Capacity Building Workshop on Urban Governance

Improving City Governance through Enhancing Knowledge of Urban Local Bodies

19 THURSDAY
JANUARY 2023
BHARATPUR, RAJASTHAN

75 AUSTRALIA CELEBRATES INDIA 1947–2022

With active collaboration of

CMAR
City Managers
Association Rajasthan

Background

Today, over half of the world's population lives in urbanised areas. India is urbanising at a rapid pace, with the urban population rising at a much faster rate than the total population. The level of urbanisation has increased from 17 percent in 1951 to 31 percent in 2011. The urban population in India, which was nearly 377 million in 2011, is poised to grow to 600 million by 2031. Urban areas contribute 62-63 percent of India's gross domestic product (GDP), estimated to reach 75 percent by 2030.

Such a rise in the urban population implies increased demand for goods and services and efficient urban planning, management, and governance systems. Therefore, addressing urban development and transformation, urban inequalities, and bringing suitable reformation within the urban governance system to address these changes is India's most important political and intellectual challenge.

In the case of Rajasthan, Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) are heavily dependent on funds from the Central and state government. These local bodies have limited capacity to raise resources through their sources of revenue and taxes and are all working under severe financial constraints. The inability of ULBs to raise resources has limited the growth of municipal income.

About the Project

CUTS is working towards improving urban governance in Rajasthan through its various interventions and has an MoU with the Department of Local Self-Government, Rajasthan, for capacity building of elected representatives and officials of ULBs since 2016.

CUTS strengthens urban local governments through capacity building and better financial management. It enlightens officials about instruments like municipal bonds that can come to their aid to raise resources for long-term financing projects, such as infrastructure development is a must. Besides, it is vital to support them with training workshops and conferences related to urban issues like effective management of water supply, solid waste management, public transportation systems, and marginalised social and economic groups.

In this series of initiatives, CUTS is implementing a project titled "Improving City Governance through Enhancing Knowledge of Urban Local Bodies in Rajasthan" with the support of the Australian High Commission, New Delhi and active collaboration of the City Managers' Association of Rajasthan (CMAR).

The project's main objective is to promote knowledge, information, and capacity building on issues like solid waste management, public transit systems, water supply, and financial instruments such as municipal bonds among Rajasthan's ULBs. Along with this objective,

CUTS tries to improve the understanding of critical themes related to urban government in chosen cities within the project state and to assure these bodies' effective functioning.

Training Programme

The third Training Programme for Municipal Officials was organised at Hotel Regenta, Bharatpur on January 19, 2023, to sensitise the officials on topics on municipal finance, solid waste management, sustainable transportation and community participation.

In the inaugural session of the training programme, Amar Deep Singh, Senior Programme Officer, CUTS greeted all guests and participants. He gave a brief overview of the event's objectives and presented a brief and detailed explanation of effective ways of working in urban government, including all accomplishments and obstacles. He also shared the details of project activities.

Abhijeet Kumar, Mayor, Bharatpur Municipal Corporation elaborated on the importance of municipal finance and community participation in urban governance. He stated that any country can be recognised as prosperous by a city's indicator of economic and urban development. India's urban population is projected to continue growing in the coming years. By 2050, around 60 percent of India's total population is expected to live in urban areas.

According to the Reserve Bank of India Report, many municipalities are facing revenue shortfalls, increasing debt burdens, and difficulties in accessing credit from financial institutions. He highlighted that rationalising user charges for municipal services to generate additional revenue and strengthening financial management systems and building capacity for revenue collection and expenditure management are required for sustainable urban development.

Kamaldeep Sharma, State Nodal Person, 15th Finance Commission said urban governance is a critical area of concern for the 15th Finance Commission, as the rapid urbanisation of India has brought new challenges related to urban development and management. The Commission recognises the need to strengthen urban governance by improving the financial, administrative, and institutional capabilities of local urban bodies. The 15th Finance Commission recognises the critical importance of strengthening urban governance to ensure that India's cities can meet the growing demands of urbanisation and provide their citizens with a high quality of life.

Himani Tiwari, City Managers' Association of Rajasthan (CMAR), Department of Local Self Government, Government of Rajasthan explained the relevant government schemes and programmes on urban governance. She discussed the following schemes in detail: Smart city Mission (Jaipur, Udaipur, Kota, and Ajmer), Deendayal Antyodya National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM), Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), Indira Rasoi Yojana Indira Credit Card Scheme Indira Shehri Rojgar Guarantee Yojana Rajasthan Smart City Scheme, Rajasthan Urban Infrastructure Development Programme (RUIDP) and Rajasthan Urban Drinking Water and Sewerage Infrastructure Development Cooperation (RUDSICO) Solid Waste Management.

Sessions

Yashashri Kommareddy, Expert Urban Management, Hyderabad as lead resource person delivered the main four topics, i.e municipal finance, solid waste management, sustainable transportation and community participation in the workshop. His sessions were mainly interactive and he discussed the local issues with the participants. A total of 29 officials from urban local bodies who come under the Bharatpur division participated in the workshop. Certificates of participation have been awarded to all participants.

Topic 1: Municipal Finance

Urbanisation is a major trend in India, with a rapidly growing population and economic development leading to the growth of cities and urban areas. This has brought about many challenges and opportunities for India's urban areas, as well as for the country as a whole.

India is experiencing rapid urbanisation, with the urban population growing at a faster rate than the rural population. According to the 2011 census, about 31 percent of India's population lived in urban areas, and this is expected to reach 40 percent by 2050. Many of India's urban areas are facing overcrowding, with high population densities and a shortage of affordable housing. This has led to the development of informal settlements, such as slums, which often lack basic services and infrastructure.

The urban scenario in India is complex and dynamic, reflecting the country's rapid growth and development, as well as the many challenges and opportunities that come with urbanisation. To address these challenges and make the most of the opportunities, India will need to focus on developing innovative and sustainable solutions for its urban areas, including investments in infrastructure, education, and innovation.

The following topics were discussed in detail: property tax (assessment and collection, vacant lands), advertisement tax, water charges, sewerage charges, trade license fee, and public-private partnership, (corporate social responsibility and municipal bond.

Topic 2: Solid Waste Management

Solid waste management refers to the processes and strategies involved in the collection, transportation, treatment, and disposal of solid waste, which includes garbage, refuse, and other discarded materials generated by households, businesses, and industries. Effective solid waste management is important for public health, environmental sustainability, and resource conservation. Some common methods of solid waste management include landfilling, incineration, composting, and recycling.

Solid waste management in India is a major challenge due to rapid urbanisation, increasing population, and changing consumption patterns. The management of solid waste in India is primarily the responsibility of local bodies, such as municipal corporations, which are often understaffed and under-resourced. As a result, much of the waste ends up in open dumps or landfills, causing environmental pollution and health hazards.

However, the Indian government has taken various initiatives to address this issue, including the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (Clean India Mission), which aims to improve solid waste management practices and increase awareness about cleanliness and hygiene. The mission has led to the construction of new sanitary landfills, the installation of waste-to-energy plants, and the promotion of composting and recycling. Additionally, several private companies have entered the waste management sector, introducing new technologies and practices. Despite these efforts, solid waste management remains a significant challenge in India, and further investment and collaboration among stakeholders are necessary to address the issue effectively. During the session following topics were discussed in detail: MSW Rules 2016, Solid Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2019, Solid Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2020, The 7Rs of Recycling, and Wastewater Management.

Topic 3: Sustainable Transportation

Sustainable transportation refers to the movement of people and goods in a way that is environmentally, socially, and economically responsible, both in the short and long term. It involves reducing the negative impacts of transportation on the environment, such as greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, air and noise pollution, and resource depletion. It also considers the social impacts of transportation, such as accessibility, equity, and safety, and the economic viability of transportation systems.

Sustainable transportation solutions include the use of low-emission vehicles, such as electric or hybrid cars, buses, and bicycles, and the promotion of alternative modes of transportation,

such as walking, cycling, and public transport. Other approaches involve the optimisation of transportation systems to reduce congestion, improve efficiency, and minimise waste, as well as the use of smart technology, such as real-time traffic management, to enhance mobility and safety. Sustainable transportation is a critical component of achieving global sustainability goals, such as the reduction of carbon emissions and the promotion of sustainable development.

Sustainable transportation in India is an urgent and significant challenge due to the country's rapidly growing population, urbanisation, and increasing motorisation. The transportation sector is a major contributor to GHG emissions and air pollution, which poses significant health and environmental challenges. However, several initiatives are being taken to promote sustainable transportation in India. The government is investing in the expansion of public transportation, such as metro rail and bus rapid transit systems, as well as the promotion of non-motorised transportation, such as cycling and walking. In addition, there is a growing trend of car-sharing and bike-sharing services being introduced in many cities.

Several cities in India have also implemented sustainable transportation initiatives, such as the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation's (BMTC) Intelligent Transport System (ITS) and Delhi's odd-even car scheme. Moreover, there are private sector initiatives, such as Ola Electric and Revolt Motors, that are promoting the use of electric vehicles.

Despite these initiatives, there are still significant challenges to promoting sustainable transportation in India, including inadequate infrastructure, high costs, and lack of public awareness. However, with continued efforts and investment, sustainable transportation can become a reality in India, leading to a healthier environment and better quality of life for its citizens.

During the session following topics were discussed in detail: Green Transportation – Cycle Track, Cycling Rules in India, various cycling tracks built across India, National Urban Transport Policy 2006.

Topic 4: Community Participation

The active participation of citizens in urban governance can improve the quality of urban life, increase accountability and transparency, and create a sense of ownership and responsibility for the development of their communities. Community participation can take various forms, such as public consultations, community meetings, participatory budgeting, and citizen advisory groups.

Many cities around the world have adopted community participation as an essential component of urban governance. In India, the government has introduced several policies and programs to encourage community participation in urban governance, such as the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), which mandates the involvement of

citizens and community groups in the planning and implementation of urban infrastructure projects.

During the session following topics were discussed in detail: Public Participation in SWM Systems, challenges of community participation, and theory and practice of community participation.

Conclusion

The programme was well appreciated. Participants were enthusiastic to put what was learnt into practice. A total of 29 officials from urban local bodies who come under the Bharatpur division participated in the workshop. Participants filled out the feedback forms. Certificates of participation have been awarded to all participants. Amit Babu, CUTS proposed a vote of thanks to all the guest speakers, resource persons and participant officials for attending the workshop.
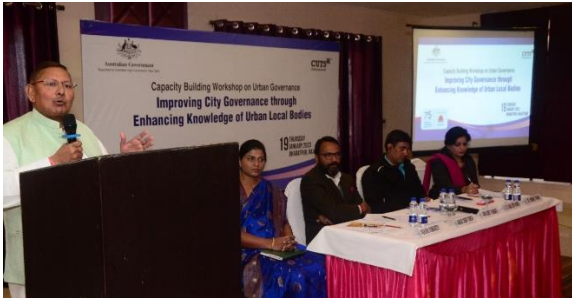
Programme Schedule

10:00 -10:30 hrs	Registration & Welcome Tea
10:30-11:00 hrs	*Inaugural Session* **Welcome Address:** **Amar Deep Singh**, Senior Programme Officer, CUTS *Special Address:* **Sh. Abhijeet Kumar,** Hon'ble Mayor* Bharatpur Municipal Corporation
11:00-12:00 hrs	Technical Session: *Topic 1: Municipal Finance* **Yashashri Kommareddy,** Expert SWM, Hyderabad **Dr.Kamaldeep Sharma**, State nodal person 15th Finance Commission
12:00 – 12:15 hrs	*Tea Break*
12:15- 12:30 hrs	*Topic 2: Flagship Schemes-GoR & GoI,* **Dr. Himani Tiwari***, CMAR, Dept. of LSG, GoR
12:30-13:30 hrs	*Topic 3: Solid Waste Management* **Yashashri Kommareddy,** Expert SWM, Hyderabad
13:30 -14:30 hrs	*Lunch Break*
14:30 -16:00 hrs	**Topic 4 & 5:** • *Sustainable Transportation* • *Community Participation* **Yashashri Kommareddy,** Expert SWM, Hyderabad
16:00 – 16:15	**Closing Session** • Certificates Distribution to Participants • Summing up & vote of thanks: **Amit Babu,** Project Associate, CUTS
16:15 onwards	*Tea & Departure*

List of Participants

S.No.	Name	Designation and Organisation
1	Guman Singh Saini	Assistant Engineer
2	Dayal Singh	JEN
3	Suresh Chand Sharma	JEN, Nagar Parishad, Gangapur City
4	Sushil Kumar	DDC, N.P., Bair
5	Natwar Baswal	EO, NP, Deeg
6	Dr. Himani Tiwari	Coordinator, CMAR, DLB, Jaipur
7	Dr. Kamal Deep Sharma	State Nodal Officer, 15th Finance Commission
8	Manoj Kr. Meena	JEN, N.P., Nagar
9	Pradeep Mishra	AEN, Nagar Nigam, Bharatpur
10	Rakesh Mandawat	AAO, NP, Todabhim
11	Rajesh Chauhan	LDC
12	Rahul Mittal	Ex. En.
13	Arvind Tomer	JEN, NN, Bharatpur
14	Dr. Harish Kumar	Secretary, MMSSS, Bharatpur
15	T.P. Mishra	President, Swadhin Sansthan
16	Sunil Dutt Chaturvedi	Junior Engineer, NP, Baseri, Dholpur
17	Pramod Kumar Saini	LDC, NP, Baseri
18	Gaurav Sharma	LDC, NP, Biwswar
19	Kuldeep	EO, NP, Kumher
20	Narsi Lal Meena	EO, NP, Sikari
21	Suresh Chand Sharma	JEN, NP, Sikri
22	Sudheer Kumar Tyagi	Sr. D.M, NP, Bari
23	Dinesh Sharma	SDM, Kaman
24	Ravindra Singh	Secretary, NN, Bharatpur
25	Pankaj Kumar Gupta	AO, NN, Bharatpur
26	Gajendra Kumar	EO, Rupbas
27	Harish Chand	JEN(M), NN, Bharatpur
28	Bheem Singh	CO
29	Ram Kant Soni	DLB, Jaipur
30	Abhijeet Kumar	Mayor, Nagar Nigam, Bharatpur
31	Yashashri Kammareddy	SWM Expert, Hyderabad
32	Amar Deep Singh	CUTS International
33	Amit Babu	CUTS International

Glimpses

Media Coverage

कट्स द्वारा शहरी निकायों की क्षमतावर्धन कार्यक्रम भरतपुर में आयोजित

चमकता राजस्थान

भरतपुर (राजवीर सिंह)। 19 जनवरी को 'कट्स' के द्वारा शहरी निकायों की क्षमतावर्धन कार्यक्रम राजस्थान स्वायत शासन विभाग तथा आस्ट्रेलियाई उच्चायोग नई दिल्ली के सहयोग से भरतपुर में आयोजित किया गया। अभिजीत कुमार, महापौर, भरतपुर नगर निगम ने कार्यक्रम में मुख्य अतिथि के रूप में कहा कि शहरी निकायों के बेहतर प्रबन्धन हेतु म्यूनिसिपल रेग्यूलेटरी ऑथरोटी बनाने की आवश्यकता है।

साथ ही निकायों को अपनी वित्तीय स्थिति में सुधार करने हेतु म्यूनिसिपल बॉण्ड जारी करने हेतु प्रयोग करने चाहिये। वर्तमान समय में समग्र विकास की ओर अग्रसर होने के लिये शहरी विकास एक अहम मुद्दा है। हमें अपनी स्वयं की भागीदारी को सुनिश्चित करना

चाहिये। आगे समस्याएं बहुत गम्भीर होंगी। नगर निगम को अच्छा बनाने में स्वयं की जिम्मेदारी समझें। क्षमतावर्धन कार्यक्रम में मुख्य रूप से निकाय के वित्तीय प्रबन्धन, ठोस कचरा प्रबन्धन, सतत् परिवहन एवं सामुदायिक भागीदारी विषयों पर प्रकाश डाला गया। कार्यक्रम में

हैदराबाद ग्रेटर मुन्सिपल कॉरपोरेशन की विषय विशषज्ञ यशश्री कोमारेड्डी मुख्य प्रशिक्षिका के रूप में शामिल हुई।

'कट्स' के अमर दीप सिंह वरिष्ठ कार्यक्रम अधिकारी ने बताया कि विगत एक दशक से शहरी सुशासन और शहरी निकायों के क्षमतावर्धन के लिए 'कट्स

कार्य कर रहा है। 'कट्स स्वायत्त शासन विभाग के साथ एक सहमति पत्र के अन्तर्गत शहरी निकायों के क्षमतावर्धन हेतु विगत वर्षों से कार्य कर रहा है। इस गैर वित्तीय सहमति पत्र के अनुसार जनप्रतिनिधियों एवं अधिकारियों की क्षमतावर्धन हेतु कार्यक्रमों का आयोजन किया जाता है। जिसका मुख्य उद्देश्य शहरी निकायों के ज्ञानवर्धन के द्वारा आम नागरिकों की जीवन शैली में सुधार करना है। 15 वें वित्तीय आयोग के नोडल अधिकारी कमलदीप शर्मा ने म्यूनिसिपल फाईनेंस विषय पर प्रतिभागियों को जानकारी दी। डॉ. हिमानी तिवारी स्वायत शासन विभाग जयपुर की ओर से राज्य सरकार द्वारा निकायों हेतु चलाई जा रही विभिन्न योजनाओं पर प्रकाश डाला। कार्यक्रम भरतपुर के 30 निकायों के अधिकारियों ने भाग लिया।

'कट्स' का शहरी निकायों की क्षमतावर्धन कार्यक्रम
बेहतर प्रबन्धन को म्यूनिसिपल रेग्यूलेटरी ऑथरिटी बनाने की आश्यकता : महापौर

भरतपुर. 'कट्स' की ओर से शहरी निकायों की क्षमतावर्धन कार्यक्रम राजस्थान स्वायत्त शासन विभाग तथा ऑस्ट्रेलियाई उच्चायोग, नई दिल्ली के सहयोग से गुरुवार को भरतपुर में आयोजित किया गया।

मुख्य अतिथि महापौर अभिजीत कुमार ने कहा कि शहरी निकायों के बेहतर प्रबन्धन के लिए म्यूनिसिपल रेग्यूलेटरी ऑथरिटी बनाने की आश्यकता है साथ ही निकायों को अपनी वित्तीय स्थिति में सुधार करने के लिए म्यूनिसिपल बॉण्ड जारी करने के लिए प्रयोग करने चाहिए। वर्तमान समय में समग्र विकास की ओर अग्रसर होने के लिए शहरी विकास एक अहम मुद्दा है। हमें अपनी स्वयं की भागीदारी को सुनिश्चित करना चाहिए। आगे समस्याएं बहुत गम्भीर होंगी। नगर

भरतपुर. कार्यक्रम को संबोधित करते मुख्य अतिथि व अन्य।

निगम को अच्छा बनाने में स्वयं की जिम्मेदारी समझें।

कार्यक्रम में मुख्य रूप से निकाय के वित्तीय प्रबन्धन, ठोस कचरा प्रबन्धन, सतत् परिवहन एवं सामुदायिक भागीदारी विषयों पर प्रकाश डाला गया। कार्यक्रम में हैदराबाद ग्रेटर मुन्सिपल कॉरपोरेशन की विषय विषेषज्ञ यशश्री कोमारेड्डी

मुख्य प्रशिक्षिका के रूप में शामिल हुई। 'कट्स' के अमर दीप सिंह, वरिष्ठ कार्यक्रम अधिकारी ने बताया कि विगत एक दशक से शहरी सुशासन और शहरी निकायों के क्षमतावर्धन के लिए कट्स्सद्य कार्य कर रहा है। कट्स्सद्य स्वायत्त शासन विभाग के साथ एक सहमति पत्र के अन्तर्गत शहरी निकायों के

क्षमतावर्धन हेतु विगत वर्षों से कार्य कर रहा है। इस गैर वित्तीय सहमति पत्र के अनुसार जनप्रतिनिधियों एवं अधिकारियों की क्षमतावर्धन हेतु कार्यक्रमों का आयोजन किया जाता है। जिसका मुख्य उद्देश्य शहरी निकायों के ज्ञानवर्धन से आम नागरिकों की जीवन शैली में सुधार करना है।

15वें वित्तीय आयोग के नोडल अधिकारी कमलदीप शर्मा ने म्यूनिसिपल फाईनेंस विषय पर प्रतिभागीयों को जानकारी दी। डॉ. हिमानी तिवारी स्वायत शासन विभाग जयपुर की ओर से राज्य सरकार की ओर से निकायों के लिए चलाई जा रही विभिन्न योजनाओं पर प्रकाश डाला। कार्यक्रम भरतपुर के 30 निकायों के अधिकारियों ने भाग लिया।