



Janaagraha Be the Change You Want to See

TIMES

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We Defend Ward RECi-P

We have read the press reports about the BMP Council discussing Janaagraha, and its proposal to the BMP on enhancing revenues from property taxes, called WARD RECi-P: Revenue Enhancement with Citizen Participation.

Janaagraha's Response on BMP Council Discussions

Corporators.

1. HISTORY OF THE PROPOSAL:

a. The proposal arose out of the WARD VISION campaign of Janaagraha that concluded in December 2003. 10 wards participated in that campaign.

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While a few other topics about Janaagraha also seemed to have been discussed, we are restricting our response to the specific issues relating to property taxes, since they are the most relevant, and require clarification.

The most important aspect in the issue is about the role of citizens: Janaagraha's aim is to encourage people's participation in a range of activities in local government, much like the

THE HINDU, Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Janaagraha defends proposal on property tax

By Our Special Correspondent

BANGALORE, Jan 31, Janaagraha, a voluntary organisation that seeks to involve citizens in local self-governance, has said that it only wants to help the civic body increase its revenues. This comes in the wake of criticism of Janaagraha by some corporators at the BMP meeting on Saturday.

Several Janaagraha leaders, including founder and Campaign coordinator, said the Ward RECi-P (Revenue Enhancement with Citizen Participation) programme was an example of citizen participation similar to activities of gram sabhas.

"The proposal came from the Ward Vision campaign which ended in December 2003. A scientific study of 10 wards done through CBS and survey of properties revealed that while property tax collection in these wards was Rs. 27 crores, the potential was Rs. 91 crores," he, Banamath and

BMP informed

The then BMP Commissioner was informed about these findings with suggestions that citizens can help BMP increase its tax revenue as the calculation that about 50 per cent of the increased collection will be ploughed back to develop the respective wards.

The next development was national seminar to discuss the proposal in which ministers, corporators and civic society leaders I.C. Jain participated. There were other participants from the State Government and not one person opposed the idea, he Banamath said.

Proposal accepted

He said BMP administration had taken up the proposal late last year and discussed it at the Citizens and Householder Council meetings. On January 12, Janaagraha received a formal letter from BMP suggesting that the concept is being adopted in two city wards, subject to certain conditions. After discussions with residents of

the two wards, Janaagraha sent a report to BMP and was awaiting its response. "Our role is to encourage citizens to pay more taxes without distorting the existing process. No interest rates will be used; the community role is only to encourage all property owners pay their share of taxes directly or indirectly with the incentive that 50 per cent will return to their wards. The feeling of burden on payers has been expressed in the ongoing Taxation with Transparency campaign where over 50,000 citizens have signed a petition saying Bangalore needs more tax payers not more taxes and that was everything," he said.

opportunities now available to rural voters through structures like the Gram Sabha. The WARD RECi-P proposal is one example of such participation. From an operational standpoint, it is also important to clarify that Janaagraha's suggestion is neither interfering in BMP's functioning nor proposing "taking a contract" of its tax collection as alleged by some of the

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Be the change...
...You want to see

Yuva Janaagraha presents

DISHA

Inter College Platform Theatre Fest

Theme : Be the Change You Want to See
Language : English, Hindi & Kannada
Date : 12th February 2005
Venue : State Youth Centre, Yavonika, Nrupathanga Road, Bangalore.

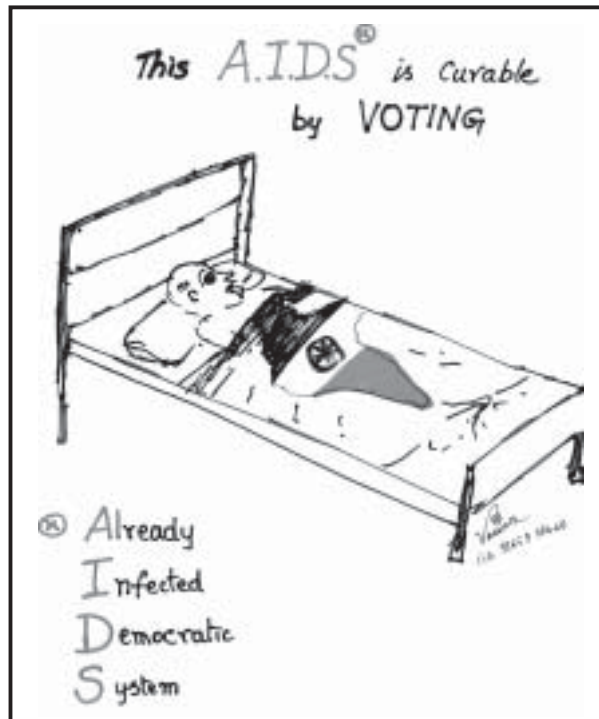
JANAAGRAHA means the Life force of the People: it stands for a positive, constructive firmness that allows citizens to engage with their government. YUVA JANAAGRAHA aims to empower and encourage the youth to engage with their community and address the issues and problems faced by their community

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Collectively atoms of Energy Work better

It was at the Lok Sabha elections in May 2004 that I realised that a lot of the educated middle class people were apathetic to the happenings in the country and therefore did not even take the few minutes off, of a holiday it took to go and vote (It was the first time that I was exercising my franchise - as I was out of the country for the last 2 decades of my 4 1/2 decade existence.) This was personally very distressing and I decided that I should do something about it.

Knowing that I could not do something individually, I was delighted when I met Ramesh Ramanathan and found that here was someone with a very similar but greater vision than mine. He not only wanted to do something about voter id list rectification - but wanted peoples participation in public governance over many many issues.



This Cartoon is drawn by M Vasanth Kumar of Rajajinagar (Ward 15) as part of his Voters Awareness Campaign

Janaagraha is a great organization which gives us citizens who want to make a difference to the society a forum to work from. In addition there is a structure already in place - and the organization utilises individual talents and efforts towards a common goal.

So for an individual who wants to do something (more than just complaining) about public issues - but does not know how to go about it - Janaagraha is the place to go to.

Individually all our atoms of energy would go to waste - but collectively - and under Janaagraha's guidance - we can work and make a positive explosion - which will have the impact of making a better society for ourselves.

**- Dr. Meenakshi Bharath
CART (Centre for Assisted
Reproductive Techniques),
Ward 7**

LETTERS

New Taxes - Infrastructure and SWM Cess

Iwould like to draw the residents' attention about the additional Taxes that would be imposed on the pretext of infrastructure etc., by Bangalore Mahanagara Palike. Earlier when BMP used to collect Octroi, entertainment tax, Road tax etc., there was a general complaint about the undue delay and corruption at Octroi Check Posts.

The Government abolished the Octroi and constituted Sri. Thimmaiah Commission to look into the losses to the local bodies. The committee recommended Rs. 100 Crores as annual grant to BMP (Finance Commission Grants) to augment its finances. Some of these are now accruing to the state revenues such as entry tax, road tax etc.

The above formula compensating for the lost revenue remains stationary, inelastic and does not facilitate return of a fair share to the city, and again bear no relation to the rising collections from the city. The grant was not paid fully over the past three

years. An example of Road Tax collected by Bangalore RTO's and the grant received by BMP is furnished below for comparison:

The road tax collected from Bangalore RTO's itself is more than the amount of the GOK Grant to BMP. So, the road tax collected should be ploughed back for the construction, maintenance and repair of roads. If this amount is not utilised for the purpose to which it is collected, then the authorities should stop collecting the tax.

Will BMP Officials/elected representatives take up the issue with the State Government for the rightful share of taxes to Bangalore City, rather than imposing new taxes such as Infrastructure and Solid Waste Management Cess? Though, now the amount seems to be less, in the coming years they will increase the amount similar to the professional tax, which was increased by the Government after it was accepted.

- M V K Anil Kumar, Ward 68

Year	Road Tax	GOVT. Grant to BMP
2001-02	Rs. 218.53 crores	Rs. 66,48,04,000.00
2002-03	Rs. 259.44 crores	Rs. 66,98,30,626.00
2003-04	Rs. 267.28 crores	Rs. 60,36,11,870.00

(The above information provided by the concerned authorities under the Karnataka Right to Information Act).

TOO MANY COOKS IN THE URBAN SERVICES KITCHEN



Imagine a puppet whose strings are being pulled by different puppeteers: the hands by one, the legs by another, the head and shoulders by a third. Sitting in the audience, the show would not look pretty. City governance in India is similar, being pulled and pushed in different directions - sometimes even torn apart - by a chaotic urban administrative set-up.

Consider the following examples:

1. The traffic problem in Bangalore is universally acknowledged to be getting worse. The wrath of the citizen falls on any available public agency: the local city government, the police, the bus transport company, the chief minister's office.

What most people don't know is that - behind closed doors - these agencies are themselves pointing fingers at each other. "There were 2 lakh vehicles in Bangalore in 1980; this figure is now 20 lakhs. And, during this time, we have had a constant 1,700 constables. How can we manage this?" says the Police Commissioner.

The city government has to widen the roads to meet this growing vehicular pressure, from which it gets no revenue! Not one paisa of the vehicle registration fee goes into the kitty of the local government.

Who is responsible for vehicle registration?

The Regional Transport Office (RTO), an agency that has no accountability to the local government, nor even to the State Government. So they merrily give out new registrations every day, at the rate of thousands of new vehicles that get out of the transport office to promptly get stuck in the traffic jam outside.

2. Water supply is a local government obligation, under Schedule 12 of the 74th Amendment. However, for a variety of reasons, most states have created special purpose vehicles that are

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responsible for the construction of water and sanitation assets, as well as for related services. In itself, this is an acceptable arrangement, given issues about technical skills and economies of scale. However, these agencies often have little accountability to the local governments, and take decisions on massive capital expenditure and pricing with minimal or no consultation with the concerned local governments. As a result, when it comes time to discuss tariff revisions, the local politicians have little incentive to engage in these legitimate discussions, since they have never been consulted in the process.

3. While urban planning is the first item in the schedule of responsibilities of a city government, most cities have a special city development authority that has been mandated with all spatial issues: development of the city's long-term plans, responsibilities for zoning and land-use, and approval of layouts and other developments.

As a result, the city government has little strategic role in determining the destiny of the city, being reduced to a tactical service provider taking care of the garbage and

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TOO MANY COOKS IN THE URBAN SERVICES KITCHEN

(Contd... from Page 3)

sanitation of these mushrooming developments that it did not create in the first place.

Leave aside these "large" strategic issues. Even normal, day-to-day situations like restructuring a traffic junction, or creating a bus stop have become complex multi-agency coordination problems.

This reality is old news. Many politicians and administrators agree that streamlining urban governance into the local government is the long-term goal; that in the meantime, there

must be a credible coordination mechanism between different agencies.

For example, Bangalore alone has six core agencies responsible for a variety of civic functions: BMP, the city government; BDA, the development authority; BMRDA, the regional development authority; BWSSB, the water agency; BMTCL, the public transport provider; KSB, the slum board; BTP, the traffic police; BESCOM, the electricity company. There are other related agencies as well.

For years now, there has been talk of inter-agency coordination. The question is, "Why is this not happening?" All the heads of these agencies agree vociferously on the need for such coordination. However, the devil is in the details:

how will this coordination be enabled at the ground level, between mid-tier executives and employees. This requires organisation structures that are synchronised. Unfortunately, the reality on the ground is far removed from this. Take a look at Bangalore's service delivery structures:

- Public works are carried out under 12 engineering divisions
- Garbage collection divides the city into 278 health wards
- Property taxes are collected through 30 Assistant Range Offices

- Electricity services are structured along 39 sub-divisions reporting to 10 divisions
- Water supply is managed through 5 divisions, 17 sub-divisions and 74 service stations
- Bus service is monitored through 24 depots
- Law and order is dispensed via 88 police stations, and traffic through 29 of these stations
- Slum Development is coordinated through 4 sub-divisions

In all these criss-crossing administrative jurisdictions, not one of them is a legitimate political unit. This is important, because the political unit has an inherent accountability associated with it. The smallest political unit in any city is a ward, the constituency for the local elected representative. Bangalore has 100 such wards. Unfortunately, in none, repeat none of the above is there overlap between the administrative jurisdictions of these agencies, or a congruence with the ward boundary. The result: the citizen is confused, the local politician is confused, the agency representatives are confused.

These administrative boundaries are not trivial lines on a map, they are powerful structures: they impact budgeting, planning, expenditures, patronage, transfers and so on. They reflect organisational energies and inertia. Hence, if we are to talk of coordination between agencies, all such talk is a pipe-dream unless we streamline these administrative jurisdictions. By extension, urban governance will remain a pipe dream unless this fundamental architecture is aligned.

These solutions will not emerge from the lofty ideals of the 74th Amendment, they arise out of the grassroot realities of service delivery. Until we begin to focus on the grassroots and begin cleaning up these agency issues, words like transparency and accountability will remain empty rhetoric to be used in conferences. And the average citizen will continue to watch the puppet show of urban governance being played out like a Shakespearean tragedy by a third-grade theatre troupe.



Ramesh Ramanathan
Campaign Co-ordinator

....For years now, there has been talk of inter-agency coordination. The question is, "Why is this not happening?" All the heads of these agencies agree vociferously on the need for such coordination. However, the devil is in the details: how will this coordination be enabled at the ground level, between mid-tier executives and employees. This requires organisation structures that are synchronised. Unfortunately, the reality on the ground is far removed from this.....

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From left to right: Sandeep Shastri of iACT, Mamata of Akshara Foundation, Satish (Teacher), Vasundhara, Preeti Mansingh, Murali, Samar Singh and Veena (Community Volunteers) interacting with the teachers and community members

Appreciation Event at Portal System

On Sunday, the January 23, the Bala Janaagraha team held the last major event for the academic year 2004. It was an Appreciation Event for the key partners and teachers who have contributed enthusiastically year-long to make this programme a success.

The event was hosted by Portal Software, one of our Corporate Partners. Around 150 people attended the function, which began at 10:30 and ended at 2:00 pm. From the Government Education Department (Mr A Deviprakash – DDPI North), Rohini Nilekani, Col. Murthy Rajan and programme coordinators from Akshara Foundation, Dr. Sandeep Shastri from iACT, students from Maharani Ammani College, Dr. Vivek Mansingh and his team from Portal, Mr Karvir from Kalyannagar Association, community members from all participating 9 wards, teachers from a large number of the schools, Ramesh and Swati and of course, the core Bala Janaagraha team were all

present making this a great tribute to the spirit of partnership.

One of the highlights of the event was the feedback session. We used this opportunity to present all the feedback that was collected over the course of the year during the classroom sessions in all 70 schools. Preeti Mansingh, Tabrez and Vibha painstakingly entered all the feedback forms over the last couple of weeks. Samar Singh took all this information and created a striking, easy-to-understand presentation for the event.

After each piece of data was presented, there were thought-provoking questions on what the feedback meant and how to modify the programme to make it better next year.

The teachers and volunteers participated energetically and gave very insightful comments and suggestions. The discussion touched a range of issues, from the appropriate age to begin such a programme, to effectiveness of classroom discussions, to Understandability of the

book. The session was moderated by Samar, Murali from Cox Town and Vasundhara from ILID.

After recognizing the key roles played by our partners, we moved on to an exciting session of Housie/Thambola for the group. As befitting a programme for children, the “Full House” was won by the 10-year old daughter of one of the teachers. There were short but inspiring addresses by Drs. Vivek Mansingh & Sandeep Shastri, Ramesh, Swati and Rohini Nilekani.

At 1:30 pm we moved on to a delicious lunch sponsored by Velankani from Electronics City. There was a strong sense of kinship and camaraderie amongst all the attendees that came out of having worked hard together to pull off an important programme for the children. We closed the day with renewed determination and commitment to take this programme to greater heights next year!

- Sunitha Nadhamuni

Coordinator, Bala Janaagraha



Interactive session with Volunteers and Teachers (left). Enjoying a delicious lunch (right)

We Defend Ward RECI-P

(Contd... from Page 1)

One aspect of the campaign was to find funds for the works that citizens had identified. A thorough, scientific assessment using GIS and property-level survey of property taxes in these wards demonstrated that while the BMP collection was only Rs 27 crores (2002-03), the true potential was Rs 81 crores, close to 3-fold increase.

- b. A letter was sent to the BMP Commissioner detailing these findings, and suggesting that citizens would HELP THE BMP to raise the true potential, with ONE CONDITION: that a portion of the increase (say 50%) would go back to the ward for local development. This idea was called WARD RECI-P.
- c. A national seminar was held to discuss this proposal. Eminent personalities from a variety of fields unanimously supported the idea, and called it a unique public finance idea, including noted economist Dr Nanjundappa, civil society veteran Dr L C Jain, author of the 74th Constitutional Amendment on urban decentralisation Prof Sivaramakrishnan, as well as senior administrators and bureaucrats from the State Government. NOT ONE PERSON opposed the idea, which was also appreciated by the 12th Finance Commission of India, who sought details of the proposal.

2. CURRENT STATUS:

- a. While the proposal was submitted in December 2003, the BMP administration has recently taken up the proposal in the past few months, and has had discussions with the Taxation and Finance Committee. They also held two interim meetings with Janaagraha and community representatives.
- b. On 12th January, Janaagraha received a formal letter from BMP, suggesting that the idea be taken up in 2 wards on a pilot basis. A few conditions were stated, many of which were quite reasonable.
- c. After discussions with the communities of the two wards, Janaagraha sent a response to the BMP on January 24th 2005, requesting additional clarifications on the proposal.
- d. We are currently awaiting the BMP's response to our letter, and contrary to press reports, have not given up and walked away.

3. ESSENCE OF THE IDEA :

- a. The BMP needs additional funds for its development activities
- b. Citizen participation needs to be encouraged in a range of activities in local government. When rural voters have such opportunities through the Gram Sabha, why should the urban voter be a second-class citizen.
- c. The WARD RECI-P proposal brings these two points together, so that community involvement is encouraged, WITHOUT DISTURBING the existing property tax collection process of the BMP. It must be emphasised here that no intermediaries will be used, community role is only to encourage all property owners to pay their share of taxes directly to the BMP, with the incentive that 50% will return to their ward.

4. TAX-PAYER STAND:

- a. Honest, tax-paying citizens feel strongly that a few people are paying for the city's development, when others are not

complying with existing tax provisions.

- b. If the BMP changes property tax formula, or raises new charges, this will place more burden on the existing taxpayers.
- c. This feeling is being captured in the Taxation with Transparency campaign that Janaagraha has been running, where over 60,000 people have signed a petition stating, "Bangalore needs more taxpayers, not more taxes".
- d. All these sentiments are being reflected in the innovative proposal called WARD RECI-P, that provides a win-win-win solution for the BMP administration, the Corporator, and the citizen.

Janaagraha's stand has always been to promote citizen participation in public governance. We believe strongly that this is the only way forward, and while it can be delayed, it cannot be denied.

We will continue to pursue all our activities with these principles in mind.

Janaagraha Calendar

(FEBRUARY 1 - 28)

Other Activities

Feb 12 : 'Disha' - Inter College Platform Theatre Fest @State Youth Centre, Yuvanika, Nrupatunga Rd., B'lore.

Ward Sabha

- Feb 1 : Ward 7, Malleshwaram (6 pm) @ Malleshwaram Swabhimana Initiative (Ms Sumathi Rao - Ph : 23449824).
- Feb 3 : Ward 94, Kadugondanahalli (5 pm) @ Office of the RWA (Mr A Sivasankaran - Ph : 25463188).
- Feb 5 : Ward 68, Ejipura (9 am) @ # 14, 1st Floor, 3rd Main, Ashwini Layout, Ejipura, B'lore - 47 (Mr Anil Kumar - Ph : 9845813345).
- : Ward 74, Jeevan Beema Nagara (4 pm) @ Ward Office (Mr M Vishwanath Prabu - Ph : 31821737 / 25210546).
- : Ward 78, Vasanthnagara (5.30 pm) @ KSV Nilaya (Mr V Krishna Murthy - Ph : 22286411).
- Feb 19 : Ward 50, V V Puram (10 am) @ Ward Office (Mr Smitha Srinath - Ph : 9845404242).
- : Ward 73, Vimanapura (4.30 pm) @ Domlur Ward Office (Ms Akhila Krishna Kumar - Ph : 25273735 / 9845045397).
- : Ward 100, Sanjayanagara (6 pm) @ RMV Club (Mr R C Dutt - Ph : 23416906).
- Feb 26 : Ward 54, Srinivasanagara (10.30 pm) @ Ward Office (Mr Y Damodara - Ph : 26721457).
- : Ward 55, Padmanabhanagara (10 am) @ Ward Office (Mr Prasad - Ph : 30623722).

(*Note: Please cross check the timings, venue and the date of above meetings with respective contact persons as they are subject to last moment changes)

UPDATE ON WARD SABHA

Every first Tuesday of the month we have our Ward Sabha Meeting. The Meeting for this month was on 1 February. Our MLA was to attend this meeting along with the officials of the various government departments. Owing to some other commitments, he did not make it to the meeting.

However, most of the department officials expected – Police, BWSSB, BMP (Streetlight and Health), Horticulture and BMTC – attended the Meeting along with 53 community members. As the BJ team of Malleswaram felt that Bala Janaagrahis should have the opportunity to attend this meeting and interact with the officials, a

Ward 7

few students were specially invited to the Meeting.

K Soumyashree (7B) & HG Vinay (7A) of MES Kishora Kendra, Hemalatha MR (7B), Manisha T (7C) & Shruthi S (7A) of Cluny Convent, and Suhas D (9D), Deepanjali D (9B) & Vishvanath CN (9B) of Sri Vidya Mandir attended the Meeting.

Their questions to officials covered a wide range—sewage water entering storm water drains, streetlights burning during the day but not in the night, vendors on the footpath creating problems to pedestrians, buses not stopping at

designated stops, rash driving by BMTC drivers, public urinals, regulating traffic near schools and so on.

The officials gave them a patient hearing, answered them and, where required, assured them that they would look into the matter and took down the contact details of the students. I felt this was a very good opportunity for the students to practice all that they had learnt during the BJ sessions.

It was nice to see their interest and concern on matters that concern their localities.

- K S Gopinath

Secretary - Malleshwaram Swabhimana Initiative, Ward 7



Vishwanath Singh, Chief of North Zone (left). Gopinath, Secretary, MSI, Thimme Gowda, AEE, BMP, Sumathi Rao, President, MSI at the MRM

N ational Workshop on U rban Planning

(Contd... from Page 8)

This trend comes with its share of challenges. From water supply to sewage systems, from low-income housing to solid waste, urban management throws a complex set of challenges at government and residents of these mushrooming cities and towns.

At the centre of all these challenges is LAND. How urban areas deal with the critical issue of LAND or more generally SPACE is central to a host of other issues in urban areas. For example, how will cities manage a reasonable mix of commercial and industrial land use, as well as residential development; where will public transport corridors be located; how

will neighbourhoods be designed to be self-sufficient for local services like playschools, hospitals and markets; where will solid waste and sewage treatment sites be located, how will slums be upgraded, without moving low-income households outside the city where they have no access to livelihoods; where and how should parks and green belts be located; what should the city's relationship be with the surrounding rural areas, so that growth can be managed with sustainable development, and respect for natural resources.

All the above questions are connected by the common theme of SPACE, and how it is planned and managed in urban areas.

The area of SPATIAL PLANNING of our urban areas is critical to ensuring that we are pro-actively planning our urban areas, rather than being reactive, and having to deal with the day-to-day emergencies.

These issues are rarely debated in India, given the overwhelming focus that has been placed on rural issues. However, given the pace of urbanisation in the country, there is great urgency to place SPATIAL PLANNING issues of urbanisation on the national agenda.

With this in mind, Janaagraha invited participants of high quality work and experience in their respective fields to explore the importance of SPACE in their work.

N ational Workshop on U rban Planning

SWATI RAMANATHAN

“**E**very city is in fact the tale of two cities. The legal city of the affluent and the illegal city of the slum-dwellers”, said Sundar Burra, Advisor SPARC, Mumbai, and former IAS officer at a National workshop held by Janaagraha at Bangalore recently.

The workshop explored the relationship between SPACE and a whole range of urban issues from poverty intervention to governance. Given the dual trend of globalisation and rapid urban growth that India is witnessing, the intent of the workshop was to highlight the importance and urgency of appropriate spatial policy, planning and design.

Participants included Ramanath Jha, Regional Advisor UN Habitat; Sivaramakrishnan, chief architect of the 74th Constitutional Amendment; S K Das, Advisor Delhi Arts Commission; R M Kapoor, Urban Studies Centre of the Times Research Foundation; Himanshu Parikh, Agha Khan Awardee for Architecture; Dr Ravindra, former Chief Seceretary GOK, Prof Ribeiro, Director AMDA and former Chief Planner at TCPO, New Dehli; Sudhir Vohra architect from Delhi; K P Krishnan of KUIDFC, Bimal Patel, urban planner, Gujarat; Manvita Baradi, ICMA; Ravichandar, Feedback Consultants; Raghuswamy of IDEK; Nabaroon Bhattacharjee, USAid, Ramesh Ramanathan, Janaagraha, Satej Alur, architect, and Swati Ramanathan, Janaagraha.



Space is a factor underlying most urban issues. The goal of the workshop was to explore the value of a national conference on the subject of Urban Space, with a specific focus on action-oriented outcomes. Such a conference would include a range of urban stakeholders, exposing the inter-relationship between various urban issues and the relevance to space.

Participants invited to the exploratory workshop were experts of national and international experience including government representatives, on urban planning, infrastructure provision, real estate development, urban poor integration and economic growth requirements.

The key outcome of the two-day workshop retreat was the unanimous agreement on the value and urgency of an ongoing conference platform such as

metropolitan cities of India. Examples are: Space and the Market forces; Space and the Poor; Space and Infrastructure; Space and rural vs. urban, etc. Discussion around each issue will be anchored through a comprehensively researched position paper on the topic.

The participants unanimously agreed that a conference such as INDIA URBAN SPACE would enable valuable policy recommendations and could positively influence urban policy.

The workshop marks an important first-step in India towards acknowledging the importance of SPACE in planning our urban growth and development.



INDIA URBAN SPACE, to examine urban spatial issues and solutions. The first conference on INDIA URBAN SPACE is proposed for January 2006 with a focus on multiple issues related to SPACE in

India is already 28% urban, and will be 50% urban in the next twenty years. States like Karnataka are already above the national average, with 33% urbanisation.

(Contd... Page 7)