



SMART CITIES MISSION TIMES

HON'BLE PM NARENDRA MODI
Development of Small Cities Key to Developed India Resolve: PM Modi

HON'BLE PRESIDENT DROUPADI MURMU
"The contribution of Smart Cities Mission in implementing best practices and developing viable business models is very important."



The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India launched the Smart Cities Mission on 25 June 2015.

Development of Small Cities Key to Developed India Resolve: PM Modi

I have to ensure that benefits of government schemes reach every poor person in villages and every slum cluster in cities, and that they get the benefits without any difficulty.

Business Standard (Dec 16, 2023)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said hundreds of small cities have a key role in achieving the resolve of a developed India by 2047 and his government was upgrading basic facilities in such urban centres to improve ease of living. Interacting with the beneficiaries of central schemes during the ongoing Vikas Bharat Sankalp Yatra, the prime minister said his government is committed to saving money for urban families, who have benefited from initiatives such as Ayushman Bharat health insurance and housing for all. "Our agenda is to assist people in saving money," Modi said, flagging off the Yatra, the government's mega outreach exercise to ensure saturation coverage of central initiatives. The yatra was launched in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Telangana and



Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Mizoram where it could not be launched last month due to the model code of conduct enforced for assembly elections. The yatra was launched on November 15 at Khunti in Jharkhand and has reached 2.5 crore people across thousands of villages and 1,500 cities. "I have

to ensure that benefits of government schemes reach every poor person in villages and every slum cluster in cities, and that they get the benefits without any difficulty. This is the reason the van of 'Modi ki Guarantee' is going around," the prime minister said. **Continued on - P3**

Smart Cities Mission is Template of Urban Development, Says Sh. Hardeep Puri



Union Minister Hardeep Puri talks about the journey of Smart Cities Mission that has become the fastest implementing project and a template of urban development in India. Excerpts:-

Could you please give an overview of the Smart Cities Mission and its objectives?

The Smart Cities Mission (SCM), which was launched on June 25, 2015, is aimed at fundamentally transforming urban living in India. Its primary goals are to provide essential infrastructure, ensure a clean and sustainable environment, and enhance the overall quality of life for our citizens through the application of innovative smart solutions.

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How smart infrastructure contributed to safer cities in the year 2023: Insights from industry experts

The Aspiration to Build Smart Cities has been Fueled by the Emergence of Smart and Intelligent Technology.

Source:- ET Now (22 Dec, 2023)
By:- Anish Mondal

Launched on June 25, 2015, the Smart Cities Mission (SCM) marked the beginning of a new era in the Urban Development Sector as a step towards reforming the sector. The mission aims to promote core infrastructure and improve the quality of life by providing a clean and sustainable environment through different means. Early this year, the government selected around 100 cities through a two-stage competition for the development of modern cities.

The aspiration to build smart cities has been fueled by the emergence of smart and intelligent technology. This has led to the implementation of an intelligent transport management system that not only ensures efficiency and speed but also places a strong emphasis on safety and improved reliability.

Continued on - P2



in Gujarat and Agra in Uttar Pradesh.

Let us hear from industry leaders who are already doing their best to make India a smart and Secure city:-

Commenting on the integration of AI-driven smart infrastructure, Kapil Bardeja, Co-Founder and CEO of Vehant Technologies, told ETNownews.com, "AI-driven smart infrastructure is transforming the safety of urban cities. With advanced technologies, cities are fortifying their security measures. AI-powered systems enable the analysis of real-time data continuously received from sensors, cameras, and other devices. The integration of AI into a city's infrastructure empowers predictive threat detection, efficient emergency responses, and optimized traffic management."

Redefining Urban India by Building Safe and Smart Cities

Reportedly, innovations in smart city projects have improved people's standard of living

Source:- The Financial Express (16 Dec, 2023)
By:- Sudhinda Holla

India is determinedly riding the wave of urbanization with its ambitious and revolutionary Smart Cities mission. Launched in 2015, the mission undertakes the renewal and retrofitting to transform them into hubs of growth and prosperity. The aim was to raise living standards in 109 of India's fastest-growing metropolitan areas whose population is projected to increase to 590 million by 2030 and is developing at a break-neck pace. By efficiently and effectively tackling infrastructure management and service delivery challenges, the urban areas are expected to accommodate 40% of India's population and contribute 75% to the GDP by 2030.

The country is on the precipice of becoming a digital economy of staggering might. Through cutting-edge technologies such as edge computing, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, 5G, and Internet of Things, together with an extensive network of cities, future generations will experience living in a smart, sustainable, and secure world. Innovations in smart city projects have improved people's standard of living by addressing real-time challenges they face. Wastewater management, dynamic transportation solutions, enhanced and intelligent safety measures are some of the critical challenges being solved.

Technology-led interventions to ensure citizen safety

Smart City initiatives have radically transformed

the Indian landscape. From wastewater management to dynamic transportation solutions, intelligent safety measures are becoming the norm rather than the exception. Keeping up with the latest technological advancements is crucial to equipping our citizens, authorities, law enforcement, and emergency services with the necessary tools. Traditional surveillance systems lack real-time data processing capabilities and require human intervention, leading to delayed responses and inefficiencies.

By investing in open and scalable solutions to create a smart city ecosystem, stakeholders across the city can collaborate more effectively to improve public safety.

To read more, Scan:



Libraries Seeing Revival Under Smart Cities Mission

More than 80 digital libraries have been developed as part of the Smart City Mission, including the Modern Doon Library in Dehradun and the Nalanda Parisar Oxy Reading Zone Library in Raipur.

Source: Hindustan Times (17 Nov, 2023)
By:- Manoj Sharma

For decades, libraries in India, which are crucial to the cultural, intellectual and academic vitality of cities, have suffered from neglect, mainly due to inadequate funds, leading to the deterioration of infrastructure and depleted collections. Now, a transformative shift is underway in many cities, from bustling metropolises like Ahmedabad to smaller ones like Dehradun, Belagavi, Prayagraj, and Raipur, which are either building new libraries or revitalising and digitalising the existing ones.

In fact, more than 80 digital libraries have been de-

veloped as part of the Smart City Mission alone.

Dehradun's Modern Doon Library, the splendid four-storey building, which opened earlier this year, has a capacity for seating 500 readers. The library offers various amenities, including a cafeteria, community hall, multi-purpose hall, a computer lab, open-theatre, and smart toilets. It boasts of 35,000 books and over 5,000 members. "Dehradun has several prestigious educational institutions, and we wanted the library -- which offers a diverse range of academic resources -- to become a centre of scholarly pursuits, community engagement, cultural activities, and an extension of the city's academic infrastruc-

ture," said Sonika, (she uses one name) CEO, Dehradun Smart City, which has built the library.

Similarly, Raipur has built the Nalanda Parisar Oxy Reading Zone Library with an investment of ₹15.21 crores. Its 6-acre campus has a three-storey library building with over a lakh books, cafeterias, a book stall, a stationery outlet, a medical store, a sports goods shop, a restaurant, a bank, an ATM, a bio-diversified garden, complete with a gazebo, pergolas, and a canopy housing 18 interactive zones, and round-the-clock indoor and outdoor reading spaces with a capacity of about 1,000 people.

Continued on - P2

President of India Graces India Smart Cities Conclave 2023

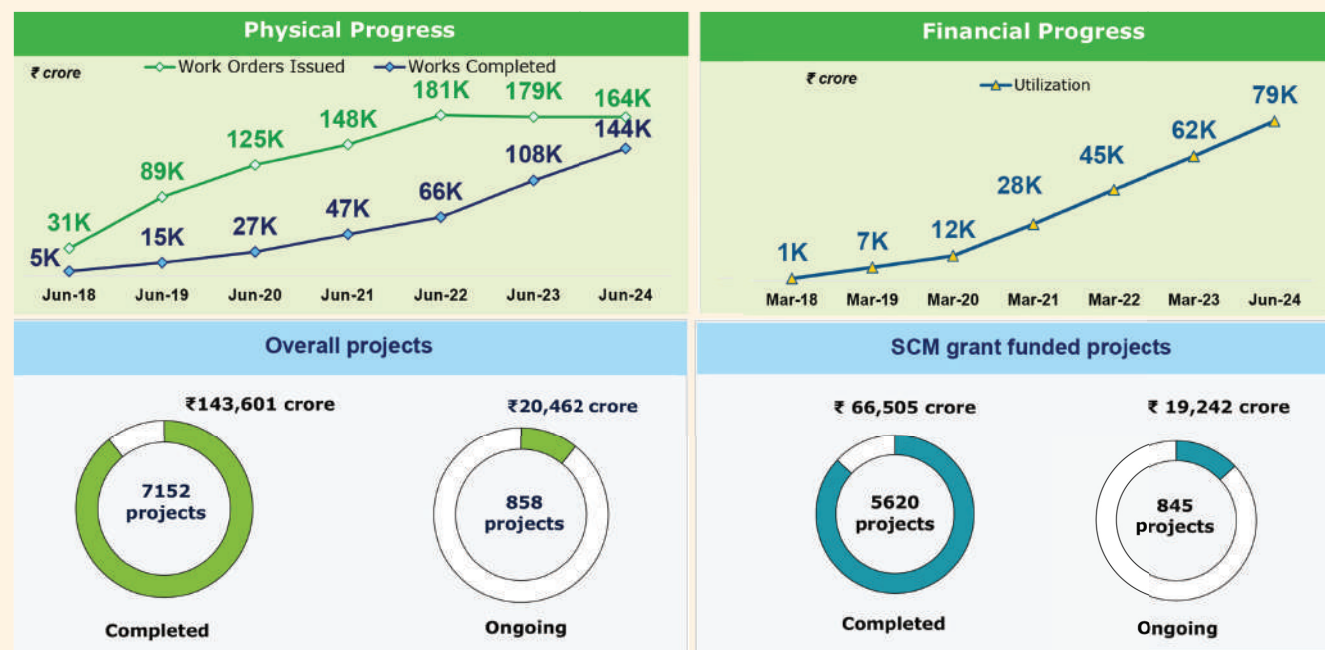


Highlight of journey: On September 27, 2023, the Hon'ble President of India inaugurated the India Smart Cities Conclave 2023. The event was attended by dignitaries such as Sh. Mangubhai C. Patel, Hon'ble Governor of Madhya Pradesh, Sh. Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Sh. Hardeep S. Puri, Hon'ble Union Minister & several other notable guests. (25 SEP, 2023)



Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi assessed the progress of the projects of Smart City Varanasi, during his visit to Varanasi on 17 December 2023. All the works done under the flagship Smart Cities Mission in Varanasi were presented to the Hon'ble Prime Minister. (11 DEC, 2023)

Mission Progress



Smart Cities the Real Incubators of the New Urban India, Says Sh. Hardeep Puri

Source: Business Standard (May 23, 2023)
By Dhirendra Kumar

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said hundreds of small cities have a key role in achieving the resolve of a developed India by 2047 and his government was upgrading basic facilities in such urban centres to improve ease of living.

Interacting with beneficiaries of central schemes during the ongoing Vikas Bharat Sankalp Yatra, the prime minister said his government is committed to saving money for urban families, who have benefited from initiatives such as Ayushman Bharat health insurance and housing for all. Some of the recent developments, Smart City Advisory Forum (SCAF) has been established, consisting of members of parliament, members of the legislative assembly, the city's mayor, district collector, local youth, and technical experts among other stakeholders.

All 100 smart cities have established these SCAF to enable efficient collaboration between the stakeholders and have held more than 756 meetings so far.

To read more, Scan:



Sh. Hardeep S Puri inaugurating Urban Mobility event with Sh. Gadkari and Sh. Fadnavis in Nagpur (03 Dec, 2018)

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Smart Cities Mission is Template of Urban Development, Says Sh. Hardeep S Puri

The SCM embodies Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision for a 'New Urban India' and it is a key component of India's objective of becoming a developed country by 2047.

The SCM has sparked innovation in India's urban ecosystems while also building core infrastructure and strengthening services in India's 100 biggest cities. It has fostered deep partnerships with government, global organisations, partner cities, academia and industry.

It's been claimed that the SCM is the fastest implementing project of the government. How do you corroborate this claim?

Yes, it is and I'm thankful to our Prime Minister for trusting upon me for this utmost responsibility in 2017. The project was started in June 2015 and I took over as Urban Development Minister in September 2017. Since then the total 7,934 projects sanctioned at a cost of Rs 1.71 lakh crore and 6,069 projects worth Rs 1.10 lakh crore completed, while another 1,865 projects worth

Rs 60,250 crore on target for completion by June 2024.

I have not seen any other government programme executed at the pace that the Smart Cities Mission has been implemented. Despite the pandemic, the expenditure under the mission has meteorically risen from Rs 1,000 crore in 2018 to Rs 1,10,000 crore today. This is a matter of extreme pride, and I am grateful to the cohort of the Smart cities for making this possible.

I take a pride in announcing the fact that close to Rs 25,000 crore worth of PPP projects delivered, more than 2,700 kms of smart roads constructed, close to 7,000 smart classrooms built, more than 7,500 new buses (2,000 electric buses) deployed, more than 50 lakh LED/solar lights installed, over 100 MW of solar power generated through mission's projects, over 300 smart health centres constructed, 1,884 emergency call boxes, and 3,000 public address systems and traffic enforcement systems installed to improve public safety.

Moreover, 47 cities have developed 180 waterfront projects, above 200 mar-

kets have been redeveloped across 68 cities and 1,300 public spaces created, including restoring many heritage monuments.

As it's been claimed that all projects under the Smart City Mission are likely to be completed by June 2024, if so, then does it mean that there would be a second edition of Smart City Mission?

It's not just about mentoring; we are constantly doing hand holding with them. The project is not of the Central government alone. The state governments have a major role to play in development of smart cities in their respective states under the Special Purpose Vehicles.

We are constantly reviewing the project implementation in all the cities under the SCM. We measure the lagging behind cities on the basis of completion of projects. However, in some cases, the projects are completed but not efficiently. We are quite confident that all the cities under the SCM would prove to be a template of urban growth story.

A Partnership for Smarter, Sustainable Development

Source:- Journey Line, (10 Dec, 2023)

India and Sweden have recently expressed their shared ambition to pioneer a smarter and more sustainable pathway for development, a commitment that couldn't be more timely. As the world grapples with the simultaneous crises of climate change, economic inequality, and a global pandemic, this collaboration between a rapidly developing country and a leading welfare state offers a beacon of hope. What makes this partnership truly commendable is not just the intention, but the complementary strengths that both countries bring to the table. Sweden, known for its sustainable cities, clean technologies, and commitment to a circular economy, can offer a wealth of knowledge and resources to India, a country poised at the precipice of rapid urbanization and economic growth. On the other hand, India, with its burgeoning talent pool, massive market, and experience in frugal innovation, can provide valuable lessons to Sweden on managing growth sustainably in resource-constrained settings. It's important to note that this partnership is not a mere exchange of ideas and technologies. It promises to be a robust learning experience for both countries in understanding and tackling the challenges of sustainable development from their unique perspectives. It is about forging new pathways, innovating processes, and creating models that other countries can learn from and adapt to their contexts.

One of the key areas of collaboration could be in the development of smart cities. Sweden is a global leader in this domain, with cities like Stockholm and Gothenburg serving as models for sustainable urban development.

Meanwhile, India's ambitious Smart Cities Mission, aimed at promoting sustainable and inclusive cities, could benefit significantly from Sweden's expertise in areas like waste management, renewable energy, and urban planning. Another area of potential synergy is the transition to a circular economy. With Sweden's proficiency in waste-to-energy technologies, and India's growing emphasis on waste management and recycling, a collaboration in this domain could result in breakthrough solutions that can be scaled globally. Despite the promising prospects, this partnership will face its share of challenges. For one, the scale and complexity of India's development needs are vastly different from those of Sweden. Therefore, the solutions will have to be customized and localized, keeping in mind the social, economic, and cultural contexts of the regions in question.

Further, the success of this partnership will hinge on the political will and commitment from both countries. It will require effective coordination, alignment of policies, and mobilization of resources, among other things. The India-Sweden partnership is a testament to the fact that in the face of global challenges, international cooperation is not just desirable, but necessary. It is an opportunity to demonstrate that development and sustainability can go hand in hand, and that by learning from each other and working together, we can build a smarter, more sustainable future for all. The world will be watching closely, and hopefully, learning from this mutually beneficial collaboration.

India Undertaking Largest Planned Urbanisation Programme In World: Minister Puri

According to the Ministry, the Challenge is a Significant Step in the Direction of Achieving India's Commitments to Combating the Challenges Posed by Climate Change



The total investments for urban development since 2014 have risen 10 folds to more than ₹18 lakh crore in comparison to the previous 10-year period.

Source: The Economic Times (Nov 17, 2023)

New Delhi: India is undertaking the largest planned urbanisation programme in the world, Union minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Thursday.

The total investments for urban development since 2014 have risen 10 folds to more than Rs18 lakh crore in comparison to the previous 10-year period, the Union housing and urban affairs minister said at the launch of CITIIS 2.0 -- the City Investments To Innovate, Integrate and Sustain challenge.

According to the ministry, the challenge is a significant step in the direction of achieving India's commitments to combating the challenges posed by climate change.

The minister also highlighted the central govern-

ment's increased focus on the growth and development of urban areas in the country.

Speaking about the efforts towards achieving a circular economy in the country's urban areas, Puri said that under the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), the government has set up 112 bi-omethanation plants, 2,391 waste-to-compost plants, 55 waste-to-energy plants, 2,281 material recovery facilities, 972 construction and demolition waste management plants, and 335 solid and liquid resource management plants.

The Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) and its second phase have made transformational progress in making cities water-secure, he said, adding that SBM-Urban 2.0 will make cities garbage-free and re-mediate all legacy waste in the country.

The country is now un-

dertaking the world's largest planned urbanisation programme, he said and mentioned the 10-fold increase in the investment for urban development since 2014.

The BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) has been in power since 2014, while the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance (UPA) ruled the country between 2004 and 2014.

In its statement, the ministry said that at the UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow (COP26) in November 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi presented India's five-point climate pledges - "panchamrit" including achieving the target of net zero emissions by 2070.

CITIIS 2.0 envisages to supplement such climate initiatives through its unique model of action at all levels of government.



Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurates Mahakal Lok corridor at Ujjain Smart City. (10 OCT, 2019)

Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the 900m-long Mahakal Lok corridor in Ujjain

Smart City, built at the Mahakaleshwar temple on Tuesday. The Mahakaleshwar Temple Corridor Development Project has provided advanced public amenities for visitors visiting the temple complex

opment Project has provided advanced public amenities for visitors visiting the temple complex

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Libraries Seeing Revival Under Smart Cities Mission



Revamp work in progress at the 160 year old Prayagraj Govt. public library

"The city's educational and coaching institutes attract thousands of students from across the state, but its existing libraries had monotonous environments, limited book availability, and lacked proper facilities. Nalanda Parisar has been set up to provide world-class library facilities to them. In fact, we are building another library, essentially a massive reading facility, to accommodate another 600 students," says Mayank Chaturvedi, CEO of Raipur Smart City, which has built the library.

"In a short time, the library has become hugely popular. We currently have 2,450 members, mostly those preparing for competitive exams, and there is a 6-month waiting period for aspiring members. We regularly organise seminars and workshops to help students," says Manjula Jain, head librarian at Nalanda Parisar Oxy Reading Zone Library.

About 600 km away from Nalanda Parisar in Prayagraj, the 160-year-old Allahabad Government Public Library is undergoing a ₹6.6 crore-revamp. The library is situated in the sprawling Chandra Shekhar Azad Park. The granite

and sandstone building, designed by Richard Roskell Bayne, is a remarkable example of Scottish Baronial Revival architecture.

Chandra Mohan Garg, CEO of Prayagraj Smart City, outlines the three components of the library's revitalisation project under the Smart City Mission: "We are undertaking the restoration of the building, for which we have engaged conservation architects; and preservation of manuscripts dating back over 400 years, and digitisation of all library services," he said.

Evolution of public libraries

Established in 1864, the Allahabad Government Public Library is one of the oldest and grandest libraries in India. The origins of public libraries in India can be traced back to the year 1808 when the Bombay Presidency proposed a plan to register libraries, which were to get books published from the "Funds for the Encouragement of Literature."

In the mid-19th century, the three Presidency towns—Bombay, Madras, and Calcutta—established public libraries, chiefly funded by

affluent European residents. The most significant among them was the founding of the public library in Calcutta in 1835.

The period between 1900 and 1937, often hailed as the golden age of the Indian library system, saw significant developments. In 1902, the Imperial Library Act was passed, and in 1906, Lord Curzon converted the Calcutta Public Library into the Imperial Library. Post-independence, it was renamed the National Library. During this period, subscription libraries also emerged in several Indian cities, catering primarily to a limited, affluent section of society.

In 1910, Maharaja Sayaji Rao Gaekwad III of Baroda, inspired by the educational role of public libraries in the United States, invited American expert William Alson Borden to create a public library system in his

state. This led to a network of public libraries across the entire Princely State of Baroda.

Between 1937 and 1942, approximately 13,000 village libraries and travelling libraries emerged in Assam, Bihar, Punjab, and Travancore.

"The Madras Public Libraries Act was passed in 1948, the first of its kind in independent India. In 1951, with collaboration between Unesco and the Indian government, the Delhi Public Library was established to serve as a model public library in Asia," says PB Mangla, former professor and head, department of library sciences at Delhi University. He further notes that in 1972, the Union government established the Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF) to promote and support the development of public libraries in the country.

"Libraries is a state subject, and today about 19 states have public libraries law, but most libraries have suffered from a lack of funding, which is very unfortunate," says PB Mangla. "Libraries are known to be universities of citizens due to their role in imparting informal education. I hope the new libraries will remain well-managed and funded."

Libraries and urban development

Experts say a public library plays an important role in creating an informational city by advancing knowledge, encouraging the exchange of ideas, and building community. The informational city refers to an urban environment characterized by the widespread use and integration of information and communication technologies, shaping various aspects of life, work, and governance. In the past few years, planners have emphasised on establishing smart

libraries as anchor cultural institutions in cities. In fact, libraries figure prominently in urban revitalisation plans in many cities in the West. Seattle Public Library and Salt Lake City Public Library in the US for example, have been rebuilt as community spaces and anchor cultural institutions--- facilities within a community or city that play a central role in preserving, promoting, and disseminating cultural heritage, arts, and education.

Pooja Sagar, a senior consultant with Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS), says sustainable urban spaces are built over time by a growing community of intelligent and empathetic citizens who have access to knowledge and the wisdom to make difficult choices for the benefit of the future. "Libraries continue to play the significant role of making knowledge accessible, fulfil information needs of communities, and create a nation of informed and active citizens. But in the current context, they have also shifted gears to become a catalyst for social interaction in the public domain that actively shapes the urban public," Sagar said.

Talking of the role of libraries in community focused urban development, she says outreach has become central to the function of many libraries in cities. "With this recent shift, they do a better job of recognising the socio-cultural and economic diversities in the city, and cater to different tiers of society rather than operate within the imagination of a homogenised public," she says, adding that the second important role the library plays in a society is that of fostering an attitude of lending and borrowing. "One doesn't always have to buy a new book, they can be borrowed, read, and carefully returned. This is an attitude that is slowly disappearing when buying seems simpler, but it is an attitude that speaks to the core of sustainability," Sagar says.

To read more, Scan:



Hon'ble Prime Minister inaugurated the ICCC at Prayagraj Smart City (10 Dec, 2018)



A Technology Showcase was organised in Pune Smart city on 30 August 2019



Sh. Hardeep Sh. Puri, Union Minister, MoHUA along with Sh. Amitabh Kant, G20 Sherpa, and others at the U20 Mayoral Summit in Ahmedabad. On 8 July 2023, the U20 Mayoral Summit 2023 witnessed gathering of mayors and delegates from across the globe. It's a testament to share commitment to tackle global challenges and create a brighter future together. (03 JUL, 2023)

Social Infrastructure



Projects	Value	Across
868	₹12,730 Cr	84 Cities

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Development of Small Cities Key to Developed India Resolve: PM Modi

Modi said, adding that initiatives such as AMRUT Mission and Smart City Mission were upgrading basic facilities in the small cities.

He said cities have a huge role to play in achieving the resolve of a developed India by 2047, when the nation will celebrate the centenary of Independence.

"Whatever development took place for a long time after Independence, its scope was limited to some big cities of the country. But today we are focusing on the development of Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities," he said.

"Hundreds of small cities of the country are going to strengthen the grand edifice of developed India," Modi said, adding that initiatives such as AMRUT Mission and Smart City Mission were upgrading basic facilities in the small cities.

"These upgrades are directly impacting ease of living, ease of travel and ease of doing business. Poor, neo-middle class, middle class or rich people, all are getting the benefit of these enhanced facilities," he said.

The prime minister also interacted with the beneficiaries of various government schemes in Mumbai, Lucknow, Rohru near Shimla,

Kozhikode and Guwahati.

The prime minister urged the people to enrol in the government's pension schemes and secure themselves and assured support at the outreach vans criss-crossing the country as part of the Yatra.

"Modi's guarantee begins when expectations from others cease," the prime minister said. He said more than 50 lakh people have availed the bank's assistance under the PM SVANidhi Yojna, with 1.25 lakh people applying for the scheme during the yatra.

Modi said six crore people have subscribed to the Atal Pension Scheme that ensures Rs 5,000 monthly pension after the age of 60.

The prime minister said claims worth Rs 17,000 crore have been settled under the PM Suraksha Bima Yojana and Jeevan Jyoti Yojana and urged those eligible to get registered with these schemes and strengthen their security shield.

"The government is com-

mitted to saving money for urban families, be it exemption in income tax or low-cost treatment," he said, adding the inclusion of crores of urban poor in the Ayushman Bharat initiative has helped them save Rs 1 lakh crore on medical expenses.

The prime minister said medicines were made available at an 80 per cent discount at Jan Aushadhi Kendras thereby helping the poor and middle class living in cities save more than Rs 25,000 crores.

Thousands of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra beneficiaries from across the country joined the event through video conferencing. The programme was also joined by a large number of Union Ministers, MPs, MLAs and local representatives.

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra is being undertaken across the country with the aim to attain saturation of flagship government schemes through ensuring that the benefits of these schemes reach all the targeted beneficiaries in a time-bound manner.

Govt Improves Monitoring and Coordination of 100 Smart Cities- Here's how



ICCCs have also helped cities achieve more with less using centralized monitoring, real-time data, and informed decision-making, said the government.

Source:- Financial Express, (16 Mar,2023)
By:- Infra

The government has operationalised Integrated Command and Control Centers (ICCCs) in 100 smart cities for better monitoring and coordination purposes among the same. These Centers will act as the nerve center and brain of the enabling cities. These smart cities will also have a decision support system for enhancing the quality of life for its citizens. The information was provided by the Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari, in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha, on Wednesday.

"These ICCCs are playing an important role in ensuring better monitoring and efficiency in areas like traffic management, solid waste management, and water distribution management," said the minister and added that smart cities have also effectively used ICCCs and related smart infrastructure for better management of the COVID-19 pandemic.

ICCCs have also helped cities achieve more with less using centralized monitoring, real-time data, and informed decision-making, said the government. This

is driving cities towards innovation, inclusion, and efficiency. Out of 100 ICCCs, 30 are working on traffic management and transportation issues such as Integrated Traffic Management System (ITMS), Red Light Violation Detection (RLVD), Adaptive Traffic Control System (ATCS), Automatic Number Plate, Recognition System (AnPR), and more. Some cities which have adopted traffic management systems include Kanpur, Ludhiana, Ahmedabad, Surat, Chandigarh, Nashik, Saharanpur, Visakhapatnam, Ujjain, and more.

To encourage local talents, on 15th April 2021, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs launched the Transport 4 All challenge (T4All). The challenge aims to bring together citizen groups, cities, and startups. The aim is to develop solutions that improve public transport to better serve the needs of the people. However, in the Smart Cities Mission, no data on traffic violations/challans and the no. of e-challans generated, etc. is centrally maintained by the Geospatial Information Management System (GMIS).

Digital Innovation: An Effective Approach to Address Urban Challenges

He Automated Service Delivery Gaining Acceptability and Greater Reach Would help in Evolution of New Ways of Engagement for Citizens.



Source:- The Financial Express (07 Aug, 2023)

Cities all across the world are evolving to become more interconnected and interactive. The interconnection of new technologies is being used to make infrastructure and amenities more accessible and inclusive. Harnessing the advantages of digitalization in cities is essential to deliver economic, social and environmental development throughout the world that is becoming more and more urbanized. The digital drive would ensure the cities becoming centres for data generation that assists in the planning and its development.

The automated service delivery gaining acceptability and greater reach would help in evolution of new ways of engagement for citizens. Additionally, cities would become centres for testing and implementation of innovative technical solutions. At several places governments are pushing towards smart cities, by propagating the use of technology and data to combat climate change and bring ease in the administrative processes by eliminating delays and making the process more participatory.

Digital innovation can help bring sustainable and resilient aspects to cities. Smart meter adoption and dynamic electric pricing, for instance, have the potential to drastically change how individuals use energy. Electric powered vehicles could significantly reduce noise and air pollution. Digital innovation, which enables more precise management and consumption of manufacturing processes, can also strengthen the circular economy, a concept that attempts to increase economic and resource efficiency. Early

warning systems for floods, cyclones and other natural disasters could enhance preparedness, response, and recovery. For instance, the availability of big data on energy, water, waste and transportation and real-time monitoring can significantly transform urban services, by boosting its productivity and integration. Digital technology offers the greatest way to monitor various facilities and features of city life while also connecting every resident to decision-making and administration. The digitalization wave has bolstered transparency and efficiency in e-governance through open and accessible data which in return can help the citizens make better decisions and express their views through various portals and online platforms.

Technology adoption particularly in emerging economy like India will be a key to provide better services and enhance the lives of citizens. Several cities in India, for instance, in Andhra Pradesh are already leveraging innovative technologies to improve civic services such as clean water, sanitation, solid waste management, etc. There has been a proliferation of digitalization of urban and health services under the Smart Cities Mission. The pandemic has already brought to light the importance of technology adoption with ICCCs (Integrated Command and Control Centres) serving as "COVID -19 war rooms" to monitor and coordinate activities effectively in various cities across India. It brought together cities, NGOs, and other local businesses on a single platform through websites and mobile applications to ease out the administration process.

To read more, Scan:



Mission launches #SabkaBharatNikharta - a citizen-centric social media campaign (01 Jun, 2022)

In India, the City Square Makes a Comeback

Over the decades, most city squares in India lost their essence as vibrant hubs of urban life, devolving into mere traffic nodes



Source:-Hindustan Times (16 Mar,2023)
BY:- Manoj Sharma

City squares are more than just bustling public spaces — they mirror a city's history, politics, and culture; they blend echoes of the past with the energy of contemporary urban life. From the ancient Greek Agora and the grand Roman Forum, to the bustling squares of European cities such as Trafalgar Square in London and Dam Square in Amsterdam, to the lively chowks of India, these spaces have been the thriving cores of their cities.

Over the decades, most city squares in India lost their essence as vibrant hubs of urban life, devolving into mere traffic nodes. Now, however, there is a renewed focus on reclaiming these public spaces as the beating hearts of their respective cities — some, such as Mumbai, Gwalior, and Srinagar, are making efforts to restore their historic city squares to their past glory, while others, such as Ahmedabad and Gurugram, have announced plans to create new city squares to reshape the cityscape.

"City squares in India have a distinctive character and are deeply linked to the city's historical roots. They are the heart of the city, the nucleus from which the city originated or grew. In princely kingdoms, these squares often flanked palaces, while in religious towns, they typically surrounded temples," said Vikas Dilawari, a conservation architect.

"A city is a tangible expression of a civilization or society coming together, and a city square serves as a physical representation of

the nucleus or core of that society. From a social, cultural, and historical perspective, a city square embodies the soul of a city," said urban planner and architect Dikshu Kukreja, whose firm, CP Kukreja Architects, is a part of the consortium that drew the master plan for the redevelopment of Ayodhya.

History of city squares in India

During the colonial period, cities, influenced by European urban planning principles, underwent significant changes. The British established or redesigned several cities and towns with central squares or maidans, which served as important administrative, commercial, and social hubs.

Connaught Place in Delhi, Horniman Circle in Mumbai, and Dalhousie Square in Kolkata are excellent examples of city squares developed during the colonial period.

"In colonial cities, squares emerged after the removal of fort walls. One example is the Flora Fountain square in Mumbai, now known as Hutatma Chowk. The specific features and layout of these squares vary, depending on the size and history of the city. In tier 2 or tier 3 cities, there may be a clock tower at the centre or flanking the square. Some squares feature ornamental fountains that have become iconic symbols of the city," Dilawari said.

Last September, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) announced plans to revitalize the historic Fort area, including Horniman Circle. Originally called Elphinstone Circle and designed by James Scott in 1869, the circle has long been regarded as the city's most dynamic urban de-

sign statement. Restoration work has commenced at the Horniman Circle Gardens and involves repairing the garden fence, renovating the walkway, restoring the water fountain, and installing heritage-style electric poles.

Similarly, the Flora Fountain at Hutatma Chowk was restored in 2019. The fountain, said Dilawari, was prominently positioned as an ornamental feature, standing at the intersection of two major roads at the square. It was surrounded by a large, lush green circular lawn, and enclosed by decorative cast iron fencing.

However, with the expansion of the city centre and increased commercial activity, the area around the fountain became congested, making it difficult for people to appreciate this monument and its plaza. Unfortunately, this congestion also led to vandalism, littering, and encroachment on the fountain's surroundings.

"The primary objective of restoring the fountain was to revive its lost grandeur. The major concerns were the soiled facades, defaced and painted statues, restoration of missing limbs, and the defunct plumbing system of the fountain," said Dilawari, who oversaw the fountain's restoration.

Restoring city squares to their past glory

The chowk or city square in Indian cities, said Kukreja, was intended to be the vibrant hub that brought together citizens from different economic and social backgrounds, much like the squares found in European or American cities.

To read more, Scan:



IITs, IIMs among others to submit 50 papers on impact of Smart Cities Mission

More than 20 institutes have been brought on board to carry our research across 100 Smart Cities answering several questions of urban development



23 institutes have been brought on board achieve its targets in 2024

Source:- Indian Express (13 Jan, 2024)
By:- Damini Nath

As the June 30 deadline for the Smart Cities Mission approaches, the question of whether the projects have worked will soon be answered through 50 research papers being produced by the students and faculty of premier institutes, including IITs and IIMs.

In a first of its kind initiative for a national urban mission, independent assessments will look into a wide range of topics — from the beginning of the Mission, when special purpose vehicles were set up by cities to execute projects, to the final stages, when the impact of completed projects can be seen.

According to Union Ministry of Housing and Urban

Affairs sources, the work has started this month and is likely to conclude with 50 research papers by March-end. So far, 23 institutes have been brought on board, they said.

Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri Friday said the Mission will "hopefully" achieve its targets in 2024.

Among the topics being studied are whether the concept of area-based development has benefited the Mission (to be done by IIT-Roorkee), impact of waste-to-energy plants (IIT-Bombay), and what role the Mission has had in enhancing the overall quality of public spaces (School of Planning and Architecture in Delhi). IIM-Kashipur will study the role of firms as design and project management consultants for Mission.

Miranda House, the only Delhi University college that is part of the initiative, will research on whether Smart Cities projects like parks are inclusive for people with disabilities, senior citizens, and children; and IIM-Bangalore on the impact of the projects on real-time tracking of criminal activities, especially against women. The institutes will be provided with Rs 6 lakh stipend for each research paper, said officials.

Smart Cities Mission Director Kunal Kumar said, "The latest initiative is part of the larger outreach by the Smart Cities Mission, to academia. There was the Smart Cities and Academia with regards to Action and Research initiative in 2022... Now, we have tied up with 23 institutes to conduct independent outcome studies," said Kumar.

Mission Triggers Biking Revolution in India



Pune public bike sharing programme (14 May, 2018)

The floodgates of the bike sharing market have opened. A variety of companies, from Indian unicorns to the international heavyweights, are all preparing to enter the Indian market. Successful public bike sharing (PBS) programmes in a number of Smart Cities

have inspired other cities to adopt the programme. In the coming few months we will see more bicycles all across India's major urban centres and educational campuses. The bicycle sharing revolution is here. The Smart Cities are playing their part. At the moment 35 smart cit-

ies currently have PBS as part of their proposed projects, out of which 13 have issued work orders and 10 tenders have been called.

Pune, Bhopal, Coimbatore, Agra and Jaipur have already launched their PBS programmes.

Minister Flags Off Liveability Indices



Sh. Hardeep S Puri at the National Orientation Workshop for Liveability indices in New Delhi

The Liveability Index is a landmark initiative by MOHUA to evaluate liveability of 116 Indian cities on 79 in-

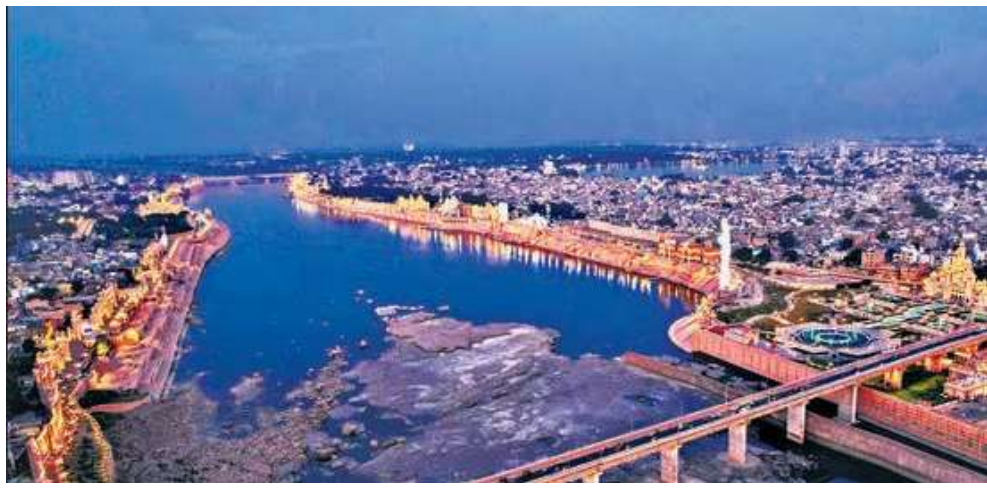
dicators in 15 categories.

The ministry organised a daylong orientation workshop on 13 February at Vig-

yan Bhawan New Delhi. You can access the presentations made in the workshop on SmartNet. (13 FEB, 2018)

India's Cities are Transforming Their Waterfronts

The Riverfront has Quickly Become a Popular Attraction for Both Locals and Tourists, with Approximately 10,000 People Visiting it Daily



Cities across the country are rediscovering the potential of their waterfronts, and transforming them into vibrant public spaces that blend business, culture, and recreation.

“Over the decades, the Chambal river had been reduced to a garbage-filled backyard. Now, it has become the city's beautiful face. This is the first heritage waterfront of its kind in the country representing India's culture and spiritual traditions.”

Source:-Hindustan Times (29 Jan, 2024)
BY:- Manoj Sharma

New Delhi: Cities have had an intimate relationship with rivers throughout history, shaping their development, prosperity, and identity. Unfortunately, over the past several decades, the narrative surrounding rivers and lakes in India has been dominated by tales of pollution and degradation.

The tide, however, finally seems to be changing, with cities across the country, such as Kota, Indore, and Coimbatore rediscovering the potential of their waterfronts, and transforming them into vibrant public spaces that blend business, culture, and recreation. Other cities, such as Mangaluru and Pune, are currently in the process of developing their waterfronts.

Kota's Chambal riverfront, inaugurated in September 2023, has transformed a once-neglected 6-km stretch into a much sought-after city attraction.

The ₹1,400 crore project developed by the Urban Improvement Trust (UIT) features 27 theme-based ghats, each highlighting a facet of Indian cultural heritage. For example, Geeta Ghat has all 700 verses of the 18 Gita chapters engraved on a marble plaque; while the Rajputana Ghat represents architecture from different regions of Rajasthan.

“Over the decades, the Chambal river had been reduced to a garbage-filled backyard. Now, it has become the city's beautiful face. This is the first heritage waterfront of its kind in the country representing India's culture and spiritual traditions,” said Anoop Bartaria, the architect for the project.

Indeed, the riverfront has quickly become a popular attraction for both locals and tourists, with approximately 10,000 people visiting it daily (while entry is complimentary for Kota residents, tourists are required to pay an entry fee of ₹200).

Digvijay Singh, CEO of Indore Smart City, which has developed a 3.3-km riverfront along the Kahn river, said, “One of the most important achievements is that the riverfront has reconnected the city's residents to the river. Besides, there has been at least a 40% increase in property prices in the area.”

Similarly, authorities in Coimbatore have transformed the Valankulam lakefront — a garbage yard until three years ago — into the city's most vibrant public space, boasting amphitheatres, exhibition spaces, co-working spaces, restaurants, children's play areas, cycle tracks, and a viewing pavilion overlooking the lake. “Around 100,000 people gathered at the lakefront to celebrate the New Year. The place hosts a variety of events, from Pongal festivities to art shows, cultural performances by local artists, and even corporate product launches,” said Baskar Srinivasan, general manager of Coimbatore Smart City, which developed the waterfront.

“Most importantly, the redeveloped waterfront has greatly improved the quality of life for residents.

In India, we have seen a major advancement in the efforts toward digitisation and innovation. India's Smart Cities Mission is a great example of how the concept is being actualised by developing countries, as well. The mission has already enabled the technological development of many cities like Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Surat, and more. It aims to

To read more, Scan:

Hybrid Multicloud: The Foundation to Smart Cities in India

Source:-Hindustan Times (08 Jan, 2024)
BY:- Manoj Sharma

Smart cities present a more connected, efficient vision for the future. They are more innovative and use technology and data in ways that enable them to be cleaner, more sustainable and provide citizens a variety of automated services. From environmental monitoring to automated traffic management and digital payment capabilities, rapid technological advancements are enabling cities to create limitless potential that will shape the future of urban centres.

The shift toward creating smarter cities is completely transforming urban planning as governments around the world look to accelerate smart city development. Research shows the global smart cities market is growing so rapidly that it is expected to exceed **US\$2.5 trillion** as early as 2025 — more than double the estimated **US\$1 trillion** in 2020. And although the economic pressures of the pandemic have stalled some smart city developments — at least temporarily — some of the world's biggest tech companies continue to invest heavily in smart city projects.

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Projects	Value	Across
933	₹13,377 Cr	100 Cities



Belagavi Smart City team was awarded the 'United Nations- Smart Solutions and Inclusive Cities Awards 2022' by Sh. Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon'ble Minister, MoHUA, Govt of India. Sh. Kunal Kumar, Joint Secretary and Mission Director of Smart Cities Mission, Sh. Shombi Sharp, he UN Resident Coordinator in India, and Sh. Hitesh Vaidya, Director of NIUA were present at the award ceremony. (29 AUG 2022)

Ahmedabad Municipal Bonds



Ahmedabad Smart City (31 DEC, 2018)

Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation is raising up to 2 billion rupees by issuing bonds of five-year maturity. The city will use the proceeds to part-finance several projects such as laying of pipelines, construction of a water treatment plant, expansion of the existing sewerage treatment plant, construction of sewerage pumping and water distribution stations under the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation scheme. The municipal bonds are rated AA+ by India Ratings. The high ratings have come on the back of the corporation witnessing a 28 per cent rise in tax collection, reduction in power costs due to 100 per cent LED conversion and windmill projects, increase in non-tax revenue income as well as reduction in interest costs by Rs 135 crore through loan restructuring.



National Orientation Workshop on EoL & MPI 2019, held on 20th January 2020, Delhi (03 FEB, 2020)

Reshaping our cities, one bite at a time

The neglect towards food is changing with cities working towards creating sustainable, efficient, and inclusive food systems



Source:-Hindustan Times (08 Jan, 2024)
BY:- Manoj Sharma

Almost every city in India celebrates its cuisine through a famous dish, centuries-old stories of how it was invented or popularised, and an iconic food street. In fact, food shapes a city, and contributes to its social, cultural, and economic dynamism. Most Indian cities — although proud of their culinary lineage — tend to neglect the importance of food when it comes to urban policy and planning.

This has to do with rapid pace of urbanisation in Indian cities, with more focus on immediate infrastructural needs such as housing and transportation.

This, however, is now changing with cities working towards creating sustainable, efficient, and inclusive food systems. Rourkela in Odisha — which has a population of 6.19 lakh people — illustrates this point. It has

zones for vegetable and fruit vendors along sidewalks; set up open food courts in areas with high concentration of street food vendors; and launched e-cool mandis, which are mini, solar-powered cold-storage-cum sales facilities in different parts of the city for farmers and vendors, particularly women.

“We want to ensure that they don't have to resort to distress selling, and their income increases. The e-cool mandis also help decentralise the market and boost the local economy, contributing to our sustainable development goals (SDG),” said Subhankar Mohapatra, municipal commissioner, Rourkela.

In 2022, Rourkela smart city won the Milan Pact Award in the social and economic category, for its e-cool mandi initiative. It was the only Indian city among the six winning cities worldwide. In 2021, Rourkela smart city also won the Bloomberg Philanthropies Global Mayors Chal-

lenger for empowering female food vendors, reducing food waste, and increasing access to fresh foods.

Other cities such as Panaji, Indore, Jabalpur, Chandigarh, Mumbai, and Ujjain, are also taking similar initiatives. This shift in approach is quite significant as most Indian cities do not have a comprehensive food policy.

These initiatives to streamline the food system include massive drives to license and register food businesses, redevelopment of food streets, promotion of healthier food options, and addressing the issue of food waste by redistributing surplus food to vulnerable communities.

But first, what is a food system?

It is a network of activities, processes, and infrastructure, which governs production, distribution, consumption, and disposal of food from farm to table.

Indore, known for its innovative urban initiatives, has successfully transformed Chappan Dukan — its famous food street — from an unhygienic and congested space to a smart food street at a cost of ₹4 crore.

To read more, Scan:

“INDORE, KNOWN FOR ITS INNOVATIVE URBAN INITIATIVES, HAS SUCCESSFULLY TRANSFORMED CHAPPAN DUKAN — ITS FAMOUS FOOD STREET FROM AN UNHYGIENIC AND CONGESTED SPACE TO A SMART FOOD STREET AT A COST OF ₹4 CRORE.”

designated shaded vending

Projects	Value	Across
1,370	₹12,273 Cr	100 Cities

Building Sustainable Cities for The Future Through Organized Citizen Action

Source:- The Times of India (16 Dec, 2023)
By:- Supriya Paul

India is home to some of the world's most populous and fastest-growing urban cities. While these cities are engines of economic growth and cultural vibrancy, they also face significant challenges in terms of sustainability, livability, and safety. From air pollution and traffic congestion to inadequate public services and social inequality, these challenges can have a profound impact on the quality of life for citizens. By 2030, according to IBEF, urban areas are expected to accommodate 40% of India's population and contribute 75% to the GDP of the country. To build more equitable and sustainable cities for the future, the mandate lies with both the state and civil society, working in conjunction to create a better tomorrow. The ultimate aim is to transform local units and set the standard for a greener and more inclusive future.

The vision for a sustainable future is also fostered by the G20 summit being held in India. The vision of 'One Earth, One Family, One Future' signified the need of coming together with citizens to take collective action to bring about a better future for our communities. Collective action or organized citizen action will serve as the other pillar of change alongside the work of government bodies. Organization-led social impact has the power to create ripples of change through stronger and sustained efforts and pooled resources. Organized citizen action in the form of NGOs, NPOs, and For Profit Organizations working in Social Impact can address gaps in current service delivery mechanisms and build a deeper connection with communities.

Here are the ways in which organized citizen action can affect real change

on the ground, and some of the organizations actively working to build better cities across India:

1. Working within communities in their local contexts to bring development and change: For example, Pratima Joshi, founder of Shelter Associates has worked with urban slums in multiple cities to solve challenges through community mobilization and date-driven approaches. Through their efforts of collecting, organizing and publishing slum data, they have managed to provide Plus Codes or addresses to slum-dwellers using GIS and Google Earth® Remote Sensing Imagery. Local communities are best aware of the day-to-day issues they face. By actively engaging with them to address these problems, the impact of any work is amplified.

2. Building local models to engage youth and children: India is home to one of the largest youth populations in the world, with 27 percent of the population under the age of 15 and 52 percent under 30. It is therefore critical to engage the youth in building for development, like Kuldeep Dantewadia of Reap Benefit has built an army of Solve Ninjas: a grassroots movement of young leaders under the age of 25 solving local problems across the country.

Youth are more closely connected with their communities, and are able to provide a more authentic view of the needs and requirements. Community development hinges on the ability of government and social organizations to actively engage youth and children for the betterment of all.

3. Building participatory approaches to empower citizens: Active citizenship can be encouraged

through capacity building, knowledge building, and policy advocacy. Rajesh Tandon of Participatory Research In Asia (PRIA) has been working with communities and municipal authorities to build active communities since 1982. The National Smart Cities Mission for the renewal and upgradation of key locations depends on citizen participation. Engaging citizens in the process of city design makes them committed to achieving the final outcome of a more sustainable cityscape and creates community impetus for the same.

4. Fostering Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships for Growth: The goal of achieving sustainable cities is a big one and it cannot be achieved without partnerships across the board. Multi-Stakeholder approaches to better governance development can inspire change at a wider and larger scale. Praja led by Nitai Mehta is an example of an organization working at multiple levels — central, state and city to foster better governance for larger impact through their multiple initiatives.

Organized citizen action also builds role models which inspire more to unlock their potential and create meaningful impact for communities. If we can inspire more individuals and organizations to become active citizens in not only unlocking their own potential but also the potential of those around them for a larger change, we will have accomplished our goal. The problem statement is how can we build more role models like Pratima, or Kuldeep to inspire more citizens and how can we ensure that the efforts of such citizens are acknowledged, recognised and appreciated to incentivize more such changemakers.

Opinion | Making An 'Inclusive City' in India Is The Need of the Hour



Source:- dailyhunt (2 Apr, 2023)

With an aim to develop 100 cities in India with technological innovations and a new urban development model at large, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, (MoHUA) Government of India, launched a flagship Smart Cities Mission (SCM) in 2015. As most notable features, the 'area-based' and 'pan-city' development have been the two key components of the mission.

Clearly, the broad objective of the SCM is supposed to develop and upgrade urban infrastructure to address the challenges of urbanisation, and provide a seamless range of data-enabled services and quality living to urban dwellers.

Several studies have analysed the grey literature, smart city mission statement and guidelines and 100 smart city proposals to underscore the benefits and challenges of the mission to meet its goals and vision for urban rejuvenation. Some of the key areas of the mission include urban transport, traffic congestion, slum-free city, security and surveillance with the use of high-end technologies, including the Internet of Things (IoT) and big data.

The mission has completed almost eight years of its launch. However, with just a few of the shortlisted cities managing to implement projects identified in their proposals, SCM has not been able to meet its desired target. In fact, it cannot be said whether India has any city which can be called a 'smart city'.

Gender Aspect of Smart Cities Mission

How has the mission envisioned a city from a gender lens? The mission underlines it to develop an inclusive approach to benefit all sections of society. When it comes to the gender aspect in smart cities, a quick view of 100 city proposals indicates that each city has tried to incorporate women's safety and security in its vision and goals.

However, the proposals are limited to setting up a command and control centre in each smart city and the use of CCTV cameras to ensure that women feel safe in the city. Integrating police stations with command and control centres and an app-based panic button mechanism is largely what most of the cities have identified in their proposals to alert families and police in case women face any emergency situation.

In terms of housing, a few of the cities in their proposals have incorporated measures to provide hostels and accommodations for single women and shelter homes for the homeless.

Take the case of Bihar. From Bihar, four cities, selected under different rounds of the Smart Cities Mission challenge, are on the list of being developed as smart cities: Bhagalpur, Patna, Muzaffarpur, and Bihar Sharif. For women, city proposals do not speak much about women's safety and empowerment. Action like community and moral policing, establishing hawk squad and pink brigade have

been mentioned in the proposal of Bihar Sharif for the safety of girls. Women-specific actions contemplated in four smart cities of Bihar

Bhagalpur Patna Muzaffarpur Bihar Sharif

A) No specific plan of action with respect to women.

B) In general, the proposal says all sections of society especially old, children and persons with disabilities will be taken care of in design and development of projects. A) The Mahila Police Station at Gandhi Maidan will be integrated for improved patrolling and quick response.

B) Patna will focus on school and health infrastructure, especially for girls to increase their attendance.

C) Sanitary Pad dispensers and incinerators for girl students. A) Women, elderly and children would have enhanced mobility and reduced street crime due to surveillance. A) Women, children, elderly and differently-abled will have dedicated facilities and safe environment.

B) Community and Cultural policing which includes formation of PINK BRIDGE, HAWK SQUAD for safety of girls and senior citizens.

Source: Smart Cities Mission (<https://smartcities.gov.in/>)

At a recent workshop organised by the Women and Child Development Corporation, Government of Bihar and Asian Development

Research Institute (ADRI), to celebrate National Girl Child day in Patna, the state Social Welfare Minister highlighted several steps of the Bihar government, including the cycle and credit schemes for higher education of girls, and other measures like reservation for women in Panchayat and municipal bodies, educational institutions and government jobs.

To read more, Scan:

“WHEN IT COMES TO THE GENDER ASPECT IN SMART CITIES, A QUICK VIEW OF 100 CITY PROPOSALS INDICATES THAT EACH CITY HAS TRIED TO INCORPORATE WOMEN'S SAFETY AND SECURITY IN ITS VISION AND GOALS.”

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Busting the Smart Citizen Myth



Kunal Kumar

Citizen engagement lies at the core of a city's development. But who is the citizen? Is there a standardised citizen — an interchangeable entity with no distinct personality, preferences or history? Are citizens merely beneficiaries in the development process? Like cooking or any other skill acquired and honed over time to give the product a special, distinctive characteristic — in the case of food, taste — in any neighbourhood, local knowledge continuously accumulates over time through a web of daily practices, interactions and experiences among the neighbourhood's constituents. Their worm's-eye view and minute observations of the environment nourish the neighbourhood. Unlike an urban planner appointed to create a plan for the neighbourhood who does not have to live with the

consequences of his own advice, the neighbourhood has its 'skin in the game', a direct stake in the outcomes of application of its knowledge. This constantly evolving body of knowledge of, and in, a neighbourhood cannot be matched by any individual or organisation or any group. In that sense, the urban planner's professional, scientific and accomplished knowledge of planning is quite like a generic recipe that will produce suboptimal results, unless it consciously draws upon the nuanced, unwritten, contextual local knowledge — the Ingredient X — that resides in the residents of the neighbourhood. There is a fundamental difference between generic rules and local knowledge. Urban planning, for example, takes place in a unique place (neighbourhood, culture) at a unique time (current affairs, demography) and has unique goals (needs, plans). A meticulous implementation of generic planning rules — building regulations, development rules, etc. — disregarding local specifics such as culture and usage patterns will invite practical failures and public disillusionment. Engineers creating roads for the mobility of pedestrians



Vocal for locals

and vehicles fail to account for unplanned activities like window-shopping, street-vending, dog-walking, meeting friends, etc. This failure diminishes the user experience significantly. The inability to dovetail local knowledge into generic processes leads to suboptimal functionality of the created assets. Which brings one back to the citizen. The citizen is a custodian of local knowledge, initiative and experience, and provides the neighbourhood its distinct identity. Citizens form communities, and communities aggregate into neighbourhoods, each with their unique culture, history and repositories of local knowledge. The citizen not only contributes to, but is also enriched by, such knowledge as it churns through multiple, stochastic feedback loops active within the nei-

ghbourhood. Cities that fail to draw upon this priceless asset will miss out on a wide range of skills and experience, thereby failing in their aspirations to build healthier communities, stronger economies and sustainable environments. If only cities could tap into this invaluable asset by nurturing a tradition of continuous dialogue and negotiation, creating mechanisms for exchange of ideas between diverse constituents, and institutionalising the test-learn-scale approach to breed locally relevant solutions, they would function, grow and adapt better.

The writer is director, Smart Cities Mission, ministry of housing and urban affairs, GoI

MoHUA Launches Three New Programs under Smart Cities Mission



Sh. Hardeep S Puri launches three new programs

(09 JUL, 2018)

Sh. Hardeep S Puri, MoS (I/C), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs launched three new initiatives under the Smart Cities Mission on 9 July 2018.

The India Smart Cities Fellowship/Internship Programs

MoHUA will engage 30 young graduates/post graduates and PhDs in the fields of Urban Planning, Urban Design, Engineering, Information and Technology, Urban Mobility, Finance, Social Sector, and Environmental issues as Smart City Fellows under the India Smart Cities Fellowship (ISCF) Program. The period of engagement will be 1-3 years. This program will provide experience to them in smart cities and urban renewal sectors and will bring in new ideas, passion and energy to solving urban problems. They will provide support in terms of analytics, research, documentation, independent assessment, visualization and other related activities including preparation of reports, posters, dossiers, etc. This program will prepare them for greater leadership roles in future and contribute towards India's sustainable

urban development. Apply online <https://smartnet.niua.org/iscfp/> till 31 August 2018. On similar lines, MoHUA will engage students pursuing under graduate/post graduate degrees as Interns under the India Smart Cities Internship (ISCI) Program for 6-12 weeks. They will assist in implementation of Smart City Projects in various States/Cities. The interns will be given exposure in the areas of Urban Planning, Urban Design, Engineering, Information and Technology, Urban Mobility, Finance, Social Sector, and Environmental issues. Their role would be in implementation, reporting, evaluation and monitoring, knowledge management, stakeholder engagement, media outreach and other similar activities. One may apply online anytime of the year at <https://bit.ly/2upeiQJ>

Cities Investment to Innovate, Integrate and Sustain Challenge

Under Cities Investment to Innovate, Integrate and Sustain Challenge (CITIIS) a loan of EUR 100 million would be extended by French Development Agency AFD to selected projects in the 100 Smart Cities. The projects would be in four sectors- sustainable mobility, public open spaces, urban governance & ICT and social and organizational innovation in low-income settlements. The financial support and foreign technical assistance will help Smart Cities to access world class expertise for selected innovative projects. It also intends to improve peer learning activities & cooperation within the smart cities and enhance the knowledge both at the State and National levels. For details visit: <https://bit.ly/2upeiQJ>

The Smart Cities Digital Payment Award 2018

The Smart Cities Digital Payments Awards (SCDPA) 2018 '100 Days Challenge in 100 Smart Cities' will reward cities at the forefront of digital payments. It is a MoHUA initiative to promote ease of living for India's urban residents. The objective of these awards is to guide, motivate, recognize and reward the Smart Cities for promoting digital payments and carrying out innovative payment initiatives in their respective cities. The challenge period would be 100 days starting from the launch of the awards. This would galvanize the digital payments landscape in the Smart Cities. For details visit: <https://bit.ly/2ZfWlWx>



Smart Cities Mission stands as a proud winner of Platinum Icon in the category of Data Sharing & User Socio-Economic Development at the Digital India Awards- 2022. Joint Secretary & Mission Director: Shir Kunal Kumar received the award from the Hon'ble President Smt. Droupadi Murmu. (02 JAN, 2023)

Cities Reclaim Space Under Flyovers

Indore pioneered the concept in 2021, when it set up an exclusive sports complex under the Pipliyahana flyover, but many other cities across the country seem to have taken cue



The sports facility under Navi Mumbai's Sanpada flyover is already a hit with local residents. (Bachchan Kumar/ HT Photo)

Source:-Hindustan Times (29 Jun, 2023)
By:- Manoj Sharma

A video shared by top Indian industrialist Anand Mahindra on Twitter went viral in March — a group of youngsters playing cricket and basketball in a new sports facility under a flyover in Navi Mumbai. The 2,745 sqm facility under the Sanpada flyover has badminton courts, a skating rink, a box-cricket set-up, and space for yoga, and is already a hit with local residents. Mahindra shared his video with the message, "Transformational. Let's do this. In every city", and his tweet ignited a debate about the merits of the idea, and was retweeted by more than 15,000 people, while the video itself was viewed more than 4.7 million times. Over the last couple of years, the idea of building

sports facilities under flyovers — the empty space variously called leftover spaces, incidental spaces, negative space, or urban voids by urban planners — seems to have caught on. Indore pioneered the concept in 2021, when it set up an exclusive sports complex under the Pipliyahana flyover, but many other cities across the country seem to have taken cue. Sanjay Desai, city engineer, Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation (NMMC), said, "We launched the facility below the Sanpada flyover in October last year, and encouraged by the public's response, we have decided to create three more such sports facilities under the flyovers." Other cities where this concept has found favour include Chennai, which has created a playground, a skating ground, a cycling track, a café, and several other facil-

ities under the MRTS bridge opposite Tidel Park. Going a step further, Coimbatore developed a multifunctional space that also has an amphitheatre, an exhibition centre and even a co-working space, redefining spatial typology. Among National Capital Region cities, the Ghaziabad Municipal Corporation (GMC) developed a sports facility under the Raj Nagar flyover earlier this month, while Delhi's Public Works Department (PWD) is currently building a sports complex under the Lajpat Nagar flyover. So what prompted civic bodies from across the country to utilise this "leftover space" for sports facilities? NMMC's Desai said, "The Sanpada flyover is in a residential area, where a lot of children used to play on the streets in the absence of sports facilities. So, we thought we could set up a sports complex in the space under the flyover, which had been taken over by squatters... The lack of traffic on the road, along with the length (about 180 metres) and height (about 6.2 metres) of the flyover made it easier for us to develop a sports facility." Under the Smart City Mission, Coimbatore has built several facilities under the 700-metre flyover, which overlooks the Valankulam lake. The area, which till three years ago was an unofficial garbage dump, is today one of the most happening public spaces in the city. "The idea was to create a multipurpose community space under the flyover in the city that does not have many

public spaces. I believe there is no limit to what can be created under the flyovers. A city is known by its streets and flyovers are an integral part of the cityscape. With a flyover, you have space and a ready roof over your head, all you need is imagination to build something interesting and useful for the community," said urban designer and architect Akash Hingorani, who co-founded Oasis Design Inc, the lead design consultant for the Coimbatore project. NCR authorities join in The Ghaziabad civic body says that the idea behind building a sports facility under the Raj Nagar flyover was to create "an exciting sporting arena for local youngsters" in a space which was illegally used as parking. "Currently, we are looking for a private partner to run the facility. There could be a nominal fee to use it in the future. The corporation has used its own funds in this project. But we are now planning to develop other flyover spaces in the public-private partnership model," said NK Choudhary, GMC's chief engineer. This sports facility was built at a cost of ₹60 lakh and boasts three badminton courts, one basketball court, and a netted batting pitch. The walls and pillars of the complex, which is yet to be formally inaugurated, have paintings of sportspersons, including those of cricket icons Sachin Tendulkar and Virat Kohli. To read more, Scan:

Bipolar Nature of City Planning

Private clauses, like those for balcony dimensions, building setbacks etc, are highly overstretched



Kunal Kumar

Source:- Business Standard (16 Feb, 2023)
By:- Kunal Kumar

People will keep flocking to cities and cities will continue to grow. Cities are primarily labour markets, the spatial manifestations of Adam Smith's invisible hand. Because of their stochastic and open-system characteristics, they are not amenable to future forecasting. However, that's exactly what urban planners do. They go further. They codify rigid rules for today based on those future forecasts. Moreover, some planners tend to idealise utopia of various kinds, be it green or aesthetic cities, and under those garbs, impose artificial barriers on effective functioning of markets, thus ultimately defeating the city's very essence. By no means can the need for urban planning be discounted. Just as humans are prone to disease in the normal course of their lives, so are markets. Negative externalities like environmental degradation, under-provisioning of streets, or deficient social infrastructure can result from their free run. Planners, like doctors, must act only to deal with such aberrations. For, neither doctors nor planners are

Gods with a licence to direct the natural course of human affairs. One of the key instruments of a planner is the Master Plan. And embedded within it lies a glaring schism, which, for the lack of a better description, I call "bipolar disorder". A few of us carried out a study to compare the emphasis of these plans on the public and private realms. Public realm primarily connotes the city's street network, and public open spaces such as parks, gardens etc. The private realm, on the other hand, consists of privately-owned areas like buildings, plots etc. We first classified the clauses in these regulations into private and public clauses. Clauses that bind public authorities to develop the public realm were referred to as 'public clauses'. All other clauses binding on different entities were referred to as 'private clauses'. The analysis also classified clauses on their degree of 'stretch'. If a regulation was mentioned in great detail, it was termed as a stretch (ST), whereas if it was mentioned casually leaving scope for further interpretation, it was classified as under-stretch (UST). A glaring omission was classified as not-mentioned (NM). Planning regulations of five cities viz. Ahmedabad, Bhopal, Nagpur, Panaji and Jaipur were picked up for the study. More than 75 per cent of the regulations were found to be of the nature of private clauses, while only around 25 per cent of them were

incidental to public institutions. Digging deeper, it was observed that nearly 60 per cent of private clauses and less than 10 per cent of public clauses were stretched. While nearly 20 per cent of private clauses fell in the NM category, it was 55 per cent for public clauses. This is clear evidence of a bipolar disorder — a vicelike grip on what free individuals can do in the private realm and unbridled freedom to public authorities to neglect the public realm. Private clauses, like those for balcony dimensions, building setbacks etc, are highly overstretched. Anecdotal evidence suggests that the degree of harassment of private entities is directly proportional to the degree of stretch. On the other hand, public authorities go soft-free even if they design poor streets, or filthy public spaces. This, when the character of the city is largely defined by its public realm, is unparadigmatic. Such neglect undermines possible agglomeration benefits that could accrue to the city. It is therefore important to undo this bipolarity by finding an equilibrium between the treatment of 'private' and 'public' in our planning processes. This is crucial for our cities to become magnets for the creative class, else they risk spiralling down into oblivion. Making planning work is therefore imperative.

Land Readjustment (LR) in Japan and Germany has helped them successfully tackle the challenges of urban growth and renewal for more than 100 years. In India, the state of Gujarat has taken a two-tier DP-TP approach for greenfield development. To improve and revitalise inner-city areas, they have adopted special provisions for Local Area Plans (LAPS). However, to make these instruments more effective, they need to be thought of as merely the chassis on which instruments like built form codes, street development codes, parking management codes etc need to be superimposed. Only then can urban planning help 'operationalise' the design and creation of a good public realm. However, even this will fail to fix the public realm if these instruments don't attack the bipolarity head-on. Unless penal provisions on public authorities for designing poor streets or creating callous public spaces are categorically incorporated, regulations will remain toothless. The need therefore is not merely to adopt progressive approaches like the DP-TP-LAP. The greater need is to 'operationalise' urban planning by dovetailing elements like street development codes into the plans and incorporating penal provisions for negligent public authority



The Hon'ble President of India visited the Agartala Smart City project "Albert Ekka War Memorial". The war memorial was constructed under Smart Cities Mission as a tribute to Lance Naik Albert Ekka. (10 OCT, 2022)



MoHUA and GIZ Sign Implementation Agreement (17 DEC, 2018)

MoHUA and GIZ signed an Implementation Agreement to anchor climate-friendly solutions for urban infrastructure projects & ABD in the planning & implementation of projects under Smart Cities Mission. The technical cooperation will support Kochi, Coimbatore & Bhubaneswar.

MOHUA-Newspaper-IK-For printing Approval job 3 SideA

Cities, as labour markets, need to constantly keep adapting to the unpredictable world of competition

How Smart Is Your City?



Kunal Kumar

Cities have been sought after, through the ages, by people looking for economic opportunities. For lack of a better description, they can be defined as labour markets. Economic activity results from the connections established between people, places, organisations and markets as they occupy proximate space within city confines. The one word that captures the essence of a city is 'connections'.

What makes markets, including labour markets, prefer one destination over the other depends on multiple factors — both exogenous and endogenous? Cities are adaptive systems, parts of multiple feedback loops, mimicking living organisms in many ways.

We all have stopped over at food courts on highways for refreshments. What do we find there? Dhabas and restaurants lined up, with us having to decide which one to go to. Let's assume one eatery, X. And let's assume that all restaurants serve very similar food. The first person who comes there on a particular day says chooses X. The choice of this person for X over others would be driven, largely, by his personal preference — ambience, signboard or online reviews.

But once this person is in, the next

person deciding between restaurants doesn't only rely on her personal preference, but also on the fact that there is X in which someone is already eating. It may so happen that her personal preference was for Y. But she decided to go for X as it has a greater number of people. Through the day many make similar decisions, very possibly leading to X getting the maximum customers along that line of eateries on that day.

This system is an adaptive system. Every previous action — or existing circumstance — continuously affects what the next action will be, or how the next circumstance emerges. To continue the metaphor, not only do people's personal preferences influence restaurant selection, but restaurant selections by other people also influence people's preferences. A loop is created, in this case causing a positive outcome, in which each event in the loop positively influences the probability of the other event.

Choices are Born Unequal

There can also be negative loops. Say there is an old neighbourhood, X, which has 1,000 families living in it. Let's say 10% of the families have a personal preference to continue staying in X only till 90% of original families residing in X continue staying there. For another 10%, this threshold is 85%, and for another 10%, 80%, and so on.

Now, imagine, for some reason, a block of 120 families leaves the neighbourhood. This would trigger a chain reaction. When 120 families leave, 880 remain. Consequently as the number goes below 900, those 10% — 100 families — with the 90% threshold also leave. This triggers the next lot of 10% with



The city never sleeps

the 80% threshold to leave, thereby continuously depleting the population of the neighbourhood.

As we see again, people's decisions cause change in neighbourhood organisation that, in turn, affects people's decisions, in this case leading to a negative outcome in which the more people leave, the more people decide to also leave, thereby causing a sharp decrease in the neighbourhood's population.

Similar effects play out in cities, on a far more complex and wide scale. Previous decisions of people about destinations to live, work and play in, in turn, affect the decisions of others regarding destinations to take up work, and places to live. These loops constantly feed back into each other.

The world of cities is not very different from the world of the highway food court. Some restaurants do well, while others shut down. Those that do better than others have something or the other going for them. Cities, similarly, are part of a competitive system of choices, embedded in multiple, dynamic and complex feedback loops through which their evolution takes place.

So, how does this help us understand smart cities? Well, Restaurant X can be

considered smart if it continues to thrive over the long term. However, in a competitive world, there is no perennial guarantee of success. A city must reinvent itself many times over to be considered 'smart'.

As Predictable as Earthquake

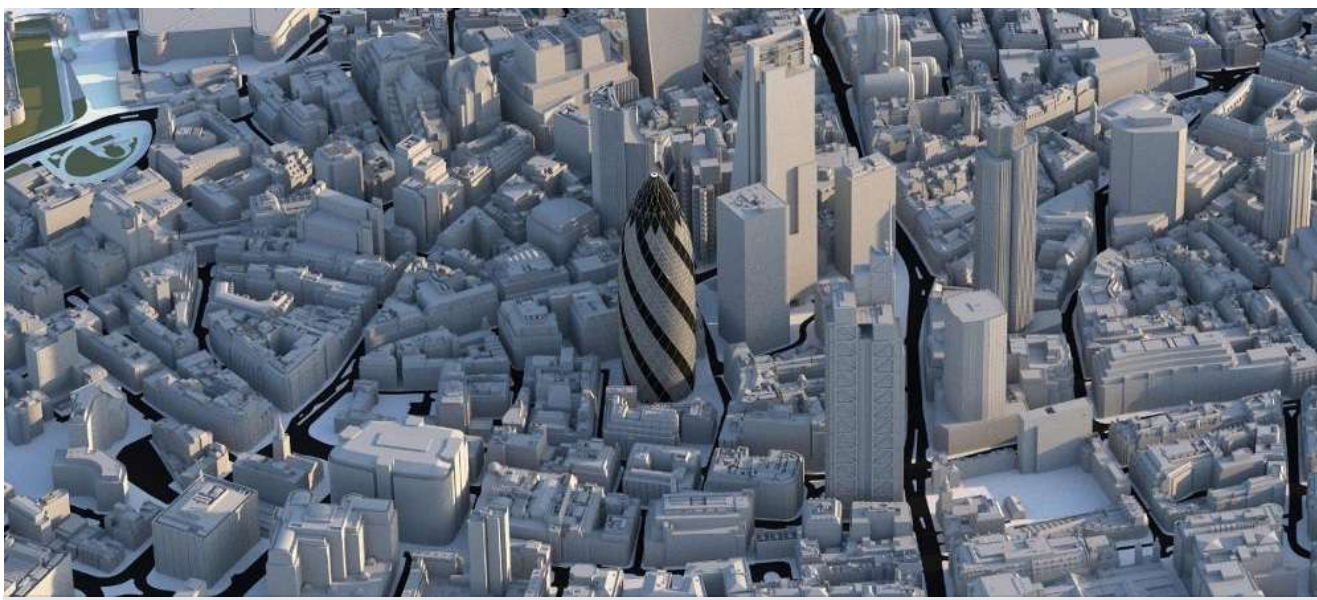
Cities need to consistently keep navigating the unpredictable world of competition. Adaptability (the ability to mould their functioning in response to emergent situations), resilience (the ability to bounce back from bad times), innovation (the ability to push the frontier with new methods of doing things), sustainability (the ability to perform consistently over the long term), and connectiveness (the ability to build connections, partnerships, value feedback and co-create) are virtues that characterise both highway restaurants and smart cities. And, yes, just like restaurants, cities are also experiences.

As for technology? It's just the plumbing.

The writer is director, Smart Cities Mission, housing and urban affairs ministry, GoI

Cities are part of a competitive system of choices, embedded in multiple, dynamic and complex feedback loops through which their evolution takes place

Jaipur Leads in Geo-spatial 3D Modelling



Jaipur Leads in Geo-spatial 3D Modelling.

(05 NOV, 2018)

Jaipur is the first city in India to use 3D modelling for better planning and development. RajCOMP Info Services (RISL), a Government of Rajasthan undertaking, awarded ₹189-crore contract to create a 3D geo-spatial model of the city falling under Jaipur Development Authority. 1 million structures, and their facades will be modelled. A hybrid

airbornesensor and LiDAR (Light Detection And Ranging) system, attached to an aircraft, as well as LiDAR-equipped vehicles and men carrying backpacks with LiDAR sensors are being deployed. LiDAR is a technique used to measure the elevation of land, buildings, roads, railways, power lines and vegetation. It is typically used for environ-

mental and land-use modelling, flood monitoring, asset management and urban planning. This kind of geo-spatial data has enormous potential to transform people's lives. From creating a more sustainable built environment, to effectively targeting public services, this kind of data when made available publically (open data) enables the most crea-

tive developers and entrepreneurs to deliver social, economic and environmental value. Most advanced smart cities across the world create 3D LiDAR and other forms of geo-spatial models and make the data available for developers and consultants.

Once the results of the Jaipur project are visible other smart cities might consider getting this modeling done.

Urban Mobility India Conference



MoS I/C Sh. Hardeep S Puri with other dignitaries at Urban Mobility Conference.

(29 Oct, 2018)

11th Urban Mobility India 2018 Conference and Expo was held in Nagpur, first city in India to launch e-taxis and hydrogen-fueled buses. The key theme for this year was Green Urban Mobility. It was

attended by several leaders including MoS I/C Shri Hardeep S Puri, who expressed their concern about the mobility issues in the cities. Sustainable development is a key priority area as more

than 80% of greenhouse gas emission is due to exploding population in cities. And urban mobility is intrinsically linked to it, which ill define how Indian cities would be shaped. Transportation sys-

tems should be comprehensive, with the integration of different systems and with a special focus on sustainability. Undoubtedly, the need of the hour is safer, cleaner and greener transportation.



India and Israel sign MoU which includes exploring possibilities of collaborating on Smart Cities

(10 JUN, 2019)



Re#IMAGINEPANAJI transforming urban landscape in Panaji Smart City

(15 APR, 2019)



Mr. Sudheer Garg, IAS, Principal Secretary (Finance), visited ICCC at Lucknow Smart City. The officers at ICCC demonstrated the environment sensor monitoring, SWM, and grievance system of the ICCC.

(05 SEP, 2022)



Launch of Project Urban Living Lab, Panaji (PULL) material by Sh. Durga Shanker Mishra, Secretary, MoHUA, GoI and H.E. Mr. Freddy Svane, Ambassador of Denmark to India

(17 DEC, 2018)

FREEDOM 2 WALKCYCLERUN
10th January 2023

A leader is the one who knows the way goes the way & shows the way.

Smart Cities Mission invited city leaders to make walking, cycling & running a daily habit under Freedom2WalkCycleRun and IndiaCycles4Change.

(09 Jan, 2023)

MANN KI BAAT
25 MARCH 2018

“In continuance with Dr. Ambedkar’s vision, Smart Cities Mission and Rurban mission were kick-started in the country so that all kinds of amenities, whether it be good roads, water supply, health facilities, education or digital connectivity, are available in the big cities and small towns of the country.”

Narendra Modi,
Prime Minister

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Smart Cities Mission sparks innovation in India's urban ecosystems: Sh. Hardeep S Puri

Source:- Devdiscourse (27 Sep, 2023)

The President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu felicitated the winners of the fourth edition of the India Smart Cities Award Contest (ISAC) 2022 in Indore today i.e. on 27th September 2023. The ISAC is being organized under the Smart Cities Mission, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India since 2018. The Conclave witnessed participation of various dignitaries, including Shri Mangubhai C. Patel, Governor, Madhya Pradesh, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister, MoHUA, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh, Shri Kaushal Kishore, MoS, MoHUA, and Shri Bhupendra Singh, Urban Development Minister, Madhya Pradesh.

While addressing the event, the President expressed her happiness over increase in country's overall investment in urban development. Applauding the move, she said that our country's overall investment in urban development has, over the last decade, been more than 10 times what it was earlier. "The contribution of Smart Cities Mission in implementing best practices and developing viable business models is very important," she said.

The President also talked about the focus of G-20 on areas pertaining to Urban Development. She said that Urban 20, which is a subgroup of the G20, attempted to establish a sustainable practice of connectivity between cities. "Through this, a collective message was also given that the management of cities has an important role in pursuing the priority of sustainable development. Therefore, we should learn from the best practices and business models of the world's best-managed cities and also share our successful efforts with other countries. Collaboration at local and global level is essential for overall and sustainable development", she added.

Noting the significance of Integrated Command and Control Centres (ICCCs) in smart cities, the President said that all the 100 smart



cities have ICCCs which are taking decisions using data. CCTV surveillance cameras are helping in strengthening law and order today. "But there is a need to take more strong steps especially to ensure the safety of women. I am confident that the efforts being made in these 100 smart cities will prove very useful for our more than 4800 towns and cities", the President added.

During the event, the President urged the Mayors and Municipal Commissioners from different cities of the country to move forward with new confidence and new energy. "I hope that all of you will use the information about successful efforts shared in this conclave in your respective cities. By doing this you all will make this event more meaningful", she said.

Addressing the gathering, Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs Shri Hardeep Singh Puri shared Prime Minister Narendra Modi's transformational vision for planned urbanisation. He highlighted that the

"Smart Cities Mission embodies the hon'ble Prime Minister's vision for a 'New Urban India' and it is a key component of India's objective of becoming a developed country by 2047."



Shri Puri said that the Smart Cities Mission has sparked innovation in India's urban ecosystems while also building core infrastructure and strengthening services in India's 100 biggest cities. It has fostered deep partnerships with government, global organisations, partner cities, academia and industry, he said.

Most importantly, the Minister highlighted that it has empowered the third level of governance in the country by providing much-needed technical and management support through the Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) that have led the building of social, economic, institutional, and physical infrastructure in a citizen-centric, future-ready way.

He said that 100 operational Integrated Command and Control Centres (ICCCs) which provide real-time decision-making capabilities through the use of cameras, IOT devices, sensors, and other technologies, have served as 'War Rooms' during the pandemic for city leaders to collect information, develop strategies, and execute civic functions.

Drawing attention to the achievements of Smart Cities Mission, the Union Minister said that total 7,934 projects worth Rs. 171,044 crores have been sanctioned and 6,069 projects worth Rs. 1,10,794 crores

completed under the Mission. Another 1,865 projects worth Rs. 60,250 crores on target for completion by June 2024. Moreover, approx. Rs. 25,000 crores worth of PPP projects have been delivered so far. He highlighted that under the Mission, more than 2,700 kms of smart roads have been constructed; close to 7,000 smart classrooms have been built; more than 50 lakh LED/solar lights have been installed and more than 300 smart health centres have been constructed. 1,884 emergency call boxes, and 3,000 public address systems and traffic enforcement systems have been installed to improve the public safety, he said.

Complimenting the city of Indore for its excellence in urban governance, Shri Hardeep S Puri said that Indore is synonymous with winning awards and accolades. It has also pioneered innovations in waste management, carbon credits, digital technology, and public open spaces. Indore has been a model of urban governance and civic participation for cities not just in India, but across the world. He said that the City has set a new benchmark for consistency.

The minister congratulated the 31 cities that received awards for their projects and initiatives. "Your recognition is well deserved; more than 840 applications were received this year for the awards", he said.

The minister also applauded Surat and Agra for their second- and third-placed finishes among cities,

and Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh among the states.

Earlier in the day, Shri Mangubhai C. Patel, Governor of Madhya Pradesh released the following 4 documents, viz., (a) ISAC awards 2022 compendium, (b) Compendium of news-letter of SCM, (c) Report by UN Habitat: Smart Cities Mission - Localizing Sustainable Development Goals and (d) ISAC awards 2023 brochure (e-release).

The Conclave witnessed enthusiastic participation of all 100 smart cities who are leading a paradigm shift in the practice of city development by being at the forefront of urban innovation. The event not only provided a platform for the cities to showcase their exemplary work done under the Mission, but also enabled peer-learning and disseminated best practices.

The conclave featured an extensive display of award-winning projects undertaken by the cities under the Smart Cities Mission, which was visited by more than 2,000 people. There were 5 State/UT stalls, 13 City Stalls and more than 15 project models. Further, a smart street was created which featured the walkable streets, Intelligent Traffic Management System (ITMS) and smart signages. Dialogues with award-winning city CEOs of cities such as Indore, Surat, Chandigarh, Ahmedabad, Belagavi, Ranchi, etc. Was also organised which led to stimulating discussions and peer-to-peer learning.



Foundation Stone laid for Riverfront development and Naval Gallery at Kalyan Dombivli by Shri Aaditya Thackeray, Hon'ble Minister for Tourism, Environment & Protocol, Government of Maharashtra (21 FEB, 2022)

Sustainable development at heart of Smart Cities, has lessons for Global South: report

Cites water, sewage projects in Ahmedabad, Indore as examples; over 70% projects contribute to SDGs



Source:- The Indian Express (27 Sep, 2023) By:- Damini Nath

Over 70% of projects under the Smart Cities Mission (SCM) are in alignment with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on cities, clean water and sanitation, clean energy and economic growth, according to a report released Wednesday.

The report "Smart Cities Mission, India: Localising Sustainable Development Goals" was the upshot of what officials said was the first such exercise to map all the projects of a national mission against Global Goals. The SCM involves around 8,000 projects.

Prepared by the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry and UN-Habitat, the report was released by President Droupadi Murmu at the annual Smart Cities Conclave in Indore. "We still have very far to go in that direction," Murmu said as she emphasised making cities inclusive and sustainable. She said there was also a need for providing health, education and other basic services in rural areas like in cities.

The SDGs are a set of 17 targets part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which was adopted by all UN member states, including India, in 2015.

According to the report, while the SCM projects have largely contributed, in one way or the other, to 15 of the 17 SDGs, nearly 44%

were in line with the aim of SDG 11 — to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

It further said that 13.3% of the SCM projects contributed to SDG 6 (Clean water and sanitation); 8.6% to SDG 7 (Affordable and clean energy) and 6.4% to SDG 8 (Decent work and economic growth).

Highlighting the SCM compliance with SDGs, the report cited as an example a project in Ahmedabad, where sensor-based monitoring of the water network resulted in an additional supply of 50 million litres a day (MLD) by detecting leakages. This, the report said, benefited a population of 1.50 lakh.

It also mentioned the project in Indore, which used a gravity-based network to prevent 205 MLD of untreated sewage from entering the Kahn river, the Saraswati river and the network of 25 drains. "The dissolved oxygen levels in the water bodies now measure at 4mg/litre, indicating a healthier aquatic ecosystem," the report said.

The report also highlighted the Mudasarlova Reservoir Floating Solar Plant in Visakhapatnam, which led to an annual electricity generation of 3,613 MWh and saved \$0.28 million, the report said. The project prevented emission of over 3,000 tonnes of CO2, it added.

Capping it all, the report said that the SCM, with a total of 7,846 projects across 100 cities worth \$22 billion,

showcases "successful implementation of a national-scale urban mission that aligns comprehensively with global agendas and empowers cities to drive sustainable development".

"It serves as a living lab for people-centric smart urbanisation and offers valuable lessons for urban areas in the Global South," it said.

The Smart Cities Mission, launched in 2015, was expected to be completed by June this year, but the Ministry extended its deadline to June 2024.

Speaking at the event, Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Puri said of the sanctioned projects worth Rs 1.71 lakh crore, 6,069 projects worth Rs1.10 lakh crore had been completed. The rest were "on target" for completion by June 2024, he said.

"I have full faith that the success of the Smart Cities Mission will gain more momentum when there is the second generation of Smart Cities at district and village levels," Puri said.

Parul Agarwala, the UN-Habitat India country programme manager and one of the authors of the report, told The Indian Express that the report showcases "India's commitment to Agenda 2030."

"The report demonstrates tangible and measurable impact towards the achievement of SDGs, relying not solely on data but also human stories and perspectives," she said.

During the event, the President handed out the Smart Cities awards for 2022, with Indore being named the overall best Smart City and Madhya Pradesh the best state.

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan chalked up Madhya Pradesh' success to making Smart Cities and Swachh Bharat missions into a "mass movement" and not just an official programme.

PUSH AHEAD OF 5TH ANNIVERSARY OF SMART CITY MISSION IN JUNE

Centre Devises 20:20 Model to Boost Laggard Cities

Nidhi.Sharma@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: In a final push to the Smart City Mission, the Centre has devised a 20:20 model to pair the top 20 cities with the bottom 20 to help the laggard cities to kick-start the smartening up process by borrowing technical know-how and financial studies

REVAMP MODE
Top 20 cities to be paired with the bottom 20 to kick-start smartening up process by borrowing technical know-how and financial studies



The ministry of housing and urban affairs has thrown open a 100-day challenge for the laggard smart cities to up their game by the 5th anniversary of Smart City Mission on June 25. About 100 smart cities have been selected through a competitive process in four different rounds. These cities have identified 5,151 projects worth Rs 2,05,018 crore to be undertaken

under the Smart City Mission. So far, 60% of these projects have been tendered and 60% of these projects have been grounded or completed. While the pace of implementation of projects is outstanding in some

of the smart cities, progress of projects is below average in a few cities. The bottom 20 cities have tendered barely 10% of the identified projects. Addressing this difference in pace, the ministry has now decided to introduce a 100-day challenge. In this, the top 20 smart cities would support the bottom 20 cities. Known internally as the 20:20 concept, each of the top 20 have been paired with the bottom 20 as "sister cities".

Each of these cities would sign a formal memorandum of understanding with its sister city. This MoU would be valid for one year and aim at improving the ranking of the sister city. The cities would troubleshoot together and try and kickstart projects in laggard cities. The sister cities would provide access to technical and financial studies, including detailed project reports, feasibility studies and impact assessments. Top-ranking Ahmedabad has been paired with Chandigarh, which is ranked 81. Nagpur, which ranks 2, will hand hold Port Blair which is 96th in the all-India ranking. Similarly, other sister cities are Tirupur (rank 3) with Silvassa (87), Ranchi (rank 4) with Shimla (92), Bhopal (rank 5) with Aizawl (rank 82), Surat (rank 6) with Saharanpur (91).

The 100-day challenge would be to turn around the bottom 20 cities. A senior official told ET, "Our target is to tender 100% projects by our 5th anniversary. Once the cities handhold each other, the ranking would change and then we would help another 20 in coming up."

"Unveiling the Dynamic Landcapse: Current Developments Shaping India's Future"

Source:- Blogs, (17 Dec, 2023) By:- Pragati Tripathi

India, a diverse and rapidly evolving nation, is experiencing a multitude of developments across various sectors. In the realm of technology, the 'Digital India' initiative continues to drive innovation, fostering a tech-savvy environment. From advancements in artificial intelligence to the widespread adoption of digital payment systems, India is positioning itself as a global tech hub.

In the field of infrastructure, ambitious projects like the 'Smart Cities Mission' are reshaping urban landscapes, emphasizing sustainability and efficiency. The government's commitment to renewable energy sources is evident in initiatives promoting solar power and electric mobility, contributing to a greener future.

Economic reforms, such as the 'Make in India' campaign, are attracting investments and bolstering the manufacturing sector.

Additionally, the agricultural landscape is witnessing transformations with initiatives like 'Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana' aimed at modernizing irrigation systems and improving farmers' livelihoods. In the healthcare sector, the 'Ayushman Bharat' program is working towards providing affordable and accessible healthcare to millions. The ongoing fight against the COVID-19 pandemic has further accelerated advancements in healthcare infrastructure and research capabilities. Education is undergoing a paradigm shift with a focus on digital learning, skill development, and vocational training. Initiatives like 'National Education Policy 2020' aim to revamp the education system,

fostering creativity and critical thinking. Furthermore, India's space exploration endeavors are gaining global recognition, with successful missions like Chandrayaan and Mangalyaan showcasing the country's scientific prowess. The 'Gaganyaan' mission, India's ambitious human spaceflight program, signifies a leap towards space exploration milestones.

Despite these positive strides, challenges persist, including socio-economic disparities and environmental concerns. Continued efforts towards inclusive and sustainable development remain imperative for India's holistic progress.

As the nation navigates this transformative journey, India's developmental narrative is a compelling tale of resilience, innovation, and the collective pursuit of a brighter future.



Highlight of journey: In the presence of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Governor of Madhya Pradesh Sh. Mangubhai Patel and Chief Minister Sh. Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched a magazine called 'Sagar'. The magazine portrays a brief description of development works executed by Sagar Smart City under the Smart Cities Mission. (Aug 07, 2023)

From Temples to Technology: Jammu Nears Smart City Status Post Art 370 Repeal

Source:- Rising Kashmir (31 Jul, 2023)
By:- Arvind Sharma

In the wake of the abrogation of Article 370, Jammu - famously known as the 'City of Temples,' is swiftly transforming into a 'Smart City,' following in the footsteps of several other Indian cities hand-picked by the Government of India (GoI). The removal of Article 370, which had previously led to hindrances and disparities in extending central laws to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, has paved the way for substantial progress and development.

The ambitious Jammu Smart City Project, with a total of 122 projects earmarked for the region, has gained significant momentum, as reported by Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Rahul Yadav. Out of these, an impressive 84 projects have already been successfully completed, and work on the remaining 40 projects is rapidly progressing to meet the deadline set by the central government. The GoI has stipulated that Jammu will achieve Smart City status by March next year,

with a strict deadline of June 2024.

One of the remarkable advantages witnessed after Article 370's abrogation is the elimination of cost escalation in Smart City projects. The extension of central laws and adherence to tender terms have ensured that project delays or timely completions won't burden taxpayers with increased expenses.

The COVID-19 pandemic, albeit a temporary setback, slowed down the pace of some projects, but the CEO reassures that the focus remains on swift execution and completion. Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, the Jammu Smart City Ltd (JSCL) has successfully delivered 84 projects, amounting to Rs 1479.35 crore. Presently, the work is in full swing on the 40 ongoing projects, which collectively represent an estimated cost of around Rs 2102.52 crores.

The transformation of Jammu into a Smart City involves various aspects, and several noteworthy projects have already come to fruition. These include the establishment of an Integrated Command Control and Cen-

tre (ICCC), the widening of Jewel Chowk, expansion of Apsara Road, implementation of an Intelligent Traffic Management System (ITMS), and the splendid beautification of the iconic Bahu Fort.

The Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed remarkable progress under the Smart Cities Mission, with a total of 187 projects, worth over Rs 4000 crore, already completed. Simultaneously, work continues on the remaining 122 projects, spread across both the capital cities of J&K, under the close monitoring of the Housing and Urban Development Department.

Officials affirm that all issues related to the Smart City projects are being diligently addressed at the highest levels in the administration to ensure timely completion as per the set timeline.

As the City of Temples embarks on its journey to

becoming a Smart City, the nation eagerly watches the transformation unfold,

signaling a brighter and more technologically advanced future for Jammu and its residents.

Dehradun Smart City gets two major innovation driven urban projects

Child-friendly urban mobility works to revamp the existing public transport system in Dehradun while Rs 1,400-crore external project enables expansion of retrofitting, redevelopment and greenfield development in the entire Nagar Nigam Dehradun.



Source:- ETGovernment (12 Mar, 2024)
By:- T Radhakrishna

In a significant development, Dehradun, the capital of Uttarakhand, is working on two urban infrastructure projects that are integrated, innovation-driven and sustainable.

Child - friendly Urban Mobility, the first project, works on revamping the existing public transport system and ensuring safety and ease of access for commuters, in particular for school children in Dehradun. In the second, Dehradun Smart City has got approval from the Department of Economic Affairs to a Rs 1,400

crore external project for the expansion of strategic components of area-based development (ABD) in the smart city to the entire Nagar Nigam Dehradun.

"Apart from the smart city mission, we have undertaken two major urban infrastructure projects. Child-friendly urban mobility is one supported by Agence Francaise De Developpement (AFD) and another is an external Project approved by the Central government," Dehradun Smart City CEO Ashish Kumar Srivastava told ETGovernment.

Giving details, the official said under the external project strategic components of area-based development (ABD) in the smart city

mission comprising city improvement (retrofitting), city renewal (redevelopment) and city extension (greenfield development) will be expanded to the entire Nagar Nigam Dehradun. He added that Dehradun has the distinction of being the first smart city to get approval for the external project from the Central government.

Child-friendly urban mobility

Child-friendly urban mobility is an initiative under the City Investments to Innovate, Integrate and Sustain (CITIIS) programme funded by Agence Francaise De Developpement (AFD) and the European Union (EU) in collaboration with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA). The programme is being implemented by the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA).

The city of Dehradun is India's education capital and home to over 300 schools. However, congested roads, unruly traffic and heavy monsoon rains make it difficult for children to get to school, leading to delays and missed classes. Under the CITIIS programme, AFD and the EU in collaboration with MoHUA and NIUA are supporting Dehradun Smart City to revamp the city's public transportation system and make it safer for children to get to school.

"We build schools, we place schools, we locate schools. And the way between the schools and the houses are such that the kids' parents don't think it's safe for them to walk," said Michael King, International Expert, CITIIS.

"The entire focus of this project is on active modes of transportation so that children can safely use bicycles between their home and schools," said Ashish Kumar Srivastava, who is also Dehradun District Magistrate.

The project focuses on improving first and last-mile connectivity and encouraging a shift to public transport by upgrading infrastructure. The project will transform Dehradun into a city that is walkable, accessible and safe for everyone. The aim of the project is to provide financial assistance by way of grants and technical assistance through international and domestic experts. The project is being coordinated and managed by the programme management unit (PMU) at the NIUA, New Delhi. The project aims at creating a modal shift to public transportation systems with, feeder services and Non-Motorized Transport (NMT) across the city to reduce air pollution, road accidents, congestion and wastage of time and money for residents, students and

tourists. The project objectives are to revamp the existing public transport and paratransit system through strategic utilization of existing network routes, plying of buses and IPTs and develop an e-app that will include different profile features to aid tourists, children and other commuters.

Agence Francaise De Developpement (AFD)

According to available information, since January 2016, the AFD has been supporting the smart city mission (SCM) by providing technical assistance to the cities of Puducherry, Nagpur and Chandigarh. Following the success of this project, the Central government has commissioned the AFD to conceptualize and implement an innovative programme to support the SCM at the national level. The CITIIS programme, co-developed by the AFD, the National Institute for Urban Affairs (NIUA), and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) provides technical and financial support to around 15 smart city projects. Selected following a national challenge, these projects will focus on the themes of sustainable mobility, public open spaces, urban e-governance, and social innovation for low-income settlements.

Shimla Smart City Turning Hiker Friendly with Walkways, Subways Construction

The capital of Himachal Pradesh, has recently been graced with a network of over 20 km-long pedestrian pathways mainly along the Circular Road in the city.



Commuters at Polo View market which has been redeveloped under Smart Cities Mission. The market has become pedestrian friendly.

Source:- Deccan Herald (01 Jul, 2023)
By:- PTI

Shimla, one of the most popular hill stations of the country, is transforming into a pedestrian-friendly tourist destination with widening of its roads and construction of several walkways under the 'Smart Cities Mission.'

The capital of Himachal Pradesh, rimmed with hill-tops, has recently been graced with a network of over 20 km-long pedestrian pathways mainly along the Circular Road in the city.

There is also focus on development of parking facilities in the city to help the locals and tourists, officials of the Shimla Smart City Limited (SSCL) said. "Shimla is fast transforming with a civic infra boost under various Smart Cities Mission initiatives, focusing development of pedestrian pathways and parking facilities to ease congestion and facilitate locals as well as tourists," said Rajiv Jain, the official spokesperson of Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

The CPWD has come up with a 1.8 km-long pathway from Hotel Holiday Home to

Bemloe Chowk on the Circular Road with a cost of Rs 2.19 crore and has incurred an additional expenditure of Rs 1.31 crore on road widening and construction of a retaining wall, SSCL officials said. A 2 km-long pathway connecting the famous St Bede's College in Navbahar to Sanjauli Chowk is most scenic one.

"It's a wonderful experience to walk amid so much natural beauty in a safe passage like this without the fear of being hit by any vehicle," said Ramesh Narayan, a tourist, from Jaipur.

The SSCL said the 'Smart Cities Mission' also involves widening of a 3 km-long road from Navbahar to the famed Jakhu temple, and another pathway connecting Sanjauli Chowk to Indira Gandhi Medical College.

The 1,500 metre-long covered pathway is used by around 20,000 people, most of whom patients and their attendants, who visit the College hospital all round the year, even during snowfall in winters, SSCL officials said.

The urban body has also on cards a combination of a 600 metre-long skywalk, foot overbridges, and three lifts for commute between

Vikas Nagar and Secretariat. A six-storied multilevel parking with 150 vehicle capacity is also under construction in Vikas Nagar.

"Once the work is finished on lifts, foot overbridges and the skywalk, the distance between Vikas Nagar and Secretariat will be covered in just 15 minutes, which now by car takes around half-an-hour. The parking facility will also help reduce traffic in the Secretariat area," said an SSCL official.

SSCL General manager Ajit Bhardwaj said that in all 209 Smart City projects with a cost of Rs 709 crore are underway in Shimla.

"Shimla is considered as a city of pedestrians but space for them is shrinking due to the growing number of vehicles. A major focus of Smart City initiative is to provide proper pathways to the locals and tourists through widening of roads and developing sidewalks," Bhardwaj said. So far, around 20 km of pathways have been developed, he said.

Parking, a big issue in the city, is also being eased with the construction of nearly 40 large and small parking lots, he said.

"We have created capacity for around 5,000 vehicles through large and small parkings. With space being a limiting factor we develop parking lots for even 8-10 vehicles while looking for multi-level parkings near places like hospitals and offices where land is available," he said. The SSCL has also created an Aajivika Bhawan costing Rs 10.3 crore with the help of other agencies. The building has a Tibetan market, eight 'smart' bus stops equipped with solar panels, ramp, digital display, charging points, and book cafes.

Construction of a subway near St Edward's school is nearing completion.

Srinagar Smart City Showcases Urban transformation: LG

Source:- Rising Kashmir, (27 Oct, 2023)
By:- Aatif Qayoom

Inaugurates Smart Cities Mission workshop in Srinagar National Workshop highlights importance of public spaces in smart cities



In a momentous event, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha inaugurated the two-day National Workshop of the Smart Cities Mission, focusing on 'Streets & Public Spaces,' in the picturesque city of Srinagar. This remarkable gathering saw the convergence of Mayors, Municipal Commissioners, Chief Executing Officers, and officers from 100 Smart Cities across India, coming together to exchange knowledge and experiential learning through insightful project visits within the Srinagar Smart City.

Emphasising the pivotal role of vibrant public spaces in urban planning, Lieutenant Governor Sinha stressed that the heart of any city lies in its people. Beyond state-of-the-art infrastructure and

cutting-edge amenities, the creation of lively public spaces is equally essential in enhancing a city's aesthetics, ensuring a high quality of life, and bringing about a positive transformation in the lives of its citizens.

"Srinagar Smart City serves as a shining example for other cities in the nation," said LG Sinha, highlighting the city's impactful pedestrian plazas and recreational areas alongside its picturesque waterfronts. He further expressed that the exceptional urban design of Srinagar's streets and public spaces allows one to truly connect with the city's soul.

Srinagar Smart City has indeed set an inspiring benchmark with visionary initiatives such as 'Srinagar

Square,' the restoration of ghats to reinvigorate water transport, the rejuvenation of the mesmerizing lakefront, the preservation of the city's rich heritage, and the beautification of under-utilized spaces. These initiatives have collectively transformed Srinagar into a beacon of innovation for urban development experts.

Under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Lieutenant Governor Sinha underlined the unwavering commitment to bolster core infrastructure in a well-planned and sustainable manner. The development of Srinagar Smart City has adopted a people-centric approach, encompassing elements of traditional art and culture, heritage preservation, smart facilities, efficient governance, and sustainability, all aimed at ensuring social equity and enhancing the residents' quality of life.

Moreover, LG Sinha highlighted the need for cities to be flexible and responsive to the evolving needs of citizens, competition, and market changes while nurturing core competencies for economic growth.

Smart City project: 150-ft-high Tricolour, fiddlehead sculpture unveiled in Dharamsala



Source:- The Tribune, (15 Jan, 2024)

A national flag and a fiddlehead sculpture were inaugurated under the Smart City project in Dharamsala today.

While inaugurating the granite sculpture, local Congress MLA Sudhir Sharma said it was the highest fiddlehead sculpture in the world. "We will apply for registration under the Guinness World Records," he said.

Anurag Chander Sharma, Commissioner of Dharamsala MC, said the fiddlehead sculpture had been crafted by a team of five artists, headed

by Anil Kumar from Kota in Rajasthan. The sculpture, made in green granite, is 96 inches high. Its base ring diameter is 52 inches and the central diameter is 17 inches. The weight of the sculpture is 2.7 tonnes, he said.

He also inaugurated a 150-foot-high national flag brought up at the Kachehri crossing. He said the height of the flag mast was 147.50 feet and its pedestal was 2.50 feet high. The size of the national flag that has been hoisted on the flag mast was 30 feet by 20 feet. He said it was the highest national flag in the state, which had added to the beauty of Dharamsala Smart City. The flag has been brought up at a cost of Rs 18.25 lakh, he said.

Chandigarh 'Smart Bikers' Honoured for Keeping Smart City Green

Source:- Times of India (26 Jun, 2023)

Chandigarh: To celebrate the 8th Anniversary of Smart Cities Mission, Chandigarh Smart City Limited (CSCL) on Sunday appreciated and felicitated the citizens of Chandigarh for their contribution in making the Public Bike Sharing Project a grand success. A flower and a souvenir was presented to the users of Smart Bike at the docking stations near Sukhna Lake and Sector 17 Chandigarh.

The aim behind the activity is to motivate the population to start and increase the use of bicycle and give their contribution in making Chandigarh a pollution free, clean and green city.

Chandigarh Smart City has achieved a significant milestone by implementing the Largest Public Bike Sharing (PBS) project in India. The project, executed through a Public-Private Partnership (PPP), showcases the power of collaboration between the government and private entities to achieve remarkable out-

comes.

The objective of the PBS project in Chandigarh was to improve mobility and provide residents with a convenient and accessible mode of transport. The bike fleet comprised a combination of electric and pedal bikes, catering to diverse needs and preferences. The success of the PBS project can be measured by the impressive numbers it has garnered. To date, the project has achieved a substantial user base, with an impressive 3.27 lakh registered users.



A glimpse of New Year celebrations at the Lal Chowk Clock Tower Area. The Lal Chowk area is one of the key vibrant place projects developed by the Srinagar Smart City. (25 DEC, 2023)



Integrated Command and Control Center set up by Chandigarh smart City inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs, Government of India (21 MAR, 2022)



Srinagar Smart City Limited's Integrated Command & Control Centre is overseeing the Amarnath Yatra. The technology ensures safety, security, weather forecasting, traffic management, logistics, disaster management, sanitation and other service. (19 APR, 2021)

In a 1st, 1K AI-enabled cams to keep city safe and clean

PM Likely To Open Facility On Feb 19

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Lucknow: In a first, Lucknow will get artificial intelligence (AI)-enabled camera surveillance for the safety of citizens. A total 1,000 AI cameras equipped with face recognition technology have been installed at key locations in the city.

A part of the Safe City project, these CCTVs will be placed strategically and will capture suspicious movement of persons by scanning faces against police database and alert control rooms in case of any criminal activity, said Municipal Commissioner and CEO of Smart City Lucknow Inderjit Singh on Thursday.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to inaugurate this hi-tech facility when he will be in the city for the groundbreaking ceremony of GIS projects on Feb 19. The PM will also inaugurate over 100 streetlights installed along the Shaheed Path and the Ahana Enclave in Aashiana.

Until now 53 crossings in Lucknow were covered with integrated traffic management system (ITMS) to streamline traffic and catch traffic violators, said Singh.

The AI cameras will also help in keeping the city clean. "This new initiative promises a safer urban environment. Alerts will also be sent for open dumping. These cameras have been placed at locations like public gathering places, big crossings, colleges, hostels, and commercial hubs. Additional installations are planned in other city areas, integrated with the Na-

PROJECT DETAILS

Investment
₹96cr

Cameras and Panic Buttons
Installed in **165** City Buses

Duration
19 months

CCTVs:
1,000 with AI Recognition & Monitoring

Hotspots covered | Shaheed Path, Ayodhya Road, Hardoi Road & others

Safe City Office construction:
50 operators monitor it 24x7

AI automatically alerts helpline numbers: 112, 1090, 108, 181, 102, and Child Line 1098

Women's Safety Measures

- Emergency Response
- SOS Signal Identification

INAUGURATION OF SMART ROADS

PM to inaugurate renovated roads:

- Shahnajaf Road
- Gautam Buddha Marg
- Shivaji Marg
- MG Road
- Raja Nawab Ali Road
- Parivartan Square to Hanuman Setu

SAFE CITY INITIATIVES INCLUDE

- Public safety and crime prevention
- Sexual offenders monitoring
- Missing persons database
- Surveillance for various purposes
- Number plate recognition
- Traffic violation monitoring
- Suicide prevention
- Open defecation identification
- Open dumping detection
- Accident detection
- Stunt biker group identification

Cameras alert the nearest police team, triggering ambulance assistance

INDERJIT SINGH | MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER

This new initiative promises a safer urban environment. Alerts will also be sent for open dumping. Additional installations are planned in other city areas, integrated with National Automated Fingerprint Identification System

tional Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS). The cameras will aid in identifying individuals using centralized data, ensuring a swift response to potential threats," he said.

To store records from AI-powered cameras, a server room has been established under the Safe City office in Lalbagh area of Lucknow.

Equipped with PTZ (pan-tilt-zoom) and fixed cameras, along with 238 ITMS surveil-

lance cameras, this system will assist the police in investigating incidents. The project, which took 19 months to complete and cost Rs 96 crore, also includes AI cameras and panic buttons in 165 city buses, enhancing safety for commuters.

Singh said besides crime prevention, AI cameras will monitor various aspects like identifying individuals outside schools and colleges, tracking released prisoners, and re-

sponding to emergencies signalled through panic buttons.

"Help hotlines and helpline will be integrated with the AI system, ensuring a more connected and responsive security network for the city. It will transform the city's security landscape. We are also trying to rope in the community, including businesses and organisations, who have IP based cameras to actively participate in this initiative," Singh added.

'Ullas' to add some joy to twilight years

UP's first govt 'senior care centre' to come up in Sangam city, aimed at improving the quality of life of senior citizens

K Sandeep Kumar

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PRAYAGRAJ: To improve the quality of life of senior citizens and promote their physical and mental well-being a well-equipped 'senior care centre' will soon be set up here under the Prayagraj Smart City Mission. This is the first such initiative in Uttar Pradesh.

Depending on the success of this centre, the model would be replicated not only in Prayagraj but other cities too, to offer a place where the elderly may relax and have their own space, informed officials.

These centres would be named 'Ullas', a joyful place for senior citizens, where they would be able to interact with people of their own age groups, form bonds and indulge in recreational and group activities like indoor sports and yoga,



It will offer a place where the elderly may relax and have their own space. FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

besides reading books and watching TV, the officials shared. The Prayagraj Smart City Limited has already invited the 'request for proposal' (RFP) from interested parties to set up the first of these facilities and plans to open the technical bids on May 15. "The first of its kind 'senior care centre' is aimed at improving the quality of life of senior citizens. An individual who is 60 years of age or older is, by definition, called a senior citizen. As per the Census of India 2011, Uttar Pradesh comprises 0.29 crore senior citizens who live in urban areas. Most of the senior citizens who are not engaged in any professional

activities (service or business) usually have a daily routine that slowly becomes monotonous, dulls their spirit and negatively impacts their physical and mental health. These are the issues that this and other centres like it are expected to address," shared a senior official of Prayagraj Smart City Ltd.

The 'project brief' of the RFP, a copy of which is with HT, points out that urbanisation has been one of the causes for changing family structures and demography of our society. Whether living in the same city or moving to larger cities to fulfil their career aspirations, the working generation is busy

meeting the requirements of jobs, travel, economic needs and family duties, running from pillar to post. In such situations, elderly/senior citizens stay unaccompanied at home with limited means to connect with people and necessary resources, it notes.

Further, it is often difficult for them to depend on technological solutions which leave them even more isolated in the urban areas. For instance, even in case of smallest of medical emergencies, an elderly person has to wait for support. These circumstances lead to a sense of isolation, dependency and insecurity among the elderly, the RFP explains.

Interestingly, there are parks for senior citizens called 'Arboreal and Maintenance of Park for Senior Citizens and Yoga' that are also being set up in Prayagraj to develop play zone and separate segments with yoga for senior citizen. Play zone will be constructed within the existing Barsana Park in Jhalwa area of the city. Developing a playing space which is accessible and enjoyed by senior citizens assisting in their overall development has also been envisaged.

UP breaks ground with pioneering senior citizen park in Prayagraj

State's first govt senior care centre also to start functioning in Sangam city soon

K Sandeep Kumar

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PRAYAGRAJ: A first-of-its-kind park for senior citizens in Uttar Pradesh dubbed 'Arboreal and Park for Senior Citizens and Yoga Park' has been set up within the existing Barsana Park in Jhalwa area of Sangam city.

The focus of the park set up under the Prayagraj Smart City initiative at a cost of Rs 2.47 crore is to provide facilities for senior citizens where they can get involved in activities like recreation, reading, health, meditation, group interactions and information communication, say officials of Prayagraj Smart City Ltd.

"A playing space has also been set up in these parks, they add. The construction has been completed and various facilities have been provided in it for senior citizens. Apart from yoga trainers, necessary facilities have been provided to conduct various yoga and exercise activities," said mission manager



A view of the newly constructed park for senior citizens in Prayagraj. HT

(technical), Prayagraj Smart City Ltd, SK Sinha.

"The facility has been constructed on 8.125 sq m area within Barsana Park of Kalindipuram. Badminton and volleyball courts, an open gym, a pavilion, an amphitheatre and an open chess board have been built inside it," he added.

Meanwhile, in a first such initiative in Uttar Pradesh, a well-embellished 'senior care centre' is also being set up in Prayagraj under the Prayagraj Smart City initiative. It is expected to be ready within the next few months.

Depending upon the success of this centre, more would also come up in Prayagraj and other such cities in the state to act as a place where the elderly can

rejuvenate and have their own space, say officials aware of the development.

These centres will be named "Ullas"—a joyful place for senior citizens where they would be able to interact with people of their own age groups, forms bonds and indulge in recreational and group activities like indoor sports, yoga besides reading books in the library and watching TV, the officials say.

Chandra Mohan Garg, the chief executive officer of Prayagraj Smart City Limited, said it is being constructed in Chandra Shekhar Azad Park in Prayagraj as a pilot project at a cost of ₹1.75 crore.

The 'project brief' of the request for proposal (RFP), a copy of which is with HT, points

out that urbanisation has been one of the causes for changing family structures and demography of our society.

Whether living in the same city or moving to larger cities to fulfil their career aspirations, the working generation is busy meeting the requirements of jobs, travel, economic needs, and family duties, running from pillar to post.

In such situations, elderly/senior citizens stay unaccompanied at home with limited means to connect with people and necessary resources, it notes.

Further, it is often difficult for them to depend on technological solutions which leave them even more isolated in urban areas.

For instance, even in the case of the smallest of medical emergencies, the elderly must wait for support. These circumstances lead to a sense of isolation, dependency and insecurity among the elderly, the RFP explains.

These new facilities aim to address these very issues of senior citizens and provide them with a safe and comfortable space to meet and interact with people of their own age group, officials said.

'Neki Ki Deewar' to help cut down waste generation

First one launched in Civil Lines, many more on cards

K Sandeep Kumar

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PRAYAGRAJ: In a bid to promote the culture of 'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle' (RRR) among the residents of Sangam city and thereby help conserve environment, the Prayagraj municipal corporation has come up with a project to set up centres across the city where the residents can donate items that they no longer need.

Named 'RRR centres' or 'Neki Ki Deewar' (wall of kindness), they would be set up near temples, parks as well as at the Sangam and other such places.

Such centres would allow denizens to donate old products and items ranging from clothes, woollens to electric and electronic gadgets that are still in good condition and which they no longer need. They could be used by the needy people like the homeless and destitute, said Chandra Mohan Garg, Prayagraj municipal commissioner and CEO of Prayagraj Smart City Limited.

The first such centre out of the proposed 10 to be opened in



The first RRR centre named 'Neki Ki Deewar' of Sangam city in Civil Lines. HT

the first phase under the Prayagraj Smart City initiative has started functioning near the Hanuman temple in Civil Lines.

The 'RRR' initiative is expected to cut down the generation of avoidable waste and help keep the city cleaner, he said.

Garg said that the centres have been named 'Neki Ki Deewar' so that people get motivated to cooperate in this kind and well-intentioned move. "We are urging good Samaritans, social, religious and cultural organisations and common citizens to cooperate to make this

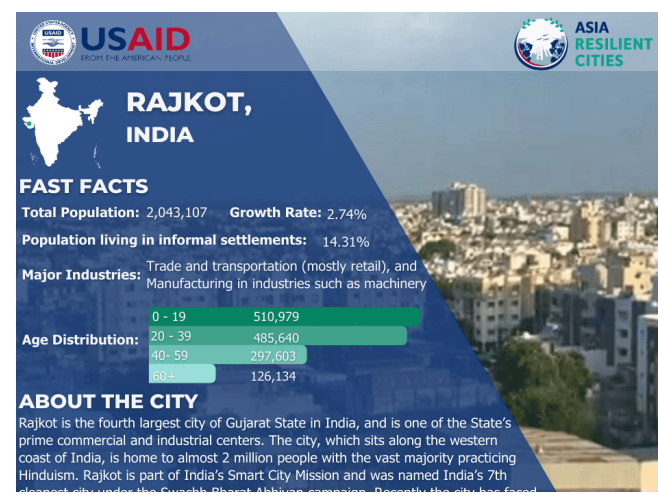
new initiative successful," he added. Besides, four mobile RRR centres would also be launched in the Sangam area, he explained. In these centres, space will be given for people to donate worn or old clothes besides space to put other items such as books, toys, shoes and slippers besides any other thing they believe others could use.

Mission manager of the Prayagraj Smart City Project Sanjeev Kumar Sinha said that the cooperation of citizens is vital to make this charitable initiative aimed at promoting sustainable practices towards eliminating

plastic and e-waste successful. He said that items which are not taken by needy people from these centres will be recycled and shaped into other useful products.

plastic and e-waste successful. He said that items which are not taken by needy people from these centres will be recycled and shaped into other useful products.

Asia Resilient Cities Project Announces Rajkot, India as Partner City



Source: JSI, (10 May, 2023)

The Asia Resilient Cities (ARC) project is proud to partner with the Rajkot Municipal Corporation, the mayor's office,

and residents to mitigate cross-cutting urban development challenges. The USAID-funded project, led by JSI, will promote sustainable urban growth; support resilient, low-carbon urban

infrastructure; and integrate climate change and environmental considerations into urban approaches. ARC will also connect city residents, governments, and other interested parties to create enduring relationships.

Rajkot is the fourth-largest city of Gujarat State in India, and is one of the state's prime commercial and industrial centers. The city, which sits along the western coast of India, is home to almost 2 million people. Rajkot is part of India's Smart City Mission and was named India's seventh-cleanest city under the Clean India Mission (Swachh Bharat Abhiyan). In recent years, the frequency and intensity of heat waves in Rajkot have increased, with temperatures as high as 45°C in the summer.

ARC will partner with the Rajkot Municipal Corporation, other government departments, academia, civil society organizations, and residents. This diverse group will co-design activities that sustain livable environments in the face of climate change. Throughout its partnership with the city, ARC will employ a variety of tools to support a systems approach to sustainable urban development, and include people who are often left out of urban planning.

City residents are ARC's biggest resource for making change. ARC will go beyond simply including residents in conversations by involving them in setting the city agenda, changing the economy, and advocating for what their communities need. The project will also build human resources capacity in city government and actively engage the business community, other development projects, and civil society.

Lucknow Safe City to revolutionise concept of women security

SHARMILA KRISHNA
LUCKNOW

Lucknow Safe City project, to be launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on February 19, is set to revolutionise the concept of women safety in the city. Under this project, 200 crime-prone locations will be under active surveillance of 1,100 cameras. There are 45 features in the project, 200 crime-prone locations will be under active surveillance of 1,100 cameras. There are 45 features in the project, 200 crime-prone locations will be under active surveillance of 1,100 cameras. There are 45 features in the project, 200 crime-prone locations will be under active surveillance of 1,100 cameras.

The project is housed in a separate building behind the Smart City office and the executing agency for the project is Smart City. The master system integrator of this project is

Allied Digital Services Limited. Municipal Commissioner Inderjit Singh said, "The entire city is under the surveillance of AI-driven cameras. Suppose there is a list of criminals of with us in our software, we will immediately get an alert if they pass from anywhere in the city. There are 45 features in total under the project. The cameras cover Shaheed Path and G-20 road," he said.

Singh said that they would also appeal for the integration of public cameras with the system. "The RWAs and trade unions can get themselves integrated with the project," he said, adding the budget of the entire project was Rs 96 crore.

Giving the background, an official from the 'Safe City

Office said that the Ministry of Women and Child Development, in collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs, has launched the project in eight cities to promote safety and security of women.

"The empowered committee of officers under the Nirbhaya Fund Scheme, chaired by the Women and Child Development Ministry secretary, approved the initiative for Lucknow," he said.

In Lucknow, it is a centrally-sponsored scheme with a 60:40 cost sharing between the Centre and UP government, the official said.

"The project aims to create a safe, secure, empowering environment for women in public places to enable them to

pursue all opportunities without the threat of gender-based violence or harassment. It also aims to prevent and curb all forms of crimes against women by providing safer urban infrastructure and efficient access to law enforcement agencies," he added.

This project involves setting up an AI-based video surveillance system comprising IP-based outdoor security cameras with facial recognition system and other advanced video analytics installed at various locations.

"The system will be integrated with various government system for law enforcement purposes like Smart City, Drishti cameras, Jio cameras, Women Power Line 1090, UP

Dial 112, existing mobile surveillance vehicles, pink outposts, and Asha Jyoti Kendras" he said.

Under the Integrated Smart Control Centre through which the operations will be carried out, 40 operators of the police department will work in one shift, monitoring the system and validating the alerts.

Giving an example of this proactive surveillance which will increase the response time to a criminal activity, he said: "Suppose a woman is targeted by a criminal, an alert will be immediately sent to the police in the vicinity of that area. The areas where the cameras are installed have been selected by the police department."

"We will also encourage

women to download a citizens app using which if they press SOS, an alert will be sent to us," he said, adding local transport had also been involved in the project. "Two cameras and as many panic buttons have been placed in each of the 165 city buses. There is a two-way talking system with the bus drivers," he added.

The system is also equipped to provide drone surveillance as and when required for monitoring of processions and rallies.

The municipal commissioner said that the 45 analytics include face recognition under which frequent visiting of the same area, sexual offenders on bail, and missing person database can be monitored.



People participated in heritage walk organized in Ujjain on 13 February 2022 (14 FEB, 2022)

Surveillance equipment to be installed in Maha Kumbh at Prayagraj Smart City

Source:- The Times Of India (09 Jul, 2023)

As the state government has decided that state-of-the-art equipment will be installed to monitor the entire Sangam area during Maha Kumbh-2025, the entire infrastructure to keep a close vigil on the mela area will

be managed by the Smart city authorities.

The infrastructure will be operated by a private entity, but the control will be with the government security agency, controlled centrally from Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC).

The surveillance system that would be put in place

during Mahakumbh would manage several aspects. The system will monitor the crowd movement through a network of CCTV cameras. Likewise, the lost and found centre will be revamped into a state-of-the-art facility. Technology will also be used in crowd management and all parking sites will be monitored by cameras. There will

be a number of display sites wherein important messages will be displayed and security devices with sensors will be installed at key locations. There will be arrangements for data center and disaster recovery as video analysis of protective measures will be done. The security and traffic system will also be linked to ICCC.



Lucknow Smart City riverside redevelopment inspires 'urban-beautification' of the city (04 APR, 2022)

Bareilly Sets the Bar as 1st District in U.P. to offer Smart Class Access to Every Govt School

The District boasts A Total Of 2,546 Government Schools, Including 2,483 Basic Department Schools And 63 Government Inter Colleges, All Of Which Now Have Access To Smart Classes.

Source:- Hindustan Times, (07 Oct, 2023)
By:- HT Correspondent

Lucknow Bareilly has achieved a remarkable milestone by becoming the first district not only in Uttar Pradesh but potentially in the entire country to grant access to smart classrooms in all gov-

ernment schools. Uttar Pradesh, 2,500 are situated within the Bareilly district itself, marking a significant accomplishment for the region, according to Jag Pravesh, IAS, chief development officer of Bareilly.

Confirming this remarkable achievement, director-general of School Education, Vijay Kiran Anand, commended Bareilly for setting an exemplary standard for all other districts in Uttar

Pradesh. He also mentioned plans to honor the officials who played a crucial role in this transformative mission.

Vijay Kiran Anand disclosed that nearly 60% of these smart classrooms received funding from the government, with 20% being sponsored through Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives, and the remaining 20% supported by the Bareilly Development Authority.

Sanjay Singh, the Basic Shiksha Adhikari, said, "Previously, only 700 schools in the district were equipped with smart classes. However, in the past 15 months, we expedited the implementation process and successfully accomplished the task."

The introduction of smart classrooms exemplifies the district's unwavering commitment to providing students with access to innovative educational tools. These smart classrooms leverage digital technology to elevate the teaching and learning experience, fostering interactive and engaging lessons.

Students can now benefit from multimedia content, educational videos, and interactive presentations, empowering them to grasp complex concepts with ease.

As part of the Nipun Bharat program, it is envisioned that each student must acquire basic numeracy and literacy skills. To realize this vision, classroom content is locally developed, ensuring that students derive maximum benefit from it.

"The primary advantage of smart classrooms is their ability to engage students," stated the BSA. "The majority of our students come from underprivileged rural backgrounds, and they are eager learners. Smart classes have enhanced their attention spans, and the audio and visual representation of textbook content has significantly improved their comprehension skills, resulting in a higher quality of learning."

The chief development officer emphasised the importance of digital literacy in the modern era. "We firmly believe that in today's world, anyone lacking access to the internet and digital literacy will fall behind. In line with Mahatma Gandhi's 'Antyodaya' mantra, we recognised the need to provide students with access to the internet and digital content."



Pradesh. He also mentioned plans to honor the officials who played a crucial role in this transformative mission. Vijay Kiran Anand disclosed that nearly 60% of these smart classrooms received funding from the government, with 20% being sponsored through Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives, and the remaining 20% supported by the Bareilly Development Authority.

Best Cities in India 2023 List: Hyderabad, Pune and Bengaluru Highest Placed Among Indian Cities in Mercer's Worldwide Quality of Living Ranking, Vienna Bags Top Position

Locations from Middle East also ranked low including Sana'a (Yemen), at 238, where its ranking signals the need for continued attention to humanitarian efforts and reconstruction initiatives. Also, Baghdad (Iraq), ranked at 240, who is seeking to rebuild its infrastructure.



Source:- Latest LY (12 Dec, 2023)

New Delhi, December 12: Hyderabad with a rank of 153, Pune at 154 and Bengaluru in the 156th position are the three highest placed among Indian cities in Mercer's worldwide quality of living ranking for 2023 which rates Vienna in Austria at the top of the list. Chennai is the fourth Indian city in the list at the 161 spot followed by Mumbai at 164, Kolkata (170) and New Delhi (172).

Mercer's Quality of Living data assesses the practicalities of daily life for expatriate employees and

their families in assignment locations worldwide. Vienna retained its top position in the list, which was last published in pre-Covid 2019. The survey describes the city as "known for its rich history, stunning architecture, and vibrant cultural scene. Vienna offers its residents a high standard of living in various aspects"

Greater Chennai Corporation Incorporates Learnings from Smart Cities Mission into Its Other Projects

It is followed by Zurich, Switzerland and Auckland, New Zealand in second and third place, respectively. Places with lower quality of living include several African cities -N'Djamena

(Chad), Bangui (Central African Republic) and Khartoum (Sudan), rank 236th, 239th and 241st, respectively.

Locations from Middle East also ranked low including Sana'a (Yemen), at 238, where its ranking signals the need for continued attention to humanitarian efforts and reconstruction initiatives. Also, Baghdad (Iraq), ranked at 240, who is seeking to rebuild its infrastructure.

In addition to the seven European countries in the top 10, other notable cities with a high quality of living include Amsterdam, The Netherlands (14th); Oslo, Norway (24th); Stockholm, Sweden (26th); Paris, France (32nd); Helsinki, Finland (34th); and Dublin, Ireland (42nd). In the UK, London secures the 45th position, followed by Aberdeen (49th), Edinburgh (51st), Glasgow (54th), Birmingham (60th), and Belfast (67th).

Eastern European cities such as Prague, Czech Republic (71st); Budapest, Hungary (80th); and Warsaw, Poland (84th), are experiencing a slight decrease in the quality of living in re-

cent years. They have faced various challenges including economic instability, political unrest, and social inequality that have impacted the well-being of its residents.

In Africa, Port Louis, located in Mauritius, is ranked 88th globally with the best quality of living standards and safest in Africa. It is followed by Victoria, the capital of Seychelles, which holds the 98th position in the ranking. South Africa has several cities featured in the ranking, including Cape Town (102nd), Johannesburg (105th), and Durban (110th).

Other notable cities in Africa with a relatively high quality of living include Rabat, Morocco (127th); Tunis, Tunisia (131st); and Casablanca, Morocco (136th). In the Middle East, Dubai, ranked at 79th place, and Abu Dhabi, ranked at 84th place, are the two major cities in the United Arab Emirates. These cities are renowned for their modern infrastructure and diverse expatriate communities.

To read more, Scan:



PUBLIC READING SPACES IN SMART CITY RAIPUR

Raipur Smart City has reading spaces for everyone. For culture & heritage, it is Anand Samaj Library; for competitive exams it is Nalanda Parisar, and on different subject matters, Central Library. (01 JUL, 2019)

Smart Governance



Projects

683

Value

₹17,464 Cr

Across

100 Cities



Bhubaneswar Smart City developed 0.37 Acres Park at Saheed Nagar with child friendly components (30 AUG, 2021)



Indore Smart City river front development. Recreational open spaces along the Kahn River (25 OCT, 2022)



Sh. Byrathi Basavaraj, Hon'ble Minister Urban Development Department, Government of Karnataka and Sh. Byrathi Basavaraj, Hon'ble Minister Urban Development Department, Government of Karnataka and Sh. Ahul Kapoor, Director, Smart Cities Mission, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Govt of India at the launch event of Healthy Streets Capacity Development Workshop in Bengaluru Smart City. (04 JUL, 2022)



Housing and Basic Service for Urban Poor project at Mariyamma Nagar in Tumakuru Smart City (19 APR, 2021)

Smart Cities Mission Giving Wings to Dreams of Competitive Exam Aspirants

“Several Students Come here Every Day to Study. So, Setting up a Modern Library is a Good Step,” Kiran said

Source:- Business Standard (02 Dec, 2023)



“Under the Smart Cities Mission, students can utilise the facilities, including tablets, to prepare for competitive exams,” he added

here every day to study. So, setting up a modern library is a good step,” Kiran said.

Twenty-year-old Priyanka, also a Tamil Nadu Civil Services aspirant, regularly visits the park on Tamukkam Road along with her friend Lavaniya for group study sessions. She rued that the open-air setup, especially in hot and rainy weather, affects the productivity of the students.

“I come from a very small village and this place (Tammukam Maidan) is important for students as they get the benefits of group study sessions and discussions,” Priyanka told PTI.

However, when it rains or if the weather is extremely hot and humid, it becomes difficult to concentrate to study, she rued.

“With the construction of a library and knowledge centre, it will help students to prepare better,” Priyanka told PTI.

Mukesh Kannan, who has been coming to the park for the last six months, voiced similar concerns. When there is heavy rain, it leads to waterlogging in the park and there is no proper place to sit and study, he said.

To read more, Scan:

Waking up at the crack of dawn, 26-year-old Uday Kiran from Madurai travels 20 km to a park near Tamukkam Road for an intense cramming session with the sole aim of clearing the coveted Tamil Nadu Civil Services Exam.

ilities, including tablets, is being set up on Tamukkam Road for Rs 2.5 crore.

“We have set up this modern library at Madurai’s Tamukkam Road, which will facilitate youths to access to digital study material and as well as several books,” Ruban Suresh, Chief Engineer of Madurai Municipal Corporation, told PTI.

“Under the Smart Cities Mission, students can utilise the facilities, including tablets, to prepare for competitive exams,” he added.

Kiran said while the park does offer a conducive learning environment, a modern library will prove to be much more beneficial for the students.

“Several students come

Kiran is one of the around 150 youngsters who converge at the three-acre park -- a hub for competitive exam aspirants -- almost every day for it offers a “conducive environment” for group study, even if that entails sitting under the shade of a tree in hot and muggy weather.

Change is in the offing, however, courtesy of the Smart Cities Mission under which a library and knowledge centre with modern fa-

Now, AI-based Waste Management to solve city’s garbage woes

Source:- Times of India (22 Feb, 2024)

Kochi: Cochin Smart Mission Limited (CSML) is planning to introduce an Artificial Intelligence (AI) based solid waste

dumping in public places. As part of the project, each waste collection staff would be provided with an Android point of sale (POS) system along with a mobile application for waste collection, tracking, and management.

The information would be sent to the Haritha Mithram app and IC4’s central software system on a real-time basis for alert generation. During waste collection, different categories of waste materials would be weighed using an interlinked digital weighing machine and the categorized data would be updated in the mobile app. After collecting payments from the customers, print-outs of receipts would be handed over to them.

“Internet of things (IoT)-based weighing sensors would be used at material collection centres and resource recovery facilities to measure incoming waste and outgoing materials,” said the project’s tender document. “The proposed “smart bin” will have the capability to send alerts on its usage pattern and capacity filling to IC4, in real-time. They will be equipped with a self-closing mechanism to prevent odour and pest infestation”, said the tender document.

Shaji V Nair, CEO, CSML, said the integrated approach with AI assistance can revolutionize waste management in the city. “We can ensure timely collection and removal of waste through real-time tracking and monitoring from a single control centre,” he said. Not everyone is convinced about its effective implementation on the ground to ensure proper waste treatment. “A major issue the city faces is the lack of treatment facilities for collected waste. Besides ensuring the movement of waste through smart systems, authorities should also focus on smart projects to treat waste materials properly,” said Ebenezer Chullikkad of Greater Cochin Development Watch.

C N Manoj, an expert on waste management, said the authorities will have to ensure that proper action is taken based on the data generated through the AI system. “We need a smart system to track the movement of waste as we have to monitor the activities of Haritha Karma Sena, including fee collection. But, we should ensure follow-up actions based on the data generated through surveillance and other smart systems,” he said.

Management system in the city corporation area to manage waste more effectively. Within a period of four months, CSML will roll out a “smart system” for monitoring, controlling, and disposal of solid waste in corporation ABD areas— from Rajendra Maidan to Marine Drive—initially and extend the project to other wards later.

CSML’s integrated command control and communication centre (IC4) platform to be used for smart garbage management will have standard operating procedures, alerts, notifications, management information systems (MIS), dashboards, etc.

CSML has issued a tender for implementing the project. As per the document, the proposed AI system will analyze changes in waste volume at each location in the city on a daily basis besides detecting waste

Automated alerts help Corporation in efficient flood management

The Integrated Command and Control Centre of the Corporation on Monday received alerts from sensors at three subways about waterlogging; action was taken within one-and-a-half hours to drain the water and restore normalcy

Malavika Ramakrishnan CHENNAI

On Monday, around 7 p.m., the Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC) at Ripon Buildings, the headquarters of the Greater Chennai Corporation received information through visuals and data that three subways in the city had water stagnation. Within one-and-a-half hours, the Jones Road subway, Ganesapuram Subway and Manickam Nagar subway were cleared of water and normalcy was restored.



Spell of relief: Despite spells of sharp showers in Chennai in the last two days, there was no report of any major inundation of roads. M. SRINATH

In this way, hourly updates are collated from all 15 zones of the Corporation and a record is maintained and sent to relevant officials, if necessary. Despite the sharp showers on Monday evening and night, no area was severely inundated. When contacted, all three regional deputy commissioners (north, south and central) reported that no major complaints had been received.

“Every six hours, rainfall prediction is updated by following the National Centres for Environmental Prediction Global Forecast System. We update officials in zones where there is moderate to heavy rain,” said G. Rajeshwari, system

analyst who heads the ICCC that provides ward and zone-level data.

In every zone, the Corporation controls two rain sensors that allows it to collect and predict accurate rainfall data. On Monday,

rainfall across the zones was light to moderate with a few places reporting moderate rainfall (15.6 to 64.4 mm). Rain sensors at Ice House, Kodambakkam, Maduravoyal, Mugallivakkam, Adyar and Perungudi reported moderate rainfall at around 6 p.m. and by 5 a.m. on Tuesday, Valsarvakkam, Alandur and Sholingalur reported moderate rainfall. Corporation Commissioner J. Radhakrishnan visited the control room late on Monday to take stock of the forecast for Tuesday. “We are noticing that instead of widespread rain, there are intense showers concentrated in some areas,” he said. The challenge was in areas where many departments were at work and the permission for road cutting was being strictly monitored.



Smart Integrated Digital Library at Bilaspur Smart City (28 MAR, 2022)

Smart Cities Mission: Chennai Undergoing Transformation with Development of Major Infrastructure

Source:- dailyhunt (30 Nov, 2023)

Chennai, Nov 30 (PTI) Pedestrian-friendly roads, smart classes, parks for disabled children, cycling tracks, an intelligent traffic system and rejuvenating water bodies are some of the projects undertaken by authorities in Chennai to transform it under the Smart Cities Mission, according to officials.

A suspension bridge with a glass floor over the Villivakkam lake is also among such projects.

As part of a pilot project, students of a school run by the Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) in the Kottur area have been provided tablets, through which they are taught by their teachers, an official said.

If the idea is successful, it will be implemented in other schools as well.

Tamil Nadu Additional Chief Secretary and GCC Commissioner J. Radhakrishnan said the Smart Cities Mission (SCM) has evoked a lot of enthusiasm among people and that is why the participation is high.

The commissioner said that under the mission, Chennai has been doing a number of activities.

“Specifically, we have created a command and control centre. Then, we are constructing a very important green building, which was awarded the highest rating by the Great Building Congress recently,” he told PTI.

A civic body official said Chennai Smart City Mission Limited, a special purpose vehicle, was formed to transform Chennai into a resilient world-class commercial city that is economically vibrant, ecologically sustainable and inclusive.

The official said that out

of the 46 projects under the Smart Cities Mission, 45 have already been completed. Rajeev Jain, spokesperson of the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry, which is mandated to implement the SCM, said Chennai has undertaken some “very innovative” projects.

“The Pondy Market area, which used to be congested, has been completely redeveloped with a pedestrian plaza and other facilities like an automated multi-level car parking with a capacity of 230 cars, which has made life easier for visitors and shopkeepers as well,” Jain told PTI.

A senior official in the Chennai Smart City Limited said that as part of the SCM, a children’s traffic park has been built near the Napier bridge, a move that is aimed at improving traffic safety awareness among school-children.

“This traffic park enables children to gain hands-on experience in crossing streets alone, or with another pedestrian, or on a bicycle to demonstrate safety challenges in a highly controlled environment devoid of actual motor vehicles,” he said.

In Chennai, the official said, 15 temple tanks and 64 water bodies have been restored. This has helped in maintaining the groundwater level in the vicinity of the tanks and water bodies, he said.

Support infrastructure for the public, such as an open gym, meditation centre and walking pathways around water bodies were also developed as part of the project.

“The Command and Control Centre (CCC), which has been established under the Smart Cities Mission, serves as a decision-support engine for the city administrators in the day-to-day operations and also during exigency situations,” he added.

According to the official, the strategic components of a smart city include area-based development (ABD), in which smart solutions are applied to a selected area, and pan-city development, in which they are implemented to cover the entire city.

Another official said that as part of the SCM, energy-saving LED lights have been installed in area-based development areas.

A total of 6,333 streetlights have been installed in ABD areas. All of them have been converted to energy-saving LEDs. Around 1,772 LED lights have been installed with the help of funds released under the Smart Cities Mission.

Chennai was selected as one of the first 20 smart cities by the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry. The Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government launched its flagship Smart Cities Mission on June 25, 2015, and 100 cities were selected for redevelopment through a two-stage competition from January 2016 to June 2018.

A cycle sharing system has also been created in the city under which 134 electric smart bike stations have been set up across Chennai.

Under the Smart Cities Mission, Chennai has also developed bicycle lanes to make roads safer for everyone, especially cyclists, the official said.

In May this year, the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry extended the deadline for the Smart Cities Mission till June 2024 following requests from some cities that sought more time to complete their ongoing projects.

India’s current urban population of around 46 crore is projected to double in the next 25 years. PTI BUN DIV DIV

‘Giving Better Health are Facilities Topmost Priority of Belagavi Smart City’

Source:- Millennium Post, (03 Nov, 2023) By:- Dhirendra kumar



BELAGAVI (Karnataka): At a time when most of the projects undertaken under the Smart Cities Mission are related to the strengthening of infrastructure, construction of roads, developing better civic amenities, the Belagavi Smart City Ltd (BSCL) has revamped Belagavi district hospital to make it a saviour for poor patients belonging to not only Karnataka, but for its neighbouring states of Goa and Maharashtra. Given that the district was not having any dedicated knee and hip transplant facility at government healthcare centre, the Belagavi Smart City Ltd (BSCL) provided a modular operation theatre (OT) and an ambulance equipped with OT to the Belagavi Institute of Medical Science (BIMS) under the smart city mission.

“We are seeing around 1,500 patients daily and more than 1,000 are admitted here. Patients from several other districts come here for the treatment. Currently we have 1,040 beds in the hospital. It would not go wrong, if we say that it’s the new AIIMS of Karnataka.” Besides, a new therapy centre at Mahatma Phule Garden has also been opened under the mission to provide comprehensive facilities for specially-abled children, said Bellary. Named after educationist and social reformer Jyotirao Phule, the park is designed with “inclusive-ness” as the main feature which aims to ease the life of children by providing them with customised therapy and play equipment, she said.

The B.Com graduate Roma Hasmani, a resident of Belagavi, is happy to share the fact that her 11-year-old daughter is witnessing improvements after she started bringing her child to the centre from 2021 onwards. Hasmani, who is medically fit, has not planned a second child just because the priorities of her special child may get ignored. Hasmani supports her husband in his business and always takes their daughter to every social event. The Belagavi Smart City has spent Rs 871 crore out of the total Rs 930 crore allocated to the special purpose vehicle. Hailing the efforts of Belagavi, ADG (media) Rajeev Jain, who looks after the publicity work of Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, said, “The BSCL has developed the city with a human touch as the Belagavi Smart City CEO Syeda Afreen Bellary has utilized the sanctioned budget for building a robust healthcare infrastructure. It’s a very unique initiative.”

While talking to Millennium Post, Belagavi Smart City CEO Syeda Afreen Bellary said, “I realized the need of a modular OT and advanced lifesaving ambulances at the hospital during the time of Covid pandemic and at that time I was posted here as the administrator. The knee and hip transplant is done here for free of cost.” Notably, Belagavi was the first among the 20 cities selected under the Smart Cities Mission in 2015 and the projects were started in 2018. The BSCL has completed 96 projects out of 102 projects under the mission. With health as its core area of project implementation, the BSCL has also constructed a 30-bed maternity hospital at Vantamuri and a 10-bed hospital primary health centre at Vadgaon.

Commenting on the benefits of modular OT, BIMS Director Dr Ashok Kumar Shetty, who is a close relative of noted cardiac surgeon Dr Devi Shetty, said,

Union Ministry Lauds Smart City Projects

Source:- The Times of India, (16 Aug, 2023)



Coimbatore: The city corporation has received a pat on its back from the Union housing and urban affairs ministry for the projects implemented under the smart city mission.

tre-tall media tree at Race Course.

Recently, the Union government had sent a media delegation from New Delhi to amplify the smart city projects carried out by the city corporation to the rest of the country. The housing and urban affairs ministry has now tweeted the stories published by the media houses, appreciating the civic body.

“Coimbatore’s smart city transformation shines bright with the ‘Media Tree’ - an 11m tall LED tower displaying vital info & entertainment. Model roads at Race Course & DB Road blend aesthetics & functionality,” the ministry’s another tweet read.

The ministry has appreciated the construction of Thiruvalluvar statue at Kurichi Lake using Tamil alphabets, development of model roads, lakefront promenades and the 11-



New Town Kolkata Smart City launched the first App based Parking. (21 SEPT, 2020)



Coimbatore Smart City has revitalized Periyakulam Lake into a vibrant public space (07 OCT, 2019)

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India, Asian Development Bank sign \$61 million loan agreement to boost urban services in Agartala

Source:- Business Today, (15 Nov, 2021)

The Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) on Monday signed a \$61 million loan agreement to improve livability, harness technology, and promote new developments to accommodate the expanding population in Agartala city while building the capacity of state agencies to improve service delivery.



The government signed the Agartala City Urban Development Project agreement with ADB representative Takeo Konishi, Country Director of ADB's India Resident Mission, a statement from the Finance Ministry said.

After signing the loan agreement, Rajat Kumar Mishra, Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, said that the project is aligned to the vision of the Smart City Mission. He said it would upgrade urban

infrastructure services and improve Agartala's livability by providing better road connectivity, flood resilient measures, and making tourist places more attractive.

"Through this project, ADB will catalyze synergies with the smart city components being implemented in Agartala through an underground utility corridor with shifting electrical lines, incorporating elderly, women, children, and differently-abled features, improving road geometry along with urban design interventions,"

said Konishi.

He said that asset management and sustainability strategy, capacity-building of tourism operators and livelihood improvement of street vendors and artisans will serve as a model to other assets and tourist attractions in Agartala and other cities in the state of Tripura.

The project will build and upgrade 48 kilometres (km) of new or existing stormwater drainage and construct 23 km of climate-resilient urban roads.

Other interventions include renovating open spaces and creating water recreation and lakeside walkways in the Maharaja Bir Bikram College lake and the Ujjayanta Palace.

Developing Agartala's central and north zones as models of area-based development is expected to have a ripple effect on nearby cities and towns, making urban areas more livable, citizen-friendly, resilient, and sustainable, the statement said.

Mizoram: Smart Cities Mission launches 5G-enabled Ambulances at Zoram Medical College

Two 5G-enabled Advanced Life Support (ALS) Ambulances have been handed over to Zoram Medical College and Civil Hospital Aizawl by Smart Cities Mission.



Source:- India Today NE (07 Oct, 2023)

Two 5G-enabled Advanced Life Support (ALS) Ambulances have been handed over to Zoram Medical College and Civil Hospital Aizawl by Smart Cities Mission.

Under the Smart Cities Mission, a total of 8 ambulances will be provided to 8

hospitals within Aizawl, including private hospitals.

The 5G ALS Ambulance, provided by Aizawl Smart City Limited, is the first of its kind in the state of Mizoram. Each ambulance is equipped with a defibrillator, cardiac monitor, transport ventilator, syringe infusion pump, video and audio conference devices for doctors to assist paramedics while

transporting patients under critical conditions, portable oxygen, spinal board, and scoop stretchers, among other equipment inside the vehicle.

The main objective is to offer assistance to patients who are in critical condition, ensuring they receive necessary treatment on time while being transported to the hospital in case of emergencies.



The Mission Director (SCM) Mr. Kunal Kumar awarding Chandigarh Smart City for their success in Cycles 4 Change initiative, during Pimpri Chinchwad's National Workshop on Streets and Public Spaces. Chandigarh Smart City won 3 awards under Cycles 4 Change Initiative. (08 JAN, 2024)



Silvassa Smart City taking a pledge toward a cycle-friendly city on World Bicycle Day (30 MAY, 2022)

Harnessing AI for PCMC schools

Civic body aspires to nurture smart, well-rounded individuals prepared to tackle future challenges

Vikas Shinde
feedback@punemirror.com

TWEET @ThePuneMirror

In a progressive move under the Smart City initiative, an Artificial Intelligence (AI) system has been introduced in 50 municipal schools in Pimpri-Chinchwad. It is aimed at revolutionising the educational landscape.

The innovative technology not only scrutinises the teaching method, but also closely monitors student engagement through their gestures.

Discreet monitoring of classrooms

The AI system, embedded within the school's infrastructure, meticulously observes the interactions between teachers and students. Enabled cameras discreetly capture the facial expressions of students, discerning emotions ranging from happiness to anger. This allows educators to tailor their approach, ensuring that every student receives the attention they need to thrive academically.

Moreover, the system tracks the activity levels of teachers within the classroom. It records the duration teachers spend standing versus sitting, as well as their engagement with instructional materials. This comprehensive analysis aims to optimise teaching strategies and foster a dynamic learning environment.

By harnessing the power of AI, municipal schools aspire to nurture smart, well-rounded individuals prepared to tackle the challenges of tomorrow.

"Attendance modules have been developed in municipal schools using Artificial Intelligence (AI) systems,"



said Kiranraj Yadav, CEO of the Smart City Project, Pimpri Chinchwad.

"It will record the attendance of each student and teacher. The AI will then be able to recognise everyone's movements and facial expressions. This will give everyone an idea of the reality and exact situation in the school with the actual attendance, with special attention to teachers and students. Therefore, teachers will be audited with every student in the school."

Municipal E-Class Room initiative

The Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation is spearheading the 'Municipal E-Class Room' initiative across 123 schools as part of the Pimpri Chinchwad Smart City Project. This pioneering endeavour aims to democratise education, enriching students' learning experiences while leveraging e-classrooms and cutting-edge technology to ensure quality education for all.

Under this programme, 50 schools have embraced the AI-based teaching methodology, heralding a

new era of innovation in municipal education. These state-of-the-art teaching methods are designed to foster project-based learning and practical demonstrations, enriching students' skills and intellectual capacities across a spectrum of subjects, including English, Marathi, Hindi, and Urdu.

Principals and teachers have undergone comprehensive training to effectively implement these cutting-edge techniques, enabling them to orchestrate engaging and impactful classroom experiences. Through AI-enabled cameras, student attendance is meticulously recorded, while the system also captures students' facial expressions – ranging from sadness to happiness – providing invaluable insights into their emotional states. Additionally, the system monitors teachers' activities within the classroom, facilitating a holistic approach to educational optimization and student support.

Infrastructure and training in place
As part of the project's comprehensive

sive approach to modernizing education, 1,241 classrooms have been equipped with LED displays and computer cameras, transforming traditional learning spaces into dynamic hubs of interactive learning.

To ensure the seamless integration of these technological advancements, over 1,200 municipal teachers, including 117 headmasters, have undergone rigorous training sessions, empowering them with the skills and knowledge needed to effectively utilise these tools in the classroom.

With a focus on inclusivity and accessibility, the project is poised to benefit over 44,000 primary and secondary students, enriching their educational journey and fostering a culture of continuous learning.

Moreover, the project prioritizes capacity building for both teachers and school management, recognising the pivotal role they play in shaping the educational experience and fostering student success.

The implementation of digital e-learning within municipal schools is heralding a new era of academic excellence for students. Through the innovative e-classroom project, 1,241 classrooms across 120 schools within the municipality have been transformed into dynamic hubs of digital learning, equipped with state-of-the-art smart TVs and cutting-edge technology.

Robotics labs and computer laboratories

In addition to digitising classrooms, the project has introduced robotics labs and computer laboratories, further enhancing the technological infrastructure available to students. This comprehensive initiative encom-

passes a wide array of components, including the establishment of computer rooms, digital e-learning platforms, WiFi access points, LED displays, HD cameras, and video recording facilities.

Moreover, educational analysis software has been integrated into the system, providing invaluable insights into student performance and facilitating data-driven instructional strategies. The introduction of robotics labs, focusing on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), underscores the project's commitment to nurturing innovation and technological literacy among students.

To complement these technological advancements, expert teachers have been recruited in key subjects such as mathematics, English, and science, ensuring high-quality instruction tailored to students' needs. Additionally, robust project management and support services, including help desk assistance and online dashboards, have been implemented to streamline operations and ensure the seamless delivery of educational resources.

Education through painting

Primary schools are adopting an innovative approach to education by incorporating painting into their teaching methods. This creative initiative aims to engage students from first to fifth grade in various subjects, including colour recognition, mathematics, science, geography, history, and basic literacy skills. Through painting, students not only learn academic content but also develop critical thinking skills and creativity.

Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar: 'Mazi Smart Bus' Turns 6 Years Old

Sanjay Supekar, Chief Transport Manager, highlighted the anniversary celebration at the Chikhalthana Workshop in Mukundwadi



Source:- Free Press Journal (23 Jan, 2024)
By:- Manish Gajbhiye

The Smart City Bus Service in Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar celebrated its sixth anniversary on Tuesday, marking a significant milestone in providing

transportation services to the city. Since its inception, the bus service, known as 'Mazi Smart Bus,' has evolved to meet the growing demands, now serving approximately 30,000 passengers daily compared to the initial 3,000.

Operated under the guidance of Municipal Commissioner and Smart City CEO G Srikanth within the Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar Municipal Corporation (CSMC)

and working professionals. Launched on January 23, 2019, by the civic body, the service gained popularity, particularly among students and working professionals.

Sanjay Supekar, Chief Transport Manager, highlighted the anniversary celebration at the Chikhalthana Workshop in Mukundwadi. "Passengers at major bus stops, including CIDCO, were

welcomed with flowers. A cultural programme was organised at Sant Eknath Rangmandir to honour the drivers, conductors, and other employees," he said.

"Currently, 90 buses are operational, with plans to expand the fleet by adding 135 electric buses soon. The daily ridership has surged to around 30,000 passengers, and during a recent auto-rickshaw strike, the bus service accommodated up to 77,000 passengers in a single day," Supekar added.

Key Highlights:

- Daily trips - 1,100
- Daily travel - 24,000 km
- Total routes - 30
- Total buses - 90
- Daily passengers - 30,000
- Daily revenue - ₹7 lacs

Projects	Value	Across
685	₹14,616 Cr	74 Cities

PUNE SMART CITY

Transforming Urban Living

In the heart of Maharashtra lies Pune, a city steeped in history and culture. Pune has embraced the future with its ambitious Pune Smart City initiative, a pioneering effort to revolutionize urban living.

A VISION FOR PUNE'S SMART FUTURE
Pune's Smart City mission is driven by a vision to create a sustainable, technologically advanced, and inclusive urban ecosystem. The city's leadership has set out to tackle the challenges of rapid urbanization head-on. Pune aspires to create a model neighborhood of livability and sustainability matching global standards by fully deploying all 24 smart city features in a "future ready" manner. Pune Smart City has revolutionized the digital landscape by leveraging technology to enhance operations, address issues, and meet the needs of its citizens.

KEY INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS
SMART GOVERNANCE: Pune Smart City has leveraged technology to improve governance, making it more efficient and citizen-centric. Online civic engagement platform PMC CARE and Participatory Budget Plus (PB+) are empowering residents with a transparent participation in local decision-making and budgetary planning.
DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE: Pune Smart City has always prioritized sustainable living practices and technological advancements that have made

administration easier to manage, increased the quality of public services, and made cities more livable. It is made up of an Integrated Command and Control Centre (IOCC), which primarily keeps an eye on the city's active daily situation for its people and administrators and provides real-time actionable information to support daily decision-making. Pune's IOCC, consisting of 732 IoT-based infrastructures, serves as a digital foundation for decision-making, transforming disasters into opportunities and fostering a digital revolution.

URBAN MOBILITY: The city has invested in smart transportation systems, including India's first adaptive traffic management system, E-Buses, EV cells, dedicated cycling lanes, and public bike-sharing programs. Pune Smart City is transforming urban mobility with 452 E-buses, 62 lakhs liters' diesel savings, and 16300 tons' carbon savings, aiming for a future where traffic operates seamlessly and adapts to changing conditions.

PUBLIC SAFETY: Advanced surveillance systems, emergency response mechanisms, and traffic regulation are enhancing public safety in urban areas through IOCC, 1400+ CCTV cameras, and effective traffic control.

HEALTHCARE AND EDUCATION: Pune Smart City is enhancing healthcare services with its first NMC approved Health Management Information System and telemedicine, and improving access to quality education through e-learning platforms.

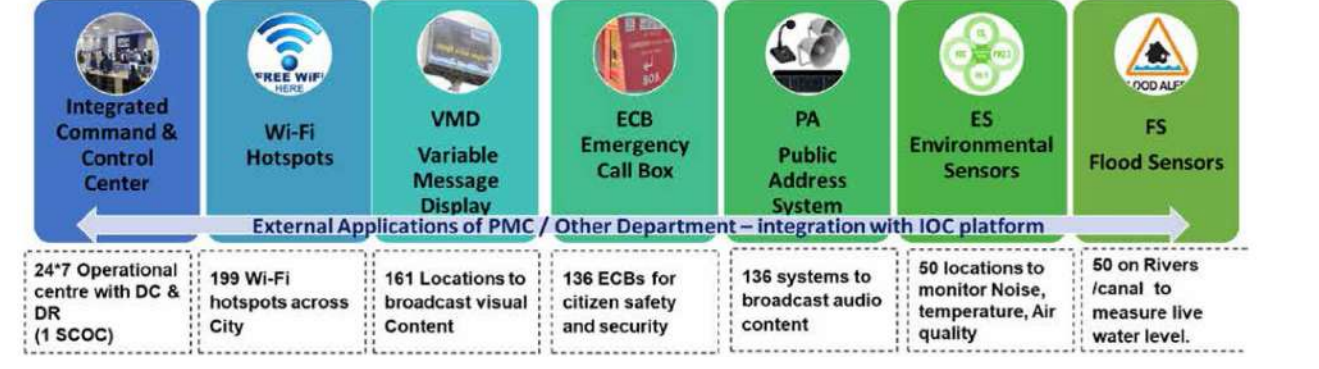
PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS: Pune Smart City along with PMC is leading an effective public-private partnership where 1,87,000 Smart Street LED lights have been installed on PPP mode which help in energy saving up to 60%. A total saving of up to 74% in energy & maintenance cost has been achieved with 7.2% reduction in carbon footprints. Collaborations with private companies and organizations have played a pivotal role in implementing and sustaining these initiatives.

SUSTAINABLE URBAN PLANNING: The city prioritizes green spaces, road redesigning, waste management, and energy-efficient buildings. The integration of sustainable practices into urban development is enhancing the city's environmental footprint such as Bandcoot Robot which is a robotic machine engineered to clean any type of sewer manholes.

INNOVATION HUB: The city has been promoting various startups and has made a profound ecosystem for innovation hub in city which is fostering research and development, driving technological advancements and economic growth in conjunction with Pune smart city.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND IMPACT
THE RESULTS ARE TANGIBLE: Pune's initiatives have reduced traffic congestion, improved air quality, and enhanced quality of life for residents, demonstrating a city more responsive to their needs. The decrease in traffic congestion has not only saved time for commuters but also significantly reduced air pollution levels. The city's sustainable urban planning initiatives have led to more green spaces and efficient waste management, making Pune a cleaner and more environmentally responsible place to live.

WAY FORWARD
Pune Smart City stands as a shining example of urban transformation in India. As the city continues its journey towards smart urbanization, its experiences and successes serve as an inspiration for other cities in India to follow suit. Pune is not just smart; it's a vision of what the future of urban living can be. Pune's journey towards becoming a Smart City has faced challenges, but these have fueled its determination and promise for a brighter future. The Pune Smart City initiative is evidence that even the most difficult urban difficulties can be overcome with the appropriate vision, leadership, and cooperation. Pune's continued development sets the way for an urban environment in India that is smarter and more vibrant in the future.



Sikkim Leads in Green Hydrogen Smart City: Greater Gangtok Chosen

Source:- Construction World (26 Sep, 2023)

Sikkim, a trailblazer in sustainable development, has taken a significant step towards a green and smart future. The state has chosen Greater Gangtok as the site for its ambitious Green Hydrogen Smart City project. This groundbreaking initiative aims to harness the power of green hydrogen technology to create a sustainable urban ecosystem.

Green hydrogen, produced using renewable energy sources, is a clean and efficient energy carrier with the potential to revolutionise urban infrastructure. Sikkim's decision to implement this technology in Greater Gangtok signifies a commitment to reducing carbon emissions and ensuring a cleaner environment for future generations.

The Green Hydrogen Smart City project in Greater Gangtok is poised to become a model for eco-friendly urban planning and development. By integrating renewable energy sources, advanced technology, and smart infrastructure, Sikkim aims to create a city that sets new standards for sustainability and livability.

This visionary project underscores Sikkim's dedication to environmental stewardship and positions it as a frontrunner in the global transition towards greener and smarter cities. It's a remarkable step towards a brighter and more sustainable future for both the state and the nation.

ASCDCL signs MoU to uplift slum youths

Aurangabad, Feb 15: To uplift the socio-economic status of youths staying in slums of the city, the Aurangabad Smart City Development Corporation Limited (ASCDCL) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Lighthouse Communities Foundation (LCF) to impart skill development training on Monday. The five-year-long MoU was signed in the presence of the district guardian minister, Subhash Desai by the ASCDCL chief executive officer Astik Kumar Pandey and the LCF chief executive officer, Ruchi Mathur. Sterlite Technologies is the donor partner in the project. LCF will be responsible for starting the functioning of the project (in phases) with the assistance of ASCDCL. Additional CEO of ASCDCL, Arun Shinde, AMC city engineer S D Panzade, deputy commissioner Aparna Theate and Namdikshore Bhombe were present on occasion.

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Nagpur Smart City brings robotic scavengers for manhole cleaning

Robotic machines ensures safety of sanitation workers

LOKMAT NEWS NETWORK NAGPUR

In a bid to enhance sanitation practices and ensure workers' safety, the Nagpur Smart and Sustainable City Development Corporation Limited (NSSCDCL) has introduced robotic scavengers for manhole cleaning.

Under the leadership of CEO Prithviraj B P (IAS), NSSCDCL procured three IoT-based robotic scavengers from Kerala-based company Genrobotics. The machines are equipped with advanced features to transform the traditional cleaning process.

The Bandicoot V 2.0 robotic scavengers come with IoT integration, enabling efficient and safe manhole cleaning. Capable of reaching depths of



Nagpur Smart City CEO Prithviraj B P and other officials during a site visit in the city.

up to 10 metres, these robots can remove debris, rocks, sand, silt and non-biodegradable waste. Their sleek design allows them to access narrow areas, making them versatile tools for city-wide sanitation operations.

Over the past 11 months, these robotic scavengers have cleaned 8578 chambers and removed 312.99 m³ of de-silted material across Nagpur Municipal Corporation's jurisdic-

tion areas. This technology not only improves cleaning efficiency but also reduces the need for manual intervention.

Equipped with cameras and hazardous gas sensors, the robotic scavengers prioritise workers' safety. This advancement has not only enhanced the work environment but also provided workers with a more respectable job profile as robot operators.

Tripura: Agartala Smart City To Get Asia's Largest Fountain In Ujjayanta Palace's Lake



Source:- Net Northeast Today (06 Nov, 2022) BY:- Abhijit Nath

Agartala, November 16, 2022: Asia's largest fountain of 120 metres long will be installed in one of the lakes of Ujjayanta Palace here as part of 'Smart Cities Mission' within January 2023, said CEO of Agartala Smart City Limited (ASCL) Dr Shailesh Kumar Yadav on Tuesday.

A meeting of the City Level Advisory Forum (CLAF) was chaired by the union minister of state Pratima Bhoumik at the conference hall of Agartala Municipal Corporation here this morning. This meeting has been attended by CEO of ASCL and AMC Commissioner Dr SK Yadav, AMC Mayor Dipak Majumder, MLA Dr Dilip Das and 14 members hailed from different professions.

Speaking to media personnel on the sidelines of the CLAF meeting, Dr Yadav said that the meeting focused on the works done under ASCL, funds spent and what is still left to be done. "The central government released Rs 294 crore and the state government gave Rs 78 crore. The total amount stands at Rs 372 crore and out of this, works worth Rs 342 crore has been completed so far. In total, 67

projects were enlisted and among them, 49 have been completed while 17 projects are still going on", he added.

Citing some of the bigger projects, ASCL's CEO said "An amount of Rs 51 crore has been sanctioned for four-lane Airport road and targeted to complete by January 2023. Another project work at the premises of Ujjayanta Palace is going on with the fund financed from ADB which will have Asia's largest fountain of 120 metres long with laser lights and expected to be completed by January 2023. Beautification of MBB College lake has already started."

Apart from this, Dr Yadav said "The water-logging problem of Agartala city has been mitigated with installation of five pumps and construction of 13 KMs long covered drains. Integrated Command Control Centre has been opened. Parks and Lakes have been renovated. Recently, the Haora River Front Development Project has started which will be 2 KMs long and good for walking, cycling, running, etc." He claimed that this meeting has been held to let the citizens know what work has been done so far and what to be done in the coming days. This will boost up the public support for smooth continuation of Smart City work in the capital city.

Taking the CLAF meeting in social media handle,

MoS Pratima Bhoumik said that the state and central governments are determined to beautify Agartala as a 'Smart City'. "As part of that, the full team meeting of the Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday. Agartala city was brought under Smart City under the supervision of Venkaiah Naidu Ji, then Urban Development Minister. The work of Agartala Smart City is progressing at a fast pace with the efforts of AMC Mayor Deepak Majumder, all councilors and officials."

"As part of this, various parks in the heart of the city, beautification of ponds and the streets of the city are being beautified. Moreover, two major roads in Agartala - one from the airport to Agartala city and the other from the city to Akhaura check post - are undergoing rapid upgrading. Besides, many other works are going on under the Smart City, including better quality bus stand, beautification of Ranipukur. The water drainage system which is the main problem of Agartala city was also discussed in the meeting. Elbert Ekka Park has been developed under Agartala Smart City, which is a pride for everyone. The work of beautification and smart city in Agartala will continue in the coming days. Finally thanks to all the officials who make the city so beautiful", she added.

Meghalaya's CM Initiates Three Major Projects for Shillong's Beautification and Decongestion City

Meghalaya's Chief Minister Has Inaugurated Three Significant Projects For Shillong's Beautification And Decongestion. The Projects Are Set To Provide Better Infrastructure, Stimulate Local Business Growth, And Serve As Social Hubs.



Source:- India Today NE (12 Mar, 2024)

Meghalaya's Chief Minister has laid the foundation for three significant projects aimed at beautifying and reducing congestion in Shillong city.

The initiatives include the Development of Parking Infrastructure under Shillong Smart City Pvt Ltd, which entails the creation of over 1200 parking spaces.

Today, the foundation for three parking projects was laid, providing 465 parking spaces at a total cost of Rs 90 crore.

The second project is the beautification of Lewduh Market, a Rs 15 Cr initiative

that will renovate and modernise the oldest traditional indigenous market.

The plan is to create a more vibrant, functional, and accessible space that benefits local sellers, customers, and tourists.

The third project is the development of the Wards' Lake Promenade. This initiative will see the development of a 1.2 km stretch opposite Ward's Lake, featuring a plaza, shops, vending zones, parking, and a restaurant.

This infrastructure is expected to enhance the tourist experience, stimulate local business growth, and serve as a social hub for people to interact.

Smart City Projects are Driving up Prices of Real Estate: MD Hubballi Dharwad Smart City Ltd

Projects of the Smart Cities Mission under the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs are driving up real estate prices in Hubballi, Karnataka and land prices near Tolankere Lake have seen a two-fold increase in three years, says Rudresh S Ghali Managing Director, Hubballi Dharwad Smart City Limited.

Source:- The Economic Times (29 Oct 2023)

HUBBALLI: Projects of the Smart Cities Mission under the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs are driving up real estate prices in Hubballi, Karnataka and land prices near Tolankere Lake have seen a two-fold increase in three years, says

Rudresh S Ghali Managing Director, Hubballi Dharwad Smart City Limited.

Before the redevelopment of the Tolankere Lake, land prices were around Rs 2,000 per square feet, but after the redevelopment of the lake it has shot up to Rs 4,000 per sq feet, said locals residing there.

Tolankere Lake is one of the important open spaces and the second largest lake in Hubballi Dharwad city. The lake has been transformed by Hubballi Dharwad Smart City Limited at a cost of Rs 25 crore.

The lake surrounding offers amenity for all age groups including walkways, children play area, amphitheater, meditation area, parking facility for two and four wheelers.

Talking to ANI, Managing Director, Hubballi Dharwad Smart City Limited Rudresh S Ghali said, "Everyone likes to have a property where infrastructure is good. There is great demand for land and flats near Tolank-



ere lake or Green Mobility Corridor project. Everyone wants to buy property and due to increase in demand the rates of the properties are gone up. Green Mobility Corridor project in Hubballi Dharwad city is an excellent example of effective use of open spaces. The project converted the Nala area into a 9.25-kilometre green corridor for pedestrians and cyclists, creating a space for a healthy and active lifestyle."

Small parks along the corridor provide a recreational spot for citizens. Further, the project was awarded first prize under innovative category in India Smart Cities Conclave.

"The central government launched the Smart Cities Mission (SCM) on June 25, 2015. 100 smart cities were selected through several rounds of competition from January 2016 to June 2018. Hubballi-Dharwad was one of seven cities selected from

Karnataka," he added.

Ghali said, "Hubballi was awarded 63 projects under the Smart City Mission. Out of 63 projects, 59 have been completed. Our target is to complete the remaining three projects by June 2024. We have covered 49 kilometres of road, which are called smart roads."

Hubballi-Dharwad Smart City Limited has redeveloped Chitaguppi Hospital to provide high-quality healthcare services to the people of Hubballi-Dharwad. It has been converted into hi-tech, multi-specialty hospitals with world-class equipment.

Another key project is Bengeri Central, which has been built and equipped with various facilities for farmers and street vendors. In this market, built by Hubballi-Dharwad Smart City Limited, buyers of vegetables gather every Saturday, and the farmers are free from the meddling of middlemen.

Ghali said that hospital we have built is the first of its kind project under smart city mission and this will be operational by next week.

"The basic infrastructure has improved and people are actually appreciating all the projects what you have taken" he said.

Redeveloped under Smart City Mission, the Mahatma Gandhi Park is a landmark lung space in Hubballi. Filled with large heritage trees and spread over a sprawling 7.42 hectares, it is popularly known as Glass House, due to the presence of the grand glass house inside the park. (ANI)

Conservation effort: Structural audit of Mehmood Darwaza planned

LOKMAT NEWS NETWORK AURANGABAD, JAN 19

Mehmood Darwaza near Panchakki will undergo a structural audit as part of the conservation project of the historic gates under smart city scheme funds.

A decision in this regard was taken at a meeting of the Heritage Conservation Committee, here on Tuesday. It was attended by Jayant Deshpande, chairman of the committee, Jayant Kharwadkar, member secretary Rr Shaikh Ramzan. Aurangabad Smart City Development Corporation additional CEO Arun Shinde, deputy CEO Pushkal Shivam, Indian Archaeological

As underground water canals leading up to historical Nahar-e-Ambari lie in ruins, their survey should also be carried out and repaired before further damage, suggests Dr Shaikh Ramzan of the Heritage Conservation Committee

Department's Rajneesh Kumar, S A Pandit, Ar Vijay Sangvikar and executive engineer A B Deshmukh.

Smart City Development Corporation has undertaken conservation of historical gates. AMC administrator Astik Kumar Pandey recently gave a PowerPoint presentation on this project. It includes repairing of nine historic gates and

Shahgunj clock tower: As Mehmood Darwaza is in worst condition, its structural audit will be done before undertaking its conservation work, the meeting decided and urged the authorities to get electricity poles and DPs removed from Roshan Gate and other gates.

At the outset, the AMC administrator was welcomed by the members for

undertaking conservation of historical monuments. Underground water canals leading up to Nahar-e-Ambari also lie in ruins, so their survey should also be carried out and they be repaired, Dr Shaikh Ramzan suggested.



Rourkela and Pune feature in the 2021 Global Mayors Challenge Champion Cities (15 JUN, 2021)



Shri Kunal Kumar, JS & Mission Director, Smart Cities Mission, MoHUA addressing the gathering at Bombay Stock Exchange during the first Bond listing of Vadodara Municipal Corporation (04 APR, 2022)

Agra Smart City includes both medieval structures and modern systems

From detecting stray cattle and clogged manholes to monitoring solid-waste disposal, the Agra Smart City is managed through a central command and control system that works with artificial intelligence

A CCTV camera zooms in on a stray cow roaming the streets of Agra, in Uttar Pradesh. Immediately the system that works on artificial intelligence's (AI's) pattern recognition function captures that it is a cow, and an alert goes to a local animal ambulance that picks it up and deposits it at a gaushala (cow shelter).

Potholes, traffic rule violations, even sexual harassment - all this can be detected by the system employed by the Agra Smart City. For example, 836 stray cattle have been detected. Traffic police has been able to track more than 2,000 black-listed and stolen vehicles, and the police department has been able to solve 149 cases with the help of the system.

When the camera catches a person on a two-wheeler riding without a helmet for instance, a red circle appears on the screen, and this information is automatically sent to the police.

The ICCC also controls the smart transport system, adaptive traffic light control, and environment sensors. AI adjusts the duration of traffic lights during peak hours, depending on the vehicular flow on a particular stretch.

The ICCC also has plans to integrate the monitoring and control of parking, street lighting, water meters, and grievance management, says Saurav Agrawal, chief data officer and the person in-

charge of the ICCC. Smart city Agra is one of the 22 cities which have been able to complete all projects under the Smart City Mission, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in June 2015. Some of the others are Varanasi, Chennai, and Bhubaneswar.

The city was selected to be turned into a smart city in 2017 in the second round. The total project cost of each city under the Smart Cities Mission (SCM) is ₹1,000 crore.

According to Mr Anand, Agra is the second city after Surat to be able to meet all the project deadlines. Earlier this month, the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs extended, for the second time, the SCM by a year until June 2024, as several cities are yet to complete their projects.

The main objective of the SCM is to promote cities that provide core infrastructure, clean and sustainable environment, and give citizens a decent quality of life through the application of "smart solutions", meaning greater reliance on systems.

It also aims to drive economic growth and improve quality of life through comprehensive work on the social, economic, physical, and institutional pillars of the city.

In Agra, the 19 projects under SCM include a vacuum-based sewerage system integrated with ICCC, Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)-based solid waste management collection monitoring through GPS tracking of vehicles and RFID tags, Smart Health Centres catering to the local population, automated self-cleaning toilets and round the clock water supply with metered connections.

The catch, however, is that all the development work has been carried out in 2,250 acres of land, which includes areas around the Taj Mahal and Tajganj area, Agra Fort and its vicinity, and Fatehabad Road, creating an oasis of sorts in the urban space. The rest of the city can choose to replicate this model or choose its own method of development, though some areas are being absorbed in the smart city ambit.

Some of the others are Varanasi, Chennai, and Bhubaneswar.

The main objective of the SCM is to promote cities that provide core infrastructure, clean and sustainable environment, and give citizens a decent quality of life through the application of "smart solutions", meaning greater reliance on systems.

Cities across India are remaking their streets

Manoj Sharma
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NEW DELHI: In 2020, the Delhi government said it will give the Capital's roads a "European makeover", announcing plans to redevelop a 540-km network of roads of a width of 100 feet or more. Three years on, it has revamped 16 road stretches totalling about 41 km, creating landscaped footpaths, cycling tracks, public facilities, and installing artworks and street furniture.

"We adopted the concept of equitable distribution of road space, which considers the needs of varied street users. We made the carriageways uniform and widened footpaths. The idea is to improve the safety and aesthetics of roads, and reduce traffic bottlenecks," said Vinay Sheel Saxena, executive engineer, Public Works Department (PWD).

Not just Delhi, many cities across the country such as Chennai, Pune, Hyderabad, and Surat, among others, are transforming their roads into what urban designers call "complete streets", "healthy streets", or "liveable streets" — streets that are attractive, are accessible, and prioritise the safety and mobility of all users, while also serving as vibrant public spaces.

Chennai, the first city to adopt a progressive non-motorised transport policy (NMT) in 2014, has launched what it calls the "Mega Streets" project, which aims to transform 150km of roads into "healthy streets" by 2025. In the past few years, the city has redeveloped over 100km of roads, including Pandy Bazaar (Soundarapandian Angadi) — one of the principal shopping districts of the Tamil Nadu capital, which has been transformed from a crowded, car-centric street into a pedestrian promenade with broad walkways.

The Mega Streets project is funded by the World Bank as part of the 'Chennai City Partnership: Sustainable Urban Services Program'. "We want to redefine the idea of the street by making it an experiential space accessible to all stakeholders such as motor-

DHAULA KUAN TO MOTI BAGH, NEW DELHI



ARVIND YADAV/HT PHOTOS

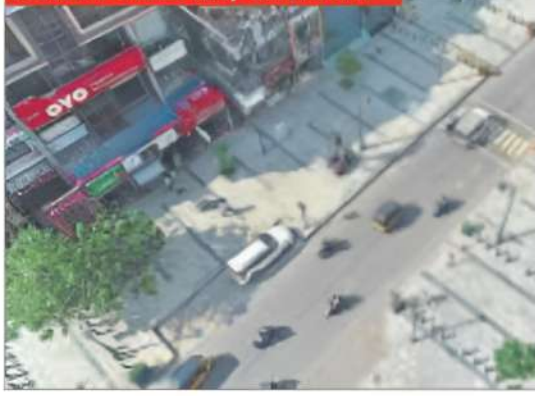
JM ROAD, PUNE



ELITE TO MEDICAL COLLEGE, JHANSI



PONDY MARKET, CHENNAI



The idea behind the redevelopment of these streets is to make them spaces that are attractive, accessible, and prioritise the safety and mobility of all users. HT ARCHIVE, HT PHOTOS

ists, cyclists, pedestrians, and vendors," said GS Sameera, joint commissioner (works), Greater Chennai Corporation. "We will create separate underground ducts for each utility such as stormwater drains, water and sewer pipelines, optical fibre cables and electricity cables."

Around 20 cities have adopted street policies, and 15 others are in the process of doing so. "Never before has there been such a collective push by cities in the country to redevelop their streets into people-friendly spaces," said Aswathy Dilip, managing director, Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP) India, the Indian arm of

the global non-profit that provides technical guidance to cities across the world. Another city that has taken a lead in redeveloping its streets is Pune. Under Pune Street Programme (PSP), Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) has transformed over 40km of streets into complete streets, with another 110 km transformed

under various other schemes. "Place-making was an important JM road redesign. We wanted to develop the road as a destination space on the lines of the Orchard Road in Singapore," said urban designer and architect Akash Hingorani, who co-founded Oasis Design Inc, the design consultant for the JM Road redevelopment project.

"Streets demonstrate how cities take care of their people. But thankfully there is a growing realisation that streets are primarily meant to move people, not cars," he said. Surat, meanwhile, adopted a street policy in 2018, and has transformed 22km of roads so far, most notably VIP road and Canal Pathway.

"Our street policy is aimed at creating safe, pleasant mobility corridors that double up as public spaces where people can walk, cycle, and idle. The footfalls have increased, mobility has improved and there has been a socio-economic boost to the areas where we have completed these projects," said Surat Municipal Corporation commissioner Shalini Agarwal, adding that the civic body has recently initiated the redevelopment of four more streets with a length of 9.65km.

"Street development projects are our topmost priority and we have dedicated budgetary allocations for them each year," she said.

Even smaller towns such as Jhansi, Jabalpur and Ajmer are taking up street redevelopment projects. Jhansi, for example, is currently remaking about 5km of roads under its Iconic Street Project. Work on the 1.6-km road from Elite to Medical College — arguably the city's most important road — is on at a fast pace, and the stretch, which was once synonymous with encroachments today boasts a broad footpath, a kids' play area, a jogging track, a vending area, parking lots, fountains, street furniture, canopies, signage, and a selfie point, among others.

"We have reclaimed over 10,000sqm of space on both sides of the road by making them free of encroachment. The work on other roads will begin soon," said Jhansi municipal commissioner Pulkit Garg. The city was a finalist in the Streets4People Challenge, launched by Smart Cities Mission, to support cities to create pedestrian-friendly streets through quick measures.

Last year, 11 cities — Aurangabad, Bengaluru, Gurugram, Kochi, Kohima, Nagpur, Pimpri-Chinchwad, Pune, Udaipur, Ujjain, and Vijayawada were selected as winners for their pilot projects to make roads more pedestrian-friendly, a competition that was open to 113 smart cities.

City authorities say that they are ensuring the participation of all stakeholders in the road redevelopment projects — a

challenging task which involves motivating citizens, changing attitudes, and breaking stereotypes surrounding cycling and walking.

"We have held year-long consultations with the local community, vendors, pedestrian and others for the Mega Street project. We want to ensure that everyone feels empowered, and not threatened," said Sameera of the Greater Chennai Corporation.

However, experts note the dedicated budgetary allocation for walking and cycling infrastructure continues to be an area of concern.

"Indian cities are enthusiastically taking initiatives to create walking and cycling infrastructure. However, their success depends greatly on their ability to consistently allocate budget towards the expansion of walking and cycling networks," said Dilip.

"Metropolitan cities must prioritise these interventions in their annual transport budget. Medium and small cities will require support from the national and state governments to achieve this vision. The current momentum should be sustained."

Indian Jha, who has co-authored *The Social Life of Streets in India: Histories, Contestations and Subjectivities*, which seeks to understand the complexity of the social dynamics of streets in relation to spatiality, said it is necessary that cities also focus on poor neighbourhoods.

"There is a growing awareness that streets are not just nodes connecting places. But most design interventions are limited to middle-class areas and not in migrant or working-class localities," said Jha, an associate professor at the Centre For Social Studies, Surat.

"Therefore, a separate lane for cyclists is primarily what leisure. Similarly, sidewalks are not safe for children in these working-class neighbourhoods. I think for making streets better it is important that we acknowledge and address multiple hierarchies pertaining to street spaces."

Indian cities planning to be kid-inclusive

Soumya Chatterjee
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NEW DELHI: Play is crucial for children's happiness and well-being, for them to develop motor skills, for their cognitive and emotional development, and for them to understand their environment, believe experts. Restricting play opportunities can negatively impact children's physical and mental health, they say.

Few cities worldwide have implemented play masterplans, with Barcelona, Spain and Istanbul, Turkey notable exceptions. However, under the Smart City Mission, cities in India are planning to implement more such areas within their urban sprawl.

Jabalpur is set to be the first Indian city with city planning focussed on children. Officials in the Madhya Pradesh city said their planning intervention is aimed at making Jabalpur safe and accessible for children. "One of the goals is to have play opportunities for children within 500 metres from any area in the city," Jabalpur Smart City CEO Chandrapratap Gohil said, adding that the masterplan will likely be ready within six months.

Other cities that have similar proposals in the works include Pune and Bhubaneswar. The preparation of the "play masterplan" in Jabalpur is an extension of the three-year "Nurturing Neighbourhoods Challenge" (NNC), launched under the Smart Cities Mission.

The mission, along with experts at the National Institute of Urban Affairs — a think tank operating under the aegis of the ministry of housing and urban affairs (MoHUA) — and non-government entities, introduced the idea of making children-friendly neighbourhoods in cities, noting the absence of facilities in the public realm that cater to children in the age group of 0-5 years.

Planned interventions As part of NNC, Jabalpur, during the Covid-19 pandemic, converted 260 square metres of barren ground at a primary healthcare centre into a children-friendly



The play masterplan in Jabalpur aims to bring in some structural changes in how the city develops every new piece of infrastructure. HT PHOTO

space. An existing structure was converted into a children's immunisation centre. A changing station, lactating room and a diaper vending machine were installed, and playful waiting areas were reclaimed from parking space. Jabalpur also made changes to the city's interstate bus stand, where the waiting area was made child-friendly, and dedicated spaces for breastfeeding were created.

Separately, a one-acre park was transformed with the help of residents to create age-specific play spaces, sensory trails, plantation, and shaded seating spaces.

These spot interventions were made following a guideline developed by MoHUA and the Bernard van Leer Foundation (BvLF), a global charity working for child-friendly initiatives. Kanak Tiwari, programme director (urban strategy unit) at NIUA, said by making child-friendly cities, cities can become all-inclusive.

"For the first few years, children are restricted indoors and their freedom of movement is curtailed, which impacts their holistic development. By making cities child-friendly, we make cities good for almost everybody including the

elderly, the disabled, and pregnant women. So, in spaces if a child feels safe, others will feel the same," she said. According to Tiwari, children are demographically significant a 2016 baseline study conducted by NIUA and BvLF found that 128.5 million children live in urban areas and about 7.8 million children under the age of 0-6 years live in abject poverty and poor conditions in informal settlements.

Need for structural changes

The play masterplan in Jabalpur aims to bring in some structural changes in how the city develops every new piece of infrastructure. These play opportunities can be public spaces such as parks, playgrounds, bus waiting areas, primary healthcare centres, and anganwadis, explained Sambhav Ayachi, assistant commissioner of Jabalpur Smart City.

The programme was developed keeping in mind that the cognitive, physical, and social growth of humans is most crucial between the ages of 0-5 years. "Other than play areas, the play masterplan will also have guidelines on making every infrastructure aspect of the city meet the needs of children

and their caregivers," he said. "We will also remove encroachment from government lands to create child-friendly play opportunities. In areas, where there is a dearth of space at all, decisions can be taken to rent private places to create these play spaces," he added.

Pune is another city that has benefited from an MoU between the municipality and BvLF in 2018. As part of the initiative, over the last two years, 11 spot projects at streets, parks, and government hospitals have been modified to improve the availability of safe and secure waiting spaces for caregivers and activity areas for children.

One such tactical urbanism intervention was taken at the Shivarkar garden crossing, where two-way traffic limited the safe, independent mobility of young children and caregivers. By conducting stakeholder discussions with residents, traffic police, and the local corporator, a decision was taken to create a high-raised or tabletop pedestrian crossing, with colours and patterns to create awareness and perception towards safety. A permanent median was erected to deter U-turns at the crossing.

Surveys conducted after the intervention saw dramatic improvements in pedestrians feeling safe to cross the road.

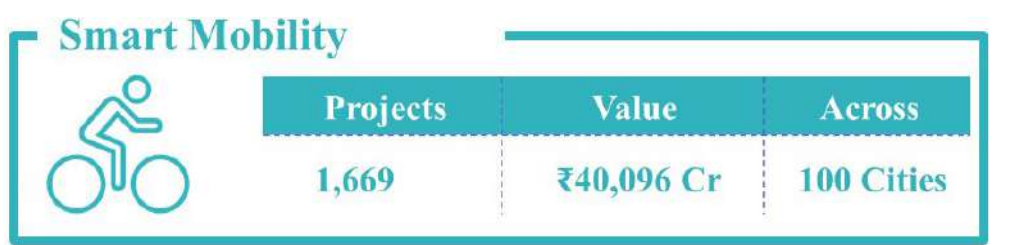
Pune has also incorporated a child-friendly master checklist in its planning in May 2023 for all upcoming projects in the city. With this, all projects in the city should ideally be safe, accessible, inclusive, playful, and green. The checklist acts as a guiding toolkit for choosing ITC-friendly materials and design elements.

Aamir Patel, U95 Pune coordinator, said, "We have also formed creche and day-care centre guidelines, which works as a standard for all child facilities across the city. Another aspect of the Urban95 programme is the participatory and training initiatives for municipal officers of different departments, anganwadi workers, children, and their caregivers to sensitise them about the needs of children."

Mapping children's amenities

The Bhubaneswar Urban Knowledge Centre, which was set up by the Smart City Mission with the support of BvLF, conducted a city-wide scale to map neighbourhoods of all its 57 wards and all children amenities such as hospitals, nursing homes, parks, anganwadis, schools in them. It manages a database of expectations and complaints from children and their caregivers about issues of pedestrian safety, transport to school, adequate streetlights, toilet facilities among others to propose new projects.

Along the same lines, the Bhubaneswar Development Authority is in the process of mandating all public premises under its jurisdiction child friendly. A 400-page draft dictating how public spaces including those in privately-owned spaces like malls and mass housing projects should be designed will be released in weeks' time. Sambit Shovan, assistant town planner for BDA said that this law once notified will also have mandates for private developers to have child-friendly aspects in places such as malls and private bus stations.



Amit Shah to Grace Riverfront Viewpoint Inauguration in Guwahati Smart City



The Brahmaputra Riverfront viewpoint in Guwahati is all set for its grand inauguration, marking a significant phase in the city's urban development. Spearheaded by the Guwahati Smart City Development Limited, this project promises to transform the riverfront with various amenities. The project, with an estimated budget of Rs 370 crore, not only offers a picturesque destination but also reflects the city's national and international prominence.

Spanning a stretch of 1,200 meters from the old DC Bungalow to Kacharighat, the project promises to transform the face of the riverfront. It boasts a variety of amenities including parks, seating areas, refreshment points, and spaces dedicated to cultural programmes, all designed to enhance the urban appeal and provide leisure facilities to the public.

Strategic Significance and Cultural Importance The Chief Minister of Assam, on his visit to the site in October 2022, highlighted Guwahati's strategic importance as a pivotal connection between India and Southeast Asia. He emphasized the necessity of such beautification projects to reflect the city's prominence both nationally and internationally. The riverfront development, situated on the southern bank of the Brahmaputra River within Guwahati's central business district, is an essential part of showcasing the city's heritage and future prospects. With an estimated budget of Rs 370 crore, the Brahmaputra Riverfront Development Project stands as a testament to the commitment towards enhancing Guwahati's urban infrastructure and aesthetics. As residents of Guwahati and visitors alike await the formal opening of the riverfront, there is a palpable sense of anticipation for the new chapter this project will write in the city's history. The inauguration not only promises a picturesque destination but also signifies a leap forward in urban development, melding natural beauty with cultural vibrancy.

A Glimpse of the Majestic Brahmaputra

During his visit, Minister Singhal was impressed with the project's advancement and took to social media to share the stunning visuals of the riverfront beautification. The images showcased the breathtaking views of the mighty Brahmaputra, giving the public a preview of what to expect from the riverfront viewpoint. Singhal's post, featuring the serene waters and the enhanced surroundings, has elevated the excitement for the upcoming inauguration.

The Brahmaputra Riverfront Project:

A Transformative Makeover Spearheaded by the Guwahati Smart City Development Limited, the Brahmaputra Riverfront Project is on a steadfast path to completion by March this year.



Smart cities with a smarter education system creating smarter citizens and smarter communities is need of the hour Project (15 JUL, 2019)



Gwalior ICC functioning as Control Room for COVID-19 (16 MAR, 2020)

हैल्लो, मैं लाल चौक से बोल रहा हूँ

■ संजय टुटेजा
श्रीनगर। एसएनबी
हैल्लो, मैं लाल चौक से बोल रहा हूँ, जो हूँ, मैं उसी ऐतिहासिक लाल चौक से बोल रहा हूँ, जहाँ कभी आतंकवादियों का हथकण्डा था और लोग बंदूकों के साये में जीवन जीने को मजबूर थे। केंद्र सरकार के स्मार्ट सिटी मिशन ने ना केवल यहाँ आतंक के भय को परत किया है बल्कि घाटी के लोगों को सगोनी के साये से दूर कर आधुनिकता की राह में बँधीने का हौसला दिया है।

- स्मार्ट सिटी मिशन ने घाटी में आतंक के भय को किया परत
- अब संगीनों का साथ नहीं विकास की बयार है यहाँ

सरकार जो 20 बैटक आयोजित करने का साहस कर सकी है और इस बैटक का सफल आयोजन कर स्थानीय प्रशासन ने लोगों की आँखों में नई उम्मीदों के नए सपनों को बिस्तार भी दिया है। स्मार्ट सिटी मिशन की परियोजनाओं के केंद्र में पी.एच.एस. लाल चौक महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका में है। लाल चौक को केंद्र में रख कर ही स्मार्ट सिटी मिशन की सभी परियोजनाओं को अंतिम रूप दिया गया है। स्मार्ट सिटी मिशन के मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी व श्रीनगर नगर निगम के निमायक अश्व आनंद खान काते हैं कि स्मार्ट सिटी मिशन के तहत कुल 125 परियोजनाएँ शुरू की गई हैं जिनसे 55 पूरी हो चुकी हैं और लगभग 70 परियोजनाओं

पर काम चल रहा है, उन्होंने बताया कि अगले 6 महीने में बाकी परियोजनाएँ भी पूरी हो जाएंगी। इनमें अधिकतर परियोजनाएँ लालचौक तथा लालचौक के लगभग तीन किलोमीटर के दायरे में फैली हैं। लालचौक के निकट ही पोलो वू मार्किट को रूपांतरित करने के बाजार की तरह विकसित किया गया है, जो स्थानीय लोगों के लिए आकर्षण का प्रमुख केंद्र बन गई है, आतंकवादियों के डर से जो लोग कभी घरों से निकलने को डरते थे वह अब इस बाजार में परिवार के साथ देर शाम तक मौज मस्ती करते हैं। केंद्रीय शहरी कार्य व आवास मंत्रालय के प्रवक्ता राजीव जैन के अनुसार इन परियोजनाओं में एक खास परियोजना से लालचौक के ऐतिहासिक धरातल पर ऐतिहासिक स्वरूप को बरकरार रखते हुए पेंटर का पुनरुद्धार भी किया जा रहा है। उन्होंने बताया कि इस वर्ष के अंत तक समूचा लाल चौक क्षेत्र आधुनिक रूप से विकसित दिखाई देगा और पोलो वू बाजार को तरह ही ये क्षेत्र भी लोगों के आकर्षण का प्रमुख केंद्र होगा।

पर्यटन केन्द्र के रूप में चमकेगा अलीगढ़ का अचल सरोवर

दिए निर्देश

अलीगढ़ ● संजय सखसी

जिलाधिकारी सेल्वा कुमारी जे. ने शहर के मध्य स्थित धार्मिक एवं पवित्र अचल सरोवर के जीर्णोद्धार कार्य का स्थलीय निरीक्षण किया। उन्होंने कहा कि प्रदेश सरकार का संकल्प है कि समस्त धार्मिक स्थल पर्यटन केन्द्र के रूप में विकसित हों ताकि प्रदेश में पर्यटन की सम्भावनाओं को विस्तार मिल सके और स्थानीय नागरिकों, उद्यमियों व व्यापारियों को रोजगार के और अधिक अवसर मुहैया हो सकें। उन्होंने कहा कि अचल सरोवर के पर्यटन केन्द्र के रूप में विकसित होने से शहरवासियों को नगर के मध्य एक बहुत ही आकर्षक एवं धार्मिक स्थल मिलने वाला है। डीएम ने कार्यदायी संस्था के अधिकारियों को निर्देश देते हुए कहा कि अब बरसात भी रूक गयी है ऐसे में तेजी

लाकर कार्य को निर्धारित समयवधि में गुणवत्ता एवं मानक के अनुरूप पूर्ण करें। यदि आवश्यकता हो तो मानव एवं यांत्रिक श्रम को भी बढ़ाया जाए। कार्य को समय से न पूर्ण करने के बहुत से कारण हो सकते हैं परन्तु कार्य तो करना ही है, इसलिए हीलाहवाली एवं शिथिलता छोड़ते हुए पूर्ण मनोयोग से कार्य को धरातल पर पूर्ण करना सुनिश्चित करें। उन्होंने अचल सरोवर के कार्यों की प्रगति के सम्बन्ध में नगर आयुक्त गौरांग राठी से दूरभाष पर वार्ता कर आवश्यक दिशा निर्देश दिये। कार्यदायी संस्था उओप्रओ राजकीय निर्माण निगम के प्रोजेक्ट मैनेजर हरिओम शर्मा ने बताया कि 25.72 करोड़ रुपए की लागत से अचल सरोवर का सौन्दर्यीकरण एवं जीर्णोद्धार कार्य किया जा रहा है, जिसके तहत सरोवर को सीसी बाउण्ड्रीवाल, लगभग 500 मीटर का एलीवेटेड परिक्रमा पथ, आरती घाट, हवनकुंड, म्यूजिकल फाउण्टेन, अचल सरोवर पर दुकानों का नवनिर्माण के साथ ही सरोवर के



अलीगढ़ के प्राचीनतम धरोहरों में से एक मंदिरों का केन्द्र अचल सरोवर का निरीक्षण कर जानकारी लेती जिलाधिकारी। मध्य 20 फीट ऊंचाई की भव्य शिव प्रतिमा को स्थापना कराई जानी है। उन्होंने बताया कि शहर के दूधित जल एवं सीवेज को आरसीसी की बाउण्ड्रीवाल द्वारा सरोवर में गिरने से रोका जाएगा। सरोवर को जल को शुद्ध करने के लिए 250 किलो लीटर क्षमता का वाटर ट्रीटमेंट प्लांट

महिला उद्यम की अद्भुत मिसाल बेलगावी बाजार

■ संजय टुटेजा
नई दिल्ली। एसएनबी

- एक ऐसा बाजार जहाँ महिलाएँ ही हैं दुकानदार
- भारतीय खानपान व स्वादिष्ट व्यंजनों का केंद्र बना यह बाजार

लोकनिर्माण विभाग के अधीन थी, लोक निर्माण विभाग के साथ मिलकर यह बाजार बनाने की योजना बनी और देखते ही देखते ऐसा बाजार बन गया जिससे बेलगावी पूरे देश में पहचान बना रहा है। इस बाजार को यह चेन्नै-मद्रास महिला बाजार नाम दिया गया है। इस बाजार की खासियत यह है कि यह पूरा बाजार एक थीम, एक डिजाइन एवं एक ही रंग के साथ विकसित किया गया। यहाँ को सभी दुकानों के डिजाइन व रंग भी एक जैसा है और पूरे बाजार की थीम भी महिला केंद्रित है, इस बाजार में खान पान से लेकर खरीदारी तक सब बहुत ही सस्ती दरों पर उपलब्ध है। इस बाजार में कुल 56 दुकानें हैं और यह सभी दुकानें महिलाओं को ही आवंटित की गई हैं और जिन महिलाओं को यह दुकानें आवंटित की गई हैं वह महिलाएँ स्वयं ही इन दुकानों को चलाती हैं। इस बाजार में यू. तो खानपान व स्वादिष्ट व्यंजनों की दुकानें

अधिक है लेकिन हस्त निर्मित घरेलू सामान, खिलौने, वस्त्र तथा खान पान की जीवंक वस्तुओं की दुकानें भी यहाँ उपलब्ध हैं। खिलौने की दुकान चला रही श्रीमती अनिता राजेंद्र बताती हैं कि जब से यह दुकान उन्हें मिली है तब से इस दुकान से उसके घर का खर्ची चल रहा है। लेकिन यहाँ को एक दुकान चला रही श्रीमती रूपल का कहना है कि इस बाजार ने अनेक घरेलू महिलाओं को भी महिला उद्यमी बना दिया है। स्मार्ट सिटी मिशन लिमिटेड की प्रबंध निदेशक सैयदा आफतीन एम बेलारी के अनुसार बेलगावी में इस महिला बाजार के अलावा सवित्र अस्पताल में एक मॉडरन आग्रेशन रूम व ट्रामा सेंटर का निर्माण, महात्मा फुले गार्डन में दिव्यांग बच्चों के लिये थैरेपी सेंटर, डिजिटल लाइब्रेरी, स्मार्ट किड्स-जोन,कन्या प्रबंधन, स्मार्ट ट्रेफिक व लाइन प्रबंधन, स्मार्ट जल प्रबंधन, स्मार्ट परिवहन आदि सुविधाएँ विकसित की गई हैं। केन्द्रीय शहरी कार्य मंत्रालय के प्रवक्ता राजीव जैन के अनुसार, स्मार्ट सिटी मिशन का मकसद लोगों के जीवन को आसान बनाना तथा उन्हें सशक्त बनाना है और मिशन के तहत यह काम लगातार किया जा रहा है।

स्मार्ट सिटी प्रोजेक्ट ने बदला शहर का नजारा



का सुंदरीकरण
- 43 स्थलों पर लगे पैनिक बटन
- 3 करोड़ रुपए से ई-टॉयलेट का निर्माण
- 3.56 करोड़ से हेरिटेज वॉक का निर्माण
- 281 करोड़ से इंटीग्रेटेड कमांड एंड कंट्रोल सेंटर का निर्माण
स्मार्ट सिटी के कार्यों से शहर में क्या बदलाव आया है? क्या है आपकी राय?

69 परसेंट ने कहा कि स्मार्ट हो गए हम
दैनिक जागरण आईनैक्स्ट की ओर से आयोजित ऑनलाइन सर्वे में 589 लोगों ने पार्टिसिपेट किया। इसमें स्मार्ट सिटी के कार्यों से शहर को किस तरह फायदा हुआ? क्या अब शहर स्मार्ट सिटी बन चुका है? स्मार्ट सिटी के तहत शहर को मिला कौन सा प्रोजेक्ट ज्यादा असरदार

- 1. स्मार्ट सिटी के इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर से क्या शहर में ट्रैफिक मैनेजमेंट में मदद मिली है?
- हाँ 62 परसेंट
- नहीं 38 परसेंट
- 2. क्या शहर में स्मार्ट सिटी के तहत बनाए गए हेल्थ सेंटर स्वास्थ्य सेवाएं उपलब्ध कराने में मददगार साबित हो रहे हैं?
- हाँ 59 परसेंट
- नहीं 41 परसेंट
- 3. स्मार्ट सिटी की कौन सी सुविधा आपको सबसे कारगर लगती है?
- पब्लिक एड्रेस सिस्टम 32 परसेंट
- ई-टॉयलेट 10 परसेंट
- इंटीग्रेटेड कमांड एंड कंट्रोल सेंटर 23 परसेंट
- टाउनगैंग क्षेत्र में किए स्मार्ट सिटी के तहत कार्य 35 परसेंट
- 4. क्या शहर में बनाए गए स्मार्ट सिटी के तहत बस स्टॉप पर सिटी बस रुकती है?
- हाँ 51 परसेंट
- नहीं 49 परसेंट
- 5. क्या आगरा स्मार्ट बना है?
- हाँ 69 परसेंट
- नहीं 31 परसेंट

● नालंदा-सुंदर लाइब्रेरी की वेंटिंग हुई कम, देर रात तक पीएससी अभ्यर्थियों ने की पढ़ाई

'तक्षशिला' में पहले दिन सुबह 7 बजे पहुंचे 100 से अधिक छात्र, पहली पसंद छत्तीसगढ़ का इतिहास



मोतीबाग के पास तक्षशिला लाइब्रेरी शुरू होने के बाद सोमवार को पहले दिन ही सुबह 7 बजे से पढ़ाई करने बड़ी संख्या में छात्र पहुंचे। दिनभर में 300 लोगों ने लाइब्रेरी में पढ़ाई की तो वहीं रात में 60 से अधिक स्टूडेंट्स ने किताबों के साथ समय बितायी। यहां लोगों को नालंदा की तर्ज पर 24 घंटे लाइब्रेरी की सुविधा मिल रही है। पहले दिन कॉलेज के साथ-साथ कॉम्प्यूटिव एजमा की तैयारी करने वाले छात्रों की उपस्थिति अधिक रही।

रायपुर। लाइब्रेरी में 150 से अधिक लोगों ने किताबें इश्यू कराईं, जिसमें सबसे अधिक छत्तीसगढ़ के इतिहास से जुड़ी किताबें थीं। पीएससी व व्यायाम द्वाय निकालने पर विभिन्न पर्यों की परीक्षा की तैयारी के लिए अलग से किताबें खोजी गई हैं, जिसकी कौम्य बाजार में 1000 रुपए से भी अधिक है। ये सभी लाइब्रेरी में अपनी से मिल रही है। समजशाव, इतिहास, जेईई और नीट की किताबें पढ़ने वाले भी पहले दिन पहुंचे रहे।

रूपटॉप का आनंद
यहाँ रूपटॉप की भी सुविधा दे गई है। रात्रि में खुले आसमन के नीचे बैठकर अध्ययन-अभ्यास की सुविधा छात्रों को दी जा रही है। इसका भी आनंद लेते पहले दिन छात्र नजर आए। गर्मी का मौसम होने के कारण रूपटॉप को लेकर छात्र उत्साहित हैं।

आधुनिक सुविधाओं का उदया लाम
तक्षशिला में 10 हजार किताबें रखी गई हैं। पहले दिन छात्रों ने लाइब्रेरी में अपनी काम की किताबों को खंगाला, फिर इश्यू कराया। डिजिटल रीडिंग जैन में पढ़ाई करने नजर आए। वहीं लोगों ने निशुल्क वाई-वाई की सुविधा कर लाया उदघाटी। यहाँ मॉडर्न लिफ्टिंग में 750 लोग एक साथ बैठकर पढ़ सकते हैं। तक्षशिला परिसर में 800 गाइडों की पाठिका की सुविधा है।

सप्ताहभर में शुरू होगा फूड जॉन
लाइब्रेरी के बाहर फूड जॉन अगले शुरू हो रहा है, लेकिन स्टाफ के अभाव में यह सप्ताहभर में शुरू नहीं हो पाया। फूड जॉन को शुरू करने का निर्देश दिया है। लाइब्रेरी के पड़ने वाले फूड जॉन को शुरू करने का निर्देश दिया है। लाइब्रेरी के पड़ने वाले फूड जॉन को शुरू करने का निर्देश दिया है।



अब स्मार्ट बनेगा क्षेत्रीय खेल कार्यालय

संवाद न्यूज एजेंसी

खिलाड़ियों के लिए रजिस्ट्रेशन आदि की सुविधाएं बढ़ेंगी

20 करोड़ की परियोजनाओं पर चल रहा है काम

बेहतर सुविधाओं के साथ काम करेंगे कर्मचारी

क्षेत्रीय खेल कार्यालय में क्षेत्रीय खेल अधिकारी के बैठने के ऑफिस के साथ ही अधिकारी के आराम करने के लिए अलग से कक्ष भी है, जिसमें वीआईपी के बैठने की व्यवस्था भी रहती है। इन दोनों को आधुनिक बनाने के साथ ही कर्मचारियों के लिए बने बड़े कमरे को भी नया रूप दिया जाएगा। इसके अलावा शौचालय में भी सुविधाएं बढ़ेंगी।

टीका सामने बना क्षेत्रीय खेल कार्यालय का भवन पुराना होने के कारण भद्दा नजर आ रहा है। ऐसे में स्मार्ट सिटी सहरानपुर के क्षेत्रीय खेल कार्यालय को बेहतर सुविधाओं के साथ-साथ उन्नत कार्यालय को भी स्मार्ट बनाने के निर्देश अधिकारियों को दिए हैं। अधिशासी अभियंता अमरेंद्र

गौतम ने बताया कि क्षेत्रीय खेल कार्यालय के भवन को छत पर सोलिंग लगाने के साथ ही दीवारों पर पैनल लगाए जाएंगे। यह पैनल अंदर के साथ हर बाहर की दीवारों पर भी लगेंगे। इसके अलावा फर्श पर टाइल्स बिछाई जाएंगी। खिलाड़ी विभिन्न प्रतियोगिताओं के लिए पंजीकरण

आदि यहीं से करा सकें। इसकी भी व्यवस्था की जाएगी। इसके अलावा क्षेत्रीय खेल कार्यालय के पीछे खड़ी बैडमिंटन हॉल की बिल्डिंग को भी कब किया जाएगा, जो पुरानी होने क वजह से खराब नजर आ रही है उन्होंने बताया कि कार्य इसी मास शुरू होगा।

विस्तृत कवरेज देखने के लिये वयूआर कोड स्कैन करें

कोयंबटूर में स्मार्ट है वॉटर सप्लाई

प्रमुख संवाधता, कोयंबटूर

2 करोड़ की आवदा वाले दिल्ली को तुलना में 12 लाख की जनसंख्या वाले कोयंबटूर नगर निगम इलाके में पानी की सप्लाई का सिस्टम काफी स्मार्ट है। तमिलनाडु के इस शहर में पानी कहीं से भी लौक कर जाए तो उसे ट्रीट करके देवाग इस्तेमाल करने की सुविधा भी है। इस शहर के नगर निगम कमिश्नर एम. प्रताप के अनुसार, वॉटर सप्लाई के मामले में कोयंबटूर देश के दूसरे करिबोरेशन की तुलना में काफी अडवांस है। शहर में 1.5 लाख वॉटर कनेक्शन हैं। जिसके लिए गेजना 165-170 MLD वॉटर सप्लाई होती है। इसमें करीब 30-35% पानी लौक कर जाता है, लेकिन पानी की कमी नहीं होती। इसकी वजह यह है कि लीकज

शहर में 1.5 लाख वॉटर कनेक्शन हैं। जिसके लिए गेजना 165-170 MLD वॉटर सप्लाई होती है। इसमें करीब 30-35% पानी लौक कर जाता है। दिल्ली में 20 हजार लीटर पानी

का पता लगाने के लिए स्काइ सिस्टम लगाया गया है। जिससे सिर्फ लीकज ही नहीं, पुरिया में किसके घर में गंदा पानी जा रहा है, यह भी इस सिस्टम से आसानी से पता चल जाता है। दिल्ली में 20 हजार लीटर पानी

महीने में मुफ्त है। लेकिन यहाँ ऐसा नहीं है। एक महीने में अगर कोई परिवार 15 हजार लीटर पानी इस्तेमाल करता है तो उसे सिर्फ विल 100 रुपये ही देना है वहीं, 15 हजार लीटर से अधिक पानी इस्तेमाल करने पर चार्ज 5.25 रुपये, हजार लीटर समूल किया जाता है।

26 करोड़ 83 लाख से बनी स्मार्ट रोड से दुरुस्त हुई यातायात व्यवस्था

Bilaspur News: स्मार्ट रोड बनने से पहले वर्षाकाल में या फिर सामान्य दिन इस मार्ग पर यातायात जाम की समस्या बनी रहती थी।



Bilaspur News: बिलासपुर (नईदुनिया प्रतिनिधि) महाराणा प्रताप चोक से तारबाहर चोक तक 26 करोड़ 83 लाख रुपये की लागत से बनी स्मार्ट रोड से बिलासपुर संभाग की इकलौती थोड मंडी व्यापार विहार की चमक बढ़ गई है। इस सड़क के बनने से यातायात व्यवस्था दुरुस्त हो गई है। स्मार्ट रोड बनने से पहले वर्षाकाल में या फिर सामान्य दिन इस मार्ग पर यातायात जाम की समस्या बनी रहती थी। वर्षाकाल में यह सड़क और भी बदतर हो जाना करती थी। इसका खानिगाना चोक मंडी व्यापार विहार के व्यापारियों को झेलना पड़ता था।

सड़क जाम होने के कारण अन्य प्रारंभ से टकों के जरिए आने वाला सामान तय समय पर मंडी नहीं पहुंच पा रहा था। इसके अलावा थोक मंडी से अन्य शहरों के लिए भेजे जाने वाले सामान की आपूर्ति में भी समय लग रहा था। एक अरब सड़क के चलते थोक मंडी में कामकाज प्रभावित हो रहा था। स्मार्ट रोड बनने के बाद व्यापार विहार थोक मंडी की चमक भी बढ़ गई है। सड़क जाम की समस्या से भी मुक्ति मिल गई है। यातायात के सुगम और स्मार्ट साधन मिलते ही व्यापार व्यवसाय भी चमकने लगा है। व्यापारियों के चेहरे की खुशी इस बात को बयान भी कर रही है।

महाराणा प्रताप चोक से तारबाहर चोक तक यातायात भी अब व्यवस्थित हो गया है। सड़क खराब होने के कारण यहां आए दिन जाम की शिकायत मिलती थी। जल्दही कामकाज के सिलसिले में आने जाने वालों को दिक्कतों का सामना भी करना पड़ रहा था। स्मार्ट रोड बनने के बाद दोपहिया और चारपहिया वाहनों की रफ्तार देखते ही बनती है।

फ्लाईओवर ने बढ़ाई रफ्तार

तिफड़ा में 107 करोड़ 49 लाख रुपये की लागत से फ्लाईओवर का निर्माण किया गया है। बिलासपुर टायपुट नेशनल हाइवे पर फ्लाईओवर के बनने से भारी वाहनों की आवाजाही तो सुगम हुआ है साथ ही व्यापार व व्यवसाय में भी रफ्तार पकड़ गई है। यह आर्थिक समृद्धि का प्रतीक भी है। सड़क परिवहन सुदृढ़ होने का मतलब संबंधित शहर और राज्य में व्यवसाय में अजिबत रूप में देखा जाता है। फ्लाईओवर के बनने से टायपुट-बिलासपुर के अलावा कोरवा व अंबिकापुर तक आवागमन सुगम हो गया है। दूसरे प्रारंभ से सामान लेकट आने वाले भारी वाहनों की आवाजाही भी बढ़ गई है।

जाय से मिली मुक्ति

पुराना बस स्टैंड में जल्द आकर लेगी लैंडलेव कार पार्किंग
10 करोड़ 89 लाख रुपये की लागत से पुराना बस स्टैंड में इस्वाकलित मल्टी लेवल पार्किंग भी जल्द आकर लेगी। इसके बन जाने से सड़कों के किनारे दोपहिया व चारपहिया वाहनों की पार्किंग के कारण ट्रैफिक जाम की समस्या नहीं होगी। सड़कों के किनारे खाली होने से पैदल चलने वाले लोग आराम से आवाजाही कर सकेंगे।

स्मार्ट सिटी की पत्रिका का विमोचन



सागर, आचारण संवाददाता।

सागर, आचारण। स्मार्ट सिटी मिशन एवं नगर पालिका निगम द्वारा महापौर श्रीमती सोनिया तिवारी के पदभार उग्रांत विगत एक वर्ष में हुए सागर के विकास कार्यों का सफ़िर विवरण को मेगजिन (पत्रिका) का विमोचन आज मुख्यमंत्री शिवराज सिंह चौहान, राज्यपाल मंगूभाई पटेल, प्रदेशाध्यक्ष वीडी शर्मा, प्रभारी मंत्री अरविंद सिंह पटेल, मंत्री भूपेन्द्र सिंह के लिए रखा गया। प्रधानमंत्री मोदी का राज्यपाल मंगूभाई पटेल, मुख्यमंत्री शिवराज सिंह चौहान, केन्द्रीय मंत्री समाजिक न्याय एवं अधिकारिता नागरिक कल्याण रुविना, नगर निगम कमिश्नर चंद्रशेखर शुक्ला सहित गणमान्य नागरिक उपस्थित रहे।

सागर, आचारण संवाददाता।

विवादों की
प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी को बना एयर टिप्पू पर खनुहो विमानलय के लिए प्रस्थान करते समय भावभीनी विदाई दी गई। प्रधानमंत्री मोदी शाम 4-25 बजे बना एयर टिप्पू से भारतीय वायुसेना के विशेष हेलीकॉप्टर द्वारा खनुहो के लिए रखा गया। प्रधानमंत्री मोदी का राज्यपाल मंगूभाई पटेल, मुख्यमंत्री शिवराज सिंह चौहान, केन्द्रीय मंत्री समाजिक न्याय एवं अधिकारिता नागरिक कल्याण रुविना, नगर निगम कमिश्नर चंद्रशेखर शुक्ला सहित गणमान्य नागरिक उपस्थित रहे।

सागर, आचारण संवाददाता।

राज्यपाल और मुख्यमंत्री चौहान ने अगवानी की
सागर, आचारण। प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी शनिवार को मध्यप्रदेश के सागर जिले में संत शिरोमो गुरुदेव रविदास जी के मंदिर और स्मारक का भूमिपूजन एवं समस्त यात्रा के सम्मान कार्यक्रम में शामिल होने बहदुल्ला हेलीकॉप्टर पहुंचे। हेलीकॉप्टर पर राज्यपाल मंगूभाई पटेल, मुख्यमंत्री शिवराज सिंह चौहान, केन्द्रीय मंत्री समाजिक न्याय एवं अधिकारिता मंत्रालय भारत सरकार डॉ. वीरेंद्र कुमार, वनमंत्री कुंभर विजय शह स्थानीय जनप्रतिनिधि तथा अधिकारियों द्वारा पुष्पमाला चढ़ाकर प्रभारमंत्रो नरेंद्र मोदी का स्वागत किया गया।

होलोग्राफिक तकनीक से लैस होंगे म्यूजियम, पोखरण परीक्षण की मंत्रणा करते दिखेंगे अटलजी

Atal Museum In Gwalior: स्मार्ट सिटी कार्पोरेशन द्वारा महाराज बाड़ा पर तैयार कराए गए अटल म्यूजियम और डिजिटल म्यूजियम को अब होलोग्राफिक तकनीक से लैस कराया जाएगा।



Atal Museum in Gwalior: नईदुनिया प्रतिनिधि।
स्मार्ट सिटी कार्पोरेशन द्वारा महाराज बाड़ा पर तैयार कराए गए अटल म्यूजियम और डिजिटल म्यूजियम को अब होलोग्राफिक तकनीक से लैस कराया जाएगा। 7.75 करोड़ रुपये की लागत से म्यूजियम अपग्रेडेशन की परियोजना के अंतर्गत अटल म्यूजियम में होलोग्राफिक तकनीक के जरिए अटलजी की जिवनीय किया जाएगा। इसमें सैलफी वीडियो अटलजी संग्रहालय को डेवलप करने वाली एजेंसी म्यूजियम किया जा रहा है, जिसमें अटलजी पोखरण में किए गए परमाणु परीक्षण की मंत्रणा करते हुए नजर आएं। गवालियर स्मार्ट सिटी डेवलपमेंट कार्पोरेशन द्वारा पर्यटकों को आकर्षित करने के लिए महालय बाड़ा पर बने हुए अटल म्यूजियम, डिजिटल म्यूजियम एवं प्लेनेटोरियम, निर्माणाधीन इंस्टिट्यूट म्यूजियम के साथ ही मोंटीमहल स्थित नगर निगम संग्रहालय को भी अपग्रेड किया जाएगा। इसके लिए दिल्ली में प्रधानमंत्री संग्रहालय को डेवलप करने वाली एजेंसी म्यूजियम

किया जा रहा है, जिसमें अटलजी पोखरण में किए गए परमाणु परीक्षण की मंत्रणा करते हुए नजर आएं। गवालियर स्मार्ट सिटी डेवलपमेंट कार्पोरेशन द्वारा पर्यटकों को आकर्षित करने के लिए महालय बाड़ा पर बने हुए अटल म्यूजियम, डिजिटल म्यूजियम एवं प्लेनेटोरियम, निर्माणाधीन इंस्टिट्यूट म्यूजियम के साथ ही मोंटीमहल स्थित नगर निगम संग्रहालय को भी अपग्रेड किया जाएगा। इसके लिए दिल्ली में प्रधानमंत्री संग्रहालय को डेवलप करने वाली एजेंसी म्यूजियम

एक्सपोज इंटरनेशनल लिमिटेड को निम्नलिखित सौंपी गई है। कार्पोरेशन ने इसके लिए सात करोड़ 75 लाख 56 हजार 923 रुपये का बजट निर्धारित किया है। इन संग्रहालयों में तकनीक और आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस का उपयोग करने पर जोर दिया गया है। इसके अलावा पर्यटकों को अधिक से अधिक आकर्षित करने के लिए अंतरराष्ट्रीय मानकों वाली होलोग्राफिक तकनीक का इस्तेमाल किया जाएगा। इसके तहत डिजिटल म्यूजियम में पर्यटकों का परिवार होलोग्राफिक तकनीक के जरिए संगीत सम्राट तानसेन से कराया जाएगा। इस म्यूजियम में एक ड्रम तैयार किया जाएगा, जिसमें बैठकर सेलानी संगीत सम्राट तानसेन को चलते और गाते हुए देख सकेंगे।

टोटोस्कोप से खुद का एनिमेशन अवतार देख पाएं

डिजिटल म्यूजियम में ही टोटोस्कोप तकनीक का इस्तेमाल किया जाएगा। इस तकनीक का इस्तेमाल आमतौर पर फिल्म मेकिंग में किया जाता है। टोटोस्कोप तकनीक जरिए म्यूजियम में आने वाले सेलानी स्वयं का एनिमेशन अवतार देख पाएंगे। इस तकनीक के जरिए सेलानियों की गतिविधियों को लाइव रिकार्ड किया जाएगा। इसके बाद टोटोस्कोप के जरिए उसे एनिमेशन में तब्दिल कराया जाएगा। इससे सेलानियों की एक एनिमेटेड शॉर्ट फिल्म तैयार कर ली जाएगी, जिसमें उसे सौंप दिया जाएगा।

औद्योगिक म्यूजियम में खुद बनाएँ, साथ ले जाएँ

वहीं शासकीय प्रेस बिल्डिंग में तैयार कराया जा रहे औद्योगिक म्यूजियम में सेलानियों के लिए पदस्तर संवादात्मक गतिविधियों की व्यवस्था की जाएगी। यहां ऐतिहासिक गवालियर पाटरीज की तर्ज पर सेलानियों के लिए खुद ही बर्तन बनाने की मशीनें लगाई जाएंगी। यहां आने वाले सेलानी स्वयं ही कोई न कोई बर्तन बना सकेंगे और उसे अपने साथ भी ले जा सकेंगे।

शिमला में स्मार्ट सिटी प्रोजेक्ट का काम ज़ोरों पर, नई सूरत में दिखेगा

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■ शिमला: हिमालय क्वीन सिटी के नाम से विश्व प्रसिद्ध दूरिस्ट स्थल शिमला रूप लेने जा रहा है। 2017 में इसे स्मार्ट सिटी प्रोजेक्ट में चुनने के बाद शहरी विकास मंत्रालय इस शहर में ना केवल शहर की इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर में सुधार कर रहा है बल्कि लोगों की आजीवनिका के साधनों को भी बेहतर करने के लिए काम कर रहा है। सिटी बस स्टैंड के पास पुराने बेकरों को नई इमारत में बदल कर शहरी बेकरों को सुंदर बनाया: शहर में जहाँ-जहाँ भी संकेत रोड है। स्मार्ट सिटी योजना के तहत फार्म रोड्स को चौड़ा कर इसे सुंदर बनाया गया है। पूरे शहर में 20 किलोमीटर पैदल पथ बनाए



संकरि सड़कों को सुंदर बनाया: शहर में जहाँ-जहाँ भी संकेत रोड है। स्मार्ट सिटी योजना के तहत फार्म रोड्स को चौड़ा कर इसे सुंदर बनाया गया है। पूरे शहर में 20 किलोमीटर पैदल पथ बनाए

गए हैं। इसमें लगभग 73 करोड़ रुपये की लागत लगी है। स्मार्ट सिटी का काम भी ज़ोरों पर: छोटा शिमला के विकासनगर से लेकर संचालय तक स्मार्ट सिटी बनाने का काम ज़ोरों पर है। अगले साल की शुरुआत में स्मार्ट सिटी पर लोग सफर कर सकेंगे। इसमें नये ब्या है, इसे तो लोग देख ही सकेंगे, साथ ही यह ऊपर से पूरी तरह बहना होगा। शहर को जोड़ने के लिए सुरंग: शिमला पहाड़ की चोटी पर पहाड़ के दोनों ओर बसा है और शहर को जोड़ने के लिये एक सुरंग बनाई जा रही है। सुरंग बनने से कुम्भी, नालदेहर, ततापानी, नरकांडा व चेल में आवागमन आसान हो जाएगा।

महिला उद्यमियों को नेहा चौधरी ने सिखाए बिजनेस के गुर

नवभारत न्यूज़

सतना, 29 फरवरी। इन्क्यूबेशन सेंटर की वूमन सेल निर्मात्री में श्रीमती नेहा चौधरी का सेशन बुधवार को आयोजित किया गया। इस दौरान उन्होंने महिला उद्यमियों को मार्केट रिसर्च एंड कॉम्प्युटेशन एनालिसिस द्वारा कैसे बिजनेस को बढ़ाया जा सकता है इसके बारे में विस्तार से जानकारी दी। श्रीमती चौधरी ने बताया कि बिजनेस बढ़ाने के लिए किस तरह से अपने प्रोडक्ट या सर्विसेज में मार्केट में चल रहे ट्रेंड के अनुसार नयापन लाना चाहिए, जिससे वो हमेशा डिमांड में बने रहे। उन्होंने महिलाओं के विभिन्न



जिज्ञासाओं का उचित समाधान भी दिया, एक महिला के सवाल पर उन्होंने बताया की मुख्य बिंदुओं में बाजार अनुसंधान के प्रमुख घटकों में अनुसंधान उद्देश्यों को परिभाषित करना, लक्ष्य बाजार को पहचान करना, उचित अनुसंधान विधियों (जैसे सर्वेक्षण, साक्षात्कार, फोकस

समूह या अवलोकन अध्ययन) का चयन करना, डेटा एकत्र करना, डेटा का विश्लेषण करना और निष्कर्षों को व्याख्या करना शामिल है। इस समूह में सतना इन्क्यूबेशन की और से रागिनी त्रिपाठी, संजना सिंह एवं निर्मात्री सेल को सभी महिलाएँ उपस्थित रही।

एक झील से बदल गई शहर की जिंदगी

संजय टुटेजा

हृदयानी (फ़नकट)। एएसएनबी
कर्मचारी के दुखती शहर में वॉन में बंधे का अंश भी एक झील के जीवन देने से पूरे शहर की जिंदगी बदल गई। स्मार्ट सिटी परियोजना के तहत लगभग 33 एकड़ क्षेत्र में फैली इस खेती विकास किये जाने से यह झील शहर और आसपास के शहरों के लिये न केवल पर्यटन स्थल बन गई है बल्कि झील के आसपास के समूचे क्षेत्र में अधिक नैतिकतंत्र विकसित हो गई है और हजारों लोगों को बेमाल मिलने लगे हैं।

अनारस का क्षेत्र पूरी तरह सूख चुका। जलनी पैड पौधों व इन्हियों के कारण लोगों को इस क्षेत्र में आने से भी डर लगता था। इस झील की किस्मत अब बदली जब हृदयानी शहर का चयन देश के 100 स्मार्ट सिटी शहरों में हुआ और स्मार्ट सिटी लिमिटेड ने इसी झील के पुनर्भार को ही अपने सर्वोच्च प्राथमिकता मानकर काम शुरू किया।

कर्मचारी के दुखती शहर में वॉन में बंधे का अंश भी एक झील के जीवन देने से पूरे शहर की जिंदगी बदल गई। स्मार्ट सिटी परियोजना के तहत लगभग 33 एकड़ क्षेत्र में फैली इस खेती विकास किये जाने से यह झील शहर और आसपास के शहरों के लिये न केवल पर्यटन स्थल बन गई है बल्कि झील के आसपास के समूचे क्षेत्र में अधिक नैतिकतंत्र विकसित हो गई है और हजारों लोगों को बेमाल मिलने लगे हैं।

स्मार्ट सिटी ने झील को बनाया स्मार्ट तो शाहवासी भी हो गए स्मार्ट

झील के आसपास हुई आर्थिक गतिविधियाँ विकसित

श्री.ओ.ए. कंटेनर एसी पानी बहतो है कि झील का पुनर्भार करना बड़ी चुनौती थी। सबसे बड़े चुनौती तो झील को सूख कर नष्ट था, इसके बाद जल का उपलब्ध होना भी एक बड़ा कठिनाई का अनुभव हो रहा था। झील के आसपास भूमि को दो पांच गुना बढ़ा कर पहाड़ है।

श्री.ओ.ए. कंटेनर एसी पानी बहतो है कि झील का पुनर्भार करना बड़ी चुनौती थी। सबसे बड़े चुनौती तो झील को सूख कर नष्ट था, इसके बाद जल का उपलब्ध होना भी एक बड़ा कठिनाई का अनुभव हो रहा था। झील के आसपास भूमि को दो पांच गुना बढ़ा कर पहाड़ है।

श्री.ओ.ए. कंटेनर एसी पानी बहतो है कि झील का पुनर्भार करना बड़ी चुनौती थी। सबसे बड़े चुनौती तो झील को सूख कर नष्ट था, इसके बाद जल का उपलब्ध होना भी एक बड़ा कठिनाई का अनुभव हो रहा था। झील के आसपास भूमि को दो पांच गुना बढ़ा कर पहाड़ है।

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अजमेरवासियों को जल्द 6 जगहों पर मिलेगा फ्री वाई फाई, विभागों की सूचनाओं को जनोपयोगी बनाने को लेकर भी हुई चर्चा

अजमेर स्मार्ट सिटी लि. (Ajmer Smart City Limited) ने आजादी के अमृत महोत्सव (Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav) के उपलक्ष्य में शुक्रवार को आपन डाटा डे मनाया। इसका आयोजन जवाहर रंग मंच पर आयोजित सेमिनार को जरिए किया जाएगा।

अजमेर, आजादी के अमृत महोत्सव (Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav) के उपलक्ष्य में अजमेर स्मार्ट सिटी लि. (Ajmer Smart City Limited) ने आपन डाटा डे शुक्रवार को मनाया। जवाहर रंग मंच पर आयोजित सेमिनार में समस्त विभागों की जन उपयोगी जानकारीयों आमजन को सुगमता से मिले इसको लेकर चर्चा की गई। साथ ही विभागों में आमजन के कार्य किस तरह तक पहुंचे इसके जानकारी भी लोगों तक पहुंचाने को लेकर विशेषज्ञों ने अपना व्याख्यान दिया।

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सूचनाओं का लाभ आमजन तक कैसे पहुंचे, इसका लाभ आमजन को कैसे मिले? सूचनाओं के डेटा की उपयोगिता आर्थिक बन सकें इन विषयों को लेकर विषय विशेषज्ञों की ओर से अपने अपने व्याख्यान दिए जा रहे हैं। कार्यक्रम में कई विशेषज्ञ ऑनलाइन भी जुड़े हैं। शर्मा

ने बताया कि आपन डाटा डे सप्ताहाभर (Ajmer Smart City Limited Open Data Day) मनाया जा रहा है। यह भी पढ़ें - अजमेर स्मार्ट सिटी प्रोजेक्ट: अरबन हाट में फूड इंटिग्रेटेड सेक्टर बनकर तैयार, अब एक ही जगह मिलेगा अलग-अलग जायकों का स्वाद

उन्होंने यह भी बताया कि अजमेर स्मार्ट सिटी प्रोजेक्ट के तहत शहर में 6 स्थानों को चिन्हित किया गया है, जहां पर वाईफाई जॉन बनाया जा रहा है। अजमेर विकास प्राधिकरण को राशि स्वीकृत कर दी गई है। जल्द ही अजमेर के लोगों को फ्री वाईफाई का लाभ मिल सकेंगा, इसके लिए काम शुरू भी हो चुका है।

पहल खाली जमीन को मनोरंजन स्थल में बदल कर किया अनूठा इस्तेमाल सूत ने दिखाया देश के दूसरे शहरों को रास्ता

जसनाथ खुरी

नई दिल्ली, 18 अप्रैल। शहरों क्षेत्र में निवासियों के स्वास्थ्य और स्मार्ट जीवन के लिए मनोरंजन स्थानों, जैसे विश्वविद्यालय पार्क और हरित क्षेत्र को आवश्यकता होती है और इस विषय में सूत का महत्व कायम बरखावत हो सकता है। सूत शहर में इस्तेमाल नहीं की जा रही सूत के जमीन को मनोरंजन स्थल में तब्दिल कर खूबसूरत और उपयोगी बनाया जा रहा है।



आवास एवं शहरी मामलों के मंत्रालय के प्रवक्ता व अपर महाप्रदेशक राजीव जैन ने मीडिया से बातचीत में बताया कि सूत शहर में सरकारी के स्मार्ट सिटी मिशन के तहत तब लक्ष्यों को सफलतापूर्वक प्राप्त कर रहे हैं। यह स्वास्थ्य और स्मार्ट जीवन के लिए आवश्यक है।

शिमला में भूकंप, लैंडस्लाइड जैसी आपदाओं से बचाएगा इंटिग्रेटेड कंट्रोल एंड कमांड सेंटर

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■ शिमला शिमला सिटी में 41 करोड़ की लागत से इंटिग्रेटेड कंट्रोल एंड कमांड सेंटर (ICCC) लागू कराया जाएगा। यह इमारतों में अलर्ट करेगा तबि रहत कार्य समय रहते तुरंत उपलब्ध कराया जा सके। इससे भूकंप और लैंडस्लाइड जैसी प्राकृतिक आपदाओं के अलावा जलमय कंट्रोल और ट्रैफिक मैनेजमेंट विवेक रेखांड सिस्टम से काफी मदद मिलेगी। शहर में 250 कैमरे लगे हैं जो सीसी टीवी से जुड़े हैं। केंद्रीय शहरी आवासन मंत्रालय के प्रवक्ता राजीव जैन ने बताया कि ICCCC शिमला स्मार्ट सिटी का सबसे अहम प्रोजेक्ट है। लैंडस्लाइड या किसी आपत



संस्कृति और सभ्यता के संरक्षण के लिए जेटो टैग्स में एक बुक कैफे बनाया गया है। इस बुक कैफे में स्मार्ट सिटी योजना के अंतर्गत उठाते हुए लेमिंग चाल को आनंद संस्कृति सभ्यता के रूप में पढ़ सकते हैं। तीन और बुक कैफे अलग-अलग स्थानों पर बनाए गए हैं। स्मार्ट सिटी प्रोजेक्ट के GM अजीत भूखंडा बतते हैं कि यहां एंड्री फो है। इसका मकसद लोगों को नैसबदल को आदतों से छुड़करा रिहना और रोजींग हबिक विकसित करना है।

महावीर सर्मिल की होगी कायापलट, स्मार्ट सिटी रचने जा रहा इतिहास

आजादी के अमृत महोत्सव के तहत अजमेर स्मार्ट सिटी लिमिटेड चार विभागों के साथ तालमेल करते हुए इतिहास रचने जा रहा है। महावीर सर्मिल की कायापलट करते हुए सुभाष उद्यान की तरफ लक्ष्य की तीन मीटर चौड़ाई के बावत हुए लगाता 75 घंटे में साढ़े कार्य कर सात मीटर किया जाएगा। रविवार 16 जनवरी

डिजिटल समाधान बनाएंगे शहरों में नागरिकों का जीवन आसान

संजय टुटेजा

नई दिल्ली, एएसएनबी
देशभर में शहरों की समस्याओं का समाधान कर नागरिकों को सहज व सुलभ जीवन स्तर प्रदान करने के लिए केंद्र सरकार ने डिजिटल पहल शुरू की है। डिजिटल पहल के तहत समस्त नगरों का डिजिटल समाधान कर नागरिकों के जीवन को आसान बनाया जा रहा है। नेशनल अर्बन डिजिटल मिशन के रूप में शुरू हुई पहल का अरार दिखाने लगा है और 20 से अधिक राज्य इस संभव में एमआयू भी कर चुके हैं।

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी नीत सरकार ने 25 जून 2015 को महात्माकाशी स्मार्ट सिटी योजना को शुरुआत की थी और जनवरी 2016 से जून 2018 के बीच चार दौर की प्रतिबोधिता के जरिए 100 शहरों को पुनर्विचार के लिए चुना गया था।

20 से अधिक राज्यों ने नेशनल अर्बन डिजिटल मिशन के तहत किया एमआयू

पहल के परिणाम कुछ शहरों में दिखाई देने लगे हैं जिनमें गुजरात का सूत शहर प्रमुख है। पिछले तीन वर्षों से बरेल प्रसफर्मा सिटी का अर्बन जौतेन बाल सूत शहर बरेल प्रेक्टिस वाले शहर के रूप में समने आया है, अब सरकार को योजना है कि बरेल प्रेक्टिस वाले शहर अन्य शहरों का मार्गदर्शन करें।

शहरों की लाइव फीड मिलेगी, जिससे समय पर खतरों से निपटना आसान होगा। सभी जिलों को इससे जोड़े जाएंगे। अभी पांच सेवाएँ इससे जोड़ी गई हैं। चारों ओर भी सेवाओं को जोड़ा जाएगा। भूकंप, लैंडस्लाइड, विजिलें को खतम, लाइट व्यवस्था और फ्लड डिटेक्शन के बारे में तुरंत पता चल जाएगा।

अजमेर स्मार्ट सिटी लि. ने मनाया आपन डाटा डे
अजमेर स्मार्ट सिटी लि. मुख्य अभियंता अविनाश शर्मा ने बताया कि समस्त सरकारी विभागों की

19 जनवरी तक 24 घंटे चलेगा कार्य

महावीर सर्मिल शहर के व्यस्ततम मार्गों में से एक है। इस मार्ग पर दरगाह जाने के लिए जायरीन की भारी भीड़ रहती है। तीर्थ नगरी पुष्कर जाने वाले वाहनों की आवाजाही भी रहती है। रामप्रसाद घाट की ओर जाने वाले संपर्क मार्ग के चौराहे पर आए दिन जाम के हालात बने रहते हैं। इसी परेशानी को ध्यान में रखते हुए महावीर सर्मिल की कायापलट करने का इरादा सरकार के पास है।

आजादी के अमृत महोत्सव के तहत अजमेर स्मार्ट सिटी लिमिटेड चार विभागों के साथ तालमेल करते हुए इतिहास रचने जा रहा है। महावीर सर्मिल की कायापलट करते हुए सुभाष उद्यान की तरफ लक्ष्य की तीन मीटर चौड़ाई के बावत हुए लगाता 75 घंटे में साढ़े कार्य कर सात मीटर किया जाएगा। रविवार 16 जनवरी

अजमेर स्मार्ट सिटी लि. ने आजादी के अमृत महोत्सव (Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav) के उपलक्ष्य में शुक्रवार को आपन डाटा डे मनाया।

अजमेर, आजादी के अमृत महोत्सव (Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav) के उपलक्ष्य में अजमेर स्मार्ट सिटी लि. (Ajmer Smart City Limited) ने आपन डाटा डे शुक्रवार को मनाया। जवाहर रंग मंच पर आयोजित सेमिनार में समस्त विभागों की जन उपयोगी जानकारीयों आमजन को सुगमता से मिले इसको लेकर चर्चा की गई। साथ ही विभागों में आमजन के कार्य किस तरह तक पहुंचे इसके जानकारी भी लोगों तक पहुंचाने को लेकर विशेषज्ञों ने अपना व्याख्यान दिया।

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अजमेर स्मार्ट सिटी लि. ने आजादी के अमृत महोत्सव (Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav) के उपलक्ष्य में अजमेर स्मार्ट सिटी लि. (Ajmer Smart City Limited) ने आपन डाटा डे शुक्रवार को मनाया। जवाहर रंग मंच पर आयोजित सेमिनार में समस्त विभागों की जन उपयोगी जानकारीयों आमजन को सुगमता से मिले इसको लेकर चर्चा की गई। साथ ही विभागों में आमजन के कार्य किस तरह तक पहुंचे इसके जानकारी भी लोगों तक पहुंचाने को लेकर विशेषज्ञों ने अपना व्याख्यान दिया।

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India's tech stance to climate solutions: The Smart Cities Mission's resolve to attain net zero

The Smart Cities Mission has supported the resolve to attain net zero emissions by 2070. Various projects under the mission are built on the principle of giving back to the environment and dealing with pollution at different levels.



Source:- Open Gov Asia (04 Dec, 2023)
By:- Samaya Dharmaraj

India's commitment to reducing emission intensity stands as a testament to its proactive approach towards combating climate change. Initially setting an ambitious target of 33-35% reduction by 2030, India's remarkable progress in this endeavour has surpassed expectations. By achieving a 33% reduction in emission intensity of GDP by 2019, the nation has not only showcased its dedication but has also demonstrated tangible results ahead of schedule.

Ms Nandan highlighted India's continued efforts to scale up climate ambitions, acknowledging the global need for more substantial action to combat climate change. She underscored India's dual focus on economic growth and environmental sustainability, exemplified through initiatives like the India Cooling Action Plan (ICAP).

Highlighting the importance of research into cool-

ing technologies suitable for Indian climatic conditions, the Secretary emphasised the need for industry collaboration to expedite the adoption and scaling up of these advancements.

"India needs to bolster efforts to research on coolants that would be most appropriate to Indian climatic conditions," Ms Nandan was quoted as saying.

India's approach, she stressed, is centred on responsible and sustainable growth, setting the narrative for responsible economic expansion while maintaining ecological balance. The government's commitment to implementing pioneering solutions was highlighted, inviting industry stakeholders to join in making India a global leader in cooling technologies.

The event also showcased India's achievements in meeting targets under the Montreal Protocol, particularly in creating a sustainable cooling ecosystem, essential for environmental stability. Integrated approaches were prioritised to achieve sustainable cooling across various sectors, such as residen-

tial, commercial, cold-chain, and transport, anticipating increased cooling demands with the country's economic growth.

India's proactive measures, such as the phase-out of ozone-depleting substances like HCFCs well ahead of Montreal Protocol schedules, were highlighted. The country has been a pioneer in adopting non-Ozone Depleting Substances and low Global Warming Potential technologies, demonstrating its commitment to environmental preservation.

Additionally, the session included insights from industries and implementing agencies like UNDP, UNEP, and GIZ, emphasising collaborative efforts for the success of initiatives under the Montreal Protocol.

The comprehensive approach outlined during the event underscores India's technological advancements, collaborative spirit, and unwavering commitment to sustainable cooling, positioning the nation as a trailblazer in climate-conscious technological solutions.

In India, the aspirations

for sustainability transcend mere good ideals – they are embedded into the fabric of a visionary roadmap, ambitions designed to harness technology's immense potential. This merging of innovation and environmental stewardship defines the nation's commitment to redefining the trajectory of sustainable development.

Through a multifaceted approach, India seeks to leverage technological advancements to address critical sustainability challenges. From renewable energy initiatives and smart city development to the conservation of biodiversity and the adoption of eco-friendly practices in industries, the nation aims to create a blueprint where progress harmonizes with the planet's well-being.

OpenGov Asia reported that, in a significant stride towards technological innovation and sustainable development, the Department of Scientific & Industrial Research (DSIR) and The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) have joined forces to revolutionise India's construction and wastewater treatment sectors.

This pioneering collaboration under the "Access to Knowledge for Technology Development and Dissemination (A2K+) Studies" Scheme of DSIR is aimed at aligning with India's Smart Cities Mission and its ambitious commitment to achieving net-zero emissions by 2070.

DSIR's allocation of two crucial research studies to TERI signifies a pivotal step in bridging the informational gap on advanced building materials, designs for energy efficiency, and the assessment of membrane-based sewage wastewater treatment systems for reuse and recycling.

France Announces EUR 100 Million Loan to Support India's Smart Cities Mission

The French Government Has Announced A Package Of A 100 Million Euro Loan Agreement Between The French Development Agency (Afd) And The Government Of India To Support The Latter's Innovative Flagship Smart Cities Mission.



100-million-euro loan agreement between the French Development Agency (AFD) and the Government of India. Photo Courtesy: French Embassy In India website.

Source:- Connected To India (03 Nov, 2023)

Minister of State for Development, Francophonie and International Partnerships of France Chrysoula Zacharopoulou announced the loan agreement on Tuesday (October 31, 2023).

"This loan supports India's innovative flagship Smart Cities Mission and builds on the CITIIS 1 programme, also supported by the European Union and implemented by the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), a think tank under the auspices of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs," read a statement issued by the French Embassy in India.

CITIIS 1.0 programme, launched in 2018, has to date benefited 12 city-level projects, supporting them to build capacity and implement innovative solutions for sustainable mobility, public open spaces, urban e-governance and ICT, and

social and organisational innovation in low-income settlements.

From climate-oriented designs, participation of urban local bodies and citizens, management of environmental and social risks to ensuring social inclusion, the project supports India's path to urban sustainability. The European Union has provided technical support to the CITIIS 1.0 programme with a contribution of 6 million euros.

"The second edition now focuses on circular economy and integrated solid waste management. It builds on the same successful approach, with an increased budget of 212 million euros, also including a loan from Germany's Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW), and a 12 million euro grant from the European Union, as part of its flagship, Global Gateway strategy."

As recalled by Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs, Indian cities are facing the

growing challenge of solid waste management: 62 million tons of municipal solid waste are generated every year in India, and this figure will go up to 165 million tons per year by 2030. The Government of India is supporting ambitious investments for the proper collection, segregation, recycling and treatment of such volumes of waste, in which the private sector, too, has a role to play.

"Welcoming the agreement, Minister of State Chrysoula Zacharopoulou said, "France, together with Team Europe, is proud to support this programme, which will be key in building cleaner, greener, and more sustainable cities in India. The innovative CITIIS approach not only mitigates the health and environmental impact of waste, but also creates economic opportunities and positive social impact on citizens."

"This project is also emblematic of how the European Union's flagship Global

Gateway strategy can support key partners, such as India, in reconciling economic development with environment protection while building the infrastructure of tomorrow," added the French minister.

Seppo Nurmi, Chargé d'Affaires a.i., Delegation of the EU, said, "For both EU and India, cities are the engine of growth but need to adapt sustainable models to be able to address climate change and environmental challenges. This project addresses that precisely, with the EU mobilising investments from Team Europe for a transformational impact. The EU is happy to continue providing technical support to Indian cities in their journey to become self-reliant and future ready."

He added, "India is a key partner for us under Global Gateway Strategy and CITIIS 2.0 is yet another project that highlights our mutual commitment to build sustainable and trusted infrastructure."

Smart Cities Mission Has Nurtured Young Innovators Across Departments: Sh. Hardeep S. Puri

"The youth is encouraged through various initiatives, to provide 'out of the box' solutions to help promote ease of living for India's urban population."



Source:- The Economic Times (15 Mar, 2023)
By:- Ajay Kumar Shukla

Union minister for Housing & Urban Affairs, Puri on Tuesday said that Smart Cities Mission has nurtured the role of the youth in leading innovations across government departments.

While speaking at the National Youth Conclave 2023, Puri said that the youth is encouraged through various initiatives, to provide 'out of the box' solutions to help promote ease of living for India's urban population.

"India's vast youth population is a powerhouse of talent, innovation & ideas. Catalysts of change, the future, & indeed the present belongs to youth, particularly in #AmritKaal. Interacted with a vibrant gathering at National Youth Conclave - an Alliance between Y20 & U20," Puri tweeted.

According to Puri, about Rs 90,000 crore is currently being shelved out by the Union government annually on youth development programmes. "Explosion of start-ups in the country is

a testament to the entrepreneurial culture that the youth of the country have inspired in recent years," Puri said, adding that India would be a world leader in all respects by 2047 due to the youth dividend.

While speaking on the growing clout of Indian youth in smart city innovations, senior IAS officer Dr. Ravi Mittal, District Magistrate, Jashpur, Chhattisgarh told ETGovernment that there was an urgent need to widen the youth connect to drive further innovations in the smart cities of future.

"India is a young country—majority of our citizens are young. The involvement of youth is critical for achieving the agenda of making our cities smart. I believe that the community is the cavalry and the youth are the warriors. It is the youth who will win the battle for developing smart cities across the country."

According to Mittal, new technology innovations were vital for bringing community based solutions for future smart cities. He maintained that unless the entire community was involved in creation of the infrastructure

and systems for smart cities such projects would not be feasible.

"The youth are the driving force of our community. Once they get involved, the objective of developing smart cities, where quality of life is enhanced by world class digital and physical infrastructure, will become a simple task," Mittal said.

While responding about key government initiatives under the Urban Learning Internship Programme (TULIP) and the India Smart Cities Fellowship Programme (ISCF) that have enhanced the professional development and employability of youth, Puri said these initiatives have offered the youth, targeted learning and collaboration opportunities, and have enhanced their professional development and employability.

"TULIP has pioneered similar interventions in other Central government ministries and departments, and is facilitating the exchange of innovative ideas across government machinery... This transformative expansion would allow for an unprecedented explosion in innovation," Puri said.

IUDX and IIIT Hyderabad Join Forces to Revolutionise Data Exchange for Smart Cities

Source:- TSmart State India (08 Dec 2023)
By:- Smart State India

The India Urban Data Exchange (IUDX) Programme, a pioneering initiative dedicated to leveraging data for the betterment of society, is proud to announce a collaboration with the Smart City Research Centre at the

International Institute of Information Technology Hyderabad (IIIT-H).

IUDX, an initiative aimed at fostering data exchange and promoting the idea of data-driven cities, is driven by a cutting-edge, open-source software platform at its core. This platform is designed to facilitate the secure sharing of non-personal data between data providers (smart city administrations, government departments, municipal bodies) and data consumers (application developers) to create innovative services and unlock substantial value.

The Smart City Research Centre at IIIT-H, supported by the Government of India's MEITY, the Smart Cities Mission, and the Government of Telangana, has joined forces with IUDX to facilitate the seamless exchange of data.

Real-World Testing and Transformative Achievements

The concepts presented in this collaboration have undergone rigorous real-world testing and have yielded transformative results. A collaborative effort between IIIT-H and IUDX has successfully developed, tested, and transformed the concept of a distributed Resource Server. IUDX adopts

a centralised approach for two of its three main components i.e. Catalogue Server (to discover datasets) and Authorization Server (consent management), but allows Resource Server (data access services) to operate in both centralised and distributed manner. This achievement reflects a deep understanding of the practical challenges faced in the field, enabling data providers to create innovative services and unlock significant value.

Introducing the Resource Server Proxy

To meet IUDX standards, an external resource server needs to follow specific rules for accessing resources. It also has to respect the access rules set by the data provider. IUDX has a helpful framework called the 'Resource Server Proxy' which makes it easier to connect external data sources to the system. This framework simplifies the way data is shared, making integration much simpler and helps an outside source (which is not originally IUDX compatible) to work smoothly with IUDX.

IIIT-H has helped to develop and extensively test a Resource Server Proxy to facilitate this approach of data sharing.

Future Collaborations and Benefits

The collaboration between IUDX and IIIT-Hyderabad promises to revolutionise data exchange for smart cities, benefiting both organisations and society at large. This partnership aims to drive innovation, foster data-driven cities, and promote secure, controlled data sharing.

President Droupadi Murmu Presents Smart City Award In Indore, Sets Time Frame For Sustainable Development Goals

Source:- APAC News Network, (28 Sep, 2023)



President Droupadi Murmu presents Smart City Award in Indore, sets time frame for Sustainable Development Goals

Indore: President Droupadi Murmu, while attending the Smart Cities Conclave 2023 in Indore, Madhya Pradesh, emphasised the need to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within a specified time frame. The President made these remarks during the awards ceremony for the winners of the India Smart Cities Award contest 2022.

President Murmu stressed on the crucial role of local-level participation for the successful implementation of the SDGs. She commended cities like Indore for their effective community involvement, resulting in cleaner and greener urban environments.

Furthermore, President Murmu pitched for greater efforts to enhance women's safety in all cities, acknowledging that various parts of the country have already seen progress.

Union Urban and Housing Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri also addressed the gathering, highlighting that the Smart Cities Mis-

sion is a vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi that aims to forward the entire nation's development. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, Minister Puri highlighted the program's commendable performance.

Minister Puri emphasised that the Smart Cities Mission is an important element of India's ambition to attain developed country status by 2047. He noted that the initiative has spurred innovation in urban ecosystems, encouraging the building of essential infrastructure, and enhanced services in India's 100 largest cities.

Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Shivraj Singh Chouhan, emphasised the necessity of public participation to make cities smart and clean. He called for healthy competition among cities within Madhya Pradesh to achieve cleanliness.

Indore was awarded with the title of the best 'National Smart City', for its exemplary performance in the Smart Cities Mission, especially in sanitation, urban environ-

ment and water categories in the nation. Minister Puri also mentioned "Chappan Dukan", the smart street food market, as Indore's pride.

The second and third positions were occupied Surat and Agra respectively. Madhya Pradesh was awarded 'Best State Award', with Tamil Nadu at second place. Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh shared the third spot. Under five award categories, there were 66 winners – 35 in Project award, six in Innovation award, 13 in National/Zonal City award, five in state/UT Award and seven in Partner Award categories.

Coimbatore secured the top position in the built environment category, while Ahmedabad won for the culture and Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC) domain. Jabalpur led the economy category, while Chandigarh excelled in governance and mobility. Vadodra was acknowledged in the social aspects category, Hubballi Dharwad in the innovative ideas category, and Surat won the Covid innovation category.

Publication


































Breakthrough initiatives

CITIIS




- IMRITSAR** - Improvement of Auto-rickshaws & Autos through Techno-Interventions (SAMI)
- DEHRADUN** - Child-Friendly City Project
- UJJAIN** - Mahalaxmi Nagar Integrated Development Approach Phase-II
- AGARTALA** - Head-Over-Front Development (Phase-II)
- BHUBANESWAR** - B-Active (Be active or Bhuvaneshwar Active)
- VISAKHAPATNAM** - Social Inclusion Through Modernising Public Schools as Smart Campus
- AMARAVATI** - Basic Infrastructure Development in Low-Income Settlements in Amravati City
- CHENNAI** - Model and Smart Corporation Schools
- COCHI** - Health Solution
- HUBBALLI** - Green Mobility Corridor
- JHAIRWAD** - Green Mobility Corridor
- KOCHI** - Health Solution
- PUDUCHERRY** - One Neighbourhood in Your Neighbourhood - A Participatory Planning Approach for Improvement of Low-Income Settlements in Puducherry
- URAT** - Leading 'Wild Valley Biodiversity Park as City Lung' by Revivification of Existing Wetland Along the Creek

Implementation of 12 projects selected through an All-India Challenge in 12 cities.

- Replacement of 7000 Diesel Autos with E-autos in the City & setting up PAN-city charging stations
- Over 350,000 people to benefit from this intervention
- Improved integration between auto-rickshaw stops and metrobus stations. Auto Rickshaw Drivers Cooperative Society registered
- Skill development of female family members of auto rickshaw drivers.
- Thematic 4 focus areas: sustainable mobility, public open spaces, urban governance & ICT and social and organizational innovation in low-income settlements.

Eat Right Challenge



Partners: fssai, Eat Right India, Smart City, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India.

Streets of People



Partners: ITDP, Smart City, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India, FIT INDIA, #startupingo, CI.

Transport 4 All



Partners: THE WORLD BANK, ITDP, Urban Transport, Smart City, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India, #startupingo, CI.

Placemaking Marathon



Placemaking Marathon



Cycles 4 Change



Partners: ITDP, Smart City, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India, FIT INDIA, #startupingo, CI.

Smart Mobility

Projects	Value	Across
1,669	₹40,096 Cr	100 Cities

Project: MR4 Road, Jabalpur



Project: Majhi Bus Service, Aurangabad



Project: Public Bicycle Sharing, Ahmedabad



In Conversation with CEO, Saharanpur Smart City



These efforts have significantly improved infrastructure, governance, and green spaces. Citizens have warmly welcomed the holistic development of their city.

Q2. What are the current challenges of Saharanpur as a city?

Saharanpur is a unique district surrounded by the Shivalik hills on three sides and rich in natural green spaces. To preserve the city's natural environment and air quality, few projects were selected that would have significant impacts. However, the city's low-lying terrain poses a major challenge, with 40 percent of the area experiencing waterlogging during the monsoons and pre-monsoons. The outdated stormwater drainage system lacks connectivity between natural and rainwater catchment areas.

The city also suffers from a lack of a comprehensive sewerage system, with open drains leading to rivers, causing wastewater to mix

with river water and eventually flow into the Hindon River. The NGT and CPCB have raised serious concerns about this issue. Mobility and urban transport also needed improvement, which were addressed under the Smart Cities Mission. We aim to continue these efforts in a potential second phase of the mission.

Q3. How has the Smart Cities Mission helped address these challenges?

We are working on 18 road projects that are also part of the sewer development program. Sewage from low-lying areas will be

connected to the city's upcoming STP. Sewage from residential and commercial areas will be transported using IPS for treatment, reducing water pollution by mixing treated water with natural rivers.

In urban mobility, we have fully commissioned the ICCC and ITMS. The integration of traffic lights, traffic management systems, and collaboration with traffic police, RTO, and road transport unions has improved city transport. Urban mobility has significantly improved in recent years, and the completion of road projects,

footpaths, and service roads will further enhance the city's transport. The public appreciates these projects, as they alleviate congestion, particularly in central urban areas connecting important departments and offices.

Q4. Please share some unique projects developed by Saharanpur Smart city?

Saharanpur Smart City has worked to boost the sports sector and we have developed an integrated sports complex with a gym, a badminton court, better swimming facilities, a

Meet the team @ MoHUA

Sh. Kunal Kumar
(Joint Secretary and Mission Director, Smart Cities Mission, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs)

Sh. Jitendar Kumar Mehan
Director (Smart Cities Mission), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

Sh. Sanjay Gupta
Director (Smart Cities Mission), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

Under Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Sabak Lal Prasad, Priyaranjan Verma, Jagdish Chandra Upreti

Smart Cities Mission Management Unit, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Vikash Chandra (Team Leader), Dinesh Harode, Rupesh Chopra, Siddharth Barpanda, Vishnu Pandey, Jaipal Daksh, Dipyaman Sinha, Swanya Singh, Rashi Mathur, Chaitanya Singh, Amit Kumar Sharma





Public Private Partnerships

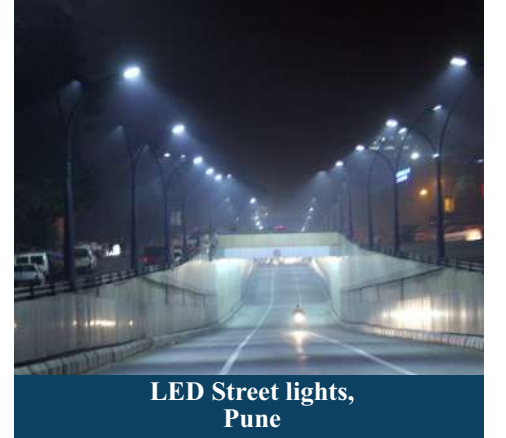
Projects	Value	Across
206	₹10,742 Cr	53 Cities



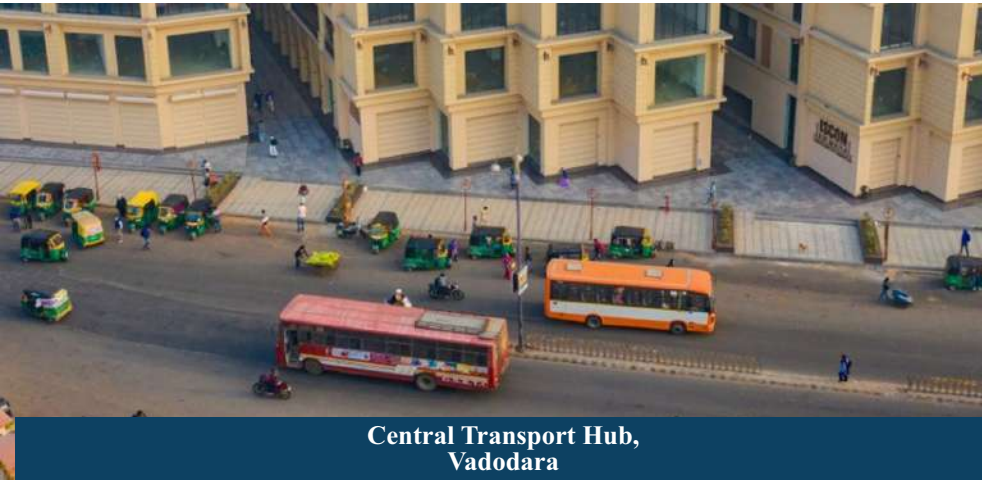
Public Bicycle Sharing, Bhopal



Common Mobility Card, Surat



LED Street lights, Pune



Central Transport Hub, Vadodra



Automated material recovery facility for dry municipal waste, Indore



WASH

Projects	Value	Across
1,521	₹51,617 Cr	100 Cities



Tertiary Water Treatment Plant, Surat



Smart Semi-Underground Dustbins, Dharamshala

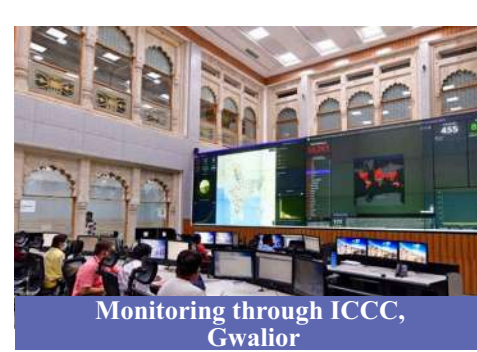


Smart Governance

Projects	Value	Across
683	₹17,464 Cr	100 Cities



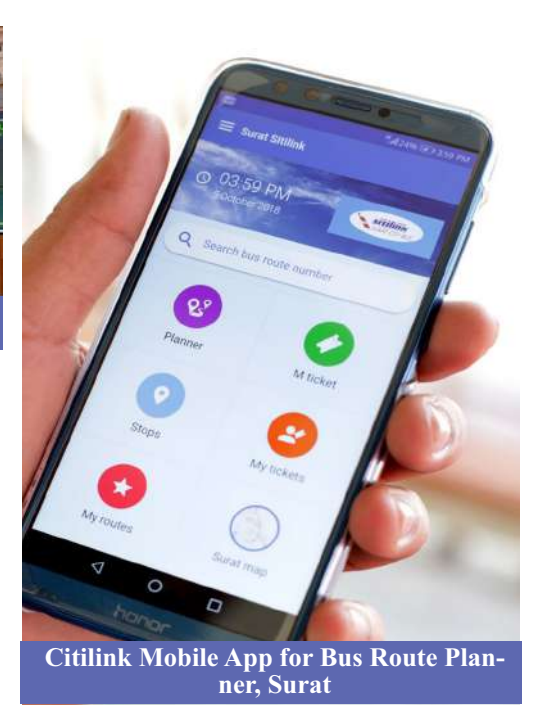
Intelligent Traffic Management System, Kalyan-Dombivli



Monitoring through ICCC, Gwalior



Traffic Management, Vadodra



Citilink Mobile App for Bus Route Planner, Surat



Sadar Manzil renovation, Bhopal



Tunga Riverfront Shivmogga



Climate disasters monitoring through ICCC, Surat



Vibrant Urban Spaces

Projects	Value	Across
1,370	₹12,273 Cr	100 Cities



Developments along Dal Lake, Srinagar



All Ability Park, Vishakhapatnam



Smart Education, Tumakuru



Health ATMs, Lucknow



Social Equity Center, Bhubaneswar



Social Infrastructure

Projects	Value	Across
868	₹12,730 Cr	84 Cities

80% Completed



Economic Infrastructure

Projects	Value	Across
933	₹13,377 Cr	68 Cities



Chappan Dukan, Indore



Women Self Help Group Centre, Agra



B-Nest Co-Working Space, Bhopal