Holidays	Working days	Holidays
1	Non-member organisations	Working days	2,000/-	Working days	1,335/-
		Holidays	2,500/-	Holidays	1,670/-
2	AMDA members	Working days	1,000/-	Working days	675/-
		Holidays	1,250/-	Holidays	835/-
3	ASRTU	Working days	1,500/-	Working days	1,000/-
		Holidays	1,875/-	Holidays	1,250/-

CONFERENCE ROOM FACILITY

Overhead Projector : Rs. 500/- per day, L.C.D. Projector : Rs. 2,000/- per day

Not : The damages, if any, caused to OHP Projector and the LCD Projector will be got rectified by the user/organisation concerned.

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- | | |
|---|--------------|
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Editor : **Shri B. N. Singh, Director, with inputs from Shri Ashfaque Alam, Asstt. Director (R&T)**
Association of Municipalities and Development Authorities (AMDA)
 7/6 Sirifort Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi-110 049, India.
 Phone: 91-11-26494486, 26496487, 26497973, 26496837 Fax: 91-11-26491675
 e-mail : india738@nda.vsnl.net.in website : www.amdaindia.org
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